

Monthly Newsletter of
Sharon Lutheran Church
September 2013

8:00 and 10:30 am Worship Services Begin Sept. 8

Market Street Festival: September 28

Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me...and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of the a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.

Matthew 10:40, 42

As a way of living into our witness of faith in the midst of the community we will be participating in this year's Market Street Festival by being a rest site for anyone attending the Street Fest. Sharon's first floor facilities will be open for use including the restrooms and the sanctuary. We would like to have a series of pairs of hosts and hostesses who would be onsite to welcome people and help provide a safe environment for all who choose to use the building during the event. The Festival runs from 8:30- 4:30 on Saturday, September 28.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board just outside the worship space and one on the desk in the main entryway by the church office. If you have questions, please speak with Pastor Doll.

**“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS.”
ELCA NATIONWIDE SERVICE DAY
September 8**

“Always be made new” 2 Corinthians 5:17

September 8 is the designated day for all ELCA congregations to participate in service nationwide. We have chosen four service projects that should be accomplished throughout the day.

- #1. We will collect materials for knotting blankets to give to Kelsey's Dream. Kelsey's Dream is a nonprofit organization based out of Mifflinburg. This particular project is for pediatric cancer patients that attend Camp Dost in Millville, Pa.
- #2. We will also collect prepackaged snacks for the Snack Pack Program developed by Kelsey's Dream to give to pediatric cancer inpatients and outpatients at Geisinger.
- #3. The third option is supplying and preparing supper for residents of Haven Ministry for the evening of Sept 8.
- #4. In addition, our Sunday school children will create a card and craft to be distributed to our shut-ins.

All Sharon members, no matter what age, can make a difference as a caring body in our surrounding counties. We encourage everyone to sign up for one or more projects. Lists of needed items and signups for these areas are on the Youth Bulletin board outside the choir room. See Robin Kunkel or Pastor Doll for more information.



Always being made new!

Always being made new...read that phrase again and listen.

What does *Always being made new* mean?

You and I are sold on “new” being better, improved somehow; tweaked for greater performance, better results, and greater efficiency.

Always being made new...

Maybe it keeps you from being in a rut, doing the same old thing. Maybe it gets you out of the routine, keeps you from being caught up in the humdrum, stifled by the minutia, focused instead on the movement, the motion, the bigger picture. If we are not *always being made new*, then what?

Always being made new--There is in this statement a condition or a presupposition that exists: either we wrestle against or embrace “being made new,” because it is always occurring.

We can see that people, conditions, and experiences do not stay the same but are constantly changing and put these things into a new perspective or

we might compare what is new to what has been—noting those places where it is not as good, not like the old stuff—to the point of placing value on something simply because it was.

Always being made new also carries another presupposition—that we are intent on growing and preparing for growth, depth, and larger perspective. That we are setting our sights on movement and doing our best to discern, listen, evaluate—not simply against the past—but in light of all that has been learned, experienced, honored, so that we can see all that serves, prepares, looks forward to additional growth and depth and direction, affecting how we live life each day.

Hear the verses from 2 Corinthians chapter 5

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

So, if anyone is in Christ, there is new creation—In Christ we are always being made new. We are brought to newness of life, where everything changes. That change, that dynamic condition is a place of life, an experience of reconciliation, a freeing forgiveness, that sends us out to be change, to be new, to be alive in Christ, to be vibrant spiritual community constantly forgiven, constantly enlivened, Always being made new.

God's Peace,

Pastor Doll

MINISTRIES for CHILDREN, YOUTH & TEENS

Director Family & Youth Ministry Robin Kunkel 374-8444 robinkunkel@gmail.com

SEPT 8: 9:00 am SUNDAY SCHOOL

Begins for Everyone!

Sunday school is not just for children; being a Christian is a lifelong adventure.

Continuing Christian education classes will be available for age three years through adult.

- **Elementary Sunday school** is designed for children age three through sixth grade. The children are guided through lessons in a rotation model that reinforces scripture stories through a variety of lessons, activities and music.
- **Confirmation** is planned for seventh through ninth grade. Two adult guides plus Robin, Pastor Doll and Vicar Rick will lead the students through lessons directly from the Small Catechism and Bible, as well as life lessons and experiences on how to continue their faith journey through life.



