



Summer 2023



DRAMATIC RESULTS FROM SHEPHERD'S CANYON RETREATS

by Dave Anderson

Near the end of a recent concert in the Midwest our host pastor walked up the church's center aisle so I handed him my mic. He said, "I would not be your pastor today if my wife and I had not attended a Shepherd's Canyon Retreat". He then told the congregation what brought them to a retreat and the impact the retreat had on their marriage and his ministry.

At a Saturday evening service, after our part of the service, another host pastor stood at the mic and said to the folks at the sound board, "would you please bring up the picture of the rocks at the foot of the cross?" Then he said, "There is a rock in that pile that I put there. I would not be your pastor today if my wife and I had not attended a Shepherd's Canyon Retreat". The pastor explained the circumstances that led him and his wife to come to a retreat....and the impact of that experience.

He made the same announcement at the three services on Sunday morning! The "door offering" that weekend was the largest such offering we have ever received...over \$5,000!

Another pastor, after our part of the first service, said to the congregation, "There is a door offering this morning for the Shepherd's Canyon Retreat ministry. I hope you will be generous in your support of this ministry". And then he said, "I would not be your pastor today....I would not be a pastor today...and I don't think our marriage would have survived if we had not attended a Shepherd's Canyon Retreat".

Roger Walck and I have routinely made the mistake of not having Kleenex anywhere near us.

I have now sung and spoken in thirty-three churches whose pastors have been Shepherd's Canyon Retreat clients.

For those of you who pray for and support the Shepherd's Canyon Retreat ministry I 'wish you could have been present for these amazing testimonials.

Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, Inc.

P.O. Box 51510 • Phoenix, Arizona 85076

www.ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org • 480-588-8837 • info@ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org

BATON BEING PASSED

By Dave Anderson

The time has come for the baton to be passed.

In a 2007 meeting of a few lay leaders, Christian counselors, and pastors, a “vision was cast” for a ministry which became Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat. The consensuses of that group was “yes”. After a year of dreaming and planning, papers were filed with the IRS and in January, 2009, Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat, Inc became a 501c3 organization.

The first retreat was held in March, 2009. (The female counselor at that retreat, Blenda Keylon, is still a SCR counselor today).

For three years retreats were held in rented facilities in Arizona, Wisconsin, and Florida. The group of counselors grew as did the reputation of the week-long counseling retreats.

In late 2011 a retired ministry friend, Bob Gaiser from Colorado, promised a gift of \$50,000 and said, “I am coming to Arizona to help you find a place for a retreat center”. He did that and in early 2012, with the miraculous gifts of two more \$50,000 gifts, we took possession of nine acres and buildings which have become known as Standing Stones Retreat Center, the home of Shepherd’s Canyon Retreats.

Since October, 2012, all retreats have been held at Standing Stones. In the years that have followed God has brought gifted and generous people to help make the retreat center a place of hospitality, healing, and hope for wounded church workers and their spouses.



Kevin and Tawn Bueltmann and Dave and Barb Anderson in front of the fountain at Canaan in the Desert, Scottsdale.

More than six hundred men and women have become guests at Shepherd’s Canyon Retreats. Besides counseling retreats, Standing Stones has hosted many church and non-church groups which have come to use our retreat center facilities.

For several years we—Dave and Barb Anderson—and the Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat board of directors have prayed that God will provide new leaders for this ministry. God has graciously led Rev. Kevin and Tawn Bueltmann to this important ministry. They bring with them years of managing Bible Camps as well as several years in parish ministry. Beginning in the Fall of 2023, Kevin will become the Executive Director of the Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat ministry. He and Tawn will also be responsible for coordinating the paid and volunteer staff at Standing Stones Retreat Center.

Barb and I will continue to support and encourage this unique ministry. I will stay involved as the Director of Development which translates into my continuing to raise funds to “keep the lights on”. Barb and I will serve on the Executive Committee which oversees the Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat ministry.

