

# THE SHEP NEWS



Weekend E-Newsletter • Sunday, November 22, 2009 • Christ the King, Worship: 9AM- ELW Service; 10 AM-Sunday School/Fellowship; 11 AM -Sing 'N Rejoice

## OUR MISSION

- To invite all people to know the unconditional love of Christ;
- To share Christ's love through words and deeds;
- To empower people to serve Christ in the world.

[www.goodshepherdmd.org](http://www.goodshepherdmd.org)  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)



**GOD'S WORK  
OUR HANDS**



**John 18:33-37**

## Sermon on the Amount November 15, 2009

Needed weekly \$6703  
Debt Reduction 560

**TOTAL RECEIVED \$5465**  
Needed for Budget **\$6703**  
Worship Attendance 176  
Sunday School 67  
To Make Budget **\$16269**  
Owed Reserve Fund 13,500

Your help with weekly expenses is appreciated



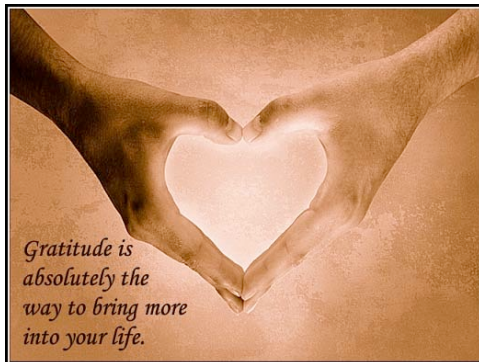
**50th Anniversary**

[www.mar-lu-ridge.org](http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org)

## The Gratefulness Journal

They were celebrating their first New Year's together as wife and husband. Married that summer, they were caught up with the struggles every couple experiences in the first year: creating a home, balancing careers and marriage, trying to keep up with student and car loans and rent while putting away whatever they could to build a future.

That New Year's Eve, they decided to stay home. He walked into the bedroom and found her propped up, writing in a new notebook. Snuggling next to her on the bed, he asked what she was doing.



"Oh, nothing. Just writing down all that's happened this year."

"Can I see?" he asked.

"Sure."

He took the journal from her and started to read: A beautiful wedding with family and friends . . . our honeymoon in Bermuda . . . Mom and Dad's help to buy our first place . . . my wonderful husband . . .

Then he took the pen and added: My brothers' help in fixing up our house . . . A tough but good year at the firm that shows promise . . . my loving, caring wife. "A pretty good first year," he said, handing back the pen. She wrote at the end of the list: We have much to be grateful for.

And so began a tradition. Every New Year's, they would open the notebook and list the blessings of the year past. In those early years, the list was long: the birth of Sarah, her promotion at school, the launch of his own business. Some years the list was short and almost terse: Managed to keep it together during a bad year. Survived her cancer surgery. A stormy year with our teenager Sam, but we all made it.

And every year's pages end with the words: We have much to be grateful for.

The journal is kept on the top of a dresser where they can't help but see it every day. Its very presence throughout the year reminds them, in good

times and bad, in moments of sadness and crisis, of desperation and despair, We have much to be grateful for.

On this Sunday before Thanksgiving, we celebrate Christ the King, who comes to reveal the truth of God's love for all of us. In the figure of the Gospel Jesus, we realize the truth: We are loved by God to a degree we cannot begin to fathom. We are loved by a God who humbles himself to become one of us in order so that we might become something of God, to realize that we have been created by God's very breath blown into our hearts. In the love of this God we have much to be grateful for; in the complexities and challenges of our lives we realize that the truth of God's love is the one constant reality.

*Pastor Ron*

## Christmas Love Tree

The Social Ministry Committee **Christmas Love Tree** in the Narthex has paper 'ornaments' listing a gift for needy families received from The Religious Coalition. Be part of a joyous act of giving. Take an 'ornament,' purchase the gift listed, wrap it, **attach the 'ornament' tag to the gift,** place it under the tree by **DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>**. The tree also serves as the annual Mitten Tree. You may place blankets under the tree for families who have nothing to wrap a baby in when bringing a baby home from the hospital.



