



Shepherd's Voice

May 22 ~ 29

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

New Website: <http://svlc-corvallis.org>

Church office: 541-753-2816 or svlc.corvallis@gmail.com

Pastor: 217-898-9063

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sunday, May 22 2 nd Sun. after Pentecost HOLY TRINITY	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 3:00pm 7:00pm	Holy Communion Fellowship Pastor's Cross+Gen Sunday School Bethel GG Damascus GG
Monday, May 23	10:00am 6:00pm	Fellowship Bible Study Car Club Meeting
Tuesday, May 24		
Wednesday, May 25		
Thursday, May 26	10:00am	Park Place Devotions
Friday, May 27		
Saturday, May 28		
Sunday, May 29 3 rd Sun. after Pentecost	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 6:30pm	Holy Communion Fellowship Pastor's Cross+Gen Sunday School Nazareth

Important information about the Transition Team being formed to move Shepherd of the Valley into the next steps of the interim process is on page 3.

A PASTOR'S POST FOR TRINITY SUNDAY – MAY 22, 2016



Dear friends in Christ:

This Sunday, May 22, we celebrate Holy Trinity Sunday with all Christians in the western "catholic" tradition. While Scripture does not mention the word "trinity," the Holy Trinity is the way we express the mystery of God's being three divine persons on one essential unity as revealed in the Bible. This is why we speak the names of the persons of the Trinity as we make the sign of the cross ("In the Name of the Father, and of the Son (✠) and of the Holy Spirit, while also confession that there is one God who is Lord of all. Lutherans embrace the

western creedal "catholic consensus" confessed in the church's three "ecumenical" creeds: the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian. All confess faith in God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Some people might question why things have to be so complicated. Why does our understanding of God seem so hard to pin down and has to be expressed in this complex doctrine called "The Holy Trinity?" Isn't it enough to just believe in Jesus as your Lord and Savior? As Lutherans often do, I would respond, "yes and no." Surely the faith God gives us is sufficient for us. The Bible says, "My grace is sufficient for you." A five year old and a septuagenarian will each have their own ways of expressing faith. It's what psychologists of religion might call being "age appropriate." Still, here are some ways why learning to confess our faith in Trinitarian terms is important.

First, simply put, we don't have a choice. Wouldn't it be arrogant to decide we today should discard 1600 years of Christian confession (at least since the Council of Nicaea that gave us the Nicene Creed in AD 325) and decide that "we know better?" Of course it has been done. There are some Christian congregations that leave the creed out of their worship. Perhaps their leadership is concerned that people will be "turned off" by the ancient language of the creeds. It's a choice that is made, but sadly so. It raises the question of whether we are called to be faithful to what been handed on to us, or to merely make people comfortable. It seems to me to be faithful is to proclaim repentance that leads to confession of sin that leads to the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins – and that might make people "uncomfortable." If your faith makes you comfortable all the time, it's probably not true faith.

Second the Holy Trinity is what the Bible says about God. The Apostles' Creed, perhaps also as ancient as the Nicene Creed, is a short summary of what the Bible tells us God has done. That's important because not everyone can, or has the opportunity, to read and digest the whole of Scripture. The Apostles' Creed reminds us that God created us, and all that is, out of love and delight, that when humanity rebelled against God and fell into sin, God nevertheless loved us and came in the human person of Jesus to suffer, die and be raised from death for us. This same God is with us by the Holy Spirit, that we may believe and trust in God's love and mercy in our living and in our dying. I've taught children that there are three things they need to know about themselves: God made them (they are beautiful in God's eyes), God loves them all the time (as Jesus shows us), and God is with them all the time (by the Holy Spirit). If the God the Holy Spirit blesses those so taught they will be better able to cope with and transcend the challenges inherent in living and dying in this sinful world.

