

Preschool Devotions That Paid Off

What do Reg Schultz Akerson, Dean Nelson, Barbara Bornemann, and Dan Hooper all have in common? Each of them acted on behalf of the church to install me as a pastor at one or another congregation during the last thirty years. The latest of these, of course, was Pastor Reg Schultz Akerson here at Christ the Shepherd on Sunday, May 24, 2015. Pastor Hooper and Bishop Dean Nelson are now retired. Pastor Bornemann stepped down as a synod staff person not long after she installed me at Church of the Cross in Arcadia in 1989.

Pastor Reg Schultz Akerson and I have crossed paths at various times going back to my first call at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Santa Monica in 1986. At that time I worked as an assistant pastor to another man, Dr. James Kallas, now also retired. One of my duties was to lead a weekly devotion for the children who attended preschool there. Pastors Reg and Peg served together at another congregation in Santa Monica, St. Paul Lutheran Church. Their young son, Micah, was a student at the Mt. Olive preschool. Reg says Micah used to come home and talk about the songs we sang and the messages I shared. That was a long time ago.

Today, Pastors Reg and Peg spend a lot of time on the road. Peg acts as an interim pastor at a congregation in Garden Grove. As you might imagine, Reg travels all over our synod and beyond.

Early in the morning on May 24 as we were arriving at church, Pastor Reg realized he had a problem. Pastor Peg was about to leave for the church in Garden Grove when her car wouldn't start. With just one working vehicle between them, Pastor Reg told me later he wondered whether he'd have to call our council president, Sandy Williams, and ask her to install me herself. But then he had an idea. It turns out that Micah (now all grown up and married himself) doesn't live that far away from his parents. So, Pastor Reg gave him a call. "Do you remember Pastor Witte?" he asked.

When Pastor Reg pulled into our parking lot on Sunday, May 24, it wasn't his own car that he was driving. Micah's wife consented to let her father-in-law borrow it so he could make it to my installation. Maybe those preschool devotions I gave at Mt. Olive years ago paid off.

I suspect Pastor Reg was not the only one to bend over backwards to make my installation here at Christ the Shepherd memorable. As the events of that day unfolded, Jo and I realized the extent to which you all worked together to make this installation meaningful for us. We thank you for your kindness and for a wonderful day full of memories to treasure. I look forward to an ongoing partnership with you in ministry and mission in the years ahead.

One of your partners in the gospel,
Mark Witte, Pastor

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Prayer List

For those who mourn: The family of Diane Marguerite Wilson, the family of Herman Sonier, the family of Jonathon Kenion, the family of Sarah Stafford, the family of Mollie Murphy, the family of Scott Steen, the family of Tom Creighton.

For healing: Judy Sonier, John Brooks, Phil Duncan, Jeff Mellstrom, Sandy Williams, Jerome Duncan, Ethel Grissom, Tom Wortham, Sylvia Ford, Bernice Smith, Sissy & Lloyd Thornhill, 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.

June Birthdays

6/3 Emerald Bailer
 6/7 Zetta Robinson
 6/13 Maria Baietti
 6/15 Mike McHugh
 6/17 Andre Harnanto
 6/18 Sissy Thornhill
 6/19 Kandice Horton-Gomez
 6/21 Judy Sonier

Baptismal Birthdays

6/5 Valerie Jones



ACTS 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.

News and Notes

Committee Meetings for June

Jun 07	11:45 am	Worship Arts Ministry
Jun 14	9:00 am	Property
	11:45 am	Finance
	12:15 pm	Executive Committee
Jun 15	6:00 pm	Church Council
Jun 21	11:45 am	Social Ministry
		Education
Jun 28	11:45 am	Evangelism

And Now for Something Completely Different

OK, it isn't **completely** different. Over the years we have employed many different methods of choosing the hymns for our services. CTS is bringing back a method last used in the time of Pr. Baietti. The Worship Arts Ministry Committee will periodically give over its meeting time to select service hymns for the following two or three months. The first hymn-selection meeting will take place on Sunday, June 7th, after the service. **Anyone** who has an interest in choosing the hymns we will sing is invited to join the meeting. WAM will have plenty of resources for the task, including a list of the 400-odd hymns we've sung in the past.

