



The Shepherd's Staff

to inform and encourage



May 2016

12th Annual Church/School Parking Lot Sale!! Friday June 3rd & Saturday June 4th 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Here we go again – it's time to meet and greet our community as we collectively make room in our closets and garages!!

We are blessed every year to welcome as many as 2000 shoppers onto our campus who are eager to benefit from our discarded treasures.



Your donations make this possible and we hope you are willing to contribute to this great outreach and fundraising opportunity. As you consider items to donate please keep in mind the following guidelines:

CLOTHING

No holes or rips
CLEAN clothing only

FURNITURE

Nothing badly stained/torn
Nothing smelly
NO mattresses

ELECTRONICS

Please check that they work
NO TV's!!!

Use your best judgment. If you wouldn't offer it to a friend, it probably won't sell.

Donation Drop-Off Times:

Sunday 5/29 & Monday 5/30: Noon - 4 p.m. **Tuesday 5/31 & Wednesday 6/1:** 10 a.m. - 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

We also need a solid work force to make this event happen. Below are some of the ways in which you can volunteer your time!



- Picking up donated goods
- Pricing and Sorting
- Setting up for the sale
- Helping with the sale
- After sale clean-up



Please consider where you can help! (*1 or 2 hours from you will mean a lot to us!*)

Sign-up sheets, with more detailed information, are located in the fellowship hall near the kitchen service window. You may also talk to Michele Zoran, Kayte Gut, Wendy Tromp or Dawn Kohl.



"CONQUERORS THROUGH CHRIST" is our synod's most recent effort to minister to those who need to escape the addiction of pornography. For more information, check out the website:

www.ConquerorsThroughChrist.net. Learn more about the help available in God's Word and through

Christ's strength to conquer this addiction. Pass this information on to those who need to escape the guilt, shame and hurt pornography causes them and others.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church & School

SEEK first Jesus' kingdom and the lost souls for whom Jesus died and rose again.

STRENGTHEN our faith in Jesus through meaningful worship and Bible study.

SERVE Jesus and one another in Christian love.

He is RISEN, So we will RISE!

Worship Opportunities in May:



May 01 – 6th Sunday of Easter (with Communion) – *"My peace I give you."*

May 08 – **Ascension Sunday** (Mother's Day) – *"I go to prepare a place for you."*

May 15 – **Confirmation Sunday** (with Communion) – *"I will send the Holy Spirit."*

May 22 – **Holy Trinity Sunday** (WELS Connection) – *"Holy, holy, holy!"*

May 29 – **Pentecost 2 Sunday** (LIFT service at 10:30) – *"I will give you rest."*

Spiritual Growth Opportunities at SVL

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Sundays at 9:20 a.m. – B.I.B.L.E. 101 (Membership Class) | (Middle classroom) |
| Sundays at 9:20 a.m. – Sunday School for ages 3-8 | (Begins in Chapel) |
| Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Faith Foundations for ages 9-12 | (7-8 Classroom) |
| Sundays at 9:30 a.m. – Teen Bible Study | (Discipleship Center— upstairs) |
| Sundays at 9:30 a.m.—Adult Bible Class: <i>Prepared to Answer</i> | (Fellowship Hall) |
| Sundays at 9:30 a.m.—Adult Bible Class: <i>Revelation: Christ Wins!</i> | (4-6 Classroom) |
| Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. – Ladies' Bible Study – <i>Journey through the Psalms</i> | |
| Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. – Men's Bible Study – <i>Journey through the Psalms</i> | |

CHRISTIANS RESOLVED TO WITNESS TO GOD'S TRUTH – DANIEL 1

A monthly series of lessons about witnessing from the book of Daniel

Four teenagers decided that they were going to oppose the system.

They did not make this decision in order to be rebels. They were not on a mission to stand out and be different. They were instead focused on following the principles their God and true King passed down to them through their parents and church. But this made them different. This caused them to stand out from the other students.

By not following the ungodly command of those in authority, these four young men set themselves up for intense scorn, intimidation, abuse and expulsion. Why? For one seemingly insignificant principle? Yes. Even for one.

The situation I have described explains Daniel chapter one and the four young men of Israel who attended the king's college of ancient Babylon. But this situation also describes the campus of any high school or college in present-day America where Christian youth are enrolled. It describes the situation wherever God's truth is challenged.

A Challenge to God's Truth

Daniel, Hananiah (Shadrach), Mishael (Meshach) and Azariah (Abednego) lived through the horror of war. They witnessed the annihilation of their country and countrymen. This devastation was accomplished by the army of king Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. These four were then taken captive and placed in the king's college for future service to the king – the king who had ruined their world!

