

Shepherd's Staff

VOLUME 56 ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2014

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

SHARING
GOD'S
LOVE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor's Column

Page 1

Announcements

Pages 2-5

Financial Information

Page 4

Preschool

Page 4

Church Calendar

insert



CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Please see
the latest

council minutes lo-
cated on the bulletin
board in the church
library.

Dear friends in Christ,

Our journey together has begun! I feel so blessed to have this opportunity to serve in ministry with you during this interim time between pastors. The "meet and greet" on my first Sunday with you was very nice. I appreciated that many of you took the time to say a special word of welcome to me. I encourage you to continue to wear name tags each week when we gather for worship so that I might learn your names more quickly.

Some of you have asked me, "What shall we call you?" I really don't have a preference but I suggest either "Pastor Marilyn" or "Pastor Hanson," whichever feels most comfortable to you. I'll answer to either one!

As for my background, I was born and raised in northeast Iowa, in a small town called West Union. After I graduated from high school, I got my teaching degree from the University of Northern Iowa. I taught school for a very short time and then headed out to Seattle, WA where I attended the Lutheran Bible Institute. That started the wheels turning for me and I began sensing God's call to pastoral ministry. After studying for a year at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN, I transferred to Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, CA where I earned my Master of Divinity degree.

As an ordained pastor, I have served parishes in both northeast and western Iowa, worked on the bishop's staff in the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, and moved to Illinois in 2002 to serve as pastor of First Lutheran Church in DeKalb. After ten years in that parish, I began doing Interim Ministry, first at Trinity in Mt. Morris and most recently at All Saints in Byron. It has become a ministry I have truly come to enjoy.

I currently live in DeKalb with my two daughters, Breanna (age 19) and Meghan (soon to be 16). Breanna is in her second year at Kishwaukee College and Meghan is a sophomore at DeKalb High School and busy this fall with tennis and marching band. She'll be with me most Sundays for worship and will also be joining the high school group on Sunday mornings.

If you'd like to stop by my office to see me, I'll plan to be at the church on Mondays from 9:30 am - 4:00 pm and on Tuesdays - Thursdays from 9:30 am - 1:00 pm. In the afternoons, I'll be out making hospital and home visits, so if you'd like to drop by then, I suggest calling the church first to make sure that I'm in.

Again, I'm delighted to be at Shepherd of the Valley. May God bless our time together as we seek to be witnesses for Christ in this place.

Pastor Marilyn Hanson

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

In Our Prayers: Joyce Hunt, Nevagay Abel, Carissa Wenstrom (Peggy Wenstrom's daughter), and Stu Hoffman, undergoing treatment for cancer, Mary Wilson at home, Anne Teed (Pearson), Bruce Pearson's mother, under hospice care, Adolph Wacker's brother, Rudy, Lisa (friend of Mark & Laurie Pellant) and all of our home-bound church members we name in our hearts. We extend our sympathy to Jim Landrove on the death of his wife Nancy on August 28 and to the family of Evelyn Frat who passed away on September 6. May God comfort these families.



The month of October we will be collecting items for Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits. Each kit includes: One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"x40" & 52"x27") dark color recommended, two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, one adult-size toothbrush, one sturdy comb and one metal nail clippers. Please follow these guidelines when purchasing items: please give new items only, no religious symbols, messages or your congregation's name or items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

LWR distributes Personal Care Kits to people who have lost everything. In the wake of an earthquake, or having fled from violence as their homes were overtaken, they clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush...and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world. The very simple gesture of giving a Personal Care Kit can give someone the encouragement to start anew, starting with a bath. You can share God's grace and love by providing that simple comfort.



Leaf Through the Library and find yourself a good book. Just take a look on the library

bulletin board. You will find lots of titles from throughout the library. If you can't find what you want, just tell one of your library helpers- Myrna Hagemann, Lois Johnson, Ruth Anderson, Phyllis Johnson or Sherry Scheider. We'll try to get it for you

SENIOR LUNCHEON- Tuesday, October 28 at noon. Following the lunch there will be time for games and laughter. Please bring your own lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided. Sign up on the kiosk in the narthex.



First Communion: It has been the tradition at Shepherd of the Valley to offer First Communion instruction to 3rd graders during the month of October. Students then receive their First Communion on Reformation Sunday, which is October 26 this year. Letters will be sent out to families in the next couple of weeks with information about when the classes will be offered this fall.

