

# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

SHEPHERD OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



## HIT THE ROAD

That day of the Resurrection, two friends were walking along the road to Emmaus. They didn't know, though, that it was Resurrection Day. That's why they were walking along with downcast faces. Along comes Jesus. "Hi," He says, "What's up? What are you talking about?"

"Don't you know?" they ask incredulously. "Where have you been? Under a rock? We're talking about Jesus. He's dead. We counted on Him for everything, but our hope is gone. He's dead."

"No, no, no," Jesus responds. "Haven't you read your Bible? Don't you know this was all planned out before the world began?" And He starts at the beginning and patiently explains the prophecies of Scripture and how they have been fulfilled in the

*He's Risen!*

past few days. Finally, as they eat together, as Jesus takes bread, gives thanks, breaks it, and gives it to them, their eyes are opened. Can't you imagine? Their eyes are wide open. It's safe to say their mouths were probably hanging open too as Jesus disappeared from their vision – from their physical sight, but not from their hearts and minds, and they return to Jerusalem with a new message: "*The Lord*

*has risen indeed...*" (Luke 24:34).

We have our opportunities, too, to explain Scripture to the downcast, the bewildered, the confused. We can come alongside our friends on their "road to Emmaus" and ask, "Hey, what's up?" Many people, even those who claim to be Christian, still base their beliefs on what they think, what they conceive to be logical, and what others have said. Like Jesus, we can turn their thoughts to Scripture. We can invite them to church where they might receive Christ's body and blood and have their spiritual eyes opened.

We have opportunities, also, to give our money to support pastors, teachers, and missionaries as they preach and teach the Risen Christ. As we use the resources and gifts God has given us to further His Kingdom, the Holy Spirit will cause the sure hope of salvation to cause the hearts of many to "*burn within [them]*" (Luke 24:32).

## ST. PATRICK, MISSIONARY TO IRELAND



Patrick is one of the best-known of the missionary saints. Born to a Christian family in Britain around the year 389, he was captured as a teenager by raiders, taken to Ireland, and forced to serve as a herdsman. After six years he escaped and found his way to a monastery community in France. Ordained a bishop in 432, he made his way back to Ireland, where he spent the rest of his long life spreading the Gospel and organizing Christian communities. He strongly defended the doctrine of the Holy Trinity in a time when it was not popular to do so. His literary legacy includes his autobiography, *Confessio*, and several prayers and hymns still used in the church today. Patrick died around the year 466.

-from the LCMS Lectionary Calendar

March 2013

Volume 25, Issue 3

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- "Facing the Cross" Lent services continue each Wednesday leading to Holy Week.
- Church Clean-up day is March 16th.
- Men's Breakfast is March 23 at 8:30am

## HOLY WEEK PREPARATIONS, ALREADY?



As we continue our journey this Lenten season Facing the Cross, we prepare for the great culmination in Holy Week at the end of March. We encourage everyone to be involved and invite those who may not have a church home to join in this most high time of the Church's year.

Beginning on Palm Sunday (March 24th), we will raise our Hosannas, reciting that ancient song found in Psalm 118, *Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless you from the house of the LORD.* From the procession of palms to the remembrance of our King coming to us for salvation, our worship prepares us for this most solemn week as we turn to His Passion.

Maundy Thursday we will then begin the Triduum, the holy three days of Christ's Passover. The service on this day culminates the Lenten season of preparation for Christ's Passion and Resurrection and leads into His sacrifice on our behalf. We celebrate with reverence, yet restrained joy, as we receive Jesus' Body and Blood which has been given and shed for the forgiveness of our sins and are reminded of His alienation as He journeyed to the cross. This is our Lord's Supper for us.

Good Friday we continue the Triduum, our focus on the betrayal, trial, beatings, crucifixion and death of Jesus in our stead. The Church's countenance is downcast this great holy day, and rightfully so, as Her Lord bears the tremendous humiliation that would take Him, the Author of life itself, into death. Though grieving at the thought, our hearts are oddly awakened with love eternal and reminded of the hope of what awaits on Sunday morning.

The final step of the Triduum is the morning of Resurrection, Easter Sunday! The Church throws out mourning garments and bears up the adornment of a holy Bride, proclaiming that death has been defeated and Jesus, our Lord and Savior, is raised from the dead. On this day the services will be distinct, but each proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus through Word, song and prayer. The Sunday School hour is transformed into a time of whole church fellowship and camaraderie as we share breakfast and the children gather around the resurrection story and then off to some egg hunting fun before the second service.

