

Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church

GOOD TIDINGS

February 2017

Special points of interest:

- Council Meeting Minutes
- Congregational Committees and Church Officers

Inside this issue:

Pr. Jon's Article	1
Youth Ministry	2
Save the Date—VBS	
Preschool Happenings	3
Congregational Committees and Church Officers	
Kids Page	4
Bible Quiz	
January Council Minutes	5-6
February Calendar	7
Volunteer Calendar	8
Council Members	9
Ministry Team E-mails	
Birthdays and Anniversaries	
Service Information	10



Their hearts
are firm,
secure in
the LORD.

Psalm 112:7, NRSV

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God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult . . . "Be still and know that I am God!" (Psalm 46:1-3, 10a)

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

When I was growing up, I never had a big interest in circuses. In fact, if I remember correctly, the first circus that I ever went to was when I was well into my thirties. We were living in Nicaragua at the time and there were a number of circuses that would make a yearly trip to the capital city. Once we went to the circus for the first time, I was hooked. There was so much happening at once. In one ring there were trained polar bears, in another ring - clowns, and yet in another ring there were trapeze artists. It was a welcome distraction from the intensity of living in the heat and crowds of a Third World capital city.

A number of years ago, I heard a sermon preached by a friend of mine that outlined the difference between living a life standing on circumstances and living a life standing on substance. The word "circumstance" has similar roots to the word "circus." To base one's life on circumstances is like watching a circus take place; there are all of these rings happening at the same time. In one ring may be my health. In another ring may be my job. In another ring is my kids. In yet another ring are my parents. This is not even to mention what is happening in Washington D.C., Springfield, or Chicago. Life truly is a three-ring circus. **When our attention is only on circumstances (on the circus), we live with our head (and heart) on a swivel and in a perpetual state of anxiety.**

Compare that to living a life standing on substance. **When our feet are firmly planted on the eternal truth of God's power, love, and care for us, we can better confront the circuses of life.** When we are regularly reminded that we belong to God's eternity, we remember that the rest of the "crises" of life will pass. Living with our feet planted on God's substance DOES NOT mean we believe that our family, career, or country are not important; this is NOT passively putting our heads in the sand while disaster reigns. Rather, this is giving God a chance to calm our hearts so that we can be fully present in the responsibilities we have as parent, child, boss, employee, neighbor, and citizen. **Before one reads the newspaper in the morning, before one turns on the news, before one begins the daily routine of waking up the kids, take 15 minutes; read scripture, talk and listen to this God, "our refuge and strength." That is beginning the day standing on substance and not circumstance.**

The ancient practice of Sabbath helps us to regain our solid footing. In honoring Sabbath, we temporarily say "NO" to the circus of life for 24 hours, so that we can be reminded that God has freed us and cares for us. **On Saturday, February 25, we will once again make a special effort to celebrate Sabbath. How?**

-Join us for 5:00 Sabbath worship.

-Join us for a special Sabbath meal that will follow.

-Go home and do NOTHING out of obligation for the next 24 hours. That includes homework, housework, sports practices, and shopping.

- If you are willing, share with me what you did to celebrate your 24-hour Sabbath.

That's it. We know that life is busy and you need to start planning now. Clear the 24 hours starting at 5:00 p.m., Saturday, February 25. We will help you by NOT having Sunday school on February 26. If we do not regularly practice "standing on substance," we run the risk of entering a life of anxiety and worry, slaves to circumstances.

God's Peace, Strength, and Joy,

Pastor Jon



Greetings,

This summer we will be taking our high school youth (those who have completed freshman year) on a mission trip to Rushville, Indiana. Rushville is a rural community located between Indianapolis and Cincinnati. From July 9-15 we will be taking a group of youth to be joined by 400 youth from across the country for a week of service and spiritual growth. We will be serving elderly residents and residents living in poverty while we are there. According to the 2010 census 11% of the population lives below the poverty line.

Last year we went to Hamilton, Ohio just outside of Cincinnati. We took four youth. The youth that went had a great time. This year we hope to double that number. We have 8 spots for youth. Youth will spend the week working in a crew with other youth from across the nation to complete a project to assist a homeowner in need.