PEW BIBLES are still available for \$15.00 each. See the display in the Narthex.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING REPORT

On Sunday, September 14th, the special Congregational meeting was held to discuss and provide updates on the following topics; Mission and Planning status, Call Process/Interim Pastor Marilyn Hanson and guidance vote on Same Gender Marriage for the current wedding policy of the church.

Bob Maness presented the finding to the congregation of the special meeting held early in the year. Suggestions and recommendations from those meetings have been assigned to the appropriate committee. The committees are reviewing this listing to see what can activate upon in the short and long term and what is currently on going. All in all, the biggest themes were building the congregation, especially with youth, and expand our kitchen for more functional use. The church is currently working with an architect to determine the feasibility of kitchen remodeling. No commitment has been made yet. From those finding we will present the results to the congregation for next steps, if determined.

Regarding the Call process, we are still looking for volunteers to become a part of the Call Committee. The council is hoping to select Call Committee members at the October 21 council meeting. If you are interested in serving on this committee, either see a council member for the form to fill out or stop by the church office during business hours.

The results of the Same Gender Marriage Policy guidance were 52% of the votes in favor of allowing same gender marriages to be performed by the Pastor of SVLC on or off premises, 33% of the votes selected no marriages can be performed on or off premises and 15% of the votes can be performed off premises only by the Pastor of SVLC. There were 63 votes in total. Not to make hasty decision on this topic, the council will discuss the voting results and let the congregation know the final outcome. We appreciated everyone's participation in this special congregational meeting. If you have any questions, please contact any member of council.



HOSPITALITY HOSTS NEEDED

Having a time of informal conversation so that long-time and new members can chat informally is invaluable to the life of congregation and a cup of coffee and a nibble or two makes it happen. Hosts make the coffee and hot water for tea, provide the simple goodies, set the service table and clean up afterwards.

There are dates open in October and November for this ministry. We encourage members to partner and host together. Committees and fellowship groups can also host a Sunday. To sign up, please add your name to the sheet on the Hospitality Table.

MISSIONARY PRAYER LIST:



Please look at the Missionary Prayer chart on the mission table. Sign up for one or more days when you will remember our Stubbs

family with prayers. Remember to contribute to their support; envelopes are in your giving packets.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial results as of August 31, 2014 and Year End totals

	C & B Actual	C & B Budget	C & B Yr End Actual	C & B Yr End Budget
Income	\$17,083.72	\$17,163.00	\$120,561.60	\$119,101.00
Expense	\$27,164.18	\$16,166.76	\$150,729.42	\$130,955.08
Inc/exp	-\$10,080.46	\$996.24	-\$30,167.82	-\$11,854.08
plus offsets	\$11,749.94	\$395.00	\$24,299.26	\$2,950.00
plus interest	\$0.77	\$0.42	\$6.00	\$3.33
Net income	\$1,670.25	\$1,391.66	-\$5,862.56	-\$8,900.75

C&B balance 8/31/14 7/31/14
\$28.46 (\$1,641.79)

	Building Actual	Building Budget	Bld Yr End Actual	Bld Yr End Budget
Income	\$2,305.00	\$2,400.00	\$16,935.00	\$16,512.00
Expense	\$2,257.40	\$2,257.40	18,034.20	18,059.20
Net inc/exp	\$47.60	\$142.60	-\$1,099.20	-\$1,547.20

Building fund balance 8/31/14 7/31/14
\$20,778.95 \$20,731.35

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 8/31/14
 Balance on our mortgage - \$321100.41

Statistics based on the 5 weeks August 24 - September 21:

- Average weekly worship attendance: 98
- Average weekly contributions:
 - Current & Benevolence— \$ 3,136.38
 - Building Fund— \$ 461.40



SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY PRESCHOOL

The preschool is back in session.

Everything is going smoothly for the 3 and 4 year olds. Not many tears. The 4 year olds went to Valley orchard for a field trip. They had a wagon ride and each one picked an apple off a tree. Then they got to see how apple cider is made. For more information or to schedule a tour of our preschool, call 815-397-5880 or email preschool@shep61..org.



Dates for BINGO at Rosewood from 2-3pm:

October 5 November 2
 December 7

Please come and help if you can!

