



SHEPHERD'S STAFF

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

Volume 60 Issue 6

JULY 2018

Following “the Human One” Today

This article is about a simple truth: **Every human being is somebody whom Jesus Christ has put himself in the place of and chose to die for.** That’s the gospel. It’s the second article of the Creed in a nutshell. And it’s a truth that touches every aspect of our lives.

It’s in that mysterious title that Jesus uses for himself, “the Son of Man,” which the Contemporary English Bible translates as “the Human One.” Likewise, Pontius Pilate in John 19:5 presents Jesus with the literal words, “Here is the human.” Jesus is the Son of God who became human to give up his life for every human.

It’s in the very concept of *human* rights. The people of ancient Israel contrasted themselves with Gentiles. The ancient Greeks called other nations “barbarians.” Romans gave rights to the few “citizens” that were denied to the vast majority in the empire. Europeans in the Age of Enlightenment embraced the made-up concept of race (complete with biblical misinterpretation and quack science) to justify enslaving, subjugating, and stealing from Africans, Native Americans, and other non-Europeans. But the gospel bears the radical message that Christ died for *all*—the same people who in the words of the Declaration of Independence are “endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights.”

It’s in the ongoing moral crisis at the southern border, including in the pastoral letters that have come to us from Bishop Clements (enclosed) and Presiding Bishop Eaton. Jesus Christ has put himself in the place of every human being. And so, just as Matthew 25:34–45 vividly illustrates, Jesus Christ has been forcibly separated from his parents. Jesus Christ has been referred to as an “animal,” as one who would “infest” the land. Jesus Christ is dehumanized whenever any of us speak about, think about, or treat a fellow human as anything less than one for whom Christ chose to die.

And it’s in your calling as a follower of Christ. Call evil acts evil: Jesus always did. Put yourself in the shoes of those who need your support and your voice. And practice treating everyone, especially the ones who make you feel angry or threatened, as fellow human beings for whom Christ chose to die. Love them, pray for them, defend them from each other. In short, give up everything for humanity in the name of your Lord who gave his humanity to you.

† 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, Catharine Edlen, Ann Honer, Lyle Solko, 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), **Nancy Brandt** (Kay Brindles sister), **Patty Stork** (Jordan Stork's mother), **Linda Finegan** (friend of the Bailey family), **Charles Last** (Judy Miller's brother), **Charlotte Sand** (mother of Kay Brindle, **Jeanne Retzer**, and **the Stubbs family** (missionaries in Tanzania).

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

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Marshall Holmgren** who passed away on May 23rd and the family of **Bruce Pearson** who passed away on May 26. May these families feel the comfort of God's love.

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.

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:

- **15 July:** Ushers
- **5 August:** Assisting Ministers

Crafty Ladies

The crafty ladies will not meet in July or August. See you in September.



The church library staff will be conducting an inventory of books and materials in July and would like all books to be returned by July 8th.

Faith Forum

Faith Forum will resume in September. Please watch for special discussions during June, July and August. You will still have the chance to talk about ministry and mission with council members on the first Sunday of each month.

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
May 27 - June 24

Average attendance: 72

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



Join the women of Shepherd of the Valley at 9:30 a.m. on July 16 for a women's bible study. We are using the bible study from the Gather magazine.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial results as of May 31, 2018 and Year to date totals

	C & B Actual	C & B Budget	C & B YTD Actual	C & B YTD Budget
Income	\$12,614.22	\$14,125.00	\$76,968.41	\$76,475.00
Expense	\$16,215.34	\$15,511.54	\$85,487.79	\$80,446.19
Inc/exp	-\$3,601.12	-\$1,386.54	-\$8,519.38	-\$3,971.19
plus offsets	\$1,358.06	\$305.66	\$6,906.53	\$2,018.33
Net income	-\$2,243.06	-\$1,080.88	-\$1,612.85	-\$1,952.86

