



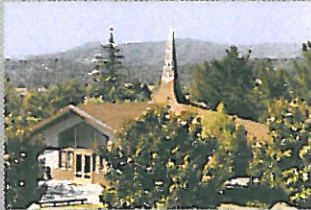
April/May 2011
Volume 42, Issue 1

The Shepherd's Staff

A newsletter for the members
and friends of Shepherd of the Valley

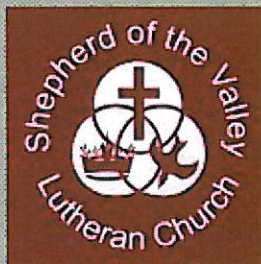
Shepherd of the Valley
Lutheran Church
LCMS

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Everyday Easter by Pastor Weller

There is nothing quite like Easter morning in the church. This sanctuary which for the last 40 days has been somewhat bare and subtle is completely transformed. Over the week beforehand especially the church has taken on a more solemn and even grave atmosphere. But then comes Easter. Gone are the black candles and bare altar. Gone are the slow funeral like hymns. Gone the somber readings and silent exits from the church.

Easter morning is a full senses worship. You are hit as you come into the sanctuary with the overpowering odor of the flowers. The bleak and plain altar is covered with the white lilies and joyful paraments. From the first note of music, there is a declaration that things are different now. This sanctuary that resembled a funeral parlor on Friday night now comes alive with the music, colors, and sights of a church of life. Easter changes everything about the church. Even the people are different. Those who left Friday night in silence

and contemplation now sing at the top of their lungs, "I know that My Redeemer lives!" Easter changes everything about the church and about the people and it is right that it is so. It begs the question: why couldn't everyday be like that?

The obvious answer is that then we wouldn't appreciate Easter as much. Easter is cherished because it is rare in the church year. Just as Christmas is cherished because we only get it once during the year. There is however a part of Easter that should stay with us beyond the lilies and echoes of music. Easter changes everything. It changes how we can approach our everyday life.

Easter is the declaration that Christ is risen, but it doesn't stop there. It is also the declaration of the promised resurrection that belongs to all believers. That promise allows us to approach our everyday lives in a more confident and peaceful way. The promise from your faithful God, who always keeps

his promises, that you will be raised should instill into your life a confidence that can't be shaken. No matter what you face. Easter should affect our everyday by making whatever comes our way more acceptable.

Paul lays out this resurrected approach to everyday life in Romans 8:18. "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us." He continues in verses 37-39. "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all of creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus."

All these things which loom so large in our present mind just don't compare with that glory that Easter promises. The trouble is that we are sinners and in that sin we are subject to the ups

Everyday Easter, cont.

“How do we keep that Easter confidence with us for the everyday struggles we face?”

downs of confidence that come from our lives. In September when we are struggling in a relationship, Easter can seem so far away. Yet the promise that God makes and that we sing about on Easter should be a source of tremendous comfort in the middle of that September struggle. How do we keep that Easter confidence with us for the everyday struggles we face?

Why not try this: Pick your favorite Easter hymn and memorize a verse or two from it. Through these words, which are almost always scripture, God the Holy Spirit will comfort, reassure, and clarify hearts and minds. The promise of Easter upholds us through it all. For Christ is Risen, He is Risen, indeed!

A Big Thank You from LaVada Terrell

I want to thank everyone for their phone calls, e-mails, cards, grocery cards, gifts, food, rides, get-togethers, prayers, love, care, concern and donations during this time in my life. Of course, this is not planned, but it is here nonetheless – just a bump in my journey of life. I thank God that He has spared me pain thus far, and that He has put so many loving people in my life to care for me.

I am so blessed beyond words. April 12 starts my chemo treatments – every 3 weeks (six sessions). I ask for continued prayers during this time. I know God is carrying me and will see me through this valley as always.

We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.
Romans 8:28



Who is My Elder?

Pastor Weller and the Elders have completed the assignment of individual Elders to the members of our congregation. Please refer to the list below to determine the Elder assigned to you.

As always, if anyone should have any questions regarding this or any other spiritual matter, please contact Pastor, Dave Matthews (our head Elder), or your individual Elder.

MEMBER'S LAST NAME

<u>Elder</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Dave Matthews	Ahern	Deprez
Jon Skoglund	Devine	Hazen
Joe Sampson	Herzing	Martin
Tim Eckert	Matthews	Scheuer
Rod Broome	Schwartz	Yamabe

A Peek At Preschool by Tania Kennedy

Many fun activities are planned for the children in April. The classes will be talking about spring and the changes we will see outside. Each class will be getting caterpillars in their room and the children will be able to watch them transform into beautiful butterflies. This is a great illustration of how Christ makes us new. We will be talking about Easter and how much the Lord loves each one of us.