SCHEDULE US FOR A VISIT TO YOUR CHURCH OR MINISTRY GROUP

: Kevin & Tawn Bueltmann will be traveling to various conferences and events throughout the country to spread the word about Shepherd's Canyon Retreat. If you live near one of the states below, contact him about adding a stop at your town or ministry to make a presentation. If your state is not listed, consider inviting him to speak at your church or ministry event in YOUR state.

Sept 24-27 – California (Pastors' Conference in Palm Springs)

Oct 9-13 – Indiana (Best Practices Heartland Conference)

Oct 14-16 – Nebraska (Concordia University - Lutheran Educators Conference)

Oct 17-19 – Missouri (WALi Summit in St. Louis)

Oct 22-25 – Wisconsin (CareGivers Conference)'''

Oct 26-29 – Illinois & Missouri (open dates)

THE BILL AND LUCILLE SAPP LODGE

Wouldn't you love to help us build the 2500 sq ft Bill & Lucille Sapp Lodge on the Standing Stones Retreat Center campus?

Our friends, Bill & Lucille Sapp, from Ashland, Nebraska, made a gift for an important new building and we are raising an additional \$150,000 to build and furnish this six-bedroom building. The building permit is imminent.

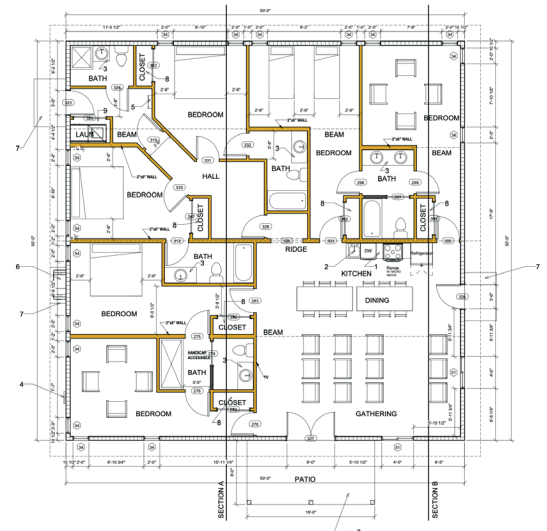
Two bedrooms—with Murphy beds—'will be used as a private counseling rooms during Shepherd's Canyon Retreats. Two bedrooms will accommodate the two retreat counselors. One bedroom will be used by the retreat chaplain. One bedroom will be reserved for volunteers who come without RVs. The Great Room/Living Room will include a kitchen for use by volunteers and retreat staff.

We have received a \$25,000 grant. We need \$125,000 to complete the project. We also need volunteers to help us finish the interior of the Lodge.

Please send your gift to Shepherd's Canyon Retreat (mark your gift "Lodge"). Please contact Kevin Bueltmann if you can help build. Kevin@ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org 928-685-5211.



SIPs (Structural Insulated Panels) for the walls and ceiling of the 6-bedroom Bill & Lucille Sapp lodge.



2023 IS A YEAR OF ANNIVERSARIES

In 1963 Dave Anderson “began to begin” what became the Lutheran Youth Encounter ministry. The beginning included weekend gospel teams going out of Lutheran colleges, summer gospel teams in congregations, foreign teams (to Scandinavia in 1964 and 1965), and the first Lutheran Youth Congress in Minneapolis in 1966.



Dave and Barb Anderson celebrating their 48th wedding anniversary.

In 2023 Dave is celebrating 60 years in lay ministry beginning with youth ministry, Lutheran Youth Alive (the “Lutheran version of the Jesus Movement), Renewal House (first Lutheran-based drug rehab center), thousands of concerts, music publishing (1,000,000 songbooks), 250 worship and music conferences and seminars, and Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat.

2023 is also the 30th anniversary of The Rescue. Dave and Roger Walck will present an evening worship concert at Nome Covenant Church on the 30th anniversary of when seven people survived the plane crash in the Bering Sea. Their August 11-20 tour in Alaska will include several concerts plus radio and TV appearances.

