

Sharon Lutheran Church

is a community that strives to be:

Connected to the community and world

Faith –filled

Rooted in God's Word

Loving

Adaptive

August 2015

First Sunday "Holy Grounds" "Special Event"



- When: August 2 from 9:00am until ???
Where: What's Brewin' Room
What: Share in coffee, tea, juice, and "goodies"
Cake cutting after the 9:30am worship to honor
Dr. Susan Hegberg

Sponsored by the Worship and Music team, take this opportunity to share in showing our appreciation to Susan for her contribution to meaningful worship

New Member Dessert

Please consider joining us to welcome Sharon's newest members on Sunday, August 9th at 6:30pm at the home of Bob and Vi Soper. All team leaders, or a representative, are encouraged to attend and share their team's role in life at Sharon. Food and beverages provided by the Hospitality Team. Please RSVP to Mary Pendley at (570) 884-3323.

Other Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| August 23 | Pastor Henderson joins us in Worship |
| September 6 | We Worship Together at 9:00am |
| September 13 | "God's Work Our Hands" Day/ Detroit Presentation |
| September 20 | Tom Dressler Organ Recital-Read on for more info on this event. |

Pastor's Note



I am just back from Detroit and my heart and mind are full. I want to add my reflections to the reflections of the other participants as we begin together to tell you this story of "Rise Up, Together."

Faith is this journey of following and trusting a God who has been revealed in Jesus who surprises us, inspires us, dwells with us, joins us together and makes us part of a larger vision of hope and reconciliation. The time we spent in Detroit certainly enlarged our vision of God's grace, and of hope, and of reconciliation.

I felt so blessed by our group of young ladies and the conversations that we were able to share together, their willingness to engage not only in so much that was unknown, but also to interact with other youth and adults, listen closely and thoughtfully, and just dive into the whole experience. I love the Gatherings--the music, the worship, the greetings of others, the reunions across the whole church, and the powerful witness of faith in word and in service. Detroit was a new place for me. I have never been to that city and I think I was most impressed by the openness of the people, the conversations that we were able to have with folks and the genuine welcome that we received on the street. People rolled down their windows while they were driving just to shout out a welcome "We're so glad you are here." to us. We worked in a couple different neighborhoods and have some amazing stories to share with you about the people who live and work there.

There is always a freedom of expression that I experience in these gatherings. We are invited into a worship experience unlike any other that gets you dancing and singing and shouting and clapping until your voice, hands and arms are nearly shot. I loved the speakers who challenged us and made us weep and laugh. I was deeply moved by the poetry of Natasha as we were invited into a story of life in Detroit that brought us all to our feet. Of course, the music touches my soul. I sang like I knew the songs that the house band was teaching us, danced and sang with the original Motown singers who brought down the house, and screamed out with Skillet as the electricity of their music washed over us like a pounding, surging surf. Through it all we learned what it means to Rise Up, Together. I hope we will be able to invite you into this experience with us and that we can take all the ways that we have been transformed and make them into a new reality in this place. Thanks to all of you who helped us be able to take this trip and have this experience together. It certainly was a blessing to each of us and to the people of Detroit.

*God's Peace,
Pastor Doll*

PS. I also have many families and individuals in my thoughts and prayers these days as together there are some hurts in body and soul in the body of Christ here in this place and among our family and friends. This month I will be traveling to Pittsburgh with Laura Aungst and Don Housley as we are trained to be trainers for Stephen Ministry, a care giving ministry of the congregation by the congregation. I will also be doing a good bit of planning for the fall, interviews for the organist position, and working with the council, finance team, and property team to address the roof truss issue described in the council section of this newsletter. No matter what God is leading and walking with us. We walk on in faith as we watch for surprises, inspiring moments, celebrations, and are invited into a larger vision of hope and reconciliation.

Reflections on Detroit

My favorite memory is meeting all the Detroiters. Everyone was so nice and talked to you like you were their best friend. For instance, there was one lady on the bus that talked to Markie and me the entire ride and cared about us and what we were doing. She talked so much that we could barely get a word out. Talking to her helped me understand how Detroit used to be and what has happened to it since. Another person that made my trip amazing was Rita from The Ham Shop. She goes to work at 6 am and doesn't stop until 4 pm yet she is still very friendly and happy all the time. Even though she works all day she still finds time to do things besides work that she enjoys. I know that I could strike up a conversation with Rita whenever; she is very kind and understanding. Along with those two people everyone that we met in Detroit was very nice and thankful for what we were doing. If you ever need to ask a question, they will answer it and help you. I loved Detroit and I hope to go back there again.