Along with working on service projects for those in need throughout the week we will have daily worship and devotions to help to grow our faith and relationship with Christ. A mission trip is an opportunity to serve a community in need, as well as developing our faith on a deeper level.

If you have a high school youth who interested in participating in the 2017 mission trip to Rushville contact Mike to reserve their spot.

Mike Markwell
Youth Ministry Coordinator
Mike.markwell@shepherdofthehill.com



July 17-21, 2017
VBS SAVE THE DATE

A Planning Committee is needed
See Mike Markwell if interested



Those familiar conversation hearts that show up every February can be more than just trite romantic or friendly sayings. Use them to remind you — or to teach a child — of the greatest love of all: God's love for us, which empowers our love for others. For example:

- **TRUE LOVE:** What love is truer than giving up one's only Son so people might have everlasting life? (John 3:16).
- **MINE:** Jesus knows us intimately, as a shepherd knows his sheep. No one can snatch us from him (John 10:27-29).
- **FOREVER:** God loves us with an "everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3).
- **LOVE ME:** The greatest commandment is to love God with our whole being (Luke 10:27).
- **TRUST ME:** "Let not your hearts be troubled." We can count on Jesus, now and for eternal life (John 14:1-3).
- **SWEET TALK:** God's words are sweeter than honey (Psalm 119:103).
- **BE GOOD:** We show our love for Christ by keeping his commands (John 14:15).
- **CALL ME:** God longs to be in fellowship with us. We can talk to him anytime in prayer (Jeremiah 33:3).
- **FRIENDS:** The greatest love involves laying down your life for your friends (John 15:13) — precisely what Jesus did.
- **#1:** "We love because [God] first loved us" (1 John 4:19).



In February, the students will be celebrating Valentine's Day by inviting someone special to school to sing songs, work on a craft project, eat pizza, and enjoy a day filled with fun. During community helpers week, a dental hygienist will visit to remind the students how to keep their teeth clean and healthy. Throughout the month of February, the students will be looking behind couches and under floor mats to find pennies to donate to the TLC animal shelter. The money raised will provide food and supplies for the animals.

Registration is now open for the 2017/2018 school year. We have a well rounded program where children will develop academically, socially, and learn sound Christian values and concepts through prayer and Bible stories. An Open House is scheduled for Thursday, February 9th from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Please contact the office at 815-838-0708 for a registration packet or more information.

Thank you for your continued support.
The Shepherd of the Hill Preschool Staff



CHURCH OFFICERS AND CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEES

Church Officers:

President Steve Kirk
(1 year remaining)
Vice President Dave Helfert
(1 year remaining)
Treasurer Dennis Wellsandt
(2 year term)
Secretary Tom Gustafson
(1 year remaining)

Council Members at Large:

Rick McMannis (1 year remaining)
Phil Sleezer (2 year term)
Nell Pieper (1 year remaining)
Ken Bobak (2 year term)
Amber Gayhart (2 year term)

Pastor Mutual Ministry

Linda Bunting
Jerry Liston
Jan Rauworth
Jeri Rigoni
Carole Ziemke
Tom Redig

Worship Committee

Lynn Reed, Chairperson
Amy Haut
Jan Rauworth
Judy Matarelli
Kirstin Mack
Ellen Schroll
David Rhodes

Memorial Gifts

Gary Haut, Chairperson
Nancy Monken
Nell Pieper
Gary Wintersteen, Treas.
Donna Woods
Carole Ziemke
Georgia Alberico

Audit Committee

Gary Haut
John Yudit
Nancy Baumgart

Nominating Committee

Fern Kinder
Ken Franz
Terry Ziemke
Carol Ziemke

Minister of Music Ministry

Marianne Wintersteen, Chair
Susan Mead
Nancy Naylor
Marge Otis
Bryan Rauworth
Jan Sleezer

Synod Assembly Delegates

Pricie Rogan
Dan Gaddis

Finance

TBD

Pre-School Board

Susan Mead, President
Terry Ziemke
Kimberly Bell
Debbie Fischer
Sally Unmisig
Nell Pieper, Liaison

