

APRIL 2017

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Shepherd's Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs
Hours vary

Interim Pastor

Tom Hiller
Wed. - Fri.
And by appt.

Office phone:
503.645.4994

Sovlutheran.com

Fall Worship Services

8:30 a & 11:00 a

Sunday School
9:45 am

Wednesday Bible Study

10:00 a

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"A caring community
touched by Christ,
touching others for Christ"

Youth Group

Join us Easter Sunday April 16th in between services for Easter breakfast! We will have pancakes, sausages, fruit salad and more! All donations will go towards the ELCA Youth Gathering trip.

Middle and High school youth we need your help! Please come to SOV Saturday April 15th from 12-2pm to help prep the food for Easter breakfast. Questions? Please contact Stacey at roedersi5@gmail.com

Easter Breakfast



YOUTH GROUP

★ News ★

Interim Pastor Tom's Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Here is part 2 of Pastor Fuchs' series on the homeless. May it be a source of insight as we enter the Easter season.

Pastor Tom

Can't Those People Get Jobs? (part 2) -- by Pastor Roger Fuchs

"I have mental illness. I know that, I get that. But what am I supposed to DO?" --Greg, 2010

"Most days, it's all I can do to not revert to the same things that sent me to prison." --Brian, 2012



Names are changed, but the quotes and lives are real. "Greg" wondered aloud how to pass the time, how to not feel worthless and invisible. "Brian" struggled daily not to haul off and bust somebody. On parole, he couldn't get a job; but without work he couldn't afford housing. Yet police constantly evicted him from campsites for the crime of "trespassing" on the earth while trying to sleep. Greg wanted work that would fit his lucidity swings. Brian wanted to work, continue his education, and help other people. Both men of faith and prayer were unable to reach the first rung of the ladder to climb out of their holes. Both were discouraged. I listened, and we prayed.

Greg and Brian weigh on my heart to this day. They are just two of the millions around us who yearn for meaningful existence and self-sufficiency. Some have never, ever known those things. Some have burned out and given up. A few succeed. As Christians, we are not called to judge. We are commanded to love, but we can only love those whom we know. When 5K families were hungry one day, the disciples wanted to give 'em the boot. Jesus told the twelve not to get tough but to get involved. That's when the 5K families stopped being "those people" and became real. "Them" became "us". That's the first step.

Except for four years in the U.S. Air Force, I've never had a government job. Everything else has been in small business. Even as a pastor, my small one-man aviation business must support both me and my ministry. Each day I rely on people who trust me to give me work. It's a two-way street. Work and ministry are inseparable. I'm blessed to have skills and time to sell.

In January I gathered with 17 pastors at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary. We discussed being the church in the West, living lives of faith outside the church. A majority of these pastors are second career people who bring great skills and experience to their work. Our ministries and contexts are as different as one garden from the next, one farm from the next, one household from the next. Church renewal programs from headquarters rarely fit here. To be church anywhere means being church where we are. That means knowing the people. That means "speaking" with open eyes and ears before we use our voices. That's new but also very old.

I wouldn't have a job if people didn't know me. If we want people around us to have jobs, the answer is most likely not in Washington, DC or Salem or City Hall. The answer is "us" and how we spend every hour and every dollar, with whom and what for.

Next month, I'll write more specifically about work. For now, two things to ponder:

- Of unhoused but sheltered adults, over 38% have some form of disability

- A study several years ago found 44% of homeless people had worked for pay in the past month. Many more hadn't worked but were looking for work.

*Next month: **Can't Those People Get Jobs?** (part 3)*

Reprinted with permission by Pr. Roger Fuchs

What Is Easter all about?

Some thoughts that come to mind about Easter certainly include that Jesus is alive and that we have the promise of eternal life after our death, I'd also like to include a single word.

Now. As those who trust in God's Easter promise, our new life begins right now. Now is the time of hope amid life's questions, hurts, and struggles. Now is the time to actively love our families, our friends, our neighbors, and yes, even, our enemies. Now is the time for action on behalf of our earth, those who are sick, troubled, those who are suffering from injustice, and the poor.

Now is the time to pray for guidance, strength, empathy, and discernment. Now is the time to pray for those who are in need.

