

'THE SHEP' eNEWSLETTER



Epiphany III • January 22, 2012 • • Worship: 9AM - Evangelical Lutheran Worship; 10 AM - Education Hour; 11 AM - Sing 'N Rejoice Service

OUR MISSION:

✦ **To invite people to follow Christ with us.**

www.goodshepherdmd.org

Rev. Ron Reaves, Pastor
ronrv@comcast.net



Sermon on the Amount General Fund + Debt Reduction

Needed weekly	\$6,132
Debt Reduction	302
Year-to-Date Budgeted	\$19,302
<small>(Includes General Fund & Debt Reduction)</small>	
Received 01-15	\$4272
Year-to-Date Received	\$12,842
Needed to reach Budget	\$4297
Worship Attendance 01/15	173
Sunday School	49
Debt Reduction:	Approx. \$6460
Reserve Fund Balance	714



www.mar-lu-ridge.org

"Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Mark 1: 14-20

Hold tight!

For more than two decades, a small church in Texas has ended its Sunday worship service with a ritual the minister learned from an African-American pastor.



"Let's take each other's hands," the minister says at the end of each service. "Now look who you're holding hands with, and hold on tight! Because we're going to need each other this week."

Over the years that the church has concluded its services with this ritual, parishioners have told the pastor of facing any manner of personal problems and crises and not knowing what to do or how to respond, until it hit them: they could call the person whose hand they held the previous Sunday.

[The Christian Century, October 6, 2010.]

Being the "fisher" that Jesus calls us to be does not require us to cast our lines very far. The help we offer to family and friends, to neighbors and parishioners, realizes the vision Jesus articulates in this Sunday's Gospel. Christ entrusts to each one of us the work of discipleship: to extend, regardless of our own circumstances, the love of God to all; to proclaim, in our own homes and communities, the compassion, the forgiveness, the justice of the Gospel; to take on God's work of reconciliation and forgiveness among all his sons and daughters. As God is present to us in the person of Jesus, we are called to be present to one another in our love and care.

I have enjoyed our 'fishing' expeditions these past 17 years at 'The Shep.' Many of you have joined us along the way to realize that we are all sort of 'networking' together for the sake of this Good News venture of extending our Word, Water and Meal life to the world and neighborhood around us. Being students of Jesus' word and witness among us, the most exciting part of being a pastor has been the

conversations and community-creating that has come out of or life together. During our 50th Anniversary we imagined that (given our namesake) we were sheep on our way to becoming shepherds. But this Sunday's Gospel theme from Mark suggests that we are fisher types on our way to become filled-up fishnets of all kinds of fishers. The world of God's self-revealing love imagines burgeoning fishnets 'fish become fishers.'

One thought I've had across the years came from my Luther League days at Elias Church in Emmitsburg. That faith is 'caught,' not 'taught.'

The spirit of divine fishing is like that. It's not a commoditization, it is something we catch.

Pastor Ron

Super Bowl • Youth Group

The Super Bowl takes place on **Sunday, February 5**, and approximately 100 million Americans are expected to tune in to watch. As many are enjoying abundant food and friendship while hosting or attending parties, approximately 1 billion people will be hungry. **The Souper Bowl of Caring** is an ecumenical, youth-led movement, with more than 2,000 ELCA youth groups raising money for hunger-related charities each year.

The money you raise can be donated to the hunger-related charity of your choice. *This year, please consider making a difference locally and globally. Select a local organization to receive half of what you raise, and send the other half to ELCA World Hunger.* Gifts to ELCA World Hunger support the projects of this church that respond to hunger and poverty in over 50 countries -- including hundreds of soup kitchens and food pantries right here in the United States. What an incredible way to make a worldwide impact! *See the table display by our Senior Youth in the Gathering Area. Every dollar donated will go to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal and the Religious Coalition for Emergency Human Needs.*

Welcome Dennis and Sandy

Good Shepherd is pleased to welcome into membership **Dennis and Sandy Page**. They come to us by Letter of Transfer from Fjeldburg Lutheran

Church, Huxley, IA, an ELCA congregation. Dennis is the Assistant Director at the Center for Import/Export for Select Agents, which are microorganisms that are dangerous for animals and humans. Sandy is an unemployed RN.



They have two adult children: a son who is married with a daughter age 5 and a daughter age 2. They also have a daughter with 2 sons, one 3 years of age and the other 18 months. Dennis loves fishing and sports; Sandy enjoys crafts, dolls and reading. We are delighted to welcome Sandy and Dennis to the Good Shepherd community!

