

# The Shepherd's Voice

## The Name that Is Above Every Name



Obedience has become an almost ignored concept. Some parents believe that requiring obedience from their children stifles their creative and emotional development. Many couples remove the word "obey" from the vows that brides give to their grooms. To expect employees to obey their employers is certainly not acceptable.

To God, however, obedience is not only acceptable, it is required. Disobedience to God is what is known as sin. And sin separates. Sin separates us from God and from each other. Sin prevents us from living the abundant life that Christ came to give us (John 10:10). On the other hand, obedience is proof of love: *"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments,"* Jesus says (John 14:15).

Unfortunately, as sinful beings, we are unable to obey our Lord's commands fully. Even the great apostle Paul struggled with this reality. He confessed, *"I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out"* (Romans 7:18). As he relates his dilemma – the dilemma all Christians face – he asks, *"Who will deliver me from this body of death?"* (For as surely as day follows night, death follows disobedience) He answers exultantly, *"Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!"* (Romans 7:24-25)

Jesus has lived the perfect life in our place. Jesus willingly emptied Himself, made Himself nothing, *"becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name..."* (Philippians 2:7-9).

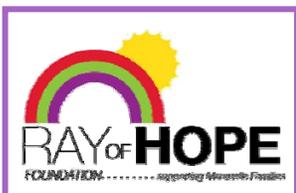
The Bible says, *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost"* (Luke 19:10). Jesus took the initiative "to seek"; Jesus paid the price "to save." Reaching people with the Gospel is not optional; it is central.

Jesus did what we cannot do. Jesus triumphed over sin, death, and the devil. Jesus, dead and buried, would not stay there! Jesus has risen! He is exalted to the highest place! He has given us His Spirit, the Counselor, Who lives with us and in us (John 14:16-17), to sanctify us for obedience to our Father. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!



## Rain or Shine April 13th

The Church Growth committee is still looking for helpers to pass out water to the participants of the 2nd Annual Rain or Shine 5K on Saturday, April 13th. Those interested are encouraged to speak to Ben Weigand or Dani Ausburn before April 13th to get the final details for the event. If you are interested in running in the 5K, you can register at [rayofhopemaumelle.com](http://rayofhopemaumelle.com). Get involved!!!



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## Diligence in Teaching

*"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise... Deuteronomy 6:4-7*

Ask anyone nowadays who is Jewish and they'll tell you how important the above passage is to being a Jew. There is but ONE God, and Him alone shall you serve, right? This summation of the commandments and practical application provided in scripture is well known as a confession of faith in the One True God, and of one's own identity in Him.

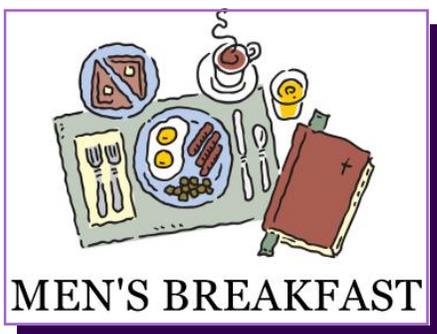
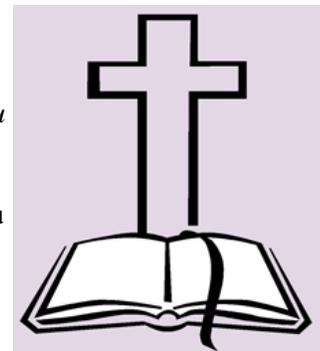
Matthew records the time when a lawyer asked Jesus (the greatest Jew ever, by the way), *"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" And He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind..."* (Matt 22:36-37) Sound familiar? It did to the lawyer, too. God has placed this upon our hearts, because we are His. But He didn't just "poof" it there, He taught you as you heard His Word and by faith, the working of the Holy Spirit in you, your heart grabbed a hold of these words and treasured them. How did He do that? He provided faithful Christians to *teach* you, and hopefully with *diligence*. That is something for which to be thankful!

Notice that God's command in Deuteronomy in 6:7 is clear for us (which includes YOU), *You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise...* We are to make sure all of our children are hearing God's Word for His purposes, and not just on Sunday mornings...all the time! In a landscape that has become hard-set against all that is godly, mirroring Christian values isn't easy to do, yet we still hope for our faithfulness. As Christian families we need all the help we can get in order to be successful.

