

JUNE 2019

THE GOOD NEWS

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church



BY PASTOR TOM BRASHEARS

What is Faith?

Hebrews 11 is all about the meaning of faith. What does faith mean? This is the only time the Bible ever defines faith. Time and time again, the Bible discusses faith and the great importance of faith. The Bible tells us that we must have faith—we must believe God—and it tells us the great things that happen to those who do believe God. The Bible also gives example after example of men and women who have, and have not, believed God, and shows in clear terms what happened to each. But nowhere does the Bible define faith, except here. So, it is important that we clearly see just what faith means. The Biblical definition is in Hebrews, 11 translated in different ways, is...

- Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen, (NIV)
- Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen, (New American Standard)
- Now faith is the assurance of the things we hope for, the proof of the reality of the things we cannot see, (Williams)
- Faith is being sure of the things we hope for, being convinced of the things we can't see, (Beck)
- Faith is trust in the unseen. It is not trust in the unknown, for we may know by faith what we cannot see with the eye, (Wycliffe Bible Commentary)

We'll be talking about faith every Sunday this month.

See you in church!

IN THIS EDITION

INVITE

A Message From
Pastor Tom

RETAIN

Getting Personal
with John & Judi Hoefs

DISCIPLE

Opportunities
to Grow

SEND

Upcoming Events

SERMON SERIES

JUNE 2ND

Faith-Based
Value

JUNE 9TH

Redeeming Faith

JUNE 16TH

The Freedom of
Faith

JUNE 23RD

Faithful
Dissatisfaction

JUNE 30TH

Faithful
Following



GETTING PERSONAL

with John & Judi Hoefs

A faith journey is more about God than about us. God is loving, faithful and empowers. God provides. We have been blessed at every step in our lives by our Savior, through our church and through our opportunities to serve.

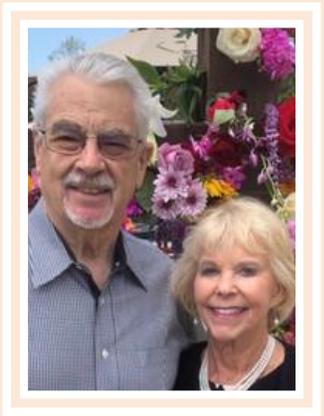
Both of us were blessed with Christian parents who brought us to church, encouraged us and blessed us. In fact, Judi's father was a pastor who modeled what he preached. Her life growing up was centered in Jesus, as their family life revolved around the church. Judi's rebelliousness over being a "Pastor's Kid" (PK), was expressed by a desire to be popular and involved in school activities, like other kids! But even through this period she knew she was who she was, by God's grace.

John's mother studied the Bible and encouraged his participation in church. Many opportunities to grow were available, including church youth group. John's conscious commitment to Christ occurred in relationship to a Sunday school teacher who was a new Christian. The teacher's authenticity made his faith real, and when he didn't know the answers to questions, he looked them up. When elected youth group leader it seemed like a miracle and he developed his leadership skills in this role. John felt he had a purpose in God's plan. God became real to him, and this sense of God's presence has never left him.

We both attended California Lutheran College where we met, fell in love and married. All of this seemed part of God's plan. Eventually, we moved to Washington, DC where John graduated from GW medical school and Judi paid the expenses by working as a first grade teacher. Our first two children, Lisa and Heather, were born in Washington, DC. John was then in the Army for 2 years at Fort Riley Kansas. We then moved through John's residency and fellowship at LAC-USC. We lived in Pasadena and had two more children, Lara and Jonathan. Being parents was a blessing from God, and God was the source of strength that was needed to manage typical family struggles. We treasure our family, and daily thank God for them. We now have 3 granddaughters who are sources of much joy.

Throughout these years we kept in contact with the church, but often participated mainly in the social aspects. We moved to Irvine in October 1980 where John worked for the University of California Irvine. A relative of Judi's was the pastor at GSLC which created our first contact with the church that would become our church home. We made that commitment once Pastor Hale became Senior Pastor.

We have been involved in GSLC because God brought us here to participate.



Cont...

We have been in small groups, Bible studies, prayer partners and the general workings of the church. John has been involved in a ministry study group, project dignity, led Bible studies and, most recently, the Haiti (DR) mission. John has learned to trust God and to expect God's promises to come true. He is blessed through personal Bible study and prayer.

Judi has answered God's calling with volunteer participation in many ministries. For many years she was the children's choir director known for her "singing pills" and eventually was hired for the Children and Family ministry position. Her goal was for children to know Jesus, to show God's love to others and for their parents to become their child's faith mentor. God touched many children and adults through these ministries. Being a mother, and through children's ministry, she learned over and over again to trust God, to let God do the leading and to give God the glory.

Both of us have been strengthened by programs outside the church such as "Bible Study Fellowship" (BSF), and have been enriched and blessed by GSLC's activities, learning that God has a purpose for us and a blessing as we seek Him and His will. We are grateful for the pastors, our many friends and the church itself. God is good in every way.