	5/31/18	4/30/18
C&B balance	\$5,715.83	\$7,984.83

	Building Actual	Building Budget	BLD YTD Actual	BLD YTD Budget
Income	\$1,625.00	\$2,060.37	\$9,355.00	\$10,946.51
Expense	\$2,220.00	\$2,220.00	\$11,100.00	\$11,100.00
Net inc/exp	-\$595.00	-\$159.63	-\$1,745.00	-\$153.49

	5/31/18	4/30/18
Building fund balance	\$13,510.45	\$14,105.45

Please note: Financials run one month behind in the bulletin
Balance on our mortgage - \$276,342.16

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

Workday Report



Thank you to everyone who came out to work on June 19, a very hot day.

The following folks were there working. Carolyn Ciaccio, Mary Larsen, Steve Larsen, John Miller, Judy Miller, Don Weise, Gary Zandonatti, Deb Zandonatti, Dennis Scheider, Linda DeGross, and Bob Tukker.

We removed the timbers along the handicap ramp, cleaned up some of the culverts, pruned some of the trees, painted the ceiling in the west entrance, washed windows, vacuumed the pews, cleaned the backs of the pews, trimmed some weeds around the yard, and cleaned gutters.

Lunch was served, and we called it a day!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 23 - 2019 Rockford Area Lutheran Ministries Golf Scramble @ Swanhills Golf Course, Belvidere

July 14 - Bike Midtown

August 11 - All Church Picnic

August 18 - Midtown Market

August 23 - Katie's Cup Conversation: Medicare for All

August 26 - Midtown Ethnic Festival

September 8 - God's work. Our hands.

September 21 - Piping Hot @ Katie's Cup

September 29 - One Body Collaborative 2nd Annual Day of Compassion

October 7 - Agape Ringer's @ Our Saviors Lutheran Church

SUMMER MEALS
FREE!

DON'T GO HUNGRY THIS SUMMER!

ALL CHILDREN 18 AND UNDER.
Available to all families.

CALL (800) 359-2163
TEXT FoodIL TO 877877
or visit **SummerMealsIllinois.org**

Free Summer Meals are part of the Summer Food Service Program funded through the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered by the Illinois State Board of Education

USDA NOKID HUNGER RISE & SHINE

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Pre-School

Registration for the 2018 -2019 school year is open! Call 815-397-5880 with questions. Students are accepted on a first come, first served basis with preference being given to our church members.

The pre-school follows District 205 in regard to age enrollment. The child must be either 3 or 4 years old by September 1st of the current school year.

The following sessions will be offered beginning in September:

Session 1: Three year olds
Tuesday & Thursday
8:30am to 12 noon
Cost: \$85.00 per month

Session 2: Four year olds
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:30am to 12 noon
Cost \$125.00 per month

Plus there is a onetime registration charge of \$75 (non-refundable)

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.



FOURTH OF JULY
 FAMILY FUN FEST
 Zion and Patriots
 Sponsored
 Family Fun Fest!

Enjoy food, fun and downtown fireworks.

4-7pm Family Fun Fest

7pm parade

8-10 Fireworks

Zion Lutheran Church parking lot

Join us
 For Salem's
 5th Annual
Luau
 Saturday, July 21
 4:30pm
\$10.00/person
 Call Pastor Bill or
 Lois in the Church Office
 to make
 your reservations.
 Salem Lutheran Church
 1629 S 6th St
 815-965-5131

Salem's

Wednesday
August 8
 6:30pm
 Sundstrand Park, Belvidere
 \$6/donation

Corn Boil

Along with delicious sweet corn, we'll have hats, tomatoes, french bread, beverages and great fellowship!

