

# Shepherd's Staff

VOLUME 56 ISSUE 8

AUGUST 2014

## SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

SHARING  
GOD'S  
LOVE

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### CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Please see  
the latest

council minutes lo-  
cated on the bulletin  
board in the church  
library.

Dear Friends,

As I write this, I've just learned of another death of a member of our congregation: Jane Wylie. I have been a parish pastor for nearly 27 years and have never had a season of deaths like we've had here at Shepherd of the Valley these last several months: Karen Maness, Larry LaForce, Pete Ferguson, Peg Hoffman, Kay Eagleson and now Jane Wylie. Additionally we had family members of congregants who have died whose funerals I was a part of as well: Terri Harty's brother in law, Dex Elvin, Bev Wacker's mom, Sophie Cupchack, Lois Johnson's granddaughter Savannah Johnson, former member Irene Baldasty and my own dad who died in March and my sister who died just a month later. These are just the funerals I've preached at (or attended, as is the case with my family members). This doesn't include those loved ones you have lost in these last few months.

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of the book of Ecclesiastes, beginning with the 1<sup>st</sup> verse, it says: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

<sup>2</sup>a time to be born, and a time to die;

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

<sup>3</sup>a time to kill, and a time to heal;

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

<sup>4</sup>a time to weep, and a time to laugh;

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;...

It seems like we've been in the "time" of dying and mourning, doesn't it? So, what do we do with that? Where do we find our hope and comfort? How do we find our way back into the "time" of healing, laughing and dancing? Clearly, as Christians, we find our hope in the promise of eternal life for our loved ones. Speaking personally, it is a great comfort for me to know that my dad and sister are rejoicing in heaven. What I've found is that I'm not grieving FOR them...I'm grieving for ME. I am feeling the loss of the presence of all those folks listed above. I, frankly, miss having them around. We know that grief is not something we "get over", but we do, eventually, learn to integrate these losses into our own story. It becomes a story that is woven into the fabric of our stories.

God's presence can carry us through these difficult times in our lives – our prayers and the prayers of others for us are tremendously powerful. God does not wish us pain, but instead surrounds us with his gentle, loving Spirit, holding us and comforting us in all our sorrows.

My life is better for having known all those who have gone before me – in varying ways, each have left a bit of themselves with me – and for that I am grateful. I am also profoundly grateful to have a God who promises us eternal life and who envelops us with his love every day.

In Christ,

*Pastor Wold*

**OUR CHURCH FAMILY**

**In Our Prayers:** Joyce Hunt, Nevagay Ablel Carissa Wenstrom (Peggy Wenstrom's daughter), and Stu Hoffman, undergoing treatment for cancer, Anne Teed (Pearson), Bruce Pearson's mother, under hospice care, Adolph Wacker's brother, Rudy, Nancy Landrove at Swedes, Marshall Holmgren & Gil Dohlen at home, and all of our homebound church members we name in our hearts.

We extend our sympathies to the family of Jane Wylie who passed away July 21. Her funeral was held on July 24.

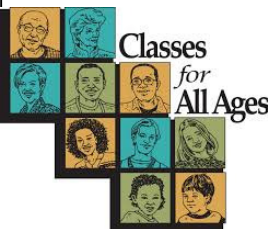
Sympathy is also extended to Myrna Hagemann on the passing of her brother, Everett Lundin on July 19.



**IT'S PICNIC TIME!!!!**

The annual church picnic will be held later this year on Sunday, September 7, 2014. The picnic will be

held at Alpine Park in shelter #2, across from the playground. It will begin at noon and we will start serving food around 12:30 pm. Please bring a dish to pass. Hamburgers, brats, hotdog, lemonade, ice tea and tableware will be provided by the church. There will be a sign up for the picnic in the narthex. There will be general games provided along with Bingo and a Junk Food Walk (similar to a cake walk). If you have any questions, please ask a member of the Fellowship Committee. We look forward to seeing everyone



**RALLY DAY, SUNDAY  
SCHOOL AND ADULT  
FORUM RETURN - 9:30 -  
10:30 SEPTEMBER 7TH.  
DON'T MISS IT.**

**WORSHIP SERVICES RETURN TO 8:15 AND  
10:45 AM.**



RAFFLE BASKET  
AND SILENT AUCTION  
ITEMS

Please bring your donations to

church on or before August 10<sup>th</sup>. Completed Baskets are welcome, or your items can be brought in and we'll arrange them for display. Items can be left in the secretary's office during the week or brought Sunday mornings. Please fill out a donation form so we know whom to thank. Thank you to those who have brought in Basket or Auction item already. Questions, please call Kay Brindle, (815) 979-0490.



