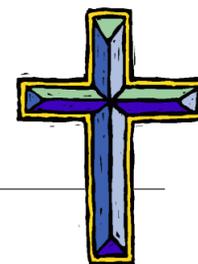


The Shepherd's Voice



Volume 25, Issue 5

May 2015

Shepherd of Peace Lutheran Church

O Holy Spirit, Enter In!

The season of Pentecost in the church year emphasizes the work of the Holy Spirit! Many hymns speak of the work of the Spirit in our lives and within the Church. **“O Holy Spirit, enter in, and in our hearts Your work begin, Your dwelling place now make us. Sun of the soul, O Light divine, around and in us brightly shine, to joy and gladness wake us that we may be truly living, to You giving prayer unceasing and in love be still increasing.”** (LSB 913, vs.1) The Holy Spirit’s work is sanctification, as Luther teaches in the Small Catechism. *Sanctification* means, “to make holy.” The Holy Spirit enters our ears through the hearing, reading, studying, and meditating on the Word of God. The Holy Spirit enters our hearts through the means of grace, Holy Baptism and Holy Communion. Through these means of Word and Sacrament, the Holy Spirit creates, strengthens, and nourishes in us true saving faith. Faith that clings to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior! Faith that serves our neighbor in love! Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, vessels in which the Spirit of God resides and carries out His work in us and through us.



St. Paul in his letter to the Galatians writes about the fruits of the Spirit. **“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, self-control; against such things there is no law...If we live by the Spirit, let us walk by the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.”** (Galatians 5:22-23, 25-26) Let us come together in prayer, asking God to continue to send His Holy Spirit into our midst at Shepherd of Peace that our lives would be led by Him in all that we do and say. Commit to being in worship, Sunday School and Bible Class; partake of Holy Communion each Sunday; pray for one another; and the Holy Spirit will continue to bear fruit among us! Let our Pentecost prayer be, “O Holy Spirit, Enter In! Amen” ~Rev. Timothy J. Henning, Vacancy Pastor

Special points of interest:

- NEW Adult Bible Study, 1 Peter, begins, Sunday, May 3rd
- Car Wash, Saturday, May 16th
- Reception for Graduates, Sunday, May 17th
- Confirmation Sunday, May 31st

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Car Wash

Saturday, May 16th, 9am-12pm
SOP Parking Lot

(Donations are appreciated and will help fund SOP Youth's 2016 trip to the NYG in New Orleans, LA)



Brothers and Sisters in Christ Working Together



On the 24th anniversary of Shepherd of Peace, we begin the year with yet another interesting chapter of '2015' SOP history. We can't say that it's been fun or great, but as they say, 'it is what it is'.

As you are aware the Hunze family spent several days in the Maumelle area a few weeks ago, and Reverend Hunze delivered the message on Sunday morning. Later that afternoon the BoD and LM spent several hours asking and answering questions. We were about 90% in agreement to go forward in our recommendation of calling Rev. Hunze as our IIM. A voters' meeting was then held on April 19th where a healthy discussion took place concerning the call. A vote was cast, and approximately 90% of the members present agreed to call Rev. Hunze.

The BoD and LM contacted Rev. Hunze to let him know he would be receiving paperwork with a formal call from SOP. On Monday Michael and Mark received an email with his initial 3 month plan to begin immediately, along with the equivalent of an ultimatum that if we don't agree with all of his plans, we should rescind the call.

Michael shared the email with LM & BoD and scheduled a conference call with Rev. Hunze regarding the email. (To be clear, the objections were not so much the content of the e-mail, rather the tone and approach that he used in decision making.) The question of concern was: *If he used this approach with an initial 3 month plan, then is this what we should expect in other situations moving forward?* EVERY benefit of the doubt was given. We finished the conference call (one LM absent and 8 LM & BoD in attendance),



discussion took place among the group and each cast a verbal vote. The result of vote was unanimous to NOT send call documents and advise the congregation of what happened. We were ALL in agreement that Rev. Hunze leading SOP would be divisive.

“...assembled as one, In the name of the Son... We are brothers and sisters in Christ.” ~excerpt from “*Brothers and Sisters in Christ*”

This information was delivered to the members of SOP in our combo anniversary/emergency meeting on Sunday, April 26th. (I was unable to attend so my words may be different from what you heard in the meeting, but the facts remain the same). The congregational members in attendance, after hearing the motion from the BoD/ LM, asking questions, and discussing the situation, and voted to rescind the vote to call Rev. Hunze.

