



SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Shepherd's Staff

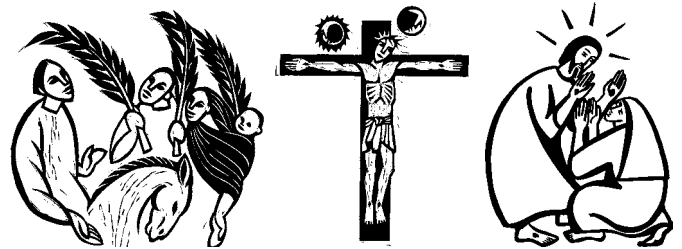
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Pastor Ron Bockhaus (970)-646-6657

SMLCEstes.org

APRIL 2017



Holy Week Schedule



Palm Sunday Service,
April 9 at 9:00am

Maundy Thursday Service,
April 13 at 7:00pm
Holy Communion & Foot Washing

Good Friday Service,
April 14 at 7:00pm
(Additionally there is an Interfaith Alliance Service at noon at the Presbyterian Community Church)

Easter Sunday Service,
April 16 at 9:00am
(Additionally there is an Interdenominational Sunrise Service at the Lake Estes Marina at 7:00am)

April Worship Matters

- Sunday, April 2,**
9am. Jesus Raises Lazarus to Life
- Saturday, April 8**
5pm. Second Saturday Worship
- Sunday, April 9,**
9am. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday
- Thursday, April 13, 7pm. Maundy Thursday**
- Friday, April 14 Good Friday**
12 noon at Community Church of the Rockies; 7pm. at SMLC.
- Sunday, April 16, Easter Day!**
7am. Sunrise Service at Lake Estes Pavilion. 9am Resurrection at SMLC
- Sunday, April 23,**
9am. "Peace Be With You Thomas"
- Sunday, April 30,**
9am. Where are you on your walk with Jesus?

April Comm. Corner Café Menu

- April 7 Chicken**
Realtors
- April 14 Stuffed Peppers**
Salvation Army
- April 21 Chef's Choice**
Journey's Class
- April 28 Grill Night**
St. Bart's Episcopal



Pastor's Corner

Pastor Ron Bockhaus - Contact me at ron.bockhaus@smlc.us 970-646-6657

Why Is Good News So Hard to Tell?

This month the Christian Church will celebrate its most holy and hopeful day---Easter! As important as Easter is to Christians with its promise of the resurrection and the reassurance that we need not be afraid (Matthew 28:10), we are quite restrained in sharing it with others. Why is that? Has good news fallen out of use since the news channels hooked us with the negative stuff? Do we think we are unqualified to speak on the subject, and should leave it to the professionals? Are we concerned if we say too much we'll be mistaken for a religious fanatic that nobody likes? Or, do we really not believe it? We've lived long enough to know how complicated this world is and so admitting that one's incentive in life is the Ol' Ol' Story --as the song goes--feels naïve and simpleminded. I can't judge you on this one as you can't judge me. The questions are for self-reflection and discernment. And as we do that following Easter think on this story I found from a Methodist minister.

A 9-year-old girl named Erica was so filled with joy when she came to know Jesus that she insisted that all her friends know him too. One day she took me to her neighborhood to invite the children to a vacation bible school our church was having. We went with colorful flyers in hand. I expected that we would tell the children and their parents about the dates and time and place of the vacation bible school, leave them a flyer as a reminder, and be on our way. Erica saw our job differently. When we got to the first home and the door was opened she stepped right up and said, "We've got great news about Jesus and my pastor will tell you all about it." I stood there flabbergasted, but she was right. Our job was first and foremost to spread the Word, proclaim the Good News, tell others about our Risen Lord. Erica and I worked hard that day because she did

not want any child in her neighborhood to miss out in hearing about Jesus and the vacation bible school. Erica knew in her own way, Jesus' claim on our lives and the magnitude of that claim. We are Jesus' witnesses and those who need to receive our witness is the entire human family.

What Is a Ministry Sabbatical?

Our Rocky Mountain Synod states this about sabbaticals for pastors. A sabbatical offers opportunity to get off the treadmill and provides an opportunity for renewal of vision and hope. It's more than just a chance to recharge your batteries for another year. It can be a life and soul-changing time, a time when perspective and the Holy Spirit can come together.

I am actively working on a proposal for a sabbatical next year in 2018. Currently I'm applying for grant money that both the congregation and I could utilize during a sabbatical time. I have tried to look at our congregation and my ministry with you to form a meaningful purpose for such a unique time in the life of the congregation and pastor. It's exciting to consider the possibilities and I am asking you to join the conversation.

Please consider attending an adult forum on Sunday April 2nd or April 9th to hear more about the specifics of the proposal. Your input and reflection on this can help make it a productive and rejuvenating time for us all.