Hannah Doll

What I remember the most about my experience in Detroit was how kind and welcoming the citizens were. One woman began talking to me in the hotel's food court. She was talking about the food there but then her conversation switched over to what she remembered of Detroit from her younger days. She saw Diana Ross live for only \$2 before Diana was famous. The woman, whose name I did not get, also shared with me about her time watching Motown develop, and how she almost became a famous Motown singer. She discussed racial tensions, saying that some members of all races think bad things about others races, but that we need to focus less on the color of a person's skin and more on the person. The last, most memorable thing she told me was how she had prayed to God for many, many years, asking to see Detroit get turned around and restored back to the great place it was. She wanted to see this done before she passed. The woman told me that seeing all these people here to help made her believe that her wish was finally coming true.

Markie Reiland

The thing that stuck out to me the most was how grateful all of the native Detroit people were through out the whole week. Whether it was meeting someone in a bus or food court, or even just passing them on the street, they all made sure that we knew they were appreciative. I met some of the kindest and most beautiful people who stopped us to say just a "thank you" or "God bless you." Seeing people who had hoped so passionately that their city would change was amazing, but being a part of that change was even more powerful.

Thank you so much to Pastor Doll, Robin, my mom, Markie, Sarah, Hannah, and everyone else who supported the trip for making our week in Detroit so unforgettable. I will take the lessons I learned from this trip and use them forever.

Raechel Council

Pulling together as a church group to get some amazingly difficult tasks accomplished is high on my list of memorable moments. One of our daily themes was "bearing burdens," and I believe we did that for each other - encouraging each other to keep walking "just a couple more blocks" even when we were exhausted, listening to each other work through the various and difficult layers of the numerous social justice issues we encountered on the trip, watching each other's backs as we crossed busy streets, encountering crowded public buses, and walking through thick crowds of people, and putting our heads down and pushing through more physical (and exhausting) labor than most of us have dealt with in a very long time (if ever). We ripped up carpet, cut up hundreds of radishes, served people with more needs and sadness than we can ever imagine, boiled and shelled five dozen eggs, moved furniture, stripped bare an alley that looked more like a jungle, walked on average 10 miles a day, stared into Canada, befriended a waitress named Rita, listened to elderly people share their stories with us, praised God, sang, danced to Motown music, had our hearts ripped open by poets and preachers, found new heroes in chefs and coat makers....we LIVED—Rise Up, Together!

For one whole awesome, amazing, exhausting week, I think we all felt purposeful, good, and like an important part of God's world. Even as an "old person," I learned so much about the history of our African American brothers and sisters, immigration, and water/food disparities. I learned that our Sharon kids are amazing at construction and yard clean-up. I learned they can make sweet potato pies, too! I learned that Pastor Doll works non-stop - with tons of energy and kind words for everyone - and Robin has a heart as big as Lake Superior. I re-learned what I already knew...I love our church and I am SO THANKFUL to everyone who allowed us to have this unforgettable opportunity.

Kim Council



DETROIT.....The Story Continues

On September 13 at 10:30am worship, the youth who attended the Youth Gathering in Detroit will continue their story of their trip to Detroit, Michigan. Take a moment to read Pastor Doll's notes and Reflections on Detroit by Hannah, Markie, Kim and Raechel. It is enriching, endearing and encouraging to have been with this group and shared many life changing experiences with them.

The group is planning a presentation for worship on September 13, the same day as "God's Work. Our Hands." We chose that particular day so that we can share a project called Walk for Water. The speaker from the ELCA National Church for world hunger, spoke passionately on this subject and her words "hunger is not about scarcity but inequality" reminds us that we can help those across the globe and in our own backyards. The youth and adults will stage a simulated walk for water that women and children do every day to get clean drinking water in under developed countries. Donations will be accepted and given to the Walk for Water organization. The ELCA is hoping to receive half a million dollars in donations, which will be matched by a fellow Lutheran, the CEO of the Marriott Hotels. When we left the Gathering they had received over \$400,000. According to the ELCA website www.elca.org "Through these gifts, local communities will be equipped to provide water for drinking and growing crops, sanitation and hygiene, as well as ongoing health education, training and maintenance." It is amazing how we can begin at Sharon Lutheran Church, spread our love to those in our area, synod, region and nationally just by learning more and using our gifts to assist others.

