

# THE HORN

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 580 Trinity Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687



OUR MISSION: To proclaim the message of Christ through joyful worship,  
quality education and loving service.

JULY 2020

## Mt. Cross Work Day

*Saturday, July 25, 9:00 am-4:00 pm*

We weren't able to have our annual Memorial Day Work Weekend this year due to the pandemic, so we're looking for volunteers willing to come help create at least 30 feet of defensible space around all our buildings. This will involve clearing brush and undergrowth, raking, as well as cutting back tree branches so they are not touching the buildings. If anyone has a weed eater with a brush blade they could bring, as well as a chainsaw, and/or loppers, that would be very helpful, as the camp only has one weed eater and a limited number of chainsaws and loppers. Participants are also asked to bring a water bottle, gloves, and any personal protective equipment (eye/ear protection) they will want. We also ask that everyone wears a face covering in accordance with the Santa Cruz County and State of California's health orders. A boxed lunch will be provided.

Lodging for this event will be limited to 2 rooms for families in Lower Jensen and 2 Madrone Cabins, as well as two sites in the campground, and is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who are staying at the camp will need to provide their own sleeping bag and pillow, as well as toiletries, towel/washcloth, and any other personal items you will need.

Additionally, if anyone is a Thrivent Member and can apply for Thrivent Action Teams to help offset the costs of food, gas for weed eaters and chainsaws, and other supplies, that would be wonderful. Please indicate in your registration form if you are a Thrivent Member and willing to apply for an Action Team. You can contact Adam Erickson ([adam@mtcross.org](mailto:adam@mtcross.org); 831.336.5179) with questions, or help securing your Action Team.

## Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

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Vacaville, CA

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8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Chris Holmes  
Director of Music  
Ministry

Rob Williamson  
Director of Jr. & Sr. High  
Ministry

Kathy Webb  
Preschool Director  
Office: 447-6278

### Worship Schedule

Traditional Service  
8:30AM

Contemporary Service  
10:30 AM

Sunday School  
during late worship

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## Re-Open Task Force

The Re-Open Task Force (Kari Holmes, JD Hoskins, John Moyle, Marilyn Weaver, Jeanette Wylie, and Pastor Bob) have now met three times to gather information about what is necessary for us to resume in person worship and other gatherings here at church.

At our first meeting on May 28 we briefly looked over the guidelines from the California Department of Health and the many requirements in the 13-page document. Some of the qualifications for in person worship were major changes to our accustomed practices: – strongly encouraging to discontinue singing and congregational responses, no passing of the peace, physical distancing, create a reservation system for worship attendance to limit attendance to 25% – and more. We would also need to discontinue our current bulletin sharing as well as find new ways for communion to be distributed. From that meeting also came the survey we asked you to complete. We would like to thank the 24 members who completed the survey.

The second meeting, on June 11 was an opportunity to review the survey comments and realize that we were not able to set a date for the church building to be re-opened for events. With that in mind, we agreed to come back together in a week with ideas of how we could continue to foster our connections. We all agreed that the 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Parade offered us a chance to “come together” to see one another and to celebrate being the church. What might we do to replicate that experience?

During our third meeting (June 18) we used our time to discuss “Parking Lot Communion” where we could gather in our cars and share a time of Communion – both being together and the sacrament. The surveys showed, and we agree there is a need to continue to have our Sunday service live streamed on FaceBook. Additionally, at least one Sunday a month we would have a Service of the Word, service without Communion, and then have our Parking Lot Communion time. A time table for that Sunday would be worship at 9:30 a.m. and then the parking lot Communion at 10:45 a.m.

For our Parking Lot Communion time you would have already worshiped at home and then come to the church campus with your own bread and wine or grape juice (no open containers in your car, please!). As you enter and park prepare your heart, mind, and body for Holy Communion. Pastor Bob will be outside under the portico and preside over the consecration of the elements and you will serve yourself and other family members communion in your car. The Task Force members searched for other options but there is simply not a safe way to do that at this time.

