

Shepherd of the Sierra Presbyterian Church



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What Does It Mean to Be Ordained?

by Pastor Dave

On May 28, we will gather in worship as we do every Sunday, but this day will be a bit different. For on this day we will ordain and install new elders and deacons in the life of Shepherd. Because of this event, I would like to share with you some of my thoughts on ordination.

In the Presbyterian tradition there are three ministries that lead toward ordination: Minister of Word and Sacrament, Elder, and Deacon. While I would be in favor of expanding this list, the broader church has limited ordination to these three ministries. Such a limit does not imply that somehow these ministries are more important than others, rather the limitation has to do with the biblical witness that establishes these ministries as central to the calling of the Church.

The widest biblical witness to these three are to be found in the ministry of deacon and elder. The New Testament has various references to each of these offices. The ministry of Word and Sacrament is rooted in the biblical text, but its present day manifestation has changed the most from its biblical roots.

The act of ordination is a recognition that God calls certain individuals to what the Book of Order calls "ordered ministries." "Ordered ministries are gifts to the church to order its life so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish. The existence of these ordered ministries in no way diminishes the importance of the commitment of all members to the total ministry of the church." (G. 2.0102)

When we ordain individuals into these ministries, they are ordained for life. Thus on May 28, we will be ordaining some individuals and installing others. Those who have been previously ordained to the ministries of Deacon or Elder will be installed to active ministry for a three-year term. But just because one is not active does not mean that one does not carry the ongoing responsibility of the ministry into which they have been ordained. For example, inactive elders can be commissioned to service in a congregation, presbytery, synod or General Assembly.

The individuals that will stand before you on May 28 take their calling seriously. They have been elected by this congregation. They are eager to serve. They need your prayers and support. May God walk with them as they lead us to be everything that God calls us to be as the Body of Christ in the world.

Summertime Praise at 9:50 a.m.

Worship Service at 10 a.m.

May 28 through September 3



SUMMER 2017

- 6/2 Breakfast Work Group
- 6/2 The Gathering Inn
- 6/4 SOS Birthday
- 6/6 Deacons
- 6/8 SOS Women
- 6/15 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 6/19-23 VBS Day Camp
- 6/20 Session
- 6/21 Men's Fellowship
- 7/4 Office Closed
- 7/7 Breakfast Work Group
- 7/7 The Gathering Inn
- 7/9 Family Beach Blast
- 7/13 SOS Women
- 7/15 Annual Reports Due
- 7/19 Men's Fellowship
- 7/20 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 7/22-29 Nicaragua Adult Mission Trip
- 8/4 Breakfast Work Group
- 8/4 The Gathering Inn
- 8/6 Islam Presentation
- 8/10 SOS Women
- 8/13 PC(USA) Missionaries Christi & Jeff Boyd
- 8/16 Men's Fellowship
- 8/17 Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 8/20 Family Beach Blast
- 8/26 Session Retreat
- 8/26 Gospel Music Night and Ice Cream Social
- 8/27 Annual Cong. Meeting



The Blessings of Spending a Week at Gleanings for the Hungry

by Rae Yund and Group

"In the true spirit of Christian Community everyone is welcomed. The older, the young, the handicapped, the international backpacker, the foreigner and the service man serving together to relieve the suffering of the needy of the world."

"My 54 year old son said that when I returned I looked younger than when I left."



"I feel so fulfilled doing God's work that I don't want to leave."

"Everyone is so committed, staff and volunteers, it did my heart good."



"I feel that I experienced what the Early Christians felt — everyone working for a common goal in real unity and equality."

"Working, living, eating, worshiping together is an excellent way to get to know members of our Church better."

"The fact that I have returned 15 times is my best endorsement."



What a surprise and joy when we were called together to bless the shipment of food and quilts that was leaving to find that the truck driver was from Rocklin. We found out he was a Christian Ukrainian refugee and the food was being delivered to the Ukraine.

STAFF

DAVID RATCLIFF
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PARISH ASSOCIATE

CATHY LOVEJOY
DIRECTOR OF
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ASHLEY NEUFELD
YOUTH LEADER

JULIE ADAMS
MUSIC DIRECTOR

**DAKIN
CHAMBERLAIN**
PIANIST

RICH McCORMAC
CHURCH
ADMINISTRATOR

KRISTI HECKELMAN
FINANCE CLERK

CAROL NIELSEN
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

ALICIA WILLSON
NURSERY CAREGIVER

**NATHAN
SOMMERVILLE**
JANITOR



Building Community

by Ashley Neufeld, Youth Leader

It's been such a joy and comfort to feel the support, not just from our youth group families, but from the whole congregation. I can feel a true sense of support for the young folks in our church.

It's fun to jump into a new job and have planning a summer program as my first task. Lucky me! Just after school ends this year, we'll jump right into Vacation Bible School. Some of our middle school and high school youth will be assisting with the small groups this year. One of the many benefits of all the rain this season is that our local lakes are nice and high again. So, in celebration of the rain God has brought and to build community, we will be having two Beach Blast days, Sunday, July 9th and Sunday, August 20th for all our children and youth families.

