



SHEPHERD'S STAFF

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH
A CONGREGATION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Volume 60 Issue 5

JUNE 2018

Love in the Flesh

One of my distinguished Bible professors in seminary advises people that if they want to learn about love, the place to go is 1 John. This Easter season we've read through most of that marvelous book on Sundays—we won't do that again for three years—but it's a good one to revisit often in your devotions to remind yourself what Christian love is all about. There we are reminded that "God is love" (4:16), that Christian love means laying down our lives (3:16), and so we are to love not just "in word or speech, but in truth and action" (3:18).

One passage that wasn't read in our Sunday lectionary is the first verses of chapter 4, which at first glance seems to deviate from the message of love. "Test the spirits," it cautions, warning of "false prophets" and even "the spirit of the antichrist" (4:1–3). Instead of following these, we are instructed to identify the Holy Spirit as the one who "confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh" (4:2). (The same standard is repeated in 2 John 7.)

What connection could there be between love and confessing Christ "in the flesh"? First and foremost, it is only because the Son of God became flesh—that is, truly human—that we trust that his loving work of death and resurrection redeems us. In contrast to those who proclaim salvation as ridding ourselves of human frailty, we preach a Lord who shares in all of our weakness in order to share with us all of God's powerful, merciful love. In his Ascension, we proclaim that Christ is "in the flesh" even now at the right hand of our Father in heaven.

So loving our neighbors means loving them "in the flesh." This happens in two interrelated ways. First, we love not just remotely but person to person, "in the flesh"; we know that a human touch is inherently powerful (see Luke 8:43–48). Second, we love and uphold our neighbors' *humanity* as God-given and sacred.

But this kind of love—Christian love—is dangerous. It's controversial, even political, because it insists on happening not just "in word or speech, but in truth and action," that is, "in the flesh," in the real world of human need.

One current example of this is a movement based on Christian love going on right now: a nationwide, 40-day Poor People's Campaign (poorpeoplescampaign.org). This call to "moral revival" is focused on the persistent human need that wounds our common humanity yet ends up on the back burner of our public life. These sisters and brothers and others like them need our prayers—and our "in the flesh" love.

† IN OUR PRAYERS †



Intercessions: Nevagay Abel, Don Abel, Alka David, Elizabeth David, Stu Hoffman, Lisa Jones, Doris Kampfe, Kevin Persaud, Carline Talmadge, Karl Anderson, Doris Dohlen, John Miller, Hugh DeGroff, Alice Schaefer, Robert Aken, Richard Farris, Sally Schrader, Graydon Anderson, Kay Edlen, Marshall & Marion Holmgren, Lyle Solko, Carol Triplett (friend of the Smalley and Wacker families), Bill Wolf (John Wolf's father), Iona Reidlinger (niece of Linda Severson), Loretta Thompson (sister of Linda Severson), Scott K. (husband of Karl Anderson's niece), Tyler Webb (son of Jordan Stork), Don Pflipson (friend of Kay & Don Brindle), Tom Pellant (brother of Candy Wolf and Mark Pellant), Nancy Brandt (Kay Brindles sister), Patty Stork (Jordan Stork's mother), Linda Finegan (friend of the Bailey family), Charles Last (Judy Miller's brother), Kathy Strout Hepburn (friend of Don & Neva Abel), the family of Barbara Koppen, and the Stubbs family (missionaries in Tanzania).

Thanksgiving: Rick DeGroff (Linda & Hugh DeGroff's son), Bishop Jeff Clements, Tom Pellant (brother of Candy Wolf and Mark Pellant),

(Please review this list and let either Pastor Scott or the church office know when a name can be re-

Keeping Shepherd of the Valley up-to-date

Please be sure to let the office of Shepherd of the Valley know when you have a change in address, phone number or e-mail.

Become a Member

Please speak with Pastor Scott after worship if you would like to be received into our community of faith on All Saints Sunday, November 4, 2018.

We extend our sympathy to Cheryl Erdmann on the death of her mother, Mildred Anderson and to the family of Alice Kundo.

