

SHARING  
GOD'S  
LOVE

# SHEPHERD'S STAFF

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume 57 Issue 6

June 2015

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Column 1

Preschool 5

Council 5

Financial 4

Calendar insert

**Dear friends in Christ,**

The psalmist of old writes these words of praise for God's surprising greatness ...

- <sup>1</sup>Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!**  
**<sup>2</sup>Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his surpassing greatness!**  
**<sup>3</sup>Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!**  
**<sup>4</sup>Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!**  
**<sup>5</sup>Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!**  
**<sup>6</sup>Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! (Psalm 150)**

We gather in worship, week after week, to offer praise and thanksgiving to our awesome God. The intent of worship is that it will always be lively and fresh. However, sometimes it just isn't. It might have to do with our frame of mind on a particular Sunday or things that have taken place in our life during the preceding week. It might be that the preacher is having an "off" week and you simply don't "connect" with the message. It might be caused by all the distractions you see as people come and go during the worship service. It might even be that everything is too "old and familiar".

It is good at times to have a little variety in worship and that is why this summer the Worship & Music Committee and I thought it might be enjoyable to try a new liturgical setting for worship. We've decided on Setting 7 in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book. It is a lively liturgy with a Spanish flavor to it. We've arranged for song leaders each week to help us learn it and from time to time, we may even add a few instruments for a change of pace. I hope that you will welcome this change in settings and come to worship with an open heart and mind ... ready to eagerly give praise to the Lord with a new song. I actually really think you are going to like it!

We're also going to retire the "Friendship Registers" for the summer and replace them with a small insert in the church bulletin. In addition to your name and any pertinent information you want to provide, such as e-mail address or phone number, the insert will be your opportunity to request information you may need about something and an opportunity to sign-up for activities you would like to volunteer to do (such as help with VBS, provide special music at worship, join the Altar Guild, help with a church work day, etc). This will replace the annual Time & Talent sheets you have filled out in previous years.

In the summer, some of you may be traveling and not at worship as regularly as during the school year. If you are out of town on a weekend, I encourage you to find a church to worship at. Bring a bulletin back with you and share with me what you especially liked about the service. If you experienced something you really liked, we may even try it at Shepherd of the Valley!

Blessings to each of you as we enter into the months of summer. May you take some intentional time for rest and refreshment.

**In Christ,**

*Pastor Marilyn*

## † IN OUR PRAYERS †

Nevagay Abel, Kelsey Dolan, and Stu Hoffman undergoing treatment for cancer, Mike, (nephew of Anita Ralston our custodian), LeAnn Dahl, (Carol Dahl's daughter), Don Abel, Sherry Scheider, Benny Frisella,, Dan Webber (friend of Bruce Solko), Steve Osterberg (friend of John Romph), and our homebound church members.

### CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee has met with Pastor Jeff Clements of the Synod Office after successfully submitting the Congregational Survey. The committee has been developing interview questions for a prospective candidate. Our position was posted and Pastor Clements has come back to the committee with a candidate to interview. Our committee chair, Ted Woodcock, is in the process of arranging a date with the candidate to conduct our initial interview. We will keep the Congregation informed of our progress. Thank you all for your continued thoughts and prayers during this process.

John Wolf  
Recorder

### Congratulations, Daniel!

Daniel Nitz, son of Kevin & Vicki Nitz, recently graduated from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb with a Bachelor's degree in History and Education. Congratulations & God's blessings to you, Daniel!

## Outreach Project

Our congregation is partnering with "Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries" and "Kids Around the World" to purchase ingredients for and pack Mobile Food Meal Packs for kids to eat in Tanzania, Africa. Every minute 12 children die from starvation.

**Here's how you can be a part of the solution to world hunger:**

On September 19, your family can participate with other Rockford ELCA families on "God's Work Our Hands" Day to package the Food Packs at Cherry Vale Mall in an assembly line style for a fun and educational event.

These meals will then be shipped to our companion synod in Tanzania, Africa. Contact Kay Brindle (815-979-0490) for more information. A sample food packet has been placed on the Mission Table.

