

ROD and STAFF

“The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want . . . your rod and your staff — they comfort me.”

Parish Newsletter of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
Volume 46, No. 6 ☼ June 2012



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Summer Concert

Shepherd of the Hills will be hosting a community concert to benefit CHM on Tuesday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m. The concert will be in the sanctuary. Come listen to some old favorites courtesy of the *After Hours Community Band*. Snacks will be provided throughout the evening.

See Linda Ritter or John Meyer for more information or call CHM at 314-770-2216.

Now that school is out, CHM is in need of donations of jelly, complete pancake mixes, syrup, cereal and other kid friendly food items to help supplement families with young children who will not get their usual meals when school is not in session.



Church Photo Directory

We need your picture! Come join in the fun and be a part of the SOTH family portrait directory.

The dates available are: June 7 & 8, 2:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and June 9, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Just go to

www.sothstl.org and follow the link to register.

Help CHM by bringing a canned food or pancake mix when you come for your photo and you will receive a \$5 coupon to use if you want to order extra photos. Family photos make great holiday gifts for family and friends.

Please see Sydney Meyer or Linda Pearson for more information.

VBS June 10-14

This year’s theme is “Sky—Everything is Possible With God”. Each night—Sunday, June 10 to Thursday, June 14 from 5:30 to 8:15 p.m.—

kids will discover that by trusting God everything is possible (*Mark 10:27*)!

There will be a set-building gathering on Sat., June 9. Please see Kim Surratt if you would like to help. They are also in need of more volunteers to help: a leader for the Chadder Chipmunk activity period, three more crew leaders to take groups from one activity to the next, and helpers for the dinner period prior to the start nightly. *Join in the fun as we share the Good News of Jesus!*



God Bless Our Graduates

Join us on Sunday, June 3 as we celebrate the mile-marker of graduation. This year we have four graduates:

Sydia Darker graduated from Ritenour High School. She is a medaled track star and has signed a letter of intent with the University of Missouri-KC.

Brendan Sieker graduated from Francis Howell High School. He will be attending the Art Institute of St. Louis to study Graphic Design.

Devin Travis graduated from Pattonville Senior High School and is planning to live at home while she attends cosmetology school in the fall.

Caitlyn Travis completed her Associates degree in Paralegal Studies at Hickey College in December and had her graduation in May. She is employed as a Paralegal at a law firm in Kansas City, MO.

God’s blessings to all our graduates and their future endeavors!

GATHER Joyfully + GROW Deeply + GO Faithfully



A Word from the Pastor...

Dear Friends,
 What a thrilling time it was to travel to Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, to see my son receive his Bachelor of Arts degree in computer science! We've been making that trip through the corn fields of Iowa several times a year for the last four years, and I have to say I won't miss the seven hour drive each way. Life is going through big changes now – for Eric as he goes looking for employment, and for his parents as we feel our way into a different stage of our relationship with him. Big changes, but full of hope, full of promise, full of life! But as always, what we can continue to count on is the certainty of our relationship with the Lord Jesus, which will guide all of us through whatever comes next. Big changes came about for Simon Peter when he got involved with Jesus. He went from being a successful small businessman to being a wandering disciple fishing for people, Jesus' closest friend, the first to recognize Jesus as the Messiah, a failure, a preacher, and the most respected leader of the early church. The New Testament tells us more about Peter than anyone else except Jesus himself. We read about him in the gospels, the book of Acts, Paul's letters, and his own letters, 1 & 2 Peter. This summer our worship texts will focus on getting to know this important disciple, to see what we can learn about our own pathways of discipleship.

One of the best known verses from Peter's writings is 1 Peter 2:4-5, "Come to Jesus, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

In the spirit of this verse, I ask that each one of us **bring a stone to church with your name on it**. We will put these stones into a cross that will be placed in the sanctuary for the length of the series. The cross will be upside down, remembering that is the way that Peter was crucified. At the end of the series, perhaps someone could put the stones together in the form of a house, or maybe make them into a cross.

In the fall we will return to using the narrative lectionary, which folks have indicated they enjoy and appreciate. This means that our scriptures in the fall will give a broad overview of the Old Testament, and in December we will begin to go through the gospel of Luke. Comments and suggestions are always appreciated by the worship committee and me, so that we can keep our worship life as engaging as possible and as helpful for living out our Christian calling.

