

In This Issue

- Pastor's Pagep 2
- Parish Associate's
Projects.....p 3
- WELCA.....p 4
- Parishioners Notes...p 5
- Kids Page.....p 6
- LWR News..... p 7,

MOTHER'S DAY is May 8th

On this special day, the nave will be surrounded by beautiful displays of mixed annuals remembering All our Wonderful Mothers.

PENTECOST SUNDAY is June 12

On this special day, the 9th grade students will become confirmed members of the congregation at the 10:30 am worship service.

PENTECOST GERANIUMS

Geraniums will be \$2.50 each. Last day to order is May 22. Look for order forms in upcoming bulletins or call the church office to place an order.

SHARON HONORS GRADUATES

Seeking names and info

The Welcoming Team will be honoring Sharon members graduating from high school and college in 2011. Please contact the church office with the graduate's name, college major (if applicable) and their plans for the future. Pastor Doll would also like to run photos of the grads before worship on June 5. Please send a digital picture to Pastor Doll at robert.doll@sharonlc.org or drop a photograph off at the church office. Deadline for this information is May 22.

MEMORIAL DAY will be observed on Monday, May 30

On this day in which we remember those who have died in our nation's service, the church office will be closed. Sharon is hosting the Annual Memorial Day Community Service on Monday, May 30th at 9:30 am followed by the Memorial Day Parade

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE FESTIVAL June 5

The Strawberry Shortcake Festival is a time to thank our Sunday school volunteers and spend time with our children, youth and adults. We enjoy sharing music, stories and food. Everyone is invited! No reservations are necessary.

Pastor's Note

At this moment, I am taking a deep breath after a very full Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday. I hope you found worship to be renewing. I always enjoy the chance to meet around the fire and share in the vigil readings, music, and prayers. Thanks to all who came out Saturday evening to take part in this special night. We stand together now in the midst of the 50 days of Easter and will continue to talk about our new life in Christ and prepare for the celebration of Pentecost in June. It seems appropriate in a season of resurrection and new birth to also pause and give thanks for Mothers, which we will do on May 8th. (Ok, so my thoughts turn to mother's day and as I am thinking about Mothers generally and specifically, I realize that I have just completed 9 months at Sharon.--In what ways have we experienced new birth together over these past 9 months? I have continued to learn and see even more ways that God is preparing us for new growth and depth in the coming year. Thanks to all who have continued to encourage me in our new ministry together. Please feel free to ask me questions and share your thoughts with me as we seek to develop ministry together and find the best ways to serve alongside each other.) We will also pause late in May to remember those who have died in service to our country. If anyone would like to provide a picture of a loved one who served in any branch of the military, I would be happy to use those pictures in the kiosk presentation for Sunday, May 29.

Let me also offer a quick word of thanks to all who came to our Wednesday Lenten Suppers and Worship. A special thanks to all who prepared soups for dinner and to Lauren Marziale and Dawn Doll for sharing their musical gifts during worship. If you would like to learn more about the issue of Hunger, please visit www.elca.org/hunger. You can also participate in Lutheran Day at the Capital being held this month on May 17th in Harrisburg. Register for the event at <http://www.lutheranadvocacy.org/>

God's Peace, Pastor Doll

Calling all singers! A new Festival Choir will be forming to sing for the Celebration of Pentecost on Sunday June 12th (10:30 service). In addition to members of New Generation and Chancel Choirs, Festival Choir is for any member of the congregation who enjoys singing and can make a short-term commitment to rehearsals. Rehearsals will be on Wednesday evenings (May 25th – June 8th) from 6:30-7:15. See Dawn or Sherry for more information. We hope you can join the celebration!

Other Musical Opportunities:

Men's Choir: Sunday, May 8th at 10:30 service. See Phil Riggs

Women's Choir: Sunday, May 15th at 10:30 service. Rehearsals will be held on Wednesdays May 4th and 11th at 6:30-7:15.

Vocal or Instrumental Soloist: Sunday, May 29th at 8:00 or 10:30 service. See Dawn or Sherry for details.

Vocal or Instrumental Soloist: Any Sunday Service in June, July, or August. See Dawn or Sherry for details.

