

Shepherd's Staff

VOLUME 55 ISSUE 7

JULY, 2013

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (ELCA)

From the Pastor

Dear Friends,

Why go to church? Those who attend public worship regularly do so because they believe they are gaining much more than they are giving up. If you have never attended Shepherd of the Valley regularly or have fallen into a habit of not doing so, and especially if you don't feel ready or motivated to go, I invite you to consider the following "Good Reasons to Attend Church":

1. *To worship God.* This sounds obvious, but I think sometimes we forget that the Third Commandment is to remember the Sabbath day and

keep it holy. God is bigger than any of us and is worthy of our worship.

2. *To receive forgiveness.* Why come to church? Because the Lord Jesus is there. And He is there primarily to give forgiveness to all who recognize the need for forgiveness and believe. Proclaiming the full forgiveness that Jesus won for us on the cross is the main point of all Christian worship services. This is the amazing thing about our God. God comes among God's people not primarily to receive but to give forgiveness of sins. What a joy it is to weary souls who have been struggling with their sin all week to hear and receive God's pardon given through Word and Sacrament!

3. *To learn about God's Word.* Through the Scripture readings, sermons, hymns and prayers we, together, learn more about what God has to say to us today – be it words of comfort, challenge or just further insight into who God is.

4. *To be prayed for, loved and encouraged.* Why go to church regularly? We all have troubles. We all face dilemmas and disappointments. We all wrestle with discouragement and heartache. Life can be cruel. Why bear your burdens alone? Coming to church means interacting with your fellow Christians, the body of Christ. It means receiving an encouraging word, a hug and a smile. It means having someone listen. More profoundly, it is often through His body that Christ speaks the comfort that we need.

5. *To love and encourage your fellow Christians.* Along with the previous point, sometimes God will use YOU to provide that prayer, comforting word or blessing for someone else.

Why go to church? Perhaps for the above reasons or others you could list. I know we are stronger as a body of Christ when you are here and weaker when you're not. Hoping to see you all soon...

In Christ,

Pastor Wold

Inside this issue:

Our Church Family, Youth	2
Social Ministry	2
Financial Peace University	3
Outreach	
Financials/Council Inf.	3
Library	3
Misc.	4

Our Hand Bell Choir needs you!!! Do you enjoy music? Then why not join us. We need more members in order to keep playing each month. I would be very glad to give any of you private lessons this summer to prepare you for the fall start-up. So please think seriously about helping us. You can call the church or Diane Kirkland at 815-621-3118.



Our Church Family

In Our Prayers:

Hugh DeGroff at Swedish American, Doug Beale (Liz Beale's son), in rehab at Mayo Clinic, Kay Eagleson and Peg Hoffman at home, and Everette Linquist (Sally Schrader's father), under the care of hospice and all of our homebound church members we name in our hearts.



Please check out the poster on the Kiosk regarding **Six Flags Great America Days, July 14-21**. Go to: www.sixflags.com choose the park: Six Flags Great America, enter **PROMO CODE Thrive** and print your tickets. Your cost \$32 each.

The next dates for bingo at Rosewood are 7/21 and 8/4. from 2-3pm.



YOUTH CONNECT CHURCHES presents: Play Capture the Flag with Nerf Guns. All Jr. High & Sr. High, July 26, 6-9 pm. IT'S FREE!!!

Please sign-up on "youth board" if you plan to attend!

The deadline to sign-up is July 21st.

You may call the church office at 399-5503.

Place: GPS Faith Community

10714 N. Second St. Machesney Park

Social Ministry



Our collection for July will be for Meld Homeless Shelter and Transitional Living Program. They are in need of personal care products: combs and hair brushes, deodorant, hand and body lotion, Q-tips, shampoo and conditioner, tooth brushes and toothpaste.

Outreach

Summer Concerts for July

Wed. July 10, Patte Lund

Wed. July 24 Awestruck

Doors open at 6:30pm, concerts begin at 7pm.

Fellowship

Church Picnic

Sunday, August 11, noon—4 pm, Alpine Park, Shelter 2 by playground.

Items provided by SVLC:

- Hamburger
- Hot dogs
- Brats
- Water & lemonade

You bring a dish to pass. Sign up sheet in the Narthex!

Fun for all the family!!!!

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY



Bruce and Deb Solko will be leading the seminar "Dave Ramsey's Guide to the 7 Baby Steps to Financial Independence." The seminar begins on Sunday, September 8, 2013 at 6:30 pm and goes for 9 weeks.

