

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY...

**LIFE AT ITS BEST —  
Time Wasters**

The lack of goals, priorities, and plans contributes to the biggest loss of time. There are other time wasters, such as procrastination, carelessness, wrong priorities, and never saying “no”. All these habits steal time and keep us from pursuing the best God has for us.

To sow your time wisely, ask yourself the following questions:

- What am I living for?
- Where am I headed in life?
- What do I want to accomplish before God calls me home?
- Am I doing the best I can to use my time to glorify God?
- Am I drifting through life?

Having your goals and priorities in place will help you discern what is—and isn't—important so that you can live life at its best.

*The above list was taken from “Living Wisely in an Unwise World” by Ronald and Phyllis Chewing. To find out what else is on this list, join us on Sunday at 10:15 am.*

**JUNE**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY EVENING**—6:00 pm

**SUNDAY MORNING** —9:00 am

*This schedule runs June through August*

**HOLY COMMUNION**—June 3, 4 and 17,18

**BIBLE STUDIES, CLASSES and ETC...**

**EDUCATION HOUR FOR ALL AGES**—Sunday following the 9:00 am service

**LADIES MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**

June 5—6:30 pm. We will begin a new discussion on “A Case for Miracles” by Lee Strobel. Questions? Contact Mindy Braun at 608-792-9238.

**CASUAL CONVERSATION with Pastor Mark and Marilyn Kolander**

Beginning Tuesday, June 13 from 9:30—11:00 am. Stop by the Narthex to say “Hello” over coffee and donuts.

**WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesday—9:30 am

**MEN’S BIBLE STUDY**

Thursday—8:45 am *(time change for summer)*

**HS YOUTH and BIBLE STUDY**

Wednesday—6:30 pm

*\*See page 5 for information on upcoming Life Skills Workshops.*

← SOMETHING NEW!

**ONGOING MINISTRY MEETING SCHEDULE**

**DEAF MINISTRY**—Interpreter for Sunday worship on the first and third Sunday of the month when communion is served. *(Verify schedule with Deaf Ministry.)*

**COUNCIL** — Tuesday, June 20 at 6:30 pm

**EDUCATION**— Tuesday, June 13 at 6:30 pm in the chapel

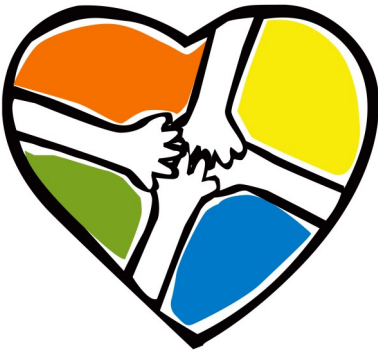
**ELDERS** — Tuesday, June 27 at 6:00 pm

**FELLOWSHIP**— TBD

**LWML**—Monday, June 19 at 1:00 pm

**TRUSTEES**—Thursday, June 8 at 5:30 pm

*Schedules subject to change. Check the church bulletin, Facebook, Website or Weekly Update for updates.*



IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE?

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Look no further! Your help is needed here—right now!

**5TH SUNDAY POTLUCKS**

Organize and host a meal

Available date: July 30  
To host, sign up at The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

**GREETERS**

Say “Hello” to people—members and non-members—who are joining us for worship

Greet people prior to the service. Following the service invite visitors to fill out a Connect Card and to pick up a “Goodie Bag”. To volunteer, sign up on the clipboard at The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

**PROJECTOR**

Advance the projector slides during the church service

To volunteer contact an Elder

**COUNT OFFERING**

Record the offering or help assist, organize and count funds.

To volunteer contact Betsy Jessie at [betsylou13@hotmail.com](mailto:betsylou13@hotmail.com)

**SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS**

Provide treats, coffee and fellowship

Sign up sheet at The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

**USHERS**

Help people get to where they are going

To volunteer contact an Elder

NEW OPPORTUNITY!

**BOOK TALK**

MEET WITH BOOK LOVERS FOR TALK AND TREATS...

**JUNE BOOK SELECTION—** “Mad Honey” by Jodi Piccalt

Tuesday, June 27 at 2:00 pm at Panera

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP**—Tuesday, June 27 at 6:00 pm. Questions?

