



# The Shepherd's Voice

## A Note from the Board of Directors

Greetings and God's blessings to you all on this day. As many of you are aware, the latest voter's meeting on July 27th resulted in the election of a new Board of Directors who will be operating under the newly adopted constitution and by-laws approved in June. The new Board of Directors is comprised of Ben Weigand (Executive Director), Mari Flemmons, Mark Filter, Laura Quimby, and Jason Smith. See below for contact information. The new Board met this past Wednesday for the first time, and we are very excited about the opportunities ahead for the congregation. The first order of business was to address the Lay Ministers, who are appointed by the Board of Directors under the constitution. The decision was made to reappoint the current Lay Ministers to serve out the end of the year, at which point these positions will be addressed again. Fortunately, we are blessed with some amazing elders at SOP; Peter Christiansen, Mark Filter, Marc Higgins, Parrish Hurley, Steve McDonald, and Tony Wray all gladly agreed to remain in their current positions. Concerning the pastoral call process, we received an update from the Call Committee and have asked that the existing committee continue its mission. See the update from the call committee later in the newsletter.



Special points of interest:

- MDO begins August 19th, 9:05am-2:00pm
- Men's Breakfast, August 23rd, 8:30am
- Choir gathering August 23rd
- Rally Sunday, August 24th

Contact Information for the Board:

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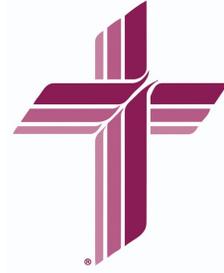
With regards to the part-time, paid staff of Shepherd of Peace, very little will be changing. Danielle Ausburn will remain the office administrator, Carol Smith will remain the financial administrator, and Chuck Fandrei will continue his current custodial services. Their efforts are greatly appreciated. Among other discussions during our meeting, one topic that was brought to the Board's attention was the location of the American Flag, and it's prominence in the sanctuary. The Board has relocated the flags to their previous position at the front of the sanctuary. As we continue to get our feet beneath us and settle into these new roles, it is critical that we understand the wishes of the Congregation, as it is our primary purpose to serve the Lord in our representation of you. To that end, I would encourage everyone to bring questions, concerns, and comments to any of the Board members as we move forward. We look forward to our time as your elected leadership and are excited about the events to come as we walk the path the Lord has set forth before us.

Your Brother in Christ,  
 Ben Weigand  
 Executive Director

## Call Committee Update

The Call Committee had its first meeting Tuesday, July 22nd, to prayerfully consider 13 candidates submitted by Pastor Paavola, our Mid-South District President. We were given short bios on each candidate which Pastor Paavola had received from other district presidents, along with additional information gleaned from various church websites. Four additional candidate names were added to this group of 13; these names were submitted from members of our congregation and include Pastor Henning. So we have indeed been blessed with a robust number of candidates to consider. Our first meeting winnowed that candidate list down to roughly half its original size. SOP's Congregational Inventory and Self-Study along with our new Constitution/Bylaws documents were sent to the remaining candidates. Our Call Committee plans to meet again when all SET (Self-Evaluation Tool) documents have been received from those candidates who have prayerfully determined that they could potentially deliberate a divine call from Shepherd of Peace. Our committee is moving along at a good pace, and we anticipate having an excellent choice of candidates to present to the congregation at a meeting to be scheduled in the near future. We want to give everyone ample time to prayerfully study a reduced list of candidates prior to a specially called Voters Meeting where a candidate will emerge as the one we feel led to call. Please continue to keep those of us on the Call Committee in your personal prayers, that God's will might be accomplished through this time-honored call process.

~ Respectfully submitted by Mark Filter



News  
from  
the  
Call  
Committee

## Church Choir

Shepherd of Peace's Choir, under the direction of Ron Shertzer, will kick off a new year of fellowship and song on August 23rd with their yearly gathering (location and time TBD). Then on September 7th, our congregation will once again have the opportunity to hear these beautiful voices come together in song during our worship services.

While the choir sounds fantastic, there is always room for new voices to add to the mix. If you are interested in becoming a part of the choir, please contact Ron Shertzer at (501) 831-3508. Choir practice is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm.



## Stewardship Corner

Jesus tells us, "...the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many" (Matthew 20:28). We are Jesus' arms and legs to embrace lost and hurting people. We're His mouthpiece to speak God's Law, but above all His Gospel and His peace. His love is completed in us and through us (1 John 4:12). When God called us in faith in Him, He also equipped us for His call to service. We're never to weary in doing well (Galatians 6:9), although we often feel that we are too tired, impatient, or not capable. Through the prompting of the Holy Spirit, we pick ourselves up and serve those Jesus wants us to serve and witness to those to whom Jesus wants us to witness. We do it all in the name of Jesus.



