



Shepherd's Voice

A Weekly Publication of
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

2650 NW Highland Drive, Corvallis, OR 97330

541-753-2816, svlc-corvallis.org, svlc.corvallis@gmail.com

Rev. Joseph Hughes, Pastor

Date: January 15, 2017

Weekly Schedule

Recurring Events

SUNDAYS

- 9:00am Holy Communion
- 10:15am Fellowship
- 10:30am Multi-Generational Sunday School
- 3:00pm Bethel Growth Group (2nd & 4th Sun.)
- 7:00pm Damascus Growth Group (2nd & 4th Sun.)
- 6:30pm Nazareth Growth Group (per group)

Monday

- 10:00am Fellowship Text Study
- 3:15pm to 5:15pm Violin Lessons
- 6pm Car Club Meeting (4th Monday)

Tuesday

- 11:30am Senior Potluck (2nd Tuesday)
- 6:30pm 4-H Garden Gnome Meeting (4th Tues.)
- 3:00pm to 5:45pm Violin Lessons
- 6:00pm Deacon Meeting (1st Tues.)
- 7:00pm MTL & Elder Meeting (1st Tues.)

Wednesday

- 10:00am Women on Wednesday (1st & 3rd Wed.)
- 2:00pm to 6:15pm Violin Lessons

Thursday

- 9:30am Emmaus Growth Group (1st & 3rd Thurs.)
- 10:30am Park Place Devotions
- 2:15pm to 5:15pm Violin Lessons
- 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop Meeting (1st & 3rd Thurs.)

Friday

- Office Closed
- 12:45pm to 4:15pm Violin Lessons
- 6:30pm DIGG Growth Group (1st & 3rd Fri.)

Saturday

- Office Closed

Reminders

January 16th & 23rd

❖ Fellowship Text Study CANCELLED

January 29th

❖ Quarterly Voters Meeting

**Do you have an event you would like to see
on the front page? Let us know!**

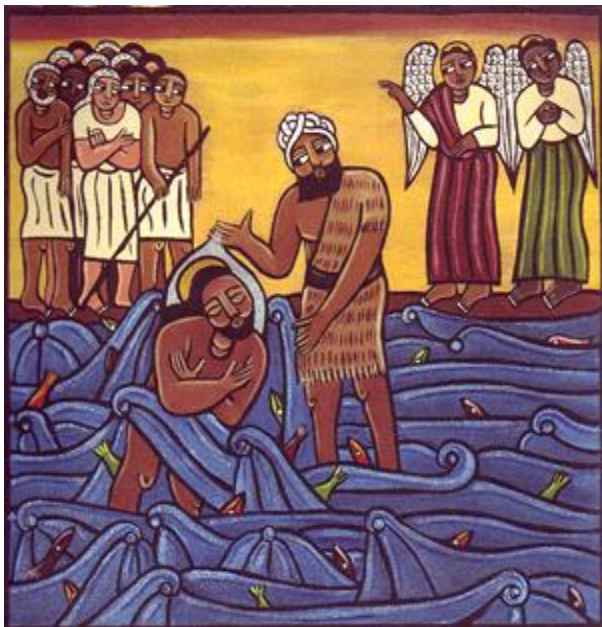
svlc.corvallis@gmail.com



PASTOR'S POST: *Baptism of our Lord*

2nd Sunday in Epiphany - January 15, 2017

Dear friends in Christ:



This Sunday at Shepherd of the Valley we are celebrating the Baptism of our Lord. Many Christian congregations observed the Baptism of our Lord on January 8, so we are a week behind those that strictly follow the lectionary series, but we will catch up next Sunday.

The truth is that the Baptism of our Lord is too important a celebration in the life of the church to be ignored or forgotten, so in a way I am glad we had to cancel church last Sunday, January 8, and can celebrate Jesus' baptism this Sunday, January 15.

Why is this so important? Celebrating the Baptism of our Lord gives us an opportunity to reflect on our own baptism. Sadly baptism is one of the great divides in the Christian family. Lutherans have taken a sacramental view of baptism. We teach that Holy Baptism is God's work in our hands. In Holy Baptism God rescues us from sin, death, and the power of the devil, and makes us part of His church. We do not rescue ourselves nor

do we make ourselves part of God's church. We baptize because it is our Lord's command.

The Lutheran church teaches this precisely because we take sin and our separation from God so seriously. Apart from the Holy Spirit's action calling us to faith in water the Word, we would have nothing to do with baptism, the Word of God, the Lord's Supper, or any of God's good and gracious gifts. This is fundamentally because we are "born in sin." As sinners we are in a state of rebellion against God. Our desire is to be gods to ourselves. The First Commandment addresses this in our Small Catechism: "You shall have no other gods before me," God says. But we do. The fact is that we have many other gods, especially the god of self. It's only natural, so to speak, given our sinful condition.

