



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Berkeley
Autumn 2015



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Oct. 31, 2017, will mark the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther posting his 95 Theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany – an act that sparked the Lutheran Reformation. A little more than a year before the anniversary, on Aug. 10-13, 2016, we will be hosting the Grace Gathering in conjunction with the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in New Orleans. Please save these dates now and make plans to attend the Grace Gathering.

This special event will give Grace Gathering attendees and Churchwide Assembly voting members an opportunity to come together in kicking off the 500th anniversary! There will be fruitful workshops and keynotes to inspire planning for local observances, time to worship and participate in experiential learning activities, as well as opportunities to gather with voting members of the ELCA throughout the Churchwide Assembly.

I also invite and encourage you to become involved even now in the ELCA's observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation by visiting and bookmarking ELCA500.org, a growing hub of resources, events and news surrounding preparation for the observance. You also can follow current developments on Facebook at ELCA Reformation 500.

Please look for more information on the Grace Gathering in the coming months! Early bird registration will open on Oct. 31, 2015. I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans in August 2016!

Grace and peace to you,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop

SPECIAL EVENTS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

A **YEAH!** OPEN HOUSE

Featuring light snacks, a screening of the documentary *The Homestretch* and a discussion about youth homelessness in our community.



Friday, September 18, 2015 • 5:30-7:30pm
at YEAH!, 1744 University Avenue, Berkeley



Suggested donation per person: \$25
Reserve your ticket at: <https://yeahopenhouse.eventbrite.com>



The Homestretch documentary provides a glimpse into the experiences young people, located in Chicago, face when their housing is unstable and the impact of supportive community. www.homestretchdoc.com

Please continue to collect toiletry items from hotels and keep an eye out for sales on underwear and twin size blankets, as well as umbrellas, socks and rain gear.

We will have a collection and blessing of all donations before they are delivered to YEAH for use.

PLTS SEMINARIAN DINNER

School will begin soon and Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary has one of the largest incoming classes that they have had in years. We have invited them to join us for a welcoming meal and time of conversation on **Sunday, October 11th, at 6:00 pm** for our annual Seminarian Dinner. Join us in SOTH's Fellowship Hall or adjacent patio, depending on the weather, as we share an Italian Family Dinner. Caleb Wolfson-Seeley has agreed to be our Master Chef.

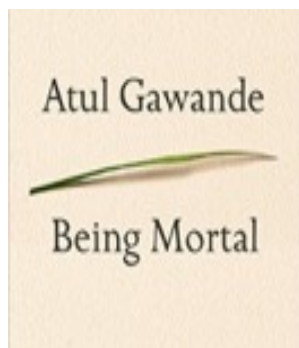
Please contact Felicia Robertson at 526-5670 or flobertson@comcast.net to join in the volunteering fun! Reservations will be accepted in mid-September.



ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

REFLECTIONS

In *Being Mortal*, bestselling author Atul Gawande tackles the hardest challenge of his profession: how medicine can not only improve life but also the process of its ending.



Medicine has triumphed in modern times, transforming birth, injury, and infectious disease from harrowing to manageable. But in the

inevitable condition of aging and death, the goals of medicine seem too frequently to run counter to the interest of the human spirit.

Gawande, a practicing surgeon, addresses his profession's ultimate limitation, arguing that quality of life is the desired goal for patients and families. Gawande offers examples of freer, more socially fulfilling models for assisting the infirm and dependent elderly, and he explores the varieties of hospice care to demonstrate that a person's last weeks or months may be rich and dignified.

Full of eye-opening research and riveting storytelling, *Being Mortal* asserts that medicine can comfort and enhance our experience even to the end, providing not only a good life but also a good end.

Whether you have finished reading or barely started, join us for a conversation on **Thursday, September 10th at 10am** at Esther and Gifford Dickel's, 1060 Overlook Rd in Berkeley.

Mere Christianity is a theological book by C. S. Lewis, adapted from a series of BBC radio talks made between 1942 and 1944, while Lewis was at Oxford during World War II. We will begin reading this classic on



Thursday, October 1st at 10am, at the Dickel's. for Reflections and the following 1st Thursdays of the month. Join us!