I will miss one Sunday in June to attend a family wedding in Minnesota. St. Louis' Campus Pastor Rebecca Boardman will be here that day, and I have been told how much you enjoy her message. The Central States Synod Assembly will also be in June, but this year it will end on Saturday, so that it will not require me to miss a Sunday at SOTH. I continue to lift you up in prayer as you move along on the path towards calling your next pastor. I know that the Lord will send just the right person, and the time will not be long.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jeff

Confirmation

The confirmation class and Pastor Jeff will be attending ConfirCamp at Camp Wartburg June 18-22. There will be approximately 60 young people attending from eight congregations in the metro area.

The Confirmation Class will be hosting a Craft & Bake Sale to help raise funds for Confirmation Camp. Details to come.

Holy Baptism and Holy Communion are at the heart and core of living as God's people in this world. They are not just habits or rituals, but a daily source of meaning, identity, purpose, and new beginnings.

Sundays in June

Peter & Jesus

Sunday Worship:

June 3:

Peter's Call & Ours

Luke 5:1-11

Graduate Recognition

June 10:

The Fearless Water Walker

Mark 6:45-52

June 17:

Christ the Servant-

Peter the Served

John 13:6-10

Rev. Rebecca Boardman

Guest Preacher

June 24:

Dismay in the Garden

Mark 14:27-42

Curb Cut Dedication

Council Visioning Session



J
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E



Terry Loehr2
 Declan Keyes2
 Julie Hunter3
 Chris Deatherage8
 Bert Amick10
 Darlington Chea10
 Danika Nalepa10
 Dara Higgins13
 Sydney Meyer15
 Bianca Nalepa19
 Landon Mansfield21
 Linda Anderson22
 Meagan Nalepa23
 Audrey Noennig23
 Nancy Cirar24
 Susan Hoven24
 Jeanne Keirle24
 Candy Travis25
 Andrew Henke28
 John Meyer28

Anniversaries

Eric Johnson & Sondra1
 Melissa & Jason Girtman ...4
 Daryl & Lisa Hogbin20
 Terry & Barb Loehr21
 Bill & Georgette Sarros25

Your Photos are Needed

Do you have any recent or past photos of church activities? Your photos are needed for use on the church website. Digital photos are preferred but we will be happy to scan photo prints as well. Please copy photo files to a CD or a USB. Please enclose prints and USB drives in an envelope with your name on it and they will be returned to you. Any notes that you can provide to give context to the photos would also be greatly appreciated. Photos can also be sent electronically to contribute@sothstl.org. Please see Mike Toohey if you have any questions.

NewsBytes...



- ✦ **Gage Dixon** graduated from kindergarten in May through the HELPS home school program, under the tutelage of Tina Chumbley. *Congratulations, Gage!*
- ✦ Our prayers go out to **Pastor Dan Barwinski** who is suffering from diminished vision and loss of large portions of his field of vision in his left eye. We pray for healing, wisdom, and peace as he meets with specialists in the upcoming days.
- ✦ Please keep our **Confirmation girls** in prayer as they attend ConfirCamp in June. This is a first-time camp experience for some of them. They would love to get cards of encouragement from their church family. Call the church office for the address or go to www.campwartburg.com.
- ✦ **Central States Synod Assembly** is June 7-9. Pastor Jeff will attend and bring back information that may be of interest to SOTH. Please lift up the assembly in prayer during the days of the gathering.
- ✦ **Pastor Jeff** will be on vacation from June 27-July 11. Call the church office for pastoral needs in his absence.



Church Council Highlights

- Council approved a visit from Water Mark-Germany in July. Hosts will be needed to house four young people.
- The Council will host a special session on **June 24** after worship to set goals towards living into the congregation's Vision for Embodiment 2016. Input from all is welcome.

Summer Office Hours



Starting Wednesday, June 6 through August 15, the church office will be operating under summer hours. These hours will be **Wednesday & Thursday** from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The week of June 11, during VBS, office hours will be Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The summer hours may be subject to change but any changes will be noted in the Sunday bulletin if possible. Otherwise, please call the church office before stopping by to make sure someone is there. If you need access to the building at a time when the church office will be closed, please call the church office in advance and arrangements will be made. *Thank you!*



Curb Cut Dedication June 24

As SOTH seeks to embrace all people, with a special concern for those with disabilities and their caregivers, many little details that most of us never think about can make a big difference. Recently we have made a curb cut at the south entrance to enable easier access by wheelchairs. The Men's Group donation of the proceeds from the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and a donation made in Jim Urnes, Jr.'s memory funded this project. A brief dedication will be held on Sunday, June 24.