The Task Force is asking once again for your input. We would like to hear from you. Would you please email the church office ([soh580@sbcglobal.net](mailto:soh580@sbcglobal.net)) – or mail a note to the church – and let us know what you think about Parking Lot Communion?

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 8 and we would love to know what you are thinking.



## PASTOR'S MESSAGE *by Pr. Bob Willse*



Dear Partners.

How are you doing? That's a question most of us answer with one word "Fine". I believe we say that because we either don't want to talk about how we are feeling, or we don't believe the person asking really wants to hear the truth.

It was the way I responded to a question from an acquaintance recently. I've known this person for over 20 years, we have even worked on a project together. When I got a phone call from him a few weeks ago I did wonder what this was all about. I had just finished golfing and was heading to another happy place – the lumber yard – when the call came through. I debated not answering the call wondering if I would get a voicemail message that I might respond to. But in the end, I accepted the call on my Bluetooth.

The first question was "How are you?" followed by "How is everything at Shepherd of the Hills?" I responded to both questions with the cut off response "Fine". I really didn't want to get into a long conversation. And besides which we really are fine.

Our ministry continues with gusto. The Mission Team continues to provide meals for the Community Feeding. The bills are paid. Our partnership support has not missed a beat as we share with our various organizations – the Synod, Fisher House, Opportunity House, Alpha, Mt. Cross, and Rev. Janelle Neubauer (our missionary in Rwanda). The Steering Team, the Re-Open Task Force, and others are meeting via Zoom and conducting business.

Sure, we're missing our preparation for Vacation Bible School and all the excitement that brings. We will absolutely miss the 100+ students here on campus for the week of learning, fellowship, and care.

And yes, worship is different from what we have come to expect and love. It is simply weird to have pictures of people taped to chairs rather than have living breathing people in those chairs. But then again folks from many places in California, as well as other states in the U.S. and even friends from Italy are joining in our worship life most Sundays. That would not be the case if we had not transferred to a virtual worship life.

So, "How is everything at Shepherd of the Hills?" Different. We are managing with this new format of ministry and life. And I believe there will be some other opportunities and new experiences in the coming months. The Re-Open Task Force has met twice and the next time we meet we will be talking about some new ways for us to safely connect with one another until we are able to gather more fully. In fact, you may have already heard some of our plans before you get this edition of the Horn.

Shalom  
Pastor Bob

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE *by Jeanette Wylie*

### *Madame President's Thoughts*



This crazy year of 2020 is at the mid-point and we continue to find ways to reach out and keep in touch from a distance. I represented Shepherd of the Hills in a Zoom call with Gail Kiyomura, Vice-President of the Sierra Pacific Synod at the end of June. This was the first time Steering Team leaders from the Bay area to Sparks, Nevada had a chance to talk about how their congregations were doing during this pandemic. Evidence certainly supports the fact that churches are not closed, even though the “normal” worship gatherings have been suspended. Conversations included reaching out to the congregants, government loan programs, financial giving and hopes of re-opening. Some churches across the Synod are facing more struggles than our church. Thank you for your continued financial support with your offerings. It was also nice to report that many of our members are able to access the Sunday service through Facebook and YouTube. Many churches planned to continue to offer online services even after we are able to resume some worship services in person.

You heard reports of the new roof on the preschool and Ed.II building as the work was being done by Virtue Roofing, and you’ve heard that the work is now completed. Here is one more big **THANK YOU** to all who contributed or offered prayers for the project. We are glad the preschool is ready once we have the ability to welcome children safely to play together, and learn under the new roof!

At our February Congregational meeting you voted to approve the recommended changes to our Constitution. That has been finished for quite some time and has been shared with the Steering Team. The Constitution, updated March 2020, is available online. Section C8.01.01 says “A copy of the current Constitution will be made available to all members.” If you prefer a printed copy, please make that request to the church office.