SOTH BOOK CLUB

Zealot yields a fresh perspective on one of the greatest stories ever told even as it affirms the radical



and transformative nature of Jesus of Nazareth's life and mission. The result is a thought-provoking, elegantly written biography with the pulse of a fast-paced

novel: a singularly brilliant portrait of a man, a time, and the birth of a religion.

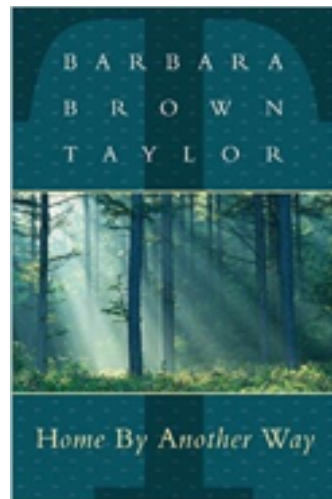
Join the SOTH as we discuss this book on **Tuesday, September 22nd, at 6:30pm**. The book can be found at Barnes & Noble for \$7. Please feel free to skip reading the notes which take up a third of the pages (Pastor Kim will make sure to read them and share any important information.)

We will have a new (lighter) fiction book for October. Watch Life of SOTH e-news for the title.

CIRCLE & SOCIAL CONCERNS

PRISCILLA'S CIRCLE

In these sermons, Barbara Brown Taylor walks us through the church year from the expectancy of Advent to the fires of Pentecost and beyond. Her



themes arise not only from a particular feast or fast, but out of the perennial questions of faith: doubt, grace, anger, and jubilation. These sermons are simply great stories well told.

These will be our guide for Priscilla's Circle this year. We meet monthly for fellowship and study. Our

meetings are usually on the third Tuesday of the month from 10am-1pm and include a bring-your-own bag lunch as well as hostess provided treats.

Carol Starr will be hosting on **Tuesday, September 22nd from 10am-1pm**. Newcomers are welcome! Pastor Kim has a copy of the book if you need one. Although this is an ongoing study each session can stand alone. Bring a bag lunch and join us! Our October gathering will be **Tuesday, October 13th**.

HANDWORK GROUP

The Shepherd of the Hills Handwork Group will not be meeting in August. Our next meeting is on **Sunday, Sept 27, from 2 pm to 4 pm** at Candy Simonen's home, 2200 Los Angeles Ave., Berkeley.

The group gets together monthly to knit or crochet scarves for the San Francisco Night Ministry and baby blankets and baby caps for World Health Ministries.

Check with the Church calendar, the weekly email or the church bulletin for the **October meeting date** or call Candy at 558-8142.

Join us for conversation, handiwork and refreshments. Newcomers and all ages are welcome. Instruction and materials are available.



If you can't come but would like to knit or crochet for us here are the directions:

- Scarves should be 6 to 7 inches wide and 50 to 60 inches long.
- Baby blankets should be about 30 inches by 30 inches and can be any color.
- Baby caps should have a circumference of about 15 inches – not tight.

QUILTING GROUP

We will be continuing sewing and tying quilts for Lutheran World Relief for the coming year on the 2nd Wednesday of the month (except August). Upcoming dates are: **Wednesday, August 5th, September 9th and October 14th** in the Fellowship Hall. If you can't be here at 1:30pm, come when you can. No quilting experience needed (non-sewers are busy tying the quilts.)

We will have a blessing of the quilts made this year on **Sunday, October 4th**.

YOUTH NEWS

MT CROSS DAY CAMP

The week of **June 13-17**, 19 children participated with Mount Cross Day Camp. They consisted of members from SOTH and All Souls Episcopal Parish as well as some friends. They sang, played, danced and learned about God's love. Thank you to all who volunteered to make the week such a great success!



LETTER FROM MT. CROSS

Dear Shepherd of the Hills:

Thank you so much for having us as a part of your ministry this week! We were greatly blessed by our time spent here. Thank you to those who were able to volunteer your time; we could not have done it without you! Thank you to all those who supported our ministry through prayer, through hosting us, and through all other contributions of time, talent, or treasures.