That Baptism is a sacramental act (God's work in our hands) is an essential distinction because only God can do what needs to be done in the face of our sinful nature. Only God can come into our hearts and minds, and there in the waters of baptism, begin the destruction of the old sinful self, and the resurrection of the new being that we are called to be in Christ. St. Paul writes in Romans 6:3-4, *"Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."*

Just so baptism marks the beginning of the eternal life we are called to live. If someone were to ask you, "When were you saved?" A proper response would be, "On the day I was baptized!"

The problem with the notion that we are baptized because we say we believe, the other view that many Christians hold, sometimes called "believers' baptism," is that it is fundamentally uncertain. If the response to the question, "When were you saved?" is "When I came to believe in Jesus as my Savior," then the good news of salvation rests on what you have done. You have decided you believe. But how do you really know this to be true? How many times haven't we changed our minds about things? What if sometime later you begin to question whether you really believe? Such faith that rests on what we say or do can be a terrible thing. Much better to rely on the Word God spoke to you: "You are my son/daughter, today I have begotten you in the waters of Holy

Baptism." The baptized believe they are saved because they have God's Word on it! Our own is insufficient. Faith is relying on the Word God has already spoken to us! "Whoever believes and is baptized shall be saved."

But what about the baptism of Jesus by John? What kind of baptism did Jesus insist upon for Himself? Interestingly even the most liberal scholars, who doubt almost every word of the Gospels, rarely dispute the historicity of two things: Jesus' baptism by John and his death on the cross. Here's is Matthew's account of Jesus' baptism, our Gospel for this Sunday:

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:13-17)

The question of why Jesus insists on being baptized when He is the sinless Son of God can be troublesome. After all, John's baptism is a baptism of repentance. Did Jesus need to repent of some sin?

One good answer is yes. That's because Jesus was in fact burdened with all our sins, but not His own. He was burdened with the sins of the whole world. John proclaims, "*Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*" As Jesus went into the river to be baptized by John he was already bearing the sins of the world, for that is what He came to do. Jesus didn't need to be there in the river with John because of His own sin burden, rather, He chose to be there in the river because of the burden He is carrying which is properly yours and mine – the aggregate sins of the whole world.

There are a few other reasons why Jesus came to John for baptism. It was a confirmation of the ministry of John – that Jesus came to him means that John wasn't just some crazy prophetic figure out in the wilderness. He was fulfilling God's purpose for him. This is made clear by the witness of the Holy Trinity at Jesus' baptism: the Son is baptized, the Spirit is poured out upon Him and the Father claims Him: This is my beloved Son. Second Jesus' baptism makes baptism part of the life in the church. Not only do we baptize because Christ commands it in Matthew 28: *God therefore and make disciples baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*, but also because Christ Himself was baptized and Christians are called to be "imitators of Christ." And third Jesus is baptized as an example of love and humility for us. The Lord was without sin and yet He submitted to the baptism of John. If Christ who is sinless receives baptism in humility, how much more ought we, who are sinners, understand our daily need for God's baptismal grace and mercy.

We need to be at the font, washed in the water and the Word, and led by the Holy Spirit to live a life of faithfulness, walking every day in the newness of life that God alone can give. This Sunday let us rejoice in the baptism whereby we are God's family.

In Christ,

Pastor Joe Hughes

Voice & text: 217-898-9063

Email: j_w_hughes@hotmail.com





*Love life.
Love your neighbor's life.*
LIFE SUNDAY



*"I came that they
may have life and
have it abundantly"*
— JOHN 10:10 ESV —



From the time of conception to the time of natural death — and every time in between — life is a gift.

LCMS Life Ministry is devoted to upholding the sanctity of human life, both in our church body and in the culture at large. We work domestically and internationally on pro-life projects that serve men, women, children, families and those unable to speak for themselves.

lcms.org/life |  [LCMSLifeMinistry](https://www.facebook.com/LCMSLifeMinistry) | 888-THE LCMS



This Sunday is Sanctity of Life Sunday!

Our denomination, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, has taken a strong pro life stance. This is because God reveals Himself in the sacred Scriptures as the Living God (Deut. 5:26), the God of life, the implacable foe of death and the devil (Heb. 2:14).

God came into the flesh, born of the holy Virgin, in the person of Jesus, specifically to battle and defeat death, to reveal it as the enemy that it is. This Sunday we are celebrating the Baptism of our Lord. Nothing bears witness more effectively to the sanctity of all life than the Baptism of infants in arms. It is a powerful visual reminder that **no life is disposable** and all life is sacred to God. To destroy life is to put ourselves in the place of God, a grievous sin.