- **Senior High** is developed for ninth through twelfth grade. The class is guided by two adults, reviewing scripture and how relative it is to relationships with friends, family and daily

life. Service is also an important part of this group.

- **The Lutheran Course** is a new addition for young adults and adults. Vicar Rick will facilitate The Lutheran Course. People will explore how living out their faith is who they are and what they do, not a separate piece of our lives. Please see Vicar Rick and the additional newsletter article for date and times. Pre-registration is advised.
- **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** continues for young adults and adults as they meet in the What's Brewin' room at 10:30am every Tuesday morning to discuss the scripture selections for worship the following Sunday. The group is diverse and welcomes friends, neighbors and family from our community.

SHARIN' OPPORTUNITIES AT SUNDAY SCHOOL

September is an exciting and energizing time for ministry at Sharon. The Christian Ed Team is looking forward to additional teen, young adult/adult volunteers to enhance our ministry at Sharon. Opportunities for sharing would be in the various areas with children, youth and adults listed above. If your area of interest is in storytelling, doing crafts or guiding young children, confirmands or teens, contact Robin Kunkel and she will give you all the materials, support and encouragement you need.



Seeking Nursery Attendants ages 14—adult

The church nursery is a nice place to take a baby or toddler when they are getting 'antsy' during worship. Taking young children to the nursery would be an even more appealing option if parents were able to leave their kids there, supervised by a caring teenager or adult, while they enjoyed the worship service just a few feet away. Robin Kunkel, Jenny Ruth Hawbaker, and Allison Terrio are seeking people to take turns attending the nursery during worship. Please sign up to be a nursery attendant for any Sunday this Fall. The signup sheet is located on the narthex bulletin

QUIET BAGS for CHILDREN

Quiet bags are available for young children to use during worship. They are filled with coloring fun and little booklets for them to 'read'. There is also a current Lutheran magazine for parents. All the contents of the Quiet bags are complimentary except for the bag itself and any library books. The library books can be checked out at the church library and returned when you are finished reading it. The Quiet bags are located near the usher's station in the Narthex.

**FACEBOOK PAGE for
SHARON YOUTH &
TEENS**

One of our youth, Curtis Pennay, has set up a Sharon page for our youth and teens. Go to Sharon Lutheran Youth Page, **make sure you put Page at the end!** We will be posting dates of events and service, as well as updates on senior high Sunday school and confirmation topics. Plus a bonus feature "Bible verse of the week by Curtis". We encourage youth and teens to Like our page so that you won't miss anything happening at Sharon church.

SEPTEMBER 15 = CONFIRMATION KICKOFF PICNIC

A Kickoff picnic is planned for all seventh through ninth grade students and their parents and siblings. Pastor Doll, Vicar Rick and Robin will host an interactive discussion on thoughts, ideas and expectations for upcoming confirmation classes and projects for 2013/2014. The picnic will be from 5-7pm at Keith and Robin Kunkel's. The meat and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert. To respond for attendance and food donation, contact Robin 374 8444 or robinkunkel@gmail.com.



September 29 = Introduction Meeting

ROAD TRIP? Here we go again! The next ELCA Youth Gathering will be held in Detroit, Michigan on July 15-19, 2015. It is time for

us to look forward and plan for this future trip. Any youth that has completed eighth grade by June 2015 is eligible to attend. We will have an Introduction Meeting on Sunday, September 29 at noon in the What's Brewin' Room. Any students and parents interested in learning more about the trip should attend.

"The ELCA Youth Gatherings bring youth and adult leaders together around a theme that is integrated into all program components. These components include Bible study, service, worship, focused study areas, experiential learning, special events, dances and tours." For more information go to <http://www.elca.org/Growing-In-Faith/Ministry/Youth-Ministry/Youth-Gathering.aspx>



The Mustard Seed at 20 S. Market St. in Selinsgrove has been an active ministry for thirty five plus years. During this time \$450,000 has been given to twenty plus groups in the Selinsgrove area. This past April the donation was \$30,000.

