

The Shepherd's Psalm



Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume XXVIII Issue 9

Our Mission Statement

Making Jesus Christ real in the midst of the city.

Our Purpose Statement

God's purpose for our church is...to be a spirit-led, Christ-centered community of love, grace, and trust that ministers to all.

6 Guiding Biblical Principles

- Jesus is Lord!
- Grace is freely given to all.
- We joyfully share the Gospel in word and action.
- We welcome everyone with open doors and open hearts.
- The world needs the gifts we have each been given.
- We trust God to show us the way.

Congregation Council

Officers

Ruth Truman, President
Mark Francis, Vice Pres.
Christel Scherff, Sec'y.
Dennis Dahlen, Treas.

Other members:

Chad Gestson
Camy Goebel-Rush
Robin Henderson
Paul Lennarson
Roger Ottaway
Ron Pick
Ann Sueyoshi
Chris Walmsley

111 Days of Invitation

Dear partners in mission and ministry,

You are invited...

I hope these words are heard and said often at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church. As the people of God, we have been invited by our gracious God to be a part of a community of faith. We have been invited to join our voices with others who have also been invited to praise God in worship. **You are invited. I am invited. We are invited** to join our minds in the study of God's Word; our hearts in prayer for one another and the world; and our lives in service of God, the neighbor, and the creation. The invitation has been extended to each of us and we are encouraged to extend the invitation to others by God.

September 12th begins **111 Days of Invitation** for our congregation that will close with the end of the calendar year on December 31st. During this time, we will intentionally focus our attention and mission on some of the many invitations we receive in scripture to live out our lives as disciples and followers of the crucified and risen Christ. We will reflect on what difference it makes that we have heeded Jesus' invitation and command, "Follow me." Together, we will look at passages that invite us to worship, study, service, and fellowship.

One of the companions on our 111-day journey will be the words of the 111th Psalm which praise God for loving and merciful ways:

Praise the Lord!

*I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.*

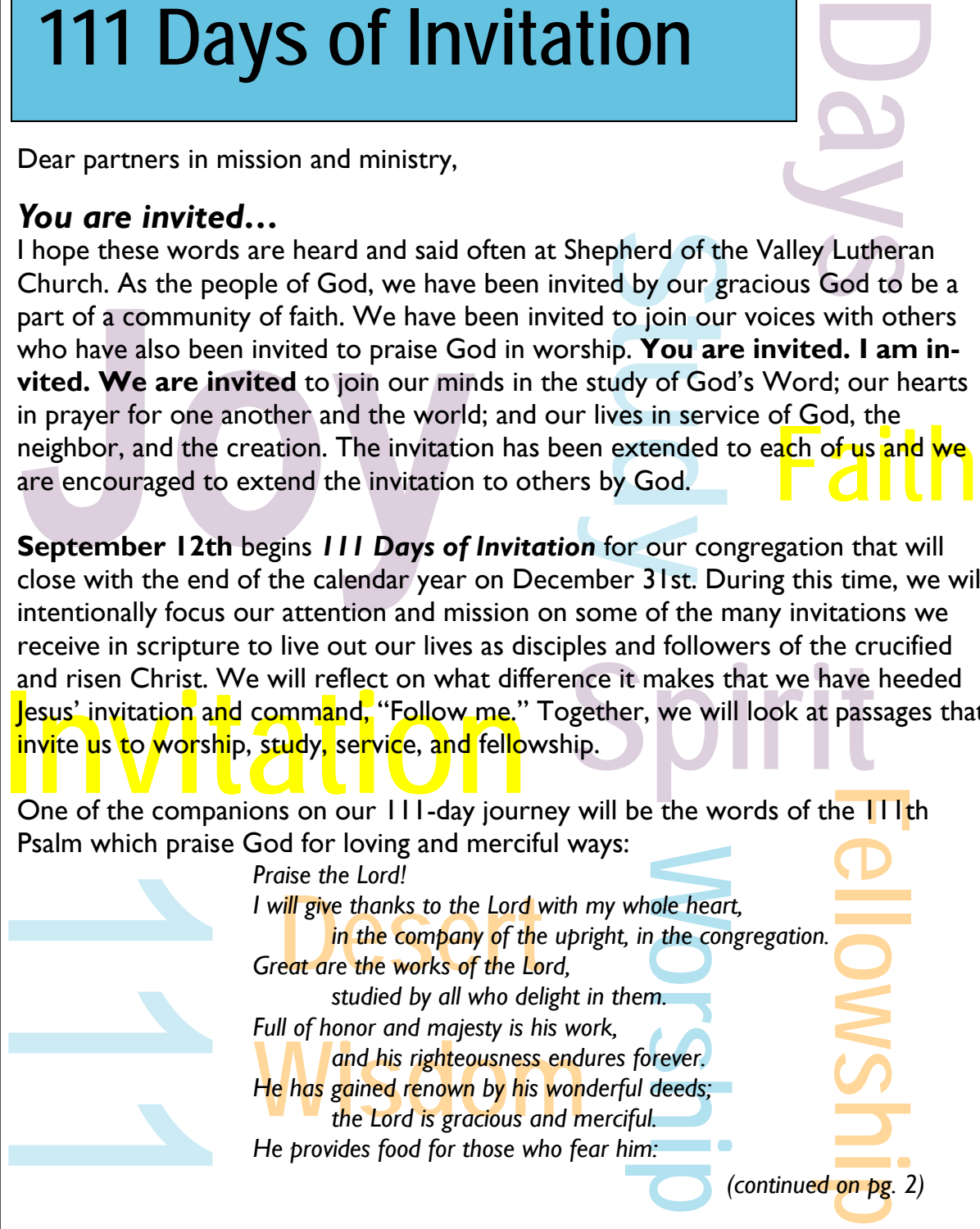
*Great are the works of the Lord,
studied by all who delight in them.*

*Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.*

*He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the Lord is gracious and merciful.*

He provides food for those who fear him:

(continued on pg. 2)



The Shepherd's Psalm

III DAYS OF INVITATION (continued from pg. 1)

*he is ever mindful of his covenant.
 He has shown his people the power of his works,
 in giving them the heritage of the nations.
 The works of his hands are faithful and just;
 all his precepts are trustworthy.
 They are established forever and ever,
 to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
 He sent redemption to his people;
 he has commanded his covenant forever.
 Holy and Awesome is his name.
 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
 all those who practice it have a good understanding.
 His praise endures forever.*

You are invited...

- > To worship > To study God's word
- > To practice the presence of God in your daily life
- > To join with fellow congregational members and residents
 in the neighborhood for times of fellowship and sharing
- > To serve one another, those in need, and the creation.

*May the God who calls us and invites us to follow and become his disciples strengthen and bless us for ministry.
 Remember, **you are invited!***

Pastor Adrienne Heskin
 Senior Pastor, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

SCOTT'S CORNER...

Garden Hoses and Vacuum Cleaner Cords

I live in a townhouse and have a small yard that I have to water by hand. Therefore, every week I get out my hose and drag it around. Every time I do that it looks at me and smiles because it knows we are in for a tussle. Hoses love this challenge. As I begin to drag it around, it looks for the first opportunity it has to snag itself and goes there immediately. I am stuck. I whip the hose around in an effort to un snag it, but it won't let go. Ultimately I have to go back to the place where it is snagged and pry it loose. So we start in again, only to repeat the same torture.

I have the same experience with vacuum cleaner cords. They can stick themselves to anything! I can whip them around and they won't let go. They love to challenge me.

I have decided that hoses and cords are metaphors for life. Just think how often we get stuck or snagged and we try the easy way out to get free. However, we have to go back to the source of the snag to get loose. Living is not easy. It often is a tussle. How thankful we are that God walks with us in the struggles.

