

SHEPHERD'S STAFF

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

Volume 61 Issue 4

May 2019

Living the Dream

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,

'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced. (Ps. 126:1-4 NRSV)

I was walking down Hillsborough Street in Raleigh, North Carolina. There were no cars or people around, but I didn't note that. Instead I thought to myself, "What am I doing here? I was here one summer, but that was a long time ago." In an instant it dawned on me: I was dreaming! I could hardly believe it, yet I knew it was true that I was dreaming an aware simultaneously.

Knowing that I was dreaming meant the tables were turned. Instead of seeing what strange or nightmarish things would happen to me, I could imagine and do anything without the consequences of reality getting in the way. (Alas, just as I was ready to try flying like a bird and eating all my favorite foods, I woke up.)

Easter is a like a dream we don't have to wake up from. The world may look the same as it did before Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, but now the victory over sin, death, and the devil is won. Being baptized into this new creation means you are no longer bound by worldly consequences but are free to be guided by Jesus' Spirit.

During Easter, our readings from Acts show us this freedom in action. Want to give all your possessions to your neighbors in need? They did it in Acts 4. Want to journey to another continent on a moment's notice? Paul did it in Acts 16. Want to live out Jesus' call even when it's risky? Read how God brought disciples through all kinds of situations, and pray for boldness like they did in Acts 4. Since Lent began, the

† IN OUR PRAYERS †



Intercessions: **Nevagay Abel, Don Abel, Elizabeth David, Stu Hoffman, Kevin Persaud, Carline Talmadge, Karl Anderson, Doris Dohlen, John Miller, Alice Schaefer, Robert Aken, Richard Farris, Cheri Eagleson, Scott Francis, Al Johnson, Jerry Lofquist, Ronald Rice, Sally Schrader, Sam Horvath, Betty Hart, Jerri Dal Collo, Neva Abel, Marcia Woodman, Scott K.** (husband of Karl Anderson's niece), **Nancy Brandt** (Kay Brindle's sister), **Charles Last** (Judy Miller's brother), **Karen** (Dave Musser's sister), **Sara Falth** (Karl Anderson's sister), **Howard Sand** (Kay Brindle's father), and **Pastor Lynn Morrow** (friend of Deaconess Cheryl Erdmann), **Brad Carpenter** (brother of Brian Carpenter) **Carol Repsher** (Don Abel's sister), **Dennis Eagleson, Erik Wilberg** (friend of Don & Kay Brindle), **Larry Musser**, and **the family of Charlotte Sand** (mother of Kay Brindle).

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

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 at Pentecost.

Follow us on Facebook

New items are posted frequently. See what your Synod or the ELCA is doing.
www.facebook.com/Shepherd-of-the-Valley-Lutheran-Church-ELCA

God's Work. Our Hands. is Sunday, September 8.
Mark you calendars.



Living Vine (Women's Bible Study)

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

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

May 20
June 17

Cover Girls



Come join us on the first Monday of every month at 9:30 a.m. in Shepherd Hall.

We are currently working on blankets for Rock House Kids..

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

May 6
June 3

Faith Forum

Join us in Shepherd Hall (down the hall from the office), 11:00-11:45 A.M. most Sundays for Faith Forum (a.k.a. Adult Forum). Each month we'll

typically follow this pattern:

- 1st Sunday of the month: Together in Faith (informal coffee and conversation in Moline Hall)
- 2nd Sunday of the month: Living Lutheran (discussing last month's *Living Lutheran Magazine*)
- 3rd Sunday of the month: Connecting the Faith (how our faith matters in the world)
- 4th Sunday of the month: Deepening the Faith (topics to deepen our roots in the faith)

SAVE THE DATE!



Time to plan a fun week of Vacation Bible school!!!

Mark your calendars for June 24th thru 28th. We'll have a great time solving the mysteries of faith and finding clues of God's love. So if you have kids, grandkids, neighbor kids or friends with kids, tell them to come join in a fun-filled week. VBS is free. So reserve a spot now!!!

Volunteers are needed for that week. It's fun. It's easy and it feels really good. Watch the Narthex for the sign-up coming out right after Easter!



