



SHEPHERD OF THE MOUNTAINS LUTHERAN CHURCH

Shepherd's Staff

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 Pastor Ron Bockhaus (970)-646-6657

SMLCEstes.org

JANUARY 2018



Photo taken by Andy Ames. Ptarmigan in Rocky Mountain National Park.

December Prayer Reminders

- Don Bowen, hospice care
- Richard Anderson, father of Vanessa Paswaters, hospitalized
- Sally Tessler, ongoing tests and treatments
- Peter Nelson, death of his step-mother, Wylida
- Marcy, friend of Roxy Hause, having surgery
- Cindy, friend of Nancy Matson, reoccurring medical condition
- Mary Settje and family upon the death of Allen

Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28th 10am.

Shepherd of the Mountains will hold its annual budget meeting on the last Sunday of January. It happens immediately after worship. Plan to attend!

January Worship Matters.

Sunday, January 7

Baptism of Our Lord

Sunday, January 14

Follow Me

Sunday, January 21

The Time Is Fulfilled

Sunday, January 28

Unclean Spirits Obey, Annual Congregational Meeting.

Jan. Comm. Corner Café Menu

Jan. 5 - Enchiladas

Community Volunteers

Jan. 12 - Hot Meat Sandwich

Mt. Calvary Lutheran

Jan. 19 - Hardy Hamburger Soup

Restorative Justice

Jan. 26 - Grill Night

Sunrise Rotary



Pastor's Corner

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

Being Adaptive in 2018

At the start of every new year all of us think about planning for the future. It's natural that we think about the coming year and what we would like to see happen. The question remains if we can effect change or not. I personally swing between "Que sera' sera" (Whatever will be will be) and "carpe manana" (seize tomorrow). The following questions come from long-time church guru, Lyle Schaller. They are not new by any means but are helpful in clarifying how we as a church will adapt in 2018.

Where are we in our life cycle? Just like human beings, churches have life cycles. Shepherd of the Mountains can trace its life back to the late 1980's, when folks informally met as a Lutheran "fellowship", or to 1997 when the official chartering of the congregation took place. Another way to look at it is by the age of our participants, most of whom are retired. Schaller claims that beyond age 40, healthy congregations reinvent themselves by planting new ministries.

Where are we in our dream cycle? The first half of a new dream cycle often lasts five to seven years. It produces beliefs, then goals, then structures and lastly effective ministries. The second half of a dream cycle naturally declines over time until it no longer inspires people. Churches need to re-dream before the down-tick in attitude creates confusing and nostalgic feelings for the previous dream. Scripture tells of God's people re-dreaming over and over.

Are we aware of major national trends?

Yes-sir-ee! We live it everyday. Did you know: More than one-half of Americans will be single adults above age 18; Single parents will head more than 33% of households; People will spend a large percentage of their lives in retirement? This means being open to a variety of people as we seek to minister to our community.

Are we willing to take action that differs from our personal preferences? Churches build bridges to the future by respecting the spiritual preferences of all four adult generations, not just the needs of the two oldest generations. It isn't as simple as "young vs. old." And so that means knowing the characteristics of each generation and evaluating the gifts we have to share through ministry. No church can do everything. But every church can identify the needs of the people around them and offer support in a Christ-like manner. Will that change? Of course! And so we must adapt to the time and trends of our day, just as the church has always done.

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! 2 Corinthians 5:17

Pastor Ron

January Bible Readings

January 7

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

January 14

1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

January 21

Jonah 3:1-5, 10
Psalm 62:5-12
1 Corinthians 7:29-31
Mark 1:14-20

January 28

Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm 111
1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Mark 1:21-28

January Calendar at a Glance

Tuesday, January 2,
10:00am LaPuente Cooking

Wednesday, January 3,
7:00am Sacred Space
10:00am LaPuente Cooking
11:30am Centering Prayer
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 4,
10:00am LaPuente Cooking
11:00am CCC Prep

Friday, January 5, CCC Prep
4:30pm Cafe Corner

Saturday, January 6, 10:30am
Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, January 7,
9:00am Sunday Worship
10:30am Adult Forum

Tuesday, January 9,
9:30am Columbarium Committee
1:00pm WELCA

Wednesday, January 10,
7:00am Sacred Space
11:30am Centering Prayer
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal
6:00pm Church Council

Thursday, January 11,
9:00am Worship Committee
9:00am Quilters
11:00am CCC Prep

Friday, January 12,
CCC Prep
4:30pm Cafe Corner

Saturday, January 13,
8:30am Men's Breakfast
10:30am Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, January 14,
9:00am Sunday Worship
10:30am Adult Forum

