

# Shepherd's Staff

VOLUME 56 ISSUE 3

MARCH 2014

## SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

SHARING  
GOD'S  
LOVE

### From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

The season of Lent is upon us – on Ash Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> we will gather in the morning for an Ash Wednesday breakfast –we gather for simple meal, and have a brief worship service that includes burning of some of the palms from last year's Palm Sunday service . Please note the time change from 7:00 am to 8:00 am. Then that evening we will gather for worship – a time for confession of sin, imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. The word "Lent" comes from an old English word meaning "to lengthen" and it names the time of year when the days get longer in the spring. After the cold, dark and often dismal months of the year come the signs of renewal.

Lent is meant to be a tithe of our time to God. We know that a year is 365 days in length – and a tithe of that time (10% of that time) would equal about 36 days...approximately the same length as the season of Lent. These days of Lent are to be a time when we renew our relationship with God (one of the reasons we add a mid-week worship service) and examine our need for a Savior. Ash Wednesday service is a time of confession – but a word of absolution isn't spoken until Maundy Thursday, giving us time to truly reflect on our sinfulness and our need for Christ to have to go to the cross to die for our sins.

Our mid-week Lenten services will begin on March 12 and will continue for the next 4 Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. We are using a service called *Holden Eve-*

*ning Prayer* – it really is a beautiful, contemplative service. Special thanks to those who are lending their voices for their vocal solos that enhance the service! This worship lasts about ½ hour. I hope you'll plan on making these mid-week services a part of your Lenten journey. The services are preceded by a simple supper at 6:00. Come join us!

As we spend these next weeks intentionally thinking about the sacrifice Christ has made for us and the gift of our relationship with God, perhaps this would be a particularly good time to think about inviting someone you know to church. Recently we learned that over 14,000 people within a 3 mile radius of Shepherd of the Valley has no faith involvement **at all!** Think about your neighbors, co-workers or family – who do you know that you could invite to come to one of our mid-week suppers and worship? Who might be waiting for you to invite their children to come to Sunday school with your children? Who would enjoy an opportunity to come with you to Sunday morning worship and then go to brunch with you? Please pray intentionally about this – God *will* work through you!

As I look around at our life here at Shepherd of the Valley, and in my own personal life, I can see the hand of God clearly guiding us. My prayer is that you sense God's presence as well and will be called into action as we all seek ways to share God's love.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Wold*

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

#### Pastor's Column

Page 1

#### Outreach/Social Ministry

Pages 2

#### Announcements

Pages 2-5

#### Financial Information

Page 4

#### Preschool

Page 5

#### Church Calendar

insert



#### CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Please see the latest council minutes located on the bulletin board in the church library.

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**In Our Prayers:** Joyce Hunt, Pete Ferguson and Stu Hoffman, undergoing treatment for cancer, Kay Eagleson, Peg Hoffman, and Vernon Brendon at home, Larry LaForce who was hospitalized this past month, Char Winkelspecht, Phil Smalley's Mom, under hospice care in AZ, Pastor Wold's sister, Kathy Miller, and all of our homebound church members we name in our hearts.

**SOCIAL MINISTRY AND OUTREACH**



Monthly Collection will be Kid Friendly Food Bag Items for Rock House Kids. Items needed are box dry cereal (usually around one ounce), breakfast bars, nutrition bars, peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, fruit roll ups, raisins, cookies, chips and Capri Sun drinks. They accept items that are nonperishable and can be eaten with fingers. Please no refrigerated items as well as items that need to be cooked. Items must be individually wrapped and sized.

Rock House kids serve 200+ at risk children (Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade) on Monday and Wednesday nights. After lesson time is over, they send home with the children bags full of kid friendly single serving nonperishable items to have throughout the week to help with their nutritional needs.

**Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.**

- Proverbs 19:17

**VISIT THE LIBRARY**



Check out these new books added to the library: *Are You a Butterfly?* by Judy Allen, *Many Nations: an Alphabet of Native America* by Joseph Bruchac, and *On the Night You were Born* by Nancy Tillman. Books for adults include: *23 Minutes in Hell* by Bill Wiese, *The Boy Who Met Jesus* by Immaculee Ilibagiza, and *The Lucky One* by Nicholas Sparks.