Pastor Scott Haasarud

EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF SOV

FIRST SUNDAY BREAKFAST, sponsored by Milestones Ministry, will be in Burns Hall on Rally Day, September 12th.

MAGIC MOUNTAIN TRIP 7th-12th grade youth start the program year with some excitement! Join us as we drive to Magic Mountain Sat., Sept. 25th (**leaving SOV at 3:00 a.m.**) We'll spend the day at Magic Mountain, spend the night at Ascension Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks, CA, and attend worship there Sunday morning. Return to SOV will be 4:00 p.m. Sept. 26th. Cost is \$98 due to Wendy Harman by Sept. 8th (includes ticket, travel, and food).

BOOK OF FAITH—ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Open Scripture. Join the Conversation. All adults age 10th grade and up are invited to meet in the Conference Room with Pastor Adrienne on Wednesday nights beginning September 29th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. to dig deeper into our book of faith, the Bible.

FESTIVAL CHOIR RETURNS!



Rehearsals commence on Wed., Sept. 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Music Center. Come on, people! You sang in a high school or college choir and you need to keep that voice going. The Festival Choir is a wonderful group of people who love to sing, worship the Lord, celebrate what Christ has done in their lives, and who love Shepherd of the Valley. Be like Noah and **“get on board”**. Studies have shown repeatedly that people who sing in choir are happier than the general population. Get happy and get your voice moving again. **JOIN US! YOU ARE INVITED!**

LITURGICAL DRAMA TEAM'S LIVING NATIVITY If you are interested in helping with publicity, costumes, cast sign-ups, or back-stage help for our annual Living Nativity Drama please consider joining our Liturgical Drama Team on the first Tuesdays of September, October, November and December from 7:00-8:00p.m. in the Faith and Learning Center.

ACOLYTE MINISTRY We need acolytes and crucifers for our traditional worship service beginning September 19th. Ages 5th grade and up are welcome. Consider acolyting as a family unit. A schedule of dates for signing up will be available at the Ministry Fair. Please contact Camy Rush with questions or to sign-up.

CHRISTCARE GROUP “ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT” will begin again starting Sept. 9th at 1:00 p.m. at Juanita Thompson's home. We follow the Daily Discipleship Study for the current week. Join us! For questions, call Juanita, 602.246.8038.

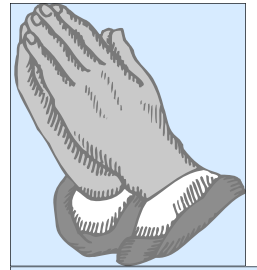
JUBILATE BELL CHOIR will begin rehearsals Wed., Sept. 15th promptly at 6:15 p.m. in the Sanctuary. **We would love new ringers** and so, have changed to Wednesday practices when you are on campus anyway!

Come ring to the Lord!

Here are some basic guidelines:

- Do not need to be able to read music—only the ability to count to four (well, sometimes six).
- No need to invest hours in practicing every week—only forty minutes at rehearsals.
- All you need is a joy in the Lord and a desire to share it with the congregation. Choir members, why not sing and ring!?!

Contact Jo Cleland at jvcleland@cox.net or 602.944.4313.



Dial-A-Prayer

602-249-1991

A daily devotion and prayer are only a telephone call away...



ELECTRONIC GIVING

We encourage members to sign up for online giving. It's easy, convenient, automatic, and takes the worry out of getting your offering to the church if you're traveling. Call the office for details, 602.249.1936

