## New Church Building Will Also Support the Community

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By Cathy Dausman



Shovels in hand, from left: Associate Minister Joshua Serano, Orinda Mayor Steve Glazer, and groundbreaking Master of Ceremonies Jack Pease. Chris Avant looks over the shoulders of Serano and Glazer. Photo Andy Scheck

hurch members, digni- but faith, tolerance and love." taries and guests gath-Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church for a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Community Support Building – the church's first new structure since the 1960s that will double as a post-disaster emergency center for Lamorinda. The inspiration for that use came after church members volunteered to aid Hurricane Katrina victims and found it difficult to access bathing facilities.

will accommodate temporary showers and have a generator.

foresight to think about this kind hall and storage space. of building." He hopes this will nerships for the area.

ered July 23 at Orinda's hoisted golden shovels and posed for the camera a backhoe took its first bite into the soil. A slab will up within the next few weeks.

The building will be LEED certified with evaporative water cooling system, indirect lighting, low-E glass, and ADA compliant bathrooms and will exceed statemandated seismic requirements.

The structure will be built of ICF (Insulating Concrete Form) The Holy Shepherd building concrete with an R-50 insulation value (the highest resistance to heat flow), and will feature 60-"It's absolutely a wonderful foot steel trusses. The 7,200 program," said Moraga Orinda square foot addition will hold of-Fire District Chief Randy fices for clergy and church board, Bradley. Bradley applauded a library, a chapel, and conference church members "who had the room, coffee kitchen, meeting

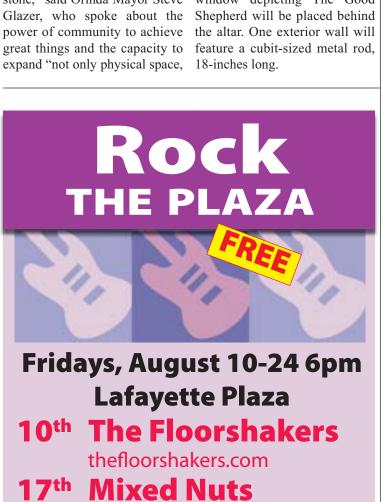
Its construction should alleviencourage more emergency re- ate the now daily reconfiguring of sponder/faith based group part- existing church spaces, said Tom Gilbertson, project manager for "I join you in the excitement the church. Chapel pews are movand pride in reaching this mile- able. A three pane etched glass stone," said Orinda Mayor Steve window depicting The Good

Canyon Construction of Mor-Soon after honored guests aga is the general contractor. "There is nothing sweeter than to build in the community in which we live," said Chris Avant, be poured and the walls will go Canyon Construction owner and president.

"This building's a long time coming," said Gilbertson. Eight years in the planning, the building should stand complete by mid-November.

Although the best is yet to come, church property manager Gerry Perry saw one immediate bonus: "We don't have to weed this [property] anymore!"





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