

September 2014

Consumable vs. Renewable - What Do You Think?

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Here's a quote from a book called *Seeing with New Eyes: Using PAWN Process in Faith-Based Groups*. The book is intended for persons working with faith-based organizations, though the author's viewpoint ranges well beyond the scope of non-profit religious institutions. Notice how the labels "consumable" and "renewable" are played off against each other in this paragraph from the book's first chapter.

"The alternative to a consumable way of life is a renewable one. In a consumable approach, your whole focus is on survival in the midst of a threatening environment. All of your energy is devoted to getting scarce resources (e.g. money, people, etc.) you need to survive. Consequently, these resources are viewed as disposable - objects to be recruited or consumed for the survival of the institution. Because organizational perpetuation dominates all other concerns, leaders are easily trapped by self-centered, life-sucking, and unsustainable ways of working. They often over-plan, micromanage, and make unreasonable demands on their co-workers, their subordinates, and themselves. People, who find themselves being treated as a resource (often in subliminal ways), burn-out. And a sense of purposelessness pervades your life together eventually causing people to feel overwhelmed by a sense of scarcity, finitude, and fear."

Well, what do you think? Are we are our own worst enemies because we make survival our primary focus? Or does this writer simply forget that faith-based organizations have to reconcile themselves fundamental facts of life all forms of joint human enterprise must wrestle with?

As you're sorting through your reactions to these questions, consider the solution the author of the above quoted paragraph offers. Are you ready for this?

"The shift from a consumable to a renewable way of living and working together begins when you decide to do what matters. You cannot serve two bottom lines, God's agenda and institutional survival. Why not? Jesus said so: 'No one can serve two masters: for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth' (Matthew 6:24). You pick. God is up to something much bigger and more important than the survival of the institutions we care about. God is on the loose in the world *right now*, inviting us to participate in a loving mission to reconcile the whole creation and set all people free. What could possibly matter more than that?"

I'll let you decide how to approach this question about institutional survival and doing what matters. But I should disclose something...

(continued on page 4)

Prayer List

For those who mourn: The family of Mollie Murphy, the family of Scott Steen, the family of Tom Creighton, the family of Laverne Johnson, the family of David Korn, the family of Lawrence Harper, the family of Kim Thornhill, the family of Allene Korineck, the family of Mary Armstrong.

For healing: Sandy Williams, Jerrome Duncan, Ethel Grissom, Tom Wortham, Sylvia Ford, Bernice Smith, Sissy & Lloyd Thornhill, Cynthia Lundy, David Stankov, David Glover & family, Dick Barnes, Ron Weekly, Jr., Carlos Paiva, Sherman Banks, Sylvester Scott, Millie Nobles, George Williams, Phyllis Taylor, Dan Miller.

It's our custom to have a prayer list in The Shepherd's Voice. This is a partial list of those for whom we pray. If you have someone you would like on the list, or would like to be taken off the list, please call or e-mail Judy Sonier at the church office.

Food Pantry

When you shop for your Food Pantry donations, please consider buying the items that we give out the week that CTS serves:

Pasta, Pasta Sauce, Canned Vegetables, Canned Soup w/meat, Canned Fruit, Peanut Butter, Jelly.

September Birthdays

9/12 Mitchell Reichwein
 9/14 Marcia Brown
 9/22 Taci Chin-Robinson
 9/25 Sandra Campbell
 9/29 Darcel Campbell



“The Reverend Henry W. Reenstjerna extending the hand of fellowship and best wishes to Charles Emory III who was departing to join the Lay Associates Training Program in Oakland, California where he will receive a two year covenant of training and service for Black laymen in the Lutheran Church. Mr. Emery’s father is a member of the Church Council of Christ the Shepherd Church”
 (precise date unknown, ca. 1971)

News and Notes

Our Committee Meetings for September

WAM. Sunday, Sept 7 @ 11:45 am
 Property. Sunday, Sept 14 @ 9:00 am
 Finance. Sunday, Sept 14 @ 11:45 am
 Christian Education Sunday, Sept 14 @ 11:45 am
 Social Ministry. Sunday, Sept 14 @ 11:45 am
 Evangelism. Sunday, Sept 28 @ 11:45 am

New Website/Email Addresses

As readers of our weekly newsletter, For the Living of These Days, already know, we have a new website with a new name:

www.ctsaltadena.org

Like any website, it is a continuing work in progress, but even at this early state of its existence, you can come to the website to view the latest list of people from the PACT meetings CTS attends requesting our prayers for them. A Copy of the CTS Master calendar is also available, updated as soon as new information becomes available. It's a helpful reference for those planning church events, those wishing to attend church events, and those who want to know when their next committee meeting occurs.

