



LOVED BY GOD; LOVING OTHERS

Loved by God; Loving Others. Fed by God; Feeding Others.

May
2022

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8

We are nearing the time of weddings and it makes me think of a horrible mistake I almost made. I bought a painting by Alaskan artist Kelsey Fagan who hides words in her artwork. This was a lovely painting of the glacier and I thought it would be perfect for this couple and then my beloved pointed out the word etched on the glacier was “impermanence.” I’m all about reminding people that we all die or move, but that didn’t seem a reminder that people needed on the day they were making promises of faithfulness to each other.

Impermanence. We will celebrate confirmations and graduations in May. It doesn’t seem possible because these are the kids I’ve known since they were wee. I want to hold on just a little tighter, but instead the church will surround them with love and let them go.

We will wrap this crew in prayer shawls, prayers, love, and all kinds of questions about what they plan to do. We don’t mean to be annoying; we actually care. These next weeks will be full of blessings. We bless the graduates, the 8th graders, and then we will bless the garden, the columbarium and the bikes.

Jan Richardson, a Methodist pastor who wrote a beautiful book of blessings after her husband died unexpectedly, writes, “Within the struggle, joy, pain, and delight that attend our life, there is an invisible circle of grace that enfolds and encompasses us in every moment. Blessings help us to perceive this circle of grace, to find our place of belonging within it, and to receive the strength the circle holds for us.”

Blessings help us to perceive the circle of grace. It’s not magic, but it gives us a bigger picture and lets us release our children and our resources into the wider world where we have so little control.

Impermanence. It all changes and holding on or hiding doesn’t make things stay the same, it kills the spirit and joy of life. We get to have a relationship with Jesus who reveals love that never changes, a love that holds us and blesses us so we can have the courage to let go.

Peace,
Pastor Tari



Faith Formation at SOV

Beginning May 1st, we are taking a break from regular Sunday morning classes until the Fall. In the meantime, check out what else is happening at SOV. Faith is a journey that happens all year long!

What's Happening on Sundays in May

Sunday Worship—Join us at 9:30 a.m. The Zoom invite for worship is published in the weekly church email. Sunday Worship is in-person and on Zoom. Masks are encouraged, but currently not required.

Sunday Hikes—1:30 p.m., May 1, 8, 15, and 22—Meet at church and carpool to the trail. Trail dependent on weather and who is hiking. This is a great way to reconnect and welcome guests into an adventure.

Confirmation & High School Grad Recognition on May 1—We celebrate our graduates and confirmands and there will be cake. Confirmands Braith Dihle and Aaron Doten-Ferguson will affirm their baptisms during worship. See page 5 for more about our incredible high school graduates.

Mother's Day on May 8—We celebrate the women in our lives who nurture us. Brunch after worship.

Congregational Meeting on May 15—Immediately following worship, a congregational meeting to discuss the driveway move, summer lunch, and the columbarium.

Summer Lunch Training on May 22—At 11 a.m., training for summer lunch volunteers and staff

Litter Free Trash Pick-Up in the Neighborhood on May 29—Immediately following worship we will pick up trash in our neighborhood. The more the merrier! All funds raised will go to Ukraine relief.

What's Happening Other Days of the Week

Small Group Devotions

Chat about the Bible and/or life in general.

8:30 a.m. Sundays. They meet in-person at SOV. Sometimes they make breakfast.

9 a.m. Fridays. Meet in-person at SOV or join us on Zoom. Friday devotions will take a break in June, July, and August.

Yoga & Midday Reflection (in-person at SOV)

11 a.m., Wednesdays, May 4, 11, 18, and 25. Meet for 20 minutes of beginner's yoga and then a devotion.

Mom's Group (in-person at SOV)

Let's gather at 6 p.m., Tuesday, May 17. Pastor Tari will introduce the "Parents and Caregivers as Sexual Educators" curriculum and we'll catch up. Plan on a potluck dinner and there won't be any childcare.

Glory Hole Meatloaf

We cook and serve on Wednesday, May 18. Watch for the sign-up sheet for time and food donations.

Book Club at Forbidden Peak

Please join us for lively discussion at Forbidden Peak at 6 p.m., Friday, May 20. The book for May is *How Green Was My Valley*. It's set in Wales and is described as "Huw Morgan remembers the days when his home valley was prosperous, verdant, and beautiful—before the mines came to town. The youngest son of a respectable mining family in South Wales, he is now the only one left in the valley, and his reminiscences tell the story of a family and a town both defined and ruined by the mines. The story is both joyful and heartrending—a portrait of a place and a people existing now only in memory."

