

Advent

A Season of Hope & Expectation

For Next Week – Sunday,
December 16



Read: "Light to the Nations"
(Isaiah 42:1-9)

Recite: "Thus says the LORD,
"I have given you as a covenant
to the people, a light to the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the
prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those
who sit in darkness." — Isaiah 42:6-7

Reflect:

- Turn off all the lights in the room so that it is as dark as possible. Sit there in the darkness for a while. Then, light a candle. Share what you observe about darkness and light.
- Consider a dark time in your life. Where did you receive light? How did that light come to you? Who brought that light to you?
- This is a season of light practically everywhere you look. Talk about some of your favorite light displays in your community. Make it a game with your household when you see Christmas lights that grab you to say in call-and-response, "The Light shines in the darkness — And the darkness has not overcome it."

Pray: O, Lord—You sent your servant Jesus to be a light to all people, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out those who are imprisoned in darkness. Help us to live in that light. Amen.



Holy Shepherd Christian Preschool
will present
The First Christmas
Wednesday, December 19
11:30 in Gregersen Hall
Everyone is invited!



Altar flowers this morning have been given by Opal & Russ Bliese in celebration of their 70th wedding anniversary. Happy Anniversary!

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
December 9, 2018
Phone 925-254-3422 www.holyshepherd.org
Office Hours 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday

Save the Date

TODAY 12 noon Bible & Lunch Bunch Christmas Lunch, La Finestra Restaurant, Moraga
December 11 Tuesday, Women's Bible Study, Christmas Lunch 12 noon La Finestra Restaurant, Moraga
December 13 Tuesday, Loaves & Fishes, Martinez
December 26 Wednesday, Loaves & Fishes, Pittsburg
January 17, 2019 9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study CFM

Sunday Morning Worship Services
9:30 a.m. through January 6
 December 16
 Annual Advent/Christmas Music Celebration
 Christmas Eve Services, December 24
 4:00 p.m. 'Joyful Noise' Worship
 6:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Worship
 10:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Worship



HS Sunday School
will present a
Christmas Play
December 16 at 10:45 a.m.
Gregersen Hall
Please join us!



- Dec. 9 Pearl Gregersen who is 100 years young TODAY!
- Dec. 11 Russ & Opal Bliese - 70 years
- Dec. 12 Gretchen Stenson
- Dec. 13 Paul Heuer
Robert Schwab
John Shanahan
- Dec. 14 Deepak Kumar
- Dec. 15 Terry Hamre
- Dec. 16 Rolf & Donna Benseler - 57 years



Holy Shepherd
Christian Preschool
March 23, 2019

THIS WEEK AT
HOLY SHEPHERD
Sunday, December 9
 9:00 am Christmas Pageant rehearsal for children
 9:30 am Combined Worship Service
 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship in CFM hosted by Bruce & Diana Neujahr
 11:00 am KCCL Bible Study
 12 noon Bible & Lunch Bunch Christmas Lunch off-site
 12:15 pm KCCL Worship
Monday, December 10
 10:30 am AA Meeting
 11:00 am LARC
 3:30 pm Mandarin Program
Tuesday, December 11
 10:00 am Garden Club Workshop, Gregersen Hall
 11:00 am LARC
 11:00 am Caregiver Coffee
 12 noon Women's Bible Study Lunch, off-site
 6:00 pm BSA Pack Meeting
Wednesday, December 12
 10:30 am Preschool Chapel
 11:00 am LARC
 3:30 pm Mandarin Program
Thursday, December 13
 Loaves & Fishes, Martinez
 10:30 am Preschool Chapel
 11:00 am LARC
 6:00 pm Canticle Choir
 6:30 pm GS Cookie Preview
 7:00 pm Shepherd's Bells
 7:00 pm Men's Weekly Bible Study, Europa Restaurant, Orinda
Friday, December 14
 11:00 am LARC
 3:30 pm GS Troop Meeting
Saturday, December 15
 10:00 am Combined Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, December 16
 9:15 am Christmas Pageant rehearsal for children
 9:30 am Combined Worship Service
 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship in Gregersen Hall hosted by Joan Kiekhaefer
 10:45 am Children's Christmas Pageant in Gregersen Hall
 11:00 am KCCL Bible Study
 12:15 pm KCCL Worship

You will find envelopes in the pew racks this morning for donations for Sanctuary decorations. Designations and money must be received by **December 16** in order to have names included in the Christmas bulletins. Be sure to make check payable to HSLC and memo "Christmas Decorations."