On a personal note, I want to share my decision to run for a seat on the Vacaville City Council, District 6. Voting will be by districts now and two new seats are being added to the council. District 6 is south of Alamo and east of Peabody. Before making the decision to run, I discussed it with our Executive Board. At the June Steering Team meeting, I shared my decision. Now I wanted you to hear the decision before hearing it from another source. My term as President of the Congregation will be complete in December, and the Constitution prohibits an additional term. If elected to the City Council position, the term would not begin until December, so I will be able to fulfill my duties as President.

As we enter July and find new ways to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July without big fireworks displays, we consider our freedom and the founding of the country. Our most important freedom is our freedom from sin which came at a great price. In Revelation 1:4-5, we are reminded that “Grace and peace comes to us from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, and Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and **has freed us from our sins by his blood.**”

Always remember the price of freedom, and that God intends that this freedom is open to all who believe.  
Jeanette Wylie

## LUTHER LONGEARS HEARS



Congratulations to **James Jensen** who passed his HAM Radio test. I wonder where his voice will go as he holds conversations all over the world.

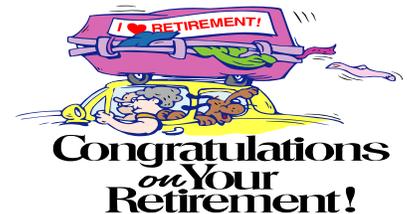
Finally, **Aurelia Black** gets to head to her new job – remember the one she accepted back in March – as her new company opens after so many months of being closed because of COVID-19.

**Hayden Holmes** earned a high honors award for his Sophomore year at Buckingham High School. A well-deserved round of applause to you!

**Jacob Ruggerio** and **Hudson Holmes** joined a significant group of students this school year. They are members of the 100 Grand Reading Club. So many words and pages have entered these young minds.

Our prayers for **Carol Holmes** as she grieves the sudden death of her sister, Mary; and for **Colleen Miller** as she grieves the death of her sister, Lynette who valiantly fought ALS for many years. While these sisters in Christ now have release, their sisters and families are left with their grief.

**Laura Barton** had a parade in her honor. Seems the folks at Padan Elementary decided this “retiring” member of their team needed to have a huge surprise and so they organized one of those now famous drive parades for her. Thanks, Courtney, for posting your Mom’s overjoyed reaction to this.



Our hospitals have been very busy caring for some of our wonderful members. **Gayle Kelch** now has a new knee. **Elvin Amundson** had some surgery. **Lila Carney** spent time in the ICU. **Lois Hague** had a health scare and stopped by for a care visit. All of them are now home recovering. **Sandy Gibson** took a tumble at home breaking her foot and then went to the hospital. She will now spend some time at Vaca-Valley Convalescent and Rehab before she can go home.

Did you know that the Steering Team authorized two Special Offering requests from the Stewardship Team? We sent **\$734 to CASA** (Court Appointed Special Advocates for Solano County) which was our Easter offering. **Mt. Cross Lutheran Camp** was given **\$1,200** for their capital appeals campaign. Just more of Shepherd of the Hills doing what we do.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM STEWARDSHIP TEAM BY MARILYN WEAVER

