

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. 4 ☼ April 2013



The Inside Story...

- President's Message 2
- Adult Forum..... 2
- NewsBytes 3
- Birthdays & Anniversaries.. 3
- Council Highlights 3
- Lenten Service Project..... 3
- April Calendar 4
- Thank You Notes..... 5
- Earth Day Festival 5
- Baptisms in April..... 5
- Upcoming Events(back)

CHM Updates

It's Feinstein Challenge time again! Help Community Helping Ministry receive its share of \$1,000,000! The challenge began 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.



Be Like Jesus Servant Event

On Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6 our Sunday School children in grades 3-8 will participate in a servant event lock-in at Trinity Lutheran Church. The youth will participate in a variety of service projects that include making fleece blankets, collecting food for the food pantry, yard work, purchasing items at local stores for community organizations and more. The event will also include great music, fun activities, chance to meet new friends, and an opportunity to grow closer in faith to God.

Friends and family are invited to join their children for the closing celebration with Captive Free at 4:45 p.m. Saturday evening.

If your child is attending, please check your email for more info.



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!

GATHER Joyfully + GROW Deeply + GO Faithfully

A Word from the President...

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Late last year, in one of her sermons, Pastor Kristen asked members of the congregation to fill out a slip of paper addressing two issues:

1. My dream for SOTH this coming year is...
2. Here is how I can help make that dream happen...



At our Church Council retreat we reviewed the responses from the congregation. Outreach was considered most important - first to youth and young adults, secondly to our neighbors in the community and thirdly to those with disabilities and their caregivers. Quite a few of us thought we could help with prayer and inviting friends and family to our church. A few of our respondents said they'd like to hear more contemporary music in worship.

Using SOTH's gifts of hospitality and friendliness, the council decided that this year we would ask our teams and committees to experiment with how their group could actively connect with the immediate community around us.

I would like to invite everyone to reach out to me and to other council members with ideas, concerns, and a desire to participate in this year-long experiment. If you have some ideas about creating a more visible presence in the neighborhood, we'd really like to hear from you.

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.*

Yours in Christ,

Linda Pearson

Inquiring Pastor Wants to Know...

...have you ever wanted to bring communion to the homebound of our congregation or have you already been trained to do so? If so, please contact Pastor Kristen so she can get a group together to "bring church" to those who cannot make it on Sunday mornings.

...have you ever wanted to share a word of hope with the congregation, or a story of how God has acted in your life? Have you already done so at SOTH? If so, contact Pastor Kristen so she can find ways to provide opportunities for that Word to be shared.

...have you ever wanted to see how the larger church works together to make decisions and to celebrate ministry? Have you already done so by attending a Synod Assembly and would like to either do it again or encourage others to do it? If so, contact Pastor Kristen so she can sign you up for the Central States Synod Assembly, June 6-9 at the Sheraton Overland Park Hotel at the Convention Center. We can bring one female adult, one male adult and one youth (male or female).

Confirmation

Thanks to the Confirmation students: Carlie, Deidra, Gabi, Jenna, & Kristen-and their friends and families-for their faithful leadership of the Lenten Prayer Around the Cross services.

Confirmation Wednesdays:

April 17, May 1 & 15

6:00-6:30- pizza, Highs & Lows

6:30-7:30-devotions &
conversation

Please let Pastor Kristen know each week by text or email if you will be unable to attend so she can plan accordingly.

Attendance at the Sunday School classes and the Wednesday evening classes is very important as we are nearing the final months of the Confirmation journey. Please make every effort to be there and be present and attentive while you are in class.

Holy Baptism and Holy Confirmation 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.





Patty Splett	1
Shannon Urnes	1
Bismark Arho	2
Jayce Hutson	2
Daniel Hogbin	3
Luke Hoven	3
Nancy Urnes	4
Kim Surratt	7
Bill Sarros	8
Abigail Urnes	8
Naomi Urnes	8
Nolen Elder	10
Linda Pearson	17
Cathy Thies	18
A.J. Chumbley	19
Tom Krull	25
Julie Hecker	26
Kristen Schnur	28
Connie Adams	29
Terry Sutton	29
Cindy Dixon	30
Jean Meyer	30

Anniversaries

Abbi Telander & Mike Toohey	2
Carol & Tom Krull	8
Joel & Shannon Urnes ..	15
Jesse & Angie Keyes ..	26

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.



