



THE SHEPHERD'S CROOK

August 2016 Newsletter

Pastor Ron Bockhaus 970-646-6657
Worship Service 9:00 am Sunday

**SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
2000 Ptarmigan Trail ♦ Estes Park, CO 80517
970-586-3900
estesparklutheranelca.org

August Worship Matters

- Sunday, August 7, 9:00 am "Do Not Be Afraid, Little Flock!"
- Sunday, August 14, 9:00 am "Surrounded by a Great Crowd of Witnesses"
- Sunday, August 21, 9:00 am "Our God Is a Consuming Fire"
- Sunday, August 28, 9:00 am "Jesus Christ, the Same Yesterday, Today and Forever"



SMLC Program August Vacations

The following SMLC programs will take a hiatus through August:

- Community Corner Café
- Second Saturday Worship Service
- Men in Mission Monthly Breakfast

Centering Prayer, held every Wednesday at 11:30 am, will take a break through the first part of August and reconvene August 24th.

Dry Gulch Road Closure

The Dry Gulch Road construction detour is still in place, but day-to-day changes on the route to the church are possible as summer progresses. Please call the church office at 970-586-3900 for the most up-to-date information if you're visiting for the summer, or for the first time.



Looking Ahead...

The third quarter special offering will be taken on Sunday, September 25th for Community Corner Café. Look for more news in the September newsletter. Please give your prayerful consideration to this important ministry.

August 2016

The Soul of the Church

As we enter the closing weeks of summer we ask, “Where has the time gone?” The end of summer is often a reflective time for me as I recall the wonderful experiences of the past several weeks and wish that summer was two months longer. Perhaps it is an emotional pattern that developed when I was younger and still a student; I’m not sure. This I know: the time of the year impacts how I experience life.

This of course is also true for my own journey of faith and my calling in the church. Each of us travels through the seasons of life experiencing untold motivations and feelings. None of us stay the same as we live into the next season, the next surprise and the next challenge. As exciting and scary as it all is, we trust that we don’t go it alone. At the end of Matthew’s Gospel, Jesus tells us, “*I am with you always, to the end of the age.*” (28:20).

Trusting we are being led by the *Resurrected One* we step forward into the next season of the year and our life together as the church. We can’t assume we know the way, or even ourselves, to go it alone. Fortunately, as the church we are given the collective wisdom of faith and discernment to chart the course ahead. Call it “soul searching” for our congregation if you will; I like what the German poet, Rilke, wrote:

*Summer was like your house:
you knew where each thing stood.
Now you must go out into your heart
as onto a vast plain.
Now the immense loneliness begins.*

Planning and charting the future are not easy. That is why Shepherd of the Mountains will be engaged in a reflective discussion called the ***Comprehensive Ministry Review, September 9th, 10th and 11th***. Think of it as an intentional conversation focused on the accomplishments of the past, balanced with hopes for the future—not unlike what happens in annual job reviews. Such conversations are happening informally all the time. Our Comprehensive Ministry Review will formally conduct conversations with ministry leaders in the congregation, and people from Estes Park who are connected to SMLC in some manner (i.e., Café Corner, Crossroads, music concerts). In addition, a congregational forum for everyone will be held immediately after the worship service on September 11th.

The church council has been working hard to line up participants for this review. If you have not been approached and would like to participate in more than the open congregational forum on Sunday, please talk to a church council member or to me. It will require participation on Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and on Sunday, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. Each person’s input is important to this process. Let’s make the most of this unique opportunity for our congregation to face the future together!