Now is the time to find our place in the various ministries of Shepherd of the Valley. Now is the time to give of our money, talents, and time to those ministries.

Easter is in the past. Easter is in the future. Easter is now. Right Now!

In the Risen Christ, Pastor Tom

Adult Forum on Dietrich Bonhoeffer to begin

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was a Lutheran Pastor and Theologian who spoke out against Hitler and the Nazis before World War II and resisted them during the war. He was jailed and subsequently executed at a concentration camp only days before it was liberated by allied troops.

During those years he also produced various writings that continue to be very influential not only in the Lutheran Church but throughout the Christian church.

We will begin a series about him beginning on Sunday. April 23rd through Sunday May 21st during the Adult Education time between worship services. We will view and discuss a video called "Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Pacifist, Nazi Resister". The sessions will be led by Pastor Tom. You are invited!

Council President's Report

I actually heard on the weather forecast that we could have two days without rain in a row at the end of Spring Break week. If it comes true, it will be the first time since the first of February that we have gone without rain for that long! Admittedly, when I retired last fall, I looked forward to long walks – one of my favorite pastimes. I expected rain during the winter (and a little snow), but I so looked forward to Oregon's "false" spring in February. Well, February and March have come and gone, and no false spring. All of which serves to remind us that the last few weeks have been leading to a true new beginning – Easter.

We spend the forty days of Lent reflecting on Jesus and his suffering and sacrifice. And then comes the blessed Easter morning when the grave is empty and the world is new. I'm hoping that we all have spent some time reflecting during this Lenten Season. Admittedly, I fall short in this area, but I strive constantly to improve. Somewhere there is a T-shirt that says something to the effect that God isn't done with me yet. Fortunately, I know that this is true. He is constantly nudging me to do and be better. It takes a lot of work, but at least I know I'm not in it alone – and neither is anyone else.

Finally, Council had an important decision to make at our last meeting. A company had approached our real estate broker with interest in the piece of property we have for sale. As you may know, the reason for selling this surplus property is to give us funds to begin our expansion. After much very good dialogue and deliberation, the Council voted to not pursue an offer as the proposal which was being presented was simply too low to give us a good start. We know that interest in the property is picking up as the broker has had additional inquiries. For that reason, the Council asked the Building Committee to begin work again on ideas and plans for construction of the new building. They will start by reaching out to the architect we have used in the past to find out what's new and what makes sense for us. They will also be asking your opinion through conversations and meetings. Your ideas are critically important as we return to this project. More to come

Blessings to all of you and your families as we prepare for Easter. Hope to see you all at the Youth Easter Breakfast!

Blessings,

Linnea Harmon

Council President

Congregational lunches on April 27 and May 25!

The clocks have had to be moved forward so maybe it's a good time for all of us to move forward with opportunities for us to come together and socialize. Member lunches have been on hold this winter. We all had a good time at our December/November luncheon and now it's time to "Spring into action" and plan our April 27 all congregational lunch and our 80's and over recognition lunch on May 25. Our lunch starts at noon and usually lasts about an hour. The special recognition lunch of members and friends of members that are 80 years old (and older) might run a little longer as we honor and celebrate those friends that are turning 80 in 2017.

We need volunteers to help share in helping in the following areas:

1. Help with transportation for those needing rides
2. Helping set up.
3. Helping clean up.
4. Helping with food.
5. Help send out invitations for those that are 80 years old or older (and wiser).

These lunches are a fun opportunity to connect with each other and celebrate being a family of Christ together. Please put these two noon time lunches on you calendars. April 27 and May 25!

Please contact Diane Lewis, Peggy Vermaas, Rachel Roteman, Sharon Graalum, Ginny Adamo or Tammy McDonald. Everyone's help is a gift to helping make these lunches a success.

MAY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE APRIL 25TH

Sunday School...Submitted by Wendy R

Sunday School, preschool - 5th grade

- ♦ April 2 - No class--Spring Break
- ♦ April 9 - Hosanna-Study of Holy Week
- ♦ April 16 - No Class--Easter celebration at Church Youth Group Easter Breakfast
- ♦ April 23 - Alleluia--Jesus is Alive
- ♦ April 30 - Feed My Sheep--Jesus' command to Peter



Celebration words of Hosanna and Alleluia are heard during Easter! We love to sing them letting everyone know of our faith.