Middle and High School Adventure

We are tentatively planning a day of kayaking and high ropes at Eagle Valley Adventure Center on Tuesday, May 31. Stay tuned for more details.



Summer Lunch (see poster on page 4)

We are getting ready for another fabulous summer! The program begins on Monday, June 6.

There are some changes to summer lunch this year. We no longer qualify for USDA lunch reimbursement, but we are able to have a “normal” summer lunch with the generosity of Benito and Frances C. Gaguine Foundation and the Alaska Community Foundation.

There will be some new things. We no longer need to count meals and adhere to a strict meal plan. Our menu will stay basically the same, but we won’t need quite the amount of administrators. The grant provides for one full-time person who will oversee summer lunch, shopping, day camp, food pantry, and residential camp. Council has discussed with Hannah Harvey about serving in this position.

There is also funding for a volunteer recruiter and coordinator (20 hours at \$18) and an activities director (20 hours at \$18).

Online registration for youth, day campers, volunteers, and staff will soon be available. Corbin Corson, Camdyn Landvik, Elijah Harvey, Lauren Stichert, Sven Rasmussen, and Adella Dihle are returning as guides this year.

Staff is expected to have a food handlers’ card and do training in sexual abuse prevention and conflict management.

Training for volunteers and staff will be in-person at 11 a.m., Sunday, May 22 at SOV.

Bike Rodeo at SOV

Our annual kick-off for Summer Lunch! The Bike Rodeo is at 4 p.m., Sunday, June 5. We are looking for bigger bikes that don’t require any maintenance and we will need lots of volunteers to help.



An Update about the Ireland and Wales Pilgrimage of Healing

Please keep the following people in your prayers as they prepare for a time of reflection and healing together: August Kiessling, Becky Corson, Braden Jenkins, Chris Wallace, Christy Wallace, Corbin Corson, Dan Corson, Deb Tempel, Denny Corson, Eileen Hosey, Elijah Harvey, Hannah Harvey, Ilya Wallace, Julie Jenkins, Katherine Andrews, Kirt Stage-Harvey, Kristina Abbott, Erin Wallace, Lisa Wallace, Mark Kiessling, Rosemary Kiessling, Sam Kiessling, Savona Kiessling, Sophia Harvey, Theresa Ross, Tari Stage-Harvey, Whitney Hall, and Liam Kiessling.

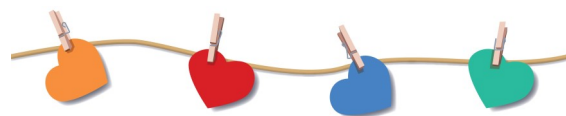
This crew will travel June 7-June 21. Sister Kelly Marciales will be at Shepherd of the Valley during this time. She joined us last year during Pastor Tari’s sabbatical and we look forward to her return. Pastor Tari’s friend from high school, Cyndi Buckley, and her daughter Josette will be staying at the Stage-Harvey’s and helping with summer lunch. Please help them all feel welcome.

Spring Rummage Sale

Exciting news! We’ve got a rummage sale scheduled 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, May 14.

With increased prices for the trip and a very successful rummage sale last year, the crew has decided to host another rummage sale. Half of the proceeds will go to Ukraine relief and half to help with pilgrimage expenses.

Got stuff? We will gratefully accept your donations of gently used items to sell (no adult clothes or outdated electronics, please). Drop your items off at church from Sunday, May 8 to Thursday, May 12.





Summer Lunch 2022
Monday-Friday, June 6-August 5
at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
Lunch served 12:30-1:00. Games & Activities from 12-1:30

Summer Lunch is happening and begins June 6th. Kids ages 18 and younger are invited to drop in for lunch and activities from Noon to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The church is located at 4212 Mendenhall Loop Road. Call us at 789-4093 if you have questions. This is a drop in program, not childcare. Register [here for summer lunch](#). Registration is not necessary, but very helpful.

