

VOICE OF THE HILLS

Shepherd of the Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church
7 Wescott Road, Simsbury, CT 06070

MARCH 2011

Adults & Youth Serving Together - - - HARTFORD

Please consider volunteering for one day of service to the poor in Hartford on Saturday – April 30th. You can help rebuild not only a house but a needy family's home. Our Congregation decided to do an Intergenerational Service Project in association with "Rebuilding Together/Hartford". "Rebuilding Together" is the nation's leading nonprofit working to preserve affordable homeownership and revitalize communities. For more information, check out www.rthartford.org or www.rebuildingtogether.org. Or talk with Dick/Murphy Granstrand. In the coming weeks, he will provide more information via talks during worship, bulletin inserts, posters and other means. Our youth and several adults cleaned up Keney Park on National Rebuilding Day two years ago. Here is an opportunity to go out into the world and love our neighbors, to be as Christ to the downtrodden. I would ask you to pray for this wonderful day of service in Hartford, for those who plan it and for those who help!



Worship Servers and Participants needed

Lent is a very special time in the church year. It is a time to reflect on the our role as servant, just as Jesus was a servant. It has been our tradition to have individuals participate in a foot washing during the Maundy Thursday service (April 21st at 7:30 p.m.). If you would like to participate please contact Pastor.



During Holy Week and for Easter Sunday, there is a need for additional Worship Servers. Please

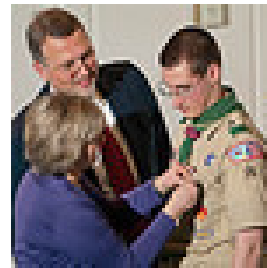
sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall as to when you are able participate in these very special services.

Sunday School News

In Sunday School, we have begun a new module with lessons about God's grace. The theme is "Free Prize Inside" (think free prize in a cereal box – undeserved!).



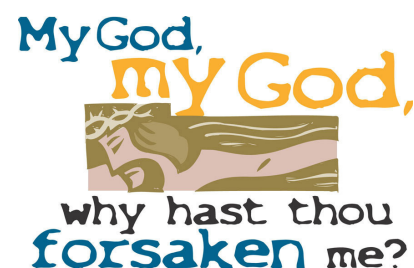
We will also be assembling Easter baskets again. Please look for Easter basket stickies in the narthex. Our kids love assembling these baskets, and it's a great way for them to share their faith.



Court of Honor for Eagle Scout Billy Lorenzen

Billy Lorenzen says thank you to all that came to his Eagle Court of Honor on Friday, February 11th. He also says thank you also to those that supported him with his project. For those that are interested there are pictures on the link at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/trboysen/sets/72157625908502843/>. A troop parent took these during the Eagle Court of Honor ceremony.

Bill, we are very proud of you. Congratulations!



Psalms 22:1, KJV

THE TRANSFIGURING POWER OF LENT

My Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

One of Webster's definitions for the work "transfigure" is "to alter radically." That is exactly what the season of Lent is designed to do.

The last story we hear about Jesus before we begin the season of Lent is the account of his transfiguration. While on the mountain top with Peter, James and John, his appearance is "transfigured" and he shines with an inner brightness and his clothing becomes brilliantly white. It is wonderfully appropriate that this is the last story we hear before we begin our Lenten journey because it is the purpose of Lent to "alter radically" us.

In a world consumed with building up people's sense of self worth, Lent has that same purpose, but from a radically different perspective. Lent is designed to tear us down before it builds us up because Lent wants us to know our **true** worth rather than the hollow self worth the world offers.

The world says you have worth because you get, or because you do, or because you achieve. By these standards we are actually "human doings" rather than human beings.

But as followers of the crucified one our self worth is rooted more deeply than in the passing value of possessions or achievements. We have worth not because of what we do, but because of Whose we are.

To understand this eternal-self-worth-giving relationship, the penitential nature of Lent calls us to close self examination. It calls us to examine ourselves and the ways

we fall so far short of God's intention for us. It calls us to an honest appraisal of how we measure up to the Lord's standards, not the world's.

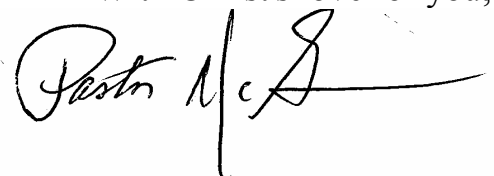
The purpose of this is not to inflict self destructive guilt. And it's not even to motivate us to greater efforts at being better people (although that is often a result). The purpose of Lent is to draw us closer to the one whose love is so powerful that it has the power to wash away our sin, and transfigure our lives in ways that allow us to be channels of his light and love in the world.