Personnel

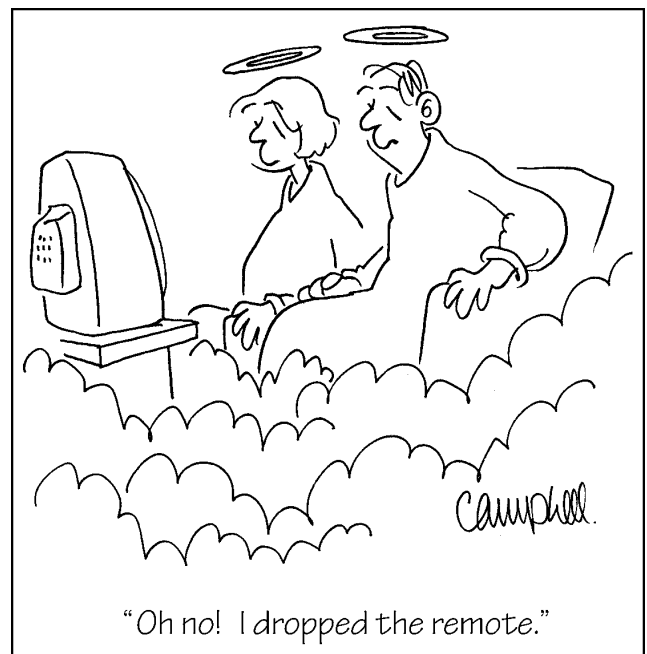
Jean Cavanaugh
Max Woods
Terry Ziemke
Donna Rothlisberger
Bill Bunting

Property Committee

Phil Sleezer, Liaison
Bob Tracey
Mark Glowcynski
Gary Wintersteen
Bryan Rauworth
Jim Forbes
Gary Haut
Terry Ziemke
Fred Grabenhofer

Communications/Tech

Kris Glowcynski, Chair
Tom Gustafson, Liaison
Susan Mead
Bryan Rauworth
Jim Forbes






Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love.
How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here:
(12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12th letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

- (1) You really like ice cream! _____
- (16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. _____
- (21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. _____
- (4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. _____
- (11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. _____
- (17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. _____
- (6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. _____



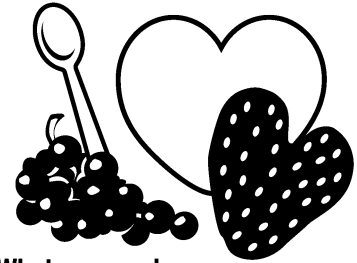

 "Honor _____ and
 _____, and _____ your
 _____."

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV

Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.



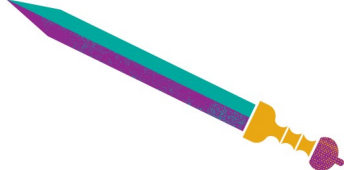
What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir.
6. Wash and cut the mint. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!

Bible Quiz



What unique characteristic of the judge Ehud enabled him to outsmart King Eglon of Moab, who had been oppressing ancient Israel?

- A. He was left-handed.
- B. He was blind.
- C. He was very fat.
- D. He was exceedingly strong.

See answer on back page

Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Kirk at 6:32 PM.

Present: Dave Helfert, Dennis Wellsandt, Ken Franz, Rick McManis, Steve Kirk, Pastor Jon Pedersen, Fern Kinder, Nell Pieper and Tom Gustafson.

Absent: Phil Sleezer.

Special Order of Business/Guests

Carol Ziemke shared with Council the progress that has been made in planning for the redecorating/refurbishing of the narthex. Carol, and a core group working with her, have chosen the flooring for this project and are ready to proceed. Additional plans include some electrical work, and new furnishings. On a motion by Dave Helfert (2nd by Dennis Wellsandt) Council agreed that this work could go forward.

Tina Baker (Nominating Committee) presented Council with the ballot for the election (Council/Ministry Teams) scheduled for the congregational meeting on January 29, 2017. There are still positions that need to be filled

Tom Redig was a guest for the evening. Tom is working toward ordination in the ministry and thought it would be helpful to attend a council meeting.

.....

The Council shared personal “highs/lows” and prayed for one another.

On a motion by Dave Helfert (2nd by Nell Pieper) the minutes of the December 13 meeting were approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Wellsandt presented a financial report for the month of December. It showed that December had the highest expenses of the year (\$46,095.58) and also the most income of the year (\$48,561.98). A major reason for the high expenses was that there was an additional pay period in that month.

