

October 2014



Special points of interest:

- **National Youth Gathering Meeting, Oct. 12th**
- **Men's Breakfast, Oct. 25th**
- **SOP Youth Corn Maze, Oct. 25th**
- **Trunk or Treat, Oct. 25th**



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The Shepherd's Voice



God's Abundant Blessings

Our God is a gracious God Who provides for all our needs regardless of whether we express our gratitude to Him or not. We are indeed blessed people who are created in His image.

God promises even greater blessings to those who respond to His great providence by sharing with others what they've been given. In 2 Chronicles 31:10 we read about the donations God's people in Hezekiah's day were bringing to the temple. Azariah, the chief priest, said, *"Since the people began to bring their contributions to the temple of the Lord, we have had enough to eat and plenty to spare, because the Lord has blessed His people, and this great amount is left over."* A similar circumstance occurred when two fish and fives loaves of bread were more than adequate to feed a crowd of five thousand people who were gathered to hear Jesus preach (Luke 9:10-17). God took what was offered and magnified and multiplied the gift.

In Proverbs 3:9-10 we find a command with a promise: *"Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine."* The prophet Malachi quotes a similar promise: *" 'Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this,' says the Lord Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it' "* (Malachi 3:10).



We have God's word that He will provide for all our needs. *"Now He Who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God"* (2 Corinthians 9:10-11).

How do we take that step of faith that asks us to give generously when we wonder how our paychecks will stretch till the end of the month? Perhaps the answer is to look to the Provider instead of to our own limited means. Jesus said, *"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well"* (Matthew 6:33). As our faith is nourished through Word and Sacrament, we will find it a joy to *"test [Him] in this."*



And we know that
for those who love
God all things work
together for good,
for those who are
called according to
his purpose.
(Romans 8:28)



A Message from Our Executive Director

It is an exciting time for the Weigand family. However, this excitement is tempered with a measure of sadness and heartache. As of this week, I have resigned from my position with TME in Little Rock in order to pursue a career that will allow me to spend the time with my family that they deserve. As many of you know, the past nine months have been a trying time for us, as deadlines mounted and long hours were spent at the office nearly every day of the week. After a great deal of discussion, thought, and prayer, Kara and I decided that it was time to make a change. After an exhaustive job search, both locally and outside of Arkansas, I have accepted a position with Henderson Engineers, a consulting company in Kansas City. This is where the sadness and heartache come in. I will be moving to Kansas City in the middle of October. Kara, Daxton, and Elijah will follow in December, at the end of the semester.

I have only been the Executive Director of Shepherd of Peace for a short time, and there were so many things I was looking forward to experiencing with this congregation. It is with sadness that I must now resign from the Executive Director position, effective October 13th, 2014. The Board of Directors, upon this resignation, has designated Laura Quimby to serve as interim Executive Director until such a time that the congregation can meet to vote on a new Executive, per the Constitution and By-laws.

Shepherd of Peace has been our home away from home for over three years now. There aren't words to describe our gratitude for everything you all have done for us. The friendships we've made, times we've had together, and trials we have been through are experiences we will never forget. The Lord has great things in store for Shepherd of Peace, starting with the filling of the current vacancy, and many more blessings to follow. We will continue to keep all of you in our daily prayers, and ask that you keep us in yours as we make this transition.

Your Brother in Christ,
Ben Weigand

Reformation



It was on October 31, 1517, 497 years ago this month, that Martin Luther, a German monk and scholar, nailed the 95 Theses, or propositions, to the doors of Castle Church. His intention was not to break away from the Roman Catholic Church, but to stimulate a debate among academics. The Roman Church did not look favorably on these propositions, to say the least. He was labeled a heretic, excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church, and became an outlaw: they wanted Luther dead.

The Reformation rested upon three fundamental principles: *Our salvation is entirely a gift of grace from God and not our own doing; We receive that grace through faith and not by any works we might do; The sole norm and rule of doctrine is the Holy Scriptures.* These are interwoven together, and we know them as the "three solas (alones)": **by grace alone, through faith alone, in Scripture alone.** This is a concise outline of what we as Lutherans believe.