Also in April we will have an afterschool Science enrichment class. The children will have the opportunity to learn more

about the world they live in through a fun hands-on class. The children are also looking forward to Pony Day. They will enjoy a ride around our campus and will get their picture taken on the pony.

This past month we enjoyed singing some of our chapel songs during our Contemporary Service.

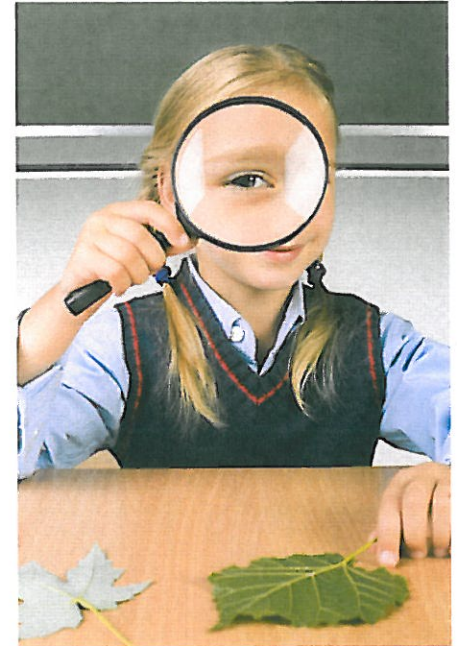
Our Pre Kindergarten classes just got back from a fun field trip to The Youth Science Institute at Vasona Park.

We have also had a lot of fun playing in the Fellowship Hall during rainy day recess.

We are so thankful for the extra space!

Children are a gift from God; they are His reward.

Psalm 127:3



Palm Saturday: Journey to the Cross

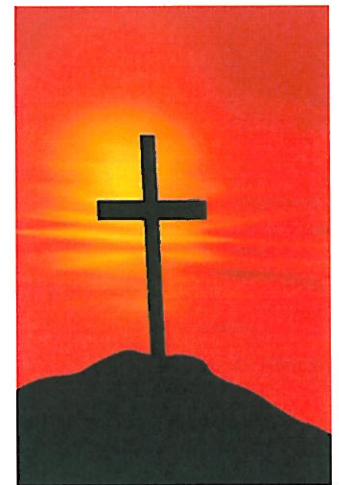
What is Holy Week? What are the different events that led up to Jesus' crucifixion on Good Friday? The Board of Education is sponsoring a special "Palm Saturday" program for our Sunday School children (and their friends!) on Saturday, April 16 to help address these questions. This morning event will feature short lessons, crafts, snacks, and other activities that teach the biblical Passion account in a fun and experiential way.

There is no cost to attend, but we do ask for an RSVP for planning purposes. A letter has been sent home to all Sunday school families and information is also available in the narthex.



PALM SATURDAY SUPPLIES NEEDED:

We are in need of some supplies for our Palm Saturday program. If you are able to donate or lend any of the following, please contact Gretchen Skoglund at 927-7991: *date stamp and ink pad, small dome tent, palm branches and/or small palm trees (potted), a whip, donkey (live is preferable), six Easter lilies. We also need approximately four dozen cross-shaped cookies.* Thank you!



Upcoming Fellowship Activities by your Fellowship Committee

"Sure hope you'll come and enjoy many of them!"

We're working hard to bring some fun activities this year. Sure hope you'll come and enjoy many of them! Look for flyers with more details and sign-up sheets when needed in the narthex. A listing of events for the next few months:

APRIL

13 Lenten Soup Supper (6pm)

17 Bake Sale/Boutique (Shepherd Women); after both services
24 Easter Breakfast (Youth) between services

MAY

14 San Jose Giants vs Stockton Ports (Thrivent) 5pm
21 Wine Tasting
22 [Combined Choir] Spring Worship Fest

JUNE

26 VBS/Summer/Mission Fund Raiser (noon)

JULY

16 Supper Club (Adult Night Out) – Sonoma Chicken Coop (6pm)

Vacation Bible School coming in June



It'll be a swingin' good time this summer during SOTV's Big Jungle Adventure VBS program! Children are invited to come on a jungle adventure and meet Jesus every day pick up the fun activities we have planned for them. Preschool children

through second grade (completed) may attend the week of June 13 through 17; preschool and 1st grade (completed) may attend June 20 through 24. **SOTV members & friends may register now.** Registration will open to the public on Tuesday, May 3.