You see, our motivation is never to be guilt, or fear, or gain. As disciples our motivation is always to be love. Lent seeks to open us to the sin that we may be cleansed and freed to love as we have been loved. The cleansing of Lent has the power to radically alter us and transfigure us into clearer signs of Christ's light in the world.

It is my prayer for each of you that you will use the gifts this season offers: spend extra time in worship on Wednesdays; use the grace of private confession; commit to a daily fasting to help remember the sacrifice made for you.

Use the gifts of Lent to draw closer to Him whose love for you never ends. He will transfigure your life.

With Christ's love for you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pastor McGurn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.



Happy Birthday to:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthd</u>
Garrett Crowe	03/02
Linda Ferrari	03/03
Don Holtman	03/06
Karen Barrett	03/08
Ryan Endorf	03/11
Ken Zacharias	03/15
Jill Liguori	03/16
Ryan Christensen	03/17
Estella Paffrath	03/18
Sarah Chapin	03/18
Karen Levan	03/19
Kelton Zacharias	03/22
Kathy Waddington	03/24
Dick Granstrand	03/26
Bonnie Zacharias	03/26
Lynn Svindland	03/27
Shelby Proto	03/30

Happy Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Scott & EmmaLee Smith	03/10



Bulletin Deadline

The bulletin deadline each week is Wednesday at noon. Announcements may be dropped off at Claudia Steele's desk or emailed to office@shelc.org.

Newsletter Deadline

The newsletter deadline for the April issue is March 20th . Articles may be dropped off at Claudia Steele's desk or emailed to office@shelc.org.

VOICE OF THE HILLS

Newsletter of Shepherd of the Hills
Evangelical Lutheran Church
7 Wescott Road
Simsbury, CT 06070
(860) 658-0583 Fax: (860) 408-0073
Email: office@shelc.org
Website: www.shelc.org
The Rev. Robert P. McGurn, Pastor

**ALTAR FLOWER
CALENDAR**

The 2011 Altar Flower Calendar has been posted. Please sign up for the weeks that you would like to remember someone. The cost of the flowers are: center piece \$40.00 and for 2 side vases \$70.00. Instructions on how to order the flowers are on the bulletin board with the chart.



Food Bag Sunday

Social Responsibility continues our Food Bag Sundays, the first Sunday of the month (March 6th).

The holidays are just around the corner. Please consider donating canned vegetables, boxed potatoes, bread mixes, pickles, olives, dessert mixes or beverages. Just bringing in 1 or 2 items a week would be a great help, too. Food items are always needed. Items can be left in the narthex under the choir stairs. Thank you for your generosity.



Choir Rehearsal Schedule

Hand Chime Choir—
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Choir —
Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.
First Service Choir —
Sundays at 9:20 a.m.



We encourage anyone that has interest in joining any of the choirs to contact Karen Levan (674-9421).

**PASTOR ON VACATION/
EMERGENCY CONTACT**

Pastor McGurn is on vacation from Monday February 28 until Tuesday March 8. He will return Ash Wednesday morning. In his absence, Pastor John Marschhausen (860-667-8520) is available for emergencies. His phone number will also be on the church answering machine.

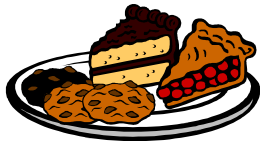


YOUTH NEWS

Pasta/Dessert Auction

A Huge Success

Once again our Pasta/Dessert Auction is another wonderful fundraiser for our Youth Ministry. If you have not attended one before please plan on attending in the fall. We were served a delicious pasta dinner along with salad and bread. Following dinner we held our dessert auction led by our auctioneer, Jeff Klenk. There were many delicious desserts to choose from. There were Valentine cakes, all kinds of pies, and of course Pastor 's unbelievable cheesecakes. The funds that were raised helps offset the cost of the Senior High Mission trip to Grand Rapids, Michigan in July. The final tally from the auction was \$3,545.00. We are praying that Thrivent Lutheran will be able to help with a financial donation of thier own. We are blessed to be part of such a generous congregation.