Katie's Choice Book Club
 Thursday
July 12
 10 am

The Other Alcott

By Elise Hooper



Stylish, outgoing, creative, May Alcott grows up longing to experience the wide world beyond Concord. While her sister Louisa crafts stories, May is a talented and dedicated artist, one who takes lessons in Boston, turns down a marriage proposal from a well-off suitor, and faces scorn for entering what is very much a man's profession. When Louisa's Little Women is published, its success eases the family's financial burdens they have been facing for so many years. Everyone agrees the novel is charming, but May is struck to the core by the portrayal of the selfish, spoiled "Amy March." Is this what her beloved sister really thinks of her? So May embarks on a quest to discover her true identity, as an artist and a woman. From Boston to Rome, London, and Paris, this brave and determined soul forges an amazing life of her own, making her so much more than merely "The Other Alcott."

"[May's] adventures illuminate the world of intrepid female artists in the late 1800s ... The Other Alcott comes alive in its development of the relationship between Louisa and May."
 The New York Times

"A fascinating concept, and just the way to kick off your celebration of the 150th anniversary of the publication of Little Women."
 Historical Novel Society

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.

Good News?

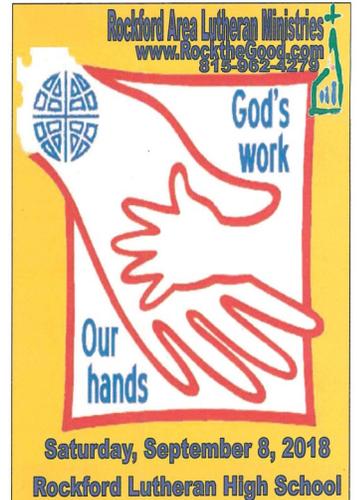
Do you have good news in your world that you would like to share with your brothers and sisters in Christ? A graduation? A new baby? A winning effort? Let Judi know so it can be put in the monthly newsletter. Share your good news! We're looking for the names of graduates this month, but any good news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



The Greek word *diakonia* means service among others, and has its roots in the Christian scriptures. It's also the name of a program of learning and faith formation in our church for the sake of the world.

Sherry Scheider has been on this journey for the past two years and will graduate on Sunday, July 8th. The worship service marking this occasion will be at First Lutheran Church in Rockford beginning at 3:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join in the celebration.

Congratulations, Sherry.



Pack meals for the local community



We will be packaging Tomato Basil Pasta meals for people of the greater Rockford Area. In partnership with the Northern IL Food Bank, the SNAP Program, and Children's Home and Aid, those that receive the food will get healthy, life-sustaining food but also assistance to overcome challenges that have led to their need for assistance.

Vim
Vigor
Vitality



In Christ
a New
Creation

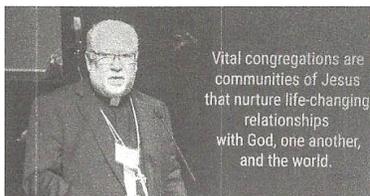
2018
Northern Illinois
Synod
Assembly Highlights

The thirty-first annual Synod Assembly was held June 15-16, 2018 at Augustana College, Rock Island, IL, under the theme “Vim, Vigor, Vitality - In Christ a New Creation.” Over 500 registered assembly voting members and visitors from across the synod worshipped, learned, laughed, celebrated, and deliberated together as the highest legislative body of the Northern Illinois Synod.

During Bishop Clements’ report to the assembly, he encouraged people to read his written report and then spoke about several issues that were on his heart. “I believe the church needs to reclaim its voice in moral leadership,” he stated. “When we put ‘All are welcome’ on our church signs, let’s make sure that all means all.” See the video of his entire message at nisynod.org/assembly.

Special Guests

ELCA Churchwide Representative, **the Rev. Dr. Stephen Bouman**, Exec. Dir. of ELCA Domestic Mission Unit, gave the churchwide report, brought video greetings from Presiding Bishop Eaton, and answered questions. He also gave a keynote entitled “Renewal of the Church of Jesus Christ in the 21st



Century” and a forum conversation with lay members of the assembly.