Please join us during Sunday School hour, 9:45-10:45 am downstairs.

- ♦ 6th-8th grade class meets upstairs with Kevin Huggins leading.

One Scrip Order Sunday in April

April 2nd



Visa® Prepaid Card

There is no activation fee and your organization will earn **1.5%** on each card sold.
It is accepted everywhere Visa debit cards are.

Thank you for your ongoing support!

MAY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE APRIL 25TH

Ladies Dinner

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

Bugatti's

2364 NW Amberbrook Dr.
Beaverton, OR 97006

6:00 pm

Please RSVP to Tammy

Bugatti's
ESTABLISHED 1991

Couples Night

(Formerly Men's Night)

Thursday, April 6, 2017

6:00 PM

Lil' Cooperstown

2947 SE 73rd Ave, Hillsboro, OR 97123

ALL COUPLES INVITED FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

Lil'
COOPERSTOWN
BAR & GRILL

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Lenten Wednesday; April 5

Soup Supper 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Devotion 6:30 - 7:00 pm

Palm Sunday; April 9

April 9th, services at 8:30 & 11:00 am

Maundy Thursday ; April 13

April 13th, Services at 12:00 & 7:00 pm

Good Friday; April 14

April 14th, Services at 12:00 & 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday; April 16

April 16th, services at 8:30 & 11:00 am

9:45 - 10:45 Easter Breakfast



Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool

Dr. Seuss Read-a-thon Update!

In March, the KOK families participated in a Dr. Seuss Read-a-thon as a fundraiser for our school and our families sure do love to read! As a school, they raised \$300 for our school in just two weeks! What amazing readers we have!

Loving our Friends

During the month of February, KOK families collected supplies to donate to the GEM Easter baskets. As a school, we collected 222 items. Our students have big hearts for their friends and neighbors.

Easter Celebrations

During the second week of April, all of our classes will celebrate Easter together. We will grow in our understanding of the true meaning of Easter and Jesus' resurrection with fun art, games, cooking projects and class Easter egg hunts.

In the Classrooms

The toddler/parent class is having fun with Easter, pond, and dinosaur activities. They are enjoying learning and playing together each week and often don't want to leave because school is so much fun!

The 3's and 4's classes are learning about the farm during the month of April. Their days will be full of lots of fun art activities and games. They are already enjoying playing farm in the dramatic play area.

In on Prek/K class, we are beginning the month of April with a study on oviparous animals. We have learned that chickens and birds are not the only animal that lay eggs. During the last two weeks of the month, we will learn about gardens. We will study about flowers and vegetables; grow in our understanding of the life cycle and what plants need to grow.

Registration for Fall 2017

Registration for the coming school year is in full swing. Contact us by email kokpreschool@gmail.com or by phone 503-645-0236 to get more information or to arrange a tour. Classes are filling up so call today!

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

04 Jospin M.

11 Corrine G.

16 Choice S,

16 Aaron Z.

19 Tabitha M.

20 Lyle H.

21 Tiely B.

24 Bob K.

25 Calvin S.



God's Blessing
For a
Joyful New Year
In
Life!

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

*Tom & Lisa Ramsey-Barnes
April 10th*



April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<p>1</p> <p>9:30 - 11:30 a Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>2</p> <p>8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>No Sunday School 1:30 p OEC</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p> <p>6:00 p Ladies Dinner at Bugatti's</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p> <p>5:30 p Lenten Soup Supper 6:30 p Lenten Devotion</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p> <p>6:00 p Couples Night Out at Lil' Cooperstown</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 - 11:30 a Choir rehearsal</p> 
<p>9</p> <p>8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>Palm Sunday 9:45 pm Sunday School 1:30 p OEC</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p> <p>7:00 p Maundy Thursday Service</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool</p> <p>12:00 p Good Friday Service 7:00 p Good Friday Service</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 - 11:30 a Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>Easter Sunday No Sunday School 1:30 p OEC</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p> <p>Happy Easter!</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 - 11:30 a Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>23</p> <p>8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>9:45 pm Sunday School 1:30 p OEC</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 - 11:30 a Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>30</p> <p>8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>9:45 pm Sunday School 1:30 p OEC</p>						