

**Shepherd
of the Valley**
Ev. Lutheran Church

The Shepherd's Staff

to inform and encourage



March 2018

FIND

Holy Week Worship Opportunities

March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday with Holy Communion

March 30 at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Tenebrae (Service of darkness)

April 1 at 7:00 a.m.

Easter Sunrise

April 1 at 10:30 a.m.

Easter Festival

Easter Breakfast – A delicious breakfast will be provided in the Fellowship Hall on April 1st from 8:15 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

Decorating the Empty Cross with Flowers – During the opening hymns of the Easter Sunrise service and the Easter Festival service, worshipers are invited to come forward and place a flower on the cross. This represents the good news that Jesus has won new life for us through his victory over death. Please remember to bring flowers with you to our Easter services.

OF EASTER

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY | EASTER SUNDAY • APRIL 1 AT 7 & 10:30 AM

The first three Wednesdays of 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 will be:

PICTURES OF A GREAT HIGH PRIEST

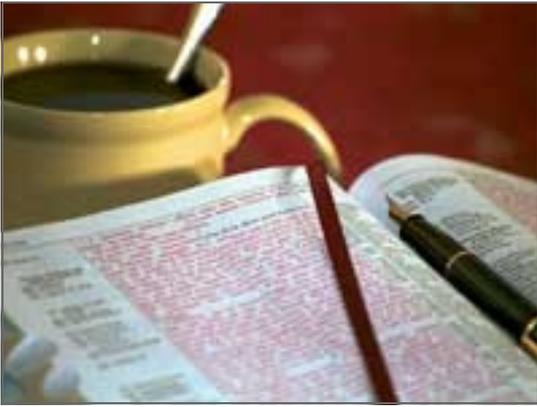
3/07 *Pictures of a Great High Priest: The Priest-Maker*
Hebrews 10:19-25

3/14 *Pictures of a Great High Priest: The Perfectionist*
Hebrews 5:7-9

3/21 *Pictures of a Great High Priest: The Altar*
Hebrews 13:10-16

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.





From the Pastor's Desk

Read His Book

Bill Bryson has written a fascinating book called "The Lost Continent: Travels in Small Town America." In the book, he tells of traveling to Hannibal, Mo., to visit the boyhood home of noted author Mark Twain.

He said that the house attracts some 135,000 visitors each year. But Bryson was disappointed that he was not able to actually go inside the house. As he proceeded from window to window, he met another tourist who seemed to know a lot about the house. Bryson asked him, "What do you think of it?"

The stranger replied, "Oh, I think it's great. I always come here when I'm in Hannibal--two or three times a year. Sometimes I go out of my way to come here."

Bill Bryson was fascinated, "Really?" he replied.

"Oh yes," the man said. "I must have been here twenty or thirty times by now. This is a real shrine you know."

As the two of them continued touring together, Bill Bryson said to the man: "You must be a real fan and follower of Mark Twain. Would you say the house is just like Mark Twain described it in his books?"

"Oh, I don't know," said the tourist, "wouldn't have the foggiest notion. I've never read any of his books!"

Visiting his shrine, but ignoring his books. Sadly, that may be a fair description of how many people deal with Jesus Christ. They visit his shrines, but fail to read his book and apply his teachings to themselves.

"These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name" (John 20:31).

Read and take to heart Jesus' words of life to you today. Our Sunday morning adult Bible class "Bible Walk" will take you on a rapid 6 week journey through the entire Bible, with some stops along way to take a closer look at some of His books.

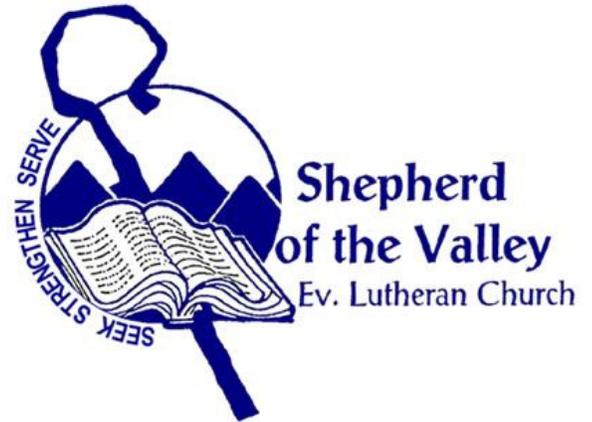
Join us Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a fascinating Bible Walk.

Dear Members of SVL,

Can you believe it? Easter is almost here!

I'm looking forward to the Resurrection celebration we have planned for you and the friends you'll bring with you this year. The message, "JESUS LIVES!" offers hope for our lives today and the assurance that God has more in store for us than merely "the good life" on earth. Jesus grants us the BEST life!

Here are four specific things that you can do as we prepare to celebrate Easter on April 1st:



1. Invite your friends! (SEEK!)

It's always amazed me that although I know many of my friends are LOOKING for a church to attend on Easter, I still feel nervous when inviting them. Maybe it's the fact that we all feel a bit nervous when talking about things that are important to us. The truth is, when you invite a friend to join you for church on Easter they very often will come, and even if they can't, they'll appreciate the fact that you thought of them.