HOSPITALITY  
HOSTS NEEDED

Having a time of informal conversation so that long-time and new members can

chat informally is invaluable to the life of congregation and a cup of coffee and a nibble or two makes it happen. Hosts make the coffee and hot water for tea, provide the simple goodies, set the service table and clean up afterwards. There are dates open in August for this ministry. We encourage members to partner and host together. Committees and fellowship groups can also host a Sunday. To sign up, please add your name to the sheet on the Hospitality Table.

*Wednesday morning Bible Study resumes September 3rd at 10 am in Shepherd's Hall. We will again be studying the lectionary for the following Sunday.*

## HELPING HANDS CANCER BENEFIT

Helping 2 members of Shepherd of the Valley  
struggling to meet financial needs  
while battling cancer.

August 17, 2014



4:00pm to 8:00pm

SM & SF Club

1010 Sandy Hollow Road

Dinner served from 4:30 pm—6:00 pm  
Spaghetti with Meatball /Sausage  
Italian Salad & Garlic Bread  
(Cash Bar for all drinks)

32" Insignia LED TV  
Door Prize drawn at 6:00 pm  
(Need not be present to win)

DJ Mike



Raffle Baskets \* Silent Auction

50/50 \* Bake Sale



Tickets \$10.00 each

For tickets or more information call  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church 815-399-5503

Benefit sponsored by  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church &  
North Winnebago County Chapter IL, Thrivent Financial

### HELPING HANDS CANCER BENEFIT

Get your tickets NOW! Deadline to buy tickets is Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets are \$10 per person. Tickets can be purchased Sunday mornings before and after worship, through the church office (815-399-5503), or from Janette Erickson (815-262-3477).

To see some of the donations that we have received, check the church's Facebook page from our website [www.shep61.org](http://www.shep61.org) and click on "Facebook."

**MISSIONARY PRAYER LIST:**



Please look at the Missionary Prayer chart on the mission table. Sign up for one or more days when you will remember our Stubbs family with prayers. Remember to contribute to their support; envelopes are in your giving packets.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Financial results as of June 30, 2014 and Year End totals

	C & B Actual	C & B Budget	C & B Yr End Actual	C & B Yr End Budget
Income	\$18,570.92	\$15,046.00	\$90,225.73	\$88,760.00
Expense	\$17,217.07	\$15,446.76	\$104,689.34	\$97,481.57
Inc/exp plus offsets plus interest	\$1,353.85	-\$400.76	-\$14,463.61	-\$8,721.57
	\$2,751.85	\$500.00	\$9,771.43	\$2,185.00
	\$0.77	\$0.41	\$4.45	\$2.49
Net income	\$4,106.47	\$99.65	-\$4,687.73	-\$6,534.08

	6/30/14	5/31/14
C&B balance	\$1,203.29	(\$2,903.18)

	Building Actual	Building Budget	Bld Yr End Actual	Bld Yr End Budget
Income	\$2,483.00	\$2,088.00	\$12,680.00	\$11,952.00
Expense	\$2,257.40	\$2,257.40	13,519.40	13,544.40
Net inc/exp	\$225.60	-\$169.40	-\$839.40	-\$1,592.40

	6/30/14	5/31/14
Building fund balance	\$21,038.75	\$20,813.15

Please note: Financials run one month behind in the bulletin  
 Also note: The second installment cost \$4600 and we have paid \$1344 of this bill as of 6/30/14  
 Balance on our mortgage - \$323747.56



**SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY PRESCHOOL**

Registration for the 2014-2015 school year at Shepherd of the Valley preschool is now open. The 3-year-olds meet on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30—11:00 am. Tuition is \$75 a month. The 4-year-olds meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:30—noon and tuition is \$120 per month. There is a \$65 non refundable deposit. A \$10 per month discount is offered for members of Shepherd of the Valley. For more information or to schedule a tour of our preschool, call 815-397-5880 or email preschool@shep61..org.

**Statistics based on the 4 weeks June 29-July 20:**

- Average weekly worship attendance: 96
- Average weekly contributions:  
 Current & Benevolence— \$ 3490.09  
 Building Fund— \$ 467.25

**YOUTH: Upcoming Youth Connect Events:**

August 23: GPS Flapjack Fundraiser and hike at Rock Cut  
 September: Hayride  
 October: Turkey Trot  
 November: Mission and Music



Dates for BINGO at Rosewood from 2-3pm:

August 17                      September 14  
 October 12                    November 2  
 December 7

Please come and help if you can!

