



GETTING TO KNOW YOUR NEW PASTOR!

July 3rd, a stranger stood before you and promised to serve as your shepherd and pastor, to teach you Scripture and put before you God's Word. For the past month, many of you have seen this stranger on Sunday mornings as he leads you in worship. You've worked to get to know him, but there's only so much you can learn about him in those brief moments that you get to talk to him between and after services.

I'm that stranger. But, really, who am I? The normal answer to such a question is to give one's name. A name is really only the beginning; it tells you little more than how to address someone but is a good place to start. My name, as many of you may know already, is Anthony Paul Yearyean. A question I've been asked a lot lately is how I want to be addressed as your pastor; please simply address me as Pastor Paul. Yep, I go by my middle name. I always have! I can't remember a time when I was addressed as anything else. I think that when I was born my parents just decided it was going to be that way!



So, now you know my name and how to address me. Please bear with me as I work to learn (and remember!) yours. Knowing my name doesn't tell you much about me, though. So, let's keep going with a bit of information about me and who I am!

I was born in Riverside, CA on June 20, 1983. I have two brothers, one older and one younger. Yep, I'm a middle child, and of all boys on top of that! I grew up in the La Sierra area of Riverside, attending Myra Linn for elementary, Loma Vista for Jr. High, and La Sierra for High School. I graduated High School in 2001. From there, I went to Concordia University Irvine, graduating in 2005. After that, I went straight to the seminary, attending Concordia Seminary St Louis and graduating from there in 2009. All pretty standard, boring information so far, but it gives you some background!

So, some more background information for you now. Growing up in Riverside, I was a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Riverside. I was baptized, confirmed, and even married at that church. I taught Sunday School and VBS there for a few years during High School. I also helped teach VBS at Faith Lutheran Church in Inglewood as part of the Nehemiah Project.

But that might not be the stuff you really want to know about me. Sure, it's helpful background info, but it doesn't tell you much about me. Bear with me, there's a little bit more background information to go. While attending Concordia University Irvine, I began dating a young woman who was attending Concordia University River Forest, now known as Concordia University Chicago. The interesting bit of this part of my background is that she and I grew up together as members of Faith Lutheran Riverside. We were friends as kids, and she was sweet on me even back then and never forgot about me and my family after her family moved away in 1995. (She definitely never forgot about my dad taking away her hair scrunchie while he was teaching Sunday School because she was flinging it across the room!) While we were dating, she transferred to Irvine, and, shortly after we both graduated (one week to the day after the graduation ceremony to be exact), Donna and I were married on May 21, 2005.

While I was serving as Vicar at Good Shepherd in Collinsville, IL, our oldest son, AJ (Anthony James), was born. During our last year at seminary, my dad followed in my footsteps and entered the seminary, and he moved in with us for that year. After graduating seminary, I was placed as sole pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in the very small, rural town of Deer Creek, MN. The population was just over 300 people!

So, there I was, a Southern California boy, fresh out of the seminary, moving to rural north-central Minnesota. It was quite a culture shock and time of adjustment! I was ordained and installed on July 12, 2009. Just a couple months later, Donna had our second son, Ezra. I served at Trinity Deer Creek for almost exactly seven years. While there, I also served as the LWML zone pastoral counselor for several years. Almost two years ago, we added a third son to our family when Wes (Wesley) was born.

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Continued from Front Page:

Now, for the more "fun" info about me. I'm sarcastic and am a bit of a smart aleck sometimes, so I might give you a bit of good-natured ribbing and can take it as well as I can dish it! While I'm a pretty laid back person, I'm also somewhat competitive. I enjoy playing billiards, preferring 9-ball to straight pool. I also enjoy playing games of all sorts, watching movies, playing with Legos with my boys, and doing outdoorsy things. While in Minnesota, I greatly enjoyed training in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu (a martial art/combat sport/self defense system that focuses on grappling/ground fighting and promotes the concept that a smaller, weaker person can successfully defend against a bigger, stronger, heavier assailant by using proper technique and leverage). I also enjoy reading, favoring science fiction and fantasy books; some of my favorites include the Lord of the Rings novels and the Chronicles of Narnia. I'm a huge Star Wars fan; my wife teased me last year because I was counting down days until Episode 7 came out like most children count days till Christmas. Some of my other favorite movies include the Marvel Cinematic Universe movies (Iron Man, Thor, Captain America, Avengers, and the like). My musical taste is all over the place, though my favorite is, by far, Billy Joel.