Please join me this month as we pray for this to be done well among us. In our homes, in our church and daily life, and everywhere in between, we can be diligent in teaching God's Word and the Christian faith. We will be praying not just for families, but also for teachers, Christian, parochial and early childhood programs, such as our Mother's Day Out, and much more. You never know, maybe God is preparing you to help teach or encourage others. Pray for how you can be involved in accordance with God's will. Remember that our identity is found in the One True God. May we be found faithful as we apply His commandments to our daily lives in love. As Jesus said it best in Matthew 19:14, *"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven."*

In Christ Jesus....

*Pastor Vanderbush*



**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, April 27th  
8:30am  
SOP Fellowship Hall**

**Car Wash**

**Saturday, April 27th**

**9:30am-12pm**

**Shepherd of Peace Parking Lot  
(Proceeds benefit the ShePeace Youth  
Trip to 2013 NYG in San Antonio, TX)**

## Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

What a gift to proclaim the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and the victory that He provides to us in His name.

Our journey through Lent and Holy Week was contemplative as we *faced the cross* together.

Now we move forward together *from the cross* and carry with us that bold proclamation that sin is destroyed, Jesus has died and is alive! He has done it! Alleluia!



## Members Share Talents on Easter

Members and friend of Shepherd of Peace came together with exuberance to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Easter Sunday, and glorified Him with a multitude of talents given them by God. How blessed Shepherd of Peace is to have such wonderful cooks, servers, egg hiders and finders, and cross decorators.

The talent didn't stop when worship began! In addition to the great job done by our pastor, lectors, ushers, acolytes, and crucifers, we were given the gift of song by our very talented choir and their musical accompanists. And we can't forget the bell choir and their joyful song! Thank you to everyone for sharing your many gifts! Praise God for our risen Savior!



## Thrivent, Lutherans, and Baseball

April 21st is the deadline for Thrivent members and guests to make reservations for the May 18th Dickey Stephens Lutheran Night at the Ball park. The cost is \$5.00 per person and includes a picnic supper. What a deal!!!! Anyone planning on taking advantage of this fun family event should contact Carol Mayerhoff at [cmayerhoff@yahoo.com](mailto:cmayerhoff@yahoo.com) to reserve your ticket. (Carol needs to give a final count of SOP members attending by April 21st.) Tickets can be paid for and picked up at the gate on May 18th. Cash only please.

## In Gathering Thanks

Thanks so much to everyone for bringing all the art supplies for our Lenten InGathering to benefit Pastor Utecht's ministry with the Sioux Indian children. We should be in great shape to make the backpacks for his children filled with art supplies. You provided ...



- 15 bottles of glue and 53 glue sticks
- 25 pair of scissors
- 23 packs of construction paper
- 9 packs of thick markers and 6 packs of thin markers
- 48 small jars of acrylic paint
- 14 packages of colored pencils and 28 pencil sharpeners
- 4 rolls of scotch tape and 1 basketball net???

Mrs. Carol will "fill in the blanks" with monies made at the Valentine Babysitting event and the Sunday School children will be filling the backpacks and making personal cards at our first Summer Servant Saturday in June. Thanks for being a blessing to these children with your generous giving.

## Council Corner: Updates from Your Church Council



I hope you all had a blessed Easter! Due to Spring Break and other business related travel conflicts, the Council did not have an "in person" meeting in March. Instead, we tried our hand at an e-meeting. We were able to accomplish some necessary items, but are also looking forward to resuming business as usual in April. ~ Michael Flakoll, Executive Director



The lay ministers met with Pastor in the conference room at our regular time. We spent almost all that time in Bible reading devotional and prayer. We specifically discussed needs of the people of Shepherd of Peace and prayed for them. We discussed how we can continue to reach out and help them. Pastor closed with a prayer. ~Marc Higgins, Lay Min.

I hope you are pleased with the newest bi-weekly emails you have been receiving concerning the offerings and current financial information for Shepherd of Peace. If you do not have email or are not currently receiving these updates, please let me know. You will be receiving your quarterly offering statements in the mail very soon. ~ Carol Smith, Financial Secretary

Tentative dates for VBS are July 14th through July 18th. Dani has agreed to team up with Jerri as co-directors of VBS this year. The education board will be announcing volunteer opportunities for this wonderful event. Even if you can't commit to all five nights, there will be plenty of areas that will need your talents. Youth are still working hard on getting ready for the gathering this summer. If you need any help with your Spring projects, give Dani a call. She has the perfect helpers ready to go. ~ Jerri Shertzer, Education Director



As you may have noticed, the property board has made a few changes here and there. We appreciate those who were able to take time a couple weekends ago to help beautify the church for the Easter festivities. Also we are still looking for a few more interested parties to help us review and make decisions on things we need done around the property. There are some very important decisions that come along and a diverse representation helps us ensure we end up with better solutions!