Dennis also shared a chart which showed all income and expenses by month for the year 2016.

Pastor’s Report (Highlights):

On January 3, Pastor met with Kathy McCarthy regarding the formation of a support group for caregivers. Pastor is also working to assemble a list of community support services for congregants in need.

Pastor Jon is now the **Reverend Dr. Jon Pedersen!** On January 11 his Doctor of Ministry degree was officially recorded.

The new small group curriculum (Honoring Our Neighbor’s Faith: What Do Lutherans Believe?) will begin February 15/16.

Pastor Pedersen submitted a form (dated 1/17/2017) entitled *Pastor’s Request For Housing Allowance*. For the year 2017 the form states:

“I request a housing allowance of \$28,000 for (Year). The estimated fair rental value of my home furnished, plus cost of utilities, is \$30,240. My request does not exceed the fair rental value.”

Youth Ministers Report: Council received a written report from Mike Markwell documenting recent and future youth events. March and April will be busy months with involvement in Lent and Easter events.

Fundraising has already begun for the 2017 mission trip and confirmation camp.

President's Mailbox: President Kirk reported to Council that the Executive Board had approved (via email) the making of two additional building keys.

Dave Helfert expressed concern over the number of keys that are either lost or unaccounted for. Is this a serious problem? Should all locks be changed and new keys issued? The Executive Board will discuss this further at a later date.

Ministry Team Reports:

Communications (Tom Gustafson): No recommendations to Council.

Evangelism/Fellowship and Caring (Ken Franz): No recommendations to Council.

Stewardship (Pastor Pedersen): The Endowment Committee will meet on Thursday, 1/19. They hope to have by-laws ready before the March Council meeting.

Learning and Youth (Rick McManis): Planning is taking place for the Easter public event.

Preschool (Nell Pieper): Enrollment for this school year was 21 four year olds and 16 three year olds.

Property (Phil Sleezer): No report.

Worship (Pastor Pedersen): No recommendations to Council.

Congregational Ministry Teams:

Finance/Audit (Dennis Wellsandt): The Audit Committee met and audited. They found everything in order.

Memorial Gifts (Nell Pieper): No recommendations to Council.

Personnel (Dave Helfert): No recommendations to Council.

Nominations (Fern Kinder): Fern expressed concern that there were not enough people on the nominating committee this year. And, as always, it is difficult to get enough people to fill all available positions on Council and the ministry teams. Pastor expressed his feeling that this is a problem that Council needs to address.

Old Business:

10:35 Service Survey Review: Pastor will try to have this information made available to Council at our February meeting.

Retreat follow-up-Assessment forms: Forms have been completed by Pre-School, Property and Memorial Gifts.

Weight Watchers: On a motion by Tom Gustafson (2nd by Ken Franz) a contract for use of our building for weekly Weight Watchers meetings was approved.

Copies of By-Laws and Constitution: The latest by-law revisions are still being compiled.


New Business:

Council pictures: Photos will be taken on 3/21/17 by Amanda Grabenhofer.

February Council Meeting: The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 21 at 6:30 PM.