The less fortunate are able to obtain clothing and household items at reasonable prices. In times of need such as fires, floods, etc., with a request from pastors or agencies such as the Red Cross, items are donated free of charge.

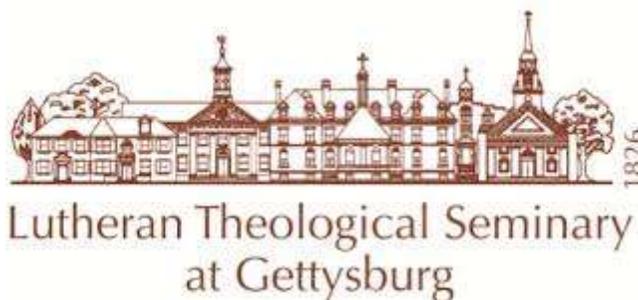
This ministry is successful due to the donations of a generous community and a group of dedicated volunteers. The manager is the only salaried person in the organization.

Thank you for your support over the years. We need more volunteers to continue this success. You can work as little as four hours each month or as many as you would like to donate. If interested visit the store and ask for Sharon Graybill or Anne Leitzel.

We pray that God will continue to bless this ministry.

The Ridge: by Carol Black

September 3, a Chapel Community Gathering kicks off a new Seminary year. Facts will be abundant, Eucharist and dinner will follow. And then within the next few days, the flow of Seminary life will take hold. Into and across campus, families and individuals will have poured, joining into an unusual fellowship and inspired living and learning environment. Commuters come and go. There is constant movement in and about the community. Children of Seminarians wait for the school bus at the corner right down the street where perhaps both parents are also studying during the day. The place is alive. The Spirit is here. No doubt about it! Stepping into the library, one is immediately aware of rich resources here. The ambience itself nudges curious minds, hearts and spirits constantly to sift through mounds of all kinds of information, trying to seek God's direction in discerning what is really important and what is not. Class time is a treasure. What students take away yields unexpected value, sometimes not realized until much later. And so as LTSG begins again, may Sharon Lutheran Church add prayers for God's continuing blessing to the oldest of our ELCA seminaries. May all who live, learn, lead, sustain, teach, study, pray, worship or grace this or at any of our sister Seminary sites be blessed to serve.



From Vicar Rick:

If you listen closely to people's everyday conversations you will hear stories. These stories describe the elements of what we humans call life. Just by listening you will discover a broad spectrum of emotions and details unique to the human experience – love, vanquish, disappointment, joy.



Listen to an eight-year-old tell about his first sleepover birthday party or a 14-year-old relate the experience of a first crush. Listen to the proud parent of a graduating high school senior or the lament of a mother whose child was tragically killed in an accident. Listen to a conversation between a veteran of Vietnam and a veteran of the Battle of the Bulge. Listen to the stories of a woman lying in a hospice bed hoping against hope for more time. Listen.

If you listen closely, you will hear people searching for meaning and relevance in their lives no matter where or how they live. Listen deeply and you will hear people searching for the best way to live in relationship with other human beings and the world as they and it exists around them.

The Bible, too, is a collection of stories. Stories about creation and redemption. Stories about falling away and coming back. Stories about enmity and reconciliation. Stories about love and hate, passion and despair. Stories.

When we listen to stories and imagine how they mirror, contradict and intersect with biblical stories, we begin to see more clearly God at work in our time. As we make connections between our stories and biblical stories, we can begin to make sense of our own struggles and resolve our own issues.

Tell your stories. Listen to the stories of others. Begin a conversation with the living stories of the biblical witness. Then, tell me where you have seen God at work this week. I'm ready to listen!



