

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 47, No. 3 ☼ March 2013



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CHM Updates

It's Feinstein Challenge time again! Help Community Helping Ministry receive its share of \$1,000,000! The challenge begins March 1st and ends April 30. The Feinstein Foundation will divide one million dollars among participating agencies in direct proportion to the amount of money they raise during this time period. Every donation-cash, check or food item-collected during this time period counts toward the goal.

Over 30 dedicated volunteers report to CHM for duty each week. In 2012 they had over 3300 contacts with families facing a financial challenge. Every little bit helps when trying to support people in need.



Holy Week & Easter Services

March 24 is Palm/Passion Sunday. The service will begin at 9 a.m. There will be a procession with palms, reading of the Passion story and live sketching by Laura Hunter.

No Wednesday services on March 27.

March 28 is Maundy Thursday. The service will begin at 7 p.m. and include Holy Communion and stripping of the altar.

March 29 is Good Friday - Way of the Cross. Service begins at 7 p.m.

March 31 is Easter Sunday! The potluck Easter breakfast will begin at 8:05 a.m., followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for the kids, sponsored by the Men's Group. Easter Worship will begin at **9:30 a.m.** and include Holy Communion, the return of the "Alleluia" and the Flowering Cross*.

* **Flowering of the Cross** – bring a cut flower of any kind on Easter Sunday and attach it to the cross we've been worshipping with during Lent. When the cross is covered in flowers it becomes a perfect image for Easter – life from death! Feel free to bring more than one flower and encourage your children and grandchildren to bring some too!

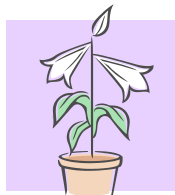
Wednesdays in Lent Continue (until March 20):

Meal:

✠ Soup Suppers at 6:00 p.m.

Worship:

✠ "Prayer Around the Cross" at 7:00 p.m.



Easter Flowers

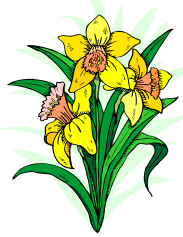
It's time again to think about Easter flowers. Order deadline is Friday, March 15.

Available this year are Azaleas for \$14, Easter lilies for \$8.25, and 6" mums, Geraniums, Tulips and Hyacinths for \$7.50. All are beautifully wrapped in gold foil. See poster in fellowship area to sign up.

Please see Evelyn Pursley with any questions.

GATHER Joyfully + GROW Deeply + GO Faithfully

A Word from the Pastor...



Every place I have lived I have always made a point of planting daffodils somewhere around the house. They are my sign of hope that winter will eventually end. That's why, only two months after giving birth to our second child, Joshua, I was on my hands and knees in the dirt, planting daffodil bulbs at our new house in Florissant.

I remember thinking it was a little crazy, but I was determined. Because I knew I was going to need those beautiful yellow blossoms to greet me in March. I knew I would need them to remind me that life will not always look dead and bare and cold. I knew I would need those flowers to remind me that spring will come; that new life is possible.

We all need new life. We all need to be reminded that life doesn't have to stay the way that it is now. We all need the hope that life and growth can come from pain and brokenness.

Through the special time of Holy Week we have the opportunity to follow Jesus, quite literally, through hell and back. It's not an easy journey to make. It may touch closely to our own pain. But the journey is worth it when we gather on Easter Sunday to remember and celebrate: to hear the promise of the risen Christ that God can bring life out of death.

Each year, as the poem says, the dull and dead in us meets our Easter challenge: to be open to the unexpected, to believe beyond our security, to welcome God in every form and trust in our own greenening.

Please join us for Holy Week and Easter services, as they are printed in this newsletter. Come and remember with us the promise of new life that comes to us through Jesus Christ. Come and celebrate hope.

In Christ,

Pastor Kristen Koch



The Easter Challenge

-by Joyce Rupp

*Every year it happens:
earth shakes her sleepy head,
still a bit wintered and dull,
and feels new life stirring.*

*Every year cocoons
give up their treasures,
fresh shoots
push through brown leaves,
seemingly dead branches
shine with green
and singing birds
find their way home.*

Every year we hear the stories

*empty tomb, surprised grievers,
runners with news and revelation,
unexpected encounters,
conversations on the road,
tales of nets filling with fish,
and breakfast on a seashore*

*And every year
the dull and dead in us
meets our Easter challenge:*

*to be open to the unexpected,
to believe beyond our security
to welcome God in every form,*



Thanks to the Confirmation students who designed the worship space for Prayer Around the Cross, along with the guidance of Laura Hunter. These young ladies have done an impressive job leading worship on Wednesday nights. They are a blessing to our congregation!