Does that hurt? Sure! We were hoping that he would be our 'glue' but God allowed us to open our eyes to underlying issues. We wanted to get over this and move 'upward and onward', someone to take care of us, take care of our wounds but such was not the case. In all this, we've waited for someone to come pick us up and glue us together. Let's consider the possibility that it's UP TO US to put our pieces together!! Get back to what we should be doing, mend each other and do what GOD asked us to do, SPREAD HIS WORD!

The LM & BoD ask you to join arms and help move forward. We've been at a standstill for so long, we're gathering dust and losing our edge. Your leaders will keep moving on finding a new under-shepherd but will also start getting SOP out into the mission field, everything outside of our doors. Please SOP, open your eyes, arms and hearts to where God wants us and needs us to be. Tell the devil to get on down the road and let's work as a group instead of small pieces. If you have suggestions for outreach opportunities, please reach out talk to a BoD member. *Think, create, move & PRAY!*~Laura Quimby (on behalf of the BoD)



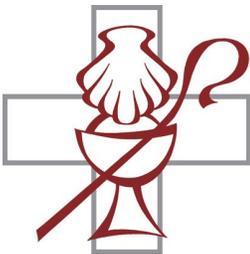
LWML Mite Boxes

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League appreciate all who continue to fill and turn in filled Mite Boxes. The donations collected go to mission projects within our Mid-South District and throughout the world. Recently the national LWML announced that the \$1.83 million Mites for Mission Grants have been paid in full and the goal had been surpassed. The Mid-South District LWML goal is \$89,000 for 2014-2016 Mission Grants and has granted over half of this total so far. During the months of March and April Shepherd of Peace has contributed \$58.75 towards these Mission Grants with a total of \$128.50 so far this year. Shepherd of Peace requested a Mission Grant to update the Fellowship Hall facilities but was among six other grants that were not awarded for 2014-2016. However, we are still on the list to receive a grant if funds become available. Thank you so much for your support through the LWML Mite boxes. Our mission outreach is so important. Mite Boxes are on the welcome table in the Narthex, along with the LWML Quarterlies. ~*Esther Mahnken, Mid-Arkansas Zone LWML President*



Confirmation Sunday 2015

May 31st will be a very special Sunday at Shepherd of Peace! Three of our young people will confirm their faith in our Lord Jesus Christ as it has been taught them as youngsters at home, in Sunday School, and in two years of catechetical training. These three Confirmands were all baptized into the family of believers as babies, and are now able to affirm the faith that was instilled in their hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit at Baptism.

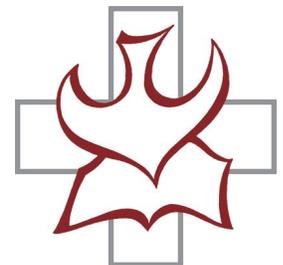


It has truly been an honor for me to have led these students of God's Word for most of the past two years. They began their catechetical training under then pastor, Neil Vanderbush, for less than two months before he took a call to Jacksonville, NC. As their instructor since that time, I have seen them grow spiritually, as well as physically and emotionally, as we have traversed this road toward Confirmation together.

Keeley Ausburn, Evan McDonald and Savannah Tyndall are now close to having completed two years of course work. Their first year included a 40 unit workbook emphasizing the 6 chief parts of Luther's Small Catechism including the 10 Commandments, the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Confession (Office of the Keys), and the Sacrament of the Altar. Their second year made use of a 60 unit workbook that encouraged them to apply what they learned in the Catechism to their daily lives. This is our church's method of confirming the faith begun in these young people's hearts at Baptism, and we pray that it instills in them a hunger to continue studying the Holy Scriptures as they begin their lives as communicant members of Shepherd of Peace Lutheran Church.

Please show your support for our Confirmands by attending their Rite of Confirmation service. Also, consider sending a card or speaking a word of encouragement to each of them for all their dedicated work in having attained this milestone in their faith walk.

~*Mark Filter*



Graduates Honored

Shepherd of Peace will have three of our young members graduate from high school at the end of May. We are proud of these young women and their accomplishments. Each of these graduates is a loved part of the Shepherd of Peace family, and we are very excited about their upcoming plans. A reception in honor of our graduates will take place at 10:15am on Sunday, May 17th in the fellowship hall.