Neil Aucker, Laura Aungst, Heather Beveridge, Cindy Bird, Don Bower, Lori Bower, Amy Bush, Arline Callahan, Joni Campbell, Pat Campbell, Sue Catherman, Grace Cote, Holly Daubenspeck, Dawn Marie Dunkelberger, Larry Forrey, Teresa Flynn, Wade Ganns, Pat Garmen, Markye Greenawald, Colin Grube, Mary Haddon, Suah Harris, Tammy Hassinger, Jeremy Hoffman, Grace Hollenbach, David Holmes, Jr., Valerie Holmes, Kendra Hoover, Nancy Hummel, Martha Hummel, Shirley Johnson, Kathy Kerstetter, Paul Kerstetter, Paul C and Charlotte Kerstetter, Destany Kile, Harvey Kreamer, Jr., Nate Kunkel, Robert Master, Jennifer Merrill, Dale Morse, Susan Mull, Mary Partica, Reiny Pierson, Linda Remler, Ernie Renninger, Erica Robatin, Riley Schwalm, Sue Starr, Wendy Stauffer, Robert Stetler, Rev. Cathy Stevenson, Steve Twitchell, Molly Walker, Erma Weirick, Weiser family, Ken and Chris Whitebread, Gary Wydell

Deployed in Military Service:
Lee Bonawitz, Josh George, Kimber Kreamer, Ryan Kuster, Matthew Sharp, David Spurling, Jake Tomko



Dear Pastor Doll and Church members:

It is with deep appreciation that I thank you for all the thoughts and prayers that were said for me during my recent surgery. It was very supportive and helpful in my recovery.

Sincerely,
Vi Soper



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meets every Third Monday of the month at 7pm
Current Officers include:

President Paul Grimes
Vice President Janet Bilger
Secretary Jeff Whitman
Treasurer Buzz Savidge

At the last meeting, held August 19, the following action items were approved:

Approved the resignation of Dawn Doll as Chancel Choir and Children's Choir director.

Approved recommendation from the Christian Education team that an *ad hoc* committee be formed to produce a draft child protection policy for the congregation. Pastor and Robin will form this committee.

Approved transfer of \$2,000 from the Youth Activity Trust to help offset the budget funds needed for Vicar Rick White.



Thomas, Marian	9/1
Fisher, Marilyn	9/3
Kerstetter, Nelson	9/3
Kerstetter, Sue	9/3
Richmond, Cindy	9/3
Rowe, Alice	9/4
Pennay, R. Alex	9/5
Stetler, Robert	9/6
Aucker, Sara	9/7
Loudenberg, Jack	9/7
Starr, Sue	9/7
Pendley, John	9/8
Pennay, Sue	9/8
Schroeder, Evelyn	9/8
Weller, Audrey	9/8
Kunkel, Isaac	9/11
Shoemaker, Zoey	9/11
Dinsmore, Eleanore	9/12
Young, Wendy	9/12
Gilson, Robert	9/13
Wiley, Elizabeth	9/13
Winger, Beth	9/13
Piermattei, Nancy	9/14
Winger, Laura	9/14
Piermattei, Hayley	9/15
Doll, Victoria	9/16
Kunkel, Jeffrey	9/16
Mangels, Shari	9/17
Aungst, Todd	9/18
Aungst, Gregory	9/20
Bohm, Neil	9/20
Winey, Kyle	9/20
Dillman, David	9/24
Savidge, Richard	9/25
Fladmark, Irene	9/26
Stetler, Rose Ann	9/26
Fisher, W. Donald	9/27
Shadle, Judy	9/27
Barben, Edward	9/28
Beaver, Tyler	9/28
Fedder, Robin	9/28
Bohm, Linda	9/29
Fedder, Sarah	9/30



Committee members Met on Thursday, August 1, 2013. Continuing to focus on the monthly events for the remainder of the year, much of the team's discussion was on the gathering of items in September for Lutheran World Relief "personal care kits" in conjunction with Blanket Sunday in October and then we begin our preparation for "gift sacks" for Seafarers.

The remaining dates for collection of items for the "personal care kits" are as follows:

September 1st – one adult-size tooth brush in original package

September 8th – one sturdy comb with no packaging

September 15th – one metal nail clipper with no packaging

The kits will be assembled and displayed on Blanket Sunday along with the creative and beautiful work of Sharon's Stitchers. (Contacts: Carol Bradford and Grace Housley)

Sunday October 6th is Blanket Sunday. The labors of our Stitchers will be on display in the nave. If you did not donate materials or make quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR) you can help with a donation. Any money collected will go toward purchasing cotton and wool blankets or assisting in the cost of shipping the quilts and blankets to those in need. For \$ 7.00 the synod can purchase a wool blanket; for \$ 2.25 LWR can ship the blanket to a destination where it is most needed, which in some cases has been in the United States. Look for the Blanket Sunday envelope in your offering packet.