As we contemplate the love of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, in the mystery of the Holy Trinity we rejoice that the Holy Spirit has blessed us with the Holy Trinity as a beautiful image of the God of the Bible who invites us to be in relationship with Him, as He is in relationship Himself, and to see our relationships with one another as echoes of the Trinity in human life where we love, care for, forgive, and are present with one another in the name of the Father, and of the Son (✠), and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessings!

Pastor Joe Hughes
Voice & text: 217-898-9063

TRANSITION TEAM BEING ORGANIZED

The next step in the interim ministry process which we called Pastor Joe to lead us through is the establishment of a Transition Team. This will be a vital step for Shepherd of the Valley. The church council is currently seeking members of Shepherd of the Valley who would be willing to serve on the Transition Team if selected. You can email suggestions to the church office at svlc.corvallis@gmail.com.

The Transition Team consists of about seven voting members who

- Aid the leadership and the members of the congregation in identifying and solving the real issues which exist within the church.
- See serving as the Transition Team as an opportunity for their personal spiritual growth, and for the spiritual growth of the congregation as a whole.
- Help create an environment for the raising up of new leadership within the church with new vision
- Aid in keeping the interim challenges in the hands of the church's members.

The tasks facing the average Transition Team are at least Four-fold:

1. They need to develop an accurate understanding of the **history** of the congregation.
 - a. How did it come into being?
 - b. What are the major events in its development?
 - c. How has it functioned in the past?
2. They need to develop a true **snapshot** of the nature of the congregation as it exists today.
 - a. What are the systems which are in existence within the congregation and how are they functioning and interacting?
 - b. What are the chief issues which are directly and indirectly affecting the ability of the church to function?
 - c. What is the accurate and precise economic situation of the church?
 - d. What are the spiritual needs of the church, and how are they being met?
3. They need to identify the needed **actions and resources to correct the negatives** which were identified in the second step.
 - a. How are the corrections best accomplished?
 - b. Who will be responsible for the corrections?
 - c. What are the criteria which will best measure that things are being addressed and corrected properly?
4. A **common vision for** the ongoing ministry of the congregation must be developed.
 - a. What specific purposes does the Lord have this church here to accomplish, and for whom?
 - b. What are the future possibilities for the church to be able to do mission & ministry?
 - c. What kind of resources will be needed to accomplish these goals?
 - d. What kind of leadership, both lay and ordained, does this require and what expectations will be laid upon them?



LECTIONARY BIBLE READINGS FOR WORSHIP MAY 2016

Did you know the complete Three Year Lectionary (Series C) is found in the front of *The Lutheran Service Book*, pp. Xviii-xix?

YOU CAN HELP SHAPE SUNDAY'S MESSAGE!

Everyone is welcome to participate in **Monday Fellowship Bible Studies, 10:00-11:30 AM**. We read, learn about, and discuss the Bible readings for the coming Sunday. These important discussions help to shape pastor's message on the following Sundays, as well as provide a variety of ways you can get more out of your worship experience by sharing insights and questions raised during class. Want more information? Contact Pastor Joe (217-898-9063). Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome.

May 22, 2016 *Holy Trinity Sunday*

First Reading

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalm

Psalm 8

Second Reading

Acts 2:14a, 22-36

Gospel

John 8:48-59

May 29, 2016 *2nd Sunday after Pentecost*

First Reading

1 Kings 8: 22-24, 27-29, 41-43

Psalm

Psalm 96:1-9

Second Reading

Galatians 1:1-12

Gospel

Luke 7:1-10

News from the Church Office

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY – MONDAY MAY 30TH.

Starting in June we will be going to '**summer hours**' for day to day office operations. **Callie will be in the office** 8:30am to 5:00pm Tuesdays & Wednesdays then 8:30am to 12:30pm Thursdays. Please be sure to call ahead of time to make sure someone is in the office as there are multiple vacations, training, and retreats being attended. **Pastor Joe's office hours** at the church for the summer will be Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. You can always reach Pastor Joe on his cell phone: 217-898-9063. Or you can leave a message on the church office phone at 541-753-2816. Thank you!