The Circuit Reformation Service, a service to praise God, honor Luther, and remind us who we are as Lutherans, will be held at First Lutheran on Sunday, October 26th at 3:00pm. All area Lutherans are invited to attend, and several of the members of Shepherd of Peace will be participating in the music of the service. First Lutheran is located at 314 East 8th St., Little Rock.

Freedom in Christ

Freedom from tyranny and persecution! Freedom from the authority of the Pope! Freedom from being bound to one's good works to receive salvation and forgiveness of sins! Freedom to believe the Bible as being the only source and norm of all doctrines and teachings! Freedom to believe that the work of Jesus Christ alone, is my salvation and has earned for me the forgiveness of my sins! That was the sound of the Reformation's hammer as Luther, Phillip Melancthon, Andreas Carlstadt and others broke away from the false doctrines/teachings of the Catholic Church!

At the heart of the Reformation controversy was the Doctrine of Justification, that is how sinners are made right with God! Are we justified by the good works that we do or are we justified by faith alone in Christ alone? The truth is that we cannot free ourselves from the power of sin, death and the power of the devil, but Christ has! He alone has freed us by His sacrificial substitutionary death on a cross and glorious resurrection! Jesus says, **"If you hold to my teachings, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free. So if the Son sets you free, you are free indeed!"** (John 8:36)

The Son has set you free! He sets you free in your Baptism, declaring you to be His child, forgiven, and gave you the Holy Spirit who creates faith in your heart to believe in Him! He sets you free in the Sacrament of the Altar where we eat and drink His true Body and Blood given and shed for the forgiveness of sins! He sets you free in His word, "Your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost!" Sinful man is justified freely by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ! Luther discovered this timeless truth in St. Paul's letter to the Romans, **"For in the Gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith.'"** (Romans 1:17) St. Paul also writes, **"There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by His grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus!"** (Romans 3:24)

As we celebrate the 497th anniversary of Luther's nailing the 95 Thesis to the church door in Wittenburg, be thankful the Pastors, teachers, Sunday School teachers, mothers, fathers, grandparents who all have shared Jesus with us! Be thankful to God for loving us so much that He sent His only Son Jesus to save us and to free us from sin, death and hell! And pray that many more people would hear that we are free in Christ, in Christ alone! In Jesus' name! Amen.

Rev. Timothy J. Henning, Vacancy Pastor



"For in the Gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: 'The righteous will live by faith.'"
(Romans 1:17)





Trunk or Treat

Have you ever wanted to see a real life Lutheran in lederhosen? Or wondered if you sat next to Frankenstein's monster last Sunday? Or questioned if the Chik-fil-a Cowz knew the scripture? Are you in for a TREAT!

Get your trunks ready, your treats out, and tell your friends! Shepherd of Peace is having its fifth annual TRUNK OR TREAT on Saturday, October 25th from 2pm-5pm.

Our TRUNK OR TREAT will include trunks (with candy), games (toss, fishing, basketball, a cupcake walk), and pictures. This is a free event for the entire community, so be sure and invite everyone you know.

You can participate in a variety of ways. We need bakers for the cupcakes, candy donations, and lots of cars lined up with open trunks full of candy! Decorating is optional, but encouraged; so have fun with it! (Some of the past participant trunks are below). Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board, and a candy donation station is in the narthex. Don't forget to mark your calendar for this FUN event!



A-Maizing Fun for the SOP Youth

The tradition continues! The ShePeace Youth & friends will be solving the puzzle that is Schaefer's Farm Corn Maze on Saturday, October 25th. Their adventure will begin at 10am in the church parking lot and end at the exit of the corn maze. Let us know if you prefer to meet at the maze. We will conduct a head count prior to entering the maze and will return with the same amount of people.

The cost is \$5 for age 12 and \$7 for ages 13-60. Participants are encouraged to dress comfortably and bring water (It can get hot in the maze!). There are no short cuts or fast exits. Let Ms. Dani know how many of you are attending. Good Luck!!