*Bring fresh flowers on Easter
Sunday to decorate the Cross.*

Christ is Risen!





Cindy Goodnetter	1
Daryl Hogbin.....	2
Erin Toohey.....	4
Mike Surratt	5
Joe Tokpa	6
Jamie Schnur	11
Chris Schnur.....	13
Pat Amick.....	14
John Daab.....	16
Lexie Higgins.....	17
Carol Krull	17
Abbi Telander	17
Zsabetta Artis	24
Trevor Nalepa	25
Cathy Hogan	26
Bridget Elder.....	26
Bill Johnson.....	29
Donna Rogers.....	29



Chris & Jamie Schnur... 16
Joe & Bianca Nalepa 20

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...



- ✦ We continue to pray for our sister in Christ, **Susan Hoven**, who has been hospitalized and is experiencing complications from pneumonia. May God surround her with his peace.
- ✦ Congratulations to **Matt & Bridget Elder** on the birth of **Jonah Michael** on Feb. 1. Big brother **Nolen** couldn't be happier!
- ✦ Thank you to **Zsabetta Artis** for arranging such beautiful music for worship on Sunday, February 24. We were blessed by your faithful creativity. Blessings to **Zsabetta** and **Rico**, who are relocating to Maryland, and to **Valerie Mudd**, who will be joining her daughter in Texas. We will miss you all!
- ✦ We pray for a safe and speedy recovery for **Barb Daab** who is undergoing back surgery on March 7 and for **Pat Amick** who is having foot surgery on March 15.
- ✦ We also continue to keep **Joan Keith** in prayer as she undergoes her cancer treatments.

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



Family Game Night

On Friday night, March 22, the Instigators would like to sponsor a family game night here at Shepherd of the Hills.

Bring your favorite family-friendly board game or card game and a snack or dessert to share and join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. All ages are welcome. Invite a friend or family member to join you, the more the merrier!

Please see Mara Berry, Sydney Meyer, Linda Pearson or Gary Johnson with any questions or for more information.

Service Project in Lent

Baskets of Promise: A Lutheran World Relief appeal
Each week, different items will be collected:

March 3 – toothbrushes
March 10 – combs
March 17 – nail clippers
March 24 – bars of soap

These items will be used to assemble Personal Care Kits.
Look for more information to come in upcoming worship services.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Shepherd of the Hills

Lutheran Church (ELCA)

March 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ushers: Cathy Hogan & Jean Keirle Counters: Martha Johnson & Candy Travis Altar Guild: Lisa Hogbin & Barb Daab CAs: Genny Jordan, Candy Travis, Kathy Jordan <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	2
3 3 Lent - 9:00 am G: Tom & Carol Krull AM: Tom Ritter A: Gabi Anderson LR: Carl Jordan R: ? N: Julie Hutson & Aubrey T: Joe Nalepa	4	5 Education Mtg 6:30 p.m.	6 Soup 6 pm Service 7 pm Choir 7:45 pm	7	8	9 Men's Group 9 am
10 4 Lent —9:00 am G: Carl & Kathy Jordan AM: Abbi Telander A: Jenna Hutson LR: Linda Pearson R: ? N: Sharon Elder & Gabi A. T: Lauri Anderson	11	12 Care & Evang. Mtg 6:00 p.m. Church Council 7:00 pm	13 Soup 6 pm Service 7 pm Choir 7:45 pm	14	15	16
17 5 Lent—9:00 am G: Tom & Linda Ritter AM: Martha Johnson A: Kristen Schnur LR: Sydney Meyer R: ? N: Abbi Telander & Carlie H T: Aubrey Hunter	18	19	20 Soup 6 pm Service 7 pm Choir 7:45 pm	21	22 Family Game Night 7:00 p.m.	23
24 Palm/ Passion Sunday —9:00 am G: B & G Sarros AM: Stein Hunter A: Deidra Adams LR: TBA R: ? N: Sydney Meyer & Jenna T: Matt Elder	25	26 <div>April Newsletter Deadline</div>	27 No Soup Supper Tonight Choir 7:30 pm	28 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m.	29 Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m.	30
31 Easter—9:30 am G: Dot K. & John Meyer AM: Jim Berry A: Carlie Hunter LR: Gary Johnson R: Potluck N: No Staff T: Carl Jordan Potluck Breakfast at 8:05 a.m. Worship at 9:30 a.m.	<div> Worship 9:00 am • Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Pastor Kristen Koch • 314-921-5497 • prkristen@sothstl.org Lauri Anderson, Church Secretary • Office: 314-739-3222 Office Hours: 8:30 am to 1:30 pm Tuesday & Thursday Church Office e-mail: soth@sothstl.org </div>					

God's Creation, Our Responsibility

Missouri has now joined with 39 other states in forming a chapter of Interfaith Power and Light. This organization is committed to engage, equip and educate Missouri faith communities to be stewards of God's creation by addressing the environmental and social justice consequences of climate change.