Look for books highlighting women's history month in March. There will be no work day in March.

**WELCOME ELECTION DAY VOLUNTEERS**

March 18<sup>th</sup> is Election Day and we need your help. We need members to bring treats such as cookies and brownies so we can express hospitality to our voting neighbors. Later this month we will post sign-up sheets for treats and for those who are able to help with the hospitality table during Election Day from 6 am to 7 pm. Can you give an hour or two for this chance to welcome people in the area to our church? The coffee will be brewing when you arrive.

**Adult Forum (aka "Adult Sunday School")**



Begins Sunday, March 9 at 9:30 a.m. in Shepherd Hall

"24 Hours that Changed the World" In this video series, Adam Hamilton invites viewers to experience and

understand the significance of Jesus' final hours.

Drawing on insights from history, archaeology, geography, and the Bible, Hamilton takes us to the Holy Land and provides a deeper understanding of the most amazing day in history. We visit the sites where those earth-shaking events took place, and we walk where Jesus walked along the road that led to the pain and triumph of the cross.

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**Wednesday Bible Study**



Beginning Wednesday, March 12 at 10:00 a.m. in Shepherd Hall

We will be exploring the Scriptural texts of Handel's *Messiah* and then listening to the appropriate pieces from the *Messiah* as performed by the Chicago Symphony and Chorus:

- Behold the Lamb of God
- He Trusted in God
- Who is the King of Glory?
- I Know That My Redeemer Liveth
- Why Do the Nations Rage?
- Hallelujah, Worthy Is the Lamb, Amen

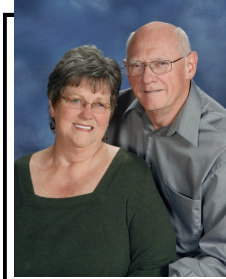
## SCHEDULE FOR LENT

This year our mid-week Lenten worship services will once again use the Holden Evening Prayer as its liturgy and worship services are scheduled as follows.

<b>Wednesday March 5:</b>	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	8:00 a.m. Breakfast/Worship Service
		7:00 p.m. Service of Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes
<b>Wednesday March 12:</b>		6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper
		7:00 p.m. Worship Service
<b>Wednesday March 19:</b>		6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper
		7:00 p.m. Worship Service
<b>Wednesday March 26:</b>		6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper
		7:00 p.m. Worship Service
<b>Wednesday April 2:</b>		6:0 p.m. Lenten Supper
		7:00 p.m. Worship Service
<b>Wednesday April 9</b>		6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper
		7:00 p.m. Worship Service
<b>Sunday, April 13:</b>	<b>Palm Sunday, 8:15 &amp; 10:45 services</b>	
<b>Thursday, April 18:</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	7:00 p.m. Service of Holy Communion
<b>Friday, April 19</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service
<b>Sunday, April 20</b>	<b>Easter Sunday, 8:15 &amp; 10:45 services</b>	9:15-10:30 am. Easter Breakfast

The soup suppers begin March 12 and continue each Wednesday through April 9. A Lenten worship service follows soup supper at 7 pm. Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, if you can provide a dish for the supper.

I hope you will be able to join us for all or part of the many opportunities we will have to reflect on our God's sacrifice of his Son, Jesus. God's blessings to you as we begin this season of Lent.



### Meet Ron & Joyce Hunt

Ron and Joyce Hunt have been members of Shepherd of the Valley for almost 48 years. Their children,

Todd & Robin were confirmed here. Ron & Joyce did not attend for a number of years but came back to worship about 5 years ago and now rarely miss the 10:45 worship service. Ron is an usher, and they are also greeters. Both are willing volunteers and can be seen doing various jobs around the church. They also attend the Wednesday morning Bible study.

Their daughter, Robin, and her daughter, Tiffany, live with them. They also have another grand-daughter, Sydney.

Ron worked at Rockford Products for 42 years. He loves to fish and is an avid fan of the Chicago Cubs, Bears, and Blackhawks. After their children were in school Joyce went to work at Elco. In her spare time she enjoys craft activities.