We thank you for your continued support of the youth ministry programs of Mt. Cross Ministries, and will be praying for your church and its members as well. Thanks again for making this week of Day Camp such a pleasure!

Love,

The Mt. Cross Day Camp Team

Abby, Elizabeth, Urenna



BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

Let's start the new school year out on the right foot.

There will be two opportunities to receive a blessing for your school backpack: **Sunday, August 23rd and Sunday, August 30th.**

Good luck to all in this new school year.

YOUTH & CONFIRMATION NEWS

LAST SUNDAY SUNDAY SCHOOL

The youth have been busy! Over the summer, during worship, we have heard the stories of Samuel and David. We have also been meeting for Sunday School downstairs once a month. Thank you for turning out for these special days!

In June we learned some festive prayers to say and sing before we have a meal. Paper airplanes flew at the end of July. And a paper stained glass window, representing a summers-worth of delightful coloring, will go up at the end of August. **Grown-ups are invited to color a panel or two for our window, as well.** Clip boards with supplies are available to take to your seat or take home. Our Last Summer Sunday School will be on **August 30th**.

GOOD GIFTS

The ELCA reports that a record-breaking \$4.5 million was given to Good Gifts in 2014. Some 90 percent directly supported ELCA churchwide ministries to alleviate domestic and global hunger, start congregations, fund scholarships for seminarians, send missionaries and more.

Shepherd of the Hills purchased the following:

**\$500 - Cow * \$250 - Fish Farm * \$50 - Goat
\$30 - Pig * \$4 - Chicks**

BACK IN THE SWING - SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our fall session of Sunday School begins on **Sunday, September 20th**, which is the Sunday following the Solano Stroll. Children from pre-school age through 6th grade are encouraged to join our weekly lessons downstairs during worship time. Younger children are also invited, in company with a parent. Weekly Bible lessons, crafts, music and games will continue until the beginning of Advent.

If you have an interest in presenting a lesson, project or musical piece during Sunday school time, please let Susie Barnes know soon, as we are planning our calendar over the next few weeks.

CONFIRMATION

I'm excited to announce another year of confirmation will begin soon. We will be joining with ULC, LCC and Christ in El Cerrito. This semester we (youth and parents) will be meeting at **Sawyer Hall at PLTS at 2770 Marin Avenue, Berkeley** on **September 9th, October 7th, November 11th, and December 2nd** for a meal and study from **6-7:30pm**. There will be additional dates for ministry in the world with our mentors along with regular worship. More information is coming!

YOUTH RETREATS AT MT CROSS

Each year, the youth from our synod put on retreats at Mt Cross camp near Santa Cruz. Costs for the events are \$140 with scholarships available. Please let Pastor Kim know if you are interested.
NOTE: All confirmation students are required to attend the Jr High Retreat.

High School Retreat: October 16-18th Registration due September 27th

Junior High Retreat: November 13-15th Registration due October 18th

Elementary Retreat (grades 3-6): February 26-28th Registration due January 31st

SPECIAL INTEREST: THE 3 MAGI- REVISITED IN 17TH CENTURY ART



On a recent business trip to Washington DC, I had the opportunity to catch a special Magi painting exhibit at the National Gallery of Art (NGA), along the Washington Mall, and will share some of the exhibit notes here.

The Gallery had on display three paintings of the Magi by the Flemish master Peter Paul Rubens. Rubens was a proponent of the Baroque style that emphasized movement, color, humanism and mythology, and is pretty well known for various altarpieces, portraits, landscapes, and historical renditions of mythological and allegorical subjects. His rendition captures the Magi in this style. Below is a link to the website at the NGA: <http://www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/exhibitions/2015/rubens-the-three-magi.html>

Rubens' father was a Calvinist, so he had strong Protestantism influence through much of his life and this undoubtedly influenced his artist approach. Though residing in part of the Spanish empire domain at the time, he converted to Catholicism later in life.