Dawn Doll (215)429-8072 or dmdoll66@gmail.com

Sherry Barben (570)743-4036 or erbarben@ptd.net

MINISTRIES for CHILDREN, YOUTH & TEENS

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

Tuesdays @ 10:30 am- Adult Bible Study – coffee served

Sunday @ 9:10 am – Chasing Daylight led by Pastor Doll continues

ROTATION MODEL SCHEDULE

May 1 > Story = Judy Longacre, Music = ?, Activity = Dana Kemberling

May 8 > Story = ?, Music = ?, Activity = Dana Kemberling

May 15 > ALL POSITIONS OPEN

May 22 > ALL POSITIONS OPEN

May 29 > Story = ?, Music = ?, Activity = Dana Kemberling

CONFIRMATION CORNER

Dates to remember!

May 1 = 9th Grade Project Due–Baptism Celebration

June 12 = 9th Graders Confirmed

JUNE 12 = PENTECOST

The day of Pentecost is the traditional day for Sharon Lutheran 9th graders to Affirm their Baptism. Not only is it a time for the families of the confirmed to celebrate, but also for our Sharon family to support and encourage those 9th graders in their continued faith journey. We invite you to join Aron, Kyle, Austin, Emily, Matt, Maddie and Casey on Sunday, June 12 at the 10:30a.m. worship as well as at the reception following the service.

Coming August 7th ~ ~ ~ FAMILY VBS! Matthew 14:22-33 ~ ~ ~ Water theme

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

NYG Youth Leader support workshops at SU (Synod Assembly) - June 17 & 18 from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

Creekside Father's Day Picnic Fundraiser - JUNE 19

See Reilands, Stroups, Dolls, Weiricks, Pennays, Fedders, Miller and Hansons for more details.

YOUTH GROUP continues through the Summer Sundays @ 6p.m.-8p.m.

Youth group is for anyone who has completed 8th grade. A variety of topics are discussed with a strong emphasis on scriptures and how we should live as Christians in a secular world. They also plan activities and service projects for senior high students. Walk-ins are welcome or for more information contact Robin Kunkel robin.kunkel@sharonlc.org or Matt Marziale matt@fixmehere.com

CREATION Saturday, July 2

Have you ever been to the largest Christian band event on the East Coast? Well, here's your chance and it's right in our back yard. A one day trip is planned for Saturday, July 2nd. Our current information: 7th through 12th graders, meet in the church parking lot. We need adult drivers/leaders. Further details will be forthcoming. We are in the process of negotiating costs, but you can budget approximately \$100.00 per person. Contacts are Robin Kunkel and Matthew Marziale.

MOSTLY MUTTS Coming in June

from 11:45am to 3p.m. for 3rd-6th graders. We will provide lunch for the children before traveling to Herndon to the Mostly Mutts complex. The children should wear old clothing and bring a change of shoes because they will be cleaning cages as well as feeding and walking the dogs. Donations of old blankets, dog toys, food and biscuits will be collected in the lobby.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

Summer brochures are now available for Camp Mount Luther. It's going to be an exciting summer, with traditional, specialty, and trip camps part of this year's schedule. Church camping is an important faith developer of our young people. Encourage a child to go to camp! If you didn't see a brochure yet, you can view it online or contact the camp office at 570-922-1587 and we'll send you a copy. For more information on Mount Luther, visit www.campmountluther.org.

CONNECT AND GROW AS WOMEN OF SHARON

All women of Sharon are welcome to participate in any of the following opportunities.

WOMEN OF SHARON CIRCLE will meet Wednesday, May 11 at 10:00am in the What's Brewin' Room. We will gather to assemble health kits for Lutheran World Relief. Please bring any items LWR requests for these kits. Look for the list on another page of this newsletter. The Upper Susquehanna Synod is requesting health kits as the in-kind offering at its Synod Assembly in June. The challenge for Sharon is to assemble 175 kits. Also, a **THANKOFFERING** will be received at this meeting.

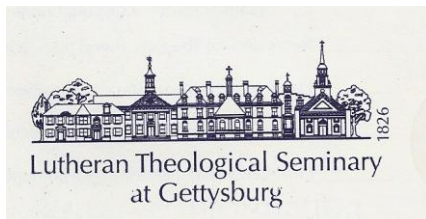
THE STITCHERS meet every Monday at 1:00pm in their room on the second floor of the church. Help is always needed to assemble, tie and hem quilts to be sent to Lutheran World Relief and for local needs. As of this writing, 65 quilts have been completed since Blanket Sunday last October.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets each Tuesday at 6:30pm in the What's Brewin' Room. If you like to knit or crochet, come to help make prayer shawls, baptismal blankets, preemie caps or other special needs items.

