

11201 East 38th Place
Yuma, AZ 85367
928-345-9694
Email:
Sothyuma@gmail.com
Website:
www.sothyuma.org



February 2024

Thoughts from Pastor Stites:

The Spiritual War

We are at war! So many are concerned about wars around the world, the war within our own borders, but the war I am talking about often goes unnoticed, especially by the casualties. We are engaged in a *spiritual* war, where the devil and the fallen world are waging a war of attrition and annihilation against God and His faithful. One of the reasons our enemies have been successful is that many of the faithful have not been aware of this war nor the enemies' tactics, and so they are caught unaware when the enemy strikes.

Therefore, this Lententide will be devoted to understanding this spiritual war, to help prepare you for this spiritual battle across the many fronts of this war, to familiarize you with the enemy's tactics, and help you fight against them using the armor of God and following Christ our King in ways the world cannot understand. And you are in this war, whether you wanted to be or not.

The devil is evil, but he is not stupid, that is why he is waging his war on multiple fronts. Each week, we will be looking at the various fronts of this war, where the devil and his allies in this fallen world, work to tear you and your loved ones away from God. The first being YOU! Yes, the devil wants to make a beachhead in your heart and mind, not only so that you fall from grace and back into sin, but also through you, tempt others away as well. We will also look at the devil's attack on Scripture, the Church, Family, Culture, and finally we will examine the literal warfare of persecution, where the devil and the world try to silence the faithful like they did with Christ.

That is why Paul said in Ephesians 6:10-13, "*Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.*"

Join us every Wednesday throughout Lent, **beginning February 14th, at 11am and 7pm**, as we prepare our hearts and minds for the spiritual war against the devil and the fallen world, that we may stand firm until the end ourselves, and bring more people into the saving grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jonathan Stites

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Phone numbers and addresses will no longer be published. Please use the church directory or call the church office @ 928-345-9694, if you need someone's number or address for an event



Online Services & Bible Studies

Sunday's Services and Bible Studies are available on our YouTube Channel. Just click on the following link: [Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube page](#) or search "Shepherd of the Hills Yuma" on YouTube.



Women's Bible Studies

Wednesday, February 7th @ 7:30am at Mary Shoemaker's*
Thursday, February 8th @ 9:30am at Karly Dockter's*
Wednesday, February 21st @ 7:30am at Em Foster's*
Thursday, February 22nd @ 9:30am at Sharon Albery's*

Sweethearts & Singles Dinner

All are invited to the Sweetheart and Singles dinner on February 10th. Dinner will consist of Lemon Herb Chicken, wild rice, veggies, salad, rolls and dessert catered by The Crossing. Appetizers will be served at 5:00pm with dinner at 6:00pm. This is a special evening out, so please dress accordingly. There will also be entertainment and prizes. Tickets are \$20 pr person and will be available on Sunday, February 4th. See Sharie Jasper or Kathy Richardson for further information. We need to let The Crossing know how many will be attending by February 5th.



Lent Services

Ash Wednesday:

February 14th @ 11am & 7pm

Midweek Services:

Every Wednesday, February 21st – March 20th
@ 11am & 7pm



Choir Rehearsal

Tune up your voices! Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays @ 6:00pm. Please join us for singing praises to our Lord and fellowship "making a joyful noise". See Sharie Jasper for details.



Next LWML meeting is February 14th at 12:00pm in the fellowship hall.

Sweethearts & Singles Dinner

All are invited to the Sweetheart and Singles dinner on February 10th. Dinner will consist of Lemon Herb Chicken, wild rice, veggies, salad, rolls and dessert catered by The Crossing. Appetizers will be served at 5:00pm with dinner at 6:00pm. This is a special evening out, so please dress accordingly. There will also be entertainment and prizes. Tickets are \$20 pr person and will be available on Sunday, February 4th. See Sharie Jasper or Kathy Richardson for further information. We need to let The Crossing know how many will be attending by February 5th.



Undie Sunday!

Undie Sunday is February 11th. A collection box is under the name tags for new underwear and socks for all ages. They will be donated to Orphan Grain Train.

LWML District Convention- June 7-9, 2024 in Rosemead, CA. If interested in attending the convention see Sharie Jasper for details.

Sharie Jasper



LWML Yard Sale 2024





SOTH Evangelism News



Evangelism = Positive results: As you have helped the least of them....you have helped our Lord. (reference – Matt. 25:40)



2404 East 24th Street | Yuma, AZ 85365

928. 343.1243 Office 928.726.1679 Fax

www.yumafoodbank.org | info@yumafoodbank.org

January 23, 2024

Shepherd Of The Hills LCMS
11201 E 38th Pl
Yuma, AZ 85367-7841

Hello Shepherd Of The Hills LCMS,

You may not realize it, but your generosity is helping Veterans, children, families and seniors in Yuma and La Paz counties. These families come to the Yuma Community Food Bank and it's partner agencies looking for food. Your kind gift is bringing them hope.