June 2019

Ways to Connect at Church

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

						1 8:30 AM Gatekeepers Orientation 8:30 AM Days for Girls 9:00 AM Women in Community
2 9:00 AM Ministry Fair 9:30 AM High School Bible Study 6:30 PM High School Youth Group	3 5:00 PM Disciple U	4 8:30 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Prayer Team	5 4:30 PM Courtyard Ministry 6:30 PM Naming a Guardian Class 6:30 PM Jr. High Youth Group	6 11:30 AM Sharpies Picnic 6:15 PM Prayers & Squares 7:30 PM Choir Practice	7	8 8:00 AM Father's Day Paintball
9 9:30 AM High School Bible Study 6:30 PM High School Youth Group	10 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	11 8:30 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Prayer Team 12:00 PM Stephen Ministry	12 4:30 PM Courtyard Ministry 6:00 PM Days for Girls 6:30 PM Jr. High Youth Group	13 6:30 PM Bethesda Service Night 7:30 PM Choir Practice	14 7:00 PM Shepherd's Sandwich	15
16 9:30 AM High School Bible Study 	17 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	18 8:30 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Prayer Team	19 4:30 PM Courtyard Ministry 6:30 PM Jr. High Youth Group	20 10:00 AM Caring Ministry Meeting 6:15 PM Prayers & Squares 7:30 PM Choir Practice	21	22
23/30 9:30 AM High School Bible Study 6:30 PM High School Youth Group	24 7:00 PM Grief Support Group	25 8:30 AM Adult Bible Study 10:00 AM Prayer Team	26 4:30 PM Courtyard Ministry 6:00 PM Days for Girls 6:30 PM Jr. High Youth Group	27 7:30 PM Choir Practice	28	29

Transitions

EXCITING STAFF UPDATES AHEAD!

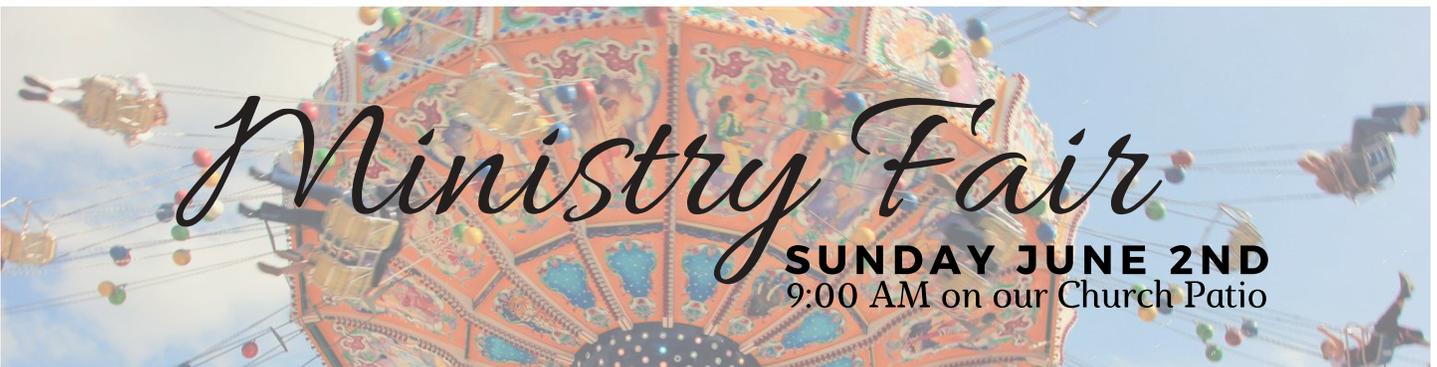
Stephanie McArthur, Madison Thomsen
& Isabel Ward

As many of you already know, Stephanie McArthur, our Office Administrator, is expecting a baby boy in the very near future! In preparation of this exciting new church member, Stephanie will be transitioning to Maternity Leave on June 11th. While we will be very excited for Stephanie's return in October, we will have additional support in the office while she is away. One of the familiar faces you may see is our very own Madison Thomsen. Madison is our current Children's Ministry Director, and we are overjoyed to announce that Madison is currently on the hunt for her next big transition! Madison has a Masters Degree in Counseling, and is following God's prompting in her search as a school counselor. Although we will be very sad to lose Madison as our Children's Director at the end of July, we are confident that God will provide us with an amazing leader for our Children's Ministry. Lastly, our Youth Ministry will see a new face this summer as we welcome Isabel Ward as our new Youth Ministry Intern. Isabel joins us from Concordia University and will be working closely with Matt on all Jr. High and High School programs. We truly appreciate all your prayers for these three ladies as they follow the path that God has laid out for them.



