



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

LIFE AT ITS BEST — Controlling Our Money

Jesus knows that money and material possessions are very necessary for our lives. He also knows that money and material things are more likely than anything else to replace God at the center of our hearts. "No one can serve two masters...You cannot serve both God and money" (Matthew 6:24). For our lives to be complete, we must control our money—lest our money control us.

Consider the following...

MONEY CAN BUY...

- medicine, but not health.
- a house, but not a home.
- companionship, but not friends.
- entertainment, but not happiness.
- a bed, but not sleep.
- a crucifix, but not a Savior.
- the good life, but not eternal life.

The above was edited from "Living Wisely in an Unwise World" by Ronald and Phyllis Chewing. To find out more, join the adult Bible study on Sunday following refreshments.

OCTOBER

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

• **SATURDAY EVENING**

6:00 pm

• **SUNDAY MORNING**

8:00 am | 10:30 am

- **HOLY COMMUNION**—September 30 and October 1, October 14, 15 and 29

BIBLE STUDIES, CLASSES and ETC...

- **EDUCATION HOUR FOR ALL AGES**—Sunday following the 8:00 am service
- **LADIES MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY**—October 2 at 6:30 pm. Chapter six from "A Case for Miracles" by Lee Strobel will be discussed. Contact Mindy Braun at 608-792-9238 with questions. For a recap of the September Bible Study on chapter four and five, please refer to page four.
- **CASUAL CONVERSATION with Pastor Mark and Marilyn Kolander**
October 3, November 7 and December 5 from 9:30—11:00 am. Stop by the Narthex for casual conversation, encouragement, sharing of ideas and tasty baked treats!
- **BOOK of REVELATION BIBLE STUDY**—Led by Pastor Mark Kolander
Tuesday, October 3, 17, 24 and 31; November 7, 14 and 21 from 6—7:30 pm.
- **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**—Wednesday at 9:30 am
- **CONFIRMATION**
Wednesday at 6:00 pm
- **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**—Thursday at 9:30 am

ONGOING MINISTRY MEETING SCHEDULE

ELDERS — Monday, October 9 at 6:00 pm

EDUCATION— Tuesday, October 10 at 6:30 pm

TRUSTEES—Thursday, October 12 at 5:30 pm

COUNCIL — Thursday, October 19 at 6:30 pm

FELLOWSHIP— TBD

OCTOBER IS CHURCH WORKER APPRECIATION MONTH

Show appreciation for the efforts of these workers. Encourage them through challenges and frustrations. Pray for their continued commitment to doing good work to God's glory!

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

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

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

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

SHARE TIPS, CONCERNS AND SUPPORT WITH THOSE AFFECTED BY CANCER

Monday, October 16 at 6:00 pm

Cancer Support Contact: Shawn Mahoney 608-797-1927

EDUCATION MINISTRY

ASSISTS WITH THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS

AND OUR 2023/24 SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS ARE...

Pre-school : Betsy Jessie and Molly Breidel

1st—3rd grade: Nicole Corton and Raelyn Cowley

4th—8th grade: Duane Vetsch and Terry Wrolstad

Education Contact: Hanni Cowley 608-863-6767 | hannicowley@yahoo.com

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY

CONNECTS PEOPLE THROUGH FUN, FOOD and FELLOWSHIP

“2ND SATURDAY MEAL” October 14, following the 6:00 pm service

“TRUNK or TREAT” - See page 5 for more details

Fellowship Contact: Jana Underkofler jounder5js@gmail.com

HUMAN CARE MINISTRY

SERVES THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND OUR COMMUNITY

LA CROSSE LIFE CHAIN

Sunday, October 1 from 2—3:00 pm, Losey Boulevard, La Crosse. Demonstrate your belief in the sanctity of human life by participating in this peaceful and prayerful public witness. Pro-life signs will be provided on each corner.

PRAYER CHAIN

to submit requests (or to join the prayer chain) please contact Sharon at sryan6731@gmail.com, 608-526-6731, or the church office.

ONALASKA FOOD PANTRY

October request—Toilet paper and paper products. Donations may be left on the shelves located across from The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

“PIECEMAKER” QUILTERS—Submitted by Tamra Hull

Due to a dwindling number of quilters, the “piecemakers” has discontinued its quilting efforts. Therefore, we have given some of our fabric and supplies to a local church quilting group. Of the remaining items, some was donated to the Salvation Army and some of the yard goods were offered for sale. All of the money earned will be given to the LWML for missions.

Human Care Contact: Sue Mravik at suemravik@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRY

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!

CHIMES—Wednesday at 6:00 pm | **CHOIR**—Wednesday at 6:30 pm

THE CHOIR SINGS during the 10:30 am service on the second and fourth Sunday of the month.