At the present time Joyce is receiving treatments for lung cancer. She covets and appreciates the prayers of her church family and is thankful for the many cards she has received.

### SENIOR NEWS

There will be no senior lunch in March. Remember to attend Wednesday evening services during Lent.

**DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL PEACE COURSE**

The Dave Ramsey Financial Peace course here at SVLC. Continues through March 13 The classes are held on Thursday evenings. Deb and Bruce Solko are leading the course. To sign up, please use the following link::

<http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/45781/class/245498>

**RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING Friday and Saturday, May 9-10**

You may start bringing your items April 21st and put them in Moline Hall. Items needed are: appliances, books, collectables, CD's, DVD's, clothes, electronics, kitchen items, furniture, jewelry, nic knacks, outdoor items, tools.

**Please note: if you donate items that do not work properly, please note that on the item. We do not want to sell anything that doesn't work and not note as such.** Many workers are needed for the 2-day event, Soon there will be a sign-up sheet posted in the narthex. If you have any questions, please call Kristen Spangler, 815-871-5255.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Financial results as of December 31, 2013 and Year End totals				
	C & B Actual	C & B Budget	C & B Yr End Actual	C & B Yr End Budget
Income	\$12,153.96	\$12,822.00	\$12,153.96	\$12,822.00
Expense	\$16,312.53	\$15,765.77	\$16,312.53	\$15,765.77
Inc/exp	-\$4,158.57	-\$2,943.77	-\$4,158.57	-42,943.77
plus offsets	\$993.93	\$425.00	\$993.93	\$425.00
plus interest	\$0.76	\$0.41	\$0.76	\$0.41
Net income	-\$3,163.88	-\$2,518.36	-\$3,163.88	-\$2,518.36

	1/31/14	12/31/13
C&B balance	\$5,891.02	\$5,891.02

	Building Actual	Building Budget	Bld Yr End Actual	Bld Yr End Budget
Income	\$1,935.00	\$1,920.00	\$1,935.00	\$1,920.00
Expense	\$2,232.40	\$2,257.40	\$2,232.40	\$2,257.40
Net inc/exp	-\$297.40	-\$337.40	-\$297.40	-\$337.40

Year end income includes \$3396.50 of capital improvement offsets  
 Year end expenses include \$5281.70 of capital improvements

	1/31/14	12/31/13
Building fund balance	\$21,580.75	\$21,878.15

Please note: Financials run one month behind in the bulletin  
 Also note: The second installment cost \$4600 and we have paid \$1344 of this bill as of January 31, 2014.  
 Balance on our mortgage - \$327344.06

Statistics based on the 3 weeks Feb 2-16:

- Average weekly worship attendance: 105
- Average weekly contributions:
  - Current & Benevolence—\$3,807.11
  - Building Fund—\$519.33

**YOUTH**

Youth will help with bingo at Rosewood on March 2, April 6, and May 4 at 2 p.m. Youth Group meetings will take place on the first scheduled Sunday School day of each month in the youth room.

**GAGA-BALL NIGHT**—Jr. High and Sr. High students come join GPS Faith Community and other churches for a fun nigh of GAGA Ball. Just \$3 for pizza, pop and all the GAGA Ball you can take. April 4th 6:00-10:00 at GPS Faith Community, 10714 N. Second St., Machesney Park. Reservations due March 28. Bring pop and chips to share.





Church Basement Ladies are coming to Rockford area. The story is about the ladies that work in the church basement cooking meals for church functions. Church Basement Ladies is a humorous "scrapbook of memories" of what it was like to grow up Lutheran in the Midwest in the 1950's.

In A Mighty Fortress is our Basement they're cookin' again at East Cornucopia Lutheran! It's 1960, and a reformation is underway. Beverly's getting her first high heels, Mrs. Engelson's getting her driver's license. Through it all, these "bulwarks never failing" stand strong in their faith and in their friendships. With great songs and more lessons reluctantly learned, the Church Basement Ladies are at it again in their new musical comedy. General Admission seating. There is a 2pm show and a 7pm show. Kay Brindle is selling tickets for either show. The cost is \$22.