What to Expect this Summer:

- If your child is not feeling well or has cold or flu-like symptoms, please keep them at home.
- Some distancing and good ventilation inside
- Lots of amazing food, games for all ages, and work in the garden

Schedule:

Noon –12:30 p.m. Check-in time. Games and activities before lunch.
 12:30—1 p.m. Lunch is served. Games and activities as youth finish.
 1:30 pm Staff and Volunteers head home

Menu:

Monday Tacos or Sloppy Joes
 Tuesday Chicken Day
 Wednesday Noodles
 Thursday Breakfast and Fruit Day
 Friday Sandwiches & Pizza

Meals are provided free of charge through the generosity of the Benito and Frances C. Gaguine Foundation and the Alaska Community Foundation.

Volunteers help us keep costs down. If you are interested in volunteering, please fill out [this survey](#) or email the church

Background checks will be run and we will pay for a food handlers' card.

Need a Bike? Or a Bike Buddy?

Outdoor bike rodeo will be **Sunday, June 5 from 4-5:30 pm**. There will be bike repair, bike swap, a safety course, and free helmets.

Does your younger child need a little guidance riding his or her bike to Summer Lunch? Bike buddies are older youth that at scheduled times meet younger kids in the neighborhoods around the church, and bike with them to and from Summer Lunch. Call the church office if interested.

Day Camp!

New this year is an additional time for 3rd-6th graders to participate in science experiments, cooking, gardening, crafts and play.

This is limited to the first 20 to register and will occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30-3 pm beginning June 28

[Day Camp Registration](#)

Register at the bike rodeo or on-line at www.sovlutheran.org



You can access the registration and survey links located in the Summer Lunch poster at the SOV website: www.sovlutheran.org

Congratulations to our High School Graduates!

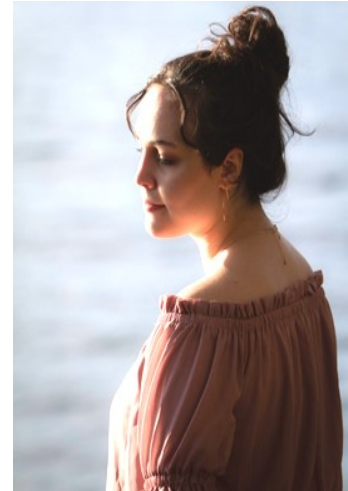
Keep the following crew of young adults in your prayers as they move forward toward new adventures.



Xandor Beck is attending the University of Alaska-Southeast to get an Associates degree.



Kiah Dihle is attending the University of Portland to pursue a degree in nursing.



Kayleigh Newport is attending Western Oregon University to study early childhood development and education



Maya Ross is attending Whitworth University to study biology and focus on the conservation of global wildlife.



Ilya Wallace is attending the University of Alaska-Anchorage to get a degree and certification in Auto Tech. His ultimate dream is to travel as a mechanic with a Formula 1 race team.



Dani Witt is attending Western Oregon University and studying psychology with the plan to go on to counseling.



I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9



Congregational News

Land Swap and Driveway Move

The land swap, drainage, and moving the driveway are all connected. The survey and plans for the project are available in the annual report. There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, May 15 following worship to discuss the driveway move with an estimated project completion date of October 2023. A budget will be presented.

Council is recommending the driveway move for the following reasons:

- * Safety.
- * Original plan when church was built.
- * Cost effective.
- * Allow better use of land where existing driveway is located.
- * Drainage.

Church Budget

The winter took a huge toll on personal budgets and the church budget. We had to do \$29,565 in building maintenance in 2021 plus:

- * Plowing the driveway for all of 2021 was \$4625; for three months in 2022 it's \$4225.
- * Shoveling the roof was \$2500.
- * Drainage pipe was \$3500.
- * Oil for 2021 was \$4766; for three months in 2022 it's \$4865.

Part of the budget for 2022 was an attempt to move the pastor's salary closer to synod guidelines. This has placed a strain on finances.

We are still doing okay, but we are no longer operating with much of a buffer. The mortgage will be paid off in August so that will help us save for building repair!

If you are able to pledge or give consistently that helps us live within our means. If you are able to give a little extra this spring to help recover from winter that would also be incredibly helpful. You may sign up for automatic deductions through our website www.sovlutheran.org under "Giving" or talk to Gail Fenumiai.

Church Clean-up Saturday

The Property Management Committee encourages us to participate in spring cleaning from 8 a.m. to Noon, Saturday, May 7. Join us to get the yard and building ready for summer. We need at least a dozen people so the work it isn't overwhelming.

