



# Shepherd's Voice

## July 17 - 24

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

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

Church office: 541-753-2816 or [svlc.corvallis@gmail.com](mailto:svlc.corvallis@gmail.com)

Pastor: 217-898-9063

### ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, July 17 9 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am	Holy Communion Fellowship Pastor's Cross+Gen Sunday School
Monday, July 18	10:00am	Fellowship Bible Study
Tuesday, July 19	10:00am – 12:00pm	Giving Garden Harvest Event
Wednesday, July 20		
Thursday, July 21	10:30am	Park Place Devotion
Friday, July 22		
Saturday, July 23		
Sunday, <b>July 24</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 7:00pm	Holy Communion Fellowship Pastor's Cross+Gen Sunday School Damascus Growth Group

**Pastor Joe will be out of the office July 19-27.**

**Callie will be out of the office July 21-24.**



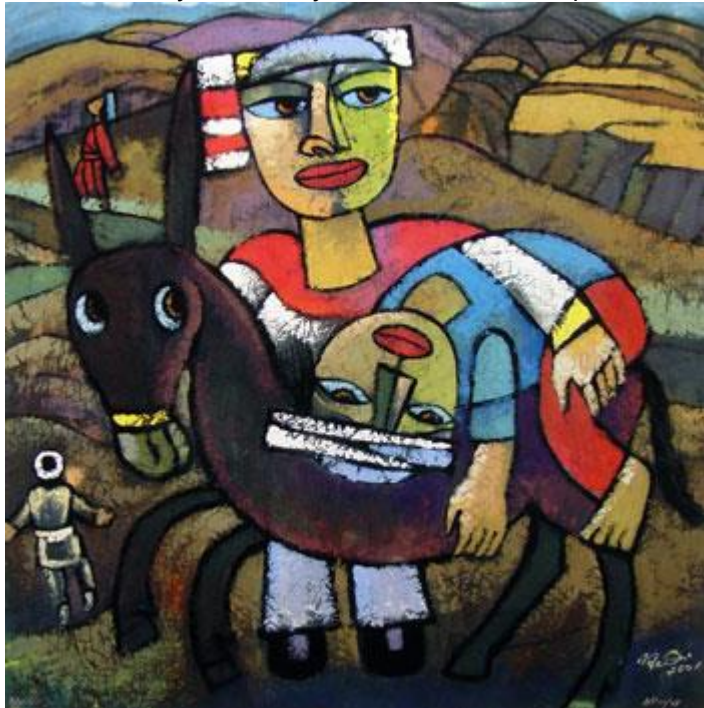
Dear friends in Christ:

I have been thinking a lot About the Parable of the Good Samaritan in light of some of the tragic events we have experienced these past few days.

When a legalist stood up to test Jesus about the meaning of the word "neighbor" in Luke 10:25-37 most of us probably come to the conclusion that, in telling the Parable of the Good Samaritan, what Jesus wanted was for this "know it all" to realize that his sphere of compassion was too narrow. He defined as neighbor people who were close at hand, people who were like him in some way. He never thought that someone so different as a Samaritan, a person who by ethnicity and religion was considered an infidel, an enemy of God, and a traitor

to the God of Israel, could actually prove to be neighbor, but of course that is exactly what happens in the parable.

There is no question that widening our sphere of compassion is a good thing for Christian people to do. But the discussion about neighbors, and who is and who isn't, was to this legalist's mind all a matter of theory and theological chatter. Notice how the episode ends: Jesus says, "You, go and do likewise." In a sense Jesus is saying, "Enough of your bantering...go and do what you talk about, then you will truly have life!" But to do that requires exactly what Jesus says, "to deny oneself and take up the cross and follow Him," and who among us is really ready to do that?



Here Jesus points us to a real problem with being religious. I think the evil one sometimes hijacks Christians to see their faith as a matter of ideas and principles to be discussed instead of a life to be lived in a certain way. For true disciples of Jesus, faith is a matter of what we do, not idle theological chatter. James wrote in his epistle, "I by my works will show you my faith." (James 2:18)

For example, yesterday as I was watching the our denomination's convention proceedings live streaming from Milwaukee, Wisconsin I watched as an older woman spoke persuasively against a resolution to discourage LCMS congregations from having women assisting with serving Holy Communion that was before the convention for a vote.