CTS has also set up (or is in the process of setting up) three new Email addresses using the new "ctsaltadena" name:

office@ctsaltadena.org is CTS' official Email address. Our secretary, Judy Sonier, administers this Email site.

news@ctsaltadena.org is CTS' news address. Henceforward you'll be receiving your weekly and monthly newsletters from this site. If you have any material you'd like included in a newsletter, you can Email it here. Your humble(?) editor, Bill Korn, administers this Email site.

pastor@ctsaltadena.org (under construction) will become the official Email address for communication with the pastor. Pr. Witte will administer this Email site. You will be notified when this address is up and running.

Ralphs Community Program and...

Several years ago, Laura Mulfinger discovered the Ralph's Community Program. By signing up for this program, Ralphs Market donates to a nonprofit of your choice a small percentage of the money you spend there—the percentage varying by how much you purchase over time. You need to have a Ralphs Customer Card to participate in this program, but it's free and has its own personal advantages (such as special discounts for cardholders).

For those of you who already participate and wish to continue participating, you must re-register starting on September 1st. We will be sending you instructions on how to do that in a special news@ctsaltadena.org mailing in a few days. These instructions also tell you how you can join for the first time if you are so inclined.

There are other companies that have similar kind of programs. Vons Supermarket runs essentially the same type of program, called eScrip. Vroman's Bookstore also has a program that as far as I know applies to local schools only. CTS is not at this time included as a recipient of either of these programs. (Please note that this is not an advertisement for these two business establishments. They happen to be the only others I know about.)

If you happen to know of other commercial enterprises that offer this kind of community service, send me an Email with a link to the program (if available), using the new news@ctsaltadena.org or my personal email willythekorn@gmail.com.

Looking Ahead

The calendar on page 7 tells us about what's happening this month. Here are some other dates to mark on your calendars.

October 18	CTS Fish Fry & Bake Sale
November 2	CROP Walk
December 6,7	CTS Boutique

office@christtheshepherd.org

This Email address will expire on September 3rd. To send an email to the CTS office, please use our new Email address, office@ctsaltadena.org

(continued from page 1)

Just so you know, I once worked in a setting where institutional survival had become the chief priority and, to be honest, I was OK with that. But then I changed my mind and decided I couldn't work there any more. More than anything else over the last five to 10 years, that experience has shaped my outlook and guided my approach as a pastor but also simply as a Christian.

I understand that a task force here at CTS will be recommending that our congregation council consider revising its mission statement. The task force thinks our current one is too wordy. If the council decides to move ahead with this project, I am ready to make suggestions and provide training to embrace a less consumable and more renewable way of working together. But, as always, I'll leave that up to you.

One of your friends in Christ,
Pastor Mark Witte

ACTS Food Pantry News

Bill & Kathy Korn are members of the ACTS Food Pantry Steering Committee, and want to share with you some news from the latest committee meeting on August 18th.

First, the Treasury for the Food Pantry is, at the moment, in good shape. Having received its share of the proceeds from last year's CROP Walk, a very generous annual contribution from the Dragon Thrift Shop in La Canada, and donations from Altadena Community Church, St. Marks Episcopal Church, and CTS, the balance stands at just over \$7,000. However, when we gave CTS' donation of \$1,000.04 to the Food Pantry at this meeting, two people presented reimbursement requests totaling over \$500 to cover food purchases for just two weeks. So continued attention to the financial needs of one of our long-running external ministries is always helpful. Donations of food items are also appreciated. See page 2 for a list of the items CTS needs when it serves at the Pantry.

Second, Pr. Joe McGowan of Altadena Community Church reminds us that the annual CROP walk is an important source of income for the Pantry. As you may know, while the proceeds from this Church World Service project mostly go to programs dealing with hunger and self-sufficiency issues around the world, 25 percent of the proceeds are distributed locally. The Pantry received just over \$1,600 from the 2013 CROP Walk. You'll be hearing more about CTS' participation in the CROP Walk (scheduled for November 2nd at Flintridge Prep in La Canada) over the coming months.

Finally, one of Altadena Community Church's youth, Krysten Racs, is working on a Girl Scout Gold Award project that involves the Food Pantry. The Steering Committee asks you to look at her request (shown on page 5), and prayerfully consider providing food or money resources for her by September 30. Food and glass jars can be left by the Food Pantry shelf in the Narthex. IF you want to donate money, please write a check to "ACTS Food Pantry" with the words "Food for Life" in the memo line and drop it in the collection plate on Sunday.