## Sundae Sunday



St. John writes in his Gospel, **“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”** (John 1:14) While the disciples were eye-witnesses of the ministry of Jesus and proclaimers to all the world that He is God’s Son, the Messiah, the only Savior; believers today have seen Jesus through the eyes of faith through the hearing of God’s Word!

In recent weeks we have heard several parables of Jesus; the Sower, the Weeds in the Field, the Hidden Treasurer, the Pearl of Great Price, and the Net. Jesus told these stories so that those who believe in Him might be strengthened in their faith. When Jesus says that the Kingdom of Heaven is like...and expounds on that...He is talking about Himself, the grace and righteousness of God, or the final judgment when He will come again and take all believers into His kingdom while all who reject Him are thrown into the fiery furnace where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth. In His parables Jesus is revealing to all who have ears, who He is! He is saying, “I am Jesus!” Jesus is indeed the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, and the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep!

During the weeks ahead we will see Jesus in a different light. We will hear of His miracles including the Feeding of the Five Thousand, Jesus Walking on Water, and the Faith of the Canaanite Women and the healing of her daughter. In His miracles, Jesus is not only revealing to us, but also showing us that He is God’s Son sent into the world to save sinners!

On Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, we will hear the question of Jesus posed to His disciples and to each one of us, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” Yes, some said that Jesus was John the Baptist, others Elijah, and others said Jeremiah or one of the prophets. But Jesus narrows His question, “But you, who do you say that I am?” We will again hear Peter’s answer and great confession, **“You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God!”** (Matthew 16:16)

Also on August 24<sup>th</sup>, Shepherd of Peace congregation will kick off a new year of Christian Education together by celebrating Rally Day! Our worship, hymns and fellowship will unite us in our life together, as we recommit ourselves to be in worship faithfully, to be partakers of Holy Communion together, to be in Sunday School and Bible Classes, to be in prayer for and with one another, to fellowship together! Yes, here is where the title of this article comes in! On August 24<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate **“Sundae Sunday!”** During our normal Sunday School/Bible Class hour we will celebrate our life together in Christ by fellowshiping over our favorite ice cream sundaes in the fellowship hall! While the new Sunday School year kicks off officially on September 7<sup>th</sup>, plan now to kick things off by returning to worship together on Sundae Sunday, and commit to making every Lord’s Day, **“Sunday Sunday!”**



I want to take this time to also invite you to be in prayer for the new Board of Directors and those who serve as Lay Ministers, as they lead Shepherd of Peace in the days and weeks ahead. I am sure that some of you will be asked to serve your Lord and your church in various ways, whether it be in Christian Education, Stewardship, Church Property, Missions and other areas. Please be receptive to the invitation to serve and be in prayer of how best you can serve your Lord and Shepherd of Peace! I also want to ask you for your patience with this new form of church polity. Also continue to pray for the Call Committee as they proceed with the calling process with the aid of Circuit Visitor Pastor Conger and District President Paavola. Let us together in this place called Shepherd of Peace say with Peter, **“You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God!”** - Rev. Timothy J. Henning, Vacancy Pastor



## Prayer Group

*"Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praises. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him."* James 5:13-15



Prayer is a gift from God, our connection to an intimate relationship with our Creator and our Redeemer. How privileged we are that we can use prayer to lift up one another and to lift up our church, knowing that God will hear the cries and praises of His people!

We are blessed to have a prayer group at Shepherd of Peace that meets Thursdays at 10:00am. This thirty minute weekly prayer group, led by Teresa Creasman, follows four steps of prayer: Praise, Confession, Thanksgiving, and Intercession. *Praise* is a time of consideration and thanks for who God is in relation to the Scripture references. *Confession* is a time for silently confessing sin to God who forgives. *Thanksgiving* is time devoted to praise for what God has done and what we see Him doing in our church, families, and community. The closing step, *Intercession*, is time set aside for prayers for the needs of the church, for the individuals that make up Shepherd of Peace, and the congregation as a whole.

The prayer group will be taking August off, but will resume September 4th. We encourage you to come be a part of this important prayer time each week in the Conference Room. If you are unable to make this time/ day, but are interested in prayer group, please talk to Teresa about other times that would be better.

## Concordia Publishing House: Fall Bible Sale

Concordia Publishing House is once again offering their Fall Bible Sale. Stay connected with God's Word through Bible Study and private or family devotions. The Bible also makes great gifts. Check out the poster near the bulletin board in the hallway and sign up to purchase one or more items at a discounted price of 33% off. Please sign up August 31, 2014. Consider purchasing a copy of the widely acclaimed Lutheran Study Bible or something new such as The Lutheran Bible Companion, Today's Light Devotional Bible (ESV), or La Biblia de la Reforma (the premier Spanish study Bible)! Please make checks out to Shepherd of Peace Lutheran Church earmarked "Fall Bible Sale" and place in the offering plate. Sign-up today!



