

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. 9 🌸 September 2012



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Pastoral “Meet & Greet”



At the Church Council meeting on Aug. 14, the Call Committee presented their recommendation of pastoral candidate Rev. Kristen Koch. Council approved this recommendation pending the finalization of details of the recommended compensation package. The package was coordinated on Aug. 24.

The meeting to introduce Pastor Koch to the Shepherd of the Hills congregation will take place on Sunday, Sept. 9 at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend and participate in this group question and answer time. Following the meet and greet, there will be a Special Congregational Meeting for all confirmed members of the church at 12:30 p.m. Please make every effort to attend the introduction and the Special Congregational Meeting. Your vote matters.

Ann Smith & Joan Keith, co-chairs of Special Events are in need of a few volunteers to help out with light refreshments for this event on Sept. 9. They are looking for drop and bar cookies, cupcakes and fresh fruit. Please call Ann at 636-723-5435 or Joan at 314-739-7529 if you can help. *Thank you!*

Welcome, Carolyn!

On Sunday, August 26, Carolyn Schamel officially joined our journey of faith in an affirmation of baptism. Her sponsors were Bill & Georgette Sarros.

Carolyn was born and raised in Perryville but now calls Overland home. She works as a cooks helper at Marion Elementary in the Ritenour School District. In her spare time she enjoys crocheting, sewing, crafting, cooking and baking.

Carolyn has been worshipping with us for quite some time and made the comment, “I already felt like I was a member, now it’s official.”

Welcome, Carolyn! We are very happy to include you in the fold.



Rally Sunday September 16

Join us as we begin another great year of growing in God’s grace and Christian education, starting Sunday, Sept. 16.

Following worship and a special treat during fellowship time, classes will begin for everyone from age 3 to adult, so invite a friend to join you as well. If your child is new to Sunday School this year or any of your information has changed, please fill out an enrollment form found in the fellowship area.

Our Sunday School continues to support Bismark from Ghana through Compassion International. Your generous Sunday School Opening gifts are greatly appreciated. A new designated correspondent will be chosen this year.

Come grow more deeply in grace with God and with us!

Young People in the Church

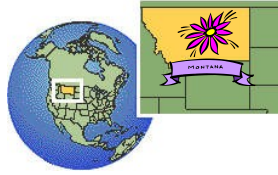


One of the goals lifted up at the June planning meeting was to “develop a plan to attract young people”. To facilitate this goal, Pastor Jeff will lead discussion of an article appearing in the August Lutheran Magazine on this topic during adult forum on Sept. 16 & 23. All are invited to attend, especially youth and young adults. On Sept. 30, adults will view and discuss one or more of the NOOMA videos, which relate our faith to everyday living.

GATHER Joyfully + GROW Deeply + GO Faithfully

Dear Friends and Family at Shepherd of the Hills,

I've had several long days of driving in August to contemplate our vision at Shepherd of the Hills, our great country and the whole earth.



This was the year we drove with Hannah out to Montana for the fall semester. We spent several days driving and viewing wonderful sites along the way, ranging from a prairie dog town to Mount Rushmore to beautiful plains and mountains.

The size of this part of our country amazed me, so I wanted to put it into perspective. The math says that my drive across God's earth was equivalent to a 3/8-inch line drawn on an egg. Wow, my view of a vast country seemed pretty small, which made me wonder, how could I, or Shepherd of the Hills, a mere point on this short line, make a difference in such a huge world?

I did come to realize that we couldn't fix or save the whole world ourselves. God doesn't expect us to fix the whole world. However, He does call upon us to do something to improve our tiny point on the egg.

Luckily we've spent a lot of time over the past few years listening to what God would like us to do. The Partnership for Missional Church process helped identify an objective, to serve those with disabilities and their caregivers in our community (point on the egg). In June, SOTH held a vision-planning meeting to continue to move this objective forward. The plans included tasks, timelines and responsible individuals to accomplish the next steps. Please join me as we work and support the tasks developed at the June Vision Planning meeting. As we continue to do God's work with our hands.

Peace,

Bill Johnson
Church Council President



2016 Vision Statement

In June, SOTH members met to begin working on a strategic plan to grow into the congregation's 2016 Vision Statement.

We first identified ways in which we already embody that vision. Then we noted ways in which we are not yet there or there is room for improvement. Finally we identified four specific goals to be addressed. They are as follows:

1. Partner with organizations who work with the disabled.
2. Find data from former planning sessions
3. Develop a plan to attract young people.
4. Establish affinity groups in order to attract youth & young adults.

The results of these discussions have also been posted on the walls in the hallway off the fellowship area. Please take a look if you haven't already done so.

Confirmation

Sunday School Confirmation classes for the new school year start on Sept. 16. After the events on Sept. 9, the Confirmation class is invited to a pizza lunch and game play event in the fellowship area. Then we will be heading over to Shop N Save in St. Ann to help with the CHM Food Drive from 2-4 p.m.