Briana Gebhardt

Briana graduates from Mayflower High School later this month. She has decided to wait a year before attending college in order to earn money to help with college costs. She plans to become a dental assistant “so she can help others love their smiles and feel confident.” She is going to miss cheerleading, which gave her the chance to be loud and use her energy. Bri loves that cheerleading gave her the confidence to be herself. She is looking forward to a successful future filled with success and smiles!

Ladye Hurley

Ladye has been accepted to Concordia in Seward, NE. She is planning to study early education and working in the Lutheran school program. She has already received a scholarship from the church workers program for her first year.



Savannah Wray

Savannah Wray is graduating from Mount Saint Mary's Catholic School this month. Her college plan is to attend the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. Currently, her major is undeclared, but she is interested in going into pharmacy school afterwards. Savannah plans on going through recruitment for Greek life in August. Savannah writes: “One thing I am going to miss about Shepherd of Peace is being surrounded by supportive people who have given me unconditional love. I loved being in the youth program and going through confirmation. I will truly miss seeing everyone's smiling faces every Sunday.”



Best wishes to All our Graduates!

Parking Lot Sale

SOP Youth is hosting a Maumelle area Parking Lot Sale on Saturday June 6th from 7:00am-1:00pm. This is a great opportunity to donate or sell some of the gently used items you cleaned out of your home during spring cleaning. It is also a chance to find that “something” you've been looking for. More than that, it is a way to help the youth raise money for next year's trip to the NYG in New Orleans!

They are taking item donations to be sold in the sale as well as offering rental spaces for any vendors who might like to sell their own items. Spaces are available for rental so that vendors can sell their own items. The cost to rent a space is \$25. Rental forms are available in the church office. Items for donation can be dropped off in the back room of the fellowship hall, or the youth can come to your house and pick up donations; contact Dani to make arrangements.



Shepherd's Flock (getting to know His sheep): The Christiansens

Peter and Phyllis Christiansen met at work, the old AMF bicycle division, here in Little Rock. Phyllis was an accountant and the office manager. Peter was an industrial engineer. Both had experienced brief failed marriages and were determined not to suffer through that again. Despite being cautious by nature, they quickly discovered that, despite diverse backgrounds, they enjoyed many common interests and firmly believe God brought them together. They are, in fact, soul mates. Thirty-seven years later they have two grown children, Cathy and Erik, and four grandchildren, all living in the area.



Phyllis was born in the small southeastern Arkansas burg of Humphrey ... that's "Umphrey". The "H" is silent. At an early age her family moved to Pine Bluff. As the oldest of three children and with a working mom and dad, she learned responsibility early. That included preparing daily dinner and looking after her younger brother and sister. She grew up enjoying visits with her many uncles, aunts, and cousins living in the Arkansas – Texas area. Not surprisingly, coming from the heart of the Bible belt, she is from a Baptist background honestly.

Phyllis was the valedictorian of her high school class and a national merit scholar. She played flute in band and was a majorette. Despite the educational options available to her, she chose to attend the U of A. However, she ultimately transferred to Memphis State, where she graduated magna cum laude with a degree in accounting. (Peter freely concedes she is clearly the more responsible party and brains of the family.)

Peter was from a small family with no relatives within 500 miles of Rolla, the central Missouri town in which he grew up. His father was a PE and professor of Mining Engineering who had been raised Lutheran. His mother had played basketball and graduated from Duke ... a Southern Baptist. Apparently they compromised and he grew up attending an independent Christian Church - every time the doors were open. He was raised to believe faith in God, prayer, and Christian precepts were more important than denomination. Peter was fortunate to have lived in Lima, Peru and visit points of interest in South America for two years while in junior high. He returned to Missouri for high school. Peter was active in track and basketball but his first love was the drums and percussion, which he played in the high school band and a local rock group. The group played regularly, with Peter's favorite venues being the Officers' and NCO Clubs at Fort Leonard Wood. Those "good times" survived three years of high school and a year of college.

... about Peter and college: as a result of ligament injuries sustained in a post-graduation motorcycle accident, a track scholarship was no longer in the cards. To his parents chagrin, persuasive friends convinced him to make a last minute switch to attend Harding College in Searcy. While Harding didn't prove to be his cup of tea, he thoroughly enjoyed the requisite Bible classes and gained an interest in target shooting and "quick draw" from new found southern friends. The interest in target shooting continued through his subsequent graduation from Southwest Missouri State and to this day.