So, now you know a little bit more about me! I look forward to getting to know all of you more and welcome any questions you have as we continue to get to know each other. I ask for your patience, feedback, grace, and prayers as "the new guy" here as I continue to get my footing and begin my service to you here as your pastor. Thank you again for warmly welcoming me and my family into your church family here at Shepherd of the Valley with all your kind words, gifts, and help!

Your Brother in Christ,
Pastor Paul

QUILTING FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



Hello everyone from the busy quilting group. We have been trying to clean out our closet in the fellowship hall. Items that are not useable to us are given to others that are able to use them. Thank you so much for all your donations.

We would like to send a big thank you to Helen Miller and family. They have sent us funds to buy batting to continue our quilt making. We thank them ever so much for thinking of us. It is hard to believe that we only have two more meetings left when you receive this newsletter. In early October we will be setting up for the blessings of the quilts. This year we have only concentrated on making quilts — no school kits or personal care kits will be prepared.

We meet on the fourth Saturday of each month in the fellowship hall and we invite you to drop by and see us in progress and you can join us if you wish to. We start at 9:00 am and break at noon with a small luncheon for our workers.

If you have any question please call Linda Olson 276-0373. We have good news from LWR that our school kits from last year have been sent to Nicaragua. We are so happy to bring joy to the kids far away in God's care. Thanks for all your help with all we do.



ANNUAL HOLIDAY CRAFT BOUTIQUE 2016 — Saturday, Nov. 19th from 8 am—2 pm.

Crafting workshops (starting at 5 pm in the hall) to make items for the Boutique are scheduled for: August 12 ~~~~ September 9 ~~~~ October 14

If you have any questions or if you'd like be a vendor, contact Paula Winn at 951-485-4305.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS:

Members of Thrivent Financial are eligible to designate Thrivent Choice Dollars to a church or charity of their choice. Have you remembered to designate your Choice Dollars for 2016? Undesignated dollars "expire" after March 31. Go to thrivent.com and click the MyThrivent button on the upper right side of the site and direct your Choice Dollars. Both the church and school are registered to receive Choice Dollars and Shepherd is grateful to those who have contributed through this program.





Join us - all adults welcome!:

Sunday, August 14th at 2 pm in the Sanctuary

Open Cursillo Gathering at Shepherd of the Valley - First one ever at Shepherd!

Join us and see a little of what Cursillo is about.

Child care will be provided.

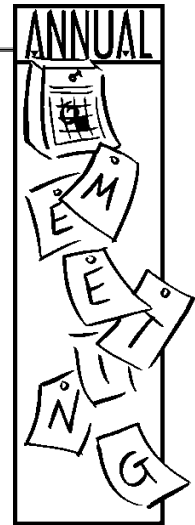
Annual Congregational Assembly & Potluck

Sunday, August 21st following the 10:45 service.

The potluck will begin the program at approximately 12:30 pm
in the fellowship hall.

Watch for a sign up sheet asking what you would like to bring for the potluck.

The business meeting with reports, nominations, and approval of the 2016 - 2017
church and school budgets will follow the potluck.



Special thanks to Elizabeth Hansen for transforming the chancel for the VBS Barnyard Roundup!



I'd like to thank all the patient, positive help I had those last few hours spent setting up for VBS at the church. What a team!

1. Bud's suggestion for a free standing "house." (I had visions for wire supports!)
2. Phil's help until an injury kept him home! Heal fast, Phil!

3. Larry's 100% help and patient "work along" efforts with me and my ideas, and buying the new lumber needed. (The church's supply of scrap lumber wasn't enough)
4. Eric's filling in on "the last touches" was so necessary. His patience!
5. Perry's patience and help in spite of the commotion of completion.

Couldn't have done it by myself! Thank you thank you, all!

Sincerely, Elizabeth Hansen





How many of us blame our health issues on our family history? Heart disease, diabetes, Alzheimer's, and obesity to name a few. The odds of having any of the above diseases can be greatly diminished by becoming more active and eating healthy. Just losing a small amount of weight can improve your odds. Start slowly. Soon I will start .Walking is by far the best exercise you can do. When it is hot, walk in your home or go to the mall and walk with a friend. In your neighborhood walk early morning or before dark.

Keep a food diary. Be sure you are eating three meals a day 4 to 5 hours apart. Use veggies that you keep cut up in the refrigerator as an in-between snack. Also fresh fruit.