COMBINED CHOIR CONCERT—Sunday, December 10 at 6:00 pm. Visit page 5 for more information on this special event.

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

Sign up for all events at The Welcome and Opportunity Center

Continued on next page

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY—From The LCMS stewardship Ministry
SHARING YOUR TIME AND TALENTS

It's in the Way that You Use It

Consider the humble baseball bat. It is a simple tool designed for a complex task. The batter needs a tool that can consistently deliver force to a small ball which may be thrown at over 100 miles per hour, but which might also come slanting across the plate as a slow curve. For a game like this, the founders of baseball had to redesign the old cricket bat, which is more of a flat paddle. The tool had to fit the job.

But even a specially-designed tool can be used for a different purpose. It turns out that some years ago in England, the home of cricket, baseball bats suddenly started selling like hotcakes. What were folks across the pond doing with all those baseball bats? Using them as clubs in riots!

A tool can be used, and it can be misused. It's all in the way that you use it.

The same is true with the things of God. The Second Commandment states that we should "not misuse the name of the Lord." In the Small Catechism, Luther goes on to tell us exactly what this misuse is, as well as the proper use: "We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or de-ceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks." (SC I)

The Lord has given us His name: He has placed it upon us in Holy Baptism and He has invited us to pray to Him as our Father. In this sense, the Lord's name is something for us to use. We should not misuse it ... and we should not fail to use it. The Pharisees of old were so afraid of misusing the name of God that they decided to simply never say the name of God (YHWH, Jehovah) at all! This non-use is just as bad as misuse. The Lord gives His gifts for our use.

A Christian steward is one who is called to use all of God's gifts for His purposes. This includes things like the Name of God, the Sacraments and the Word, and it also includes things like our family and friends, our talents and skills, our money and resources. Everything that God has given to you, He has given to you so that you may be blessed to use it for His kingdom.

It's all in the way that you use it!

Stewardship Contact: John Berg at johnjberg@outlook.com

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER 21

Submitted by Carolyn Bey

TREASURERS REPORT: FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP REPORT YEAR TO DATE—8/31/2023. Total Ministry Support Received: \$287,198. Total Ministry Expense: \$316,848. Total Ministry Support Received/Budget---89%. Total Ministry Expense/Budget: 79%. Mortgage Principle Paid=\$23,283. Current Mortgage Balance=\$334,240.

FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE REPORT

Jana reported they had their first meeting, are gathering information, and are working with LCMS Guidelines.

GENESIS PROJECT UPDATE

Jana reported that more surveys are coming in and that is their main focus at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Fifth Sunday of the month—Communion will be served.
- The music at the 10:30 service will be a more blended type of music.
- The counting room will be turned into an office for Pastor Kolander and Martha will share her office with the counters to use on Sundays.

- A motion was made (and passed) to spend \$500 for La Crosse sign company to design an electronic sign for SOTH to purchase at a future time, after fund raising to pay for it.
- The last pot luck will be held on Sunday, October 29. More details to follow. Fellowship will focus on Advent and Lenten meals instead. They will plan a picnic in the summer for the members to gather together.
- John Berg and Mindy Braun presented the first draft of the new constitution and bylaws to the Council. The few changes were discussed at length, and we will continue these discussions at the next Council meeting. Before going forward, the Council must approve the changes, then there will be a voter's information meeting, then a voter's assembly to approve or reject the changes, and if approved, it will be forwarded to the South Wisconsin District for their approval.
- **A TRUNK OR TREAT** fun event is being planned for Sunday, October 29 from 4—6:00 pm in the South parking lot. It will be a good outreach for the community. A Gospel tract will be provided by Pastor Baumgarn to handout. Also a card with service times will handed out.

RECAP ON "A CASE FOR MIRACLES" - Ladies Monday Night Bible Study

Called by the Holy Spirit—*Submitted by Mindy Braun*

The Ladies Monday Night Bible Study discussed chapters four and five in "The Case for Miracles" by Lee Strobel. We opened with an Old Testament miracle (2Kings 13:20-21) where a dead body was thrown into Elisha's tomb. "When the body touched Elisha's bones, the man came to life and stood up on his feet." This was followed with the New Testament (Acts 8:26-40) reading of Philip being led by the Holy Spirit to help the Ethiopian eunuch understand that he was reading about salvation through Jesus. The eunuch was baptized and "went on his way rejoicing". These miracles demonstrate God's life giving power, the Holy Spirit calling us to faith, and the joy of the Gospel message.

