



Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church ELCA

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
of March 15, 2020.

Exodus 17:1-7

According to Israelite memory, before the tribes settled in Canaan, they lived as nomads. From the tenth-century Yahwist tradition comes the narrative of the LORD providing water from the rock for the thirsty nomads. The site is Meribah, which means quarrel. The LORD filled the need of the quarreling people by miraculously providing water.

Romans 5:1-11

The fifth chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans intensifies the language describing the human need for justification. Humans were weak, ungodly, sinners, enemies of God. Only if the absolute need of humans for justification is accepted does the salvation provided by the death of Christ make any sense.

John 4:5-42

The gospel of John presents an interaction between Jesus and the Samaritan woman and so situates testimony to Christ outside of orthodox Judaism, although at the site of the historically important well of Jacob. Jesus is himself both thirsty and the source of living water, thus both human and divine. Jesus promised to give living water to all who ask and, at the conclusion of the dialogue, claimed for himself the divine name I AM. The exchange resulted in these outsiders accepting Jesus as the Savior of the world.

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

We will be highlighting a verse(s) here for memorization that captures the main idea of the month's scriptures – March verse: *"¹⁹We love because he first loved us."* *1 John 4:19*

Attendance – March 8, 2020	
8:00 AM – 23,	10:00 AM – 29 = Totals – 52
Lenten Service – 24	
<u>Weekly Giving</u>	
General Giving	\$2,994.04
1 st Lenten service	\$ 591.00
Mission Giving	\$ 52.00
Total	\$3,637.04

- PRAYER MINISTRY**
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- Steven & Jodi Swanson & Family
(our missionary family)
 - Allen Israel (Ray's brother)
 - Sheri Mysliwicz (Israel's niece)
 - Dean Mysliwicz (Israel niece's husband)
 - Ken Reinert (Israel' nephew)
 - Liam Vogt (Joe & Kirstin Ehrler Vogt son)
 - Kate Redfearn (Russ & Brittney's daughter)
 - Jim Griffin (Donna Goodwin's brother)
 - Millie Allendorf (Jim Stoewer's mother)
 - JoAnn Hesselbacher
 - Juliette Schmidt
 - Rick Webster
 - Kathy (Ehrler) Gerlich
 - Kendall Smith (Hansen's granddaughter)
 - Gabe Hilby (Heim girl's classmate)
 - Janice Bradley (Ladora Williams' daughter)
 - Paul Hesselbacher
 - Liam Petelle (Edie's grandson)
 - Rich Schelke
 - Caroline Krug (Jim & Babette's granddaughter)
 - World Leaders
 - Men & Women serving our country
 - Peace in the World

THOSE CALLED TO SERVING
-- March 22, 2020

GREETERS/USHERS/READERS:
Leigh Stoewer-- (8 AM)
Gehrts Family -- (10 AM)

ASSISTING MINISTER:
Leigh Stoewer -- (8 AM)
Gehrts Family -- (10 AM)

COMMUNION SET-UP/CLEAN-UP: /Jan
Radabaugh

HOSPITALITY – *Gail Israel*

TELLERS – *Diane Gehrts & Kari Gehrts*

PASTOR JIM'S CONTACT INFORMATION
His phone number is (563) 599-2096 and his email address is: jamespmehrtretter@gmail.com

Weekly Announcements – March 15, 2020

PASTOR'S CORNER

On Thursday I just missed the last pasty in Scales Mound, but I saw some friendly faces and put a visit on my agenda.

Friday night was a treat as Noelle joined me for the Fish Fry at the Town Hall. We enjoyed meeting new people and seeing others again.

A tip that one of our members was hospitalized led to a nice visit. Your suggestions are always welcome.

The worship committee meeting between services Sunday helped clarify the role of that committee and gave me some feedback. It was good to meet with them.

Tuesday I spent part of the afternoon on the farm! It was fascinating to learn more about animals, land, machinery, family history and much more.

Our Wednesday evening Lenten service faith story was powerful. We are fortunate to have gifted people who are willing to share.

Pastor Jim

SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING

Social Ministry Committee will meet today, March 15, 2020 between services (9 a.m.). Please plan on attending.

MEETING TO SHARE IDEAS TO REPLACE OLD SHEPHERD'S TABLE

There will be a meeting on Thursday, March 19th at 10 AM for sharing ideas on starting a midweek fellowship / activity at Shepherd of the Hills. All are welcome!

EASTER LILIES

Anyone wanting to donate an Easter lily for our Easter service please contact Jan Radabaugh by March 29th. The cost is \$13.00. She will be here between services on March 15, 22, and 29 to get your order. Other options are: you can call her at 815-777-2061, put your money, name and information in an offering envelope (mark the envelope "Easter Lily") and drop it in the offering plate or mail your order and payment to Jan at 421 N. Dodge Street, Galena, IL 61036. Thank you.

SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON

A Spring Salad Luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 12 noon at First Lutheran Church in Pecatonica, IL. Reservations are requested but not required. See the flyer on the bulletin board in the entry of the church.

FISH FRY

Scales Mound Recreation Association Annual Fish Fry will be held Friday, March 20th from 5:00pm to 8:30 pm at the Scales Mound Town Hall. Adults - \$10.00, Kids (5 – 12) - \$5.00 and Kids under 5 years old – Free.

WELCA RETREAT

The Northern Illinois Synod, Women of the ELCA will hold a retreat at Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center , Oregon, IL 61061 on Saturday, April 18, 2020 "Faith Along the Winding Road" Your registration fee of \$30 includes coffee, snacks, lunch, and materials. Deadline for Application is March 15, 2020. See the WELCA bulletin board for the application form.

LENTEN SERVICES

Our Lenten services are on Wednesday evening at 7 pm with a light soup supper available at 6 pm. Please consider offering to drive a friend or neighbor to our Wednesday Evening Lenten services. Not everyone feels comfortable driving at night.

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) or tell me at church. Thank you, Babette.

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 March21, 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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

With the cold and flu season here, we will continue with the Sharing of the Peace at services. However, in doing so, if you wish to fold your arms across your chest to acknowledge a person that is perfectly acceptable. As a reminder, there is hand sanitizer in each of the pews. Thank you.

March, 2020

<p>15 Worship Services with Holy Communion @ 8 am & 10 am Fellowship, Sunday School & Choir Practice @ 9 am</p>	<p>16 LWR Quilting @ 9 am</p>	<p>17 Happy St. Patrick's Day  Text Study at SOTH @ 10 am</p>	<p>18 Light soup supper @ 6 pm Lenten Service @ 7 pm</p>	<p>19 Men's Coffee & Bible Study @ 8:30 am Office Hours @ 9 am Old Shepherd's Table Brain Storming Meeting @ 10 am.</p>	<p>20 Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p>21</p>
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Hurry — you can still give a gift to International Women Leaders in time for your impact to be doubled! Help us meet the goal to raise \$100,000 through the International Women’s Day match.

Generous supporters are matching each gift, dollar for dollar, until we reach \$100,000. Will you make a gift to International Women Leaders right now?

Your gift will support women leaders around the world as they overcome systemic barriers to create lasting change. These leaders from the global Lutheran church will gain leadership development opportunities, from gender justice seminars to full academic scholarships at ELCA colleges and universities. Such opportunities will become important milestones on their way to making an impact in the world.

This is the moment to give a gift that will go twice as far for women’s leadership and gender justice! Thank you so much for your support.