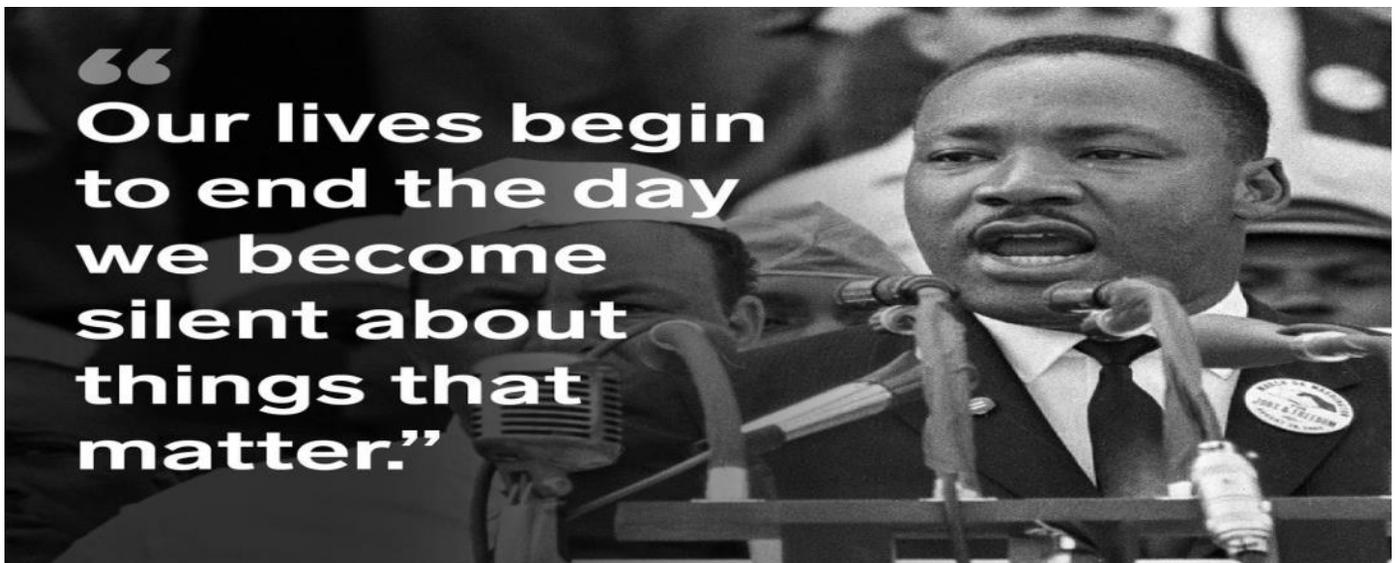
Vanco has offered members another option for making donations, in addition to Simply Giving, the Stewardship Team has investigated and feel it would be a good option for giving for some members. The app is called GivePlus and can be downloaded on your phone. You can designate the money from your checking account or Credit Card. I tried it and it is pretty easy. Currently your gift will be posted to the general fund. Additional options (Altar flowers, SHY donations etc.) will be added later. You can make a one time gift or set up a recurring gift.

Marilyn Weaver

**GIVE  
PLUS<sup>+</sup>**

## SOTH JUSTICE CLUB

Introducing SOTH New book Club. The "SOTH Justice Club." They are a book club based on racial inequality. Currentley they are meeting viz zoom on Tuesday afternoons at 4 P.M. The current book that they are studying is "How to be an AntiRacist" by Ibram X. Kendi. They are intentionally buying from Black-owned physical and online stores. Lets stop racism TOGETHER! Remember that "Life's most persistent and urgent Question is 'what are you doing for others'" -Dr. Martin Luther King JR. For more information please contact Rob Williamson.



## MISSION TEAM NEWS *By Bill Smith*

- The July 2<sup>nd</sup> Mission team meeting will be at 5:45 PM via phone.
- On June 12<sup>th</sup> 98 take away meals were served at Epiphany. The remaining 32 were served at Opportunity house.

**Community Meals** at Epiphany on June 12th. This will be take-outs only per the guidelines. Please contact Bill Smith at (707) 448-1082 if you would like to volunteer, as there may not be access to sign-up sheets before-hand. Thank you.

Vacaville Social Services/ Opportunity House offer supportive services not only for adults. VSSC will be launching a new Children's Health and Wellness Program that; Will provide age appropriate programming for children living at the shelter, Staff will provide tutoring services, facilitate fun indoor and outdoor activities, and build healthy eating habits while parents attend adult group meetings.

My Friends House, a youth services program includes; An outreach division and future eight bed homeless shelter in Vacaville for youth 12 to 18 years of age that are the hidden homeless. We opened My Friends House for reaching homeless and at risk teens before they become chronically homeless and fall into; gangs, addiction, or sex trafficking. Runaways fleeing bad homes or teens or graduating out of the foster care system will be helped.