Interested in a **SUMMER BIBLE STUDY** or **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP**? Contact Carol Bradford at 473-9505.



THANK YOU to all who helped make the **WOMEN'S RETREAT, DAY OF LEARNING** and the **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** successful. These April events were opportunities for inspiration, learning and service by all who participated.



From the Ridge:

There's gentleness in the quiet patter of the rain today. I guess I only notice because of cracking my apartment window, just enough to feel some freshness in the air. My window chair is close and I can smell the freshness. A welcome breath it is, for pages and pages of Reformation

history are staring up at me. I've just about had enough of this for now! Not much time left. Exam is soon, and I must go. There's gray out in the sky today, but I can still the chapel steeple see! Against the gray or blue, it's always there. Gray and blue. One hundred fifty years ago it had begun.... and crept up here, right in this place-that war of which we do not like to speak, right by the cannon where each day I walk (or, more likely, run for fear of being late to class). I shudder at the thought of how many died here on this ground. And, too, with this Reformation stuff: it's not a pretty picture all. Go back and look. At all of it. But here we are our Lutheran selves. We would do well to pause, give thanks and pray that we not take for granted the precious heritage that's ours-the blessed good.... and sad regrets for woeful wrong. We can be just a little proud, but not too much. May God be with us as He affords new hope for growing ecumenical harmony.

Carol Black



DONATIONS NEEDED!!! 25 ELW hymnals are needed. Please consider purchasing one in memory of or in honor of a loved one. The price per hymnal is 35.00 payable to Sharon Lutheran Church.



The American Cancer Society is sponsoring the Relay for Life on June 3 and 4 at Susquehanna University between 1:00 pm Friday, and 1:00 pm Saturday. Sharon's team, the Rose of Sharon will be taking donations on Sunday, May 1st between both services.

The team members are:

Laura Aungst, Jim and Carole App, Deb Bernhisel, Art and Karen Bowen, Dave Deckard, Mike, Donna, and Donovan Goundie, Barbara Grubb, Carol Harrison, Don and Grace Housley, Rae Mitterling, Maureen Ries, Carmen Rowe, Eric Rowe and Julie Ross, and Shirley Rowe.

Aucker, Rita 5/8
 Aucker, Thelma 5/12
 Beachell, Sue 5/12
 Beaver, Jerry 5/3
 Bottiger, Mary 5/17
 Doll, Hannah 5/18
 Dressler, Stacy 5/1
 Herman, April 5/8
 Herman, Jason 5/11
 Jaegers, Christine 5/13
 Kidd, Lenna 5/4
 Krebs, Tyler 5/15
 Kunkel, Robin 5/23
 Laskowski, Laura 5/24
 Leach, Jean 5/27
 Lindquist, Sallie 5/6
 Lindros, Shelbi 5/15
 Longacre, Matthew 5/31
 Lupolt, Lori 5/14
 Lupolt, Sara 5/17



Martin, Kayla 5/29
 Nickler, Suzanne 5/9
 Pauling, Diane 5/20
 Pendley, Mary 5/25
 Piermattei, Dagen 5/24
 Reichenbach, Mary 5/10
 Reiland, Kathy 5/6
 Remaley, Barb 5/11
 Ritter, Darlene 5/4
 Ritter, Helen 5/22
 Roush, Ruth 5/9
 Rowe, Kyle 5/6
 Scholl, Cindy 5/28
 Schroeder, Hugo 5/24
 Shaffer, Jennifer 5/2
 Weirick, Aaron 5/26
 Wenrich, Garth 5/30
 Wentzel, Abbey 5/15
 Winey, Jackie 5/13