Contact Shawn Mahoney at 608-797-1927

**EDUCATION MINISTRY**

ASSISTS WITH THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS

**SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING**—donations through June will help support the lunch programs at the Onalaska and Holmen elementary and middle schools.

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL** begins Sunday, June 4 through July 30 from 10:15—11:15 am. The theme for this session is “Prayer”.

**VBS—“KEEPERS of the KINGDOM”**—Tuesday through Thursday, August 8-10 from 5:00—7:30 pm. A meal will be served at 6:00 pm. In addition, the first lesson of VBS will be taught during Education Hour on Sunday, August 6; the last lesson will be taught on Sunday, August 13. Parents are invited to attend VBS with their children! Watch for registration information coming soon...

**SCHOLARSHIPS** are available to help defray the cost of Christian education. These scholarships are available to church members whose child or children (grades Kindergarten through 12) are attending a Christian school. Applications are located at The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

**Education Contact: Hanni Cowley** at 608-863-6767 | [hannicowley@yahoo.com](mailto:hannicowley@yahoo.com)

**FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY**

CONNECTS PEOPLE THROUGH FUN, FOOD and FELLOWSHIP

**THE “2ND SATURDAY MEAL”** June 10 following the 6:00 pm Saturday service.

**Fellowship Contact: Jana Underkofler** at [jounder5js@gmail.com](mailto:jounder5js@gmail.com)

**HUMAN CARE MINISTRY**

SERVES THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND OUR COMMUNITY

**PRAYER CHAIN:** to submit a request (or to join the prayer chain) please contact Sharon Ryan at [sryan6731@gmail.com](mailto:sryan6731@gmail.com) or 608-526-6731, or the church office.

**ONALASKA FOOD PANTRY—June request**—Personal Care Products: shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste/brushes, deodorant, etc. Donations may be left on the shelves located across from The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

**THE PIECE MAKERS** meets Thursday, June 8 and 22 at 9:30 am. For more information, contact Lorraine Koch at 936-242-9941.

**Human Care Contact: Sue Mravik** at [suemravik@gmail.com](mailto:suemravik@gmail.com)

**LWML**

SUPPORTS MISSIONS AT HOME AND ABROAD

**“SUMMER GARDEN”** gift collection for area veterans. Watch for the “garden” to bloom, select a gift tag (or more) from the “garden”, purchase the item(s) and return to the designated area in the Narthex. Donations accepted through Monday, July 10. All items will be given to the veterans at the Tomah VA.

**SUMMER OUT FOR LUNCH**—Wednesday, July 19 at Huck Finn’s on the Water. Meet after the Wednesday morning Women’s Bible Study (approximately 10:45 am) or meet at the restaurant at 11:15 am. This annual lunch is open to all women (and men).

**THANK YOU!** LWML expresses a “BIG THANK YOU” to all the people who helped plan, format the program, decorate, set up, make the picture board, prep food, prepare the guest tables, cook the food, serve the guests, the wonderful singing, the MC (with his gift or oration), wash dishes, clean the kitchen and clear the tables for the Confirmation Banquet. It was a great success.

## **MUSIC MINISTRY**

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!

**Choir and Choir Chimes will resume this fall.**

**LWML and Music Ministry Contact:** Kay Conzemius at bkconz@aol.com

## **STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY**

SHARING YOUR TIME AND TALENTS

### **What Do You Want?**

*Shared from the LCMS stewardship Ministry by John Berg*

One of the best-known and most-beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the “Shepherd Psalm.” There we learn that the Lord is our Shepherd. And since He is our Shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our Shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our Shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our Shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord’s sheep.

When do we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd? When we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving His gifts in church on Sunday (in violation of the First and Third Commandments). When we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we don’t know what the future will bring (even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters).

We live as though we are not the Lord’s sheep when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves. We act this way because our minds are set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We act this way because we have stopped hearing the call of our Shepherd, which comes through His Word.

Through the Word of God, the Shepherd calls us to Himself. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through the Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead us to our true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here’s the Good News: The Lord is your Shepherd, even and especially for wayward sheep. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. The Lord is your Shepherd. Let us live as His sheep.