Food for Life

A GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT



Dear ACTS Food Pantry Members,

My name is Krysten Racs, and I am a member of Altadena Community Church. I am currently working on my Gold Award project for Girl Scouts. My project, "Food for Life", centers around the ACTS Food Pantry. My project goals are to:

- Create recipe cards for healthy meals based on the menus and products handed out from the food pantry that can be passed out along with the food;
- Spruce up and organize the shelving and storage room for the food pantry; and
- Collect donations for "Friendship Soup Jars" (jars filled with dry soup ingredients and a recipe) that can be assembled by church youth and distributed from the food pantry during the holidays.

I hope to collect product or monetary donations for the following for the soup jars:

Large mason or other clean glass jars
 Dry split peas
 Beef bouillon granules or cubes
 Pearl barley
 Dry lentils
 Dried onion flakes
 Dried Italian seasoning
 Uncooked long grain white rice
 Bay leaves
 Alphabet pasta



If your church is able to collect any of these items by October 5, 2014, they can be brought to the Food Pantry storage room, and in October and November, I will work with the youth members of ACC to assemble the soup jars for distribution at Thanksgiving and Christmas. I will work with Pastor Joe McGowan throughout the project.

I have attached a flyer that can be posted at your church for donations and information on my project. If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 947-5535 or krysten.racs@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you for your support!

Krysten Racs



Serving in Worship

September 2014	September 7	September 14	September 21	September 28
Liturgical Day	Pentecost 13	Holy Cross	Pentecost 15	Pentecost 16
Musician	Sandi Holden	Sandi Holden	Sandi Holden	Sandi Holden
Deacon/	Bill Korn	Carolyn Spurlock	Garrett Biehle	Bill Korn
Server/ Acolyte	Dolores Scott	Lennon Holden Robbie Holden	Keinon Chin- Robinson Zoie Chisum	Emerald Bailer Nathalie Jaramillo
Lector	Marcia Brown	Wayne Campbell	Valerie Jones	Al Schoepke
Offertory Prayer	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon	Deacon
Ushers	Jordan Boye Marcia Brown	Wayne Campbell Jeff Mellstrom	Valerie Jones Zetta Robinson	Jordan Boye Al Schoepke
Communion Care	Dolores Scott	Cece Guiar	Esmeralda Bailer	Rita Mello
The Lessons	Ezekiel 33:7-11 Psalm 119:33-40 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Numbers 21:4b-9 Psalm 98:1-4 I Corinthians 1:18-24 John 3:13-17	Jonah 3:10-4:11 Psalm 145:1-8 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16	Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32 Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32
Social Hour	CTS PICNIC	WELCA September Birthdays	Holdens/ Chisums	Stephanie Gittoes Reta Duncan

September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 10:00 am WELCA
7 11:45 am CTS Picnic	8	9	10	11	12	13 9:30 am Food Pantry Team I
14	15	16 7:00 pm Church Council	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 6:00 pm AA/CA Secretaries	26	27
28	29	30				

Sunday Service with Holy Communion, starts at 10:00 am every Sunday, followed by refreshments in the Social Hall. See page 3 for committee meetings.

CHRIST THE
SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

185 W. Altadena Dr.
Altadena

Phone: 626-794-7011

Fax: 626-794-7063

E-mail:

office@christtheshepherd.org

We're on the Web
ChristTheShepherd.org

Worship

Sundays: 10:00 a.m. The Eucharist
Nursery Care Available

Our Mission

We, the people of God at Christ the Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church are called to witness to Jesus Christ, crucified and resurrected, in our worship, our daily lives, and through our Christian service in the community. In faithfulness to this calling, we are committed to defend human dignity, to stand with poor and powerless people, to advocate justice, to work for peace, and to care for the earth. Inspired by the Holy Spirit and compelled by God's love for all people, we commit ourselves to invite and welcome ALL into our church regardless of race, nationality, culture, social status, or sexual orientation.

Mark Witte, Interim Pastor
Sandi Holden, Musician

Sandy Williams, President ('16)
Peter Holden, Vice President ('16)
William Korn, Treasurer ('15)
Garrett Biehle, Secretary, Stewardship ('14)
David Chisum, Social Ministry ('14)

Judith Sonier, Office Manager
Jeff Mellstrom, Financial Secretary

Wayne Campbell, Property ('14)
Katherine Ellis-Schoepke, Christian
Education ('16)
Valerie Jones, Worship Arts ('16)
Laura Mulfinger, Evangelism ('16)

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