If you wish to help you can contribute as your budget allows to Friends of Opportunity House monthly. Make sure your donations is to VSSC with tax ID # 68-0364021.

**CAUTION: Do not donate online to 501c3 registered as Opportunity House which is in Pennsylvania.**

New Information: Vacaville High School will be open sometime in August, so call 453-6011 (Administration) to find their site and dates to deliver goods and/or services to support youth in need.

## FINANCE TEAM *By Judy Horan*

We find ourselves still in the midst of a global pandemic, worshipping virtually and yet we continue with financial security not only for our normal expenses, but also for the needed roof replacement for the preschool and Ed II. Including the contribution from the preschool, we are closing in on our total goal for the work. The actual amount required will still depend on the extent of damage found. However, I am confident that we will cover the cost. (Will keep you posted)

With things so unpredictable when the stay-at-home order started, SOTH applied for the Paycheck Protection Program, PPP, to assure that we would cover our payroll and especially the preschool staff once the school closed. Requirements for repayment or forgiveness of the loan will be determined at a future time.

In the meantime, thank you for your continued financial support.  
God bless you all, Judy Horan





**Mt. Cross Ministries**  
**-Providing profound experiences**  
**in God's Creation-**

Mt. Cross is located 9 miles (20 minutes) from Santa Cruz with 100 acres of coastal redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The camp is on Highway 9, right between Ben Lomond and Felton, easy access to many places, but you will feel secluded as soon as you come on-site.

[\(\[mtcross.org\]\(http://mtcross.org\)\)](http://mtcross.org)

Keep up with what's happening at Mt. Cross by following them on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

*Sunday Nights, June 28, July 5, 12, 19, 26 at 7:30 pm*

Come join us on Facebook! Each Sunday during what would have been our summer camp season we'll host campfire worship as a watch party on our Facebook page. It will follow the format of our evening Omega worship and will have songs, stories, and prayers around the campfire, and give you a way to experience camp at home that week. [Click here to get to our Facebook page.](#)

**Family Get-a-Way** *July 1st through August 9th*

Even though we aren't having camp this summer, we are able to host small family groups at camp for anyone who would like to have some time away from their home this summer! Here's what you need to know:

You can choose to camp or stay in our cabins/lodge. For camping, we have 2 sites available, and can possibly accommodate your RV (please be sure to mention if you have an RV when you reserve a spot). Your family will get their own pool house bathroom if you are staying in the campground. If you would rather stay in the cabins, we have 2 Madrone cabins available with private bathrooms in central bathhouse. And finally if you would like to stay in Lower Jensen, we have 2 rooms available with private indoor bathrooms.

When you come, you will get a welcome bag full of family activity ideas, campfire fun, and camp goodies! We will also provide coffee in the morning and a boxed lunch for everyone in your family and full access to our hiking trails, ball field and volleyball court, and campfire rings.

Full food service and kitchen access is not available, and families should plan to bring their own sleeping bags/pillows, toiletries, towels/washcloths, water bottles, and personal sports equipment (ball and glove, basketball, soccer ball, volleyball, etc.).

**COSTS & REGISTRATION INFO:**

Campground: \$25/family/night

Madrone: \$45/family/night

Lower Jensen: \$75/family/night

To reserve your spot, please email Adam at [adam@mtcross.org](mailto:adam@mtcross.org). Be sure to include your name, , mailing address, and phone number, as well as which building you are hoping for, or if you'd like to stay in the campground.