**Special Meeting.** Due to lack of quorum at our Annual Congregational November 15th, the business meeting has been postponed until Sunday, December 6th, for a brief fifteen minutes in the Nave following the 9AM Service. Two agenda items to be voted on: budget and the election of new Council Members.

**Heifer Project Ark Banks** are available in the Narthex throughout the Fall, ending in Mid-December. Please take a bank, put your spare change in it. They will be collected on or about December 13th. Thanks for your support of Social Ministry Outreach Projects. Families with children are invited to pick up a 'Bank.'

**Prayer Concerns:** Patrick Covert, son of Loretta and Norm Covert, recovering from emergency surgery; John Day, brother of Janet Fisher-Day, York Hospital; Mary Nelson; Paul Miller and Greg Miller, brothers of Evie Timberlake, Bobi Alleman (Sister of Loretta Covert); Molly, cousin of Bobbie Donaldson, Gene Schoonover; Ron Knerr, Bill Shuff,

Bernie Abrecht,; Lee Brohawn; Lucas Phelan; Sandy Kessler, Kathleen Shook; Phyllis Culler, Dale Lutz, Carolyn Hellman; Phone: Peggy Beers (301) 663-9741/Marilyn Ayres (301) 663-1997; or E-mail Evie Timberlake [2timbers@verizon.net](mailto:2timbers@verizon.net).

**Adult I Sunday School** meets Sundays at 10AM in the Community Room. We are studying the three comparative religions of the Abrahamic faith: *Judaism, Islam and Christianity*. Join us as we view "Protestant Christianity" this Sunday, November 15th in this DVD series.

**Adult II Sunday School** meets in the Fireplace Room, 10:15 AM - open discussion of contemporary issues from NPR's "Speaking of Faith". All are welcome.

**Homebound:** Orpha Zimmerman; Becky Molesworth; Polly Carmack; Charles Thompson; Mary Nelson; Alice Willoughby; Agnes Gamer; JoEllen Gluscevic; Jo Adams; Belva Bell; Marjorie Deater; Kathleen Shook, Barbara Adams, Rena Hall, Golden Living Center, Frederick.

### Remember Our Military Members:

Jason Feser, Jeffrey Feser, Eric Feser. Prayers for Jeff Feser deployed to Iraq Wed., November 18th. His address is **1st Lt. Jeffrey Feser, HHC 1st BDE 1AD/Bravo 6-1 CAV (RSTA0 FOB Warrior, Iraq APO AE 09338**. 'Lord, please hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them even as they protect us. Bless them and their families during the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.'

**Passion Play August 2010** *Seats still available for Pastor Ron's 2010 trip to the Passion Play in Oberammergau in Bavaria, Germany, August 4-14* that includes visits to Prague, Budapest and Vienna- with continuing visits to Oberammergau and Munich. Reservations still open for the trip. Brochures are available in the Gathering Area. Pastor Ron [ronrv@comcast.net](mailto:ronrv@comcast.net) or [www.travron.com](http://www.travron.com).

**First Communion Class** will be offered by Pastor Ron on **Sunday, November 22, 3-4:30pm** in the Fireside Room of the Church. Sign up is posted on the Education Board in the Gathering Area or E-mail Pastor Ron at [ronrv@comcast.net](mailto:ronrv@comcast.net).

**Shepherd's Brew, November 20th** Come perform or just listen and enjoy. Bring a snack to share, bring a neighbor and friends. Friday's, Community Room, 7:30-9:30PM. **Next month's night is Dec. 18th.** Mike & Robin Schaeffer [schaeffz@netzero.net](mailto:schaeffz@netzero.net).

### Report on Fair Trade Fair

We still have lots of coffee, chocolate and Audrey Asbury's homemade jellies and will have them for sale next week, and longer if still some left. We cannot return them.

• Fair Trade Money to date - a little over \$3,000. and counting as we move the above listed items. Thrivent® will be supplementing our efforts and all profits go to LWR.

### From the Financial Secretary

Third quarter 2009 Giving Statements are being sent out. *Please check with your pledges. If you need to catch up or if you would like to make additional Gifts, please do so by Sunday Dec. 27th.* Any Gifts received after Sunday Dec. 27th will be recorded in tax year 2010. Any question, please call Bill Thelemann 301-620-1535 or [thelemann@comcast.net](mailto:thelemann@comcast.net).