In Christ,

Pastor Ron



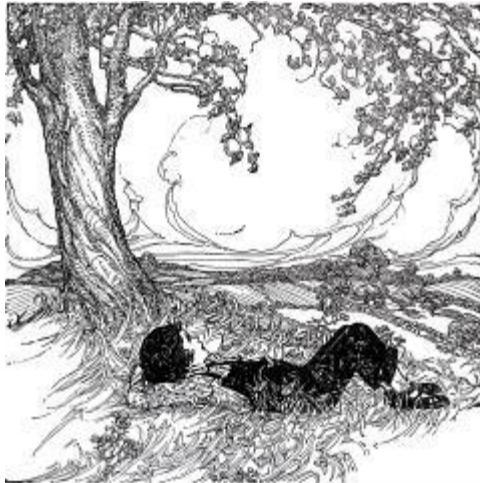
Neighborhood Picnic a Hit

Nearly 80 members and guests enjoyed an afternoon of fun, good food and great fellowship on Sunday, July 24th, with the annual Neighborhood Picnic. A huge “thank you” to all who helped by bringing food, helping to set up or clean up, or just attending. A special thanks to Bobbie Christenson for organizing the bingo game; to Linda Schlitt for handling all the drinks; to Del and Marilyn Kienker for serving the ice cream; to the

Paswater family for all the great children’s outdoor activities; to Jill and Stan Johnson, Mike and Daylene VanBrunt, Don Lickfett, John Tessler, John Stencel and Mark Lorenz for help with tents, tables, chairs and kitchen work; to Pastor Ron for purchasing the meat and buns; to Scott Johnson for grilling; and to Bill Westley and Don Smith for taking charge of the clean-up. Needless to say, it takes many willing hands to make an event successful. We hope everyone had a good time and we look forward to next summer’s picnic!

—The Witness Committee

August Miscellany



- ◆ The Anglo-Saxons called August “Weodmonath” or Weed Month.
- ◆ In the U.S., August is the month with the highest birthrate and least precipitation.
- ◆ The August full moon was known by Native Americans of the Upper Midwest as the Full Sturgeon Moon because the sturgeon of the Great Lakes and Lake Champlain were most readily caught then. Other tribes called it the Green Corn Moon, the Grain Moon or the Red Moon. This month’s full moon occurs on August 18th.
- ◆ August is the time of the Perseid meteor showers, when planet Earth travels through the tail of the Swift-Tuttle comet. The meteor showers are called the Perseids because they appear to explode out of

the constellation Perseus. The Perseids will peak this year on August 12th-13th, with the best viewing after midnight. This year’s meteor shower is predicted to be twice as heavy as normal.

- ◆ August is deep into the dog days of summer, a notion that goes back thousands of years. The dog days got its name due to the coincidental rising at sunrise, just above the eastern horizon, of Sirius the Dog Star at this time of year. Sirius is the brightest star in the Earth’s night sky and part of the constellation Canis Major, or Great Dog. The dog days were generally recognized as the period from July 14th to September 5th, and were considered a volatile time of hot weather, fires and illness.
- ◆ On the other hand, August also signaled the annual flooding of the Nile, an event received with great joy by the Egyptians. And in the northern lands, August was the beginning of the harvest.
- ◆ Here in Colorado, August is the best month to enjoy Palisade peaches, Rocky Ford melons and Olathe sweet corn.

—Estes Valley students will be returning to school August 22nd-24th this year.—

AUGUST BIBLE READINGS



August 7

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

August 14

Jeremiah 23:23-29
Psalm 82
Hebrews 11:29-12:2
Luke 12:49-56

August 21

Isaiah 58:9-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

August 28

Proverbs 25:6-7 or Sirach 10:12-18
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1,7-14

Singing with the Lutherans

Garrison Keillor *Submitted by Lynette Johnson*

I have made fun of Lutherans for years—who wouldn't if you lived in Minnesota? But I have also sung with Lutherans and that is one of the main joys of life, along with hot baths and fresh sweet corn. We make fun of Lutherans for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese. But nobody sings like them.

If you ask an audience in New York City, a relatively "Lutheran-less" place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael, Row the Boat Ashore" they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Lutherans they'll smile and row that boat ashore and up the beach! And down the road!

Lutherans are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony. It's a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's rib cage. It's natural for Lutherans to sing in harmony.

We're too modest to be soloists, key of C and you slide into the emotionally fulfilling moment. Father" in a room with about had tears in our eyes, partly the proximity of all those love-ise that we will not forsake



too worldly to sing in unison. When you're singing in the A7th and D7th chords, all two hundred of you, it's an I once sang the bass line of "Children of the Heavenly three thousand Lutherans in it, and when we finished we all from the promise that God will not forsake us, partly from ly voices. By our joining in harmony, we somehow prom-each other.