HEALING

Dona Lawrentz	Kathy McCarty Schwab
Kathy Williams	Howard Hansen
Tony Sanchez	Dinah Washington
Mary Herchert	Gloria Enstrom
Harry Howe	DeLane Riveness
Laura Zellmer	Mallory Weiss
Henry Kramer	Mary Ann McCauley
Cecily Bartsch	

WELLNESS

Grace Adams	Rolf Benseler
Pat Tveitmo	Dottie Russell
Cathy Johnson	Del Hock
Kellen Derrough	Carol Kramer

PEACE / COMFORT

Kitti Colucci

MILITARY

Keep our armed forces safe and give them courage, hope and strength.
Brian Henson Megan Howard



From Elaine Nielsen . . .

I want to thank all of our Holy Shepherd family who was able to be part of decorating the church for our Lord & Savior's Birth!!! I knew several pivotal families had mentioned that they could not be part of it this year ... and

I was feeling a bit insecure. It was an amazing turn-out of love for our church!!!

Pictures never quite capture the total scene. The men lifted the tall, heavy tree off the table. Two of them lay on the floor (Tom Gilbertson and Lyndel Melton), while Louise Harpham climbed a ladder to meticulously place the gold ribbon on the tree - Tom and Lyndel carefully rotated the tree for her!!! Then the rest of the decorations were added by all!

The Behrsing family had 3 generations helping: Johanna, her son Christoph, Dina and the two grandsons!!! Gerry Perry and Pete Schmitt are always in the mix, carrying the heaviest or most fragile of items. Pastor John and Bethany, Nadine and Dave Coburn, Janine Crowe, Pete Johnson, Reni Yasuda, Joan Birke, Susan Patterson, Barbara Swanson, Juanita Gilbertson, Marilynn Melton, Steve & Nina Berchtold shared their many talents.

Thanks be to God for our Holy Shepherd family!!



Standing: Juanita, Susan, Louise, Nadine, Reni
Kneeling: Joan, Elaine



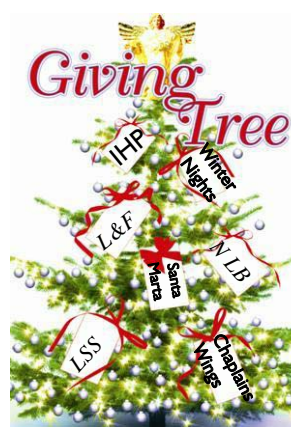
Juanita, Reni, Louise



Nina, Johanna, Barb



Background: Pete & Gerry
Under the tree: Tom & Lyndel
On ladder: Louise



This year we are offering an opportunity to support your favorite charity through our Christmas Giving Tree. The tree is in CFM until 12/16 with envelopes for various charities. Please choose the

envelope for your favorite charity or charities and return the envelope(s) by December 16.

Make checks payable to HSLC with the name of your charity on the memo line (please deposit in the collection plate). Thank you for sharing your Christmas spirit through gifts to others.

Financial Concerns

If you have donated stock to the church during 2018, please contact Lisa Verley so she can be sure it is recorded correctly.

If you have questions regarding designated giving and how it was recorded on your quarterly statements, you will need to discuss this with the appropriate person. Please again contact Lisa, 925-254-3422.

The weekly news inserts are available on the church's website every week - www.holyshepherd.org - click on Weekly News

Attendance

Dec. 2 9:30 a.m. 72

Editor: Linda Hudak, lhudak@holyshepherd.org

Thank you . . .

To the hardy folks who showed up for the Work Day December 1, in spite of the rain!

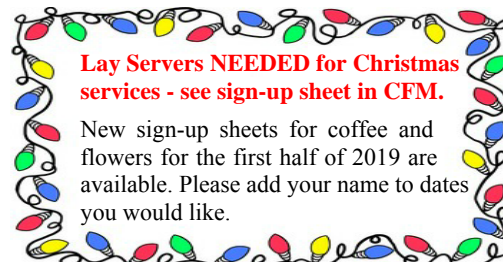
Dave Lausch, Bob Bauer and Marla Schroeder powered through the showers; Pete Johnson and Russ Roloff opted to plant another day.

And, for all you gardeners who prefer to work in sunshine - it's not too late to plant for spring! Please contact marlakays@comcast.net if you'd like to plant bulbs at church now for springtime blooms.

Thanks, too, to Cub Scout Troop #225, Bruce McGurk, BSA Briones District Coordinator, and the several dads who weathered the storm to move the pile of wood chips from the parking lot to the preschool playground.

All these efforts are combining to keep our grounds beautiful!

Marla Schroeder



Lay Servers NEEDED for Christmas services - see sign-up sheet in CFM.

New sign-up sheets for coffee and flowers for the first half of 2019 are available. Please add your name to dates you would like.