### Ready for a Winter Get-A-Way?

Mar-Lu-Ridge is beautiful in the winter months, come see for yourself. Our cabins are heated, and the woodstoves are ready... consider bringing your group for a unique retreat on the mountain. The view is unbeatable! As a special incentive, we are offering a 10% discount to groups who schedule a retreat in January and February. Call our office today and let us help you plan a memorable trip to Mar-Lu-Ridge. Cost per person: 1 Night/2 meals: regularly \$56 Special - \$50; 2 Nights/5 meals: regularly \$93 Special - \$84. We look forward to serving you! (800) 238-9974 [mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org](mailto:mlr@mar-lu-ridge.org).

**United Cerebral Palsy** of Frederick is hosting our first **"Give Thanks! Community Yardsale"** on Saturday November, 21, 2009 from 9am to 3pm at the Adult Daycare facility located at 5736 Industry Lane (next to Key 103 Radio)

All items (we have hundreds) will be sold on a "FREE WLL DONATION" basis to not only help UCP of Frederick, but those shopping in the community as well. All proceeds are to benefit the UCP Day Program and our 5 group homes. Three of our members live in the Walkersville unit. Kathy, Gail and Joyce will receive direct benefits from all our fundraisers. Paul Willoughby also attends the Adult Day Care program and hopes to see you there.

We are also accepting donations of items in good condition which can be dropped off at the center on Industry Lane Friday 9am-3pm 11-20-09 if you are interested in giving a donation. Call UCP office line 301-663-8700 with any questions.

### Spinning A Good Yarn

Good Shepherd has received a donation of yarn, knitting needles, and other craft supplies and unfinished projects. The donor would like us to use as much as possible to make blankets, hats, and anything else we can for others who may have a need.



If you would like to use some of these supplies to make blankets for children who are hospitalized, lap blankets for nursing home or hospitalized patients, or donate new stuffed toys, please let Pat Schoonover (301-473-8736 - [sewinglady@xecu.net](mailto:sewinglady@xecu.net)) or Loretta Covert (301-663-3344 or [goodshep14@aol.com](mailto:goodshep14@aol.com)) know. Or you can place them around the "Gift of Love" tree in the gathering area.

Hopefully, *Spinning A Good Yarn* will be a year-round ministry sponsored by the Social Ministry Team, of knitters, crocheters, crafters, to supply comfort items to babies and children at Frederick Memorial Hospital and to nursing homes, the homebound, etc. Blankets for babies and children (the NICU is already well supplied) can be crocheted, knitted, quilted or fleece, newborn size 30"X30", infants, 36"X48", toddlers/preschoolers 40"X54", and children 50"X64". Also needed/ appreciated would be toys or stuffed animals (new), children's clothing (especially socks, underwear & infant clothes), shampoo & conditioner, sippy cups (child uses it & takes it home) and infant feeding spoons (also takes home).

**Hunger Coordinator Needed** for the congregation. This person would serve as a point person to receive materials from the Synod's Hunger Mission Force and the ELCA Hunger Appeal. A 'kick-off' meeting by phone for coordinators is being planned with Dan Rift, ELCA World Hunger Appeal Coordinator. Interested? Let Pastor Ron know. [ronrv@comcast.net](mailto:ronrv@comcast.net).

**Christmas Blanket** During the holiday season, the 7th Grade Confirmation class will be holding a raffle for a Christmas blanket put together by the class. We will be collecting food for the Frederick Food Bank for the raffle. Each time you drop off a non-perishable item, write your name and phone number on the paper provided and place it in the container, located near the Education Bulletin Board. Winner will be chosen at the 11AM service on Sun. December 20th.

### Congregation Council Officers 2009

Pres: Janet Rippeon Fisher [jdription1@aol.com](mailto:jdription1@aol.com) 301-304-0374  
Secretary, Sandy Hagen, [Sandra.Hagen@gmail.com](mailto:Sandra.Hagen@gmail.com)  
Treasurer : Jean Van Tassel [jvantassel@aol.com](mailto:jvantassel@aol.com)  
Financial Sec'y: Bill Thelemann [thelemann@comcast.net](mailto:thelemann@comcast.net)