What I found interesting about this small 3-painting exhibit, tucked along a hallway between other major exhibit areas, was its historical significance on two levels. One, the paintings were separated and dispersed long ago and the showing at the Gallery was the first time they were reunited in more than 130 years. Secondly, and more significantly, is the humanistic representation they portray – much different from earlier religious art and consistent with what some of us studied last fall at SOTH in a couple of adult learning sessions (see John Hopkirk's notes on Lutheran contributions to science and the arts as well as our visit to the Legion of Honor last December).

Rubens painted these bust-length biblical figures around 1618 for his friend Balthasar Moretus, who was head of the prestigious Plantin Press, the largest press in Europe at the time. Balthasar and his two brothers, Gaspar and Melchior, were named after the Three Magi, thus these works had special personal meaning for the patron.

Rubens conjured these biblical figures not simply as exotic kings of the distant past but as tangible flesh and blood believers – which makes them more relevant to the style of worship emerging at the time. Upon inspection, you'll notice interesting biblical references to the adoration of the Magi scenes as well.

The oldest king usually kneels closest to the Christ child and offers gold. The most precious of the three gifts, gold is traditionally interpreted as symbolizing Jesus's kingship. The second king opens his vessel to reveal frankincense, an aromatic substance derived from the sap of Boswellia trees. This gift, burnt as incense in biblical times represents sacrifice, prayer, and the recognition of Christ's divine majesty, according to Biblical interpreters. The youngest king, of African descent according to many biblical commentaries and portrayed as such here, is associated with the gift of myrrh. Also an aromatic resin burnt as incense, it was used in biblical times to anoint the dead, and thus seen as foreshadowing the death of Christ.

However interpreted, it was a lot to see in a relatively small and modest exhibit. - Grant Ricketts

THE SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LOGO – INSPIRATION, ORIGINS AND USE



The SOTH logo is an uplifting visual of the cross silhouetted against the backdrop of a tree resting on a hill. It captures the essence of this place as well as the aspirations and promise it represents. Just as many of you do, I find it inspiring and aspirational.

The artistry belongs to Tony Griffing-Morse who created the original design about 10 years ago. The story about how the logo evolved is an interesting one, and since some people are newer here at SOTH it may be a fun story to share. And, we'll get to more of that story in a moment.

But, first I wanted to share the inspiration behind the original design so I called Tony recently and asked him to share his recollections. He says, "We wanted to capture the essence of the church, nestled in a community among the hills, surrounded by trees and a park-like environment, and represent this with an iconic image that would be highly recognizable as well as unique and distinctive." Continuing, he says, "The challenge with identity or logo design is to keep things simplistic, yet meaningful. Often, design ideas can get too complex creating illustrations or imagery that try to capture too many components. And, on the other hand, they can also be too simplistic; a mark that may be clean, but meaningless."

To me, our SOTH logo design says it all with simplicity and elegance. However, as thoughtful and contemplative as this sounds, it didn't really happen that way. You see, Tony actually stepped in to help rescue a project that was

headed towards failure. And, this is where we return to our story.

One Sunday after church several years ago, Pastor Paul Schulze approached me and asked if I would help update the small ad the church had in the Yellow Pages (remember the Yellow Pages?... "Let your fingers do the walking..."? If not, ask anyone here under the age of 20, see if they can explain... ;-). Anyway, after looking at the simple block of text with our name, address, and phone, etc., I thought perhaps we could add a graphic element to make it stand out more. Something other than just showing an angular building roof with a cross on top which is what some other ads did.



So, I thought, "A tree. That can work." We could add a simple profile of a tree along the side of the ad and just place our standard text copy to the right. It would stand out as something different, capturing the eye as it glanced across the page. Simple enough. Or so I thought.

When I talked with the Yellow Pages representative they said I could draw what I had in mind and fax it their Art Department who could set it up just right (remember faxes? If not, ask anyone here under the age of 20, see if they can explain... ;-). "Good, I thought. They have an Art Department. That would do the trick." Or so I thought.