Financial Information

Financial results as of May 31, 2013 and Year To Date totals

	C & B Actual	C & B Budget	C & B YTD Actual	C & B YTD Budget
Income	\$15,237.59	\$15,121.50	\$79,398.95	\$79,531.50
Expense	\$16,620.32	\$16,434.18	\$91,641.46	\$89,111.03
Inc/exp	-\$1,382.73	-\$1,312.68	-\$12,242.51	-\$9,579.53
plus offsets	\$965.80	\$180.00	\$5,614.81	\$1,820.00
plus interest	\$0.76	\$0.42	\$3.65	\$2.09
Net income	-\$416.17	-\$1,132.26	-\$6,624.05	-\$7,757.44

	5/31/13	4/30/13
C&B balance	\$2,751.58	\$3,101.75

	Building Actual	Building Budget	Bld YTD Actual	Bld YTD Budget
Income	1,994.00	2,090.00	10,717.00	10,261.00
Expense	\$2,257.40	\$2,257.40	11,287.00	11,287.00
Net inc/exp	-\$263.40	-\$167.40	-\$570.00	-\$1,026.00

	5/31/13	4/30/13
Building fund balance	\$23,627.15	\$23,809.55

Please note: Financials run one month behind in the bulletin

Also note: The First HVAC are paid in full

The second installment cost \$4600 and we have paid \$214 of this bill as of May 31, 2013

Balance on our mortgage - \$334996.66

June 2013 statistics (based on the 4 weeks):

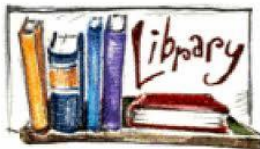
- average weekly worship attendance: 98
- average weekly contributions: Current & Benevolence \$7,264.90 Building Fund \$532.75.

Balance the Budget Challenge 2013:

At the 2013 annual meeting I encouraged you to increase your planned gifts by \$3 per month to help sustain the gains in our reserves we have made over the past couple years. I am happy to report we finished the year on a positive note. Considering that we started the year projecting a \$3600 loss, I am pleased with the results and want to thank all of you for your continued giving to the church. A special thank you to all of you who exceeded your pledge and met or surpassed my challenge. May God sustain us with us glad and generous hearts.

Phil Smalley, Treasurer

Church Council Minutes - "please see the latest council minutes located on the bulletin board in the church library."



Check out the books on the library table in the Narthex or in our Library. Enjoy summer reading.

Our missionary family, Randy, Juliana, Marissa, Megan, Carol and Nathan Stubbs will be visiting the United States. SVLC will host a potluck dinner for them on August 3. More information will be coming.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Shepherd of the Valley is happy to announce our VBS the week of July 15–19, 2013 from 8:30 to 11:30 am.

The first day, July 15, you should arrive 8-8:20am to check in and join your group! Otherwise the rest of the week you will come from 8:30-11:30am.

This year we will "Rumble in the Jungle" and will include a scriptural safari that will help you discover bible stories in a way you've never done before! On Sunday, July 21, the children will share the songs they learned with our congregation at the 9:30 am service. This VBS experience is for everyone. Invite friends, neighbors & family members.



**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
(ELCA)**

2715 South Mulford Rd.
Rockford, IL 61109
Phone: 815-399-5503
Email: svlsecretary@att.net

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Rockford, IL
Permit No. 4261

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.SHEP61.ORG

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

Church Council

Nevagay Abel, Youth
Carol Bailey, 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
Denise Stillman, Soc. Min.
Bev Wacker, Worship/Music
John Wolf, Stewardship
Terri Woodcock, Sec.
Pastor Wold, Pres.

Staff

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

**THE SALVATION ARMY
SUMMER
GARDEN MINISTRY**

Every Tuesday, 7 am through
Sept. 24.

Anderson Japanese Gardens,
318 Spring Creek Road.

There will be Scripture read-
ing, devotions and prayer. Signs
will direct you to the pavilion.
Enjoy the gardens after the
service.

Guest speakers and musicians.



Nothing is too big or too small

For God to handle!

Preschool Registration

Registration for children, ages 3-4 has begun and will continue until the classes are full for the 2013-2014 school year. This is a Christian program. The four year olds meet in the morning on Mon/Wed/Fri from 8:30 to noon. The three year olds meet in the morning on Tues/Thur from 8:30 to 11 am. Call 815-398-3656 or 397-5880 to register.