# Worship and Music Team

## READINGS FOR JUNE

### July 5 – Pentecost 5

Zechariah 9:9-12  
Psalm 145:8-14  
Romans 7:15-25  
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

### July 19 – Pentecost 7

Isaiah 44:6-8  
Psalm 86:11-17  
Romans 8:12-25  
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

### July 12 – Pentecost 6

Isaiah 55:10-13  
Psalm 65:1-13  
Romans 8:1-11  
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

### July 26 – Pentecost 8

1 Kings 3:5-12  
Psalm 119:129-136  
Romans 8:26-39  
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52



## JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



### JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Mike and Kristine Golomb	7/05
Larry and Carolyn Gueffroy	7/16
Don and Chris Curtis	7/21
Jim and Kathy Webb	7/23
Tom & Heidi Albers	7/23
John and Linda Moyle	7/31

Marla Wilson	7/8
Sue Gibbs	7/9
Courtney Barton	7/10
Michele Lee	7/16
George Zamora	7/16
Wilma Rasmussen	7/17
Nancy Adams	7/21
Natalie Allas	7/23
Cindy Allas	7/28
Jo Ann Akers	7/29
Wendy Frayseth	7/29
Rayna Velasquez	7/27
Katie Ireton	7/30

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

Kathy Webb, Devon Medlin	7/2
Mary Adams	7/4
Jeanne Meyers	7/5
Carol Santee	7/7

*If we have missed your celebration, we apologize. Please let us know by contacting the church office by email: [sob580@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sob580@sbcglobal.net) or by telephone at 448-8599.*

## SOCIAL CONCERNS

### O LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER . . .

We remember the following persons in our prayers. If you have a prayer request, please call the church office (448-8599) and you will be put on our prayer chain. If your need is over and you no longer wish to be on the prayer chain, please let us know that as well. Those asking for our prayers (unless otherwise requested, names will appear here for a month):

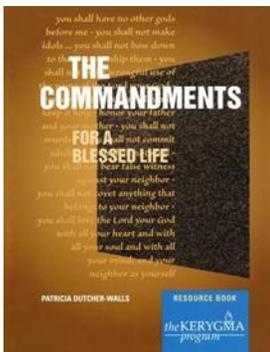
- ✞ Darcey & Gaye Adams; Elvin Amundson; Elda Dehnbostel; Ron & Sandy Gibson; Paul Harrison; Mary Marks; Richard & Lou Barela; Eric Schmidt; Teresa Wilson; and anyone undergoing medical tests or treatment; or suffering loss;



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT ADULT EDUCATION *by Pr. Bob Willse*

Details of the 2020-2021 Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study curriculum are now posted on our website: [www.discovertheshepherd.org](http://www.discovertheshepherd.org).

Our first session will be a seven-session study of The Commandments, which was postponed from earlier this year.



### The Commandments: For a Blessed Life

September 2 – October 14, 2020

Come, gain a new appreciation of God's guidance toward faithful and blessed living. Here is a fresh look at those familiar words so central to the will and way of God. Explore the commandments, from their biblical setting through the teachings of Jesus and into our own lives.

In seven sessions (from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.), we discover how God's timeless laws speak solid truth to us today. Register by Sunday, August 9. Cost for the material is \$20 per book.

Exactly how we will gather is not clear at this moment. If we can gather in person we will do so, likely in the Big Room with more space. If not, then we will gather in a Zoom meeting during those Wednesday nights. More information next month.

## SMALL GROUPS

**White Water Bible Study Group** is still not meeting for our Bible Studies. We, of course, are following the lead of the Church Building Reopening Committee in terms of when it is safe for us to get together regularly. We do hope to have our summer social at least. There is no firm date set for the social but we are looking at dates late in July or early August. Most likely we will do something like last year and meet at a restaurant for lunch. (When that is possible.) At the present time our group is trying to reach out to one another through emails, texts, phone calls, and snail mail. It is our fondest hope to begin meetings once a week as soon as possible.

**Congregation Life:** If all goes well congregational life is planning the church picnic to be held in August. Exact date is to be determined

**Care Callers** are all currently working from home.

**His People** is on break until Fall. They are hoping to start in September again



The Tuesday Morning Bible study meets in the Big Room at 9:30 a.m. the second Tuesday of the month. This women's study uses the ELCA *Gather* Magazine material for their study. See Ari Krass if you are interested in this time of study and fellowship.

Women's Evening Bible Study (WEBS) meets the fourth Mondays at 6:30 pm in Ed II. See Joan Marquand-Willse for details. Please join us once a month.