Serving in special roles

Come and learn or be refreshed in what it means to serve in a special role for worship. We will meet at



11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary on the following Sundays:



- 10 June: Acolytes
- 17 June: Readers
- 24 June: Greeters
- 8 July: Assisting Ministers
- 15 July: Ushers



The library will be open during the week of June 18 when children are coming to Vacation Bible School. The boys and girls will be spending time in the library as they listen to stories and work on a related activity. Moms, dads and teachers will find a variety of books, magazines, audio books and CD's to check out. The reading room across the hall is a quiet place to enjoy these materials as well.

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Library work day
Tuesday June 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Please let the church office or Pastor Scott know if there are items you would like to see in the newsletter.

Attendance statistics average are based on
ATTENDANCE FROM
April 22 - May 20

Average attendance: 65

FINANCIAL REPORTS				
Financial results as of April 30, 2018 and Year to date totals				
	C & B Actual	C & B Budget	C & B YTD Actual	C & B YTD Budget
Income	\$17,445.52	\$16,480.00	\$64,354.19	\$62,350.00
Expense	\$16,419.92	\$15,854.73	\$69,272.45	\$64,934.65
Inc/exp	\$1,025.60	\$625.27	-\$4,918.26	-\$2,584.65
plus offsets	\$706.65	\$475.67	\$5,548.47	\$1,712.67
Net income	\$1,732.25	\$1,100.94	\$630.21	-\$871.98

WORK DAY

The property committee is planning a work day for June 16. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex. Please come out and help us spruce up our Church property. It would be helpful if you could bring some tools along, (rakes, shovels, Vacuum cleaner, paint brushes etc.). Work will begin at 9:00.



Lunch will be provided.

If you see areas that you feel need attention please talk to one of the committee members. Don Weise, Craig Bederka, Gary Zandonatti, Steve Larsen, or Bob Tukker. Then come out for a fun day!!

	4/30/18	3/31/18		
C&B balance	\$7,984.83	\$6,275.73		
	Building Actual	Building Budget	BLD YTD Actual	BLD YTD Budget
Income	\$1,790.00	\$2,060.37	\$7,730.00	\$8,896.04
Expense	\$2,220.00	\$2,220.00	\$8,880.00	\$8,880.00
Net inc/exp	-\$430.00	-\$159.63	-\$1,150.00	\$16.04
	4/30/18	3/31/18		
Building fund balance	\$14,105.45	\$14,535.45		

Please note: Financials run one month behind in the bulletin
 Balance on our mortgage - \$277463.87

Note: Our challenge is to give 5% more than you pledged!

**Living Vine
 (Women's Bible
 Study)**



Join the women of Shepherd of the Valley at 9:30 a.m. on June 11 (**NOTE DATE CHANGE**) for a women's bible study. We are using the bible study from the Gather magazine.



Our caterpillars have become beautiful monarch butterflies and were released at our end of year picnics at Bauman Park.

The 3 year-old class also did a spring program for their families.

Registration is open for the 2018-2019 school year.

Have a safe summer and we'll see you in the fall.



Bags of Hope for Victims of Human Trafficking

Illinois is ranked #8 in the U.S. for human trafficking with

Rockford #2 city in our state! The average age of victims forced into prostitution is 13-14 years old. We are collecting small toiletry/cosmetic items or dollars to buy the articles to be placed in small bags to be given to these victims. Let's share a gift of caring and hope to these victims.



"Faithful Sisterhood" is an interfaith group of women who meet once a month for a potluck dinner

and fellowship. Shepherd of the Valley will be hosting the June fellowship on June 4th and the women of Shepherd of the Valley are invited to join. The group will begin setting up at 7:30p.m. with the meal served around 8:30 p.m.



ROCKFORD BENEVOLENCE IFTAR

Event to be held at the following time, date, and location:

Thursday, June 7, 2018 from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM (CDT)

Muslim Association of Greater Rockford

5921 Darlene Dr
Rockford, IL 61109

Come join the Muslim Association of Greater Rockford in true Ramadan fashion for a delicious Iftar (dinner) while learning about the uniqueness of Ramadan and sampling international foods made right here in Rockford.