Shepherd of the Hills

Lutheran Church (ELCA)

June 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ushers: Rico Artis & Joan Carnaghi Counters: Gary Johnson & Ann Sanderson Altar Guild: Carol Krull & Julie Hutson CAs: Tom & Linda Ritter, Abbi Telander <i>Please find a substitute if you are unable to serve!</i>		G = Greeters AM = Assisting Minister A = Acolyte LR = Reader R = Refreshments N = Nursery T = Tech Assistant			1 Pastor's Sabbath	2
3 Graduate Recognition Holy Trinity—9:00 am G: Bill & Martha Johnson AM: Jim Berry A: Kristen Schnur LR: Jim Urnes R: N: Lauri A. & Meagan T: Joe Nalepa	4	5 CHM Concert 7 pm @SOTH Church Council 7:00 p.m.	6	7 Church Directory Photo Opp 2:30 –9:30 p.m.	8 Pastor's Sabbath Church Directory Photo Opp 2:30 –9:30 p.m.	9 Men's Group 9 am Church Directory Photo Opp 10:00 A-5:00 P
10 2 Pentecost—9:00 am G: Dot K. & John Meyer AM: Pat Amick A: Gabi Anderson LR: Lisa Hogbin R: N: Kim Surratt & Stephanie T: Lauri Anderson	11	12	13	14  Flag Day	15 Pastor's Sabbath	16
VBS June 10—14, dinner at 5:30 p.m. Program concludes at 8:15 p.m.						
17 Father's Day 3 Pentecost—9:00 am G: Cal & Julia Tousignant AM: Stein Hunter A: Jenna Hutson LR: Zsabetta Artis R: Anderson/Ambacher N: Bridget Elder & Gabi T: Carl Jordan	18	19	20 First Day of Summer	21 July Newsletter Deadline	22	23
ConfirCamp @ Camp Wartburg June 18—22						
24 Curb Cut Dedication Council Visioning Session 4 Pentecost—9:00 am G: Jeanne K. & Nancy Cirar AM: Tom Ritter A: Deidra Adams LR: Ann Sanderson R: N: Julie Hutson & Aubrey T: Linda Pearson	25	26	27 Pastor Jeff on Vacation June 27-July 11	28	29	30

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church • Worship 9:00 am • Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
 4161 Cypress Road • St. Ann, Missouri 63074 • 314-739-3222
 Pastor Jeff Lindgren, Interim Pastor • 314-571-9205 • prjeff@sothstl.org
 Lauri Anderson, Church Secretary • **Summer Office Hours:** 10:00 am to 2:30 pm Wednesday & Thursday
 Church Office e-mail: soth@sothstl.org



Call Committee Update

Your Call Committee has accomplished a great deal over the last three months. We met weekly in March to organize your survey results into focused questions to use in our small group meetings. We are grateful for the approximately 60 members who took time to fill out our survey in March plus we appreciate the 50 members who gave us their time and their opinions during our small focus groups on the three Sundays in April. We repeat that if you still have viewpoints to express to the Call Committee, don't hesitate to stop one of us (George Marvin, Daryl Hogbin, Abbi Telander, Zsabetta Artis, Aubrey Hunter, Gary Johnson or Mara Berry) and make your voice heard! So where are we now in the call process? For the month of May we have been working to pull together all of your feedback from both surveys and focus groups to write up our Ministry Site Profile that goes on-line to the ELCA. This eighteen page document will describe who we are at SOTH and what kind of pastor we need to lead us into faithful worship, into ministry in our community, . . . into the future. This Ministry Site Profile has been carefully crafted this month and will be submitted to Church Council on June 1 to read over and edit. Then your Call Committee will present the document at the June 5 Church Council meeting for approval.

You might remember from some of our earliest announcements that the ELCA expects the call process to take 12-18 months and there are about ten steps in the full process. You can see a visual of this process in our fellowship area as well. Once Council approves our Ministry Site Profile and it goes on-line, we will be ready for step 5 of the 10-step process, which is interviewing candidates provided by the Bishop's office. We are ready and excited about the next steps in our call process!