Wednesday night confirmation classes begin again on Sept. 12

Regular attendance for both of these classes is highly recommended. It is very important in the confirmation journey. Showing up when you are the scheduled acolyte is also greatly appreciated as there are only five students in this class. Thank you!

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.

CHOIR Practice

The Shepherd of the Hills Choir will resume practice for the 2012-2013 season on Wed., Sept. 12 at 7:30 p.m. See choir director, Jim Urnes, if you are interested in joining.



Healing Circle

The "Healing Circle" is offered each Sunday. Healing ministers Joan

Carnaghi, Dave Elder, George Marvin and Tom Ritter respond to individual requests for physical, emotional and spiritual healing, raised to God through prayer and the laying-on of hands. Sign up on the podium.

SEPTEMBER



Eliza Urnes..... 1
 Dian Collier..... 4
 Lori Collins 8
 Zach Hogbin..... 10
 George Marvin 12
 Gabrielle Anderson ... 13
 Jim Urnes, Sr..... 13
 Gage Dixon 14
 Nancy Gbelawoe 18
 Sharon Elder..... 19
 Julie Hutson..... 25

Anniversaries

Judy Conoyer &
 Ted Bronson..... 2
 Jeff & Julie Hutson 6
 John & Barb Daab..... 8



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...



- ◆ **Pulpit Exchange:** On Sunday, Sept. 30, Pastor Jeff will switch places with his spouse, Rev. Kendra Nolde. He will lead worship at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, and she will come here to Shepherd of the Hills.
- ◆ We offer prayers of healing for **Pat Amick, Julie Hunter, Marsha Harvey** (former member), **Jean Meyer**, and **Terry Sutton**.
- ◆ Congratulations to **Susan Hoven** on the birth of her granddaughter, Josephine (Josey) Ruth Hoven, to Luke & Angie in August. *Finally, another girl! God's blessings to all of you.*
- ◆ **Thanks to all** who have carried out the tasks designated through the "work tree" in the fellowship area. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!
- ◆ Thanks to all who attended and helped out with the baby shower for **Alex & Flo Flomo**. They are very, very appreciative for all that was given.

Thanks for keeping us up-to-date with Newsbytes! Email them to soth@sothstl.org.



AUGUST

Church Council Highlights

- Call Committee recommends Rev. Kristen Koch to Council as pastoral candidate. Council initiates process for finalizing arrangements with candidate and gaining congregational approval.
- Budget Bonanza Meeting set for Sept. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

New Church Office Hours



Starting Wednesday, Aug. 22 the church office will be operating under new hours. These hours will be **Wednesday & Thursday** from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The hours and days 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!*

Need An Extra Pair of Hands?

Cynthia Darker is a young single mom in our congregation who is unemployed and has been desperately job searching to find a job to support herself and her kids while she attends UMSL to work towards her elementary education degree. She does not drive and uses Bi-State for transportation.

If you, or anyone you know of, have any work or odd jobs around your home that you need help with or if you know of any job openings that may fit Cynthia's needs, please call Cynthia at 636-795-6659, Lisa Hogbin at 314-209-0743 or Kathy Jordan at 314-518-7409. *Thank you so much!*

Shepherd of the Hills

Lutheran Church (ELCA)

September 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
2 — 9:00 am G: Tom & Linda Ritter AM: Martha Johnson A: Carlie Hunter LR: Linda Pearson R: M. Johnson & Surratt N: Bridget El. & Stephanie T: Aubrey Hunter	3 Labor Day	4	5	6 Budget Bonanza Mtg 6:30 pm	7 Pastor's Sabbath	1 <hr/> 8 Men's Group 9 am	
9 Meet & Greet Special Meeting 12:30 p.m. —9:00 am G: Bill & Georgette Sarros AM: Stein Hunter A: Kristen Schnur LR: Sydney Meyer R: Special Events N: Kim Surratt & Gabi A. T: Matt Elder	10 Stewardship 5:30 pm	11 Church Council 7:00 pm	12 Confirmation 7 pm Choir 7:30 pm	13	14 Pastor's Sabbath	15	
16 Rally Sunday —9:00 am G: Bill & Martha Johnson AM: Tom Ritter A: Jenna Hutson LR: Pat Amick R: Amick/Keirle & crew N: Julie Hutson & Meagan N T: Linda Pearson	17	18 SOTH Women Alumni Luncheon 11:00 am @ SOTH	19 Cancer Companions 6:30-8:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm	20 October Newsletter Deadline	21 Pastor's Sabbath	22	
23 —9:00 am G: John Meyer & Guest AM: Abbi Telander A: Gabi Anderson LR: Gary Johnson R: J. Meyer & L. Henke N: Sydney Meyer & Aubrey T: Susan Hoven	24	25	26 Cancer Comp. 6:30-8:30 pm Confirmation 7 pm Choir 7:30 pm	27	28 Pastor's Sabbath	29	
30 Pulpit Exchange —9:00 am G: Cal & Julia Tousignant AM: Martha Johnson A: Deidra Adams LR: Abbi Telander R: Urnes & Pursley N: Lauri A. & Jenna Hutson T: George Marvin	Ushers: Barb & John Daab Counters: Martha Johnson & Candy Travis Altar Guild: Evelyn Pursley & Helen Griffin CAs: Sharon Elder, Genny Jordan, Candy Travis <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			