FINANCIAL REPORTS

Financial results as of March 31, 2019 and Year to date totals

	C & B Actual	C & B Budget	C & B YTD Actual	C & B YTD Budget
Income	\$18,139.66	\$17,325.00	\$55,350.80	\$53,575.00
Expense	\$17,427.66	\$17,474.69	\$50,242.19	\$50,981.26
Inc/exp	\$712.00	-\$149.69	\$5,108.61	\$2,593.74
plus offsets	\$397.04	\$397.90	\$617.35	\$613.70
Net income	\$1,109.04	\$248.21	\$5,725.96	\$3,207.44

	3/31/19	2/28/19
C&B balance	\$10,158.85	\$9,049.81

	Building Actual	Building Budget	BLD YTD Actual	BLD YTD Budget
Income	\$1,559.00	\$1,927.00	\$4,590.00	\$5,084.00
Expense	\$2,220.00	\$2,220.00	\$6,660.00	\$6,660.00
Net inc/exp	-\$661.00	-\$293.00	-\$2,070.00	-\$1,576.00

	3/31/19	2/28/19
Building fund balance	\$13,479.45	\$14,140.45

Please note: Financials run one month behind in the bulletin
Balance on our mortgage - \$264,995.90

Quarterly statements are available

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

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH
SECOND SUNDAY**

**KATIE'S CUP
502 7TH STREET
ROCKFORD, IL**

**FOOD
MUSIC
GAMES
PRAISE
WORSHIP**

**7:00-8:30 P.M.
JUST SHOW UP**

JUNE 9

Spaghetti Dinner
BENEFIT FOR Day-Care

Friday, April 26, 2019
TLC GYM
217 N. 7th St. Rockford, IL 61107
4:30pm - 7:00pm

RAFFLES!
GOOD FOOD!
SILENT AUCTION!
CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE

ADULT:
\$6.00 in Advance
\$7.00 at the door

Children:
\$3.00 (ages 5-12)
4 and under free

Sponsored & Part By
THRIVENT
COMMERCIAL BANK

Library news



The library committee is hosting a book fair after Sunday services on April 28, and May 5. Books will be available for purchase as a gift to be used in our church library, or for personal use.

IFTAR Dinner to be held at Shepherd of the Valley

Iftar is the evening meal with which Muslims end their daily Ramadan fast at sunset. Muslims break their fast at the time of the call to prayer for the evening prayer. It is usually broken with dates and water, then pray the evening prayer (maghreb). After prayer a meal that usually consists of sambousa, rice (biryani), meat (chicken or beef), yogurt, juices and maybe some sweets (basbousa, sweet rice) is served.

We will be sharing this meal with our sisters from Faithful Sisterhood and out neighbors across the street ON MONDAY, May 27th.

The meal will begin at sundown, about 8:30 p.m.



Kids At Heart Mark your calendars

Kids At Heart will meet on Tuesday, May 28 and June 25. Watch the kiosk for information and a sign up sheet.



All men are invited to join the men of Shepherd of the Valley at 8:30 a.m. on

the first Thursday of the month at Cherry Valley Café, 216 East State St., Cherry Valley, for breakfast and fellowship. No reservations needed.



Pre-School

We will once again be doing a trike-a-thon the end of April for St. Jude's. The children will learn bike safety rules and hear about how we can help the children at St. Jude's who are fighting to get better from their illness (cancer).

Laundry Love & M&M's

Containers of M & M's are available in the Narthex for your eating pleasure. After enjoying the M & M's please fill the container with a roll of quarters which will be given to Laundry Love for their clients.

Registration for the 2019-2020 school year is open. If you have a 3 or 4 year-old or know someone who does and are interested in information about the pre-school, contact Patti Wiese at 815-397-5880.



CARS AND COFFEE MAY 4TH

Katie's Cup is sponsoring a new program called "Cars and Coffee". The focus will be to bring in various car groups to show off their cars in the RPS205 Parking Lot. This will be coordinated by Katie's Cup and the Rockford IL Area Car Show & Cruises group. The first "Cars and Coffee" will be Saturday, May 4th from 9 am- noon. It will be held on the first Saturday of the month until September 7th!





Lutheran Day is
 people of goodwill,
 standing together
 speaking out
 for justice,
 compassion,
 and equality
**for all
 people.**

Lutheran Day in Springfield

Study, Pray, Take Action

May 9, 2019

Bus leaves Rockford Lutheran 6am

Returns 8:30pm

\$10 Registration Fee & dinner money

More info & Register LutheranDay.org
 Reserve Bus seat before May 1 RalmMail@aol.com

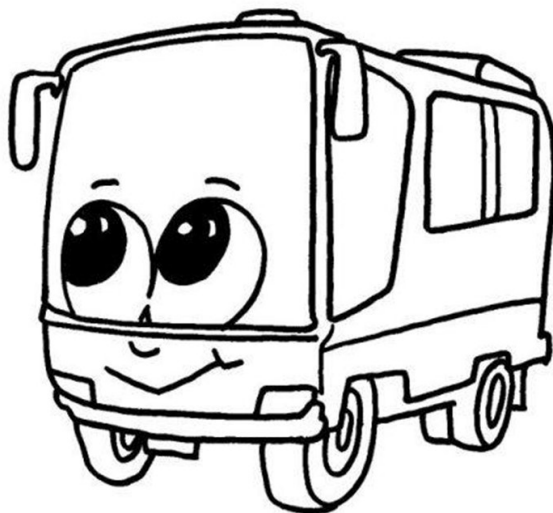


LUTHERAN DAY IN SPRINGFIELD INFORMATION

- To reserve a seat on the bus call Amy at 815-962-4279. The bus leaves Rockford Lutheran at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 9.
- The morning session will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church located at 2477 W. Washington Street in Springfield.