**SUMMER CAMPS:** Information for summer camps at both LOMC and Lutherdale is available on the table outside the sanctuary and on the kiosk.

The annual Congregational Resourcing Event presented by the Northern Illinois Synod will be held at Kishwaukee College in Malta on Saturday, March 8. This year's keynote speaker is Nathan Dungan founder and president of ShareSaveSpend.com. He will also be leading two workshops (1) The Money Journey of Millennials and GenX. and (2) How to Develop a Relevant and Strategic Stewardship Roadmap. Every congregation in attendance will receive a copy of his book and DVD "Money Sanity Solutions" Over 40 amazing workshops covering topics including Administration/Council/Treasurers, Education, Evangelism/Outreach/Hospitality, Global/Specialized Mission Trips, Leadership, Social Justice, Spirituality/Prayer/Health & Wellness, Technology, Women's Ministry, and Youth/Young Adult/Family Ministry. For workshop information and online registration go to [www.nisynod.org/cre](http://www.nisynod.org/cre). Registration with payment on or before February 25 is \$17 per person and includes lunch. Registration after February 25 is \$22 per person and lunch may be provided if available.



## SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY PRESCHOOL

Registration for Shepherd of the Valley pre school has begun and will continue until classes are full. Tuition is \$75 a month for the 3-year-olds and \$120 per month for the 4-year-olds with a \$65 non refundable deposit. There is a \$10 per month discount for members of Shepherd of the Valley.



**The Easter Egg Hunt** will be held at noon service on April 13 (Palm Sunday) in Moline Hall or outside weather permitting. A sign-up sheet is available on the kiosk.

The Fellowship committee will be accepting items to fill the eggs; candy, tattoos, rings, small toys, etc.



**Easter Breakfast** will be between services on Easter Sunday, April 20. Sign up at the kiosk.



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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

**WE'RE ON THE WEB**

[WWW.SHEP61.ORG](http://WWW.SHEP61.ORG)

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday  
 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

**Church Council**

Nevagay Abel, Youth  
 Vicki Nitz, Preschool  
 Kay Brindle, Outreach  
 Carol Dahl, Fin. Sec.  
 Janette Erickson, Fellowship  
 Bruce Pearson, Property  
 Robert Maness, Finance  
 Sally Schrader, Christ. Ed.  
 Axandra Smalley, Youth  
 Phil Smalley, Treasurer  
 Bruce Solko, Personnel  
 Rhoda Fox Soc. Min.  
 Bev Wacker, Worship/Music  
 John Wolf, Stewardship  
 Terri Woodcock, Sec.  
 Pastor Janet Wold, President

**Staff**

Rev. Janet Wold, Pastor  
 Judi Fields, Sec.  
 Lynn McWhirter, Accomp.  
 Linda Longardner, Accomp.  
 Phil Smalley, Treasurer  
 Susie Smalley, Music Director  
 Diane Kirkland, Bell Dir.  
 Patte Lund, Christ. Ed.  
 Carol Dahl, Fin. Sec.  
 Peggy Wenstrom, Nursery Attendant  
 Tabatha Scheider, Nursery Attendant  
 Anita Ralston, Custodian

Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries invites you to a community fashion show featuring dresses and accessories donated to Becca's Closet and modeled by area high school girls. The fashion show, entitled "Becca's Closet Walks the Runway" will be held on Saturday, March 1, beginning at 2:00 in the Centre Court at Cherryvale Mall. The event is free and will highlight the mission and purpose of Becca's Closet, while raising awareness in the community of this resource. Dresses and accessories that are modeled will include formalwear donated by our Lutheran churches, members of the community, and the stores of Cherryvale Mall. Donations of dresses all sizes and lengths are always accepted. Becca's Closet is located inside Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1829 North Rockton Avenue, situated directly across from West Middle School. Over 500 dresses annually are given away in the Rockford area.

*The March Book Club Selection for Katie's Cup will be "Selected Stories" by Alice Munro. The March meeting will be Thursday, March 13, at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm.*