Hopefully, you have a few of the Easter invitations (entitled "Finding the Hope of Easter") or "Come, Follow Me" DVDs that we're giving out at church so that you can hand them out or send them to your friends. Our website – SVLchurch.com – has the times of the Easter services.

2. Come to our Easter breakfast beginning at 8:15 am! (SEEK!)

We will again be serving a delicious Easter breakfast in our Fellowship Hall from 8:15-10:15 am. This too is an excellent opportunity for inviting a friend or neighbor to come with you to enjoy a free Easter breakfast and then stay to hear the Easter message.

3. Help out in any way that you can. (SERVE!)

If you see ANYTHING that needs to be done - a piece of paper that needs to be picked up, a person who needs a question answered, a visitor to the breakfast who needs to be served - I encourage you to "*just do it.*" One of the great things about Easter at Shepherd of the Valley is the way that we all pull together to meet whatever need.

4. Personally celebrate the good news of Easter starting today. (STRENGTHEN!)

Just think of it: because of Easter our past, present and future failures are forgiven, our life is worth living and we have a future in heaven! **Romans 6:4** says, "*We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*"

I'm looking forward to seeing you Easter weekend!

Pastor Kieselhorst

KING SOOPERS CARD FUNDRAISER

FEBRUARY KING SOOPERS UPDATE - Thank you so much for your support of this program. We had our largest deposit yet since we began - \$755.34! This brings us to a total of \$8,190.65 since August. We will be using a portion of our funds to help pay for the recently approved video system, which will be used to enhance worship and learning. Keep shopping! If you need a card or want the renewable gift card explained to you, please ask Sharon Presser.



March Birthday Blessings to:

Jason Welty: 3/6; Carl Wagner: 3/8; Lilli Hockenbery: 3/9; Sandy Olson, Peyton Zoran: 3/11; Austin Zoran: 3/13; Brodie Saggau: 3/14; Kathy Kieselhorst: 3/16; Alexander Dohr: 3/17; Lynn Larsen: 3/18; Mary Wisner: 3/19; Sue Kelton, Jesse Wisniewski: 3/21; Ida Falck, Maxwell Falck: 3/22; Mary Peterson: 3/23; Milfred Thompson: 3/24; Karena Falck: 3/25; Eric Hockenbery: 3/27; Megan Larsen: 3/29



Happy Anniversary to:

Tom & Lynn Helmreich: 3/15
Gordon & Ardell Lommen: 3/29

Shepherd Women:

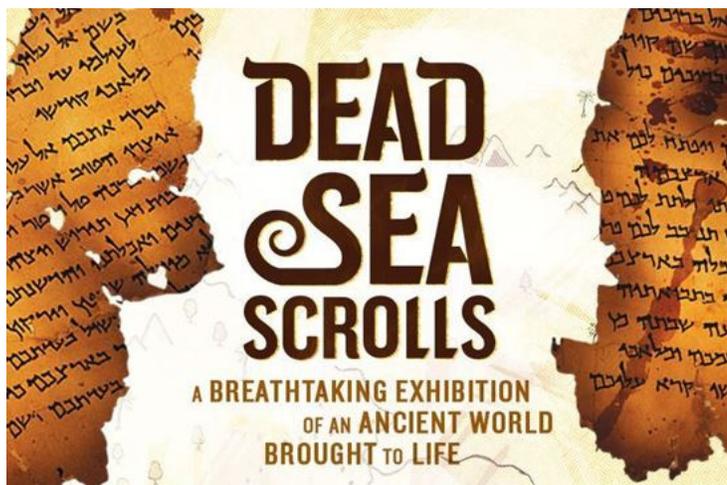
Lenten suppers are scheduled and already in full swing. Lenten suppers in February were great and our upcoming suppers in March are sounding *DELICIOUS, also*. Thank you everyone (young adults and mature adults) who volunteered to serve before our Lenten church services. Lenten suppers are at 6:00 PM before our Lenten service. A great time for Christian fellowship. How Blessed we are to have this opportunity to spend time together.



Dawn Kohl and Gilah Schneider are refreshing the **between Church Services Refreshment Project**. Serving lists are being refreshed. Jan Diede has graciously supported us with her previous organizational points and communications regarding the between church service refreshments project when she was leader. A free will offering will be placed out during the between church service refreshments. This free will offering will be placed in Cari's office and be designated as the Snack Stash. Some servers may desire to donate their refreshments. Some servers may desire reimbursement. The Snack Stash will be available for reimbursement. Receipts can be given to Cari for reimbursement.

The Shepherd Women wish everyone a Blessed Lenten Season and Easter.

THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS ARE COMING TO DENVER AND YOU ARE INVITED!



A very rare opportunity to see portions of the Dead Sea Scrolls will be at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

We are tentatively planning a group trip the morning of Wednesday, May 16. Keep an eye out for a signup sheet in the Narthex so we know the size of the group and can plan accordingly. Continue to check the bulletin for updates.