Your donation is an investment in our communities because it's an investment in the lives of the people who make Southwest Arizona great! Thank you for your compassion and your generosity - for every \$1 you donate; the Yuma Community Food Bank can distribute food for at least 10 meals. Pantry items, fresh produce, meat, eggs, dairy, bread, and more are all possible for those who are food insecure because of the support from wonderful people like you!

Thank you for caring,

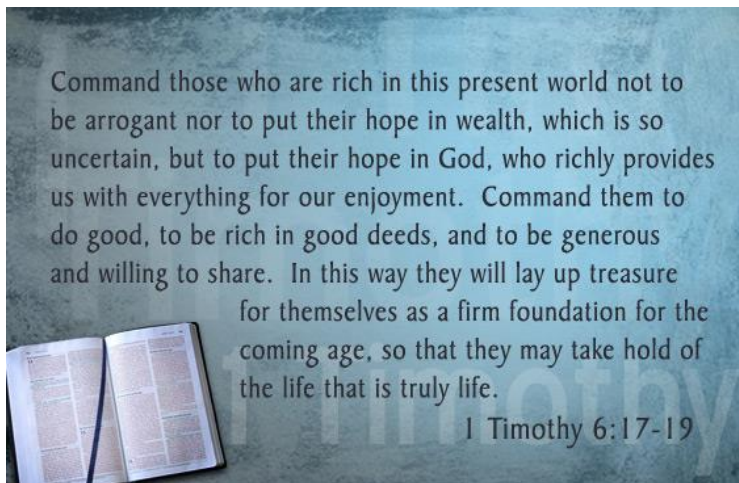
Shara Whitehead
President & CEO
swhitehead@yumafoodbank.org

Gift Received: January 18, 2024
Gift Amount: \$470.00
Check/Receipt Number: 5028



Developing an Unselfish Character

Scripture says, *"Do not be conformed to this world..."* (Romans 12:2). The pattern of this world is to acquire and to hold on to material things. Romans 12:2 continues, *"But be transformed by the renewal of your mind."* This transformation is brought about in you, the believer, through your relationship with the Holy Spirit, Who, through Word and Sacrament, renews your mind so that, instead of following the pattern of the world, you seek to follow your Savior. Like Jesus Who emptied Himself of equality with God (Philippians 2:6), let us empty ourselves of the desire to acquire and hoard. This way of life leads only to misery, not self-fulfillment. Like Jesus, let us give freely, even sacrificially.



1 Timothy 6:18-19 exhorts, *"They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus saving up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life."* Life that is truly life belongs to those who are unselfish givers. Giving is an indicator of your unselfishness and an outward litmus test of the inner condition of your heart.

The astonishing thing is that, in God's economy, the more you give, the more you have left to give. Because God replenishes you, your giving can be a daily and a lifetime activity. *"You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God"* (2 Corinthians 9:11).

A little girl exclaimed, "Poor Jesus!" when her mother told her that she had to give only one dime of her ten-dime allowance. May you acquire the same unselfish attitude as the little girl when you come to the Lord with your offering.

(From Ron Chewning – Stewardship Advisors)

To be reviewed and approved at the Council Meeting in February.
SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MEETING
January 16, 2024

Attendees: Pastor Stites, Karly Dockter, Sharie Jasper, Kelly Hinrichs, Sue Cairns, Kathy Richardson, Pete Dryer, Donna Urquhart

Vice President Dockter called the meeting to order at 9:59 a.m.

Pastor Stites opened with prayer.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the December 12, 2023, meeting were reviewed. Sue Cairns moved to accept the Minutes. Pete Dryer seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report for December 2023 was presented. Sharie Jasper reviewed specific line items. Kathy Richardson moved to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2023. Sue Cairns seconded. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Stites stated that his focus is on Ash Wednesday, 2/14, and Lent. Services will be at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Pastor is designing a series different than before. He is taking a perspective on the Spiritual War against the Faithful. Easter is March 31, 2024. Men's Bible Study group will serve a hot Easter breakfast.

President's Report: Absent.

Vice President's Report: Karly stated that she had information to share later in the meeting.

Elders Report: In Dick Koppe's absence, Kelly reported that 28 calls had been made.

Trustees Report: Pete Dryer reviewed his activity report for December 20 through January 16, copy attached. On December 22 he called Almodova Roofing regarding the fascia work. Almodova requested a down payment of \$2,250. The payment was mailed along with the signed proposal. The Morner auction was held at the same time as the Church yard sale, so Pete did not attend it. Smart Auction had three people at the house for a week setting up for and then holding the auction. The auction went quite well. Some personal files and pictures were left and approximately 2,500 books. The Legal Agreement with Deason Garner & Hansen was reviewed. Pete also stated that probate on the Trust should be finalized on January 30th. Some personal items of Coors memorabilia, fishing gear, etc. In the storage unit will be set aside for Susan Ambrosi.

Evangelism Report: In Marcia Nichols absence, Donna Urquhart reported the committee is now taking count of first-time visitors and trying to get them to sign the Guest Book. The committee is working on other new ideas.

Stewardship Report: Year-end Giving Statements are ready and available in the back of the Church for pick up.