Confirmation 2010-2011

We kicked off our Confirmation year in September with an awesome group of 7th and 8th graders. We usually meet each Monday afternoon from 4:30PM-6:30PM. Our time begins with a snack provided by the parents and then a time of study and lively discussions take place in Pastor's office. The March schedule is as follows:



Date	Time	Snack	Meal
Mar. 7	4:30-6:30	LaFreniere	
Mar. 14	4:30-6:30	Lorenzen	
Mar.21	6:00 – 8:00	---	Havighorst
Mar.28	4:30-6:30	Stickel	



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- ✘ Choice Dollars are made available as premiums are paid, contract value is determined, and Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership is identified.
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Or contact:

Mimi Boxwell, Financial Associate.
860-942-4012

Your local Thrivent Financial representative

MOTHERS IN LOVE + FATHERS IN LOVE = FAMILIES IN LOVE

GIVE YOUR FAMILY THE BEST GIFT THEY CAN GET

Your family will enjoy the love Mom and Dad brings home from a **Lutheran Marriage Encounter** (LME) Weekend.

A Marriage Encounter Weekend is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, phones, and computers, and focus only on each other. If you'd like greater depth, growth, fun, and enrichment in your relationship, you'll like the difference an LME Weekend can make!



The next LME Weekend in Connecticut will be on:

April 8-10, 2011
7:15 PM, Friday to 5:30 PM, Sunday
In Meriden, Connecticut

For more information see website: GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact **Pastor Robert & Linda McGurn;**
1-860-653-2173.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: THURSDAY, MARCH 10TH.

**Shepherd of the Hills Evangelical Lutheran Church
Worship Servers Schedule**

	03/06/2011	03/09/2011	03/10/2011	03/20/2011	03/27/2011
		7:30			
		Ash Wednesday			
Acolyte	B. Proto	K. Chambers	E. Hausmann	I. LaFreniere	(needed)
Worship Assistant	(needed)		(needed)	(needed)	(needed)
Communion Assistant	P. Smith B. Forler	C. Calhoun M. Proto	C. Stevens S. Garrett	D. Endorf B. Christensen	B. Gruell
Ushers	Christensen	O'Neil	Weill/Stomski	Schlichers	LaFreniere
Lector	K. Waddington	S. Chambers	D. Hausmann	C. Stevens	B. Gruell
Nursery	B. Tschiegg		K. Moon	K. Endorf	K. Waddington
Nursery Asst					
Coffee Hour Host	Zacharias		(needed)	Thrivent	(needed)
Sound Tech	K. Gajewski	G. Levan	L. Tschiegg	C. Gajewski	P. Smith
Altar Guild	L. Ferrari	L. Ferrari	L. Ferrari	L. Ferrari	L. Ferrari
	10:30		10:30	10:30	10:30
Acolyte	J. Barrows		E. Lorenzen	C. Stickel	A. Rossignol
Worship Assistant	(needed)		(needed)	(needed)	(needed)
Communion Assistant	S. Crossett C. Calhoun		L. McGurn S. Chambers	L. Hoar R. Rourke	G. Baier R. Johnson
Ushers	Rourke		Crowes	Crosset	Rourke
Lector	B. King		D. Granstrand	D. Stickel	L. McGurn
Nursery			S. Rourke	K. Barrows	
Coffee Hour Host	O'Neil		(needed)	Thrivent	(needed)
Sound Tech	K. Smith		R. Rourke	G. Levan	G. Levan
Altar Guild	L. Ferrari		L. Ferrari	L. Ferrari	L. Ferrari
Tellers	R. Bremer R. Rourke		S. Rourke P. Crowe	E. Chambers D. Holtman	R. Bremer E. Holtman