The area by the front doors was elected to receive a makeover. The shrubs that were there had such a short flowering season and were not evergreen so it was decided to replace them with something more inviting. Decisions are not yet final on that area, so you may see some inexpensive, temporary solutions until we get consensus on a more permanent solution.

It's also time to start the lawn mowing rotations for the growing season. If you are interested, please let me know! The more the merrier, and also the less each team has to actually mow. If we can get 10 volunteers that means once every 5 weeks your team would have to mow. So grab your buddy (or non-church goer you're looking for an excuse to get on the grounds) and sign up for a team. The church has all the equipment you'll need.

We have also moved our monthly meetings from the second Wednesday to the second Monday of each month. Come join us just for that month's discussion just to see what property is all about. No hammering or screwdriving skills required! ~ Jason Smith, Property Director

Church Growth is proud to announce that the board has been created and that Dani Ausburn, Lisa Nazzaro, Cookie Higgins, and Jeanie Filter will comprise its membership. We are excited to get started lighting this fire and helping it spread! ~ Ben Weigand, Church Growth Director



## Shepherd's Flock (Getting to know His sheep): Dave & Jane Schroeder

Hello, Shepherd of Peace family. We have been members of SOP for 9 years. Jane and I are originally from the St. Louis area, where we actually grew up directly across the street from each other. We say that I was 4 and she was 2 when we met, and it is true -- we really were childhood sweethearts! We married 17 years later, while I was still in college. We moved to Maumelle almost 30 years ago, when it was just a small village, and we raised two children here. Our son Matt, and his wife Ashlee and son Jacob, are also members of SOP. Our daughter Emily lives in New Orleans. Jane and I are both retired from federal civil service, but we certainly haven't retired from life. When people ask what we do with our time, we always say we're busy enjoying God's wonderful creation. We both love most things outdoors: hiking, biking, camping, canoeing, and gardening. Jane and I also love to travel. We usually spend a week on the beach in Florida each summer. We are also trying to visit as many National Parks as we can (13, with two more this summer), and raft as many white water rivers as possible (11 trips so far) while we are still physically active. We have recently enrolled in the Arkansas Master Naturalist program, and all of our Saturdays are now spent taking classes in earth and life sciences, nature, ecology, etc. We hope to become Certified Master Naturalists this summer so that we will be better equipped to share our love of God's creation with others. On the "indoor" side of our lives, I enjoy playing the piano and Jane enjoys reading. I also deliver Meals On Wheels weekly (what a neat witness opportunity this is) and help cook lunch a couple of times a month at the senior center. Jane sings in the choir at SOP and takes care of our grandson Jacob while Ashlee finishes up her RN degree at UCA. Needless to say we are very thankful for the wonderful life that God has blessed us with!



~ Dave & Jane

## April's Worship Volunteers

**8:00**

Lay Minister	Peter Christiansen
Acolyte	Sarah Shepherd
Ushers	C. Fandrei & W. Creasman
Comm. Prep	Mahnken & Wheat
Comm. Assist	Marc Higgins

**10:30**

Mark Filter
Alec Bishop
J. Hudson & M. Maguire
Flakoll
Felix Cates



## Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity is inviting members of Shepherd of Peace to help build a home for Angela Irby and her three children. This home will be located in North Little Rock, with a construction date tentatively set for late April or early May. They are asking for prayers, donations, and volunteers to help get the Irby family moved into their new home by the fall.



If you are interested in working with Habitat for Humanity on the building project or wish to donate funds toward the project, you are encouraged to contact Carl Kraehmer (Heartland Arkansas Chapter of Thrivent) at (501)847-5549. If you are unable to participate, we do ask that you pray for the builders and the future homeowners as they work toward the goals set before them. Perhaps you could lend a special prayer that the weather will cooperate with the project at hand.