"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed." 1 Peter 2:24

As we join in the activities Holy Week, we will be following in the footsteps of countless saints who have gone before us in the proclamation of the Gospel. As you prepare keep Shepherd of Peace in prayer that we will all be faithful in this our time to bless the Name of the LORD!

### HOLY WEEK

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MARCH 24	PALM SUNDAY	8 AM & 10:30 AM
MARCH 28	MAUNDY THURSDAY	7 PM
MARCH 29	GOOD FRIDAY	7 PM
MARCH 31	EASTER SUNRISE	8 AM
	BREAKFAST AND EGG HUNT	9:15 AM & 10:00AM
	EASTER CELEBRATION	10:30 AM

## WATCH THE CROSS

Holy week will be coming up the end of the month and it is a week full of special services that will make your Easter worship even more meaningful. We will add a visual in the Narthex to hopefully make the services more understandable for the children (and everyone else). We encourage you to watch the cross. Talk about it with your children as it changes during Holy Week.

The cross is made from an old Christmas tree that was used at Shepherd of Peace. That is to help us remember that it is the baby, whose birth we celebrated at Christmas, who will be completing His earthly mission during Holy Week. Use the cross to help your children make this Christmas/Easter connection. Then on Palm Sunday the cross will be decorated with palm branches as we wave our palms to help us remember Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. On Maundy Thursday the cross will be draped in purple. The bread and wine of the Last Supper will be visible as we recall the night when Christ instituted the supper where even today we partake of His body and blood. On Good Friday the cross will be draped in black. The crown of thorns hanging on it is a solemn reminder of Christ's suffering and death. It's OK to let your children touch the thorns carefully if you think this would help to make the remembrance more real for them.

"This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." 1 John 4:9-10

Then Easter Sunday comes and it's your turn. Once again we will decorate the cross with flowers from *your* garden. Everyone is encouraged to scope out a few special blooms and cut them Sunday morning to bring to church to add to the Easter cross. There will be floral wire and tape available so that you can attach your floral offerings to the cross. If you don't have any flowers blooming (we know it is early this year), then ask a neighbor for a bloom or two (It's a good opening to ask the neighbor to join you for worship as well!) Purchased flowers are fine too if you don't have anything blooming, but we only need one or two flowers from each person. Do your part to make the narthex bloom to symbolize the new life we have because of Christ's death and resurrection.

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## RAIN OR SHINE: MAUMELLE'S RAY OF HOPE

Ray of Hope is a non-profit organization started by residents of Maumelle for residents of Maumelle in August of 2011. Since then, Ray of Hope has helped twelve Maumelle families who have faced times of crisis and has participated in numerous community activities.

The organization raises money by private and corporate donations and two large fundraisers each year. In 2012, Ray of Hope created the Rain or Shine 5k, the first of its kind in Maumelle. Participants run a route in Maumelle and all the proceeds benefit families and individuals in Maumelle. Community involvement is a large part of Ray of Hope; it is in a very literal sense, neighbor helping neighbor.

This year, Shepherd of Peace has been asked to contribute volunteers for the Rain or Shine 5K, which will be held on Saturday, April 13 at 8:00am. We will be handing out water at the water station during the 5K and running the refreshment table for participants as they complete the race. We need many volunteers from the church to do our part in this event, so we ask that everyone who is available on Saturday, April 13 from 7:00am-10:00am please sign up on the bulletin board by the Pastor's office or email the church at shepeace@sbcglobal.net to get placed on the list. Ben Weigand and Dani Ausburn will contact the volunteers on the list with the details prior to the event.

If you would like to run in the Rain or Shine 5K or learn more about Ray of Hope, you can visit their website, rayofhopemaumelle.com or find them on Facebook at Ray of Hope.



## COUNCIL CORNER: UPDATES FROM YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL



Now that we have two months under our belt, the Church Council is gaining momentum in 2013. The Committees are all actively conducting business according to SOP's mission. The directors will report the specifics for their respective areas. However, as a matter of general business, in March we will begin an internal audit of our financial records as directed by our constitution. Our audit team (this is a separate team from the previously discussed Task Force) is comprised of Gene Shepherd, Veronica Shepherd and David Shroeder. They will work closely with our treasurer, financial secretary, Pastor, and me to thoroughly review our books and report out their findings to the congregation. I don't anticipate they will, but if in their research they find any significant defects, they will suspend their efforts we will employ a professional auditor to take over (for their protection). As always, if you would like to discuss any SOP business with me, I welcome your questions, concerns and feedback! ~ Michael Flakoll, Executive Director