In the book we met Craig Keener, who described himself before becoming a Christian as precocious, selfish, and lacking in purpose. If there is a God, Craig wondered why God would love him. Then he encountered two people who made an awkward attempt to share the Gospel with him. He walked away. But the Holy Spirit works with our awkward attempts to witness, and called Craig to faith through a personal, powerful experience. Just as God gave life in the Old Testament miracle, Craig received the hope of eternal life through Jesus.

1Cor 6:19 states that the Holy Spirit dwells within Christians. For what purpose? In John 16:13-14, Jesus said "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears...He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you." The Holy Spirit communicates with us through God's Word, and points us to Jesus. Are we changed in ways that others can witness? Gal 5:22-23 says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control..."

Just as the Holy Spirit brought joy and understanding of the Gospel message to the eunuch, Craig also received that joy and devoted himself to studying God's Word. The changes in his character, values and priorities were evidence of the Holy Spirit working in him. He became a world scholar who defends God's miracles in a skeptical world.

Want to know more? Join us Monday, October 2 at 6:30 pm, as we discuss Craig's documentation of God's miracles in today's world.



IN "A CASE FOR MIRACLES"

Lee Strobel trains his investigative sights on whether it's credible to believe God intervenes supernaturally in people's lives today. This book starts with an unlikely interview in which America's foremost skeptic builds a seemingly persuasive case *against* the miraculous.

But then Strobel travels the country to quiz scholars to see whether they can offer solid answers to atheist objections. Along the way, he encounters accounts of healings and other phenomena that simply cannot be explained away by naturalistic causes. The book features the results of exclusive new scientific polling that shows miracle accounts are much more common than people think.

What's more, Strobel delves into the most controversial question of all: what about miracles that don't happen?

If God can intervene in the world, why doesn't he do it more often to relieve suffering?

THANK YOU!

Dear Kay and friends of Shepherd of the Hills Church, On behalf of the Tomah VA Medical Center patients and staff, we would like to extend our appreciation for the large variety of Baby Shower items.

It is through the efforts of community partners like you that allow us to continue the quality care and services that we seek to provide for our deserving Veterans. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you again for future events.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Conzemius, Chief
VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement

GETTING TO KNOW YOU AT LA CHATEAU!

On September 12th, 21 people gathered at La Chateau in La Crosse for delicious food and fellowship. While they dined, each person shared a little known tidbit about each other. Here's what they found out...

One of our church members was actually paid \$10 to not join a choir and another owned an ice cream business while in high school. Someone else has visited seven countries and another was a 4-H representative to the Netherlands. In addition, there was a former fire baton twirler, a beekeeper, a ballplayer, a cardiac cath lab nurse and a dog-sled driver! To find out who else made the list (perhaps as the *Outstanding Young Woman of America*) attend a fellowship event and get to know your church family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Shepherd of the Hills welcomes

OUTPOST  MINISTRIES

DISTINCTIONS:
Biblical Clarity
in a Sexually-Confused World
Saturday, October 14
1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

For more information, visit
outpostministries.org

LOVING GOD. DECLARING FREEDOM

Join us for an afternoon of teaching and testimonies designed to empower participants with an educated, Biblical, and compassionate response to sexual and identity confusion. The class will provide a biblical understanding of sexuality and identity and equip participants with practical tools to talk with others about these issues. Attendees will hear encouraging testimonies that give proof of God's transforming power and have an opportunity for a time of Q&A with Outpost staff.

To register email at: martha.keeffe@sothonalaska.com by Wednesday, Oct. 11. Please bring a photo ID the day of the event. Donations are accepted.

BOOK TALK

Tuesday, October 24 at 11:00 am at Panera | October selection: "Ambassador's Wife" by Jennifer Steil
Selection for Tuesday, November 24: "Juror #3" by James Patterson

Book Talk Contact: Iris Dus 608-769-0630



TRUNK or TREAT

Sunday, October 29 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm

KIDS - dress up, invite your friends and come over to the Shepherd of the Hills parking lot and get some treats!

ADULTS - bring your car and hand out treats (**no nuts, please!**)! Costumes are encouraged, but don't wear anything scary or inappropriate for children. If there's inclement weather, the event will move to the Fellowship Hall.



Share the **GOOD NEWS of JESUS CHRIST**—One box at a time

Ways you can help us meet our goal of filling 200 boxes...

PRAY

DONATE SUPPLIES (see display in the Narthex for supply needs)

DONATE MONEY (it costs \$10 to send each box)

ATTEND THE PACKING PARTY—Sat, November 12, 11:00 am—1:00 pm.
Food, fellowship and fun provided!

samaritanaspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/

OCC Contact: Kelly Ziegelbein | kellyzeigelbein@gmail.com or Polly Howe | p.m.75@hotmail.com

COMING IN DECEMBER...