She said that in her little congregation almost all of the men were too frail and elderly to assist with serving communion. She wept as she shared how, for her little congregation, to not allow women to serve communion would be in effect to stop offering communion altogether.

Sadly the convention voted in favor of the resolution.

Fortunately, in our denomination synodical resolutions are **merely advisory** and every congregation of the synod is free to decide its own life and practice. But what really disappointed me was how the convention acted in a way that totally disregarded this lovely woman's obvious passion and love for her church and her Lord. What a sad moment for our denomination. One LCMS pastor said, "I am embarrassed to be Missouri."

Thankfully, though, we do not "believe" in the LCMS. As we confess in the creeds, we believe (put our faith and trust in) in the one holy Christian (catholic/universal) church, the baptized community of all believers in Christ which is destined by grace to share in the joy of God's love forever. The church to which we belong is much bigger than any denomination. However well-reasoned the resolution before the synod was yesterday, to my way of thinking its action was less than neighborly to the faithful woman who spoke against it. Our elders will be leading a discussion of the

question of expanding the number of people who can assist in serving communion in our church at your voters' assembly meeting July 31.

That we live in a world full of hate-fueled violence was evidenced by the tragic events in which police killed two African American men, one in Baton Rouge, and one in Minnesota, and then the next day a deranged man with a weapon, a man trained to be a killer by our own military, turned the weapon on citizens and police who were peacefully protesting the carnage, killing five police officers and wounding seven others until he himself was killed.

Contrast this with the Christian's call to follow Jesus, and live lives that value all people as made in the image of God. But to be true disciples in deed and not just word, one needs to be ready to give up the self.

This is hard for us. Everything in our world teaches us that the self is more important than anything. The legalist in the parable was more interested in himself and in being neighbor to anyone. His question is only about him proving himself to be right. Luke says he was trying to justify himself.

But Jesus does the exact opposite. He "emptied Himself," that He might give Himself for the life of the world. Christians are called to follow Christ in this way of life. St. Paul put it this way in his epistle to the early Christians at Philippi:

*Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:3-10)*

There is only one who lived a life free to self-justifying behaviors and words, and that is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. This is what we mean by saying that Jesus is the sinless Son of God. He is sinless in that He gave up Himself, allowed Himself to suffer, be rejected, and tortured to death. Jesus refused to ever put Himself first. Not one of us can say the same.

Thanks be to God for sending Jesus who gave Himself for us, and calls us to follow Him.

Blessings!

***Pastor Joe Hughes***

Voice & text: 217-898-9063

Email: [j\\_w\\_hughes@hotmail.com](mailto:j_w_hughes@hotmail.com)

Image above: "The Good Samaritan" by artist He Qi



# LECTIONARY BIBLE READINGS FOR WORSHIP

## JUNE/JULY 2016

**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.

July 17	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	First reading Epistle Gospel	Genesis 18:1-10a Colossians 1:21-29 Luke 10:38-42
July 24	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	First reading Epistle Gospel	Genesis 18:20-33 Colossians 2:6-15 Luke 11:1-13
July 31	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	First reading Epistle Gospel	Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26 Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21

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

## News from the Church Office

**The church has been Re-keyed... Callie will be signing out new keys to those on the current list and who hold positions within the church. All other requests are to be made and considered by Church Council.**

**WHERE WILL YOUR LOVED ONE BE ATTENDING COLLEGE THIS FALL?**

Will you or someone you know be attending college this fall? As part of our emphasis on being more intentional about being in ministry with students in higher education, the church office is collecting the names and contact info on college students from Shepherd of the Valley, especially if they are attending a local institution like WOU, OSU or LBCC. We will be in touch with local students using the contact information you provide. For those attending institutions out of the area, we will forward the contact info to Lutheran Campus Ministries that are close by them. Email the information to the church office or put the information on a sheet of paper and place it in my box outside the church office. Thank you for your help!

Pastor Joe

## SVLC TO HOST "SOWING CAMPUS MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES"

Shepherd of the Valley has been chosen to host a workshop called 'Sowing Campus Ministry Opportunities' on **Saturday, August 27, 9:00-4:30 PM** with former campus pastor Rev. Greg Fairow new serving as executive director of Transforming Campus Ministries. This all day, one day, event is designed to help congregations like Shepherd of the Valley explore ways they could be in mission and ministry with the campus communities in their area thanks to a grant from the Oregon District of the LWML.