A couple of days later I received the layout for the ad. *Urgh!* The design was basically a block of three triangles coming out from the side of the text box and then the text. It wasn't a tree. More like a cartoon rendition of shark's teeth. I couldn't imagine how an 'art department' came up with something like it.

So, in that state of panic, seeking to avoid the accident about to happen, my wife Anne suggested calling Tony for help, which he did. And, as they say, the rest is history.

The design is the one with the modest flare at the bottom of the cross as it's silhouetted against the tree on a hill, which also symbolizes the "hill" in Shepherd of the Hills. This incorporates the perspective of looking upwards, up the hill, among the trees, and perhaps like one might be looking up Calvary Hill. And, that's the design element that makes it more inspiring and aspirational.

So, we wanted to share this update with you along with the story that goes with it, and hope that you continue to find it an inspirational part of our identity. — Grant Ricketts

WORSHIP & COMMUNITY NEWS

WELCOME, CHILD OF GOD

Sunday, August 9th at worship, we welcome Gillian Gawlikowski to the family, as a fellow worker with us in the kingdom of God. Come and celebrate with Gillian, Nick, Angela, and the entire family!

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Looking for the Worship Volunteer's Sign-up on the www.sothb.org website? It can be found in the members only areal. Just register, and you will get permission to access lots of information including the directory.

Sign up to help out in many areas of worship. If you are new to an area, let Pastor Kim know and she can give you a quick orientation before worship. Please, sign up today!

If leading worship isn't your cup of tea, offer to bring flowers! After worship, take them home with you to remind you of our time in community. Thanks!

SEASONS OF CREATION

During September, we will be focusing on the Seasons of Creation and God as Creator in worship. Earth, Humanity Sky and Mountains will be lifted up. We will conclude the series with a special **Blessing of Animals on Sunday, October 4th**. Please bring your pet or a picture of your pet for a blessing. All friendly animals are welcome.

CARY BASS-DESCHENES' ORDINATION

Cary is starting at Lutheran Church of the Cross on August 10, and his ordination is scheduled for **Sunday, August 30 at 4:30pm** at St. Francis in San Francisco. Please let him know if you'd like to attend.

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

We are in need of a new office administrator. If you know of someone interested in a part-time (10-13 hours) office and communications position, Please let Pastor Kim know. The posting will go on Craigslist soon. In the meantime, Cary's hours have been changed to : Wednesday 9:30am-12p and Thursday 9:30a-2p

LAST (ALMOST) SUNDAY SUPPER

Hard to believe that summer is coming to a close. We need to end it it right with a delicious community meal at **Bowl'd Korean Rice Bar at 1479 Solano Ave in Albany**. Because of the great celebration for Cary on our regular date, I suggest we go a week early for our meal: **Sunday, August 23rd at 6pm**. Plan on joining the fellowship and good eats!

THRIVENT CHOICE SUCCESS

Over the last 5 years, eligible members have recommended that Thrivent Financial distribute more than \$225 million in charitable grant funds to more than 25,600 enrolled churches and organizations through Thrivent Choice®.

Congratulations!

Shepherd Of The Hills Lutheran Church has received \$2,562 in Choice Dollars® grant funds since enrolling in the program.

We want to thank each member who has participated in this program. Your participation in the Thrivent Choice program continues to help our operating budget.

