

MARCH BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERSARIES	
Randy Goodwin	3/03	Allen Steinke	3/16
Joe Forman	3/04	Pat Ohms	3/17
Joe McGivney	3/04	Jeannine Steinke	3/17
Autumn Anderson	3/05	Alana Turner	3/18
Anessa Ohms	3/06	Amy Beyer	3/19
Ron Schultz	3/06	Nyla Hickman	3/19
Corrine Stoewer	3/06	Lyla Saam	3/19
Carlan Koehn	3/07	Paul Hesselbacher	3/21
Jeremy Williams	3/08	Donna Goodwin	3/22
Amanda Ehrler	3/10	Lisa Schoenhard	3/23
Hilary McGivney	3/12	Isaac Morhardt	3/25
Mallory Hesselbacher	3/14	Annalee Anderson	3/26
Nolan Williams	3/14		
Greg Jones	3/16		



**MARCH  
2020**

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church - ELCA**

**If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter or would like to receive it electronically, please email Babette at sothofficeillinois@gmail.com or call the church office and leave a message. Please also let us know if any of your contact information changes by calling or emailing. Thank you!**

**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**  
536 E Schapville Road  
Scales Mound, IL 61075



**An Irish Prayer**

May God give you...  
 For every storm, a rainbow,  
 For every tear, a smile,  
 For every care, a promise,  
 And a blessing in each trial.  
 For every problem life sends,  
 A faithful friend to share,  
 For every sigh, a sweet song,  
 And an answer for each prayer.

The season of Lent is upon us. It begins on Ash Wednesday with a traditional service that includes the imposition of ashes with the words, "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." The ashes come from the burning of the palm fronds from Palm Sunday. A little bit of olive oil is used to hold the ashes together as I gently form a small cross on your forehead. This service sets us on our journey of renewal. While each of us has a unique faith life with individual and specific areas ripe for renewal, it is a gift to move through the season of Lent together.

On the Wednesday evenings following Ash Wednesday, we will have a very light soup supper beginning at 6 p.m. and then gather for a service at 7 p.m. The soup supper is intended to make attendance more convenient but also offer an opportunity for fellowship. As with many things at the church, it will be an experiment with the things we learn applied to next year. Your feedback is always welcome.

For the service we will use the night prayer service known as "Compline" that was also used for Advent services. For the message I am having good luck identifying people willing to share their faith stories. Each of us who gather for worship here at Shepherd of the Hills has a story worth telling that others can learn from.

I do understand though that sharing in front of the church is not for everyone. Each of us have unique gifts, and I understand not everyone will accept my invitation.

I trust this will be a meaningful Lenten season for you as you open yourself up to our Lord's renewal of your faith.

Outside of activities at Shepherd of the Hills, perhaps there will be an opportunity for you to do some additional Scripture reading, prayer, or acts of kindness or generosity that will help define this Lenten season for you.

I look forward to being your faith partner as we move through this season here at your church home in the country.

Pastor Jim



**To All the Ladies of the Lutheran Churches of the ELCA:**

The Conference Coordination Committee (CCC) of the Northwest Conference would like to invite all ladies and guests to join us at the Spring Assembly gathering on March 28, 2020(9 am to noon) at First Lutheran Church in Freeport, IL for brunch and a program on “Doors Open Wide”. Find out how the “The Dow” house is ministering to young girls and their babies in our community.

Gathering starts with registration at 9 am and brunch served at 9:30 am with the program to follow. It is a great time to have fellowship with our friends in the NW Conference of WELCA. Reservation and a fee of \$10 to cover the brunch and the program, is needed by March 21, 2020. Registration form is on the bulletin board in the entryway. A free will offering will be taken for ongoing programs of the NW Conference Committee.

Plan on joining us for a morning outing with friends.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**

Daylight Savings Time begins early Sunday morning, March 8, 2020. Set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday night.



**OPEN FORUM**

Sunday, March 1, 2020 there will be an Open Forum between the two services - (9 am).



**LENTEN SERVICES**

Lenten services will be every Wednesday night at 7 pm for the next six weeks. There will be a light soup supper available at 6 pm prior to the 7 pm service - March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1. Please plan on attending.