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

Saturday, December 2 from 4:00—6:00 pm

All ladies—of all ages—are invited to join us for an afternoon of fellowship as we prepare for the birth of the Christ Child. To reserve your spot, please register at office@sothonalaska.com or sign up at The Welcome and Opportunity Center. Stayed tuned for updates!

COMBINED CHOIR CONCERT

Sunday, December 10 at 6:00 pm

Usher in Christmas with celebratory music provided by the combined choirs from regional LCMS churches. More details to follow! Save the date!



**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? Do you want to know how your faith applies to your daily life? To submit a question, visit the church website at sothonalaska.org and click the Q & A tab. An answer to your question will be posted on the website—just because you asked.

All submissions are anonymous.

BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

- 1 Hedy Otto
- 2 Lynn Hoagenson
- 3 Beth Dus, Karen Schindler
- 6 Mike Ours, Ashley Stehl
- 8 Bob Hoagenson, Robert Leum
- 11 Dianne Campbell, Trenton Dus
Karen Gardner
- 13 Alexis Baumgarn
- 16 Tom Londergan

- 17 Russell Herrmann, Dave Rainey
Josh Underkofler
- 18 Nevada Corton, Joyce Sanders
- 19 Mike Horge
- 21 Doris Dommer, Sharon Wheeler
- 25 Chuck Huth
- 26 David Noack
- 28 Kenleigh Mueller
- 30 Terry Niebuhr
- 31 Ethan Fladhammer

Wedding Anniversaries

- 2 Nick and Danielle Heiden
- 11 John and Ann Berg
- 12 Bob and Pat Ellsworth
- 14 Bill and Diane Van Ess
- 16 Shawn and Meagan Books
- 17 Paul and Robin Klipp
- 18 Ryan and Ashley Stehl
- 19 Bob and Lynne Hoagenson
- 24 Dan and Polly Howe

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 Keffe—Communications

608-783-0330
martha.keffe@sothonalaska.com

Hanni Cowley—Education Coordinator

608-863-6767
hannicowley@yahoo.com

OFFICE HOURS/COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

Kira’s office hours

Monday—Thursday

9:00 am—2:30 pm

Friday

9:00 am—12:00 pm

Martha’s office hours

Tuesday—Thursday

9:00 am—3:00 pm

Submit ALL bulletin, Weekly Update and Narthex TV entries to Martha by noon on Tuesday of that week. Items received after the deadline will not be included. November newsletter submissions must be received by noon on Tuesday, October 24.

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.



SHEPHERD'S FLOCK PRESCHOOL

October 2023 • Shepherd of the Hills Newsletter

Monthly Update

We welcomed 20 preschoolers and their families back to our classroom this September! We are so blessed to have a full program and 3 teachers on staff this year. In September, we focused our lessons on the Creation Story. Our preschoolers have been learning a special song about what God created on each day of Creation. We are planning for a Transportation theme and Fall/Pumpkins theme in October as we move through more Old Testament stories during our Jesus time.

Our Fall Fiesta Party will be held on Monday, October 30th! Church members are invited to stop in the narthex area around 11:00am for a costume parade as our preschoolers make their way from the classroom to the church office to the gym!

The Pumpkin Prayer

As you pick your family pumpkins and carve jack-o-lanterns with your children and grandchildren this year, use this Pumpkin Prayer as a guide to point the pumpkin back to Jesus!

Dear Jesus,
As I carve my pumpkin, help me pray this prayer:

Lord, open my mind and fill me with your wisdom and guidance.

(cut the top off the pumpkin)

Lord, take out all my fussies and frownies and fill me with your love.

(scoop out the yuckies)

Lord, open my eyes to see all the beautiful things you have made.

(carve out the eyes)

Lord, help me to be a sweet, sweet fragrance for you.

(carve out the nose)

Lord, help me always speak Your words of love and kindness.

(carve out the mouth)

Lord, let me be a light to others for You have filled me with Your light.

(place candle inside and light it)

Spaghetti Dinner Planning

It's that time of the year again when our preschool team is beginning to plan our Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction. This year our fundraiser will be held on Friday, February 2, 2024. If you are interested in helping us with this huge, well-loved preschool event, join us for a planning meeting on Monday, October 23rd at 6:30pm.

Visit our Classroom

We are so proud of our preschool program at Shepherd's Flock & we want to share what we do with members of the congregation! If you are interested in volunteering, sharing a fun hobby with our preschoolers, being a guest reader or even just stopping in to see what we do- reach out to Alyssa!

Thank you Debbye Antoni for being our first guest reader of the year!