

Voters Report

Report by Pastor Gaertner to voters as presented on June 30, 2019

Our Shepherd Lutheran
CHURCH · SCHOOL · CHILD CARE



Gather to God and His people in worship.

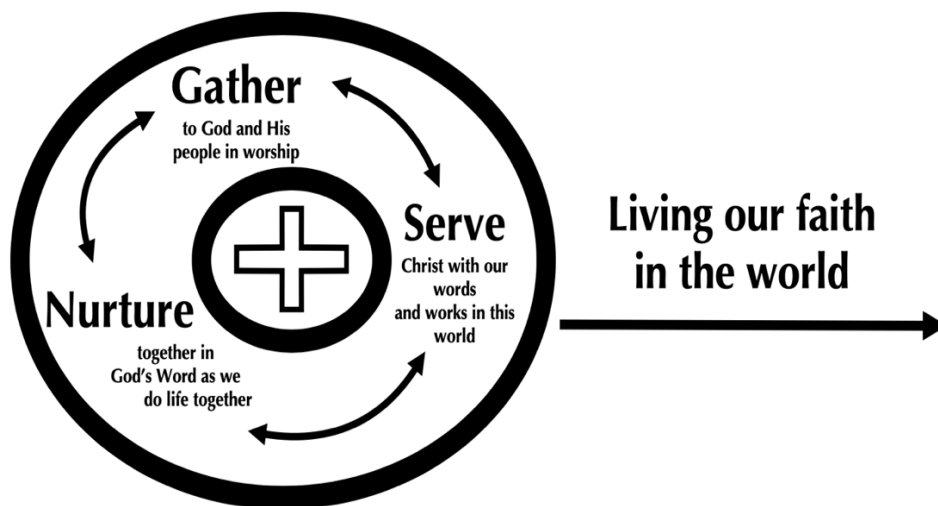
- And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. (Acts 2:42)
- Not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:25)

Nurture together in God's Word as we do life together.

- [Jesus said,] "...I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing..." (John 15:1-11)
- So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. (Philippians 2:1-2)

Serve Christ with our words and actions in this world.

- [Jesus] rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. (John 13:4-5)
- Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. (2 Corinthians 9:7-8)



Our Shepherd gathers, nurtures, and serves because Jesus loves.

Gather

Premise

Everything we are called to be and set out to accomplish flows from the gifts of God we receive in the Word and Sacraments of the Church.

Primary Ministry Focus

Worship Services and Prayer Life of the congregation

Significant Ministry Goals for 2019-2020

- Increasingly develop the consistency of worship experience on Saturday night.
- Increase the number of people that daily participate in prayer
 - o Continuing to develop Take 5 to Nurture and
 - o Providing guides for regular prayer.
 - o Plan multiple community prayer events through the year to encourage us to be a community that prays together.
 - o Provide more follow-up to people that are listed on our Notes and News Prayer Page.



Nurture

Premise

God designed Christians to live together as the body of Christ. When we nurture our lives by being connected to God's Word, we are equipped for life together.

Primary Ministry Focus

Small Groups, Day School, Education Hour, Youth Ministry

Significant Ministry Goals for 2019-2020

- Fall small group emphasis to renew current small groups and encourage development of new small groups as we live life together.
 - o Increase the number of small groups to 30.
 - o Offer opportunities for people to live life together in both the daytime and evening.
- Promote men's and women's weekend retreats so that people who have not heard about them are encouraged to participate.
- Develop Education Hour programming for middle school students that takes place when confirmation class is not scheduled.
- Provide more in-depth pastoral care to the staff of Childcare-8th grade staff.
- Call/Hire a full time Youth and Family Life Worker that leads the development of community and spiritual growth especially among children and youth 4th grade – 12th grade.



Serve

Premise

We have been loved by God through the amazing grace of Jesus Christ, but this is not just for us. God sends us to serve in the world through our words and actions. We have been loved, and now we respond by loving in this world. To show the love of God, we will serve the physical and spiritual needs of our members, community, and world.

Primary Ministry Focus

Childcare, Mexicali, and local community engagement

Significant Ministry Goals for 2019-2020

- Provide financial health, grief, and divorce care programs, along with reawakening our Stephen Ministry program so that we are equipped to be active in care-giving relationships.
- Continue to develop an ongoing ministry partnership with Family of God Lutheran Church in Detroit.
- Participate in local and international mission partnerships that help us develop long term relationships. Continuing the partnership with San Juan Lutheran Church in Mexicali. In 2019 we provided \$5,000 to help make the parsonage habitable.
- Establish a process for nurturing relationships with the unchurched families in our childcare.