Come enjoy a great day of golf at the beautiful Oak Creek Golf Course. If you are not a golfer, come enjoy our Luau dinner with live music, prizes, silent and live auctions. All proceeds from this event will go to support our mission trips and local outreach efforts. Visit our website to register. Make our auction fundraising amazing by sharing what you already have! Donate unused gift cards, make a dessert, share your destinations, provide lessons with a skill you are an expert in, donate airline rewards and more.

Contact Pastor Mike at mike@gsclcivine.org for more information.



We have over 20 ministries within our church that work to support the needs of our congregation, community and world. Spend time with the leaders of each team to learn about the ministry and the variety of options we have for you to get involved.

Contact Monica Wilt at monica@gsclcivine.org for more information.

June & July Upcoming Events



Women in Community

June 1 at 9:00 am

Woodbridge Village Center

Start your day in community with other women as we share and discuss God's Word. We'll meet at the newly redone Woodbridge Village Center in one of the outdoor seating areas. Stop by Sessions, The Lost Bean or your favorite food spot and grab something for yourself. This is a time to talk, share and pray for one another. Sign up in advance and receive video content on Lysa Terkuerst's book, "It's Not Supposed to Be This Way". Contact Cary Spohr at cary@gsclirvine.org to register.

The Kids Guardian Workshop

June 5 at 6:00 pm

Sanctuary

Parents are invited to join us as family trust attorneys and parents of four, Josh and Laura Meier, help parents legally name permanent guardians for their children - for free. Parents will learn how to designate guardians should they be involved in a tragic accident, how to ensure that your kids will be raised by whom you choose, and more. Contact Pastor Mike at mike@gsclirvine.org to register. Childcare and refreshments provided.

Sharpies (55+) Picnic Potluck

June 6 at 11:30 am

The Groves in Irvine

Hamburgers, hot dogs, relishes and drinks will be provided. Please sign up for a salad, baked beans or a dessert when you RSVP. After lunch enjoy games or just relax and visit with friends. RSVP by June 4 to Gerry Small at (714) 270-6152.

Father's Day Paintball

June 8 at 8:00 am

Camp Pendleton Paintball Park

Our Youth and Men's Ministry are coming together for this competitive, adrenaline pumping event. Ages 10 and up are invited to participate. Cost is \$60 per person - RSVP to Matt Nelson at matt@gsclirvine.org.

Youth Bethesda Service Night

June 13 at 6:30 pm

Junior High and High School students are invited to join us in serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities at Bethesda Lutheran Communities. We will meet on-site and serve through music and games in a safe environment. Contact Matt Nelson at matt@gsclirvine.org for the location address if you'd like to attend.

Vacation Bible School

Registration closes June 9

July 15-19 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Let the good times ROAR this summer as we sing worship, play games, and learn that God is good, even when life gets wild. Children 3 years old (with a parent) through 8th grade are welcome to join as participants. Those entering 9th grade and older are welcome to sign up to join our Safari Crew. Cost is \$45 per child - visit our website to register.

GROW WITH US!

NURSERY

*Sunday Mornings
During all Worship Services*
Our time with little ones, 4 and younger, is spent singing songs, engaging in play, and teaching simple lessons about God.

CHILDREN

*FLOCK Summer Program
Sundays after 9:30 am
Worship Songs*

We offer an engaging, child-friendly space for your children to grow in the wonder of who God is. We invite your children to gather and worship together, hear God's word, and spend time with others their age. Designed for Pre-K through 5th grade.

JR. HIGH

*Junior High Ministry Summer Program
Sundays after 9:30 am
Worship Songs*

*Discovery Room
Wednesdays, 6:30pm to 8pm*

Youth Room
Join us Sunday mornings where we focus on various aspects of the Christian faith.

Wednesday evenings are a time for bonding, playing games, worship, and learning more about Christ. Designed for students 6th to 8th grade.

HIGH SCHOOL

*High School Bible Study
9:30 am in the Teacher's Lounge
High School Youth Group
Sundays, 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Youth Room*

Be a part of an encouraging community and grow closer to Christ. We are here to love, support, and guide students in their faith as well as in their lives. Designed for students 9th through 12th grade.

ADULT

*Bible Study - The Book of John
Sundays, 9:30am to 10:30am
Tuesdays, 8:30am to 9:30am
Youth Room*

Join us as we study the gospel of John. If you would like to learn more about the character of Christ, now would be a great time to check it out.



GOOD SHEPHERD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

4800 Irvine Center Drive
Irvine, CA 92604

8:00 am

Traditional Worship

9:30 & 11:00 am

Contemporary Worship

Childcare at all Sunday Services
for children 4 and younger

Sunday Education

9:30 - 10:30 am

Children: 5 years - 5th grade

Youth: 6th - 8th grade

High School Bible Study

Adult Bible Study

For more information on our upcoming events or programs, visit our website or contact the church office.
goodshepherd Irvine.com (949) 552.1918



*to know Christ
& make him
known*