LECTIONARY BIBLE READINGS FOR WORSHIP:

2016



YOU CAN HELP SHAPE SUNDAY'S MESSAGE!

Everyone is welcome to participate in Monday **Fellowship Bible Studies, 10:00-11:30.** 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. ***NOTE that because of conferences pastor is attending Fellowship Bible Study will NOT meet January 16th and 23^d.***

January 15, 2017	Baptism of Our Lord	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Isaiah 42:1-9 29 Romans 6:1-11 Matthew 3:13-17
January 22, 2017	Third Sunday after Epiphany	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Isaiah 9:1-4 27:1-9 (10-14) 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 Matthew 4:12-25
January 29, 2017	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Micah 6:1-8 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12
February 5, 2017	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Isaiah 58:3-9a 112:1-9 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16) Matthew 5:13-20
February 12, 2017	Sixth Sunday after Epiphany	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Deuteronomy 30:15-20 119:1-8 1 Corinthians 3:1-9 Matthew 5:21-37
February 19, 2017	Seventh Sunday after Epiphany	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 119:33-40 1 Corinthians 3:10-23 Matthew 5:38-48
February 26	Transfiguration of our Lord Last Sunday after Epiphany	First Reading Psalm Epistle Gospel	Exodus 24:8-18 2:6-12 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9

UPDATES FROM THE OFFICE & LEADERS

- January 15, 22, 29, 9:30-10:30 AM Three part series on seeing Church as Priesthood of Believers for M-Gen Sunday School led by head elder Peter Klammer in the fellowship hall.
- Sunday, January 29, 11:30 AM The January voters' meeting will follow M-Gen Sunday School - this will be a reporting meeting only.
- Tuesday, February 7, 6:30 PM Planning Summit is rescheduled.
- Sunday, February 12 Senior Saints Sunday - honoring those members of Shepherd of the Valley who are or will be 90 or older in 2017.

ANNOUNCING MULTI-GEN SUNDAY SCHOOL TOPICS *December/January*

- 1/15/17** An Open Conversation about Lutheran Theology & Practice –
Session 1 "The Priesthood of All Believers and the Church"
These three sessions will be facilitated by elder Peter Klammer
- 1/22/17** **Session 2** "The Ministry and the Office of Public Ministry"
- 1/29/17** **Session 3** "Word and Sacrament Ministry: Working together"
- 1/29/17** Quarterly Voters Meeting after class

Staff & Lay Leaders

Pastor	Joseph Hughes
Office Manager	Callie Santora
Musician	Lisa Boylan
President	Bill Chambers
Secretary	Gail Millimaki
Treasurer	Debi Anderson
Property Chair	Bill Randall
PR Coordinator	Sandy Bell
Elders	Peter Klammer Jeff Hintzman (elect) Dennis Anderson (elect)
Ministry Team Leaders	Lisa Boylan, <i>Worship & Prayer</i> Jennifer Klammer, <i>Community Building & Care</i> Ray Hart, <i>Missional Outreach</i> Jay McDougal, <i>Biblical Equipping</i>
Deaconesses	Donna Durbin Sandy Nash OPEN

EXTRA, EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT!!

Altar Guild is looking for YOU!

**Can you step in for the month of
February, August or December?**

**If so, please talk with Donna Pompe
about how you can be of assistance on
those months!**



January Birthdays: Karen Inman 1/9, Joyce Robak 1/15, Carol Taft 1/15,
Richard Hlavinka 1/16, Virginia Kutsch 1/17, Charles Rackley 1/17, Karl Schmidt 1/20,
Declan Orth 1/26, Pauline Holthofer 1/29, John Stephens 1/31, Katy Trautman 1/31
No January Anniversaries listed.

The rite of installation for the 2017 leadership team will be during the Sunday service on January 15, right before the offering is received. If you were elected to a position at the November voters' assembly meeting, or are continuing to serve as an elected leader in 2017, please plan to attend, and come forward to the altar at the appropriate time. Thank you.

Lay Ministry January 15th

Greeter:

Richard Hlavinka & Sue Probus

Acolyte:

Kari Dort

Reader:

Ray Hart

Sound & Slides:

Jay McDougal

Ushers:

Jay McDougal, Karen Inman, Bobby Webb, Sue Probus

Communion:

Elder

Refreshments:

Alison Hintzman & Karen Inman

Musician:

Lisa Boylan

Posting to Facebook?

We are decreasing the number of places on Facebook that our members and friends post and get their information. I have archived 'SVLC Corvallis' group and will be archiving each group with the SVLC name or Shepherd Name. You should be using the Main Church Facebook page to share all your wonderful thoughts and fun Memes. As well as any photographs!