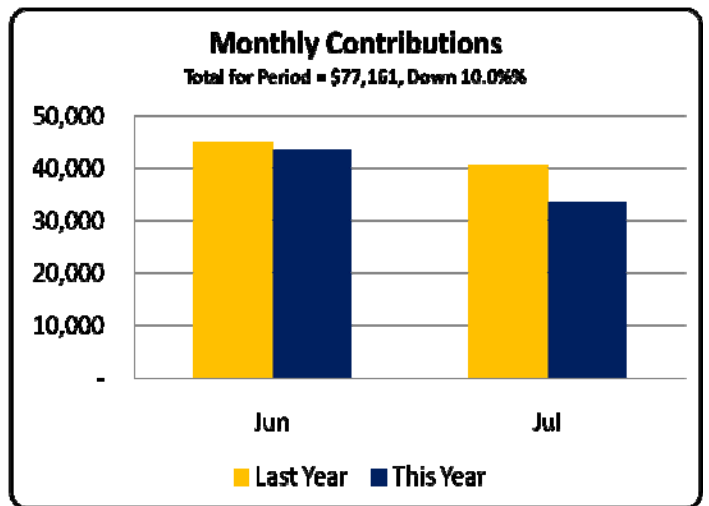
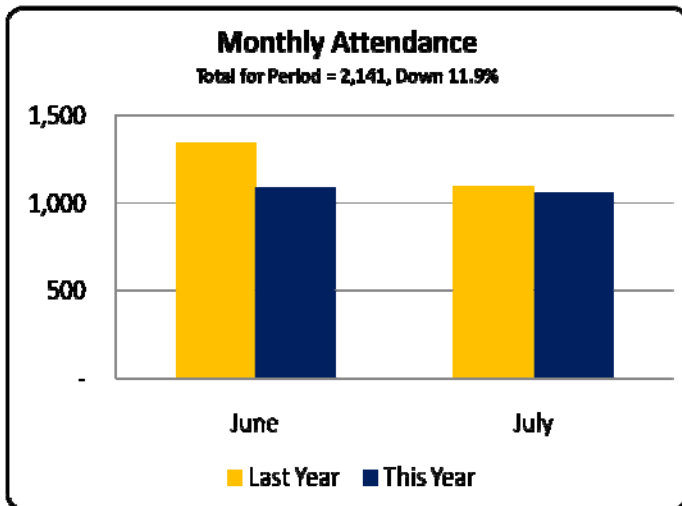
The Shepherd's Psalm

TREASURER'S REPORT Period: Two Months Ended July 31, 2010

We're two months into our new fiscal year – the first one with new June 1 to May 31 dates – and so far we are close to our budget and plans. Summer months are always light in giving and while programming is also light, many of our costs continue. As a result, we consistently run deficits in the summer months and this summer is no exception. For the first two months of this fiscal year, we have a deficit of \$(17,307), just slightly worse than the budget of \$(15,047).

We are conserving cash to avoid any short term borrowing but are investing in necessary repairs and improvements to the parking lot, air conditioners, and lighting. We have received an insurance settlement for the water damage to the pipe organ and are considering our options with regard to rebuilding or repairing it. Above all, we look forward to this fall and a new year of programming with a new pastor. It continues to be my privilege to serve this congregation as your Treasurer and I thank you for your support.

Dennis Dahlen
Treasurer



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY—FALL 2010



Sunday School -

Are you ready to activate faith?

All children age 3 through 6th grade are invited to attend Spark Sunday School beginning Sunday, September 19th @ 9:38-10:38a.m.

Spark empowers kids' creativity and imagination as they explore Scripture through exciting activities that reinforce the very same lessons they will hear in worship each Sunday. At the end of each lesson, children will be given a "Family Page" with discussion and activity ideas for you to continue faith formation at home.

Pre-Kdg. and Kdg. in Room 7

3rd and 4th Grade in Room 9

1st and 2nd Grade in Room 8

5th and 6th Grade in Room 10

Bibles for Third Graders

Third grade children and their parents are invited to meet in the Conference Room from 6:30-8:00p.m. on Sept. 15th and Sept. 22nd to walk through the Bible with Pastor Adrienne. Bibles will be presented to children during worship on September 26th.

Faithweaver Friends - Kids' Club

Bible stories, projects, games, snacks, and more for children in Kindergarten through 6th grade.



**Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00p.m.
in the Faith and Learning Center
September 15th-December 8th**

Children's Choirs - Wednesdays, Sept. 15th - Dec. 8th

Seraphim Choir (4th-6th grades) will meet in the Music Center with Mark Francis from 6:00-6:30p.m. They will sing at both services on the second Sunday of each month beginning in October, and also participate in the December Christmas program on December 12th.

Cherubim Choir (Kdg-3rd grades) will meet with Brenda Goodenberger in the Library from 6:00-6:30p.m. They will sing at the Contemporary service on the third Sunday of October and November, and also participate in the December Christmas program on December 12th.



Children's Worship Bags

At the end of each children's sermon during the Contemporary service, worship bags will be handed out to the children to take back to their seats. The worship bags will have a book, children's bulletin, crayons, small snack, etc. Please return the reusable items, such as bags, books, and crayons to the baskets in the Narthex as you leave worship. Thank you!

The Shepherd's Psalm

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT-A-GLANCE: Programs begin September 15th

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Dinner (entire family) 5:30-6:30p.m. in Burns Hall

Cherubim Choir (Kdg-3rd grades) 6:00-6:30p.m. in the Library

Seraphim Choir (4th-6th grades) 6:00-6:30p.m. in the Music Center

Youth Praise Choir (7th-12th grade) 6:00-6:30p.m. in the Youth Center

Kids' Club (Kdg-6th grades) 6:30p.m.-8:00p.m. in the Faith and Learning Center

Confirmation (7th-9th grade) 6:30p.m.-8:00p.m. in the Youth Center
(10th-12th graders are encouraged to participate as guides in Confirmation or Kids' Club)

3rd Grade Bible Class (3rd graders and parents) 6:30-8:00p.m. in the Conference Room
(Sept. 15th and 22nd only)

Adult Bible Study (10th grade and up) 6:30-8:00p.m. in the Conference Room
(Adult Bible Study begins September 29th)

Jubilate Bells (All ages) 6:15-6:55p.m. in the Sanctuary

Adult Festival Choir (College and up) 7:00-8:30p.m. in the Music Center

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION

For all 7th-9th grade youth and their parents

Wednesday, September 8th

In Burns Hall

6:00-7:30p.m.

Please bring \$75 to register for our Fall Retreat in November
(scholarships are available)

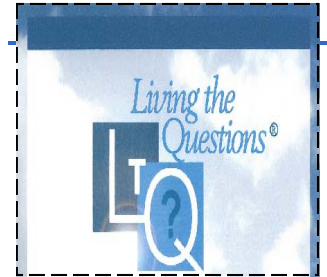
Confirmation is a three year program in which youth study the scriptures from a Lutheran perspective, learn what Lutherans believe, and build lasting relationships with other youth in order to claim their faith as their own by affirming their baptism.



LIVING THE QUESTIONS BEGINS > > >

Starting September 19th from 9:38-10:38 a.m., we will once again begin the adult series on Sunday mornings that we started last spring titled **Living the Questions**.

Living the Questions is an introduction to progressive Christianity. It is for open-minded folk who want to explore alternatives to studies that attempt to give all the answers. This series creates an environment where participants not only interact with one another in exploring the best of today's theological thought, but together, try to explore what is next for Christianity. Featuring thirty of today's leading religious voices, each segment begins with a twenty-minute video in which scholars are interviewed about different theological topics, followed by an open discussion of that day's topic. Discussions will be led by Pastor Scott, Donna Martin, and others.



SEPTEMBER TOPICS

19th—Debunking the Rapture
26th—Reclaiming the World



Pastor
EMERITUS

YOU ARE INVITED....

OCTOBER 17TH AT 8:30 A.M. AND 10:45 A.M. WORSHIP

Join us as we honor the faithful, dedicated, and creative ministries of two former Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church pastors—

~Pastor Dick Hamlin~

and

~Pastor Ken Larkin~

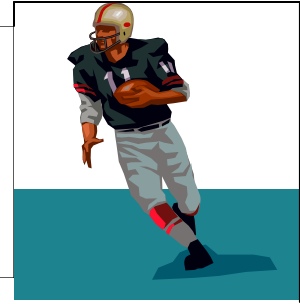
At both worship services we will bestow upon each of them the title, Pastor Emeritus. Between services there will be a reception in their honor. Spread the word to former parishioners and friends of SOV!