I do believe this: people, these sort of people you could call up comfort you. If you're lonely, tuna salad! If you laughed

Lutherans, who love to sing in four-part harmony, are the when you're in deep distress. If you're dying, they'll they'll talk to you. And if you're hungry, they'll give you while reading this you must be a Lutheran.

The following list was compiled by a 20th century Lutheran who, observing other Lutherans, wrote down exactly what he saw or heard:

- ◆ Lutherans believe in prayer but would practically die if asked to pray out loud.
- ◆ Lutherans like to sing except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.
- ◆ Lutherans believe that pastors will visit them in the hospital even if they don't notify them that they are there.
- ◆ Lutherans usually follow the official liturgy and will feel it is their way of suffering for their sins.
- ◆ Lutherans believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.
- ◆ Lutherans feel that applauding for their children's choirs would make them too proud and conceited.
- ◆ Lutherans think that the Bible forbids them from crossing the aisle while "passing the peace."
- ◆ Lutherans drink coffee as if it were the third Sacrament.
- ◆ Some Lutherans still believe that an ELCA bride and an LCMS groom make for a mixed marriage.
- ◆ Lutherans feel guilty for not staying to clean up after their own wedding reception in the Fellowship Hall.
- ◆ Lutherans are willing to pay up to a dollar for a meal at church.
- ◆ Lutherans think that Garrison Keillor stories are totally factual.
- ◆ Lutherans still serve Jell-O in the proper liturgical color of the season and think the peas in a tuna noodle casserole adds too much color.
- ◆ Lutherans believe that it is OK to poke fun at themselves and never take themselves too seriously.

(Continued on page 5)

Garrison Keillor Lutherans; continued from page 4)

And finally, you know when you're a Lutheran when:

- ◆ You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can!
- ◆ It's 100 degrees with 90 percent humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.
- ◆ Doughnuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.
- ◆ The communion cabinet is open to all, but the coffee cabinet is locked up tight.
- ◆ All your relatives graduated from a school named Concordia, Augustana or Luther.
- ◆ When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you," you respond, "and also with you."
- ◆ You actually understand those folks from Lake Wobegone, Minnesota.
- ◆ And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say "good-bye."

Lutheran Hot Dish [loo-ther-uh n hät diSH] noun

1.: A variety of casserole typically containing starch, meat or fish, canned or frozen vegetables, and canned soup.

Originated from the American Upper Midwest, particularly Minnesota and North Dakota. Served in a single baking dish. Commonly appears at communal gatherings such as family reunions and church suppers.

Visit Our Electronic Church

See the new church website at: estesparklutheranelca.org

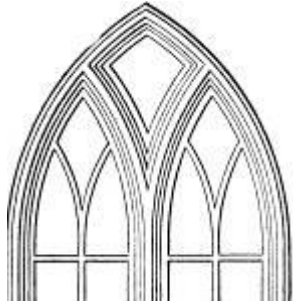


Enjoy a Contemplative Taste of Summer with Our Meditative Hikes



Shepherd of the Mountains meditative hikes allow participants to experience nature's sacred space. The easy hikes, located at different locations from week to week around Estes Park and Rocky Mountain National Park, are held every Monday evening at 5:00 pm. They're set at a leisurely pace with designated stops for a meditative reading. Some readings are beside benches to allow people to sit for a bit if they wish. Participants are encouraged to linger as long as they like, and catch up. The tone of the hike is low voices and little conversation.

Locations for hikes are announced weekly. Dress for the weather, bring some water, perhaps binoculars (we spotted a moose at the west end of Lily Lake during one hike), sunscreen and a walking stick if you like. Trails are generally handicapped accessible and suitable for wheelchairs, and there are different leaders for each week's hike.—*Nancy Matson*



ELCA Members to Gather in New Orleans for 2016 Church-Wide Assembly

Members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will gather August 8th-13th in assembly at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. Meeting under the theme, “Freed and Renewed in Christ: 500 Years of God’s Grace in Action,” the assembly’s business will include preparations for observing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

Golf Tournament to Benefit Estes Park Restorative Justice

Join Estes Valley Restorative Justice Partnership in its fifth annual golf tournament. This year’s tournament is named in honor of our dedicated volunteer, Carroll Mock, who passed away last fall. From now on, the winning team will be presented with the Carroll Mock Cup. Golfers of all abilities are encouraged and welcome to play in this four-person scramble. Support Restorative Justice through this fun event—space is limited, so sign up today!