Wednesday, January 17,
7:00am Sacred Space
10:00am Stewardship For All Seasons
11:30am Centering Prayer
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 18,
11:00am CCC Prep

Friday, January 19,
8:00am CCC Prep
4:30pm Cafe Corner

Saturday, January 20,
10:30am Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, January 21,
9:00am Sunday Worship
10:30am Adult Forum

Wednesday, January 24,
7:00am Sacred Space
11:30am Centering Prayer
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, January 25,
9:00am Quilters
11:00am CCC Prep

Friday, January 26,
8:00am CCC Prep
4:30pm Cafe Corner

Saturday, January 27,
10:30am Organ Rehearsal

Sunday, January 28,
9:00am Sunday Worship
10:00am Annual Meeting

Wednesday, January 31,
7:00am Sacred Space
11:30am Centering Prayer
4:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Important Dates of Note

Anniversaries

Bill & Evelyn Kehl January 10

Birthdays

Jane Rising, January 04

Wulfgar Pfauss-NOVAK, January 08

Christian Gallagher, January 13

Bill Hayford, January 13

Bruce Adams, January 15

Bill Kehl, January 17

Shirley Olson, January 17

Lin Smith, January 21

Bob Rising, January 23

Carole Rouse, January 23

Marilyn Fjeld, January 24

Marilyn Anderson, January 30

MARISON PROJECT



Recipe for Success:

- One year
- Plus 2 good friends
- Plus Shepard of the Mountains Lutheran Church kitchen
- Plus a heaping handful of amazing volunteers
- Equals... 20,500 meals for La Puente Home in 2017.

You've seen us over the last year cooking away in your beautiful Shepard of the Mountains kitchen. We are Marc Coen and Becky Gruhl, co-founders of Marison Project. We create restaurant quality, ready-made meals from donated and rescued raw food as an effective way to support the volunteer staff and guests at the La Puente Home; an emergency shelter in Alamosa, Colorado.

Since November 2016, we have cooked over 20,000 meals in your kitchen, to help feed the homeless of La Puente.

Becky and I would like to offer a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you for your support of Marison Project. Without the use of your kitchen it would have been impossible to create so many meals and serve so many.

To learn more about Marison Project and our mission please visit us at: www.marisonproject.org. Or, swing by the kitchen and say hello.

**Happy New Year (and it will be happy),
Marc and Becky**

Marison Project, www.MarisonProject.org

#FeedLaPuente

Over 20,000 meals served since November 2016, \$1.00 = One Meal, Thank you for your support!

Women^{of the} ELCA

Get on board for our four-session BIBLE study by Mark Allan Powell, entitled "Multiple Meanings: Learning from Other Interpretations". I heard Powell, a professor of New Testament at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, speak several years ago at a Synod Assembly and it dramatically changed the way I looked at some familiar parables so I am really looking forward to this new study. The study can be found in your January Gather magazine or pick up a copy of the lesson on the counter in the Narthex.

Won't you plan to join us on the 2nd Tuesday, January 9, at the church at 1 PM as Marilyn Kienker leads our Bible study? A brief business meeting which includes election of our 2018 WELCA officers follows the Bible study. Light refreshments during our fellowship time will be provided by Marian Stencil.

Linda Schlitt

Quilting News

January's colder weather reminds us of the need for warmth around the world. What better way to help provide that warmth than by making quilts for others. As we begin this new year we have plenty of materials including tops, backs and batting. But we do need many loving hands to help us assemble, tie, and sew quilts and put together quilt tops for sewing at home. Won't you join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday's this month, January 11, and January 25 at 9:15 AM at the church? Won't you consider becoming part of this ministry of love and service during 2018. All are welcome.

Linda Schlitt

End of year giving opportunities

If you would like to make a special year-end gift to Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, here are two options that can improve your tax situation as well as benefit the ministry of our congregation:

Donate Stocks or Mutual Funds

Contributing securities to Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church offers valuable financial and tax benefits:

- Donors may deduct the entire value of the securities as a charitable donation, and
- Donors avoid paying capital gains tax on any increased value of the securities.

If you are interested in making an end-of-year gift to Shepherd of the Mountains via stocks or mutual funds, it is important that you not sell the securities first. Please contact the church office for more information.

Charitable IRA Rollover

Many donors have discovered the benefits of making a gift using their Individual Retirement Account (IRA). If you are 70½ or older, you may be interested in this way to make a significant gift while lowering the income and taxes from your IRA withdrawals.

Benefits of an IRA charitable rollover:

- Donors avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to Shepherd of the Mountains;
- Donors satisfy your required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year;
- The gift reduces the donor's taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions;
- A charitable IRA rollover is not subject to the 50% deduction limits on charitable gifts; and
- You make a real difference in the ministry of Shepherd of the Mountains!