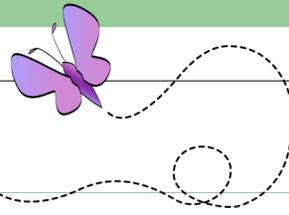
Fast forward: After raising the kids in Little Rock, Peter and Phyllis built a home in Maumelle in 1999, visiting Shepherd of Peace shortly thereafter. The message and warm welcome from that first visit have never been forgotten and assured their return. We'll always be thankful for the cheerful greetings received of Marc Higgins, Ron Shertzer, and Pastor Mayerhoff. Since becoming members, Phyllis served a lengthy term as treasurer and Peter has served in multiple capacities.

Phyllis retired as Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield's Senior Financial Analyst In 2011 after thirty years with the company. Unfortunately, in 2012 she suffered a rare brain seizure, "PRES", resulting in loss of vision and an epileptic condition. On the bright side, it is truly a miracle she is alive, and they're thankful for every day. The prayers, support, and enduring friendship shared by friends at Shepherd of Peace were, and continue to be, wonderful.



Peter recently retired after thirty-six years with Dassault Falcon Jet, wrapping up a long stint as Director of Environmental Affairs and Government Relations. Peter and Phyllis are now looking forward to retirement together and additional time for family, SOP friends, and perhaps a bit of travel. They've visited 48 of the 50 states and would like to make the last two - North Dakota and Idaho.





May 2015

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a	4 Quilters, 10a	5 Jr. Conf., 4:30p	6 Choir, 7p	7 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6p	8	9
10 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a MOTHER'S DAY	11 Quilters, 10a	12 Jr. Conf., 4:30p	13	14 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6p	15	16 CAR WASH
17 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a GRADUATES	18 Quilters, 10a	19 Jr. Conf., 4:30p	20 Choir, 7p	21 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6p	22	23 Breakfast, 8:30a
24 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a	25 Quilters, 10a	26 Jr. Conf., 4:30p	27	28 Study, 10:30a Teens, 6p	29	30
31 Worship, 9a Bible Hour, 10:15a CONFIRMATION						



May Events

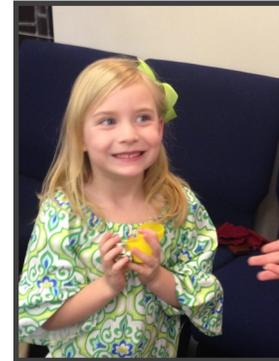
- * Sundays, 9:00am, Worship
- * Sundays, 10:15am, Family Bible Hour
- * Mondays, 10am-4pm, Peace Quilters
- * Tuesdays, 4:30pm, Jr. Confirmation II
- * Wednesdays, May 6 & 20, 7pm, Choir Practice
- * Thursdays, 10:30am, Bible Study
- * Thursdays, 6pm, Mid-Week Teens
- * Sunday, May 10, *Happy Mother's Day, Mom!*
- * Saturday, May 16, 9am-12pm, Car Wash
- * Sunday, May 17, 10:15am-10:30am, Reception for Graduates
- * Saturday, May 23, 8:30am, Men's Breakfast
- * Sunday, May 31, Confirmation Sunday

Making Memories in April 2015

Easter Morning!



He's Risen!



Animal Shelter Service Event



Shepherd of Peace Lutheran Church

PO Box 13143
449 Millwood Circle
Maumelle, Arkansas 72113
Phone: 501-851-4546
Email: shepeace@sbcglobal.net



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SOP!**

SHEPEACE.COM

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:

9:00 AM Worship

10:15 AM Family Bible Hour

facebook

Special Days in May

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5-1 Ken Aeberman (B)
Philip and James, Apostles | 5-25 Memorial Day
Michael & Audrey Flakoll (A,13) |
| 5-4 Carolyn Drane (B) | 5-26 Barrett Davenport (B, 2) |
| 5-5 Georganna Reprogle (B) | 5-27 Maeghan Gibson (B, 16) |
| 5-6 Veronica Shepherd (B) | 5-28 Tony Wray (B) |
| 5-10 Mother's Day | 5-29 Ed & Beth Helmstetter (A,44)
Steve & Kelly McDonald (A,16) |
| 5-11 Stephanie Anderson (B)
Betty Weaver (B) | 5-31 Holy Trinity Sunday |
| 5-15 Ascension of Our Lord
Fred & Melissa Bishop (A, 22)
Leroy Mahnken (B)
Steve McDonald (B) | |
| 5-17 Les Browning (B) | |
| 5-18 F'lar Ausburn (B) | |
| 5-24 Day of Pentecost | |

