



SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Shepherd's Staff

2000 Ptarmigan Trail • Estes Park, CO 80517 • (970)-586-3900
Pastor Ron Bockhaus (970)-646-6657

SMLCEstes.org

FEBRUARY 2017



Martin Luther Sightings

As part of our celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the Worship Committee distributed fifty copies of the "Here I Stand" Martin Luther card-board stand-ups. The idea was for Martin to go



with you wherever you travelled and have his picture taken with you for your own Facebook page. Jim Ecklund, our administrative assistant, will post them on the www.smlcestes.org website on a page of "Luther Sightings." Please send them to him at

secretary@smlcestes.org along with your caption. Then check the website from time to time to see how widely travelled Martin has become in the 21st Century.

February Worship Matters

Sunday, Feb. 5

You are Salt & Light

Saturday, Feb. 11

Note that there is no Second Saturday Service This Month

Sunday, Feb. 12

Fear & Love God

Sunday, Feb. 19

You Can't Give What You Don't Have

Sunday, Feb. 26

"Thin Places"

Feb. Community Corner Café Menu

Feb 3 Chili with corn bread

Quota Club

Feb 10 Cranberry Chicken

Community Volunteers

Feb 17 Valentines Dinner

Summit Church

Feb 24 Grill Night

Good Samaritan



The Role of An Ambassador

So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 2 Corinthians 5:20.

Each Friday night our congregation opens its doors to the public through Community Corner Café. This includes both the people who provide the meal and those who receive the meal. When someone stands up on Sunday morning and reports on the number of people served the previous Friday night, we are all amazed at the numbers. In addition to hosting 3C, a good number of us also volunteer at the meals in one capacity or another.

Has the time come that we are called to be ambassadors to the community? What I mean by this is an intentional presence at Community Corner Café by two or three volunteers. These people would not have tasks related to serving the meal but would simply make a friendly connection to those they can attending the meal. Think of this role as a greeter who sits down with folks at the table, joining in conversation, answering questions, sharing the experience with those who amazingly come. We are happy to host 3C in our building. Now can we host people with our personal presence? The Hunger Task Force has discussed this idea and will be sharing it with the congregation.

In Christ,
Pastor Ron

2017 Budget and Pledges

In our January 22 Annual Meeting, the congregation passed the proposed \$257,373 budget. This was an 'unbalanced' budget, showing a deficit of \$7,822.64 (planned income is that amount less than planned expenses). A letter went out prior to the holiday, to inform members and friends of the congregation about our budget shortfall. At that time, the difference was \$36,228. A huge thank you to all of you who submitted pledge revisions or new pledges!! Those revisions and pledges brought the shortfall down to the \$7,823 difference. **We recognize that passing a deficit budget is not what any of us desire. Yet we feel the budget is the best attempt to be faithful to our goals for ministry in 2017 with little extra.** We have confidence that we can make up this difference if needed. In order to keep everyone informed, the treasurer will begin submitting a summary of our 'financial health' in each newsletter. The summary will be for prior/prior month, so look for the January update in the March newsletter.

Additionally, the summary will be posted on the bulletin board at the church. That copy would be available right after the council meeting where presented, so the January summary would be available Feb 10, following the council meeting on Feb 9.

And... rest assured that if we go into the 'red zone of concern' the council will call a quick congregational meeting to inform, update and share the need. With the budget now passed and revisions and new pledges in, our terrific Financial Secretary, Ruth Turner, will now be able to send out the letters confirming your 2017 pledge. Please look for these in February. Again a HUGE thank you for your generosity, caring and giving.