NewsBytes...



- ✦ Our sincere condolences go out to the **Hoven** family on the death of our beloved sister in Christ, **Susan**, on March 1. Special thanks to Pastor Kristen and all who helped make the service and the following luncheon a wonderful celebration of Susan's life. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.
- ✦ Please keep **Shelby Chumbley** in prayer as her family and doctors are seeking a diagnosis and relief of her medical issues.
- ✦ **Thanks to everyone** who helped out during the Lenten Season, from bringing soups and breads for the Soup Suppers, set-up and clean-up, to helping "right" the sanctuary after Prayer Around the Cross each week. And also to everyone who helped with set-up and clean-up and brought goodies to share for the potluck Easter breakfast. Special thanks to **Tom Krull** for "wiring" the Cross to help make the Flowering Cross a success.
- ✦ Special thanks to **Laura Hunter** for leading us in worship through her painting on Palm Sunday and to **Mike Toohey** for his help with the video camera. Thanks also to the **Hunter** family for sharing their musical gifts during Holy Week and Easter.
- ✦ Thanks to the **Men's Group** for organizing the Annual Easter Egg Hunt and also to our resident Easter Bunny, **Bill Johnson**, for making it an extra fun time for the kids, and the adults.



MARCH

Church Council Highlights

- A decision was made to split Lenten offerings 50/50 between CHM & Lutheran World Relief.
- There was a Council Retreat at the church on March 16. One of the things discussed was the responses of the "My Dream for SOTH" questionnaire that Pastor Kristen started.
- John Daab reported that training with Julia Tousignant as the new treasurer was underway and going well.
- A request from the Girl Scouts to use the fellowship area on Sat., April 13 to sort their April Showers items was reviewed and approved. Bill Johnson will be responsible for opening and closing for them.

Service Project in Lent

Baskets of Promise: A Lutheran World Relief appeal

Each week during Lent, different items were collected during the Wednesday night services and on Sundays. These items will be used to assemble Personal Care Kits. Enough items were collected to assemble well over 40 personal care kits. If you would like to help out with this task, please see Pastor Kristen.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Shepherd of the Hills

Lutheran Church (ELCA)

April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
G = Greeters AM = Assisting Minister A = Acolyte LR = Reader R = Refreshments N = Nursery T = Tech Assistant	1	2	3 Choir 7:30 pm	4	5	6 Be Like Jesus Servant Event at Trinity Lutheran
7 2 Easter - 9:00 am G: Cal & Julia Tousignant AM: Pat Amick A: Gabi Anderson LR: Jim Urnes R: Krull/Keyes/Diah N: Julie Hutson & Aubrey T: Linda Pearson	8	9 Care & Evang. Mtg 6:00 p.m. Church Council 7:00 pm	10 Choir 7:30 pm	11	12	13 Worship Team 8:30 am Men's Group 9 am GS Sorting Event
14 3 Easter —9:00 am G: Jeanne K & Nancy Cirar AM: Tom Ritter A: Jenna Hutson LR: Abbi Telander R: Urnes/ Elder N: Sharon Elder & Gabi A. T: Mara Berry	15	16	17 Choir 7:30 pm	18	19	20 SOTH Youth Trivia Night 7 pm
21 4 Easter—9:00 am G: Bill J. & A. Sanderson AM: Abbi Telander A: Kristen Schnur LR: Sharon Elder R: Wills/ Thies N: Sydney Meyer & Carlie H T: Lauri?	22	23 May Newsletter Deadline	24 Choir 7:30 pm	25	26	27
28 5 Easter —9:00 am G: Dave & Sharon Elder AM: Martha Johnson A: Deidra Adams LR: Genny Jordan R: Sanderson/ Pursley N: Abbi Telander & Jenna T: George Marvin	29	30	Ushers: Tom & Carol Krull Counters: John Meyer & Evelyn Pursley Altar Guild: Sharon Elder & Carol Krull CAs: Jim Berry, Rhonda Bird, Lisa Hogbin <i>Please find a substitute if you are unable to serve!</i>			