Academic Dean and Professor of Contextual Theology at Wartburg Theological Seminary, **the Rev. Dr. Craig Nesson**, gave two keynote addresses entitled “Shifting Our Thinking as People of Jesus Christ in the 21st Century.” He also led a forum conversation with rostered ministers.

Forums

Forums included Budget / Synod Council, Congregational Life Committee, Conversation with Stephen Bouman, ELCA Youth Gathering 2018, Global Mission Committee, Ministry Support Committee, Outreach Committee, Portico Benefits, Social Ministry Committee, and Youth Ministry.

Friday Night Event

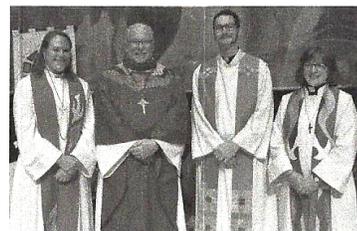
First Lutheran Church, Moline hosted a special event Friday evening with introductions of

rostered ministers and seminarians new to synod, Synod Council members, synod staff; recognitions of those rostered ministers with ordination and consecration anniversaries and congregations with major anniversaries; retiring Synod Council members; rostered ministers who have retired in the last year; and special recognition of the Rev. Charles Steinke, 50th Anniversary of Ordination. The event ended with Evening Prayer and a Remembrance of our Departed Saints.

Worship and Ordination

A festive service of Ordination and Holy Communion closed the Assembly on Saturday. Bishop Clements preached and presided. Three new pastors were ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament. **Pr. Seth Hecox** has been called to Grace, Wilmington. **Pr. Debra Kelly** has been called to St. John’s, Hebron. **Pr. Karyn Kost** has been called to Freedom, Oregon

and St. James, Forreston. The offering of \$3,722.32 will be divided between “Making All Things New: The Campaign for the ELCA” and The Nursing Project - Tanzania.



Resolutions

The assembly deliberated four resolutions: **R-1 Season of Creation** passed. **R-2 Stewardship of Creation** passed. **R-3 Budgeting for World Hunger** passed as amended. **R-4 Bread for the World** passed. Read the full resolutions at nisynod.org/assembly/resolutions.

Find photos, videos, and more at nisynod.org/assembly.

General Election Results

Synod Council:

Pr. Don Knowles-Secretary, Minnette Scott, Jim Spring, Pr. Brad Haugen, Pr. Andy Tyrrell, Heide Gallagher

Congregational Life Committee:

Kay Johnson, Walt Farley

Global Mission Committee:

Art Milton, Pr. Jane McChesney, Pr. Daniel Wynard

Ministry Support Committee:

Carol Swenson, Bill Nelson, Pr. Vince Marolla

Outreach Committee: Pr. TroyAnn Pouloupoulos, Pr. Brandon Nelson

Social Ministry Committee: Andy Koresko, Pr. Jacob Gawlik, Pr. David Elliott

2019 Churchwide Assembly Voting Members:

Tammie Farley, Mike Wadle, Pr. Laura Kamprath, Pr. Zachary Baer, Pr. Miho Yasukawa, Cole Bathje

2019 Nominees for ELCA Church Council

Pr. William Callister, Pr. Frank Langholf

Full assembly coverage at nisynod.org/assembly/highlights

Northern Illinois Synod | nisynod.org | facebook.com/nisynod

Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
30th Annual Northern Illinois Synod Convention

Hope
For the
Homeless

“Foxes have holes,
and birds of the air
have nests;
but the Son of man
has nowhere
to lay his head.”
Matthew 8:20

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 9 a.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church, Harvard



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

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Liz Beale
Janette Erickson
Rhoda Fox
Vicki Nitz
Sherry Scheider
Zane Smalley
Bob Tukker
Peggy Wenstrom
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Linda Longardner, Organist
Phil Smalley, Treasurer
Susie Smalley, Music Coordinator
Patte Lund, Christian Education
Anita Ralston, Custodian