Cross+Gen Sunday School

EXPLORING GENESIS will be the next series Pastor Joe leads in Cross+Gen Sunday School. The series started May 8 and continue through June 19. Sundays, 10:30-11:30 AM. Everyone is welcome to join in the conversation. What do these ancient texts say to us? What new light would a literary approach to the Book of Genesis shed on these great Bible stories many of us learned as children. Can we get beyond the age old science verses Religion debate to hear what God is calling us to be and do?

Readings for this Sunday

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Acts 2:14a, 22-36

John 8:48-59

GIVING

Weekly Contribution Goal	\$3077.00
General Fund	\$2447.50
Coffee	\$5.00
Attendance	

+CELEBRATIONS+



May Birthdays: Alia Orth 5/14, August Strohbin 5/19, Jeff Hintzman 5/23, Sue Jackson 5/31.

May Anniversaries: John & Debby Gremmels 5/12, Jay & Tracy McDougal 5/24

+CHURCH HAPPENINGS+

WE NEED YOUR HELP: The Weeds are taking over and the job is too much for any one or two people! Drop by on a lunch break. Stop after going by the store. If you have two minutes we have a couple weeds to pull! Pick a flower bed and make it as beautiful as you can in the time you have! We appreciate all the help!

PIANO BENEFIT CONCERT FOR THE ROMANIA TRIP: Please come to the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church on June 23rd for a piano concert. Performance by Lisa Boylan. All proceeds are in benefit of the Hearts Across Romania Trip for supplies in aid of the orphanages and children in need in Romania. Enjoy the music and watch an amazing slide show of past trips and to see the faces you will be helping! See you there at 5:00pm.



JOHN KING received his doctorate in Theology! Congratulations to John! If you would like to see his graduation at Berkley the link is <http://portal.stretchinternet.com/cluadmin/full.htm?eventId=278242&streamType=video> If you go to the 42 minute mark you can watch his part in the ceremony! Again, a most hearty congratulations and blessings on your future!

SHEPHERD'S VOICE SUBMISSIONS WELCOME! If you would like to submit an announcement or an article for the Shepherd's Voice please do so. Submissions for our weekly digital newsletter can be sent to the church office at any time. Please submit your article or announcement by email. Attachments in Word are welcome. We will do our best to get them in the next edition. Weekly newsletters are normally emailed to our email list on Wednesdays. We also send out a monthly activities and lay ministry schedule monthly with the Shepherd's Voice the last week of the month for the month ahead (i.e. you will get the May calendars the last week in April). If you know of someone who needs to get a hard copy of the weekly Shepherd's Voice please inform the church office.

Due to postage and printing costs we are providing hard copies of the Shepherd's Voice only upon request. They will be placed in your box at the church on the day the digital copies are emailed. Let us know if you have any questions. Thank you! ~Pastor Joe and Callie

+MISSIONS+

HEARTS ACROSS ROMANIA: For the third straight year, Fred & Dianne Taft will be traveling to Brasov, Romania,



to work with orphans and at-risk children. They will again be collecting supplies and cash donations (which will be used to purchase supplies). They are looking to collect the following items:

- Cash • Socks • Underwear
- T-shirts • Pajamas



Thank you for your continued support for this life-changing ministry.

MISSION TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA: Dawson & Abby Oliver are embarking on their first overseas mission trip to Port Shepstone, South Africa through MK2MK working with a Zulu Youth Group. IF you would like to contribute please email oliverdawson0@gmail.com or horseaoliver@gmail.com and let them know if you would like to give them monetary or prayer support or both! See large bulletin board by front door for their letter and trip details.

MISSION TRIP TO CAMBODIA! Do you like coffee and yummy baked goods? Well, come out and support Ashley, employee at Sweet Taste Bakery & Coffee Shop in Adair Village. Every Friday through June, 10% of all drinks will go toward Ashley's mission trip to Cambodia where she will be working with the Children's Church assisting with everything from education to cleaning.