Additional adults are needed for this event, so if you would like to have a great day with some terrific teens, contact Dani.



The Shepherd's Flock (Getting to Know His Sheep): The Smiths

Jason and Carol Smith both were born in Stuttgart, AR. While they were in two different grades and knew each other generally, they had totally separate friendship circles growing up. Jason started college at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro in 1995, and Carol started there in 1996. Jason knew Carol's roommate and invited her to a party at his fraternity house, Alpha Tau Omega. Carol tagged along and they have been together ever since. They married November 3, 2001, in Stuttgart at St. John's Lutheran Church – the weekend BEFORE deer season started.

Jason did have a learning curve when he met Carol – one of the first things he did with her family was deer hunting. Growing up in the Rice and Duck capital of the world (Stuttgart), Jason had been duck hunting but never deer hunting. Carol had been hunting since she was old enough to climb in a deer stand with her mom. In fact, that is still her favorite place in the world – in the quiet woods admiring God's handiwork. Well, needless to say, a competition soon started between the two of them that continues to this day. And Jason's total has surpassed Carol's total – but she blames that on pregnancy and two small kids.

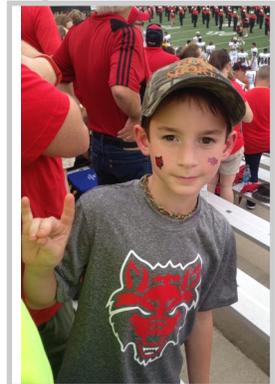
Jason started working at Southwest Power Pool (SPP) in Little Rock shortly after graduating from ASU in May 2000 with an Electrical Engineering degree. He is currently the Manager of Operations Engineering after moving up through the ranks in system planning and later moving into real-time operations. His job moved to Maumelle in 2006, and that is when they joined Shepherd of Peace. He is fortunate to work with Ken Quimby and Jimmy Womack, who also attend our church. He loves distance biking and has competed in several 100-mile races. While he gets out and rides when he can, his volunteering commitments (and kids!) keep him from riding as much as he would like.

Carol graduated cum laude in May 2000 from A-state with a degree in Corporate Finance. She worked in accounts payable for Communication Management Specialists in Little Rock, a company that built cell phone towers. After the company was bought out, God opened a door for her at Transamerica Insurance Company. Connor was born in 2005 and had severe colic. At that point, Carol decided to quit her job and stay home with her kids. While she had done some temporary work and is currently the Financial Administrator (aka Treasurer) for the church, her focus remains on her kids and volunteering wherever they are involved.

About the kids – Connor is 8 and in 3rd grade at Academics Plus Charter school. He is a great student and loves science and math. But his true love is the outdoors, just like his parents. He started "serious" deer hunting last year, and hopes this year is the one for the first deer. He also loves Cub Scouts, and his dad is his den leader and assistant Cub Master this year. But the sport that really gets his attention is snow skiing. He started in 2012 at age 6, but this past January in Breckenridge he really took to the sport. He took a few classes with trained instructors and was skiing all blues and a few blue-blacks (harder than the easy greens that his mom has to stick to!). He really liked the kids' trails through the woods that come down the mountains between the different ski runs. Often shooting down them far faster than mom or dad can catch up. And of course he loved the snow tubing at Frisco. He is so excited to be going again this January – probably to start trying trick skiing and the half pipe (that's mom's worry).

Sloane is the princess of the family. After never expecting a girl, Jason and Carol were blessed with a very girly girl – pink, bows, dresses, ballet, etc. She was born in January 2010, but she was delivered via emergency C-section 6 weeks early. She stayed in the NICU for 2 weeks, while Carol stayed in the hospital getting over her blood pressure issue. She is now a healthy, happy 4 year old who currently attends FUMC pre-K. She skied with her dad with a safety harness and loved it on the last trip to Breckenridge. She plans to take a ski class so she can get up on the "big hill" with bubba. And is planning to carry her Nerf gun to the deer stand in November so she can get a big buck!

The Smiths remain awestruck at God's work at Shepherd of Peace -- there have been so many opportunities to help others and work to be done in and around the church. They consider it a blessing that God moved them to Maumelle when he did and opened their lives to many new and wonderful friends!