Schedule of the evening:

- 7:00 Registration
- 7:30 Essence of Ramadan Talk
- 8:20 Prayer Call and Breaking of Fast
- 8:30 Observation of Sunset Prayer
- 9:00 Dinner
- 9:30 Dessert
- 10:00 Closing Remarks and Evening Prayer



June 1 6:30 p.m. @ Park Bowl

Come on out for Moonlight Bowling - night of food, fellowship, and FUN!

\$40.00/couple will get you - Shoe rental, 3 games of bowling - 9-pin Scotch doubles*, and all-you-can-eat pasta buffet

\$10.00/person for just the all-you-can-eat pasta buffet!! If you're not a bowler, no problem! You can still join us for fun and fellowship.

Tickets are on sale NOW! Tickets will not be available at the door!

Ticket sales end May 30! Don't miss out!!

We will also have a 50/50 Raffle!

*9-Pin No Tap: 9 pins down on 1st ball = Strike; Scotch Doubles: 1st person throws 1st ball, 2nd person throws 2nd ball

Avast ye Mates!!!

Join us for a high seas adventure as we seek God's treasure here on Earth. Vacation Bible School 2018 begins Monday, June 18th and goes through Friday, June 22nd. We'll seek and explore through games, crafts, music and all manner of fun from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.



So tell your friends, neighbors and family because this adventure is FREE! That's right, all this Piratey fun and it won't cost 'ye a single doubloon! So sign up soon, space is limited. (Registration forms can be found in the narthex. For more information, call the scurvy Captain Patte the Pirate 815-566-1301).



Brothers and Sisters in Christ! Won't you consider volunteering to help with Vacation Bible School. We will need adults to help shepherd the students, prepare and serve snacks, assist with games, facilitate the teachers lounge, assist with music and crafts and in general join in the joy of sharing God's love with the future of our church. June 18th - 22nd from 8:30a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Please watch for a sign up in the narthex and sign up for any help you can give. Even one day is helpful! Thank you in advance for your service.



We Love Vacation Bible School!!

*Join Us
this Summer*

JUNE 6 - WINNEBAGO HIGH SCHOOL JAZZ BAND

Playing toe-tapping music from many decades. This is their second year at our concert series!

JUNE 20 - TWO OF US

Acoustic Duo/guitars and vocals
60's-90's Beatles, Cold Play, Twenty-One Pilots

JULY 11 - THE DINERS

New this year! Young local musicians playing alternative and progressive rock

JULY 25 - ACOUSTIC JUICE

Music from the Beatles to Dylan, sixties, seventies, and beyond

AUGUST 8 - ALLELUIA QUARTET

4-part harmony; traditional, contemporary gospel, country, and inspirational songs

AUGUST 22 - PATTE ARMATO LUND

A well known local entertainer, Patte will be joined by Risé Barker, playing/singing/making you laugh!



**SHEPHERD OF
THE VALLEY
SUMMER CONCERT
SERIES 2018**

2715 S. Mulford Rockford, IL.
815 399-5503 Shep61.org

Concerts begin at 7pm
Concerts last approximately 1 hr.
Doors open at 6:30pm

A free will offering, after the concert, enhances our music and educational programs.

Complimentary Coffee and Cookies after each concert.



Good News?

Do you have good news in your world that you would like to share with your brothers and sisters in Christ? A graduation? A new baby? A winning effort? Let Judi know so it can be put in the monthly newsletter. Share your good news! We're looking for the names of graduates this month, but any good news will be celebrated. Email Judi at svlcsecretary@att.net or call the church office.

WAY TO GO The National History Bee & Bowl was held from April 27-29 in Arlington, VA and Washington, DC. It was comprised of the top history students from all over the US. Justin Abel's team competed in a regional event at Winnebago High School in December where they won in the varsity bowl division, which qualified them to compete at the nationals. Justin placed 2nd in the junior division bee to also qualify for the individual events.