### **“JOYFUL RESPONSE”**

**A Convenient Way to Give During a Busy Summer**

**Joyful Response** is the easy way to give back to the Lord for all the blessings He gives us. It’s an electronic giving program that automatically moves contributions from your bank or credit union account to Shepherd of the Hill’s bank account. It’s free to you and there is no cost for the church.

With all the activities and distractions of summer, it’s nice to know **Joyful Response** is available. It’s easy to sign up. Forms are available in the church office and our administrative assistant, Kira, will be happy to help you. Forms are also available at this [lcef.org/joyful-response](http://lcef.org/joyful-response).

## **YOUTH MINISTRY**

EVENTS, PROGRAMS and OPPORTUNITIES TO KEEP YOU CONNECTED

Sunday, May 21

### **CONFIRMATION SUNDAY**

Congratulations to our 2023 confirmands

Serena Joanne Baumgarn

*"The Lord is my Light and my Salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"*

**Psalm 27:1**

Talia Sue Bembnister

*"God is our refuge and strength, an ever present help in trouble."*

**Psalm 46:1**

Apollo Emmanuel de la Rosa

*"The Lord your God is with you; He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you. He will quiet you with His love; He will rejoice over you with singing."*

**Zephaniah 3:17**

Trenton Scott Dus

*"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."*

**Isaiah 40:31**



#### **LIFE SKILL WORKSHOPS**

Gain skills that will help you get your life on track

#### **BASIC BUDGETING**

Thursday, September 21

6:00—8:00 pm

Holmen Community Center

Led by Todd Trautmann

Learn effective strategies for managing your money and for staying out of debt. This class is geared for grades nine and up, is **FREE** and is open to the public.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**MORE INFORMATION SOON!**

#### **COMING IN 2024**

January

**TIME and STRESS  
MANAGEMENT**

March

**PERSONAL HYGIENE**

June

**BASIC CAR MAINTENANCE**

# **SCHOLARSHIP APPICATIONS**

for graduating high school students  
who attend Shepherd of the Hills

*To apply to receive up to \$250,  
please pick up an application from the church office  
and return to the church office  
by Sunday, June 30.*

Part of becoming an adult is taking responsibility for yourself. Be prepared for all that God has planned for you.

**BE INFORMED.  
BE SMART.**

## **CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS FOR MAY 16, 2023**

**TREASURE'S REPORT:** We are above water again and holding our own. We do expect the cash deficit to return over the summer as usual. Year to Date—as of 04/30/2023—Total Ministry received = \$174,206. Total Ministry Expense = \$158,811. Total Ministry Support Received/Budget = 103%. Total Ministry Expense/Budget = 77%. Current Mortgage Balance = \$344,283. Congregational Notes Payable = \$150,000. Total Congregational Long-Term Debt = \$494,283. \$2,953 extra was paid on the mortgage.

**PASTOR CALL UPDATE:** John Gardner reported that when Pastor Willie was told of our decision to put the Call on hold for financial reasons, Pastor Willie said a number of other churches are having the same problems, and when we feel we are ready to go forward with the call, he is ready to work with us.

**BY-LAWS UPDATE:** John Berg is handing out to each of the boards, descriptions of their responsibilities, and if there are any changes they would like to see, get it back to John listing the requested changes. John would like the reports back by the June Council Meeting on June 20th.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE:** With Sue not available, there is no report. John G. thought the next meeting would be June 16th.

**ELDERS:** Reuben Mravik has agreed to be an Elder. He will join on Zoom since he works out of town. Several people have volunteered to be ushers but more are still needed.

**MUSIC:** Kay L. is 2/3rds back to playing the organ. She is still unable to use her left arm. We need a new organ repair person since they have had no reply from the one they usually use. Rob is making plans to do a Gospel Worship Service soon.

**TRUSTEES:** The Church's insurance policy (umbrella coverage) will be changing and Kyle is waiting for quotes. Thanks go to Jim and Marilyn Magnuson for all the work they have done, as they step down from the Board of Trustees.