## August Worship Service Volunteers



	8:00 AM	10:30AM
<b>Lay Minister</b>	Peter Christiansen	Steve McDonald
<b>Acolyte</b>	Sarah Shepherd	Sarah Wray
<b>Ushers</b>	L. Mahnken & T. Wray	L. Quimby & M. Flakoll
<b>Lector</b>	Cookie Higgins	Michael Flakoll
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Johnston & Shertzer	Flakoll
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Tom Wray	Ken Quimby

## Shepherd's Flock (Getting to know His sheep): The Filters

Mark and Jeanie Filter have been members at Shepherd of Peace since 2005. They moved to Maumelle from Little Rock in 2002 mainly to downsize their home as their children, Ben and Elaine, entered their college years. After 3 years of driving to Jacksonville each Sunday to attend Hope Lutheran, they decided to try out Shepherd of Peace. They would join us for Wednesday evening suppers and worship during Advent and Lent, but as fall 2005 approached, they requested a transfer of membership and have been here ever since.

Mark was born and raised in northern and central Illinois. He was born in Chicago and went to elementary school at Immanuel Lutheran, Danville, Illinois, for 7 years before moving to Hannibal, Missouri, for a year; then back to southern Illinois for just over a year before moving to Little Rock as a sophomore in high school. His family lived in a home in the Briarwood subdivision just a half block from what is now Christ Lutheran Church. In 1969 it was called First Lutheran Chapel and School. The very next day after Mark and his family moved to Little Rock they attended their first worship service at First Lutheran Chapel. In Sunday School class Mark met Jeanie Sims, whose cousin, Carl Habig, taught the Youth Bible Class. Jeanie had brought her boyfriend to class, an Episcopalian, but she was sort of intrigued by this new guy who seemed to talk a bit funny, even though he said he was from Danville. Apparently he neglected to say "Illinois", and so Arkansas was assumed! Just over a year later Mark and Jeanie went out on their first date (a Christmas caroling event at Arkansas Children's Hospital) and the rest as they say is (ancient) history!

Jeanie is a Little Rock native who had to grow up very quickly when her mother contracted Multiple Sclerosis when Jeanie was just 9 years old. She soon began cooking, cleaning, grocery shopping, doing the laundry and other chores for her family which included her parents and a younger brother. Fifteen years later, when she and Mark had been married just over 4 years, her mother succumbed to MS. Two weeks after burying her mom, her father was killed in a freak gyrocopter accident. That was an extremely tough time for both Mark and Jeanie, whose world was turned upside down. Decisions were made to get serious about finishing college, and 3 years later Jeanie graduated with a business degree in Personnel Management and an emphasis in financial management. Mark dawdled around another semester before graduating with an accounting degree with heavy emphasis in what was then referred to as "data processing".

After a nationwide job search in an attempt to break away from Arkansas, Jeanie accepted a position with the trust company of First National Bank in Little Rock. Mark was subsequently able to secure a position in applications development at Dillard's Department Stores where he still works in IT today.

A couple of years later (1984) their son, Benjamin Carl, was born, and a couple of years thereafter their daughter, Elaine Rebekah, was born. After a few false starts on child number three, Mark and Jeanie acquiesced to God's superior wisdom and became content with their two children.

After both children had left home for college, and after years of yearning for that "empty nest" phase of life, Mark and Jeanie decided to postpone that phase for several years by hosting international students! They ultimately hosted 4 German students and a student from South Korea before they felt ready and prepared to go it alone.

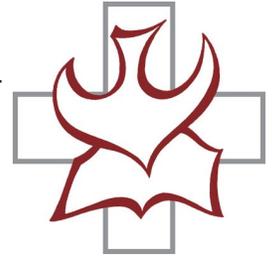
On this past June 14, Ben was married to LaChanda Brooks, a wonderful Christian lady who, like Ben, has worked at Dillard's for a number of years. Elaine is ready to begin her 5<sup>th</sup> year teaching high school at Faith Lutheran in Crystal Lake, IL.

In their spare time Mark and Jeanie love to read, watch movies, eat out, garden (well, Jeanie does anyway), and watch sporting events involving the Arkansas Razorbacks, the Travs, the St. Louis Cardinals, or the Pittsburgh Steelers (sorry Cowboys fans!). They both love music and have been active in a number of church choirs since prior to being married. Mark plays the violin, most recently playing at Ben's wedding in June. At one time Mark was offered a full music scholarship to the University of Alabama from a former teacher who had become the chairman of the music department there. Not seeing a glowing financial future in music Mark decided to become a Razorback instead. Good decision, huh!? They praise God for all of His marvelous blessings during their now 40 years of married life, and they look forward to the next 40! ~Marc & Jeanie



## Confirmation Class Meeting

There will be a confirmation meeting for parents and students entering grades 6-7 on Sunday, August 10th at 9:10 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Mark Filter has agreed to begin confirmation instruction with these children. We need to decide together what day and time best works for all. Classes plan to begin the second week of September. Following the meeting we will be able to order the needed materials for the year. We look forward to seeing you on August 10th! Please speak with Pastor Henning or Mark Filter if you have any questions.