**Did you know** you can also go to

[www.thehungersite.com](http://www.thehungersite.com) everyday and click on the gold bar to help provide food for people around the world?

**And it's free!!!** You can click the bar once a day.



### LIBRARY NEWS

The new books should be processed and on the south wall shelves in the library. There are several adult fiction, non-fiction, six new Bible story books and other children's books. ENJOY!

### CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

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

### SENIOR NEWS

There will be no Senior lunches until September. Enjoy the summer.

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The Summer Concert Series is almost ready to start. Doors open at 6:30 pm and the concerts begin at 7:00 pm.

Here's the schedule:

**June 17:** TBA

**July 1:** 2nd City Chorus

Formed and chartered in 1996, and currently under the direction of Joe Tomecek, this chorus of 20 plus men is well known and respected within the Illinois District. They have been awarded Small Chorus Champions and Most Entertaining Chorus in several competitions, and they are consistently ranked in the top five. 2<sup>nd</sup> City Chorus has a wide variety of music in their repertoire: classic barbershop, sacred, gospel, pop, show tunes, oldies, and comedic-parody.

**July 15:** Acoustic Juice - The trio of Tim Austin, Doug Janicke & Tom Wilson embarked on this musical voyage during the summer of 2014. With vocal and instrumental styles as varied as their musical backgrounds, the result is a unique merger drawing inspiration from across the spectrum of musical genres: Jazz, R&B, reggae, folk & rock. From **The Beatles** to **Dylan**, from **CSN&Y** to the **Grateful Dead** – with admiration for the **Singer/Songwriters of The Sixties, Seventies and beyond** – Tim, Doug & Tom love to share their favorite tunes from their musical influences!

**Historic hits, rare gems** and even some **originals** can be found in their ever-evolving set lists.

**July 29:** River City Sound -

**August 12:** Patte Lund

Patte spent 22 years of her adult life honing her musical skills in Chicago. Ms. Lund fronted the big band sounds of The Ken Arlen Orchestra and Bob Johnson's Jazz Orchestra. In 2011 Patte, along with her good friend Mike McIntyre, performed for 7 months on Saturday nights at Gia's. She works with Mike Williamson's Music Production Company and had the honor of playing the lead character twice in the Artists Ensemble productions of *Radio Gals* and recently played a role in *Brooklyn Boy*. She is thrilled to be working with her dear friend Rise` Barker.

**Guest pastor - June 28**

Pastor Nord Swanstrom will be at Shepherd of the Valley on Sunday, June 28 while Pastor Marilyn and her family are on vacation. After many years of government service with the State of Illinois, Pastor Swanstrom completed his theological studies at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa. He was ordained in 2013 and called by the Northern Illinois Synod to "Intentional Interim Ministry".

### Alpine Academy of Rockford Summer Day Camp

Ages: Preschool (3-4 years old and potty trained) - 3rd grade

Cost: \$125.00 per week or \$35.00 per day

Hours: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Extended care available from 6:30 am until 6:00 pm at a cost of \$4.00 per hour.

Camp begins June 1, but admission can be made anytime there is available space.

For more information and enrollment forms go to the website: [AlpineAcademyofRockford.com](http://AlpineAcademyofRockford.com)

Trinity Lutheran Church invites you to celebrate Pastor Jay Quinn's 25 years of ordained ministry. Congratulations can be sent to Trinity Lutheran Church,  
.200 N. 1st Street,  
Rockford, IL 61104



## 2015 Summer Camp Opportunities

### What are your kids going to do all summer?

Have they ever spent time at Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center (LOMC), our Bible camp located just outside of Oregon, IL? If not, you'll want to stop by the church and check out the variety of summer camps that are offered for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 12 graders this summer. There are camps for those interested in drama, art, ecology, horseback riding or Harry Potter. There are also Mission Impossible camps, Survivor camps, Voyageur camps, mystery camps or sports camps. In addition, there is a week (July 12-17) when the whole family can spend time together at the camp and stay in their beautiful Freedom Tree Village.

LOMC really does offer something for everyone. What better place for having a lot of fun in the great outdoors, growing spiritually and making some lasting memories?

A love that never ends.