**PRESCHOOL:** Linda reported that the open gym was well received. One of their 4 year old preschoolers received an award for saving her Mom when Mom passed out after having dialed 911. The child talked to the operator and did everything the operator told her to do to help her mom, including rolling her mom over and unlocking the door for the paramedics. The last day of pre

school is May 18th, but they have already had celebrations, and Linda received so many good reports from families, plus she saw generations of former preschoolers bringing their children to SOTH preschool. The Mathew Fletcher Scholarship has been helping many preschool families with tuition. Both summer school programs are full with 20 children each. The Preschool Teachers would like to attend The Concordia Teacher's Summit in Mequon.

**STEWARDSHIP:** John Berg reported that contributions for our spring mission, the New Life Resource Center, were received throughout the month of April, in the final amount of \$3,660. This was sent to New Life with a note of support for the God-pleasing work they accomplish. The fall mission emphasis will be to support our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine. Pastor Harrison would like us to consider giving to the National Offering designated fund of LCMS. This is to pay for mission materials to be printed in other languages. It will be announced so that anyone interested in giving to this designated fund can do so.

The **LWML** will be sponsoring an ingathering for needed supplies for our veterans sometime this summer.

**VOTER'S ASSEMBLY** was informed that we needed to place associate pastor call on hold for one year and hire Pastor Kolander. Our contract with Pastor Kolander was already signed for \$1,000 per month for one year. They set a certain number of hours including preaching and visiting the homes of new people visiting our church. This should be reaffirmed by the Voter's.

**CHIME AREA LIGHTING:** Kyle is waiting for a quote. One generous member donated money for a portion of the cost. The trustees will be able to pay the amount left from their budget.

**GOOD OF THE GROUP:** People should get back to wearing their nametags. They are very helpful for new people visiting and for new members.

**THE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** will be meeting on June 27th at 6pm. Kay is working on the Confirmation Banquet and feels that we need to come up with a different way to honor our Confirmands. This year's guest list is up to 50.

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Mark Wrolstad

**ADJOURN:** 8:10pm



HAVE A QUESTION?

FIND  
YOUR ANSWER HERE

### Q & A

WHY? WHAT? HOW?

Do you have a question about your faith or how our church works? How about your life? Do you want to know how your faith applies to your daily life? To submit a question, visit the church website at [sothonalaska.org](http://sothonalaska.org) and click on the Q & A tab. An answer to your question will be posted on the website (and the monthly newsletter) —just because you asked. **All submissions remain anonymous.**

You can also find the answers to the following questions on the Q & A section of the website:

- Why do we pray? And if God already knows what is going to happen, why bother asking him to change the outcome?
- Will our pets be with us in heaven?

HAVE A QUESTION?  
WE HAVE AN ANSWER

### Q & A

#### Are all sins equal in God's eyes?

A boy gets an air rifle for Christmas and wraps himself up in his winter coat to brave the Wisconsin winter to enjoy target practice in his backyard. Mom hears a crash and a plink in the living room. The son had shot a bb sized hole in the big picture window! The mom was furious and yelled at her son, "Not even an hour of owning that air rifle, and you broke my window!"

The son replied, "Mom, the window's five feet by five feet! I broke less than a tenth of a percent of the window!" I forgot to mention, the boy was good at math. However, that didn't help his case. The air rifle disappeared, and he was grounded for the rest of Christmas vacation.

"Are all sins equal in God's eyes?" I would relate that question to our picture window from our Christmas story. How much of the window needs to be damaged for it to be "broken"? We would say any amount, even a bb sized hole would break the window. James 2:10 is clear: "For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it." In this sense, all sins are indeed equal in God's eyes. Even the slightest lie or one lustful look "breaks the window," breaking the relationship with a perfect, holy God, and sends us to eternal damnation.

What is Mom going to do on Christmas day? No window repair crew is going to go out on a holiday. Maybe she just patches over the hole with some packing tape. The situation might be more dire if the son shot an arrow through the window, or a shotgun, or rammed a toboggan through the window. There could be cuts from shattered glass, and even setting personal injury aside, it's much harder to heat a home when a 5 feet by 5 feet window suddenly becomes open to December weather.

All sins may be equal in God's eyes in that they separate us from Him, but they are not all equal in the ways in which they harm our neighbor and harden our soul to the deceitfulness of sin. Looking at a woman with lustful intent on the beach and having an affair may both be violations of the sixth commandment, "do not commit adultery," but clearly one has more damaging repercussions. Zoning out during a worship service and skipping worship for a decade may both be violations of the third commandment, "Remember the Sabbath day," but the latter runs a higher risk of one losing his or her faith.