**CHILI/FILLED NOODLE SUPPER**

Derinda Trinity Lutheran Church (8393 Derinda Road, Elizabeth, IL) will hold their Chili/Filled Noodle Supper on Sunday, March 1, 2020 from 4 pm to 7:00 pm. Adults are: \$8.00, Children 5-12: \$6.00 and Children under 5: free. See brochure on the bulletin board.

**CHILI/BEEF NOODLE SUPPER**

Christ Lutheran WELCA will host it's annual Chili/Beef Noodle Supper on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to join in the meal which includes soup, sandwich, veggie cup, dessert and beverage. Carry-out will be available. See brochure on the bulletin board for more information



**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE VOGT'S FAMILY**

Congratulations to Joe, Kirstin & Henry on the new arrival to their family. Liam Harlow Vogt was born at the University Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa on January 31, 2020. Liam was 6 lbs., 9 oz. and 19.25 inches long.

**YEARLY GIVING REPORTS**

If you have given to the church in 2019, and would like your Giving report, please let me know. Since the tax laws have changed you may not need a giving report from the church. Please let me know either by emailing the church's email address ([sothofficeillinois@gmail.com](mailto:sothofficeillinois@gmail.com)) or tell me at church. Thank you. Babette, Secretary/Treasurer at SOTH.

**FROM BRUCE & SANDY WILKE**

I have to tell you that the Shepherd of the Hills congregation captured my heart the first time I stepped in the door. I was so concerned that for most having known Arlene that they would not accept me. Far from the truth!! You all embraced me as one of your own. I will never forget how that made me feel, as well as Bruce. He was feeling as lost and lonely as I was. Shepherd of the Hills was a healing home for us and we miss you all more than you will ever know. Life has taken us in a different direction in which we feel God has guided us. It is very difficult to find a two bedroom apartment in an assisted living facility where we could stay together and get the help and support we needed at a price we could afford. I called to inquire of this facility which happens to be in the backyard of my Wisconsin church that I have been a member of for 50 years. It just so happened that a two bedroom had just become available and within three weeks, with the help of our children, we were in and settled and our condo was sold the following month. Unbelievable!! The Windsor/De Forest UCC congregation has embraced Bruce as one of their own and has provided much needed pastoral support. We are truly blessed to be part of two very supportive congregations who truly live out their Faith. God works in wondrous ways. *Our love and prayer to all at Shepherd of the Hills.* Our new address: 6902 Parkside Cir, Apt 202, De Forest WI 53532

**BOOK CLUB**

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 11:15 am the Book Club will meet. A CHANGE in which book will be discussed! “They May Not Mean to But They Do”- by Cathleen Schine.

**Congregational Resourcing Event**

**The 2020 CRE will be Saturday, March 14 at Kishwaukee Community College in Malta.**

Keynote speaker: **ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**

Sponsored by the Northern Illinois Synod Congregational Life Committee, the Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) is one of this synod's finest yearly events. Church council members, teachers, musicians, staff, volunteers, and leaders – just about everyone in a congregation – can take advantage of this learning event to strengthen skills, gather resources, network with others, and discover new ways to enhance congregational and individual ministries.

Come, experience and bring home new ministry tools. The Congregational Resourcing Event offers many varied educational workshop selections for you, your key congregational leaders, and other interested congregation members. Many groups, agencies, and institutions have displays.

In addition to workshops from the keynote speaker and NIS Bishop Jeffrey Clements, other workshops feature topics including: Congregational Leadership, Evangelism/Outreach/Hospitality, Faith Formation & Growth, Social Justice, Spirituality/Wellness, Stewardship, Worship, and Youth/Family/Children.

Bring everyone from your congregation to attend different workshops. Then get together and learn from each other!

Session and room assignments will be based on how many people register for each workshop. This information and any updates will be posted here by March 1.

**Supervised childcare** is provided with pre-registration, but parents will need to bring a sack lunch and snacks for their children. A free-will offering will be accepted to cover child-care costs.

**Kishwaukee College** is located at 21193 Malta Road, Malta, IL 60150 between DeKalb & Rochelle on IL Route 38. *Kishwaukee College is handicap accessible.*