Justin (a freshman) competed with a junior (Ethan Strombeck) and another freshman (Kodai Speich) in the Varsity Bowl division. Typically this division is comprised of teams with primarily juniors and seniors. They finished 10th out of 144 teams.

Justin also competed in individual events in the junior varsity division of the US History Bee and the National History Bee. In the US History Bee Justin came in 29th out of 142 students. In the National History Bee Justin came in 67th out of 207 students.

Congratulations Our graduates:
 Alexa Smalley
 Axandra Smalley
 Holden Kellogg

Congratulations to Cheryl Erdmann on the birth of granddaughter Katharina Ruth McIntyre and to Danielle Dolan on the birth of son Messiah Alexander Curry.

Congratulations

Tanner Bailey is the All-City Champion in tennis at level 3 for RPS 205 Middle school. There are three levels of tennis in middle school, 1, 2 and 3, with 3 being the most advanced or skilled.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- June 1 - Rock House Kids Rock-N-Bowl @ Park Lanes
- June 12 - Katie's Choice book Club @ Katie's Cup
- June 29 - Piping Hot @ Katie's Cup
- July 23 - 2019 Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries Golf Scramble @ Swanhills Golf Course, Belvidere
- July 14 - Bike Midtown
- August 23 - Katie's Cup Conversation: Medicare for All
- September 8 - God's work. Our hands.
- September 29 - One Body Collaborative 2nd Annual Day of Compassion
- October 7 - Agape Ringer's @ Our Saviors Lutheran Church

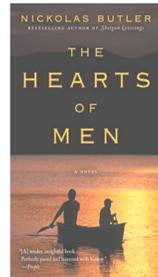


Katie's Choice Book Club

Thursday
June 14
10 am

The Hearts of Men

By Nickolas Butler



Camp Chippewa, 1962. Nelson 13, social outcast and overachiever, is the Bugler, sounding the reveille proudly each morning. Yet this particular summer marks the beginning of an uncertain and tenuous friendship with a popular boy named Jonathan. Over the years, Nelson, irrevocably scarred from the Vietnam War, becomes Scoutmaster of Camp Chippewa, while Jonathan marries, divorces, and turns his father's business into a highly profitable company. And when something unthinkable happens at a camp get-together with Nelson as Scoutmaster and Jonathan's teenage grandson and daughter-in-law as campers, the aftermath demonstrates the depths—and the limits—of Nelson's selflessness and bravery. *The Hearts of Men* is a sweeping, panoramic novel about the slippery definitions of good and evil, family and fidelity, the challenges and rewards of lifelong friendships, the bounds of morality—and redemption.

"[A] beautiful story of love and courage... Butler's storytelling is hypnotizing."
- Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"Butler achieves a rare triple play here of brilliant characterizations, a riveting story line, and superlatively measured prose, putting him in the front ranks of contemporary American writers of literary fiction."
- Booklist

Katie's Cup coffeebar

Corner of 7th Street and 4th Avenue

No reservations necessary.

All are invited as we engage in conversations about books of interest to you!
Books available for purchase at Katie's Cup or bring your own copy.

Next: *The Other Alcott* by Elise Hooper • Thursday, July 12, 10 am



THURSDAY & FRIDAY
June 7 — June 8
8:00am-5:00pm

SATURDAY — June 9
8:00am-11:00am

Wanted:

Clothes, games, toys, household items, outside items, or anything no longer needed in your home.

Items can be brought to the Church after May 15th

1629 South Sixth Street, Rockford, IL



Pack meals for the local community



Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries
www.RocktheGood.com
815-862-4279

God's work
Our hands

Saturday, September 8, 2018
Rockford Lutheran High School



Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (ELCA)
2715 S. Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61109
Phone: 815-399-5503 E-mail: svlcsecretary@att.net
On The Web: www.shep61.org.
Office Hours, Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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Vice-President - Sherry Scheider
Secretary - Janette Erickson
Treasurer - Phil Smalley

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Liz Beale
Janette Erickson
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