The Shepherd's Psalm

MEN'S MINISTRIES

SEPT. 10TH MEN'S KICK-OFF BAR-B-Q 7:00 P.M. AT KEN PETERSON'S Join us as we plan our men's ministry year together. Please bring a salad or side dish and beverage of choice.

➔ **RSVP TO KEN AT 602-222-6722**



OCT. 16TH ALL-MEMBER SOV WORK DAY 7:00 A.M.-NOON



OCT. 22ND-23RD MEN'S CAMP OUT AT LAKE PLEASANT Save the date! Details to follow.

SEPTEMBER MISSION of the MONTH: Lutheran Campus Ministries

Lutherans are one of only a few denominations that maintain presences on public university and college campuses, including three here in Arizona. Their contact information is listed below. If you know a student at any of these colleges, please help him/her connect with their Lutheran Campus Ministry.

A Lutheran Ministry on Campus...

is rooted in the gathered community that celebrates in Christ-centered worship, is challenged by scripture, enlightened by the Spirit, and informed by our confessional heritage and is connected with Christians in the wider world, committed to sharing faith more boldly and serving others as vocation is lived out to the glory of God's name.

Northern Arizona University

Lutheran Campus Ministry @ the Campus Ministry Center

Campus Pastor: Fritz Lampe

naulcm@gmail.com

www.naulcm.org

Arizona State University

University Lutheran Church

Campus Pastor: Gary McCluskey

campusministry@ulctempe.org

www.ulctempe.org

University of Arizona

Lutheran Campus ministry of the University of Arizona

Campus Pastor: Ron Rude

rhrude47@yahoo.com

website <http://www.lcm-ua.org>

WHAT IS CHRISTCARE?

Small group gatherings which provide a nurturing environment for:



- Exploring the Scriptures
- Experiencing Christian community
- Finding ways to share God's gifts

Morning, afternoon and evening groups are available. You may pick up a schedule in the office or for more information, contact Dick or Sharon Peterson at 602.841.7181



THE DESERT WISDOM SERIES NOV. 13TH-14TH, 2010



The Desert Wisdom Series continues as we welcome speaker, Dr. Diane Jacobson. Her topic will be *Were Not Our Hearts Burning Within Us? Reflections on the Journey of Faith*.

Dr. Jacobson serves as director of the Book of Faith Initiative for the ELCA, a five-year program launched in 2007. Its overall goal is to renew, enliven, and empower people for mission and service by inviting them to become more fluent in faith's first language—Scripture. Dr. Jacobson is also a professor emeritus of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in Saint Paul, Minnesota, where she taught from 1982-2010. A frequent speaker throughout the Church, she most recently co-authored *Opening the Book of Faith: Lutheran Insights for Bible Study* (2008), and served on the consulting board and contributed to the *Lutheran Study Bible* (2009). Jacobson is, first and foremost, a lover of Scripture. "I'm in love with this Book," she says. "My calling is to teach Scripture for the sake of God's world. My scholarship serves that larger purpose."

Using the road to Emmaus text in Luke 24, she will explore with us in November, some of the ways in which we encounter God in our life journeys. Her passion for the Scriptures, together with her insights, will captivate all of us, as they have countless Synod assemblies, lay schools of theology, and congregations.

Sessions on Saturday, Nov. 13th will be in the Chapel from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dr. Jacobson will also be preaching at all three services Nov. 13th and 14th, as well as leading the Adult Education Class from 9:38-10:38 a.m. on Sunday. Registration forms are available in the office.

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FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT

The SOV Fall Women's Retreat will take place October 22—24, 2010 at Emmanuel Pines Camp, Prescott. Our theme this year is "BECOMING REFLECTIONS OF GOD'S GLORY". Our retreat leader will be Nancy Berry.