USS Day at Knoebels!



Sunday, September 20, 2015

The park will be open from
12 – 7pm.

The Upper Susquehanna
Synod has pavilion P-5 reserved.

Arrive at Knoebels at your leisure,

pick up your pre-ordered discount tickets at pavilion P-5
beginning at 12:30, spend your afternoon at the park.

5:00 – 5:45 Gather at pavilion P-5 for refreshments and
fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ from congregations
throughout the synod.

5:45 – 6:15 Vespers service led by Bishop Driesen at pavilion P-5

Pre-ordering tickets is only necessary if you would like a 20% discount.

\$20 book of tickets for \$16. Order by September 4, 2015.

Hot dogs and buns will be provided. We are asking congregations to volunteer to provide other side dishes or desserts. We are also looking for volunteers to provide hospitality at pavilion P-5 throughout the afternoon.

To pre-order discount tickets, or volunteer for hospitality or refreshments,
please contact Brenda Krouse at the synod office: 570-524-9778 Brenda@uss-elca.org

BACK FROM MONTANA an interview with Curtis Pennay

On July 5, Curtis flew out of Harrisburg to spend two weeks on a reservation in Montana. The first word he used to describe his experience was "Amazing!" He and a group of youth near his hometown traveled to a reservation of Cheyenne and Crow Native Americans. They met the pastor of the local Mennonite church that runs a church camp style ministry on the reservation. Curtis was able to meet new friends from an entirely different culture than Central Pennsylvania and fall in love with the landscape of Montana. The reservation is between Billings and Sheridan which is close to the Wyoming border.

While there, Curtis and other youth were camp counselors for a Family Camp the first week and for children ages nine through thirteen the second week. One of his memorable moments was when some of the counselors got up early to take the children out for an arctic dip in one of four lakes on the reservation. Curtis said that the most convenient way to get into the water was by jumping off a swing. He said he probably wouldn't have committed to taking the polar dip if he had to walk in. His experience was so positive that he wants to return to Montana in the future. Please take a moment to ask Curtis about his trip. He has plenty of enriching stories to tell!

In Celebration of our 225th Anniversary Year, Organist Tom Dressler will perform at Sharon on Sunday, September 20 at 4pm. The Hospitality Team plans to host a reception following the recital. This event is free and open to the public.

Biography of Organist Tom Dressler

Mr. Dressler has appeared on local television in NY, the Poconos, and Philadelphia. His playing at the opening concert of the 150th anniversary celebration of the Round Lake organ was described by audience members as “riveting” and “stunningly elegant”. In August of 2001 he recorded the 1847 Ferris organ at Round Lake, NY, and the CD was released in 2003; it received a feature review in *The American Organist* magazine. In 2012, he released a CD recorded on the Paul Fritts organ at Princeton Theological Seminary. Both recordings were featured on *Pipedreams* on National Public Radio. Officers of the Central New Jersey chapter of the American Guild of Organists have said, “Mr. Dressler is an organist with solid technique, well known for his exquisite rendering of Renaissance and Baroque music.”

But he does not only specialize in “early” music. He also spends much time exploring performance practices of the 19th century, striving to present Romantic music in a manner the composers would have recognized. His interest in the organ began at an early age, and he gave his first full recital at the age of fourteen at St. Peter’s Union Church in Freeburg. As a teenager, Mr. Dressler studied organ with Dr. James Boeringer, who was head of the music department at Susquehanna University, and practiced on an 1894 Felgemaker organ. During this time he developed a strong interest in historic “tracker action” organs. He also began to have an interest in historic performing practices. He strives to use old techniques (on both historic and modern instruments) to speak to the modern listener in a way that is musically exciting also in tune with the kinds of sounds audiences might have heard in years past. He pursued these techniques throughout his college years, earning a Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance, cum laude, from Susquehanna University, where he studied with Dr. Susan Hegberg, and a Master of Music in Performance, with honors, from Westminster Choir College. At Westminster, he studied organ with Mark Brombaugh and Joan Lippincott. These studies were followed by lessons with Bernard Lagacé in Montréal.

Mr. Dressler has held large church positions in Philadelphia and New Jersey, where he is also known as a choral director. He is currently employed as Organist/Choir Director of Music at First United Church of Christ in Reading, PA. He has also been a featured lecturer in various venues, speaking on topics such as Performance Practices of the Baroque Era, in music history and appreciation, and Music and Holistic Health. His special abilities to communicate, both as a speaker and performer, are combined in his performances, where he discusses much of the music he performs. Audiences respond enthusiastically. A reporter from a local newspaper in Pennsylvania has said, “Dressler interacts with the audience on a very personal level, appealing to young and old alike. One comes away from each program knowing they have learned something.”