MacKenzie Wright

After the service on May 24th, Mackenzie let us know that she will be going back East for the summer. She is also hoping to enter a program back East that would run for an additional five months. We all have enjoyed her sharing her great musical talents with us for the last six months, and we hope she will share them some more when she returns to Southern California.

The Fish Fry is Coming!

...and, as always there, is a role to play for every member of the congregation:

Spread the Word. Tell your neighbors, your friends, total strangers!

Buy/Sell Tickets. Tickets will be available for pre-sale after the services on May 31st & June 7th.

Contribute. The Fish Fry costs \$700-\$800 to put on. Your contributions to defray those costs help our bottom line immensely.

Be There or Be Square. There's something for everyone to do on Fish Fry day, starting with setting up at 9am to breaking down after 3pm (or when we run out of food), and working the food line, bake sale & African Team Ministry tables in between,

Enjoy!

Undercover Agents

Katherine Ellis-Schoepke reports that WELCA has joined the elite corps of Friends In Deed's **Undercover Agents**. Agents collect NEW undergarments and socks for distribution to homeless women. Katherine will be setting up a box to receive your donations of socks and basic panties (no bikini, high-top, etc.) in the narthex. Katherine suggests that socks & panties are best (and most inexpensively) bought in packs at places like Target or Costco, and recommends panty sizes of 8 or above.

ACTS Summer Salad Suppers

Katherine also informs us that ACTS has set its schedule for the 2015 Summer Salad Festivals, and for the first time in years CTS will be hosting a supper! The theme for 2015 is "Responding to Those Affected by Imprisonment", and the dates are

June 18th at CTS

July 9th at First Church of Christ, Scientist

July 23rd at Altadena Community Church

August 6th at St. Mark's Episcopal Church

More details will be soon forthcoming. They will be published in *For the Living of These Days*.

Serving in Worship

June 2015	June 7	June 14	June 21	June 28
Liturgical Day	Pentecost 2	Pentecost 3	Pentecost 4	Pentecost 5
Musician	Brian Havey	Brian Havey	T.B.D.	Brian Havey
Deacon	Dolores Scott	Bill Korn	Eric Mulfinger	Reta Duncan
Server/ Acolyte	Kandice Horton- Gomez	Dede Campbell Robby Holden	Emerald Bailer Zoie Chisum	Lennon Holden
Lector	Dede Campbell	Valerie Jones	Katherine Schoepke	Garrett Biehle
Ushers	Zetta Robinson Robert Spurlock	Wayne Campbell Valerie Jones	Marcia Brown Wayne Campbell	Jordan Boye Al Schoepke
Communion Care	Sandy Williams	Rita Mello	Esmeralda Bailer	Robert Spurlock
The Hymns	TO	BE	DETERMINED	(See Page 3!)
The Lessons	Genesis 3:8-15 Psalm 130 2 Cor 4:13-5:1 Mark 3:20-25	Ezekiel 17:22-24 Psalm 92:1-4,12-15 2 Cor 5:6-17 Mark 4:26-34	Job 38:1-11 Psalm 107:1-3,23-32 2 Cor 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41	Wis 1:13-15;2:23-24 Psalm 30 2 Cor 8:7-15 Mark 5:21-43
Social Hour	T.B.D.	WELCA	Women of CTS	The Korns

June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 10:00 am <u>WELCA</u> 1pm-6pm CA Fundraiser
7	8 2:00 pm Food Pantry Committee	9 11:45am ACTS Lunch	10	11	12	13 9:30 am Food Pantry <u>Team II</u> 11am-3pm GIANT FISH FRY!!!
14	15 6:00 pm Church Council	16	17	18 12:00 pm PACT <u>Meeting</u> 6:00 pm ACTS Summer Salad Supper	19 9pm-12am Wellsprings Overnight	20 12am-6am Wellsprings Overnight
21	22	23	24	25 6:00 pm AA/CA Secretaries	26	27 6:00-8:30 pm Wellsprings Event
28 3:30-5:30 pm Wellsprings Event	29	30				

Sunday Service with Holy Communion, starts at 10:00 am every Sunday, followed by refreshments in the Social Hall. The schedule for committee meetings can be found on page 3.