The tentative schedule is:

- ◇ 10:00-10:10 a.m. Welcome and Devotions
 - ◇ 10:10-10:40 a.m. Discussion on SB 1730/HB2524 –Provide Emergency Rate Increase for Private Child Welfare Providers, with presenter Andrea Durbin, CEO for Illinois Collaboration on Youth <https://www.icoyouth.org/about-us/andrea-durbin-chief-executive-officer>
 - ◇ 10:45-11:30 a.m. Discussion on Mental Health Bills (SB1703/HB2730 & SB1807/HB2814) with presenter Blanca Campos, VP for policy and Government Affairs at Community Behavioral Health Association of Illinois <http://www.cbha.net/>
 - ◇ 11:30-12:00 p.m. Testimonials from staff and people served regarding impact of legislation
 - ◇ 12:00-12:30 p.m. Lunch with optional Advocacy Training
 - ◇ 12:30-4:00 p.m. Legislative Visits at the Capitol
 - ◇ 4:00-4:15 p.m. Prayer Service in the Rotunda
 - ◇ 4:25-4:30 p.m. Paul Simon Award Presentation
 - ◇ 4:30-4:45 p.m. Lutheran Day Photo
- Continental Breakfast and Boxed Lunch will be provided
 - Lutheran Day website will be updated and accepting registrations as of April 1. There will be a section entitled "How to Prepare", which will give information from what to bring, expect and where to park around the capitol.
 - Registration cost will be \$10 to cover food and printed materials
 - Paul Simon winner will be announced mid-April
 - Please check often at www.lutheranday.org for up-to-date information.



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES



June 5: Winnebago High School Jazz Band

June 19: Alleluia Quartet

July 3: The Diners

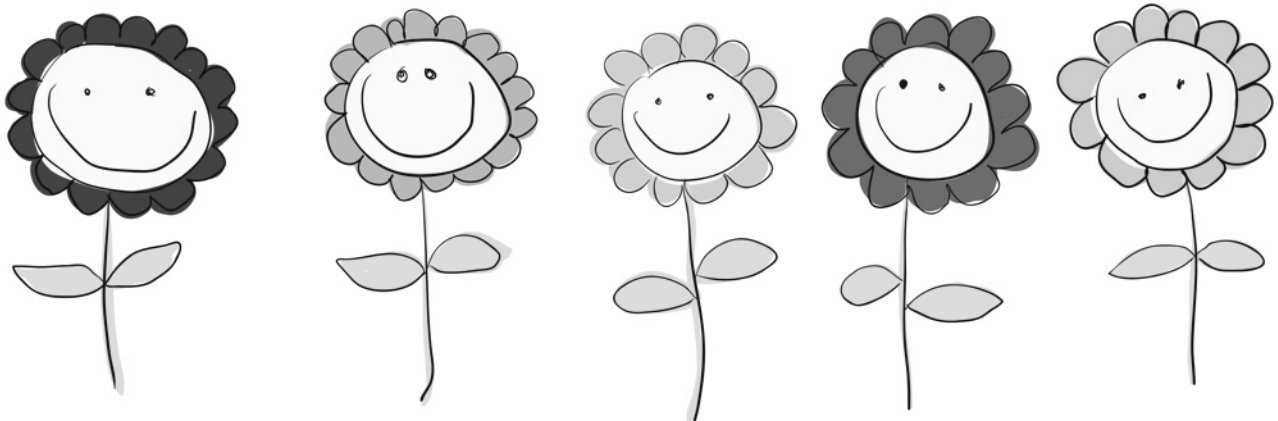
July 17: Trinadora

July 31: Acoustic Juice

August 14: Patte Lund

Doors open at 6:30
Concert begins at 7:00

A free will offering will be taken.
Coffee and cookies after the concert.





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

Officers of the Congregation

President - Sherry Scheider
Vice-President - Rhoda Fox
Secretary - Vicki Nitz
Treasurer - Phil Smalley

Congregation Council

Justin Abel
Brian Carpenter
Karen Dolan
LaVon Downing
Rhoda Fox
Vicki Nitz
Sherry Scheider
Zane Smalley
Bob Tukker
Peggy Wenstrom
Don Wiese

Staff

The Rev. Scott Benolkin, Pastor
Judi Fields, Secretary
Linda Longardner, Organist
Phil Smalley, Treasurer
Susie Smalley, Music Coordinator
Patte Lund, Christian Education
Anita Ralston, Custodian



Wishing you the
very best this
Mother's Day!