2023 is the 14th anniversary of the first Shepherd’s Canyon Retreat—held at Bison Ranch in Northeast Arizona in March, 2009.

DAVE ANDERSON’S OCTOBER 3-18 TOUR IN AUSTRALIA

Short notice! There are 3 places left on Dave’s tour to Australia. Total of only 11 people. The tour includes Adelaide, Melbourne, Canberra, Sydney, and “country towns”. Four nights as guests in private homes. Dave and Roger will present 2 concerts. Cost from LAX is \$5600 including airfare, hotels, sightseeing, meals (except noon lunch), driver and van. 480-838-8500. Dave’s 28th trip to Australia!

OCTOBER 31-NOVEMBER 4, 2023

A special retreat is planned for clergy couples who are dealing with prodigal sons and daughters. The retreat will be led by Rev. Dr. Mark Hannemann, LPC, LMHP, CLC and Jill Dodge, LCSW, a long-time Shepherd's Canyon Retreat Counselor. Mark Hannemann is the President of GracePoint Ministries with offices in Lincoln and Omaha, Nebraska. Mark recently retired as the Senior Pastor of Divine Shepherd Lutheran, Omaha. Jill Dodge recently made a presentation on this subject to the Pacific Southwest District Pastor's Conference.

Here is what Mark Hannemann has written about this retreat:

Prodigal Children: Coping and Hoping

A prodigal child. There are few circumstances that bring more sadness, heartache, shame, embarrassment, self-doubt, guilt, and grief to a ministry couple than to see their child walk away from the faith and maybe even the family and go the way of the prodigal. Doesn't the Bible say that if you raise up children in the way they should go that when they are grown they won't depart from it? Where did we go wrong? Am I still qualified to be a leader in the church? Is there anything we can do to get our child back? How do we deal with the judgement and criticism of others? How do we come to terms with this reality as a couple or as individuals? How have others dealt with this heartbreaking circumstance? How can we hang on to hope in the face of what can seem like hopeless circumstances?

The cost for this 4-day retreat will be \$1000 p/person + travel. Shepherd's Canyon Retreat will arrange transportation from the Phoenix airport. This retreat is limited to only four couples. For initial registration please contact Kevin Buelmann at 928-658-5211 and then Phil Lee at 206-601-5217.

CHURCHES SUPPORTING SHEPHERD'S CANYON RETREAT IN 2023

(Lutheran churches unless otherwise noted) Abiding Savior, Tempe, AZ; Bethany, Pueblo, CO; Christ; Eagan, MN; Crosspoint, Sahuarita, AZ; Faith, Great Falls, MT; Gloria De Cristo, Yuma, AZ; Gloria Dei, Williston, ND; Good Shepherd Free, Cokato, MN; Grace, Hamilton, MT; Hickory Ridge Baptist, Florence, AZ; Immanuel, Missoula, MT; Immanuel, David City, NE; Living Water, Buckeye, AZ; Messiah, Mounds View, MN; Mt Olive, Lake Havasu City, AZ; New Hope, Grantsburg, WI; Our Savior, Alea, HI; Pacific Hills, Omaha, NE; Redeemer, Amery, WI; Resurrection, Oro Valley, AZ; Shepherd of the Hills, Prescott, AZ; St John, Youngstown, OH; St John; Aitkin, MN; St Mark's, Benson, MN; St Matthew, Gulfport, MS; St John, Hattiesburg, MS; St John, Vergas, MN; St Peter's, Goodhue, MN; Stillwater Free, Kalispell, MT; Trinity, Litchfield Park, AZ; Zion, Bismarck, ND; Zion, Whitehall, MT; Redeemer, Wickenburg, AZ; True Vine, Mora, MN; Grace, McGregor, MN. Would your church consider making a gift to Shepherd's Canyon Retreat?