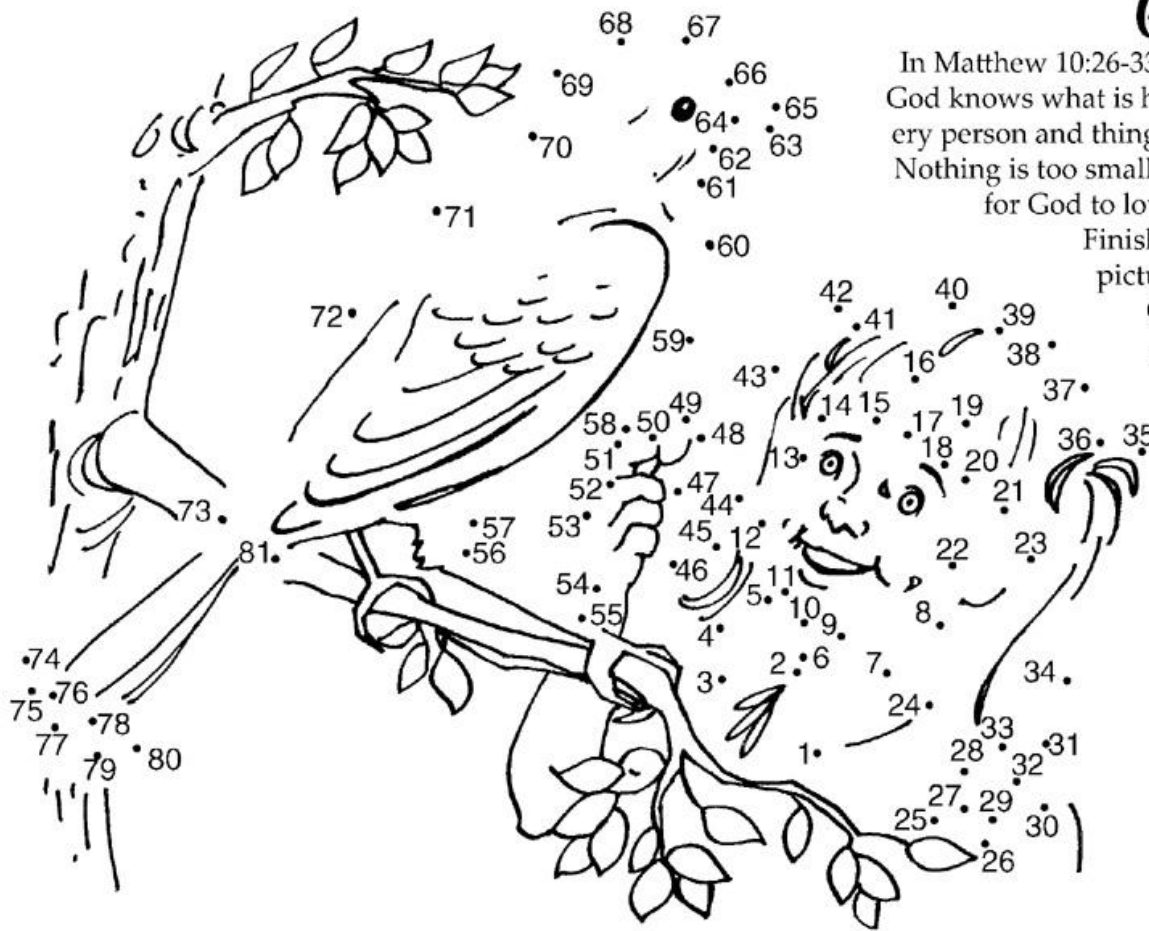
Sharon Congregation Council at its April 18, 2011 meeting reports the following activities:

1. Accepted a plan to create a Congregation Policy Manual to contain procedures and policies for committees of the congregation.
2. Approved recommendation to replace the existing five year old leased copier expiring June 2011 with a new copier also with a five year lease.
3. Welcomed Lowell Leitzel as the new chair of the Evergreen Cemetery Committee replacing the hard working and long serving David Dagle.
4. With construction soon to begin on the Borough and Library building, permission was granted to allow the Library Campaign Committee to meet in the What's Brewin' Room on Thursday mornings.
5. Permission was also granted for use of the parking lot and cemetery as site of the annual Veterans Memorial Service on Memorial Day.
6. Approved to immediately implement a Facility Use Request Form that allows a group or individual to apply for reservation of meeting space and to outline responsibilities for using the space and/or kitchen.

God Cares

In Matthew 10:26-33, Jesus says that God knows what is happening to every person and thing God has made. Nothing is too small or unimportant for God to love or care about.

Finish this dot-to-dot picture to show that God cares about even very small things.



Welcoming Jesus

Read this poem about why we welcome others; then find a place in the crossword puzzle for each of the underlined words. Three words from the poem are already written in for you.

It is not easy to welcome
 The people who don't welcome me;
 I'd much rather be with the children
 Whose friendship is easy to see.