Mr. Dressler grew up in Danville, but continues to have relatives in the Freeburg/Mt. Pleasant Mills, and Selinsgrove areas.

*Also, in Celebration of our Anniversary Year,
Pastor Henderson will join us in worship on Aug 23rd.
Jimmy Swartz will join us on October 4 and Bishop Driesen will join us November 1.
We hope you will join us for all of our special events during this special year.*

Congregation Council

President—Jeff Whitman; Vice President—Eric Rowe; Secretary—Carolyn Sands; Treasurer—Buzz Savidge; Susie Weller; Janet Bilger, Karen Bowen; Carol Harrison; Teresa Berger; Lowell Leitzel

From the Council President:

Last month the church council decided in a unanimous vote to install solar panels on the church roof using a generous bequest from the estate of Ruth Roush. Prior to signing the contract, the solar company did a Geo earth survey of our roof as well as a visual inspection of the roof top to ensure it was properly aligned for solar panels. Once we signed a contract with them they conducted more detailed engineering inspections. These included visual inspections of our electrical meters, fuse boxes, and the roof trusses to determine where to install the flashing needed to connect the solar panels to the roof. In the course of the roof inspection they discovered that the trusses were out of alignment and sent us a report that stated that this structural issue presented a danger to the integrity of the building. A second independent firm, Stahl Shaeffer Engineering, was contracted to review the trusses and that report also concluded that the trusses are out of alignment and that this is most likely due to structural stress. After a meeting of the council, finance team, and property team our insurance company was contacted and has also reviewed the situation to see if there might be funding available for repairs. At the writing of this letter the insurance company has not come to a conclusion about this.

Regardless of the insurance carrier's decision, we now find ourselves in the position of needing to repair the roof trusses. The council, in consultation with the property and finance teams, have agreed to hire BE structural engineering firm to more closely inspect the roof trusses and provide us with a repair design that we can use. The property team will then recommend to the council a contractor to effect the repairs. The finance team will recommend to the council the best way to meet this expense (a cost we do not yet know for sure). These repairs would have needed to take place regardless of whether or not we intended to install solar energy at the church. We are fortunate that these problems were discovered by the engineering firm for the solar company. Once the repairs are finished we hope to continue with the installation of solar panels on the church.

As the repairs go forward the council will do its best to keep the congregation informed.

Dr. Jeffrey P. Whitman

From the Social Ministry Team—God's Work. Our Hands.

We are planning to assemble Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits on "God's Work Our Hands" Sunday, September 13 during the Sunday school hour. Your help is needed.

We will be collecting the various items for these kits during the month of August. You may start to look for bargain prices on the five (5) items needed for each kit:

1. medium-weight bath-size towels (approximately 52"X27" or smaller) -dark color preferred
2. bath-size bars of soap
3. adult-size tooth brushes
4. sturdy combs
5. nail clippers

A container will be placed in the foyer for your donations beginning August 2.

When LWR distributes Personal Care Kits, it's often to people who have lost everything. In the wake of an earthquake, or having fled from violence as their homes were overtaken, they clasp a towel from a faraway place, with a bar of soap, a toothbrush...and washing up, they know that they have not been forsaken by the world.





Beaver, Douglas	8/1
Harrison, Jetta	8/1
Turbitt, William	8/2
Hummel, Charles	8/4
Carr, Vi	8/5
Fladmark, Kenneth	8/5
Dagle, Robert	8/6
Piermattei, Mark	8/6
Schlingmann, Kathy	8/6
Dressler, Mason	8/7
Soper, Justin	8/9
Spigelmyer, Kay	8/9
Stroup, David	8/9
Cote, Grace	8/11
Askew, Lynn	8/13
Kalcich, Tina	8/13
Aucker, Kendra	8/15
Winger, Phil	8/16
Betzer, Rachel	8/17
Johnston, Judy	8/18
Nickler, Kyle	8/19
Krebs, Mark	8/20
Aungst, Pam	8/21
Sassaman, Janet	8/21
Lupolt, Chris	8/22
Aungst, Betty	8/24
Ernest, Nancy	8/24
Whitman, Kevin	8/25
Wise, Susan	8/25
Black, James	8/26
Snyder Jr., George	8/26
Lupolt, Alex	8/27
Kuster, Theresa	8/28
Matrey, Kris	8/28
Barben, Sherry	8/29
Kalcich, Jeston	8/30
Mundy, Shirley	8/30
Reichenbach, Elmer	8/30
Matrey, Michael	8/31
Mitchell, Maxine	8/31