Tell yourself you will try this for two weeks. It may become a way of life. Soon I will start a class at 10:30 on Thursdays with gentle stretching, breathing and how to improve balance exercise. The class will be for 30 minutes. Watch for more information.

Suzy Langhorne, Parish Health Minister



No Normal Sundays - Author: David Mathis (Submitted by Pastor Ron)

Take a careful inventory, and you will find that most weeks this is the single most important hour of the week — and yet we are so prone to squander such a rich opportunity, sometimes even neglect it. Worshiping Jesus together with his church is an awesome privilege. God's own voice sounds in the reading and preaching of his word. The community of the redeemed responds together in prayer and song. Pastors care for the souls of their flock through their preparation of the service and leadership from the front. Congregants offer, as act of worship, their humble, but sacrificial, financial partnership in the mission of the church. Take a careful inventory, and you will find that most weeks this is the single most important hour of the week — and yet we are so prone to squander such a rich opportunity, sometimes even neglect it.

Build a Sense of Expectancy

Recently, I had the privilege of sitting down with worship leader Bob Kauflin, who serves as director of Sovereign Grace Music and is author of *Worship Matters* and *True Worshipers*. He is eager for Christians to make the most of corporate worship, and happy to offer his counsel about some of the simple steps we can take to make it more significant. How do we prepare our hearts for worship? "We want to build a sense of expectancy," says Kauflin, "that we're going to meet not only with each other, but with God. That's an amazing thing." "There are no normal Sundays" where we should simply go through the motions and expect very little. Rather, we should cultivate "a sense of faith" toward corporate worship which, he says, "develops over a period of time, just by reading God's word and seeing how many times God called his people together to meet with them, to remind them of his promises, and strengthen them." In addition to preparing our minds and hearts each week through God's word and prayer, Kauflin offers three basic, but potentially game-changing, pieces of counsel for readying ourselves for Sunday morning.

1. Get Enough Sleep

As obvious as it may seem, it should not go without saying that far too many Christians stay up too late the night before and find themselves dragging in corporate worship. "Go to bed earlier on Saturday," Kauflin says earnestly, with a smile. "It's amazing how many times we do things late into the night Saturday, scramble to get up on Sunday morning, arrive late, and don't really participate the way we could because we weren't prepared."

2. Plan Ahead for Others

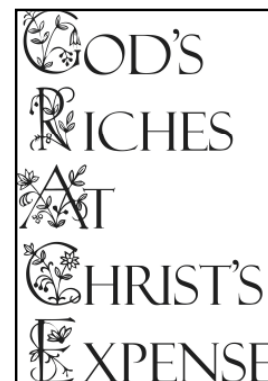
Second, for those with young children, Kauflin says make an effort to think ahead and prepare the kids with appropriate instruction for what worship is, and what the expectations of them are, and not just drag them along. And plan a few extra minutes ahead for getting dressed, to avoid the emotional craziness of locating a stray shoe, or some other lost item, right when it's time to leave.

3. Arrive Early

Finally, Kauflin counsels that we try to arrive a few minutes early, rather than precisely at the moment when the service starts. "Aim to get to the meeting fifteen minutes before it starts. Think of weddings: no one wants to be late for a wedding.... [We should] think of the Sunday meeting that way, where I want to be there early because there's so much happening beforehand. If all these spiritual gifts are in operation before the meeting even starts, why wouldn't I want to be there, both to participate and be used by God to serve others, and then to be encouraged and strengthened by those around me?"

Missing Sunday Is Missing Grace

But not only are we prone to go into Sunday morning ill-prepared; sometimes we even neglect meeting together, for the lamest of excuses. So I also asked Kauflin, "What are Christians missing when they miss Sunday morning?" He answers in this short clip: not only are we missing family, but we are missing God himself at work to pour out his grace. Plan ahead, cultivate expectancy, and make corporate worship a prized weekly habit. When God's people gather in a spirit of worship, there are indeed no normal Sundays



NEXT LUTHERAN CURSILLO WEEKENDS



LC#166 - February 16-19, 2017 for Men
LC#167 - February 23-26, 2017 for Women

Cursillo is an organization serving the Lutheran churches of Southern California to develop leaders in the Lutheran church through training and spiritual renewal. There is no cost to you to attend a weekend but you must be a baptized member in good standing at a Lutheran church. You will be paired with a sponsor who has been through a Cursillo weekend and have your pastor endorse your reservation request. We recommend praying about it first, then talk to your pastor or others who have attended Cursillo about what you may be able to gain from attending a Cursillo weekend before applying. Cursillo retreats will be held at a new venue - Cursillo House in Pomona - in 2017. Check their website for more information: www.lcsocal.org.