February Calendar at a Glance

Wednesday, February 1

7:00am Sacred Space
11:30am Centering Prayer
11:30am Book Discussion
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 2

8:00am Cooking for La Puente
3:00pm Q2 Rehearsal

Friday, February 3

4:30pm Community Corner Cafe

Saturday, February 4

10:30am Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, February 5

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

Monday, February 6

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Tuesday, February 7

9:00am Sermon Discussion
9:00am PEO

Wednesday, February 8

7:00am Sacred Space
11:00am Centering Prayer
11:30am Book Discussion
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 9

8:00am Cooking for La Puente
9:15am Quilters
3:00pm Q2 Rehearsal
6:00pm Church Council

Friday, February 10

4:30pm Community Corner Cafe

Saturday, February 11

8:30am Men's Breakfast
10:30am Organ Rehearsal
2:00pm Peak to Peak Concert

Sunday, February 12

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

Monday, February 13

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Tuesday, February 14

9:00am Sermon Discussion
1:00pm WELCA

Wednesday, February 15

7:00am Sacred Space
11:00am Centering Prayer
11:30am Book Discussion
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 16

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Friday, February 17

4:30pm Community Corner Cafe

Saturday, February 18

10:30am Organ Rehearsal
2:00pm Yohe Memorial Service

Sunday, February 19

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

Monday, February 20

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Tuesday, February 21

9:00am Sermon Discussion

Wednesday, February 22

7:00am Sacred Space
11:00am Centering Prayer
11:30am Book Discussion
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 23

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

Friday, February 24

4:30pm Community Corner Cafe

Saturday, February 25

10:30am Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, February 26

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

Monday, February 27

8:00am Cooking for La Puente

Tuesday, February 28

9:00am Sermon Discussion

News from Around the Church



Colorado Faith Advocacy Day 2017

Join advocates and people of faith from across Colorado for this annual event! This year, we focus on the future of the church's public witness and reclaiming Martin Luther's legacy of activism and protest on the cusp of the Reformation's 500th anniversary. What does it mean for us to be a "Protest"-ant church today? Join us for a great day of learning and action! We welcome keynote speaker Rev. Amy Reumann, Director of ELCA Washington D.C. office

What: Colorado Faith Advocacy Day

When: Saturday, February 11, 2017

Where: Bethany Lutheran Church, 4500 E. Hampden Ave., Denver, CO

Time: 8:30AM - 2:00PM

(Registration opens 8AM)

Fee: \$25 regular, \$10 student/low-income -

Thanks to generous congregational support, we are able to offer a lower registration fee this year! Breakfast, lunch, and all materials included! See P. Ron, Nancy Matson or Carolyn Jarmin.

Second Saturday Worship

Pastor Ron and Nancy Matson will be at the conference on February 11 and will be unable to lead worship. On March 11 SMLC will resume Second Saturday informal worship services at 5:00 p.m. I would like to encourage any musicians/vocalists to join our Joyful Noise to provide music and accompaniment for songs in these services. Energy and joy will be an asset -- we will practice ahead of time to provide some musicality. If you know someone outside the congregation who might like to participate, we welcome them. Nancy Matson.epmoose-mom@aol.com or 970-215-3951, thanks.

Women^{of the} ELCA

The January meeting included election of officers for our local WELCA group. Serving for 2017 are Linda Schlitt as our new President, Tara McConnell as our new Secretary; while Marian Stencel, and Bobbie Christenson, graciously continue to serve as Treasurer and Vice President respectively.

Our great Bible study of Christian Faith and Freedom from Paul's letter to the Galatians continues in February as we consider chapter 2 & 3 which describes our identity as Children of God Through Faith and think about how that affects us in these times. The study can be found in the January/February issue of Gather magazine. For copies of the study check the narthex information table or contact Linda Schlitt.

(This is the Lutheran women's magazine published by WELCA. This month has some articles especially worth reading. If you don't get the magazine, Linda has an extra copy you can borrow, just ask her.)

Please mark your calendar and join us this month, the 2nd Tuesday afternoon, February 14, at 1 PM at SMLC for Bible study and fellowship. This month, Nancy Matson will be serving refreshments.

