



*Shepherd's Voice*  
*September 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>*  
*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

Sunday, <b>Sept. 18</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 6:30pm	Holy Communion Fellowship Pastor's Cross+Gen Nazareth GG
Monday, Sept. 19		
Tuesday, Sept. 20		
Wednesday, Sept. 21	10:00am	Women on Wednesdays
Thursday, Sept. 22	10:30am 5:30pm	Park Place Devotion Girl Scout Meeting in Kitchen
Friday, Sept. 23		
Saturday, Sept. 24		
Sunday, Sept. 25 19 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost	9:00am 10:10am 10:30am 3:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm	Holy Communion Fellowship Pastor's Cross+Gen Bethel GG Nazareth GG Damascus GG

## PASTOR'S POST – WE ARE STEWARDS OF INFLUENCE (9-18-16)



Grace and peace to you and yours from God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

A couple of weeks ago I went to the carwash in our neighborhood. In front of me was a pickup truck with loose “stuff” in the bed. He couldn’t go through the carwash that way. So the attendant began to cover material in the back with a vinyl covering he’d pulled out of the truck bed, something the driver should have taken care of before he got into the carwash line.

This whole process was taking what felt to me to be an inordinate amount of time. The owner of the carwash came out to see what the hold-up was, and appropriately told another one of his employees to open a second lane. Unfortunately it was the three cars now backed up behind me who were shifted over while I sat and watched the never ending job of securing the junk in the back of this pickup truck in front of me.

By the time pickup finally was able to move forward and it was my turn, I was steamed. I shared my frustration and anger at being held up all that time because the inconsiderate guy in front of me didn’t secure the things in the bed of his pickup truck, and at the attendant who merely reinforced this inconsiderate behavior by “coming to the rescue” at the expense of five minutes out of my day. And then, on top of that, the people behind me got to go through before me. It just wasn’t fair! As too often happens, a moment when I could have been an influence for God and for good was missed. I should have handled that situation better, but I blew it, and gave in to my selfish emotions.

This week I came across an essay by Rick Warren, the Southern Baptist pastor who is the author of *The Purpose Driven Life* among many other books. I’ve come to value his ministry and had the opportunity to attend his pastors’ seminar. It’s not all applicable to the Lutheran context, but he is a great encourager of pastors. This most recent essay is entitled *How to Be a Good Steward of Your Influence*. Rick wrote,

Everything you have is a gift from God – your health, your life, your salvation, your freedom, your friends, your family, your opportunities. God expects you to make the most of the things He gives you. The word for that in the Bible is called “stewardship.” Stewardship is the Old English word for “management.” And just as you manage your time and your money, you also manage your influence.

**God expects me to manage the influence I have been given!** In the situation at the car wash I had the opportunity to be an influence for God and good. Instead I was just an angry frustrated customer. I blew it. Rick reminded me that all of us are given opportunities to be an influence for God and for good in the world in the countless situations of our daily lives. Rick wrote,

In Matthew 5:16, Jesus says, ‘*Let your light shine, so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in heaven.*’ Jesus doesn’t want you to waste your influence. You don’t buy a lamp and then hide it. You don’t get a lightbulb and then never use it. In the same way, it’s wasteful to refuse to use your influence.”

There are three things you can do to maximize your ability to influence situations for God and for good in the world: **recognize** that you do have influence (I have a light to shine), **exercise** your influence as a believer in daily life (shine your light), and **maximize** your influence by speaking up for those who have little or no influence. This is what we see in the Prophet Amos in this Sunday’s first reading. He uses his influence by speaking up against those who were cheating the poor of the land: “Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end...” (Amos 8:4) We are all stewards of influence. God puts all of us in situations where we can be focused on His will or our own selfish desires. Rick puts it this way, “You were put here to be an influence for good. God wants you to do that...”

God’s blessings!

*Pastor Joe Hughes*

Voice & text: 217-898-9063

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

# ANNOUNCING CROSS+GEN SUNDAY SCHOOL TOPICS JULY 24 - OCTOBER 2, 2016

**9/18** Discovering Genesis on its Own Terms Genesis  
Jacob/Israel Sojourn's in Egypt, Conclusion of  
the ancestral story

**9/25** Transition Team Presentation

**10/2** How We Worship 1 - *Unpacking the Lutheran  
Service Book*

**10/9** Luther House Sunday

**10/16** How We Worship 2 – *Unpacking the Lutheran  
Service Book*

**10/23** How we Worship 3 – *Unpacking the Lutheran  
Service Book*

**10/30** Reformation at 500!



## LECTIONARY BIBLE READINGS FOR WORSHIP: AUGUST 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.

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September 18	18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	First reading Epistle Gospel	Amos 8:4-7 1 Timothy 2:1-15 Luke 16:1-15
September 25	19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	First reading Epistle Gospel	Amos 6:1-7 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31
October 2	20 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	First Reading Second Reading Gospel	Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:1-10
October 9	21 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	First Reading Second Reading Gospel	Ruth 1:1-19a 2 Timothy 2:1-13 Luke 17:11-19
October 16	22 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost	First Reading Second Reading Gospel	Genesis 32:22-30 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-18