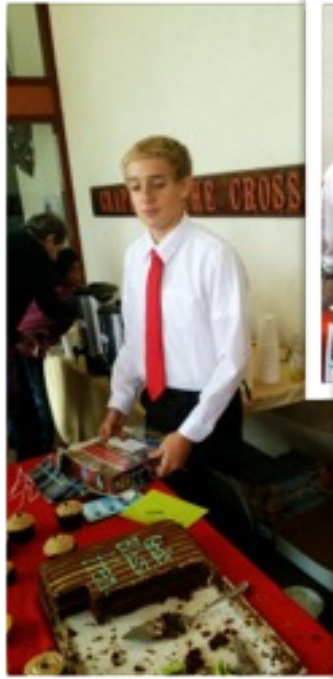
AUTUMN CALENDAR

August 2015

August 2015							Sat	1
10th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship	2	Mon 3	Tue 4	Wed 5 1:30p Quilting 7p B&G	Thu 6 6p Racism Conversation	Fri 7	8	
11th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship & Gillian Gawlikowski Baptism	9	10	11 7p Finance	13	14	15	16	
		Monkey Business Camp						
12th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
		Monkey Business Camp						
13th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship & Blessing of Backpacks 6p Last (Almost) Sunday Supper	23	24	25 7p Council	26	27	28	29	
		Monkey Business Camp						
14th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship w/ Last Sunday Sunday School & Blessing of Backpacks 4:30p Cary's Ordination	30	31 6:30p Children's	September 2015					
			1	2 7p B&G	3	4	5	
15th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship	6	7	8 7p Finance	9 1:30p Quilting 6p Confirmation	10 10a Reflections	11	12	
16th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship	13	14	15 7p Council	16	17	18 5:30p YEAH	19	
17th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship w/Godly Play	20	21	22 10a Priscilla 6:30p Book Club	23	24	25	26	
18th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship w/Godly Play 2p Handwork Group	27	28	29	30	October 2015			
					1 10a Reflections	2	3	
19th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship w/Godly Play Quilt Blessing	4	5	6 6:30p Adult. Ed.	7 6p Confirmation 7p B&G	8	9 Mt Cross Women's	10 Mt Cross Women's	
20th Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship w/Godly Play 6p PLTS Seminarian Dinner	11	12	13 10a Priscilla 7p Finance	14 1:30p Quilting	15	16 Mt Cross High School	17 Mt Cross High School	
21st Sun after Pentecost 10a Worship w/Godly Play	18	19	20 Professional	21 Leader's	22 Conference	23	24	
Reformation Sunday 10a Worship w/Godly Play	25	26	27 7p Council	28	29	30	31	

SOTH IN PICTURES

HENRY ANDERSEN'S CONFIRMATION



SOTH AT SYNOD ASSEMBLY



GOOD-BYE PASTOR EMILY



MT. CROSS DAY CAMP



SPECIAL DAYS IN AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

BIRTHDAYS

8/4 Daniel Beadles
 8/4 Henry Beadles
 8/8 Steve Holland
 8/11 Kim Traynor
 8/13 Marsha Atkinson
 8/17 Thomas Tabacco-Hines
 8/18 Christopher Larsen
 8/20 Jack Barnes
 8/20 Monte Stott
 8/23 Jeanne Kreter-Killian
 8/25 Tom Simonen

9/3 Gust Hendrickson
 9/7 Anna Kell
 9/10 Annika Punz
 9/17 Teddy Knight
 9/23 Alexandra Arriola
 9/24 Rene Kvidahl
 10/12 Meg Cranston
 10/15 Ronan Storesund
 10/21 Sole Martinez-Gutierrez
 10/21 Ernesto Muñoz-Lamartine
 10/23 Dan Kreter-Killian

ANNIVERSARIES

8/14 Heggeseth, Paul & Brianna
 8/18 Andersen/Reneke, Gary & Johanna
 8/18 Tobacco-Hines, Allison & Robert
 9/10 Storesund, Anna & Rune
 9/14 Barnes, Susie & Bill
 9/25 Olsen/Wolfson-Seeley, Sarah & Caleb
 9/26 Hughes, Tom & Mary Dee
 10/17 Starr/Munudri, Carol & Gina
 10/25 Jensen, Virginia

CONTACT

401 Grizzly Peak Blvd.
 Berkeley, CA 94708
www.sothb.org
 Phone: (510) 524-8281
 Email: office@sothb.org

WORSHIP

Sunday 10:00 A.M.
Childcare is available.

STAFF

Pastor: Kim Swenson
 Administrator: Cary Bass-Deschenes
 Music Director: Gretchen Kell

OFFICE HOURS

Administrator
 Wed 9:30am-12pm
 Thurs 9:30am-2pm

Pastor
 Tues, Thurs 9am-12pm



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 401 Grizzly Peak Blvd.
 Berkeley, CA 94708