@ Katie's Cup

October 3 & 4:

Express-oh! Art Fall ArtScene

Friday, October 3, 5-9 pm

Saturday, October 4, 4-9 pm

Artists: Sheila Carey ▪ Roni Golan ▪ Jen Hillestad Wally Miller ▪ Les Morgan ▪ Mary Rosandich plus Rockford Universty Art Students Live Music 7-9 pm each evening.

October 9 10:00 am and 7:00 pm

Katie's Choice Book Club:

October selection: *October Sky*

YOUTH:**Upcoming Youth Connect Events:****November:**

We have planned two November events (Jr. and Sr. High) in the same week (see attachments).

We will take advantage of the FREE Newsboys Concert at First Free on November 7th (each student must bring a school supply to donate) and that Sunday before, November 2nd, we will gather to watch the movie "God's Not Dead" and discuss it. {Newsboys are in the movie and their song, "God's not dead" is the theme song of the movie}

DECEMBER:

Also, mark your calendars for December 7th for a Game Night and Cookie Decorating at Alpine Lutheran from 6:00-7:30.



Why not share your time or talents with your church? Our Hand bell Choir needs more members.

Please consider joining our group. All you need is some knowledge of music and we'll train you how to play. Our group is getting too small, which makes it very difficult to select quality music. Call Diane Kirkland at 815-621-3118 or the church office for more information. Practices are Wednesday's at 6:00 pm.

The **2014 DISCIPLESHIP GATHERING** for the North Conference will be Thursday, October 16 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Rockford. Registration and a light supper begin at 6:30 pm. This years theme is "Conversation as hospitality - Helping make the faith connection." Let Pastor Marilyn know if you are interested in attending.

**Election Day at Shepherd of the Valley**

Please help us out with treats: cookies, mini muffins, brownies, or even your left over Halloween candy for

hospitality table to give to the public voting at Shepherd of the Valley on Election Day. You can bring the treats in on Sunday Nov 2nd and put them on the library table or bring them in during the day Tuesday, Nov 4th. Please indicate on the signup sheet in the narthex what treats you will be bringing and/or if you can help during the day at the hospitality table, Tuesday, Nov. 6 from 6:00 am - 7:00 pm. Give an hour (or two) for this chance to welcome people in the area to our church. Thank you in advance to help make this a successful outreach day to our neighbors.

PROVIDE A RIDE MINISTRY

Sometimes people cannot get to church on Sunday's because they are unable to drive due to their age or health but would very much like to attend worship. There are many ways we can reach out to help those who need assistance. Members who have an extra seat in their car could provide the wonderful gift of transportation to and from church for someone. Are you able to provide a ride to someone to attend worship? Sign up for this ministry on the Kiosk in the narthex.



Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (ELCA)
 2715 S. Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61109
 Phone: 815-399-5503 E-mail: svlcsecretary@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
 Vicki Nitz, Preschool
 Outreach
 Carol Dahl, Fin. Sec.
 Janette Erickson, Fellowship
 Lena Lund, Youth
 Robert Maness, Finance
 Property
 Sally Schrader, Christ. Ed.
 Phil Smalley, Treasurer
 Bruce Solko, Personnel
 Soc. Min.
 Bev Wacker, Worship/Music
 John Wolf, Stewardship
 Terri Woodcock, Sec.

Staff

Pastor Marilyn Hanson, Interim 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

SAVE THE DATES



Saturday October 18, 5 - 9 pm is the date set for the Annual Fall Bonfire at the home of Carol and Bob Bailey. All ages welcome. Hot dogs, chips, s'mores and Halloween candy will be provided. This is a fun family event. Each family is asked to bring a bag of candy for the youth.

Sunday, October 26, 5 pm the Fellowship and Outreach committees is looking to hold a Trunk and Treat event this year, inviting our friends from Vacation Bible School, Preschool and surrounding neighborhood. The committees are still working on the details. We will be looking for volunteers to participate in handing out candy from the trunks of their car as well as volunteers for the food that will be provided for the event. Chili and hot dogs are the items in discussion. Look for more information in the weekly announcements on



Sunday's and bulletin boards in the Narthex. We hope to make this an exciting annual event. This event was from the discussion of our recent Mission and Planning meetings with the congregation. This is fun for all ages.