"Learn the language and literature of the Babylonians", ordered the king. *"Fine,"* the four young men from Israel responded.

"Eat and drink food and wine from the king's table," the king commanded. **But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way, (v8).**

Daniel recognized the king's command as a challenge to God's command to not eat unclean meat or food sacrificed to idols (**Leviticus 11; Exodus 34:15**). On the surface this challenge didn't seem very threatening. But Daniel realized that much was at stake. The two commands did not agree. One would have to be broken. The real question behind this challenge was *"Who is your king?"*

Today our young people attend high schools and colleges where they learn valuable knowledge and skills for future careers. They also meet serious challenges to God's truth. The real question behind every challenge is: *"Who is your king?"*

A Witness to God's Truth

Challenges bring opportunities. Daniel recognized the opportunity he had to glorify God's name while he spent time in Nebuchadnezzar's college. Strengthened by God's resolve to bless those who obey his commands (cf. **Leviticus 26**), Daniel resolved to not defile himself by disobeying God's command. Instead, he offered a brave challenge to the king's guard. He and his three companions in school were different. They obeyed a different King, a far better King.

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Who is your king? We know that we follow a far greater King than any human philosophy, human creation or human being. Our King went to war for us and conquered our enemies even though it cost him his life. The King who died for us and then rose from the dead to rule once again, promises his people that he will bless us with eternal peace. Our Savior King now leads us by giving us his commands – Love the Lord your God and love your neighbor – that bring much good and blessing into our lives. Our King promises: **"Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it," Luke 11:28.**

Every challenge to God's truth is an opportunity for us to stand up and witness to the truth that we follow a far better King. Every challenge to commit a sin is an opportunity to obey and honor God.

When Christians are strengthened by Jesus' resolve to forgive all of our sins and carry all of our burdens, we will become banners of hope and faith to contemporaries who have nothing to believe in and no hope. When we resolve to obey the Ten Commandments in the face of peer pressure to do otherwise, we will stand out and make a powerful statement. When we resolve to defend Jesus' name among those who slander it, we will witness to their King as they endure slander and abuse for his sake.

The four young men in Babylon obeyed the true King's command and he blessed their witness. May Christians resolve to obey the commands of their gracious King and turn every challenge into an opportunity to witness to God's truth.

The true King will bless our witness.

Please read Daniel chapter 1. - Pastor Kieselhorst

Attention Shepherd Women!

Want to learn more about how YOU can get involved in serving your church family? We are having a special **Promoting Women's Ministry** meeting after second service on **Sunday, May 22**, and you are invited!

We are going to talk about the many upcoming events that Shepherd Women. But we also want to hear from you! We want your feedback on ways to improve the SVL volunteer experience. What do you like? What can we improve? This is your chance to help develop best volunteer practices.

We would love to get our young adults involved as well. Women of confirmation age and up are encouraged to attend with their mother. Any questions? Contact Tomoko Koerber 303-918-0482 eaststanford@gmail.com. See you there!

TIME TO EXERCISE OUR GREEN THUMBS! - MONDAY, MAY 9!

Calling all willing partners to help buy and plant flowers for the boxes and beds at church. Just as in years past, we'll meet at **9 a.m.** and head to O'Tooles Nursery. Then we'll come back to arrange and plant, hoping to finish around noon depending on how much help we get.

Bring your gloves and trowels, or any plant cuttings you may have from home. The fun and satisfaction of a little dirt beneath your nails will be provided! For questions, call Connie Siebenrock at 303-910-4097 (*Rain date: Thursday May 12th*)

Keep Them in Your Prayers

“Always keep on praying for all the saints”(Ephesians 6:18)

Here are some people and events to keep in your prayers this month.

If you have something for which you desire the added comfort and encouragement of the prayers of your fellow members at Shepherd of the Valley, please contact pastor or vicar.

Thanksgiving:

We thank the Lord for the many hours of service volunteered by members during the past month preparing for and presenting Easter worship and fellowship.

We thank the Lord for the new souls he has brought to our fellowship and ask him to grow our family according to his good and gracious will.

Around our Congregation:

Pray for the Lord’s mercy and strength for all of our Confirmands, that they remain faithful to Christ all their lives.

Pray for the Lord’s mercy and strength for all of our Graduates, that they may be faithful witnesses to the glory of Christ wherever the future may lead them.

Pray for the Lord’s blessing upon our Preschool, Elementary school, Sunday School, Pioneer, and High School programs.

Ask the Lord of the harvest to make us all willing and eager workers in his kingdom.

Around our Nation:

Pray that the Lord would enable those seeking jobs to find satisfactory means of support.