## Fall Registration Begins

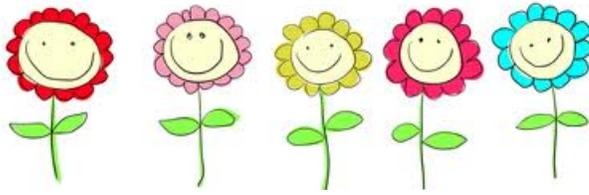
During April we begin registration for the Fall session (beginning the 3rd week in August) of Shepherd's Care Mother's Day Out and Preschool. We like to give current students and congregational members a chance to reserve their spots before we open up registration to the community. We closely follow the Pulaski County Special School District calendar. Classes are held each Tuesday and Thursday from 9:05 till 2:00. Students may enroll for one or both days. Tuition currently is \$20 a day for a student who is enrolled one day a week and \$18 a day for students enrolled both days. Presently, there is a onetime \$65 registration fee and a 10% discount for the second child in a family. Our space is limited to 7 students in the one/two year old MDO classroom and 12 students in the preschool room. Curriculum includes Bible stories, music, letter and number recognition, social skills, and science concepts. If you have any questions about the program or want a registration form, contact Mrs. Liz Sutherland or Mrs. Carol.



### Church Mice

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## Shepherd's Care Mothers' Day Out News



March was a short month because of Spring Break, but was filled with special events. We started out with Seuss week to celebrate a fun author's birthday. We had guest readers, pajama day, crazy hat day, movie day, and made green eggs and ham for snack. We talked about fiction and non-fiction stories as we compared Dr. Seuss's worlds with the world God made. The next week was St. Patrick's Day and we again distinguished between real and fiction as we talked about the actual St. Patrick as opposed to the pretend Leprechauns. We touched on what a "legend" was as we heard about St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland and teaching about the Triune God with a shamrock. We made puppet Leprechauns and even had the tricky little creatures come for a visit while we were at recess. They made a topsy turvy mess in our room, put their tiny green footprints all over the tables, and even left "something" green in our toilets. At least they left us some yummy Leprechaun "candy" grapes for a snack.

Bible stories this month focused on God's creation of the world and man's fall into sin. We heard how God was pleased with the world He made and how He created a helper for Adam. Then we learned how Adam and Eve had to leave the garden because they disobeyed God. Finally after Spring Break, we learned how God had a plan to fix the world that man had messed up when they sinned. We heard how He sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin so that we could be friends with God again. We celebrated the resurrection a little early because our butterflies were more than ready to be released and we cheered as they made their first flight.

During music we sang creation songs and celebrated the world God made. We also sang about God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit when we learned about St. Patrick's teaching. We had fun with some Leprechaun songs and laughed when silly "Tom, Tom the Leprechaun went to school with nothing on." During Dr. Seuss week we practiced with position words as we clarified the meaning of and began to read words like on, in, behind, on top of, etc. We practiced fine motor motions used for handwriting as we made fruit loop rainbows, played with the Lite Brite, and had pom poms with tongs in our sensory table.

During April we will be beginning preschool and MDO registration for next year. We like to give current students the first chance to reserve their spots. If you intend to enroll your child for the 2013-2014 year beginning in September, please let us know now. It helps a lot with planning if we know early how many returning students we will have. Plans are for all current staff members to return next year.



## Shepherd of Peace Lutheran Church

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

There's a place for you at 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.

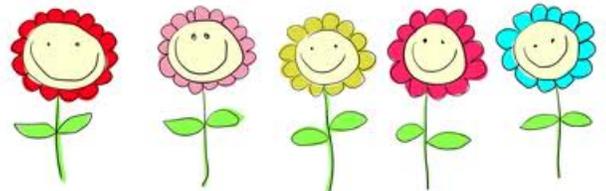
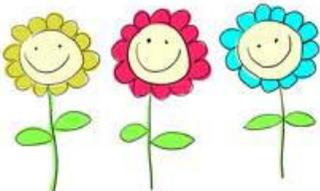
#### Sunday Schedule:

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



## Special Days in April

- 4-3 Robert & Kimberly Tschiemer (A, 21)
- 4-8 Geoffrey Flemmons (B, 17)
- 4-9 Evan McDonald (B, 11)
- 4-16 Tom Wray (B)  
Mary Yount (B)
- 4-18 Keeley Ausburn (B, 11)
- 4-19 Billie Palmer (B)
- 4-25 Helga Killion (B)
- 4-27 Carol Mayerhoff (B)
- 4-29 Ashley Davenport (B)



# April 2013

## Shepherd of Peace Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
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