



The Shepherd's Staff

to inform and encourage



March 2015

MIDWEEK WORSHIP DURING LENT

The first four Wednesdays in March, we will host midweek Lenten worship services at 7:00 p.m. We are pleased to welcome a number of pastors from our Denver area congregations as guest preachers for these services. The theme of our midweek Lent services this year is:



THE HANDS OF JESUS –

draw you close,
hold you near, and
embrace you forever.

Please come early and enjoy great food and fellowship during our Lenten Suppers. Suppers will begin at 6:00 p.m. every Wednesday during Lent.

What would Easter be without Easter lilies, the symbol of resurrection, life and rebirth?

As we contemplate Jesus suffering during Lent, we also look forward to the joy of His resurrection on Easter Sunday. One way to celebrate His resurrection is to fill the altar with flowers.

The past several years we have ordered a selection of Easter lilies and blooming spring bulbs from Denver Wholesale Florist. This is easy and convenient, however it is getting expensive.

This year we would like to try something different.

Anyone who would like to buy and donate an Easter lily or potted spring flower such as daffodils, tulips or

hyacinth, may do so by marking it with your name on the bottom or side of the pot and delivering it to church by 10 AM the Saturday before Easter, April 4th.

The altar committee will arrange the plants on the altar. In addition to donating a spring flower or Easter lily this way, Shepherd Women will be buying 20 Easter lilies for the altar. We would appreciate your donation to this project. For your donation, you may take one of the Easter lilies home after the Easter Festival service. The unclaimed lilies and other bulbs will be planted in the church garden in Spring. Please make your donation to Shepherd Women and put it in Kim Moore's church mailbox. Call Kim with questions at 303-452-1153.



STEWARDSHIP FOCUS IN MARCH: The Beautiful Gifts of Lent

Faith in Jesus' sacrificial death moves believers to do beautiful things for him.

He had done so much to help her family. He had done so much to help her. And now he was going to die. It was inevitable. He was going to die to help people beyond compare.

Although she could not stop his death from happening, there was still much she could do. The least she could do was say "Thank you." She determined to express her gratitude by preparing a funeral fit for a king.

A Generous Gift of Grace

This woman's name was Mary. She lived in Bethany. And she understood. Everything Jesus had been saying to his followers about how he would soon suffer and die, she understood. While Jesus' twelve disciples tried to deny such statements, Mary understood and believed.

Mary had often enjoyed sitting at Jesus' feet, listening to his words about the kingdom of God. She understood that Jesus would die for his kingdom. The Savior who brought her brother Lazarus from death to life, was about to give his life over to death in order to save people who didn't deserve saving.

Mary understood this. Jesus' grace meant he would suffer and die for her.

A Generous Gift of Gratitude

Time was short. Mary had to express her gratitude and loyalty. During a dinner given in Jesus' honor, *"Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair."* (John 12:3)

This perfume was so expensive that only the wealthy could afford to use it. But Mary paid no attention to this. She not only anointed Jesus' head, but his feet as well. Lavishly she poured the perfume on Jesus. When the last drop fell, she began to wipe his feet with her hair. To her, it seemed like such a small gift in comparison to what he would give to the world.

A Generous Gift of the Gospel

To the disciples, it seemed like far too much. When they began to scold Mary for her wastefulness, Jesus defended her. *"Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial."* (Matthew 26:10-12)

Jesus knew Mary's motive. He refused to let anyone speak against her sincere worship. *"She did it to prepare me for burial."* He would die for her. He would die for a world of sinners. When the disciples realized that this was good news – the most precious gospel of all – they would understand that the most expensive perfume in the world could never adequately express a forgiven sinner's gratitude.

"I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her." (Matthew 26:13) This promise has come true.

You have the gospel now. It's your turn to do a beautiful thing for Jesus.

Pastor Philip Kieselhorst

The Kingdom Workers are Coming!

We are delighted that 4 students from Martin Luther College – our pastor and teacher training college in Minnesota – will be with us March 1-8. The purpose of their visit is to assist us in surveying our neighbors in the rapidly growing communities of Five Parks, Candelas and Leyden Rock. We look forward to their help and we pray that God will richly bless our efforts to share the Good News of our Savior with our neighbors!