As a congregation neighboring Oregon's prestigious Oregon State University it has always seemed that LC-MS congregations need to explore new ways we might see OSU as a mission field and attempt to meet the needs of any Lutheran students that are not now being met by "Lutherhouse" (a ministry of the ELCA).

To help with this event Pastor is in the process of forming a host leadership team of 3-5 people who have a passion for serving the spiritual needs of the university community and are willing to work with Greg and Pastor Joe to explore new ways we could do that. **WE NEED YOUR HELP TO HOST SO PLEASE CONTACT PASTOR JOE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED!**

### Readings for: Sunday, July 17th

*Genesis 18:1-10a*

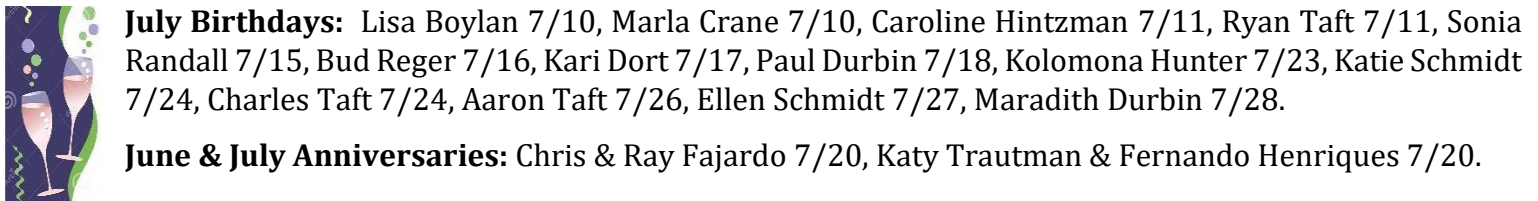
*Colossians 1:21-29*

*Luke 10:38-42*

### GIVING for last two weeks

Weekly Contribution Goal	\$3077.00
General Fund - 07/03/2016	\$4767.92
Romania Mission	\$20.00
Anniversary Fund	\$170.00
Coffee	\$5.00
General Fund - 07/10/2016	\$2823.25
MITES	\$56.00
Romania Mission Supplies	\$200.00
Furnace	\$125.00

**\*Thank you for all who gave so generously to the Romania Mercy Mission both in prayer and in funds!\***



**July Birthdays:** Lisa Boylan 7/10, Marla Crane 7/10, Caroline Hintzman 7/11, Ryan Taft 7/11, Sonia Randall 7/15, Bud Reger 7/16, Kari Dort 7/17, Paul Durbin 7/18, Kolomona Hunter 7/23, Katie Schmidt 7/24, Charles Taft 7/24, Aaron Taft 7/26, Ellen Schmidt 7/27, Maradith Durbin 7/28.

**June & July Anniversaries:** Chris & Ray Fajardo 7/20, Katy Trautman & Fernando Henriques 7/20.

**PROTECT YOURSELF:** APPEALS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT have definitely increased with the onset of summer. Have you been asking yourself whether or not a certain charity is something you would like to support? Use Charity Navigator to see where they rate in legitimately helping the group they are asking for help with. Just go to <http://www.charitynavigator.org/> and search for the group you are wondering about.



## +CHURCH HAPPENINGS+

**ADOPT-A-STUDENT** is coming up again. So if you would like to support a seminary student please indicate on your check and your envelope that you are giving toward the Seminary Student Fund. We usually give them \$500 and right now we need to raise the funds to provide this blessing to the students.

**PRAYER CHAIN:** If you would like to be added to or removed from the prayer chain please contact Nevette Orth directly at [nevette@orth.org](mailto:nevette@orth.org). If you have a prayer request please contact Nevette at the email listed!