Prayer

♥ *Changes things*

Let us pray for you with Faith

Believing

HE WILL LIFT YOU UP

Rose Aucker, Betty Aungst,
Dr. Nelson Bailey, Tom Beachell,
Charles Berge, Bill Breon, Julie
Breon, Amy Bush, Jim and Dawn
Diemer, Eleanor Dinius, Charles
Engelbrecht, Betty Ettinger, Irene
Fladmark, Jim Gautsch Jr., Linda
Gautsch, Ilene Gilson, David
Holmes, Jr., Valerie Holmes, Pat
Hower, Martha Hummel, Mary
Hummel, Mary Johnson, Betty
Kerstetter, Harvey Kreamer, Jr.,
Keith Landis, Ron Laniewski, Lowell
Leitzel, Lorrie Littlefield, Miriam
Logan, Marci MacIntyre, Mary
Maneval, Roger Marks, Shirley
Mayo, Susan Mull, Phillip Murphy,
Kay Musser, Mark Nolder, Alyssa
Oxenford, Jacquie Peachy, Doris
Pence, Curtis Pennay, Ernie
Renninger, Ryan Riethmiller, Chime
Rouse, Miles Schrader, Guy Shreck
Jr., Bill Starr, June Stetler, Robert
Stetler, Paul and Emily Twitchell
family, Bob Walter, David Weimer,
Ken and Chris Whitebread, Jeremy
Wolfe, Gary Wydell

The Ridge

The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg is seeing green. And that's a good thing. On the hill, environmental care reminders are everywhere, always in our face. Blue recycle bins, food and beverage glass containers, metal cans all remind constantly that God's world is to be treated respectfully. Yes, green initiatives shout out. There's the ELCA web page, boldly and wisely treating both environment and energy. There is encouragement on campus to support local restaurants, some using some of the locally produced Adams County food products. Green at LTSG is a big deal.

Carol Black

A Note of Thanks

*My Sharon family,
Thank you for your
thoughts, prayers,
and cards during my
recent
hospitalization. It is
wonderful to feel
God's presence when
facing health issues.
Mary Pendley*

August Worship Volunteers

	Greeters	Acolytes	Readers	Ushers	Cantor/CA	Altar Guild
Aug 2	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Craig and Karen Hoke		John Pendley	Todd and Laura Aungst	Sue Pennay	Alma Pauling (B)
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
	Jason and Rachel Dagle	Anna and Emma Kalcich	Kermit Ritter	Don and Grace Housley	Bob Bradford Kathy Reiland Markie Reiland	Carol Harrison Nancy Martin
Aug 9	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Michael and Kathy Keeney			Brian Pauling Jack Spigelmyer		Roseann Stetler (B)
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
	Robert and Romane Dagle	Madison Snyder	Philip Riggs	Nelson and Sue Kerstetter	Judd Williams Eric Rowe Dave Deckard	Shirley Walter Jenny Ruth Partica
Aug 16	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Don and Dana Kemberling	Courtney Kemberling	Roseann Stetler	Terry Kissinger	Teresa Berger	Jackie Winey (B)
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
	Dave and Audrey Deckard	Sarah Pennay	Eric Rowe	Jacob and Stacy Koch	Dawn Doll Alex Pennay Curtis Pennay	Vi Soper Shirley Rowe
Aug 23	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Terry and Judy Kissinger		Harold Dunkelberger	Brian Pauling Jack Spigelmyer	Theresa Kuster	Maureen Ries (B)
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
	Paul and Delphine Grimes	Jessica Beaver	Toby Skinner	Kermit Ritter Keith Kunkel	Philip Riggs Art Bowen Don Housley	Karen Bowen Grace Housley
Aug 30	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
	Dawn Dunkelberger Brian Pauling		Fred Hooper	John and Roseann Stetler	Sue Pennay	Dawn Dunkelberger (B)
	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM	9:30 AM
	Bob and Carol Bradford	Madison Snyder	Deb Bernhisel	Bob and Vi Soper	Hannah Doll Teresa Berger Maureen Ries	Audrey Deckard Linda McMillin