Registration is \$75.00 and includes 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, fun, fellowship and rest in the beautiful pines of Prescott. Registration forms are available in the church office or you can contact Laura Cary at 623-214-3498 or LMC1255@msn.com to have a form emailed to you. The registration deadline is Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010. For carpooling information or further questions, call Pat Laudenschlager at 623-939-5235.



REGISTRATION FOR SOV WOMEN'S RETREAT

October 22—24, 2010

Name _____

Street Address _____

City and Zip Code _____

Phone and / or Email _____

FOR REGISTRAR'S USE: Date _____ Registered by: _____

Paid by Check No. _____ / Cash \$ _____

SUNDAY TEXTS...FOR SEPTEMBER



FIRST READING

5th Deuteronomy 30:15-20
12th Exodus 32:7-14
19th Amos 8:4-7
26th Amos 6:1a, 4-7

SECOND READING

Philemon 1-21
1 Timothy 1:12-17
1 Timothy 2:1-7
1 Timothy 6:6-19

GOSPEL

Luke 14:25-33
Luke 15:1-10
Luke 16:1-13
Luke 16:19-31

THE SHEPHERD'S GARDEN



We have had good response for volunteer gardeners; thank you so much! There is still work to be done and hope more people will join us.

Most of the projects on the list are simple and can be done at

any time fitting **your** schedule. Bring your own tools, or use the church's. No experience is necessary to participate, and we are always happy to train!

Someone is at (or in!) the garden on Saturday mornings from 6:00-9:00 a.m.

This month's projects are:

- Pruning rosemary to keep it growing low and spreading out (2 have been done;

2 need dead branches removed and cleaned out underneath)

- Spraying Roundup on weeds and unwanted grass around the Columbarium
- Preparing small areas around the north side of the office and around the Chapel to improve appearance
- Weeding, cleaning out lantana gardens in courtyard
- Starting 9/25, preparing iris for blooming season

SOV CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Telephone 602-249-1936

Office Fax Number 602-249-1983

Church Office Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Fri & Sun. 8:30 a.m.-Noon

Church Website www.sov.us

Office Email office@sov.us

SOV Preschool Telephone 602-242-4684

Church Staff - Clergy

Senior Pastor Adrienne Heskin - ext. 207,
pastoradrienne@sov.us

Pastor Scott Haasarud - Spiritual Director—602-265-2500
shaasarud@cox.net

Staff

Children, Youth and Family Ministry: Wendy Harman
ext. 223, wharman@sov.us

Church Administrator: Bill Vlcek ext. 210, bvlcek@sov.us

Communications: Carol Carpenter ext. 203, ccarpenter@sov.us

Pastor's Assistant/Scheduling: Penny Kitch ext. 208,
pkitch@sov.us

Exec. Sec. Shepherd's Foundation: LeAnn Ottaway ext. 211, lottaway@sov.us

Preschool Director: Donna Mund ext. 222, dmund@sov.us

The deadline for the October issue of the Shepherd's Psalm is September 22nd. Please e-mail your entries to ccarpenter@sov.us by 5:00 p.m. on that date.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
A member of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

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MINISTRY FAIR—September 12, 2010 Burns Hall



The Fair will be open to visitors starting at 9:00 a.m. until Noon
Breakfast/Brunch will be served.

What is a Ministry Fair?

If you've ever been to a trade show or job fair, you've seen an array of vendors at tables and/or booths. A ministry fair is much like that, where tables or booths are set up representing different ministry opportunities. Ministries showcase what they do, and describe the spiritual gifts that will help people serve the ministry.

How It Works

Every SOV ministry is invited to host a display that shares the Spiritual Gifts that their Ministry fosters. Church members and visitors visit each display they are interested in to see how they can get involved.

Door Prizes

Door prizes will be given out for the overall Ministry Fair. People who have visited at least 5 ministries will be entered to win.