For our middle school and high school groups, I really want to focus on building community between the youth as we complete the transition between myself and Piper. They need to get to know me and I need to get to know them. So, I'm planning on a summer schedule that I hope will facilitate that. In addition to our above activities, we'll be doing a movie night at church, a game night and maybe even a trip to Golf Land! Keep your eyes open for an email with dates, times and locations. Thank you as always for your continued support.





Youth Mission Trip 2017

by Cathy Lovejoy

Our youth missionaries and their chaperones participated in an all-new mission experience this spring in Portland, Oregon. While the group worked in Portland in 2015, this year's trip included new work projects and opportunities to serve the community.

After attending a Palm Sunday service on their first morning in Portland, the group worked with Project Transformation. This non-profit provides summer day camp experiences that seek to enrich the literacy and social-emotional well-being of children in the Portland area. Our youth worked to organize books for this important ministry. Later that day our students served dinner at Jean's Place, a transitional housing program for women and children.

On the second day, the group headed over to Friends of the Carpenter. This unique ministry connects master carpenters with those who are experiencing homelessness. This day program provides individuals with structured time to learn skills, gather with others, and work with a purpose. For many, this is the only time during the day that these individuals can gather in community and be welcomed with true hospitality. Our students learned about the ministry and crafted a few bird houses that will be sold in the shop to help fund the program.



Finally, on the last day, our missionaries traveled to the Portland Food Bank to pack dried food and to Bethlehem House of Bread to complete ground maintenance. After many hours across these few days, our group was able to find rest at "The Grotto," as well as a treat at "Salt and Straw Ice Cream."



As always, these young missionaries and their adult leaders were an impressive crew. Sierra Service Project is always amazed by their work ethic, their friendliness, and their willingness to complete whatever work needs to be done while they are there. Shepherd can be very proud that we have such excellent models for what it means to be sent into the world to do God's work.

ELDERS

DAVID BAKER
CARITA CONNELLY
DAVID COWLES
DEBBY FASL
ANNE FULLER
PETSY PROETT
JIM THURSTON
MAX VAN ORSDEL
DIANNE WILLSON

CLERK OF SESSION KENT MILTON

DEACONS

RUBY ANDREWS
BARB BESECKER
BEE BESECKER
ERIC HECKELMAN
ERIN HECKELMAN
ADAM HENTSCHKE
NICK LADAS
TOM MARX
RANDEE REIDY
PEGGY RODENBERGER
SCOTT WARREN
CAROLINE WEAVER
RAE YUND



STEPHEN LEADERS

SHARON BRUNDAGE
JENI CASSADY
DIANA PELLEGRIN
LILA PETTINGILL
HARRY PRAHL

STEPHEN MINISTERS

RETA BLANCHARD
CHARLOTTE GREENHALGE
BARBARA HUBER
DIANA PELLEGRIN
CAROL PENN
LILA PETTINGILL
HARRY PRAHL
STEVE WRIGHT

Three Mission Presentations

Immediately following worship (11:15 to 12 noon) with finger foods.

May 28th: Pastor James Byensi from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Shepherd's members Earl and Melanie Boyd served with him in the DRC. He will be sharing the miracles of ministry in the war-torn North East.

Aug 6th, Zaid Akhter from the Muslim Community of Folsom, will share an excellent Power-Point presentation on the "History and Contributions of Islam," and answer questions.

Aug 13th, PC(USA) Missionaries Christi and Jeff Boyd will be preaching. At 11:15 they will share regarding their coordinating ministries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Madagascar, Niger, Rwanda, and South Sudan.

WANTED: Prayer Partners for Shepherd's Nicaragua Mission-Vision Trip, July 22-29.

In July, the Nicaragua Team will make available a **daily prayer guide** for their ministries with our PC(USA) Missionary co-workers Justin and Renée Sundberg (www.pcusa.org/sundberg-justin-and-renee). Hosted by CEPAD (www.cepadnica.org), our team will be learning, glimpsing a vision, and working alongside local leaders to harvest rain water, build simple water filters, and assist with family gardens.

2017 Nicaragua International Adult Mission Trip — The long-term dream of this mission focused congregation is now a reality and you have fully embraced it. The travelers Sue Bordelon, Melanie Boyd, Jeni Cassady, Adam Hentschke, Lynn & Virgil Nelson, Ashley Neufeld, Toni Newman, Mary Prah, and Suzanne Sheetz have spent the past 5 months preparing for the trip by reading and discussing the book “When Helping Hurts.” This book addresses our cultural biases when working with others. Thus, humility and generosity of spirit are important companions for our trip.

The local leaders were hopeful that SOS could provide funds for: 25 home water filters, 8 micro-reservoirs, seeds and tools for 8 families, 2 youth training programs, and 2 women's training programs.

However, because of your generous spirit we are supporting: 30 home water filters, 10 micro reservoirs, seeds and tools for 16 families, and 3 training programs for youth and women.

We are looking forward to the trip and are honored to be representing the SOS congregation. We are overwhelmed by your generous spirit and loving hearts.

“We are therefore Christ's ambassadors. . . .”

— 2 Corinthians 5:16a, 18-20 NIV