MISSION OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY

Have you ever wondered what you can do to reach out to our community with the good news of Jesus? Shepherd of the Valley has a wonderful opportunity to invite the community to our church and school. Directly west of our location, three major neighborhoods are being built: Five Parks, Candelas, and Leyden Rock. No churches are in these communities and there is only one elementary school serving these areas.

We are planning three mailings (March, May, and June) to let the community know that we have an excellent grade school which provides quality Christian education for grades PK-8th grade. We are targeting homes with children ages 3-13. This is an expensive undertaking (probably in the neighborhood of \$3000) We will also purchase the mailing list which will allow us to mailings for church outreach events such as Easter for Kids, Vacation Bible School, Praises in the Park, and the like.

If you would like to help with this undertaking financially, please speak to Sharon Presser or put your donation in an envelope marked, "Outreach Opportunity" and place it into the church offering plates.

Thanks for helping us get the WORD out!

KING SOOPERS CARD FUNDRAISER

MARCH UPDATE – Thanks to our February deposit of \$525, our current balance for using King Soopers reloadable gift cards is at \$4,444.00. Thanks for your continual usage of these cards. Funds are used for non-budgeted needs at SVL.



If you would like more information on this program, or if you need a new card, please speak with Sharon Presser. (303-460-9338)



March Birthday Blessings to:

Steffanie Snider, Jason Welty: 3/6; Carl Wagner: 3/8; Lilli Hockenbery: 3/9; Luke Albers, Sandy Olson, Peyton Zoran: 3/11; Kelsey Snider, Austin Zoran: 3/13; Brodie Saggau: 3/14; Kathy Kieselhorst: 3/16; Nancy Kennedy, Lynn Larsen: 3/18; Mary Wisner: 3/19; Gabriel Gallegos: 3/20; Sue Kelton: 3/21; Ida Falck, Maxwell Falck: 3/22; Chris Delsordo, Mary Peterson: 3/23; Milfred Thompson: 3/24; Karena Falck: 3/25; Megan Larsen: 3/29



Happy Anniversary to:

Tom & Lynn Helmreich: 3/15

2015 LWMS Spring Rally



Peace
Lutheran Church
2790 Jay Rd.
Boulder, CO

DATE:
SATURDAY,
APRIL 25, 2015

Reporter's Meeting 8:30
Registration 8:15 - 9:00
Rally Begins 9:00



Special Topic: World Missions

Guest Speaker: Rev. John Kurth

The Rocky Mountain LWMS Circuit board members and the ladies of Peace Lutheran Church in Boulder invite you to the 2015 Spring Rally.

Directions: From Denver metro area, take I-70 to US-36 West exit toward Ft. Collin/Boulder. Stay on US-36W for 30 miles through Boulder. Turn left onto Jay Road. The church is on the left.

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR/TEACHER CALL RETURNED

After much prayer and deliberation, Miss Sarah Rautenberg has returned the Call we extended to her to be SVL's next Preschool Director and Teacher. We pray that the Lord of the Church will continue to bless her ministry to the children in Downer's Grove, IL and that He will guide the individual of His choosing to serve the children and parents who come to SVL to learn the Word of God. Please stay tuned for notification of our next Call meeting.



POETRY CORNER 8th grade

THE WAR WITH THE FLOOR

Shoes and their WAR
With the floor

They're always stomping and
screeching
Sliding on the floor.

Starting a WAR
Where they're sent to
The front lines of the court floor.

Where the shoes
Are the most intense clashing
In groups toward
One end to the other
Trying to break the defense
Of the floor
In their WAR!

Ben Kieselhorst

RAIN

Among the rain and the streets
The glistening rain fell.
Among my rain jacket the drops fell,
Upon my umbrella the water fell,
I heard the raindrops hitting the automobiles
Glistening rain fell and fell.

Toby Russ

SLUMBER

Dark and dreary,
Cold and crestfallen,
As the rain falls..
Pitter, patter,
Against my window.
Pitter, patter,
The shadowy clouds
And mist outside my window
I'm beginning to fall deeper and deeper
Into an exhausted sleep.

Madelynne Hockenbery

LIFE

Life is a tough adventure
But it is also very precious.
Life is given to us,
By the mighty hand from above the skies.

SCHOOL

School is like a place where people learn to
bond with each other.
It isn't some place where people want you
to fail either.

School is like the place where people want
to help you succeed.
It is like a tool...
It helps you to fix up your life and know
how to do something with it.

People are living
Friends are giving
A world where we are forgiving.

Maddie Mulvaney