Judy Sonier Retires

If you were to ask around, you would be hard put to find anyone who could tell you how long Judy Sonier has served as the Secretary at CTS or when she started. In fact, when asked, Judy isn't 100% sure herself! What we do know is that she has been an integral part of the functioning of this congregation through four permanent and two interim Pastors, starting with Pr. Baietti. In good times and hard times, both for CTS and for her personally, she has taken on every responsibility that has been handed to her (the list is two pages long) with grace, style, humor, and great competence.

We asked the CTS leadership to share with you their observations about Judy and her work:

"She's always there to lend a hand, give advice and understand. There's nothing that she wouldn't do to make life easier for you. Love her dearly."

"Judy has always been courteous, kind, and patient when we have invaded her office."

"When we first started coming here, it was Judy more than anyone else whose kindness, concern, and helpfulness convinced us how welcoming CTS really is."

"Sacrifice and service, commitment and compassion. For many years Judy has represented us serving our church and community with enthusiasm and graciousness. Thank you for your dedication and diligence!"

"Judy has always helped when special requests were made above her normal job description. Sometimes we take for granted all the tasks that are done every week without failure. All we can say is "well done" and we wish her the best in retirement."

"Sometimes when I called the church I got the answering machine, but often Judy answered with a friendly, "Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church." She never failed to brighten my day a little with her bright presence and steadfastness."

"If success is gained by those who serve faithfully, laugh often, and love a lot, you are a triple winner! May God bless you and watch over you as begin a new chapter in your life."

"Judy has been steady, reliable, giving, and patient. The job of church secretary requires someone who is not only responsible and able to perform the physical duties a secretary does, but who is also able to work with many different personalities and provide the emotional support for those that require it when they call in and the pastor is not physically available. We appreciate that Judy has been that kind of church secretary and because she is part of the family of this congregation, she will continue to be with us and work and worship with us."

"Judy took her job very seriously and very professionally. She gave a lot of her time, often working long hours on her day off to complete the job at hand. No job was too small or too big for her to handle. If you visited her at the office and she was busy her favorite words were, "It's time to go now." I wish her well on her retirement."





The Community is Invited to
Christ the Shepherd Lutheran's

Giant Fish Fry
"with all the fixin's"
and
Bake Sale

Saturday, June 13,
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Fish or ribs dinner w/drink \$10.00
Fish & ribs combo dinner w/drink \$12.00

Featuring Handmade Crafts from
African Team Ministries
Serving the church in East Africa

185 W. Altadena Drive
www.ctsaltadena.org

CHRIST THE
SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Altadena

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We're on the Web
www.ctsaltadena.org

Worship

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

Our Mission

We pledge to embrace our neighbors and spread God's all-inclusive love.

Jesus welcomed

everyone He encountered in His day but especially those everyone else rejected. We at Christ the Shepherd seek to welcome everybody today and especially those who have been rejected elsewhere.

Mark Witte, Pastor
Judith Sonier, Office Manager

Jeff Mellstrom, Financial Secretary

Sandy Williams, President, Property ('16)
Peter Holden, Vice President ('16)
William Korn, Treasurer ('15)
Garrett Biehle, Secretary, Stewardship ('17)
David Chisum, Social Ministry ('17)

Katherine Ellis-Schoepke, Christian
Education ('16)
Valerie Jones, Worship Arts ('16)
Zetta Robinson, Evangelism ('16)
Lennon Holden, Youth

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