Scholarship for Christian Service and Education

Applications are available at church and on the website under ministries. They are due July 6. These are open to any who are in higher education and seek to live out their faith in their vocation. Thank you to Joy Will, Dean Rasmussen and Michelle Weaver for serving on the committee. Please consider giving to the scholarship fund to boost our account back up closer to \$5000. We are currently around \$2500.

Columbarium Update

The columbarium will ship on May 9 and arrive sometime late May. Our goal is to have it installed by Pentecost (June 5). We can start having services to intern ashes after Sunday, June 26. Please talk to Pastor Tari to arrange a date. We still need around \$2000 to do all the site work for its installation. If you have considered purchasing a niche, now is the time.

Potluck with Breakthrough Church

Our friends at Breakthrough Church would love to share a potluck dinner with us at 5:30 p.m., Saturday, May 28. They worship in our building on Saturday evenings.

A summary description from their Facebook page: *We are an interdenominational church with people from all sorts of backgrounds. We are affiliated with International Christian Leadership Connections, a network of leaders and churches from over 75 countries. The name "Breakthrough" stems from their belief everyone has potential to make an impact in helping, serving, relationships, or anything else. They want to see people breakthrough into more than they thought was possible.*

Summary of AK Synod Assembly 2022

Thank you to Pastor Tari and our SOV delegates, Sue Trivette and Eileen Hosey, for attending this year's Alaska Synod Assembly. The trio attended workshops, meetings, and prayer services via Zoom (the Assembly was all virtual this year). Eileen wrote and shared a thoughtful summary about her experience and what was covered at the Assembly. You can find it under "News" on our website www.sovlutheran.org.

Nigerian Student Sponsorship

A huge thank you from Nigeria! We were able to send nearly \$3000 to support 62 students in Nigeria. Our friend Nuwayina sent us these photos of the students. You may continue to give and we will continue to send money when it is available to help offset school fees for the young people there. Make sure your donations are designated “Nigeria.”



A Prayer for the Students in Nigeria:

Gracious God, thank you for the gift of knowledge! We praise you that you provide us with brains to think and question the world around us. We pray you would help these students learn well and flourish. May they discover their unique talents and giftings. Give them a passion for the world around them. Watch over them in every area of their life and keep them safe. Amen.

Let the Blessings Overflow

Good News and Celebrations in May



Anniversaries

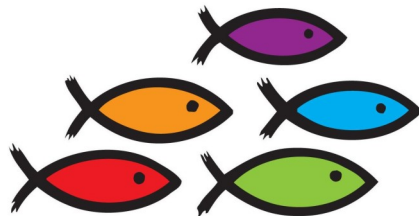
9	Jon & Alice Gates
14	Bob & Cindy Stevenson
15	Bob & Beverly Varness
29	Mark & Andy Peterson

Baptismal Birthdays

1	Linda Shaw
1	Beverly Varness
4	Katherine Fritsch
4	Meredith Fritsch
5	Philis Beran
5	Amos Kissel
5	Heather Robertson
8	Mark Carls
8	Steve Carls
8	Adam Doten-Ferguson
8	Meilani Doten-Ferguson
10	Linda Landvik
12	Kennedy Love
15	Jeff Jenkins
15	Marie Kanan
17	Rick Fritsch
19	Julie Jenkins
19	Jennifer Pegues
20	Xandor Beck
25	Sven Rasmussen

Birthdays

3	Savona Kiessling
3	Jack Morgen
5	Gene Morgen
5	Melissa Fritsch
6	Sven Rasmussen
8	Morgan Pegues
9	Denny Corson
10	Becky Corson
10	Jack Pegues
12	Ali Witt
14	Jon Gates
14	Tyler Weldon
17	Kyle Reilly
17	Brady Newport
20	Mark Kissel
22	Meagan Hinton
25	John Foster
28	Andy Peterson
30	Lauri Walton



You're Not Alone.

Please reach out by phone or through the link on the website to schedule a visit with the pastor or any of our life coaches. We have six life coaches who are trained to walk with people during stagnant times when they are trying to figure out what happens next, overwhelming times, or even to check in during normal times.

Newsletter Sponsorship

If you are interested in sponsoring a month of the newsletter in honor or celebration of something or someone, let us know. The suggested donation is \$100. Call or email the church to let us know which month you would like to sponsor and any wording you want included.