Pastor Kristen has participated on the steering team that formed MO IPL and invites you to attend the chapter's Launch Event on Thursday, March 7 at 7:00 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 514 E. Argonne in Kirkwood. At the event we will be learning how two local congregations "greened" their buildings, while celebrating our commitment to being stewards of God's creation. If you're interested in attending, please RSVP to missouriip@gmail.com or check out the website: www.moip.org for more information.



Dear SOTH family,

We just wanted to say thank you. Thank you for welcoming us with open arms. Thank you for worshiping and praying with and for us. Thank you for the laughter and the tears. Thank you for being a blessing in our lives. Thank you for the wonderful farewell. Thank you for being AWESOME!

With love and gratitude,

Rico, Zsabetta & Valerie

"Life's changes are like a moving river. What's here today is gone tomorrow and tomorrow brings a whole new journey. So let's move forward and live." -Chinese proverb

Rico & Zsabetta Artis new address:

27 Watkins Park Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774

Valerie Mudd's new address:

3707 Hawkshead Drive
Austin, TX 78727

Dear SOTH,

I wanted everyone to know how much I appreciate the gifts that were given to me upon my retirement from Church Council. I especially liked the gift to Camp Wartburg as I have many fond SOTH memories of activities there. I hope to have many more good times there with you all.

Your brother in Christ,
Bill Johnson



SOTH Youth Group Trivia Night

Join us Saturday, April 20 for a Trivia Night to benefit the Shepherd of the Hills Youth Group. Doors open at 6:15 p.m., Trivia begins at 7:00 p.m.

The cost is \$10 per person or \$80 per table of 8 people. You can also upgrade to a VIP table for \$120 per table, which includes one 50/50 ticket per person, personal runner service, and a dessert for the table.

Water, soda and light snacks will be provided. There will also be a bake sale. Trivia players may bring their own food and beverages but no alcohol is allowed.

In addition to 10 rounds of trivia, there will be a 50/50 drawing, raffle items, a silent auction and a chance to win Cardinal baseball tickets. There will also be fabulous prizes for First and Second Place winners!

If you would like to help out in any way-set up, clean up, baked good donations, silent auction donations, etc., please contact Abbi Telander.

Call 314-602-2120 or email youthgroup@sothstl.org to reserve your table!





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:

Linda Pearson *president & care/evang
? care/evangelism*
Stein Hunter,

Jim Urnes, Sr., *worship*
Kristen Hiltner, *social concerns*
Stephanie Sackey, *youth rep*

Suah Tokpa, *stewardship*
John Daab, *Sec. & finance*
Genny Jordan, *education*

OUR VISION . . .

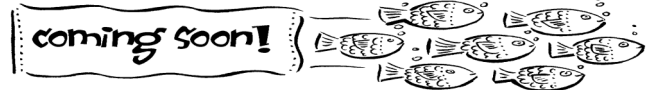
GATHER Joyfully

GROW Deeply

GO Faithfully

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

Don't Miss These Opportunities!



- **Styrofoam Recycling:** If you have any amount of Styrofoam—packing peanuts, packaging from Christmas gifts, even clean coffee cups— feel free to bring it to church and Nancy Cirar will happily take it to the recycling center in Earth City.
- **Annual Spring Arts & Crafts Fair** at Overland Community Center on Sat., March 23 from 9-4. Hand-crafted items, novelty items and baked goods and lunch plates will be available for purchase. Call 314-428-0490 for info.
- **Easter BEG Hunt** on Sunday, March 24 at the BMAC soccer field in Bridgeton. Just like an egg hunt but this is for “furry” children. All dogs must be kept on their leashes. Cost per dog is \$9 for Bridgeton residents, \$12 for non-residents. Special prizes given for best-decorated Easter basket. Bunny will be available for photos after the hunt. Call 314-739-5599 for more information.
- **2013 Synod Assembly June 6-9** in Overland Park, Kansas. SOTH is entitled to have one female and one male representative, in addition to the pastor, participating in this assembly. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please see Pastor Kristen.