SMLC News

Equal Exchange/Fair Trade Update

My name is Sallie Brackman. My husband Bruce and I joined SMLC in December, 2016. I have assumed responsibility for the church's association with and commitment to Equal Exchange/Fair Trade. Kudos to Linda Schlitt who has done an absolutely amazing job keeping our congregation involved in this worthwhile ministry.

Going forward, I want to call your attention to the abundance of chocolate bars available for purchase on the Fair Trade cart in the narthex. Valentine's Day is fast approaching and these bars would make a great gift. Consider buying several items and making your own gift basket for that special person in your life.



Also, K-cup users, get your environmentally friendly single serve cups here as well. The organic breakfast is a classic medium blend that is sweet and balanced - a delicious way to start the day. The plastic cup is recyclable as well. Bonus!

I will be ordering whole bean coffee soon. If you have a preference on the type of roast or bean- medium, French roast, Ethiopian, Columbian - please let me know soon. I will order what is most requested or simply medium roast.

Please feel free to contact me at salliebrackman@aol.com or 816-225-9130 if you have any questions or suggestions. I look forward to being the liaison between SLMC and the wonderful ministry that is Equal Exchange/Fair Trade.

QUILTING 2017

Our first work day was snowed out this year. So we will be trying to make up for it in February. All this snow and cold weather reminds us just how helpful quilts are for people in distress around the world. Hand made quilts not only warm bodies but cheer hearts and help fill many people with hope for the future -even the people that make them.

How about setting aside two mornings this valentine's month to help others? As anyone who has ever helped will tell you, it is good exercise for your body and cheers your psyche and warms your heart as well. Besides it is fun! Just a few extra people can help us make up that snow day and get back on track. Please join us on the 2nd & 4th Thursday mornings at SMLC from 9:15 to 11:30 AM. This month those dates are February 9 and 23. What a great way to remember St. Nicholas by making your heart and other hearts happy and the world a little better! Quilting for LWR rocks! Join us.



In 2015 visiting kids from Iowa helped us quilt. We could use your help this year.

SMLC News

February Wedding Anniversaries

- Bill & Connie Westley 02/12
- Nick & Mary Beth Molle 02/14
- Marilyn Anderson 02/22
- Mike & Linda Wold 02/27

February Birthdays

- Glenn Isernhagen 02/03
- Tom O'Neil 02/06
- Mike Wold 02/06
- Charles O'Neil 02/16
- Donald Shalibo 02/18
- Jan Kilgore 02/20
- Robert Wesel 02/20
- Ralph Knoll 02/23
- Carol Indermuehle 02/24
- Bruce Nickels 02/24



Advocacy in Action

In light of the new administration and changes in Congress, we as citizens need to be aware more than ever of legislation regarding social issues and basic human rights. 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

February Bible Readings

Sunday, Feb. 5
 5th Sunday After Epiphany
 First Reading
 Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]
 Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
 Second Reading
 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]
 Gospel
 Matthew 5:13-20

Friday, Feb. 12
 6th Sunday After Epiphany
 First Reading
 Deuteronomy 30:15-20
 Psalm 119:1-8
 Second Reading
 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
 Gospel
 Matthew 5:21-37

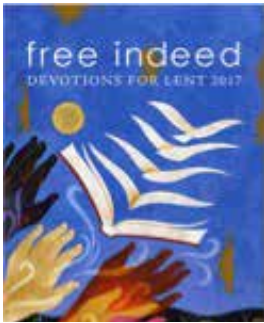
Sunday, Feb. 19
 7th Sunday After Epiphany
 First Reading
 Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18
 Psalm 119:33-40
 Second Reading
 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23
 Gospel
 Matthew 5:38-48

Sunday, Feb. 26
 Transfiguration of Our Lord
 First Reading
 Exodus 24:12-18
 Psalm 2
 Second Reading
 2 Peter 1:16-21
 Gospel
 Matthew 17:1-9

SMLC News

Coming Soon...