Administrative: Kelly reported that do to being out ill, she is still working on our Facebook site and the calendar for Church Hall activities.

Old Business: None

New Business: Karly shared information on a day center mainly for people with Alzheimer's that her former church in Washington started. As far as employees, a CNA and Activity Director were needed as well as volunteers (mostly Church members) to assist. The facility was up and running five days a week. Karly shared an article on the day care. Karly felt that Yuma Foothills has need for such a facility

and that the Church owned property on 44th Street might be a good site for it and is something to be considered.

Sharie Jasper moved to adjourn. Sue Cairns seconded. Motion passed.

Karly Dockter adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Stites led us with the Lord's Prayer.

SOTH Installation of Officers & Elders 2024



Front Row: Pete Dryer (Head Trustee); Dick Koppe (Head Elder); JD Rice (Elder); Sue Cairns (Evangelism Head); Karly Dockter (Vice President); Sharie Jasper (Treasurer); Kathy Richardson (Secretary)

Back Row: Pastor Stites; Kristopher Haugh (President); Mike Yelland (Elder); Gene Junker (Elder)

Not Pictured: Marcia Nichols (Evangelism Head); Ron Appeldoorn (Elder)

February Birthdays



| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| BENNETT, Renee | 02/06 |
| STUART, Norma | 02/10 |
| WUNSCH, Nancy | 02/11 |
| WEBER, Bobbie | 02/12 |
| KOPPE, Barb | 02/15 |
| MCMURRIN, Micah | 02/15 |
| PARKER, Gladys | 02/17 |
| ANDEREGG, Patricia | 02/18 |
| RICHARDSON, Kathy | 02/24 |

February Anniversaries



| | |
|--|-------|
| MOSLEY, Don & Evelyn (71) | 02/07 |
| STITES, Pastor Jonathan & Theresa (17) | 02/09 |
| HALL, Thomas & Karen (30) | 02/12 |
| VIETHER, Joyce & Walt (9) | 02/25 |

FOOD BANK



January
\$187

SEASON TOTAL
January - December
\$187

Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you. Deuteronomy 16:17

Stewardship Corner

We are God's instruments through which others hear and learn about Jesus and His love, grace, and mercy. As stewards of the Gospel, we have the opportunity to tell others of the greatest miracle that has ever occurred. The Son of God came to earth to live as one of us, to humble Himself for the sake of those He loves, and then to rise victoriously, the *"firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep"* (1 Corinthians 15:20). This miracle is one to be shouted from the housetops, for it is meant not just for you and me, but for all humankind. Don't keep this miracle a secret. Take time to tell it to your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers. Spend your resources so that others are enabled to be His witnesses to all people.

Treasurer's Report for January 2024

General Fund

Offerings Received: \$16,900

Offerings Needed: \$21,663

\$4,763 - short

(The Offerings Needed per month is the Annual Budget divided by 12)


Fiscal Year to Date 2024

Offerings Received YTD: \$16,900

Offerings Needed YTD: \$21,663

\$4,763 - short

February 2024 at SOTH

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|---|---|---|-----------|---|
| Sunday's Online Service available after 1:00pm click on following link: Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube | | | Wednesday's Online Bible Study – click on following link: Shepherd of the Hills Yuma YouTube | | | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 8:15am Adult Bible Study 9:30am Worship w/Communion 10:30am Fellowship 5:00pm Sunday Night Cards | 5 9:00am Quilting for Charities 9:00am Pillowcase Dresses | 6 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Elders Mtg. | 7 7:30am Women's Bible Study @ Mary Shoemaker's 9:30am Adult Bible Study 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal | 8 9:30am Women's Bible Study @ Karly Dockter's | 9 | 10  Sweethearts & Singles Dinner 5pm-6pm Appetizers 6pm Dinner |
| 11 8:15am Adult Bible Study 9:30am Worship w/Communion 10:30am Fellowship 5:00pm Sunday Night Cards | 12 9:00am Quilting for Charities 9:00am Pillowcase Dresses | 13 8:00am Men's Bible Study 9:00am Pastor Circuit Mtg. @ CLC | 14 Ash Wednesday 9:30am Adult Bible Study 11:00am Ash Wednesday Service 12:00pm LWML Monthly Mtg. 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 8:15am Adult Bible Study 9:30am Worship w/Communion 10:30am Fellowship 5:00pm Sunday Night Cards | 19 9:00am Quilting for Charities 9:00am Pillowcase Dresses | 20 8:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Council Mtg. | 21 7:30am Women's Bible Study @ Em Foster's 9:30am Adult Bible Study 11:00am Midweek Lent Service 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Midweek Lent Service | 22 9:30am Women's Bible Study @ Sharon Albery's | 23 | 24 |
| 25 8:15am Adult Bible Study 9:30am Worship w/Communion 10:30am Fellowship 5:00pm Sunday Night Cards Mite Box Collection | 26 9:00am Quilting for Charities 9:00am Pillowcase Dresses | 27 8:00am Men's Bible Study | 28 9:30am Adult Bible Study 11:00am Midweek Lent Service 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Midweek Lent Service | 29 | | |