Registration forms will be available in the church office or on the website on a first come, first served basis.

www.sanjoselutheran.org

Don't miss out on this fun summer experience!

Thrivent Financial News by Joanne McDonough

A day at the Ballpark!

San Jose Giants vs Stockton Ports, Saturday, May 14, 6 p.m.

San Jose Municipal Stadium

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is the largest corporate sponsor for Habitat for Humanity. Thrivent and volunteers from our Lutheran

churches are now completing our 5th home in Santa Clara County. Annually we have a fundraiser to support this worthwhile cause. There are two ticket options:

"General Admission" - For a donation you get one general admission ticket and a hotdog.

"Martinelli Deck" - For a minimum donation of \$40 you get one ticket for the

Martinelli Deck, picnic tables along the 3rd base line and a BBQ dinner. 50 seats are available on a first come, first served basis. You can pick up your tickets at church at the Thrivent table. Tickets are also available at the Thrivent Offices, 2021 The Alameda, Suite 140, San Jose 95126.

Questions, please contact Thrivent's Advocate, Marie Mosier at marie_erna@yahoo.com

"Thrivent... is the largest corporate sponsor for Habitat for Humanity."

What is Christian Stewardship?

“Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God’s family, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes.”

The above definition of Christian Stewardship contains only 29 words, but what a mouthful when you consider the application of the various parts of the definition.

Free and Joyous: Many people do not think of stewardship as being free and joyous but it really can be when we have the calm assurance that our

God richly provides all that we need for the support and wants of our body and life.

Child of God: What a beautiful title for God’s people! The opening verses of 1 John 3 speak of the lavish love of God resulting in making us His very own children. What great good news and what a powerful reminder of the proper motivation for our stewardship activity – love to our God who first loved us.

God’s family, the church: This phrase reminds us that our stewardship is not a solo performance but is done within the Christian community to honor God

and benefit others.

In managing all of life and life’s resources:

Part of our stewardship struggle is that we think we “own” all those things that surround us when, in truth, we are managers. Another part of our struggle is that we may think that Stewardship is just about money, time and talents. Christian stewardship is about those things and more; Christian stewardship involves our whole life – everything that God has entrusted to us to manage as faithful stewards.

For His purposes: Maturing stewards do the

right things for the right reasons. All we do as Christian stewards is to be done to the glory of God and for the welfare of others as well as ourselves. Who said stewardship was easy? If it were, everyone would be doing it!



Hymn Devotion by LaVada Terrell

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

When I survey
the wondrous cross
On which the Prince
of glory died,
My richest gain
I count but loss,
And pour contempt
on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord,
that I should boast,
Save in the death
of Christ, my God;
All the vain things
that charm me most –
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His
hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow

mingled down;
Did e’er such love and
sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so
rich a crown?

Were the whole realm
of nature mine,
That were a present
far too small:
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul,
my life, my all.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Few believers ever learn to truly love the cross of Christ. For though it offers great deliverance, it also demands great sacrifice. Isaac Watts drives this truth home through the words and music of this powerful hymn. Watts was deeply disappointed with the

hymns of his day, which failed to inspire his parishioners to genuine worship and holy living. His dissatisfaction led him to compose more than six hundred hymns, all designed to call his congregation to a deeper knowledge and worship of God. This hymn was written in 1707 for use in a Communion service.

The music of this hymn was borrowed from Gregorian chant. Its rich, grave tones call those who sing it to realize the seriousness of Christ’s sacrificial death. What shall we offer to God in grateful return for His gracious gift? All that we are and have is but a small offering in return for such great love.

But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

Philippians 3:7-9

The Shepherd's Staff

is brought to you by:

Douglas Peterson

Marty Herzing

Rev. Robert Weller

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.sanjoselutheran.org

www.shepherdofthevalleypreschool.org

Shepherd Women by Peggy Eckert

Shepherd Women will be sponsoring a bake sale on Palm Sunday, April 17, for the benefit of the congregation. Donations of baked goods will be greatly appreciated!

On Tuesday, May 3 we will be having a shower for the Pregnancy Center and will be soliciting items

from the congregation through May for NEW newborn layettes. Watch for more information to follow.