Lent will be upon us as soon as we turn the calendar page over to March. In order to be ready, the Learning and Worship Committees have ordered thirty pocket-size copies and five large-print copies of *Free Indeed: Devotions for Lent*.



This beautiful, full-color, devotional takes you through Lent with daily devotionals from Luther's Small Catechism. Each reading is accompanied by a photo, a quote to ponder, and a prayer. You are free, indeed, to reflect on Luther's guide to the basics of

Christianity during the Lenten season and within the observation of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.

Look for these copies to arrive soon in the narthex and please leave a donation of \$2.00 each; \$5.00 for the large-print edition. This is most certainly true.

First Quarter Special Offering – Crossroads

The first quarter special offering for Crossroads will be taken Sunday, March 19th. Again this year there is an anonymous donor who will match cash gifts from our community up to \$50,000. We want to do our part to help with this important Estes Park ministry.

Also, we want to help support Crossroads through donations of canned goods, paper products and other staples throughout the Lenten season. We will specify a particular need each Sunday. Lent is a time of increased prayer, fasting and alms giving for many Christians. Please consider helping in whatever way you can during this time as part of your Lenten devotion. More information will follow regarding what is needed and where it will be deposited at church.

As always, thank you so much for your continued support for your brothers and sisters in the Estes Valley.

Hunger Task Force

January Prayer Reminders

- Yohe family - upon Charlie's death**
- Marc, friend of congregation, - with health concerns**
- Friend, Almina Ringdahl, - with illness**
- Neal, - Pamm Haglund's brother, surgery**
- Don Bowen, - having fallen**
- Vanessa Paswaters, - prayer of thanks for healing**
- Carole Rouse, - broken arm because of a fall**
- Peggy Lorenz, - injured shoulder because of a fall**

Who's Who in the Pew



Getting to Know Bruce and Sallie Brackman

Most members of SMLC have already come to know and appreciate Bruce and Sallie Brackman even though they officially joined this body of Christ only one month ago. They moved to Estes Park on July 28, 2016 and immediately began contributing to the life and work of the church and community. What a marvelous example they have set for newcomers and long-time members alike! Pictured here are SMLC's newest assets, recently seen working at Crossroads, the Community Corner Café, serving communion, serving as coffee hosts, and joining the Adult Forum discussions.

A high level of church and community involvement is their usual "MO." Bruce is a former ordained pastor, Council President and adult education leader from the Kansas City area. Similarly, Sallie's previous Worship Committee experience became obvious when she joined the Worship Committee here at SMLC. Now in retirement, leaving those other good Christians back in K.C., they have made this congregation their new church home.

Not only do they have a new church home here, residing on Ptarmigan Trail, but also a new physical home, this one nearby on Grey

Hawk Court. Before retiring, Bruce spent the last seventeen years working as a Toyota product-training specialist while Sallie was spent those same seventeen years as the lead mammography technologist for Saint Luke's North Hospital in Kansas City. This partnership is well synchronized.

More importantly, this happy, twenty-six-year partnership has also joined in raising two daughters: Julie, who lives in Dillon, CO., and Jill who lives with her husband and daughter, Emma, in Kansas City.

One has to wonder how Bruce and Sallie could leave a young granddaughter behind in Kansas City. Perhaps, like many other members of SMLC, they were lured to this area by these beautiful Rocky Mountains. Then, after their many years of hiking, fishing, and back-packing they decided to stay. Fortunately for the rest of the members of SMLC, even though they were on vacation, the Brackmans had made a habit of coming indoors to worship here on Sunday mornings and found that experience fulfilling. A heart-felt and somewhat overdue "Welcome" to Bruce and Sallie!

Peak to Peak Concert Saturday, February 11 at 2:00 pm



Peak to Peak Concerts proudly presents

**The Four Horns
&
The Q2 Strings**



Saturday, February 11 at 2:00 pm

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran, 2000 Ptarmigan Trail

Admission is free; donations appreciated

Sponsored by The Old Gallery & The Oratorio society of Estes Park

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