But Matthew was welcomed by Jesus,
 To change from his self-centered way;
 Could it be that my welcoming others
 Would help them know Jesus today?

So let's pray that Jesus will help us
 To be welcoming in all that we do,
 So that others will hear Jesus calling
 And will want to follow him too.

Answers

Lutheran World Relief Dollars at Work
(A Message from the Social Ministry Committee)

The catastrophic earthquake that devastated Haiti on January 12, 2010 brought in over \$7 million from Lutherans like us all over the United States. In addition, Thrivent Financial matched members' gift by roughly \$1.3 million. As a result of this generous outpouring of donations, LWR was able to provide the following for Haitian relief. . . .

77,585 health kits	35,700 school kits	39 large tents to set up temporary schools
25,545 quilts	1,500 layettes	\$1.1 million for food, water, sanitation, shelters, and services

LWR aid focused on 600,000 people who fled Port-au-Prince which, in addition to the above. . . .

provided health and hygiene training to 10,253 people

built 253 collective and family latrines

assisted 8,151 people through cash-for-work programs

provided seeds and tools to several thousand farmers

stocked community stores in 12 rural communities

distributed medical supplies, water filters, oral rehydration salts, soap, and water treatment tablets

Sadly, the natural disasters have continued, with earthquakes that destroyed New Zealand's second largest city, Christchurch, on February 22 of this year and, more recently, the horrific earthquake and tsunami in Japan. Two Lutheran churches were wiped away in Japan. If you hear the Spirit's calling you to assist in either of these cases, you may send your contributions to. . . .

ELCA International Disaster Response

39330 Treasury Center

Chicago, IL 60694-9300

Write "New Zealand Earthquake" or "Japan Earthquake-Tsunami" on the memo line of your check. You may also give by credit card at 1-800-638-3522 or www.elca.org

If you would like your donation to be recorded as part of your annual giving record to Sharon, you may use an International Disaster Appeal envelope from the narthex literature rack. In this case, checks should be made out to "Sharon Lutheran Church."

Don't forget to write "New Zealand Earthquake" or "Japan Earthquake-Tsunami" on the memo line of your check. **THANK YOU!**

USS/LWR Health Kit In-Kind Offering!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

All 136 congregations of the Upper Susquehanna Synod are being challenged to “think globally and act locally” by compiling and collecting health kits for Lutheran World Relief. Boxes of health kits will be received as an “in-kind” offering at the 2011 Synod Assembly, June 17-18, 2011, at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. The kits will be presented as an offering during the worship service on Friday morning, June 17, but kits will still be collected for mailing to LWR through Noon on Saturday, June 18. The goal for this offering is the collection of 3,365 kits (the average number of kits distributed by LWR in one week in 2010).

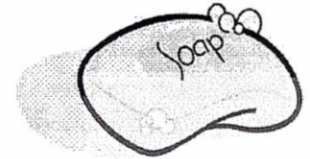
WHY HEALTH KITS?

People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack essential items. Health kits can help refugees maintain personal hygiene while living in exile. Items may also contribute to a new start for those who can return home. Lutheran World Relief distributes health kits and other aid to victims of natural and man-made disasters around the world, such as the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti (25,645 health kits distributed) and August 2010 floods in Pakistan (13,400 distributed).

WHAT'S IN A HEALTH KIT?

Include the following items in each health kit:

- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- One washcloth, dark color recommended
- One bath-size bar (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in its original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging (*note: LWR will add toothpaste to each kit*)
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached, remove packaging (do not substitute cardboard emery boards for the file)
- Six Band-Aids® (or similar brand), preferably 1/2" to 3/4"; secure together with a rubber band



Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap smaller items in the washcloth; wrap washcloth and remaining items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn (no rubber bands). Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags. Notice that careful assembly/packing instructions are required. For general assembly instructions, please go to: <http://www.lwr.org/beinvolved/assembly.asp>. For packing details: <http://www.lwr.org/beinvolved/pack.asp>.

Please also consider a special monetary offering to accompany your “in-kind” collection. LWR’s approximate cost to handle and ship one LWR health kit overseas is \$2.65.

HOW CAN WE AT SHARON HELP?

Our challenge goal at Sharon is 175 – that is the number of active family units at Sharon. If each family assembled one kit, we could reach our goal. To help you get started there is a basket in the foyer with some supplies and shopping lists. Please bring completed kits to the collection area in the foyer by Sunday, June 12.