## Managing God's Money Faithfully

Money is a good thing to have, isn't it? You need it to provide for your basic bodily needs like shelter (a home), clothing, and food. You need it for things that people used to think were luxuries but have now become necessities, like smartphones, iPods, and other technology available now. Handling money is a necessary activity for all of God's people. Like all good things, money is a gift from God (James 1:17). The Prophet Haggai tells us *"The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, declares the Lord of hosts"* (verse 2:8). God knows what you need and, although money doesn't rain down from Heaven like the manna did for the Israelites (Exodus 16:4-18), it is still God's gift. It is God Who gives you a body and a mind so it is possible that you may be able to work and earn money. *"You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He Who gives you power to get wealth..."* (Deuteronomy 8:18). Money is needed for our basic needs and other comforts, but we should heed the message found in Proverbs 30:8-9: *"Remove far from me falsehood and lying; give me neither poverty nor riches; feed me with the food that is needful for me, lest I be full and deny You and say, 'Who is the Lord?' or lest I be poor and steal and profane the name of my God."*



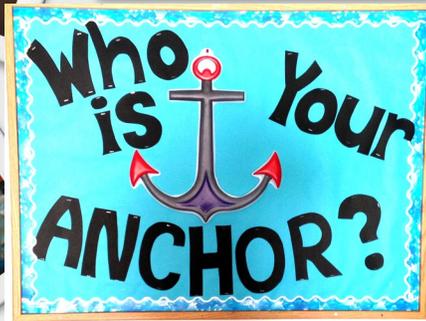
Some people have the idea that, if they give something to God, the rest of their money is theirs to use as they please, but you know that God expects you to be responsible with your money and to remember that it's really His money; it's only yours to use. There are God-pleasing ways to use money and other ways that do not please Him.

In his letter to Timothy, the Apostle Paul talks about the place money should have in your life: *"As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, Who richly provides us with everything to enjoy"* (1 Timothy 6:17). God wants you to enjoy His gifts! Just as you seek God's direction in other areas of your life, you should seek His direction for the use of your money. Your focus should not be on how much money you have, but rather on what you are doing with what you have. In your prayers, ask God to help you manage your money for His glory and the good of His people and to be thankful for all that He gives you.

## A Time to Laugh



# Gangway to Galilee: VBS 2014



Shepherd of Peace Lutheran Church

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**THE PURPOSE OF OUR EXISTENCE**

Shepherd of Peace exists to praise and glorify God. This happens when we are faithful in reaching out to others with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in promoting growth in discipleship, and in performing acts of self-sacrificing love to all people in Christ's name.

Sunday Schedule:

- 8:00 AM - Traditional Worship
- 9:15 AM - Family Bible Hour
- 10:30 AM - Blended Worship



There's a Place for You at SOP!



**Special Days in August**

- |      |   |      |   |
|------|---|------|---|
| 8-1  | Allison Tschiemer (B,11)<br>Katherine Tschiemer (B,11)  | 8-19 | Jeremy & Dani Ausburn (A,14)<br>Tony & Tracy Wray (A, 19) |
| 8-4  | Les & Kathy Browning (A,49)   | 8-20 | Kenn & Mari Flemmons (A,32)<br>Jane Schroeder (B)         |
| 8-5  | Marc Higgins (B)  | 8-21 | Briana Gebhardt (B,18)                                    |
| 8-6  | Kimberly Tschiemer (B)  | 8-25 | Jeannie Filter (B)  |
| 8-7  | Ben Weigand (B)   | 8-27 | Christy Rabeneck (B)<br>Jason Smith (B)                   |
| 8-11 | Peter & Phyllis Christiansen (A,36)   | 8-28 | Daniel Steiner (B)  |
| 8-12 | Weston Greb (B, 3)  | 8-30 | Rick Burris (B)<br>Jimmy Womack (B)                       |
| 8-14 | Mark Bowen (B)<br>Kenn Flemmons (B)   |      |   |
| 8-15 | Rick & Kathie Burris (A,34)   |      |   |
| 8-16 | Jaden Heintzen (B,7)<br>Jeri Shertzer (B)   |      |   |
| 8-17 | Carley Flakoll (B,3)  |      |   |
| 8-18 | Kathy Browning (B)<br>Will & Teresa Creasman (A,41)<br>Jared Heintzen (B,3)<br>Esther Mahnken (B) |      |   |