When: August 13, 2016

Where: Estes Park 18 Hole Golf Course, 1480 Golf Course Road, Estes Park, CO 80517

Time: 8:00am Shotgun Start

Who to Contact: Denise at the Restorative Justice office, 970-577-3818

Fee and Prizes: Players and Sponsors Welcome! \$80 player fee includes green fees, golf cart, free range balls, goodie bag, prizes, and post-tournament BBQ reception

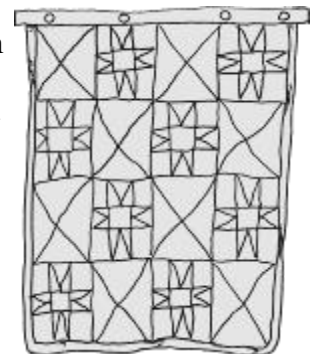


School Bags for Lutheran World Relief

Getting school supplies can be challenging enough for American families, but for children overseas a lack of school supplies may mean no school at all! With conflict displacing people in so many places, it’s especially a problem and it pulls at my heartstrings. This year I plan to do something about it by again working on school bags. Would you like to help? I have plenty of material. Let me know if you’d like to help sew bags, and watch for other ways in upcoming newsletter issues on how you might help.—*Linda Schlitt*

Mission Quilting Opportunities

Work on mission quilts doesn't just happen on second and fourth Thursdays. You can help at home! Watch for dark-colored sheets at yard sales and thrift shops. Share from your stash of materials, or invite your friends to contribute extra material, thread and heavy crochet thread. During August we’ll again have sewing kits to work on at home. We even have a sewing machine (donated by Mardy Groskreutz) you can check out. If your specialty is use of a rotary cutter and precision, we have material that needs cutting into squares or strips and specific instructions on exactly what’s needed. But do join us on Thursdays when you’re able. Even a little time can be put to good use to help others around the world. —*Linda Schlitt*



Heroic Women, Bringing You Coffee

Learn more about some of the women who make our Equal Exchange/Fair Trade Coffee possible. Watch a fascinating video on Vimeo at <https://vimeo.com/165150528> , and remember to buy Fair Trade coffee from our church cart. Your purchases make a difference for small farmers around the world!—*Linda Schlitt*

Women of the ELCA

Women of SMLC met on Tuesday, July 12th, with nine women attending. Beverly Swafford led the Bible study. We continued our reading of scripture and study of conflict and reconciliation. As we seek God in this process, we learn to listen and truly hear what the other is saying. All this provides for a positive outcome in our relationship with others.

At the business meeting our group approved sending \$200 to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for the ministry of Young Adults in Global Mission—Madagascar. Women of SMLC also began plans for serving the Retired Pastors Luncheon on Monday, September 19th.

Nancy Matson was hostess for our fellowship time and served a yummy strawberry cheesecake dessert! What a blessing that the Lord has provided for these women to gather at SMLC.—*Marilyn Kienker*



JULY PRAYERS

- Lin Smith, medical tests
- Tina Matthison's daughter, Erin, and granddaughter, Lily
- Carole Rouse's granddaughter in Turkey
- Linda Schlitt, medical procedure

Buy Safeway Gift Cards

Safeway gift cards are an easy way to donate to SMLC, and it doesn't cost you an extra cent! They operate just like cash when you buy groceries, work like cash when redeeming fuel credits, and the best part is, five percent of the proceeds automatically go back to the church. To purchase see Kelly Brown, either after church or by calling Kelly at 970-586-2021 during the week.—*Kelly Brown*



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Sydney Schwartz 8/3
 Connie Westley 8/7
 Jeffrey Schwartz 8/8
 Lee Schlitt 8/9
 Geoffrey Adams 8/12
 Sara Barwinski 8/15
 Dan Barwinski 8/16
 Rich Stolte 8/17
 Larry Kilgore 8/20
 Nick Mollé 8/20
 Keith Riedesel 8/22
 Betty Yohe 8/23
 Heidi Johnson 8/24
 Jill Johnson 8/29
 Ron Bockhaus 8/30



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Rich and Sandy Stolte 8/12
 Dan and Sara Barwinski 8/21
 Stan and Jill Johnson 8/25
 Paul and Mary Ann Johnson 8/27



Council Highlights from July



The new SMLC Committee Council Liaison positions are listed below.