March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
OFFICE HOURS (unless otherwise noted below) Mon. & Tues.: Noon – 4:00 p.m.; Wed. & Thurs. 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.						
Pastor on Vacation						
6 8:00 & 10:30am Holy Communion 9:00 & 11:30am Coffee Hour 9:10am Christian Education Hour 9:30am First Service Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Senior High Youth Group Youth Group Retreat	7 10:00am Home Schoolers -- Biology 1:00pm Girl Scouts 4:30pm Confirmation	8 5:30pm Tails-U-Win	9 Ash Wednesday 9:45am Bible Study w/ Pastor 10:00am AA 7:30pm Holy Communion	10 700pm Prayer Team	11 10:00am Home Schoolers 7:00pm Elementary Youth Group	12 8:30am Special Council Meeting - "Blueprint"
Pastor on Vacation						
13 8:00 7 10:30am Holy Communion 9:00 & 11:30am Coffee Hour 9:10am Christian Education Hour 9:30am First Service Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Senior High Youth Group	14 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm First Communion 7:00pm Council	15 5:30pm Tails-U-Win	16 9:45am Bible Study w/ Pastor 10:00am AA 5:00pm Private Confession 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Vespers 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18 10:00am Home Schoolers 6:30pm Granby Food Co-op Meeting	19
20 8:00 & 10:30am Holy Communion w/ Rite of Healing & "Lovingkindness" 9:00 & 11:30am Coffee Hour 9:10am Christian Education Hour 9:30am First Service Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Senior High Youth Group	21 1:00pm Girl Scouts 4:00pm High School Confirmation 6:00pm Confirmation Pastor on Retreat	22 :30pm Tails-U-Win 7:00pm Worship Planning Team	23 10:00am AA 5:00pm Private Confession 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Vespers 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	24 8:00am Granby Food Co-Op 7:00pm Prayer Team	25 10:00am Home Schoolers	26
27 8:00 & 10:30am Holy Communion 9:00 & 11:30am Coffee Hour 9:10am Christian Education Hour 9:30am First Service Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Senior High Youth Group	28 10:00am Home Schoolers -- Biology 4:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm First Communion Carpet Installation	29 10:00am Keepers of the Faith 5:30pm Tails-U-Win	30 9:45am Bible Study w/ Pastor 10:00am AA 5:00pm Private Confession 6:00pm Soup Supper 7:00pm Lenten Vespers 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	31	2011	

January 13, 2011

Dear Friends at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your gift of \$716.31 to support Scott Chambers while preparing for ministry at Luther Seminary! Many of our students would



not be here without the partnership of supporters like you. Your support helps ease the financial burden of attending seminary, allowing Scott Chambers to respond to the call of the Holy Spirit. Not

only do your generous gifts make a significant financial difference in the lives of our students, but they also help affirm and encourage students in their calls.

...
Your prayers and your ongoing financial gifts make ministry possible. Thank you for your important investment in the. Future leadership of the church! Please continue to keep Scott Chambers and all the students of Luther Seminary in your prayers.

Sincerely,
Lynne D. Moratzka
Donor Relations Coordinator



January 28, 2011

Thank you for your recent gift of \$300.00 received by December 31, 2010 to support our ongoing relief efforts around the world.

But offering a simple "Thank You" for your gift never quite feels like it's enough to me, because what you've done is help us save lives. The best I can do is tell you how much we appreciate your support for AmeriCa.res.



Thanks to support from donors like you, for more than 25 years AmeriCares has been delivering essential medicines and relief supplies quickly and efficiently in times of natural and man-made disasters. Now we are responding to the devastating earthquake in Haiti - delivering and distributing emergency aid, and then we will be helping the Haitian people rebuild their country and their lives.

Just as often as we respond to disasters, we help save lives and restore health by providing life saving medicines and other critical aid to people living in desperately poor or conflict-ridden countries struggling daily for survival.

With sincere appreciation,
Curt Welling
President and CEO

January 14, 2011

On behalf of those we serve, thank you. Your contribution is already at work in your community and across the country. With every meal served, every shelter opened and every community member trained to respond, your donation of \$323.00 on 1/3/2011 to American Red Cross Disaster Relief is empowering individuals to prepare for and recover from disasters. By supporting the Red Cross, You are on the front lines of relief, delivering hope and comfort during emergencies.

...
Your American Red Cross, along with our community partners, provides critical emergency preparedness and response services throughout Connecticut and across the country. Our corps of dedicated volunteers, committed staff, generous supporters and collaborative efforts with municipal emergency managers helps to turn heartbreak into hope for those affected by disasters.

No other entity provides our depth of services to communities across the United States. Thank you for choosing to make a commitment to your local American Red Cross and for supporting the lifesaving mission of the American Red Cross.

Sincerely,
Dianne J. Auger
CEO, Connecticut Region

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Voice of the Hills

MARCH 2011

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

BIBLE READINGS FOR MARCH

Mar. 6	Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9
Mar. 9	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Mar. 13	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7; Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11
Mar. 20	Genesis 12:1-4a; psalm 121; Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17
Mar. 27	Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 95; Romans 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

Mark Your Calendars!

March 9, 7:30 p.m.

Holy Communion with Ashes

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 8 & 10:30 a.m.

Sundays in Lent Holy Communion

March 16, 23, 30 April 6, 13, 20,

5:00 p.m., Private Confession

6:00 p.m., Soup Supper

7:00 p.m., Lenten Vespers