The Lay Ministers had an other than scheduled meeting after SOP's Ash Wednesday service. We discussed, by name, people in the Parish that we are lifting up in prayer, and covered some housekeeping items. All the Lay Ministers would like to urge everyone to be as faithful as they possibly can in church attendance, scripture reading and in daily prayer. Specific prayers should be laid at the feet of our Savior for personal forgiveness, health, family, Shepherd of Peace, needs of others, health of others, and all thanks and concerns . If you need any of us anytime just call. ~ Marc Higgins, Lay Ministers

Many thanks to Kelly McDonald, Jerry Geddes, Veronica Shepherd and Arlene Behemer. They have agreed to serve on the Education Board. We will be reviewing our responsibilities as outlined in our Constitution, and recommending additions or changes to the document. We are beginning our VBS planning, and will have tentative dates soon. Please consider volunteering for this wonderful experience. Our youth are working hard on raising funds for their youth gathering this summer. Please give Dani a call if you would like to rent a couple of them to help with your Spring cleaning. ~Jerri Shertzer, Education

Property board is looking for a few good volunteers! We have had a few members move on to other things in the past year and now we need to talk about re-filling our ranks. We don't just need strong backs or even those who know which end of the hammer to use. The Property Board works with several other groups to further our mission of spreading the Gospel using the facilities we have been blessed with. Look for more information soon and if you have any questions please let me know. ~Jason Smith, Property



Church Growth is currently organizing a board of members to more effectively organize events and increase our visibility in the community. For our first event, we will be sponsoring water stations in the upcoming Rain or Shine 5K (You can learn more about this event on page 3). If you are interested in participating on the Church Growth Board please contact Ben Weigand at [bweigand777@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bweigand777@sbcglobal.net). I look forward to growing with you in Christ! ~Ben Weigand, Church Growth

### EASTER LILIES

The Easter Lily Sign-up sheet is now available on the bulletin board for anyone who would like to purchase lilies for our Easter service. Cost is \$10.00.



SHEPHERD'S FLOCK (GETTING TO KNOW HIS SHEEP): LISA ROBERTS

Hi. I was born in Minneapolis, MN but migrated to Arkansas thru Oklahoma when I was 5 years old. I have always thought of moving back to MN but can't see myself shoveling snow to get to work. I graduated from Mills High School and have a 2 year Computer Networking degree from Pulaski Tech. I have worked at MEMS Ambulance for 27 years. I must like it, huh? My brother and his family are the only family I have in Arkansas. I have 3 nieces and a nephew. I had a cat named Sam for 16 years before he passed away a year ago. I went on my first cruise in 2012 and found that I love it! I am already planning my next one! I started attending Shepherd of Peace in 1998 with my mother. After she passed away, I bought her house here in Maumelle. I have been a member of the choir as long as I have been a part of the Shepherd of Peace family. I really love living in Maumelle and going to church at SOP.



~ Lisa Roberts

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..." 1 Peter 1:3

MARCH SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

8:00

- LAY MINISTER PARRISH HURLEY
- ACOLYTE LADYE HURLEY
- USHERS P. HURLEY & L. JOHNSTON
- COMM. PREP JOHNSTON & HIGGINS
- COMM. ASSIST TOM WRAY

10:30

- TONY WRAY
- KEELEY AUSBURN
- G. FLEMMONS & R. SUTHERLAND
- WILBURN & DENSBERGER
- KEN QUIMBY



**March 10th**  
**SHOW TIME 6:00 PM**  
**VERIZON ARENA**  
**TICKETS: \$10.00**

# WINTER JAM 2013 TOUR SPECTACULAR

**ARTIST LINE-UP:**

- TobyMac
- Red
- Matthew West
- Jamie Grace
- Newsong
- Sidewalk Prophets
- ...AND MORE

Because tickets are sold at the door only, ShePeace Youth are leaving from the church at 2:00PM to make sure we get in to Verizon. Tell Mrs. Dani how many of you (and your friends) want to go! Mrs. Audrey will be leading this event. Great way to Praise God and be in fellowship with some cool Christians!! Don't miss out!

## SPRING QUARTER BEGINS

We begin the spring quarter of Sunday School on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. This quarter the students will be studying New Testament stories about the ministry of our Savior. They begin with Jesus feeding the 5,000, through His death and resurrection, and on to the story of the sending of the Holy Spirit. Each week wonderful teachers work hard to present the truths from these stories to your children. We want to thank last quarters' teachers, Amanda Dorsett and Jeanette Hurley who will be taking a well-deserved quarter break now. Jerri Shertzer, Danielle Ausburn, Holly Vanderbush and Tina Cates will continue in their respective classes while Beth Helmstetter and Kara Weigand start their "quarter on" in the early childhood and middle grades classes. Thanks to all these ladies for agreeing to spend their Sunday mornings forming relationships and imparting ancient truths to our children. Don't forget on Easter Sunday we will have a short whole group lesson just before the Easter egg hunt. Children will join Mrs. Carol in the Pre-school area of the fellowship hall for the lesson and some Easter songs around 9:30am.