2016 FLOWER CHART

If you'd like to donate flowers for the altar, sign up on the board hanging in the church lobby. Indicate what the flowers are for - anniversary, birthday, in honor of or in memory. Take a slip with ordering instructions. Flowers are ordered by you from Moreno Valley Flower Box (653-3171) and they deliver them to church. Each large bouquet is \$26. Small bouquets for the altar are \$19 each. Questions? Call the office.



Joseph Project - Community (Citywide) Food Bank

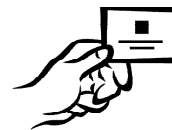
Shepherd is working with other churches in Moreno Valley with this community food bank that provides food for the needy every Thursday from a distribution center at the Koinonia Evangelistic Center, 21866 Brill Rd., Moreno Valley (951-867-3050). Volunteers are needed to help out with distribution, sorting, clean up, etc. at the center. Contributions to the Joseph Project will be gratefully accepted through Shepherd. Please pray for this ministry and volunteer your time and talents! Contact Larry Alexander for more information.



DON'T FORGET YOUR FOOD DONATIONS FOR CAP - Moreno Valley's Community Assistance Program EACH SUNDAY!
Thank You!

JOIN IN THE CHALLENGE

Join us in choosing a time (maybe even 10 or 15 minutes) of any day of the week that is best for you individually and lift your silent (or loud) voices to the Lord. Ask for His touch on Shepherd, our Pastors, the members of our congregation, our school, and our community. His promise is clear - if His people gather together in prayer, He will hear our prayers. Let's do it!



INVITE OTHERS TO OUR CHURCH AND SCHOOL!

Business cards are available in packets of 10 in a basket in the church lobby. Take a pack and pass them out to friends and neighbors who need a church home or a preschool for their children.

NEEDED FOR NURSING HOMES:
Magazines and greeting card fronts.
Bring to the church or office.

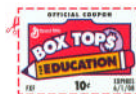
SPECIAL NOTICE

Your pastors, your lay ministers and the church office want to know when someone is hospitalized or home bound. There have been instances of not finding out for several days. We would rather hear from several sources than none at all so, PLEASE - PLEASE pick up the phone or e-mail us whenever there is an opportunity for ministry to members or to family or friends.



Thursdays at 9:30 AM
In the Fellowship Hall
Presented by Suzy Langhorne
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Specially marked box tops are worth \$.10 each when redeemed from Box Tops for Education. Encourage friends & family, near & far to help, too. Thanks for taking the time to help our school.

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August 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)	2 8:30 AM EF Students (H) 6:00 PM EF Students Farewell Party (H) 6:00 PM School Board (O)	3	4 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)	5	6 8:30 AM Cursillo Grouping @ Panera Bread
7 12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)	8 9:00 AM Women's Koffee Klatch @ Brandon's 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S) No School - Teacher Prep Days	9 7:00 PM Back to School Night (S) 7:00 PM Lay Ministers (H)	10 2016-17 School Year Begins	11 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)	12 10:00 AM School Chapel (S) 5:00 PM Boutique Craft Workshop (H)	13
14 12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H) 2:00 PM Open Cursillo Gathering (S) BP Screening between Services	15 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)	16 6:00 PM Diamond Girls (H) 7:00 PM M & M Board (O)	17	18 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H) 10:00 AM School Chapel (S)	19	20
21 12:30 PM Annual Congregational Assembly & Pot Luck (H) 12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)	22 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)	23	24	25 8:00 AM BrailleMail(H) 9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)	26 10:00 AM School Chapel (S)	27 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Brandon's 9:00 AM Quilting for LWR (H)
28 12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H) BP Screening between Services	29 7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)	30	31			

***Sunday Worship: 8 AM and 10:45 AM - Communion: 1st, 3rd, and 5th
Sundays***

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 am -- 4:00 pm, MONDAY - FRIDAY



The Shepherd's Staff

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES: Sunday: 8:00 & 10:45 AM

"Preach the Gospel at all times. If necessary, use words." — Francis of Assisi

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016!

August 2016