Just go onto Facebook, search for Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church and like the page. And there you will be a part of what the public sees! Please let Callie know if you have any questions!

Lay Ministry January 22

Greeter:

Karen Inman & Bobby Webb

Acolyte:

Caroline Hintzman

Reader:

Bruce Havranek

Sound & Slides:

Peter Klammer

Ushers:

Jay McDougal, Karen Inman, Bobby Webb, Sue Probus

Communion:

Elder

Refreshments:

Virginia Kutsch & Jennifer Klammer

Musician:

Lisa Boylan

CHECK IT OUT!!

Year End Updates

Community Outreach Hygiene Kits:

7 kits were delivered on Wednesday 12/28 totalling 95 kits for 2016 with a GRAND total of 470 since starting the mission in October 2013!! Please continue to bring in SAMPLE size items listed on the door of opportunity – Hotel sizes from your travels work perfectly!! Thank you!

Caps for Cancer Center:

9 more caps were delivered Wednesday 12/28 for a total of 22 caps in 2016 and making a GRAND total of 361 caps since April 2008! Thank you all that have made caps for this ministry. Please contact Donna Durbin at 541-757-2667 for a knit or crochet pattern to

Entry way Bulletin Board

- Community Events
- Family activities
- Christmas Cards to all!

Help with some updates!

- I need all updated contact information...so a new directory can be finished
- If you no longer want to be on the list of Lay Ministry for a certain position please let the church office know so the 2017 rotation can be corrected.



WOW!! WOW!! WOW!!

St. Peter the Fisherman Lutheran Church in Lincoln City is sponsoring a trip to the HOLY LAND. There is a full itinerary already planned and they are inviting you to take part in this amazing opportunity to see the areas you study.

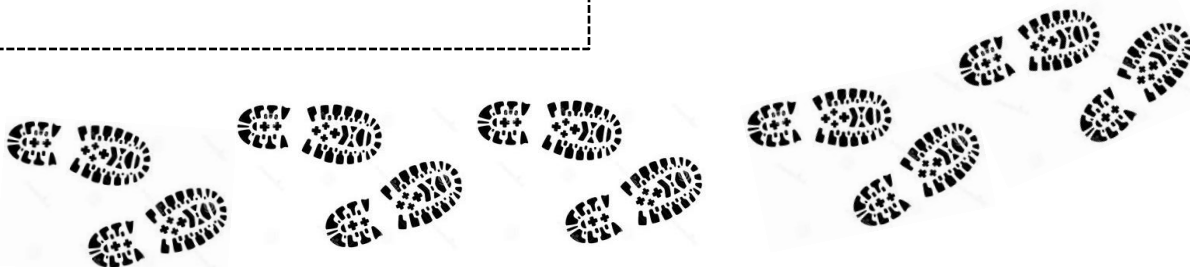
This trip will take you from Ramat Gan to Gallilee, Jerusalem and the Garden of Gethsemane. This looks to be an amazing time to go!

If you would like more information please contact Joan Roening (Church Secretary) at 541-994-8793 or email stpeterlc@yahoo.com

Bulletin Board OUTSIDE Sanctuary

- ❖ Update on Lay Ministry Positions
- ❖ January & February 2017 are up!

This is for your convenience for planning purposes.



Lay Ministry Calendar for January 2017

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sunday, Jan 15</i>	<i>Sunday, Jan 22</i>	<i>Sunday, Jan 29</i>
<i>Greeters</i>	Richard Hlavinka & Sue Probus	Karen Inman & Bobby Webb	Peter & Jennifer Klammer
<i>Acolyte</i>	Kari Dort	Caroline Hintzman	Gabriel Havranek
<i>Reader</i>	Ray Hart	Bruce Havranek	Alison Hintzman
<i>Sound & Slide Tech</i>	Jay McDougal	Peter Klammer	Craig Bell
<i>Ushers</i>	Jay McDougal Karen Inman Bobby Webb Sue Probus	Jay McDougal Karen Inman Bobby Webb Sue Probus	Jay McDougal Karen Inman Bobby Webb Sue Probus
<i>Communion Asst.</i>	Jeff Hintzman	Jeff Hintzman	Jeff Hintzman
<i>Fellowship</i>	Alison Hintzman Karen Inman	Virginia Kutsch Jennifer Klammer	Tracy McDougal Gail Millimaki
<i>Altar Care</i>			

*If you are unable to fulfill your lay ministry duty, please talk with your fellow church family
find a substitute then let the church office know of the switch.*

Call: 541753-2816

Email: svlc.corvallis@gmail.com