Nell Pieper made a motion for adjournment (2nd by Dennis Wellsandt). The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 and was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:30am—Prayer Shawl 9:30am—Small Group 9:30am—NO Mom's Group 3:15pm—Tutoring 6:00pm—Shepherd 6:30/7:30pm—AA 6:30pm—Confirmation 7:10pm—Chancel Choir	2 9:30am—Prayer Shawl 7:00pm—Property Comm.	3 9:00am—Mexican Train Dominoes	4 5:00pm—Worship
5 Scout Sunday 9:00am—Worship 10:35am—Worship 10:35am—Sunday School 12pm—Reverberations 5:30pm—Allegro Bells	6 7:00pm—Dartball	7 6:00pm—Weight Watchers 7:00pm—Worship Comm.	8 9:30am—Prayer Shawl 9:30am—Small Group 9:30am—Mom's Group 3:15pm—Tutoring 6:00pm—Shepherd Ringers 6:30/7:30pm—AA 6:30pm—Confirmation 7:10pm—Chancel Choir	9 9:30am—Prayer Shawl	10 9:00am—Mexican Train Dominoes 4:30pm—Girl Scouts	11 8:00am—Noon Girl Scout Cookie Pick-Up in Parking Lot 9:00am— Communication Comm. 5:00pm—Worship
12 9:00am—Worship 10:35am—Worship 10:35am—Sunday School 12pm—Reverberations 5:30pm—Allegro Bells	13 7:00pm—Dartball	14 Valentine's Day 6:00pm—Weight Watchers 6:30pm—Altar Guild 7:00pm—Preschool Board	15 9:30am—Prayer Shawl 9:30am—Small Group 9:30am—NO Mom's Group B/S 3:15pm—Tutoring 6:00pm—Shepherd Ringers 6:30/7:30—AA 6:30pm—Confirmation	16 9:30am—Prayer Shawl 6:00pm—Small Group 7:00pm—Exec. Committee	17 9:00am—Mexican Train Dominoes	18 5:00pm—Worship
19 9:00am—Worship 10:35am—Worship 10:35am—Sunday School 12pm—Reverberations 5:30pm—Allegro Bells	20 7:00pm—Dartball	21 6:00pm—Weight Watchers 6:30pm—Church Council 7:00pm—Deborah's Circle	22 9:30am—Prayer Shawl 9:30am—Small Group 9:30am—Mom's Group B/S 3:15pm—Tutoring 6:00pm—Shepherd Ringers 6:30/7:30—AA 6:30pm—Confirmation 7:10pm—Chancel Choir	23 9:30am—Prayer Shawl 6:00pm—Small Group	24 9:00am—Mexican Train Dominoes 4:30pm—Girl Scouts	25 Sabbath Meal and Celebration 5:00pm—Worship
26 9:00am—Worship 10:35am—Worship 10:35am—NO Sunday School 12pm—Reverberations 5:30pm—Allegro Bells	27 7:00pm—Dartball	28 6:00pm—Weight Watchers 7:00pm—Ruth's Circle	FYI... Ash Wednesday			

Helper Schedule for
February/March 2017

Please note which day you are scheduled to serve. If you are unable to serve, please call someone to replace you and then notify the office.

	Assisting Minister	Acolyte	Communion	Lay Reader	AV Operator	Ushers 9am only	Counters Weekly
	9am Only	9am Only	Assistant 9am Only	9am Only	All Services	Flink/Gaddis	
2/4-2/5	Harold Sager	TBD	Jan Rauworth Lynn Reed	Mickey Callaghan	Sat. 5pm Mike Markwell Sun. 9am Susan Mead Sun. 10:35am Kris Glowczynski	TBD TBD	Chris Toso Ed Grabenhofer
2/11-2/12	Dave Helfert	TBD	Donna Rothlisberger Kirstin Mack	Tina Baker	Sat. 5pm Jake Zacharias Sun. 9am Nathan Helfert Sun. 10:35am Bryan Rauworth	TBD TBD	Sally Unmisch John Yudit
2/18-2/19	Nancy Baumgart	TBD	Jeri Rigoni Harold Sager	Carole Ziemke	Sat. 5pm Paul Toso Sun. 9am Bryan Rauworth Sun. 10:35am Kris Glowczynski	TBD TBD	Sharon Grabenhofer Don Lawler
2/25-2/26	Jeri Rigoni	TBD	Donna Helfert Bryan Rauworth	Gary Flink	Sat. 5pm Jake Zacharias Sun. 9am Susan Mead Sun. 10:35am Kris Glowczynski	TBD TBD	Doug Waldvogel Lois Reil
3/4-3/5	Gary Wintersteen	TBD	Bill Bunting Linda Bunting	Harold Sager	Sat. 5pm Paul Toso Sun. 9:00am Andy Neil Sun. 10:35am Susan Mead	TBD TBD	Sally Unmisch John Yudit
3/11-3/12	Susan Mead	TBD	Kirstin Mack Susan Mead	Marianne Wintersteen	Sat. 5:00pm Jake Zacharias Sun. 9:00am Bryan Rauworth Sun. 10:35am Kris Glowczynski	TBD TBD	Chris Toso Ed Grabenhofer
3/18-3/19	Linda Bunting	TBD	Donna Woods Tina Baker	Nancy Monken	Sat. 5:00pm Mike Markwell Sun. 9:00am Andy Neil Sun. 10:35am Bryan Rauworth	TBD TBD	Doug Waldvogel Lois Reil
3/25-3/26	Harold Sager	TBD	Donna Helfert Lynn Reed	Jeri Rigoni	Sat. 5:00pm Paul Toso Sun. 9:00am Susan Mead Sun. 10:35am Kris Glowczynski	TBD TBD	Sally Unmisch John Yudit