OCTOBER 2014



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Choir	2 Study Teens	3	4
5 Worship Study ToT Meeting	6 Quilters	7 Conf. II	8	9 Study Teens	10	11
12 Worship Study NYG Meeting	13 Quilters	14 Worship Com. Conf. II	15 Choir	16 Study Teens	17	18
19 Worship Study	20 Quilters	21 Conf. II	22	23 Study Teens	24	25 Men's Brkfst Maze (youth) ToT
26 Worship Study Ref. Service	27 Quilters	28 Conf. II	29	30 Study Teens	31	

Schedule of Events

- Sundays, 8:00am & 10:30am, Worship
- Sundays, 9:15am, Family Bible Hour
- Mondays, 10am-4pm, Peace Quilters
- Tuesdays, 4:30pm, Jr. Confirmation II
- Thursdays, 10:30am-11:30am, Bible Study
- Thursdays, 6:00pm-7:00pm, Mid-Week Teens
- Wednesdays, Oct. 1st & 15th, 7pm, Choir Practice
- Sunday, Oct. 5th, 2 pm, Trunk or Treat Planning Meeting
- Sunday, Oct. 12th, 11:45am, NYG Youth/Parent Meeting
- Tuesday, Oct. 14th, 4pm, Worship Com.
- Saturday, Oct. 25th, 8:30am, Men's Breakfast
- Saturday, Oct. 25th, 10am, Youth Corn Maze
- Saturday, Oct. 25th, 2pm-5pm, Trunk or Treat
- Sunday, Oct. 26th, 3pm, Circuit Reformation Service, 1st Lutheran, LR



Faith in Action

SOP Youth were blessed to have many opportunities to lend a hand throughout the month of September. Several of the youth members were able to assist at Maumelle's Senior Wellness Center, by helping serve dinner at the Senior Center Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. The youth that were able to attend very much enjoyed the opportunity to meet some retirees in Maumelle as well as other teens who also enjoyed the chance to serve.

The youth made even more of an impact on Sunday, by bringing back servant events to Shepherd of Peace. SOP Youth members and friends had a fun time teaching several SOP Kids (and grown-ups) how to make coffee filter flowers. The youth, kids, and adults created sixty brightly colored flowers that were made into 15 center pieces. These center pieces were taken to The Lakes in Maumelle and used to decorate dinner tables for the residents. Everyone delighted in the joy that these flowers brought to the residents and staff!



Trisha Holt (volunteer coordinator) poses with Maeghan, Keeley, and Evan



SOP Youth Participants included: Briana, Savannah, Sydney, Mia, Regan, Sarah, & Keeley. Not Pictured: Maeghan
 SOP Kid Participants included: Sloane, Elaina, Connor, Carley.
 Not Pictured: Gregory, Carson, & Jackson
 Adult Helpers : F'lar Not Pictured: Michelle, Carol, Stephanie, & Ms. Dani



October Service Volunteers



	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Lay Minister	Parrish Hurely	Tony Wray
Acolyte	Savannah Tyndall	Sarah Wray
Ushers	J. Ausburn & L. Mahnken	M. Flakoll & L. Quimby
Lector	Esther Mahnken	Ken Quimby
Comm. Prep	Higgins & Ausburn	Flakoll
Comm. Assistant	Mark Filter	Felix Cates



(Please note: Because October 5th is LWML Sunday, ladies of the church have been asked to take on the duties of usher and lector for that Sunday.)



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

9:20 AM - Family Bible Hour

10:30 AM - Blended Worship

Special Days in October

10-7 Matt & Robin Maguire (A,13)

10-9 Peter Christiansen (B)

10-10 Felix Cates (B)

10-13 Columbus Day

Larena Castleberry (B)

10-15 George Heintzen Jr (B)

10-18 St. Luke, Evangelist

10-20 Sydney Wray (B,15)

10-23 St. James of Jerusalem

10-26 Ken & Laura Quimby (A,34)

10-31 Reformation Day