The mother didn't get out a caliper to measure the size of the bb hole, she took out the yellow book and lined up phone numbers of window contractors to call on December 26th. Our job as Christians is not to measure the size of our sins, but to turn from them, and trust that in Jesus all our sins have been forgiven: big or small.

*Thank you to Pastor Jacob Eichers  
of Faith Lutheran Church  
and Student Center in La Crosse  
for providing the response for our Q & A*

## **BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES**

### **Birthdays**

- 1 Stephen Halvorson, Andrew Kasten, Dick Williams
- 3 Amber Londergan, Julie Schuppel
- 4 Hunter Sattler, Carla Steffen
- 5 Mike Knutson
- 6 Marcus Mravik
- 7 Jim Magnuson, Ryan Robbert
- 9 Dena Iacono
- 10 Noelle Heiden
- 11 Adam Jessie
- 13 Carla Siggers
- 16 Larry Stetzer
- 20 Rayna Baumgarn, Taylor Bembnister
- 21 Brendan Londergan, Sharon Ryan
- 22 Ann Wells
- 24 Lia Burns
- 25 John Anderson, Morgan Dus
- 27 Timothy Heiden, Dan Howe
- 28 Jean Londergan, Alayna Matthews
- 29 Cindy Bartley
- 30 Lois Knutson

### **Wedding Anniversaries**

- 1 John and Karen Gardner; Wayne and Cathy Sanden
- 2 Paul and Carolyn Stakun
- 4 Crystal and Mike Ours

- 5 Russell and Jane Herrmann; Rick and Hedy Otto
- 6 Rich and Carol Westpfahl
- 12 Chris and Sue Robertson
- 15 Ryan and Tracy Doud
- 17 Ron and Linda Smith
- 18 Dieter and Debbye Antoni
- 19 Josh and Jessica Underkofler
- 21 Justin and Lia Burns
- 30 Vic and Carol Hancock

*Dear brothers and sisters in Christ at Shepherd of the Hills,*

*Thank you for your generous gift of \$1050 for the mission work here in Prague. Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure, Through a world that would deceive us, And to sin our spirits lure. Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here our home above, Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the Father's bidding. Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide. LSB 685*  
*This hymn reminds me of our mission journey, walking together with our Lord to share the Gospel with those who don't yet know Christ, and building up His church. I appreciate your faithfulness in prayer and support.*

*Peace and blessing, Cindy Zirbel Wrucke*  
*Missionary to the Czech Republic, LCMS Eurasia*



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### **CONTACT US**

**Kira Peters—Admin. Asst./Church**

608-783-0330

office@sothonalaska.com

**Rev. David H. Baumgarn**

507-227-5646

david.baumgarn@sothonalaska.com

**Mark Kolander—Visiting Pastor**

509-885-2490

mkolander2507@charter.net

**Terry Ours—Head Elder**

608-780—1422

terryours@gmail.com

**Shepherd's Flock Preschool**

608-781-9445

shepherdsflockonalaska@gmail.com

**Martha Keeffe—Communications**

608-783-0330

martha.keeffe@sothonalaska.com

**Hanni Cowley—Education Coordinator**

608-863-6767

hannicowley@yahoo.com

### **OFFICE HOURS/COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE**

**Kira's office hours**

**Monday through Thursday**

9:00 am—3:00 pm

**Friday**

9:00 am—12:00 pm

***Submit ALL bulletin, Weekly Update and Narthex TV entries to Martha by noon on Tuesday. Items received later than noon will not be included. July newsletter submissions must be received by noon on Wed., June 21.***

***CONNECT CARD for members, visitors and friends -***

*Provide your current contact information to receive up-to-date information on church activities and announcements! Connect cards are located in the back of the church pews.*

**EMAIL SCAM** - Please be advised that there is a scam email for Pastor Kolander. DO NOT respond to emails from, [paster473114@gmail.com](mailto:paster473114@gmail.com) . Before opening an email (or responding to a text) from the church, check for spelling errors or requests for money, gift cards or information. If unsure—**DO NOT OPEN!**