Glacier Bible Camp: FISH

Yep—the theme is FISH. There are so many good fish stories in the Bible and just imagine the cool design on the camp t-shirt. Early registration is open NOW and ends on June 1st. Camp is for youth entering 5th grade and older, and happens from July 18-23. You may register and pay for camp at our website www.sovlutheran.org or by following this link:

<https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/5084348>



A Moment for Prayer

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, and shield the joyous; all for your love's sake. Amen. www.sundaysandseasons.com

Also, please keep in your prayers Alaska Synod Bishop Shelley Wickstrom; ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; and Pastor Tari Stage-Harvey.

2022 JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

www.free- printable-calendar.com



Food Pantry Hours

9-10 am on Saturdays (in person only)
Food Pantry Direct Line: 907-500-3588
 Deliveries available Wednesday evenings to homebound folks. Call the food pantry direct line for information.

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p><i>1</i></p> <p>830 am Devotions 930 am Worship w/ confirmation & high school recognition 1045 am Property Management Mtg 130 pm Hike (to Dan Moeller)</p>	<p><i>2</i></p>	<p><i>3</i></p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>11 am Yoga & Morning Meditation</p>	<p><i>5</i></p>	<p><i>6</i></p> <p>9 am Devotions</p>	<p><i>7</i></p> <p>8 am to Noon Spring Cleaning at Church 9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p><i>8</i></p> <p>830 am Devotions 930 am Worship 1045 am Mother's Day Brunch 130 pm Hike Folks can begin dropping rummage sale stuff at church</p>	<p><i>9</i></p>	<p><i>10</i></p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>11 am Yoga & Morning Meditation</p>	<p><i>12</i></p> <p>Please have all rummage sale donations to church by today!</p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>9 am Devotions</p>	<p><i>14</i></p> <p>7 am to 1 pm Rummage Sale 9-10 am Pantry</p>
<p><i>15</i></p> <p>830 am Devotions 930 am Worship 1045 am Congregational Mtg 130 pm Hike</p>	<p><i>16</i></p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>6 pm Moms Group</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>11 am Yoga & Morning Meditation SOV at Glory Hall 7 pm Council Mtg</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>9 am Devotions 6 pm Book Club</p>	<p><i>21</i></p> <p>9-10 am Pantry 1030 am Social Concerns Mtg</p>
<p><i>22</i></p> <p>830 am Devotions 930 am Worship 11 am Summer Lunch Training 130 pm Hike</p>	<p><i>23</i></p>	<p><i>24</i></p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>11 am Yoga & Morning Meditation</p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p> <p>9 am Devotions</p>	<p><i>28</i></p> <p>9-10 am Pantry 530 pm Potluck dinner with Break-through Church</p>
<p><i>29</i></p> <p>830 am Devotions 930 am Worship 1045 am Neighborhood Trash Pickup</p>	<p><i>30</i></p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>Kayaking & High Ropes Course for High School and Middle School Youth</p>	<p>Pentecost is June 5. Happening on Pentecost Sunday... If you are interested in being baptized, having your child baptized, or becoming a member of SOV, Pentecost (June 5) is a great time to do that. Please talk to Pastor Tari. Blessing of the bikes, garden, and columbarium will happen immediately following worship on Sunday, June 5.</p>			

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

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JUNEAU, ALASKA

PERMIT NO. 11

Return Service Requested



May



SOV

LOVED BY GOD; LOVING OTHERS

Your church family is here for prayers, visits, and encouragement. Please call if you would like a visit from Pastor Tari, or anytime you can use a kind word.

Pastor Tari enjoys opportunities to go for walks while visiting with folks. Feel free to call her and plan a time to go for a walk.

We would also love to hear from you with comments about or submissions to *The Shepherd's Voice*. If your address has changed, or if you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, we want to know that too.

Rev. Tari Stage-Harvey, Pastor

Please see inside the newsletter for the many ways we are connecting.

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. (via Zoom and in-person)

Faith Formation for All Ages: See page 2 of newsletter for details.

In-Person Food Pantry: 9-10 am Saturdays

Food Pantry Direct Line (call with questions): 907-500-3588

The Shepherd's Voice: Editor, Becky Corson and Production/Distribution, Lewis Gates