Executive Committee Members

Steve KirkPresident
Dave Helfert..... Vice President
Tom Gustafson. Secretary
Dennis Wellsandt..... Treasurer

Council Member

Ken Bobak Rick McManis
Nell Pieper Amber Gayhart
Phil Sleezer

Council Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the Month
at 6:30PM



1-February,	Ava Cully, Dorothy Gray
2-February	Michael Soderstrom, Kevin Crosse II
3-February	Stephanie Jones, Elise Kinder, Becky Phillips, Elise Grazulis, Melissa Helfert
4-February	Ryan Lata
5-February	Lisa Krueger
7-February	Karen Pintoy
9-February	Douglas Waldvogel
10-February	David Kuehl
11-February	Anthony Leno
12-February	Robin Zabelka
13-February	Ron Petrinis, Lisa Bickus, Jean Cavanaugh
14-February	Jason Phillips
15-February	Joan Butler
16-February	Lindsay Tarrant
17-February	Benjamin Likins, John Ter Horst
18-February	Carl Larson, Bryan Rauworth
21-February	Dwight Martino
23-February	Carol Cholipski
24-February	James Lake
27-February	Jacob Habas, Andrew Heintzelman, Troy Gerrity
28-February	John Bramlet



SOTH Ministry Team

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pastor.jon@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.admin@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.audit@shepherdofthehill.com
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soth.evast@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.fellowship@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.finsec@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.learning@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.memorialgifts@shepherdofthehill.com
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soth.president@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.property@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.secretary@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.treasurer@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.vp@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.worship@shepherdofthehill.com
soth.youth@shepherdofthehill.com



February 8	Joe & Kathy Rodak
February 13	John & Lois Teerling
February 15	Dennis & Lana Wellsandt
February 18	Janet & Thomas O'Grady



Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church

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Lockport, IL 60441

Phone: 815-838-0708

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Email: sothlutheran@sbcglobal.net

Web page: www.shepherdofthehill.com

Mission

"To Know Jesus And To Make Jesus Known"

Vision

"Transforming Lives, Families And Our
Community Through Jesus Christ"



SERVICE SCHEDULE

Saturday

5:00PM

Sunday

9:00AM and 10:35AM

Sunday School

10:30AM

Childcare Available

GOOD TIDINGS

Take care

In Jimmy Fallon's first monologue as host of NBC's *The Tonight Show*, he expressed thanks to all past hosts. On an occasion when he might have said, "And now this stage is mine!" or "I'm delighted to be counted among such greats," instead he stated with deep humility, "I just want to do the best I can and take care of this show for a while."

Take care of. That's language not of ownership but of stewardship. That's the language of Genesis 2:15 (NIV) — "The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and *take care of it.*"

What have we been called to "take care of for a little while"? The earth, surely. Perhaps a congregation, a business, a neighbor in need, a volunteer or an employee. A child, who may need less care — or different forms of it — as time goes on. We don't own these people and things. God invites us to be stewards of them, to care for them, to use wisely and value these precious gifts ... and someday, to pass them on to others.



How to Contact Good Tidings

Good Tidings is the responsibility of Communications Ministry and assembled by team members, volunteers and Church Staff. We depend on input from the other ministries, staff, and members of the congregation. If you wish to have an article published in Good Tidings, please submit your article or information to someone on

the team or drop it in the Communications Chairperson's drop box in the Church office. Articles may also be emailed to the kglow72@gmail.com. In order for the article to appear in the next month's newsletter, it needs to be into the drop box by the 20th of each Month. Articles submitted after that date will

appear in the next issue, assuming the articles are not date sensitive. Remember that we depend on your input in order to be able to have information to publish

"Love is taking a few steps backward, maybe even more ... to give way to the happiness of the person you love."

—A.A. Milne