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 • **New Office Hours:** 8:30 am to 1:30 pm Wednesday & Thursday
 Church Office e-mail: soth@sothstl.org



Sundays in September

Our summer series on St. Peter concludes:

Over the summer, our Sunday Scriptures have examined the story of St. Peter in the Bible. We began with stories of Peter and Jesus in the gospels; next we spent five weeks on the New Testament letter of 1 Peter; finally we have considered stories of Peter and the early church, mostly from the book of Acts. The final week in this series will be Sept. 2. We will conclude by placing all of the rocks that people have brought to worship into a cross in the flower garden at the south entrance. If you have not yet brought a stone with your name on it, please do so by that Sunday so that it can be included. The cross will remind us of Peter's words: "Come to him (Christ), a living stone...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. (1 Peter 2:4-5)"

Beginning on Sept. 9, we will begin another year of the narrative lectionary, which gives an overview of the Biblical story from beginning to end. **The scriptures for September will be:**

Sept. 9: Creation:
Genesis 2:4b-7, 15-17; 3:1-8

Sept. 16: Abraham:
Genesis 15:1-6

Sept. 23: Joseph:
Genesis 37:3-8, 26-34; 50:15-21

Sept. 30: Exodus:
Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8

Church Committees: Choir

We will be highlighting committees and groups in the upcoming months, letting you know what they do and what their needs are. This information will also be put into a booklet to be included in new member packets.



Church Choir—Director: Jim Urnes Sr.

The Church Choir expresses God's word with music and song. We select the choir anthem in harmony with the church seasons, be it Lenten, Easter or Christmas. We are blessed with many fine voices that together are used to worship in a unique and beautiful way. Some of the choir anthems are written by today's composers while others date from years back. The anthem the choir sang during Holy Week, Richard DeCastro's "Prayer to Jesus" is over six hundred years old. Still beautiful and a good window for church life in days long ago.

A major element of the choir is the part performed on the piano or organ. Here we have Julie Hunter, our fine accompanist.

We love to make a joyful sound unto the Lord.



Dear friends at Shepherd of the Hills,

Barb and I would like to thank the congregation for the cards, prayers and well wishes during our recent family tragedy. The support of our church family meant so much to us during this extremely tough time. Your support has helped us to deal with an extremely difficult situation.

Thanks again,

John & Barb Daab

Dear friends at SOTH,

Thank you so much for inviting us to your church! We really enjoyed sharing our stories and music with you. May God continue to bless this place and all of you.

Ben, Christel, Jan & Susan

The WaterMark Germany Team

Dear Shepherd of the Hills,

Thank you for your gift to the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Your faithful generosity makes a life-changing, life-saving difference.

In 11 African nations, gifts like yours make it possible for malaria education programs to start teaching neighbors how to recognize and prevent malaria. Medical clinics are being equipped and staffed for the treatment of those who have been infected, thanks to your generosity.

To neighbors yearning to be free of this preventable and treatable disease, gifts like yours bring not only help, but also hope. Your gift brings us another step closer to making malaria history.

In Christ's Service,

Jessica Nipp

Coordinator, ELCA Malaria Camp.



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*
Linda Pearson, *vp & care/evangelism*
Jim Berry, *facilities*

Jim Urnes, Sr., *worship*
Rhonda Bird, *social concerns*
Meagan Nalepa, *youth rep & sec.*

Suah Tokpa, *stewardship*
John Daab, *finance*
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!



- **Help Wanted:** CHM is in need of someone to help out at the food pantry on Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Please call Liza at 314-770-2216 for more info.
- **CHM Food Drive** at Shop N Save in St. Ann, Sat., Sept. 8 & Sun., Sept. 9. Please see Linda Ritter or John Meyer if you would like to help out.
- **String Quartet** to perform at the Touhill theater at UMSL on Friday, Sept. 7 at 8:00 p.m. For ticket information, call 314-516-4949 or go to touhill.org.
- **Save the Date (s):** The Men's Group will be hosting a Chili Cook-Off on Sat., Nov. 3, starting at 5 p.m. All proceeds will go towards the purchase of an automatic door opener on the south doors. WELCA's Fall Craft & Bake Sale will be Sunday, Nov. 4. Please see Linda Ritter or Carol Krull if you have any questions.