ARE YOU READING THIS SUMMER? Don't forget to check out a book from your church library. New titles will be added to the shelves on the south side of the library.

**PEW BIBLES** We are selling our extra pew Bibles on Sundays for \$15.00.

**SENIOR NEWS** There will be no Senior luncheon during the summer months.



**DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY CLASS** will be offered again in September. We all need a plan for our money. **Financial Peace University** (FPU) is that plan! It teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. Dave Ramsey will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend & save wisely, and much more! Cost is only \$93.00. Classes begin September 14 here at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church and will run for 9 weeks. Classes begin at 6:00 pm and will end at 8:00 pm. For more information and to register please visit <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locations/org/45781/class/258108>



**Prayer Square Ministry**

Recently our congregation started making "Prayer Squares" for members and family in need of extra prayers. These fifteen and a half inch beautiful square quilts have extra-long "ties" for people to tie a knot and say a prayer for the recipient, allowing the recipient to actually feel the prayers being said for him or her.

If you have experience with quilting, WE NEED YOUR HELP in making these prayer squares. Help is also needed to print on the fabric presentation labels and to hand-stitch a blanket stitch around the label to secure it to the back of the square.

If you or someone you know in the congregation would like to receive a prayer square please let Pastor Wold or the church office know. Thank you.

PROVIDE A RIDE MINISTRY

Sometimes people cannot get to church on Sunday's because of their age or health who are unable to drive to church, but would very much like to attend worship. There are many ways we can reach out to help those who need assistance. Members who have an extra seat in their car could provide the wonderful gift of transportation to and from church for someone. Are you able to provide a ride to someone to attend worship? Sign up for this ministry on the Kiosk in the narthex.



Why not share your time or talents with your church. Our Handbell Choir needs more members.

Please consider joining our group. All you need is some knowledge of music and we'll train you how to play. Our group is getting too small, which makes it very difficult to select quality music. Call Diane Kirkland at 815-621-3118 or the church office for more information.



SEPTEMBER 3RD  
 BELLS AT 6:00 PM  
 CHOIR AT 7:30 PM





Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (ELCA)  
2715 S. Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61109  
Phone: 815-399-5503 E-mail: svlcsecretary@att.net

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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

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## WE'RE ON THE WEB

[WWW.SHEP61.ORG](http://WWW.SHEP61.ORG)

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### Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday  
8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

### Church Council

Nevagay Abel, Youth  
Vicki Nitz, Preschool  
Kay Brindle, Outreach  
Carol Dahl, Fin. Sec.  
Janette Erickson, Fellowship  
Bruce Pearson, Property  
Robert Maness, Finance  
Sally Schrader, Christ. Ed.  
Axandra Smalley, Youth  
Phil Smalley, Treasurer  
Bruce Solko, Personnel  
Rhoda Fox Soc. Min.  
Bev Wacker, Worship/Music  
John Wolf, Stewardship  
Terri Woodcock, Sec.  
Pastor Janet Wold, President

### Staff

Rev. Janet Wold, Pastor  
Judi Fields, Sec.  
Lynn McWhirter, Accomp.  
Linda Longardner, Accomp.  
Phil Smalley, Treasurer  
Susie Smalley, Music Director  
Diane Kirkland, Bell Dir.  
Patte Lund, Christ. Ed.  
Carol Dahl, Fin. Sec.  
Peggy Wenstrom, Nursery Attendant  
Tabatha Scheider, Nursery Attendant  
Anita Ralston, Custodian

## SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will have a special congregational meeting on **Sunday, Sept. 14 at 9:30 a.m.** (between worship services). The purpose of this meeting is two-fold:

Receive an update from the Mission Planning Committee and the Kitchen Committee

Discuss and decide whether or not same gender marriages can take place at Shepherd of the Valley. As you may know, on June 1<sup>st</sup>, same gender couples can now be legally married in the state of Illinois. No one has approached us about performing a same gender marriage, but it makes sense to make a decision about whether this congregation will allow same gender marriages to happen in our sanctuary or if the pastor will be allowed to perform same gender weddings offsite (like in a park etc.) or not at all. Each congregation makes their own decisions about this matter – sample wedding policies from other congregations are available in the church office, if you are interested in reading them before the meeting. This vote will be done by written ballots.