Thank you. Pastor Ron

April Calendar at a Glance

Saturday, April 1

10:30am Organ Rehearsal
9:00am Egg Coloring for La Puente

Sunday, April 2

9:00am Sunday Worship
10:30am Adult Forum

Tuesday, April 4

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Wednesday, April 5

7:00am Sacred Space
10:45am Centering Prayer
11:30am Book Discussion
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal
5:15pm Lenten Service

Thursday, April 6

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Friday, April 7

4:30pm Community Corner Cafe

Saturday, April 8

8:30am Men's Breakfast
10:30am Organ Rehearsal
5:00pm Second Saturday Service

Sunday, April 9

9:00am Sunday Worship
10:30am Adult Forum

Tuesday, April 11

8:00am Cooking for La Puente
1:00pm WELCA

Wednesday, April 12

7:00am Sacred Space
10:45am Centering Prayer
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal
5:00pm Church Council

Thursday, April 13

8:00am Cooking for La Puente
9:15am Quilters
7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday, April 14

12:00noon Service at the Presbyterian
Community Church
4:30pm Community Corner Cafe
7:00pm SMLC Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 15

10:30am Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, April 16

7:00am Easter Sunrise Service
9:00am Sunday Worship
10:00am Easter Brunch

Tuesday, April 18

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Wednesday, April 19

7:00am Sacred Space
10:45am Centering Prayer

Thursday, April 20

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Friday, April 21

4:30pm Community Corner Cafe

Saturday, April 22

10:30am Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, April 23

4:00am Sunday Worship
10:30am Adult Forum

Monday, April 24

11:30am Spring Fling

Tuesday, April 25

8:00am Cooking for La Puente
4:00pm Learning Committee

Wednesday, April 26

7:00am Sacred Space
10:45am Centering Prayer
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, April 27

8:00am Cooking for La Puente
9:00am Worship Committee
9:15am Quilters

Friday, April 28

4:30pm Community Corner Cafe

Saturday, April 29

10:30am Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, April 30

9:00am Sunday Worship
10:30am Adult Forum

Important Dates of Note

April Wedding Anniversaries

Roger & Marilyn Fjeld April 10

April Birthdays

Christine Kellam April 02

Sandy Stolte April 09

Jan Trunnell April 09

Darrell Paswaters April 14

Linda Schlitt April 21

Mary Ann Johnson April 24

News from Around the Church

Women of the ELCA

During March your Women's group generously voted to share their financial resources locally with a \$200 gift to Crossroads and gift subscriptions to Gather Magazine for the three newest women members of Shepherd of the Mountains. They also funded additional inventory purchases of Fair Trade items including some of your favorite dark chocolate items to help make your Easter celebrations that much sweeter as you support small farmers in our own Americas.

In April we will explore Paul's understanding of Christian freedom in Galatians 5 and seek to better understand the fruit of the Spirit we've been given as we study Galatians 6. We'll be singing one of my favorite hymns, Lift High the Cross and explore a new hymn FOR FREEDOM, CHRIST HAS SET US FREE. How wonderful to have this new hymn written by a Bold Sister in Christ, Carolyn Winfrey, as part of our study as it takes many of the words directly from Galatians. The lesson is from the April "Gather" magazine with extra copies available in the Narthex.

Our Bible study will be followed by a brief business meeting and sweet treats provided by Marian Stencil. What better way to prepare for Easter than to join us on Tuesday, April 11 at 1pm in the church library for Bible study and fellowship. All Women are invited.

Linda Schlitt, President, WELCA

EASTER SUNDAY BRUNCH

On Easter Sunday morning, April 16th, we hope you will consider joining with members and guests to share a potluck brunch following the worship service. There will be a sign-up sheet available (as we get closer to Easter) to indicate what you might like to bring to share and also how many might be attending from your family. This is always a delicious and enjoyable way to celebrate Easter together.

Advocacy in Action

In a nation divided by so many issues, we as Christians must consider our response to these issues. We are challenged to have a civil discourse with those with whom we disagree. Coming from the perspective of love and faith, discussion on both sides of an issue is possible. We might ask one another "how do you see this (name the issue) as loving your neighbor." As Lutherans we are a public church with a legacy of protest in the public square. To be more aware of the position the ELCA takes on federal and state issues you may go to ELCA.org/advocacy and rmselca.org/advocacy. We are church together.

In Addition, there are several websites available for tracking how our congressional members vote and the bills that are being proposed. You may refer to govtrack.us, www.house.gov, www.senate.gov or congress.org. Any of these sites will lead you to valuable information on pending and passed legislation. You may also find information on how to contact your congress person. If you would rather talk to a live person you can call 202-224-3121 and express your opinion. They will see that your views are sent to your representative.

We are being challenged to continue Luther's legacy of activism and protest.