## Readings for: Sunday, Sept. 18

Amos 8:4-7

1 Timothy 2:1-15

Luke 16:1-15

## Giving

Weekly Contribution Goal	\$3077.00
General Fund – 8/28/2016	\$2887.00
Attendance	47

## New Things Happening in Your World!

### NEW GROWTH GROUP STARTING AT SVLC:

Name: DIGG (Dwelling in God's Grace)

Meeting Times: 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month 6:30pm beginning Sept 16

Meeting Place: Members' homes (or church, at members discretion) on rotation

Craig & Sandy Bell will be your contact if you are interested in becoming a member of this group!

Topic of Study: one of the Pauline epistles for starters

### "AGING GRACEFULLY"

#### PUBLIC FORUM AT SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY OCTOBER 16

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church's Community Building & Care Ministry Team is co-sponsoring an important forum to discuss the important decisions we sometimes face as we age. The forum (followed by a catered dinner) will be **Sunday, October 16, 3:30-6:30 PM** in the church fellowship hall at 2650 NW Highland (at Walnut) in Corvallis. The forum will feature local speakers on housing issues, financial issues, and legal issues. Rev. Patricia Hughes, a Board Certified Chaplain will serve as mater of ceremonies and offer a devotional message. Two directors from Regency Park Place Assisted Living will discuss housing issues. Charlie Owen, a Certified Financial Planner with Thrivent Financial will discuss finances. And attorney David Beckham of Salem will discuss legal and estate planning concerns. To reserve your space contact the church office at [svlc.corvallis@gmail.com](mailto:svlc.corvallis@gmail.com) or (541) 753-2816. **RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

### YOUR NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKING TO FILL OFFICES AT OCTOBER VOTERS MEETING

The nominating committee is seeking to fill the following officers for the coming year at the voters' assembly meeting on November 20:

- Property Chair
- Elder (two positions need to be filled)
- Deaconess (two positions need to be filled)

For more information contact Brian Santora, Head Elder, at your earliest convenience.



**RED VINES Sign-up:** We want to continue our support for Linus Pauling Middle School. Red Vines licorice sticks seem to be a way to do it! Our goal is to donate one canister of Red Vines (about \$9 at CostCo) each month to Gen McConnell, head of the resource center at LPMS. See the sign-up sheet in the narthex for more information. Thanks!

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



**September Birthdays:** Jim Dort 9/6, Dianne Taft 9/8, Nevette Orth 9/11, Tom Stratton 9/14, Emily Klammer 9/16, TJ Crane-Falque 9/19, Sandy Bell 9/23, Dorothy Pratt 9/29

**September Anniversaries:** Bud & Char Reger 9/1, Bill & Sonia Randall 9/3, Mike & Virginia Kutsch 9/6

## *Other Things that are Happening!*

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

**GIVING GARDEN VOLUNTEERS:** If you would like to be updated on the times of each harvest event please contact Jennifer Klammer!

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for a wonderful concert Grant Ruiz, classical guitar and Berto Boyd, flamenco music Sunday, September 18, 2016 (3 PM) at the Church of the Good Samaritan, 333 NW 35th Street, Corvallis. Donations gratefully accepted.

**CAMP LUTHERWOOD OREGON HARVEST FESTIVAL** is on October 1, 2016 at 3pm to 7pm at Camp Lutherwood. This is the third annual fall fundraiser for the camp. Dinner and auction start at 5:00pm. For \$50/person you will enjoy a Farm-to-table meal, beer & wine, auction and events. Please RSVP no later than September 15 by calling 541-998-6444 or purchasing tickets online at [lutherwoodoregon.org](http://lutherwoodoregon.org).

**90th Anniversary Homecoming Celebration, Saturday, October 29** You're invited to Luther House three hours before kickoff when OSU meets WSU for OSU's Homecoming 2016. That day Luther House is offering a homecoming party too, commemorating 90 years of continuous campus ministry in Corvallis and featuring tailgate food, prizes, games, Luther House trivia, meeting old friends and making new ones. Parking is available (\$10 donation requested) at Grace Lutheran Church, corner of Kings and Harrison. Even if you can drop in for a few minutes, we'd love to see you. Congratulations Luther House! Go Beavs!

**LUTHERHOUSE SUNDAY** will be held at Shepherd of the Valley on October 9<sup>th</sup> 2016. This will feature in the service as well as for Cross+Gen on that Sunday!