The interior of Grace Lutheran, McGregor, MN the "log church", where Dave Anderson's father served in 1949-50-51.



Roger and Dave sang for the 100th anniversary of Trinity Lutheran of M'haha Falls, Mpls where Dave's parents came to faith in 1929, where Dave was baptized in 1943, and where Dave and Barb were married in 1975.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE FROM A RETREAT CLIENT

Dave & Barb

Thank you for your heart of love for others!!! God has worked through you in so many ways!

May God bless you and your ministry. In Christ's Love, Pastor M & B

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed" Prov 11:25.

Wish List (for Standing Stones Retreat Center)

- Two 500 sq ft "casitas" for staff housing @ \$50,000 complete
- Small "Reach-In" commercial refig \$1,500
- Sump pump (ours are worn out) \$75
- 18 mattress enclosures @ \$65
- 16 bed skirts @ \$35
- 2 Commercial countertop ovens @ \$750
- Gas pressure washer @ \$449
- 9 oversize king spreads \$200
- 8 Wall attachable bathroom shelving extra wide \$30

MEMORIALS AND IN HONOR

Doug & Vicky Nicely....in memory of Clyde Brasher

Eldred Wolf....in memory of wife, MaryAnn

Kenneth Janzen....in memory of Dick Borchard

Dave & Barb Anderson....in memory of SCR Board Member, Rev. Cliff Kenyon

Dave & Barb Anderson....in memory of Vanessa Dures (wife of former roadie, Martin Dures)

Dave & Barb Anderson....in memory of Miriam Gould (Dave's HS classmate)

Walt & Alice Tritsch....in honor of Luann Happel

Russ & Connie Hirsch....in honor Pastor Kory Janneke



REFLECTIONS ON THE PAST YEAR

It was over a year ago that folks from Shepherd's Canyon Retreat reached out to us about serving the Lord with them in this ministry.

What has the year held?

Some of our greatest joys have been the people! We have met so many wonderful people—Staff, volunteers, participants in retreats.... How rich our lives have become by getting to know so many fellow servants of the cross!

We've learned about tarantulas. Saguaro cacti. We've learned that three people can, when needed, wash the bedding and towels from sixteen guests and clean and restore the building in 48 hours over Easter weekend. We've learned the card game "Ten." We've learned that we can handle temperatures of over 100 for a week without working air conditioning.

We've been reminded that God is with us. He's in charge of this ministry. He does His good work through His Word and lives are changed! Hope is restored! We can have peace in Christ in spite of the craziness this world offers. God is with us.

Things are changing here and we face many unknowns. Yet we know that God's in control. God knows and cares. How blessed we are!

What a beautiful reminder Psalm 29:11 gives: "The LORD will give strength to His people; the LORD will bless His people with peace."

Thank you for your prayers and support for Shepherd's Canyon Retreat as we move forward under God's guidance! Who can you tell about Shepherd's Canyon Retreat today?

Rev. Kevin & Tawn Bueltmann

**Please make a gift through the envelope or online at
www.ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org/donate**

Dear friends at Shepherd's Canyon Retreat and Standing Stones Retreat Center

_____ I am enclosing a gift of \$ _____ for the work of Shepherd's Canyon Retreat

_____ Please place my gift of \$ _____ on my credit/debit card _____

exp ____/____ code _____

Name _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please use my gift _____ as needed _____ mortgage paydown

Please send me _____ Tshirt(s) _____ dark blue _____ beige _____ M _____ L _____ XL _____ XXL (\$25 incl postage)

_____ Please send me information about including Shepherd's Canyon Retreat in my estate plans.

www.ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org www.StandingStonesAZ.org

Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, Inc. P. O. Box 51510, Phoenix, Arizona 85076 480-588-8837



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**SHEPHERD'S CANYON RETREAT
P.O. BOX 51510
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85076**

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
PHOENIX, AZ
PERMIT 1010