



2019

**Sunday Worship
10:00a.m.**

**Sunday School during
Worship**

**Fellowship Coffee
Following Worship**

**-Michael Funk Concert
May 11 at 7:00pm
at GSC**

**-Joint Board Meeting
May 14 at 7pm**

**-Shepherds meeting
May 14th at 1:00**

**-GSC 117th
Anniversary May 18th.**

**-Garage sale
May 25 9-2**

Pastor:

**The Rev. Rick Beck
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Www.

goodshepherdmoravian.org

**Joint Board Chair:
Anita Jones**

Building: John Dyck

Congregational Care:

Shirley Klockow

Treasurer: Steve Clarke

Good Shepherd Church

Mission Statement

**Good Shepherd Community Church:
Where God loves, Christ leads and people serve.**

Planted in the Garden of Faith

When you've lived in the same house for a while, you get to watch the subtle changes that happen around you. Children grow. Old neighbors move away, and new ones move in. The city grows and your house starts needing repairs and paint. Your own body behaves differently...but we won't talk about that. ☺

One thing we've watched change is our back yard. When we moved here thirteen years ago, we had one small flower garden in our yard. Wendy's green thumb has been hard at work over the years and every spring we look to see what might be poking its head out of the ground. Even though we know where things have been planted, the anticipation of seeing new life in our lawn brings us joy. We can't make the flowers grow. All we can do is wait and enjoy the results. What a gift!

Life in Christ is much the same. We are the soil that makes up the garden of God. Deep within us God has planted the seed of faith. From that faith grows spiritual fruit. But we don't know what has been planted or when it will show up. It shows itself in the form of words, deeds, attitudes and ministries. As humans we like to think that we know ourselves. We think we can determine how God can and will use us. This attitude gives us the illusion of control over our lives and control provides comfort.

But the garden does not determine what is planted in it. It can only nurture the seed for the glory of the gardener. When we are receptive to the hand of God working in our life: When we are refreshed by the shower of God's Spirit, amazing things grow up out of us. Often, what sprouts in our hearts catches us by surprise. Often the seed that God has planted in us demands that we change our attitude, our words, our deeds our ministries. If we allow ourselves to be God's garden, we will find ourselves doing things we never would have dreamed of; something new, something exciting.

The danger is, we can become comfortable doing church and faith the way we've always done it. But God is never done planting seeds and developing the Divine garden. We may feel it is not possible for an old garden to produce new fruit. But in Christ, all things are made new. (Rev. 21:5)

We make up the garden of faith. The seeds of faith are planted. The Divine Gardener is tending the soil. What is the fruit that is showing itself in your life? How might God be calling the Good Shepherd congregation to do church? By the grace of God' your life will bloom in new and exciting ways. Look around God's garden and notice what's showing signs of life.

Pastor Rick Beck