## May Church Council Highlights

- Decided not to staff the church nursery between Memorial Day & Labor Day this year. However, the doors will remain open for parents to accompany their child(ren) to the nursery, if needed.
- Received a brief update on the Call Process.
- Discussed the appointment of a delegate for the Rockford Lutheran School Association meeting in June. Several council members expressed a willingness to serve as the delegate.
- Heard that a church property clean-up day has been set for Saturday, May 30.
- Heard that Sunday School will conclude on May 24 and that the children will sing during worship that day.
- Appointed the Personnel Committee to develop policies and procedures for conducting background checks for all volunteers and paid staff as required by our insurance company. The goal is to have this accomplished by June 16.
- Received copies of the Model Constitution for congregations with recommendations by the Finance Committee for edits and changes. Council members will review the proposed changes and approve them at the next council meeting for presentation to the congregation at the Annual Meeting of the congregation.

## Calling All Women ...

**Give yourself a break ...** come and join the monthly Bible study for women this summer! The study is held once a month and in June will be held on Tuesday, June 30 at 7:00 p.m. in Shepherd Hall. Women of all ages are welcome.

The summer Bible study theme is "No Catchy Slogans," and we will look at scripture passages about giving. The author, former Women of the ELCA staff member Emma Crossen, writes in her introduction: "Giving money is an important topic for Christians to consider. All people need encouragement and guidance about their relationship to money. Few things affect our daily life more. It seems appropriate that the Bible gives so much attention to money and giving. Yet it's too common to see Bible passages taken out of context, turned into catchy slogans, and enforced as rules that Christians should follow."

The June study, "Give in Secret," will focus on a portion of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount from Matthew's Gospel. We'd love to have you join the group! Light refreshments will be served!





Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (ELCA)  
 2715 S. Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61109  
 Phone: 815-399-5503 E-mail: [svlcsecretary@att.net](mailto:svlcsecretary@att.net)  
 On The Web: [www.shep61.org](http://www.shep61.org).

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

**RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED**

**Office Hours**

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

**2015 Church Council**

Kay Brindle, Outreach  
 Carol Dahl, Financial Secretary  
 Janette Erickson, Vice President &  
 Fellowship

Chad Farris, Property  
 Amy Kellogg, Youth Ministry  
 Lena Lund, Youth Representative  
 Robert Maness, Finance

Vicki Nitz, Preschool  
 Laurie Pellant, Social Ministry  
 Sally Schrader, Christian Education

Phil Smalley, Treasurer  
 Bruce Solko, Personnel  
 Bev Wacker, Worship/Music  
 John Wolf, Stewardship

Terri Woodcock, Secretary

**Staff**

Pastor Marilyn Hanson, Interim Pastor  
 Judi Fields, Secretary  
 Linda Longardner, Organist  
 Lynn McWhirter, Accompanist  
 Phil Smalley, Treasurer  
 Susie Smalley, Music Director  
 Diane Kirkland, Bell Director  
 Patte Lund, Christian Education.  
 Carol Dahl, Financial Secretary  
 Peggy Wenstrom, Nursery Attendant  
 Tabatha Scheider, Nursery Attendant  
 Anita Ralston, Custodian

**Save the Date!**

This year's Vacation Bible School at Shepherd of the Valley will be held the week of August 3-7 from 5:30 - 8:30 pm. It's a new time and a new format. Cost is \$10.00 per child, \$40.00 family maximum.

We hope you'll save the date on your calendars now so that your children can attend. It promises to be a great week for everyone!

**PRE-SCHOOL NEWS**



The butterflies were released at the year end picnic at Bauman Park on May 20 and 21.

Registration for the 2015-2016 school year at Shepherd of the Valley preschool is open.

The 3-year-olds meet on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30—noon.

Tuition is \$80 a month. The 4-year-olds meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30—noon and tuition is \$120 per month. There is a \$70 non refundable deposit. A discount is offered for members of Shepherd of the Valley. For more information or to schedule a tour of our preschool, call 815-397-5880 or email [preschool@shep61.org](mailto:preschool@shep61.org).

Have a great summer.