SMLC Advocacy Team

SPRING FLING LUNCHEON

On Monday, April 24th at 11:30 we are planning a sandwich and salad "Spring Fling" luncheon for members of the congregation and we are inviting residents of Good Samaritan Village to be our guests. "Major Thirteen" from Estes Park High School, under the direction of Dr. Alan Denney will provide entertainment. Members, who will be able to attend, are asked to bring either sandwiches or a salad to share. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex.

Who's Who in the Pew



Getting to know Bob and Jane Rising

Jane and Bob's story begins with their military lives. Jane's Father was Chief of Orthopedics then chief executive office at Fitzsimons General Hospital in Aurora, CO before he retired. Apparently she met Bob in Hawaii, but they were married fifty years ago in the Chapel on the Fitzsimons Army Base. Their "honeymoon" was just one night in the Brown Palace Hotel, where Bob worked years later. But the honeymoon was short because they lived in Honolulu at the time. The presiding minister was their minister from Honolulu, the Rev. Thomas Allport, who had taken Bob under his wing while he was in the Navy, assigned to the Navy Band at Pearl Harbor.

Back in Hawaii, Bob used to accompany Rev. Allport to the Oahu Prison where he would lead worship services in the prison "courtyard." Bob also organized a student orchestra for the pastor's church – they played one anthem and played it only once, but it was a hit with that congregation.

Bob tells an interesting story about his days in Hawaii. "One summer, while still in the Navy, I joined pastor Allport in working a ten-day camp on the island of Kauai. As part of the advance party, to set things up, one day I decided to go swimming alone. A no-no for sure. I decided to swim out to some breaking waves and body-surf back to shore. Well, before I knew

it, the waves had relocated themselves between me and the shore – I had been caught in a small rip tide. Not seeing anyone on shore, I called for help, hoping someone might hear me. Soon a man appeared and began coming out with a rubber life raft. As he did that, the tide began returning to shore; and before I knew it, I was back in waist-high water, safe! Many new servicemen to Hawaii do get caught in rip tides, never to be seen again. I was fortunate. "

After completing his 3 ½ year "hitch" with the Navy, Bob remained friends with Pastor Allport, who talked him into serving a "declining" church in Kaimuki (on Oahu) that had no minister or staff. So, Bob would lead the services and offer a "Sermon." Bob, Jane and her sister also led the Sunday school. This went on for about three or four months. Fun! And, he did wear ministerial garments during church services.

Before she and Bob were married, Jane had graduated from the University of Hawaii with a degree in fashion design. Her first job was with a department store, followed with working as a sample-maker and pattern-drafter for a local garment manufacturer. When she and Bob moved to Maui, she earned tenure as an instructor of Apparel Design and Construction at Maui Community College. Later she taught textiles and pattern-drafting at a fashion college in Miami and at a university in San Antonio. When they moved to Maryland, she worked for a trade association where she taught garment care classes for dry cleaners. She even wrote educational materials for the association and traveled to dry cleaning plants to teach their staffs techniques for garment care.

Closer to home, Bob has been the direct beneficiary of her skills. She has often made shirts for Bob, and once a sport coat! Jane has made many stylish ladies' jackets. She has donated one or two since moving to Estes Park to be

Who's Who in the Pew continued

used as prizes for organizations doing fund-raising. In fact, she has made most of the jackets she wears to church, herself.

Somewhere along the way, they managed to raise a son, John, and now they thoroughly enjoy two grandsons and a granddaughter; but they have also bestowed their parenting skills on a series of dogs. Most recently they rescued and adopted a yellow lab named Chloe. At 70 pounds, their year-old puppy is learning how to "protect" them from all kinds of deer and elk along their fence line.

One final note: This monthly column has often had to ask Bob to supply pictures of the SMLC members that it features. He has those

pictures on file because years ago he and Vanessa Passwaters prepared a pictorial church directory. Bob took the pictures, and Vanessa did the rest! Bob also set-up (with Larry Olson's assistance) the first SMLC web-site. He would regularly add musical renditions by Phyllis Eggers, and the church choir. He added pictures of current events as well. It was a positive experience for Bob and, especially, for all who accessed the web-site.

Hats off to a couple of SMLC members, who are never afraid to tackle new projects, adapt to new surroundings and needs, and to make friends wherever they are.

March Prayer Reminders

Darby, granddaughter of Carole Rouse—safety and success in Nepal

Brad & Joy, friends of Lin Smith—medical procedures

Lynn, sister of Sallie Brackman

Cindy, daughter-in-law of John & Sally Tessler—ailing relatives

Jene, brother of John Stencel—post surgery care and recovery

Marc, our LaPuente Chef—surgery

April Bible Readings

April 2
Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

April 23
Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

April 9
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14-27:66

April 30
Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

April 16
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10