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

Earth Day 2013

The 24th Annual Earth Day celebration on the Muny Grounds in Forest Park will be on Sunday, April 21 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Enjoy three stages of entertainment, learn about sustainable products and services offered by local businesses, meet area non-profits that share the mission of Earth Day, and participate in a variety of hands-on educational activities. At 12 Noon the festival officially kicks-off with the All Species Parade. All are welcome to join this costume pedestrian parade through the event grounds, led by the Joia World Percussion Ensemble.

A themed-neighborhood layout makes it easy for visitors to navigate the festival and experience all the celebration has to offer. The neighborhoods are: Alternative Transportation and Fuels by Ameren; Arts and Crafts; the Earth Day Café; Energy and Green Building; the Farmers Market by Chipotle; Home and Pets by Purina; Nature, Recreation and Wildlife; Reduce, Reuse and Recycle; and Wellness and Spirituality. Visitors are also invited to reflect upon their experiences and connect with the Earth at the Peace Garden. Over 30 Educational exhibitors will be scattered throughout the grounds, present in almost every neighborhood with a wide range of hands-on activities for kids and adults. A collection event for hard-to-recycle items returns to the festival for a third year, including the DEA Medication Take-Back Initiative. The Recycling Extravaganza will take place in the parking lot of the St. Louis Community College Forest Park Campus, off Oakland Avenue, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Go to st.louisearthday.org for a full list of acceptable items, including mattresses, batteries, appliances and carpet.

Take the Earth Day Challenge: Bring a reusable bag, a refillable water bottle or use alternative transportation to get to Forest Park. Visitors who accomplish 2 of the 3 challenges and visit the information booth will receive an eco-friendly prize, like CFLs from Metro Lighting, Better Life products or a Metro Transit pass and more.

For more information, go to www.stlouisearthday.org.



To Our SOTH family,

We all want to thank you for the prayers, visits, food and more during mom's hospitalization and her visitation and memorial service.

After 34 years in the congregation we know she will be missed, just as we will miss her. Thank you for sharing your stories of mom. They were a great blessing for all of us.

Peace be with all of you.

The Hoven Family

Dear SOTH, Family

Thank you all so very much for the prayers, cards and offerings of meals during the recovery period from my recent back surgery. John and I have certainly experienced the outpouring of love and caring that everyone so often comments about from the SOTH family. God has blessed us.

Thank you!

Barb Daab



Baptisms this Month...



Please hold in prayer Ophelia Diah and her son, Tristen, who will be baptized at Shepherd of the Hills on April 14, which is also Tristen's First birthday! Ophelia is the sister of Florence Flomo. Welcome Ophelia & Tristen into the family of God and our family here at Shepherd of the Hills.



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*
Stein Hunter, *vice pres. & technology*
Dale Travis, *facilities*

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

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

OUR VISION . . .

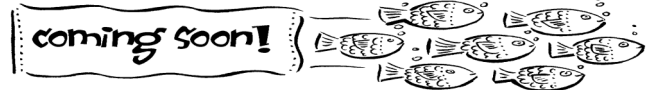
GATHER Joyfully

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 new purchases, 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.
- Check out **Leland Road's** updated entertainment schedule, which is posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship area. Lots of great opportunities to see this talented duo perform in a variety of venues. See Kristen Hiltner, Tyler Elder or Sharon Elder for more information.
- **2013 Synod Assembly June 6-9** in Overland Park, Kansas. SOTH is entitled to have one female and one male representative, one youth representative, in addition to the pastor, participating in this assembly. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please see Pastor Kristen.