Prayer Concerns

Ellen Moll, serious health concerns; Pat Printz, at the death of her son, Bryan Danser; Olaf and Annaliese, Parents of Stan Blorstad; Andrea Reaves; Peggy Beers, Boonsboro; Cecilia Cuzar; Helena Graham; Jean Jacques, friend of Sandra Hagen; Carl Darner, Homewood at Crumland Farm; Rev. Robert and Jackie Lehman, at the death of their son, Jordan Lehman; Janelle Reinitz (home) Judy Price; Chuck Lounsbury; the Gluscevic Family; Sandy Kessler; Hayden Boerum; Carole D'Amico; David Denn; Ron Knerr; John Day; Charlie Thelemann; Lucas Phelan; Dale Lutz; Prayer requests, phone: Peggy Beers (301) 663-3344, Marilyn Ayres, ayres@comcast.net, (301) 663-1957; Evie Timberlake 2timbers@verizon.net.

Remember Our Military: *Captain Jeff Feser; CW3 Jason Feser, sons of Carol and Rich Feser, both brothers being deployed to Afghanistan; Write to Jeff: Capt. Jeffrey Feser, Apache Troop, 1-13 Cav FOB Nerk APO AE 09364; Capt. Craig J. Salt, USN, son of Barbara and Don Salt, stationed at U.S. Naval Medical Center, San Diego, deployed to Afghanistan; Daniel Fuller. Capt. Lee and Capt. Nicole Ketrin, son and daughter-in-law of Peg and Gerry Marose; also Marcus Harter, son of Anne and Bob Harter, has now completed his Basic Training at Ft. Benning, GA.*

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.'

Remember Also Our Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, EMT's, Paramedics and First-Responders. We pray for *Todd Crum, Brad Reaves, Nick Culler, Bruce Matthews, Greg Nails, Bobby Brown, Todd Feser, David Chisholm, and Greg and Mark Timberlake* - those among us who put their lives at risk to protect and secure our communities, our state and our nation.

Lord, please take care of those who are trained to protect us and rescue us in emergencies. Bless them and their families as they work daily in harm's way and are ready for us in our time of need. Amen

Correction: January Adult Night Out Dinner at Miyako Japanese Restaurant, on the Golden Mile, on **Friday, January 27th, 7pm.** Please RSVP by January 25 *Peg Marose*: peg.marose@gmail.com 301-639-3099.

Looking Ahead, February 4th Come out and play! Bring your favorite game (and snack!) to share at GAME NIGHT. More details to follow!

Hayden's Heroes Benefit Bingo **Saturday, February 4, 2012**, Doors open at 2PM. Eagles Club#1067 216 E. Patrick St., Frederick, \$30 ticket in advance; \$35 at the door. \$75 pay out per game. Includes door prizes. Contact *Audrey Windsor*, a.windsor@yahoo.com or 240-315-6818. or *Singy Golden* gigoldensr@comcast.net (Snow Day, February 18). Benefit Hayden Boerum, suffering from a rare disease called Histiocytosis. For information click on www.HopeForHayden.com

Inclement Weather We hope for a mild winter (of course!), but in case we have measurable snow that would require cancellation, will do four things should worship and Sunday School need to be cancelled: 1) Put an announcement on the Answer Machine at the office (301) 663-3344 (if I'm able to get there); 2) put an announcement on my own home phone (301) 663-9566 and 3) send an E-mail to all those who have E-mail. And 4) put announcements on local radio stations: WFMD and KEY103 *Pastor Ron*

Summer Camp brochures are here! Good news! The Camp has lowered their prices to \$399 for Junior and Junior High Camps. Family camps are being offered for two sessions this summer. Also they've added 'Guitar Camps' for those who want to learn some pickin'. Additionally, if you want to learn to swim, the camp's Summer Swimming program is available for novice or experienced swimmers. Brochures available on the Education Board in the Gathering area. Check the website: www.mar-lu-ridge.org.

Congregation Council members, including newly elected members, *Tim Busche Sandy Hagen, Gail Mathews and Renate Owen*, were commissioned at either service on **Sunday, January 8th**. At its first regular meeting, Monday, January 9th, Council elected Mike Miller as Council President; John Martin became Vice President; Sandra Hagen was re-elected Council Secretary and Jean Van Tassell was re-elected Congregational Treasurer.

Interim Pastor Congregation Council, at its special December 11, 2011 meeting, voted to call an interim pastor following Pastor Ron's retirement at the end of May. This person will serve intentionally to ready our congregation for the calling of a

full-time pastor. The interim pastor's work will include most of the pastoral care work, preaching, worship leadership, etc., but with special duties that helps the congregation determine the qualities it seeks in a new, permanent pastor. A congregational profile will be prepared during the interim pastor's work. The Congregation Council will have the responsibility of receiving names and interviewing interim pastoral candidates (to begin sometime in February - March).