Pray for the Lord to protect our military personnel who are serving overseas this month.

Around our World:

Pray that the Lord would enable our missionaries around the world to freely share the Good News.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED THE SATELLITE CORE GROUP MEETING!

On April 23rd, Mission Counselor Mark Birkholz led an evangelism training seminar for 22 SVL members. Topics of discussion centered on the concept, planning and commitment involved in starting satellite Bible studies this Fall in Candelas, Leyden Rock and/or Whisper Creek communities. An important take away from the session is that over the summer months, SVL leaders will want to plan, prepare and promote small group, sermon-based Bible studies that can be held in satellite locations.

KING SOOPERS PROGRAM UPDATE

After an April deposit of \$515, our current yearly total since August 2015, is at \$5,652.00! Thank you so much for using your reloadable gift cards faithfully. This program is very easy to do; please see Sharon Presser for info or if you need a card.



"FREEDOM FOR THE CAPTIVES" is our synod's most recent effort to minister to survivors of child abuse. For more information, check out the new website: www.FreedomForCaptives.com.

Learn about this enormous issue and pass this information on to those who might be hurting.



May Birthday Blessings to:

Pamela Schroeder: 5/5; Ellen DeVoss: 5/6; Hisako Kotaka, Michelle Larson: 5/7; Lois Lewis: 5/8; Brady Falck, Tom Frey, Brody Shaver: 5/9; Trent Campbell, Sarah DeVoss: 5/10; Brad Schroeder: 5/11; Tom Helmreich: 5/12; Shana Perera: 5/13; Georgia Aerts, Emma Huss: 5/14; Daniel Bohrer, Judy Gayman: 5/15; Lily Rector: 5/16; Arlene Davis: 5/20; Madelynne Hockenbery, Eugene Taki: 5/21; Harvey Presser: 5/26; Jenna Beagle: 5/28.



Happy Anniversary to:

Eugene & Samantha Taki: 5/9
Jeff & Sara Doyle: 5/12
Erick & Sharon Larsen: 5/16
Hank & Deborah English: 5/17
Rick & Sharon Wilking: 5/20
Vicar & Amanda Shandor: 5/23
Randy & Ida Armijo: 5/29
Dave & Erika Boucher: 5/30



Happy Easter from your Lutheran Military Support Group “LMSG” and our WELS National Chaplain, Pastor Paul Ziemer.

The first quarter of 2016 has gone by in a whirlwind! We have had 58 more congregations join LMSG since I last wrote on January 4th of this year. We now have 139 congregational memberships on board in 10 months of operation. LMSG is well on its way to its 2016 goal of 200 churches joined by the end of the year.

The website, www.LutheranMilitary.org is being improved weekly. Many new features, such as a list of all our member churches and their liaisons is located under the “About Us” tab. This information is updated as new members join. We have also added a “News and Events” crawl across the center of the site to keep everyone up to speed as to projects, people, and LMSG participation in local events within WELS/ELS. Please see the most recent posting “*In Memoriam*” for Donald L. Heiliger, a warrior for God and Country. You will also notice that we are starting to feature a Service person of the month from each state. Please send in any active duty member’s information and picture from your church so they can be featured on the site. Coming shortly, you will also see a new category, *Pastors Who Have Worn The Uniform*, again if you know any present or retired pastor who served, please email president@lutheranmilitary.org with the information.

LMSG National Liaison coordinator, David Clark has done a yeoman’s job in laying out how to implement an effective liaison program at the local level. I would recommend a fire team size unit (4 or 5) veterans or interested people to form your local LMSG to work in coordination with our National office.

In March, LMSG approved the following grants:

- \$5,000. To **WELS Military Service Committee** to support the vacancy pastor, Ken Kratz as the interim European Chaplain while a call has been made.
- \$1,000. To the **DryHootch** Veterans support group in Madison, WI. ELS provides a pastor for spiritual weekly counseling. In last fall’s DryHootch “Stand Down”, pastors from both ELS and WELS and LMSG Board members, Opsahl and Behr helped about 100 veterans with various needs.
- \$500. To “**God and Grub**”, part of Wisconsin Lutheran Institutional Ministries. They offer one day a week ministry to homeless veterans, Life Skill classes and studies based on various parts of scripture. One on one counseling is also available.

I ask that you prayerfully consider supporting us as we hold our first Memorial Day fundraiser. Look for the “Ammo Can” in the Narthex of your church. Thank you standing “Shoulder to Shoulder” with the men and women from our congregations who have worn and those currently wearing the uniform and pay the price for the many blessings of this great country. Semper Fidelis.

In His Service,

John Stedman - LMSG President