Also in October we will begin preparation for "Gift Sacks" for Seafarers. This is a service project for USS Congregations. "Christmas-At-Sea" gift sacks are gathered by the Upper Susquehanna Synod and shipped to Seafarers and International House Ministry (SIH) in New York City. A ministry to seafarers, SIH serves the needs of the crew members that deliver many of our products that we use every day from overseas. In existence since 1873, SIH is a Lutheran church related port mission that began as a service to Swedish ship crews and, later on, to Swedish immigrants passing through New York City on their westward journey. It maintains a small hotel in Lower Manhattan that serves seafarers, refugees and immigrants, but the mission is noted primarily for its ministry to the needs of seafarers. "Christmas-At-Sea" gift sacks is our way of thinking of and reaching out to these crew members who spend 98% of their working careers on the lonely, cold and dangerous oceans of the world.

Ongoing matters of Social Ministry: **Global Missions and Support for Missionaries;** Volunteers for **Haven Ministry** (overnight); **Collection of food for Haven Ministry first Friday of the Month** (sign-up sheet on bulletin board-Contact: Paul Grimes); **Collect food** for distribution to **Selinsgrove Area Christian Counsel (SACC) Food Bank.**

We would like to leave you with this thought. When asking for volunteers, remember; "Don't say you don't have enough time. You have exactly the same number of hours per day that were given to Helen Keller, Louis Pasteur, Michelangelo, Mother Teresa, Leonardo da Vinci, Thomas Jefferson and Albert Einstein." – *H. Jackson Brown, Jr., author of Life's Little Instruction Book.*



FINANCE TEAM UPDATE

Statistical Income Report as of August 25, 2013.

34 weeks actual income: \$193,988

34 weeks budget at \$6,058 weekly: \$205,972

Shortfall (\$ 11,984)

September Worship Volunteers

	Greeters	Acolytes	Readers	Ushers	Cantor/CA	Altar Guild
Sept 1	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Don + Aundrea Weirick	Aaron Weirick	Chris Lupolt	Jim Black Don Bottiger	Lowell Leitzel	Linda McMillin (B)
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
	Don + Grace Housley	Olivia Dunkle	Eric Rowe	Kermit Ritter Craig Hoke	Theresa Kuster Dave Deckard Doug Hassinger	Shirley Walter Linda Gautsch
Sept 8	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Gary Aucker Don Bottiger	Elise Keeney	Alma Pauling	Bill + Barb Remaley	Philip Riggs	Maureen Ries (B)
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Theresa Kuster Joyce Kuster	Hannah Doll	Toby Skinner	Suanne + Drew Nickler	Jeff Whitman Don Housley Maureen Ries	Joyce Kuster Carol Harrison
Sept 15	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Donna + Donovan Goundie	Courtney Kemberling	John Pendley	John + Roseann Stetler	Dawn Doll	Jackie Winey (B)
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Dean + Judy Longacre	Emma Kalcich	Bob Bradford	Harvey + Nancy Murray	Philip Riggs Keith Kunkel	Mary Seiler Marian Thomas
Sept 22	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Charles + Sue Hummel	Vance + Wyatt Metzger	April Metzger	Paul Culbertson Terry Kissinger	Lowell Leitzel	Alma Pauling (B)
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Harvey + Nancy Murray	Markie Reiland	Art Bowen	Keith Kunkel Chris Lupolt	Sue Pennay Curtis Pennay Kathy Reiland	Vi Soper Shirley Rowe
Sept 29	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Craig + Karen Hoke	Megan Keeney	Roseann Stetler	John + Roseann Stetler	Sue Pennay	Roseann Stetler (B)
	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM	10:30 AM
	Kermit + Darlene Ritter	Jessica Beaver	Carol Bradford	Bill + Pat Pinkowski	Bob Bradford Eric Rowe Dave Deckard	Audrey Deckard Mary Hummel