**KEEP SUPPORTING SVLC** by signing up through Fred Meyer Rewards or shop AmazonSmile when you shop online!

**Please keep Pastor Greg, Diana, & Kids** in Prayer as they mourn the loss of Greg's Father. *If you would like to send a card of condolence to Pastor & Family his home address is 345 Belmore Way, Rochester, NY 14612.* Following is an excerpt from his Obituary:

*Kenneth L. Strand ~ December 11, 1947 - July 01, 2016.*

*Kenneth Lee Strand "Ken, Kenny and Kenneth," 68, was called to his heavenly home on Friday, July 1, 2016, on his wife's' and son Greg's birthdays at a local care facility in Great Falls, MT. Ken had "fought the good fight, he had finished the race, he had kept the faith" (2 Timothy 4:7), as he battled Parkinson's Disease, Type II Diabetes, and Neuropathy due to his extensive exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam as an Army Jet Helicopter Pilot.*

*Ken loved his family, his church family, relatives, and friends dearly. His hobbies included camping, fishing, boating – especially on his pontoon boat – and traveling extensively in his RV from Montana to Alaska many times, as well as Florida, before he was unable to travel any longer.*

*Ken is survived by his loving wife of nearly 47 years, Pat; two sons, Greg (Diana) and Tim (Nicole); four grandchildren, Adam, Audrey, Rogen and Tragen; three sisters, Kathy (Lonnie) Oswalt of Niceville, FL, Wendy (Dave) Carter of Palmer, AK, and Connie (Jim) Baca of Greeley, CO; two nieces; four nephews; aunts June Johnson of Rapid City, SD and Zelda Strand of Hermosa, SD; uncle Jerry DesJarlais of Kirkland, WA; 102-year old mother-in-law, Inga Morris-Connelly of Great Falls, MT; brother-in-law Bob (Gail) Morris of Ulm, MT; and numerous cousins and their families.*

## +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 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.***



## SUMMER CELEBRATION

50<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Picnic & BBQ

**32 Days** until August 14th

*Joyfully Serving the Shepherd for 50 Years*



## LUTHER HOUSE UPDATES

### **Luther House “Welcome to Campus Gift Bags”**

It's that time of year when we at Luther House prepare to welcome new students to campus and especially to Lutheran Campus Ministry. Plans are well underway to assemble free gift bags for each new student we meet. The backpacks bear the name of Luther House and contain fun treats and useful information for students new to campus. All we need is your help identifying students you know who will attend OSU, LBCC, or WOU this fall. Please send us their contact information (name, campus, email and phone number) so we can touch base with them, invite them to Luther House activities, and deliver a gift bag in person. Either email us at [info@luther-house.org](mailto:info@luther-house.org) or address an envelope to Luther House, 211 NW 23rd Street, Corvallis, OR 97330. We'll take it from there. Thanks for your help!

### **Fall Football Parking**

Once again Luther House is sponsoring game day parking at the Grace Lutheran parking lot (Kings and Harrison) for all home football games starting three hours prior to kickoff. The suggested contribution is only \$10 per vehicle. Park four times with us and the fifth time you park free. Please share this news with football fans you know. All proceeds support Luther House programming for the 2016-17 academic year.

### **90th Anniversary Homecoming Reunion Party**

October 29 is OSU homecoming. It's also the day the Luther House Council has designated as the Luther House 90th Anniversary Homecoming Reunion Party. Starting three hours before game-time, join friends of Luther House for tailgate food, games, Luther House trivia, prizes, and pre-game activities – nine decades of fun rolled into one terrific event. There's no charge to attend. Parking is available at Grace Lutheran. Yeah Luther House! Go Beavs!

### **Welcome Lunch and Student Panel**

The Luther House Student Leadership Team will host a preview lunch and student panelists sharing thoughts on “Priorities in College,” Tuesday September 20, 10:30-noon, at Luther House. Part of the many OSU Welcome Week activities, the goal of this event is to introduce new students to Luther House, provide them a free introductory lunch, and help them learn from peers some helpful tips on navigating college life. Spread the word, especially to students you know who'll be new to campus this fall.

### **Lutherfest 2017 is Coming!**

Save the date February 26, 2017 for the fifth, bigger and better Luther House beer and cheese pairing event at the Boulder Falls Center (same location as last year). Highlights, details, and ticket information will be released early fall.

## +COMMUNITY+

**ABBEY BACH FESTIVAL NEXT MONTH!** Those who love great music won't want to miss the Bach Festival at Mt. Angel Abbey July 27-29. Log on to <https://www.mountangelabbey.org/home/> and click on "Abbey Bach Festival" from the menu at the bottom of the page.

**LOVE INC IS HIRING** a Ministry Operations Manager. Please let the church office know if you are interested in full description and employment application.

**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.