What we need now are your prayers that good candidates will feel God's call to come and serve us at SOTH and your prayers that using all the honest, open feedback this congregation has shared, your Call Committee will make faithful recommendations for our new "shepherd."

A Word from the President...

June is looking to be a big month at SOTH. The Call committee is definitely progressing in the process with the ministry site profile. Then we will exercise patience as the effort goes to the ELCA Central States Synod. VBS is upon us and is expected to be a fun way to serve the youth of the community and our congregation.

And Council will be exploring the next steps in the SOTH Vision at a focus meeting near the end of the month. The "Vision" is broadly outlined as: Gather, Grow, Go.

The first portion of the vision statement is all about "Gather". This is what we do quite well at Shepherd of the Hills. We are a diverse group of God's people getting together to worship and enjoy rich fellowship. It is that gathering and fellowship which empowers us to share our gifts with people of various disabilities, and their caregivers. Gathering brings us face-to-face, where deep commitments to serve are made, and honored. Each of us can certainly visit a website and tweet to support our favorite causes. But to physically gather, in the same space, develops real community. And I believe that is Jesus' direction for us, to be in community and commit to care for one another. Please pray for the council during the focus meeting so that they may listen and plan wisely in working towards our shared vision to Gather, Grow and Go!

Your Brother in Christ, *Bill Johnson*



Dear Shepherd of the Hills,

Thank you so much for your donation to Joni & Friends Gateway. We appreciate your continuing faithfulness over the years. Your gift makes a difference to those receiving wheelchairs and spiritual support as our local team serves in Mexico. It also helps those churches that we are training to minister to the disabled in their local area. On behalf of the disability community whose lives you change with your support, thank you!

You are all so special. Call me anytime you want to chat about your disability ministry.

Blessings,

Judy Redlich

Dear Shepherd of the Hills Church,

Thank you so much for the use of your building on May 10 for the rehearsal and on May 18 for our home school graduation ceremony.

The HELPS group

(Tina Chumbley is a member who teaches her two children and Gage Dixon, who graduated from kindergarten this year.)





Prepared especially for:

—Address Correction Requested—

Parish Newsletter of
Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church
4161 Cypress Road · St. Ann, MO 63074
Phone: (314) 739-3222 · e-mail: soth@sothstl.org
web site: <http://www.sothstl.org>
Sunday Worship at 9:00 a.m.



Our Ministers: All the People of God at Shepherd of the Hills / Our Faithful Church Council Members:

Bill Johnson, *president & tech team*

Jim Urnes, Sr., *worship*

Suah Tokpa, *stewardship*

Linda Pearson, *vice president & soc. con.*

Rhonda Bird, *care/evangelism*

John Daab, *finance*

Jim Berry, *facilities*

Meagan Nalepa, *youth rep & sec.*

Genny Jordan, *education*

OUR VISION . . .

GATHER Joyfully

GROW Deeply

GO Faithfully

All people into God's grace † Disciples of Jesus Christ † In Witness and Service

Don't Miss These Opportunities!



- **CHM Food Drive:** June 2&3 at the Bridgeton and Maryland Heights Schnucks markets. They need to restock the shelves for the summer. Please call Liza at 314-770-2216 or see Linda Ritter if you would like to volunteer to work a shift.
- **Concerts in Gentry Park:** Sunday, June 10 is Kim Massie (*Blues, Soul, Gospel, R&B*) and Sunday, June 24 is Cornet Chop Suey (*Jazz, Swing & Blues*). All concerts are from 6-8 p.m. Bring a blanket or a lawn chair and enjoy an evening of musical entertainment under the stars. Refreshments available for purchase.
- **Lutheran Planned Giving** is a service to ELCA congregations and individuals to help them plan for themselves by providing education and consultation in the area of stewardship and accumulated assets. All services are available without cost or obligation. Email Joyce Palmer, Regional Gift Planner at jcpalmer49@aol.com for more info.
- **Water Mark-Germany**, a division of Youth Encounter, will be here July 12-14. Help will be needed with hosting, food donations, etc. They will be doing some service work within the community and will most likely have a concert here at the church during their stay. Look for further details to come soon. See Bill Johnson for details.