Joy Book Club meets the first Tuesdays at 6:30 pm at Lou Barela's.

A Case for Hope meets second Tuesdays at 7 pm at Kay Clark's.

THE PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets each third Thursday at 1:00 PM at Wilma Rasmussen's home. They welcome newcomers who like to knit or crochet. Shawls made by these women are given to comfort people who are ill or who have suffered loss. They even make baby blankets. Call the office for Wilma's address or consult the Member Directory..



The Lunch Bunch, an adult fellowship group, will meet on Monday, April 20th at BJ's Restaurant (190 Nut Tree Parkway) for lunch and fellowship. Since the restaurant needs an accurate count of lunchers, please contact Ari Krass to let her know you will be coming.

Men's Group Hosts Bruce Barling and Bill Smith invite men of Shepherd and their man friends to join them on last Sunday of the month. Watch for news of our return.

These groups are postponed until further notice.

## STEWARDSHIP TEAM NEWS *by Bruce Smith*

### **Stewardship and Me, My View**

I was asked if I would write an article for you on Stewardship and Tithing, and I thought about it a while and decided to give you my history and struggle with my tithing.

I was raised in the Lutheran church in Niagara Falls New York, primarily. My mom was raised a Catholic and went to a Catholic nursing school to receive her nursing degree, and my father was an aircraft mechanic in the Navy, so we moved around a little but became a Lutheran family. I went to Sunday school every Sunday, was an acolyte, a boy scout, and was confirmed as a Lutheran child of God. While I was living at home, I remember asking my dad how much he gave to the church, and I was looking for a dollar figure because I knew the word tithe and what it meant. I didn't get that dollar figure but was told, Stewardship came in many forms. He was a highly active member of our church, was always available if something was needed at the church or by a church member, and always put his offering in the offering plate every Sunday. I did too, but it was only a dollar. He also said, "every dollar I give to God I seem to always get more in return." That was abstract to me and didn't really answer my question, but it is programmed into my memory banks now.

After leaving home and joining the Air Force, going to church didn't seem to be a priority, but being a Lutheran and believing in God never stopped. By the time I got to 40 being more connected to God seemed to become more important. I can't say what took so long but it took a while for me. After moving to Vacaville, we joined Shepherd of the Hills and were happy being inactive members until one day God threw in front of me a challenge via a church finance program, Crown Financial. It was instructed by our new Small Group Program Director; Jennifer South was co-led by her husband Jerry. I found this to be my re-ignition point on my faith walk. I specifically remember one night when everyone was discussing tithing. Well I didn't want to talk much here because I was no where near a 10% contribution. I gave what I felt was acceptable to me, not God. However, probably half of the group was adamant about giving at least 10% and some gave more. In my mind I thought they must not have both oars in the water. To give away 10% of your weekly or monthly earnings. To hear it from the pastor was something you expected, but I didn't think people listened and put the words into action. Wow, I heard God talking to ME! This course brought to light the many Bible verses (like 2000+) about giving & tithing that I had probably heard thru the years, but now they had meaning to me, finally. If you haven't had the opportunity to take a Crown Financial course, take it. It changed my financial life and my giving life both for the better.

Now I'd be stretching the truth if I said I started giving 10% right after going thru this course but slowly I have built my giving to at least that 10% goal, and, like my dad, I have to say God has blessed me more and more every day.

I feel blessed to be a part of God's work at Shepherd of the Hills as you do. Listening to Pastor Bob saying that even in these trying times, our church hasn't gone down a lack of giving road other churches have gone, and it's because of our responsible stewardship to God. our resolve to show our gratitude. For his gift of grace and eternal life.



First Class Postage

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
580 Trinity Drive  
Vacaville, CA 95687

# The Horn

## 2020

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)  
*Traditional Sunday Worship service 8:30 AM*  
*Contemporary Sunday Service 10:30 AM*  
*Children's Education Time during late service*  
*(Nursery care provided)*