Learning Committee

New Council Liaisons:

Rich Stolte and Mike Kellum

Committee Chair: Annette Gaskill

Property Committee

New Council Liaison: Mark Lorenz

Committee Chair: Gary Trunnell

Resource Committee

New Council Liaison: Bill Hayford

Committee Chair: Bill Hayford

Service Committee

New Council Liaison: Mark Lorenz

Committee Co-Chairs: Gary Wallace,
Gary Brown and Jim Paddock

Stewardship Committee

New Council Liaison: Kris Adams

Committee Chair: Heidi Johnson

Witness Committee

New Council Liaison: Jill Johnson

Committee Chair: Marion Stencel

Worship Committee

New Council Liaison: Deb Paddock

Committee Chair: Lynette Johnson

The Council Liaison is requested to work with the Committee Chair to obtain a short update of just a few sentences, indicating what has gone on in the Committee since the last Council meeting. It is requested this be submitted to the Recording Secretary four to five days prior to the next Council meeting.

Report from the Property Committee:

- Kitchen Improvements: Funding is available. Permits have been filed with city. If approved, work will begin in August after bidding takes place.
- Property was mowed in July.

Report from the Witness Committee:

- Neighbor Picnic held on July 24th

The Pastor's Report:

- Attended Confirmation Camp with Isaac and Isabelle Paswaters
- Pastor is on an RMS committee to apply for a Lilly Grant to study congregational well being for future growth

Comprehensive Ministry Review:

The Council and Pastor will send out a letter mid-August to all members, sharing information about the upcoming Congregational Ministry Review.

Upcoming SMLC Events:

- July 31st—Baptism (grandson of Kathy George)
- August 7th—Pastor's vacation August 4th-11th. Brenda Fox will preach August 7th and Roger Fjeld will lead the service.
- September 9th-11th—Comprehensive Ministry Review
- October 30th—Confirmation of Isaac and Isabelle Paswaters



August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Meditative Hike 5:00 pm	2	3 Sacred Space 7:00 am Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm	4 Pastor Ron out through August 11th	5	6 Organ Rehearsal 10:30 am
7 Sunday Worship 9:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 am No Adult Forum	8 Meditative Hike 5:00 pm	9 WELCA 1:00-4:00 pm	10 Sacred Space 7:00 am Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm	11 Quilters 9:15-11:30 am Council Meeting 6:00 pm	12	13 Organ Rehearsal 10:30 am
14 Sunday Worship 9:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 am Adult Forum 10:30 am	15 Meditative Hike 5:00 pm	16 PEO 8:45 am	17 Sacred Space 7:00 am Worship Committee Meeting 9:00 am Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm	18	19	20 Organ Rehearsal 10:30 am
21 Sunday Worship 9:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 am Adult Forum 10:30 am	22 Meditative Hike 5:00 pm	23	24 Sacred Space 7:00 am Centering Prayer 11:30am Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm	25 Sept Newsletter Copy Submission Deadline Quilters 9:15-11:30 am	26	27 Organ Rehearsal 10:30 am
28 Sunday Worship 9:00 am Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 am Adult Forum 10:30 am	29 Meditative Hike 5:00 pm	30 Sept Newsletter Sent Out	31 Sacred Space 7:00 am Centering Prayer 11:30am Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm			

**SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS
LUTHERAN CHURCH
2000 Ptarmigan Trail
Estes Park, CO 80517**

**SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL**

President: Allen Garner

Vice President: (To be determined)

Secretary: (To be determined)

Members:

Jill Johnson (Witness)

Bill Hayford (Resource)

Mark Lorenz (Service)

Mike Kellum

Deb Paddock

Alternates:

Rich Stoitte (Learning)

Bill Westley (Learning)

Treasurer: Kris Adams (Stewardship)

Financial Secretary: Ruth Turner