Paying Off the Debt With less than three months to go and at about \$5,000 our Good Shepherd Debt will be paid off in March! When Pastor Ron arrived in 1994, the debt was almost one half million dollars. Thanks for your faithful response!

Save the Dates!

During May, there will be a series of events designed to celebrate and commemorate the service of Pastor Ron and Lucretia as he prepares for retirement June 1st.

- **May 6 - The Frederick Choral** will perform at the early service in recognition of Pastor Ron's contribution to the arts in our community.
- **May 13 - Special recognition** of Ron and Lucretia's contributions to Christian Education by the Sunday School classes.
- **May 20** - We 'pull out all the stops' to say thank you to Pastor Ron and Lucretia for their years of service to Good Shepherd and the Frederick community. **Pastor Bob Holum** will be guest preacher and presider at both services. Pastor Holum represented the Delaware-Maryland Synod when Pastor Ron was called to Good Shepherd in 1994. Following the 11AM worship, a luncheon will be provided at the Elks Club (Shookstown Rd. and Willowdale Dr.) **Pastor Mark Crispell**, Pastor Ron's close friend for over 30 years, will be key-noter (roaster). **Be sure to save the dates!**

Looking for a Bible Study Group?

We have three active 'NeighborTalk' groups currently available. info@goodshepherdmd.org.

NeighborTalk South Carl and Michele Hildebrand, 5403 Georgetown Rd. Adamstown, MD 21710
NeighborTalk Northwest Sue and Dan Steffen, Audrey Asbury and Nancy Zeim, 5511 Bootjack Drive, Frederick, MD 21702
NeighborTalk East (Spring Ridge) Diane and Attilio DeMarco, 6408 Fairbanks Ln., Frederick, MD 21701
 Now meeting in the Fireside Room.

We are looking for a Frederick City host home and Bible Study leader(s) for 2012. If you are interested in either (Bible Study leaders could be a team), please contact Pastor Ron at ronrv@comcast.net.

Synod Council calls new Assistant to the Bishop

The Delaware-Maryland Synod Council, meeting January 14 at St. Martin Lutheran Church in Annapolis, voted unanimously to call **The Rev. Reinold Schlak Jr.** as a full-time Assistant to the Bishop, effective March 1, 2012. Ron, as he is called, will take the place of Pastor Roland Hobbs, who has been serving in a part-time interim capacity since September 2010 and is planning to re-enter



retirement as of January 31. Bishop Wolfgang D. Herz-Lane reported that more than a dozen candidates had been considered and six had been interviewed by him and the assistants.

Pastor Schlak currently serves as pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Charleston, West Virginia. He has been there for the past 16 years and also has served congregations in Pennsylvania and Florida. He has extensive training in congregational dynamics, coaching and conflict resolution and has served in the Western Maryland-West Virginia Synod as a consultant to various congregations.

As an Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Schlak will relate primarily to the four western conferences: Allegany, Washington County, Frederick, and Westminster. In a new configuration among synod staff, he also will be a resource person and staff liaison to the Mission through Partnership Team, and pay particular attention to the synod's work in social ministry, public policy advocacy and the relationships with outside partners.

Congratulations to Melissa Boerum, who recently graduated from nursing training. She received the Director's Award, recognizing her perseverance, determination, courage, and strength in meeting the challenge of becoming a Registered Nurse while supporting her toddler, Hayden, through his rare autoimmune disease called 'Histiocytosis.'

The Frederick Woman's Civic Club

will be having their annual "Mardi Gras Ball" on February 22, 2012 at the Holiday Inn on at FSK Mall. Carol France, of Good Shepherd, is President of the club this year. The club, the oldest service club in Frederick will be giving proceeds of the Ball to "Mission of Mercy." Information? Contact *Carol France* or *Carol Feser* info@goodshepherdmd.org. As an addendum, our own *Rich Feser* was named a king of the Mardi Gras Ball!

Worship Schedules February through April are now posted on Good Shepherd's website www.goodshepherdmd.org.

Staff

Contact at: info@goodshepherdmd.org

Pastor: Pastor Ron Reaves ronrv@comcast.net

Administrative Assist.

Loretta Covert

Church Treasurer:

Jean Van Tassell

Choral Director:

Janet Rippeon Fisher

Church Organist:

Michele Kimmel

Contemporary Music

Leader: John Hane

Nursery Attendant:

Carol France

Maintenance Coordinator

John Mathews

Lay Leaders

Preschool Director:

Heather Keane

Education Coordinator:

Lucretia Reaves

"The Messenger" Editor:

Debbie Culler

Website Coordinator:

Andrea Reaves

Junior Choir:

Lucretia Reaves

Financial Secretary:

Council Officers:

President: Mike Miller

Vice President: John Martin

Secretary: Sandy Hagen

Treasurer: Jean Van Tassell