LUTHER HOUSE UPDATES

Lutheran Campus Ministry at OSU is 90! The mission that began in 1926 has served students, faculty, and university staff continuously. Luther House is thriving. It's not too early to plan on joining alums and friends for a fall football homecoming open house party and reunion at Luther House, Saturday, October 29. We'll offer tailgate food, entertainment, tours of Luther House, mementos and prizes. Save the date and watch for more information as it develops.

Student Names Please. With high school graduation comes the decision many students make to attend area community colleges, tech schools, colleges and universities. If you know of a student coming to OSU, WOU, or LBCC this fall, please send us their contact information (name, address, phone number, email) at info@luther-house.org. We promise to welcome them to campus and invite them to keep their spirits alive by participating in the programs and activities of Luther House www.luther-house.org.

What Good Will You Do? To help answer that question, Luther House, Camp Lutherwood, Thrivent Financial, and InFaith Community Foundation are teaming up to bring you two free planned giving seminars, one at the Children's Farm Home School on Tuesday, June 14, 6:30-8:00, and the other at the West Salem Roth's Community Room, Wednesday, June 15, 6:30-8:00. For more information or to register please contact Virginia Mohr at [503-362-3074](tel:503-362-3074).

Fall Football Parking. Once again Luther House will offer game-day parking for all OSU home football games at Grace Lutheran Church (Corvallis), corner of Kings and Harrison, starting three hours before kickoff. Suggested

donation is \$10 per vehicle. Park four times and get the fifth time free. Proceeds support Luther House programming throughout the year. Go Beavs!

Lutherfest 2017 – Save The Date. The fifth annual Beer and Cheese Pairing Benefit is scheduled for the Samaritan Event Center, Lebanon, on Sunday, February 26, 2017.

SPECIAL SUBMISSION

Created

Submitted by Colleen Fisher who had recently and unexpectedly lost a dear friend, Mary Burton. She wrote this to help her put something gently into perspective – as an answer to such a dark moment. She prays that this may be of help to others.

Soft and pink,
Gentle and innocent
Not knowing what the world holds.

Giving and caring,
Willing to share,
Not knowing what the world will take.

Older and wiser
Stronger and bolder,
Not willing to be abused or used by the World

Tired and worn-out
Ready to rest
Desiring peace

Silent and content
Completely at ease
Surrounded by darkness
Taken into the light

Departed from this world,
Taken home
Home back to our Father where it all began.

+COMMUNITY+

BENTON COUNTY VETERANS MEMORIAL, Inc. would like to invite you to a Celebration of the Eighteenth Anniversary of the Benton County Veterans Memorial. The celebration will start sharply at 2:00pm on Monday, May 30th on the National Guard Armory South Lawn 1100 NW Kings Blvd. Keynote speaker: Steve Besse, WWII US Navy. You don't want to miss this!

CAMP SERENE's Work Weekend is going to be May 27th through the 30th. Camping is free but you will need to come prepared to work. Bring appropriate clothing to get dirty. Make sure you bring some food to share. Come out to Noti, OR on Poodle Creek Rd. and help Camp Serene get ready for the busy summer season! See you there!

ORGAN CONCERT: Organists of Korea will be having a benefit concert hosted by First United Methodist Church in Eugene on May 20th at 7:30pm. Please see the poster on the large bulletin board by the entry way or visit www.agoeugene.org. For more details.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN WEST SALEM has been keeping SVLC in prayer for our interim process every week.

Please Notify the Church Office When...

...You or a family member is going to be hospitalized. **Please let the hospital know you are a member of Shepherd of the Valley.**

...You or a member of your family is hospitalized.

...You have a change of address.

...Your phone number has changed.

...Your email address has changed.

...Members or you family are students attending school away from home or are living at a different address.