Our Sunday School attendance has been good during the winter quarter, but I'm hoping for even better attendance during the spring. Don't let your child/children miss the opportunity God has given us a Shepherd of Peace to grow in His word. Relationships with Christian friends and caring adults, along with the chance to learn truths about their Savior should make Sunday School a high priority for Christian parents.



### Church Mice



## SHEPHERD'S CARE MOTHERS' DAY OUT NEWS

There were lots of special days in February at Preschool. We celebrated Mardi Gras and Valentines in the same week. We also celebrated lots of birthdays and the day our butterflies hatched out of their chrysalises. Teachers celebrated the day Mrs. Jerri Shertzer, Board of Ed. Chair at Shepherd of Peace, volunteered to come in the mornings to help out with door security during drop off time. Thank you SO MUCH, Mrs. Jerri! We had sand in our sensory table and learned the sound and formation of letters Rr and Nn. We've been practicing with patterns and numbers up to ten in math.

Bible stories this month included the story of Jesus washing His disciples' feet. We talked about how we could be servants like He was. We even washed green paint off each other's feet after we used our feet to make footprints that followed Jesus. We did a lot with feet that week including using them to try to guess what items were hidden under a sheet. We learned how Dorcas was a servant too when she made clothes for people, so we made Valentines for Pastor to take to shut ins. Lent started after our Mardi Gras celebration, and we realized it was time to think about what Jesus had done for us. We heard how God made people and were fascinated to learn about things God had put inside our bodies. We learned the function and location of the brain, lungs, heart, stomach and intestines.

During music we tried our hand at playing hand bells and played a recognizable song the first day. We also played percussion instruments so we could practice passing around a circle. We sang songs about being a helper and about how "God Made Me." We also decided we should "Get up, get up and tell the world. That Jesus paid the price so we could have eternal life." We learned a ribbon dance to the Russian Dance from the Nutcracker Suite, but we still get a little dizzy with that one.

During March we will celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and Easter. Spring break also falls this month. During Lent, Shepherd of Peace children are gathering craft supplies for Sioux Indian children who participate in an after school program on the reservation in S. Dakota. They are collecting markers, construction paper, acrylic paints, colored pencils and small sharpeners, glue sticks, and bottles of glue. If your child would like to participate in this ingathering, please send any of those items to school and we'll make sure they get to place them in the collection basket.



"This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God." ~ 1 Corinthians 4:1

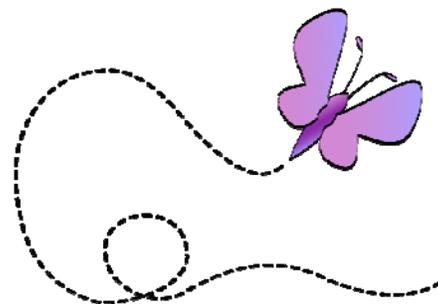


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SHEPHERD OF PEACE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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E-mail:  
shepeace@sbcglobal.net



### 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!

Shepeace.com

facebook

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## SPECIAL DAYS IN MARCH

- |      |  |      |   |
|------|--|------|---|
| 3-3  | Fred Bishop (B)<br>George Heintzen III (B)<br>Pastor Vanderbush (B)            | 3-18 | Beth Helmstetter (B)  |
| 3-4  | Savannah Wray (B, 16)  | 3-19 | Joseph, Guardian of Jesus<br>Jerry & Linda Geddes (A, 32)<br>Dana Zimmerman (B) |
| 3-10 | Daylight Savings Time Begins   | 3-20 | Teresa Creasman (B)   |
| 3-12 | Dalee Brown (B)<br>Jerry Geddes (B)<br>Dale Palmer (B)<br>Felicia Wilbanks (B) | 3-21 | Carol Smith (B)   |
| 3-13 | Janette Hurley (B)   | 3-23 | Mark Bird (B)   |
| 3-14 | Elizabeth Hudson (B)<br>Sarah Shepherd (B, 13)                                 | 3-24 | Palm Sunday   |
| 3-15 | Kara Weigand (B)   | 3-25 | Annunciation of Our Lord  |
| 3-16 | Jackson Miller (B, 3)<br>Dave & Jane Schroeder (A,39)                          | 3-30 | Landry Cates (B,3)  |
| 3-17 | St. Patrick's Day<br>Andrea & George Heintzen III (A, 12)                      | 3-31 | Easter  |