Reminder – we collect:

Brown paper bags, clothes & food for C.O.M.E.; pocket change for Mite Boxes; clean blankets and mattress pads for quilts for LWR

(60x80"); items for troops in Iraq/Afghanistan (Jan/Feb); items for babies for Pregnancy Center (April/May); soup labels for the basket in the narthex.

LYF Easter Breakfast & Easter Egg Hunt

The LYF will be hosting the annual Easter Breakfast. The LYF is requesting donations of coffee cake, quick breads or doughnuts.

The group will also be sponsoring an Easter Egg

Hunt for all children through the sixth grade. This will be held following the 11:00 a.m. Easter service. Donations of small candies to fill plastic eggs would be gratefully appreciated. Candy may be brought to the office.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Rick Galla
- Shirley Vernon
- 4 Clay Petrehn
- Nicole Tiernan
- 12 Kirsten Schurk
- 13 Joel Koitmaa
- 14 Emily Wooten
- 15 Kyle Alpers
- Emi Yamabe
- 16 Peggy Eckert
- 19 Janet Maynard-Schurk
- Spencer Petrehn
- Travis Herzing
- 21 David Eckert
- 22 Brendan Albert
- Richie Anderson
- 23 Jonathan Schwartz
- 24 Monique Easley
- 27 Sharon Beene
- Luke Weller
- 28 Carissa Bertelli
- 29 Marty Herzing
- 30 Carol Barikmo



MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Cheryl Sampson
- 3 Payton Williams
- 4 Helen Croft
- 7 Thomas Huenergardt
- 9 Deane Smith
- Ken Halsey
- 10 Alyx Leatherman
- 11 Mike Rathje
- Bill Seip
- 14 Michael Hanlon
- Steve Ruel
- 15 Sandy Leatherman
- 16 Marianne Ruel
- 18 Dana D'Angelo
- Marjorie Bertelli
- 22 Dylan Hazen
- Shirley Vernon
- 23 Scott Deprez
- Cormac Petrehn
- Becky Fricke
- 27 James Schwartz
- 29 Patricia Lewis
- Brenda Patterson
- Joyce Smith
- 30 Tom Nichols



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 17: Michael and Dana D'Angelo - 29 years
- 27: Steve and Marianne Ruel – 26 years
- 30: Brent and Andrea Cisneros - 1 year

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 13: Jack and Diane Weatherby - 11 years
- 18: Todd and Janet Maynard Schurk – 15 years
- 22: Ken and Laurie Halsey – 7 years
- 23: John and Sandra Leatherman – 24 years
- Deane and Tania Smith – 58 years
- 29: Joe and Brenda Will - 18 years

Relay for Life Planned June 25

Save the date!

Saturday, June 25, 2011

10:00 a.m.

Leland High School

Shepherd of the Valley Church and Preschool has formed a team to participate in the Relay for Life, sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

Anyone can join.



Special Worship Services

Maundy Thursday Communion Service

April 21
7:30 p.m.

Good Friday

April 22
7:30 p.m. Tenebrae Service

Easter Sunday

April 24
8:30 a.m. Traditional with Communion
11:00 a.m. Contemporary

May Wine Tasting Trip

Members of SOTV are invited to come on a wine tasting trip among the vineyards of Saratoga and Los Gatos. As we will be renting a bus, the number of attendees is limited. More information, including time and cost, will be forthcoming as the time draws near.



Confirmation Day set for 2011

We rejoice with the parents of our newest confirmation class. These young people have completed two years of catechism classes and are now ready to join the communicant membership of SOTV. They will be confirmed and have their First Holy Communion on Sunday, May 15. May

God bless them richly with His grace and lead them to do great things for their Savior, Jesus Christ.

The 2011 class includes: *Alyx Leatherman*, daughter of John and Sandy Leatherman, and *Cormac Petrehn*, son of Dave and Lori Petrehn.

VBS Volunteers Needed

Many people are needed to help make our Big Jungle Adventure VBS program a success! Won't you please consider lending your time and talent to this outreach? As it is being held in June this year, we need to get all of our volunteers on board in the next month. Leaders are needed

for crafts, snacks and recreation, as well as for individual classes during both weeks. Also, if you know of any responsible teenagers needing volunteer hours, we can give them some! Please speak with Gretchen Skoglund (927-7991) if you would like to serve.

Mark your Calendar

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 22

12:00 noon

Shepherd Music Ministries by LaVada Terrell

If you enjoy singing, playing instruments, and warm fellowship, then come and be a part of our fun and inspiring ministry!

ADULT CHOIR - THURSDAYS, 7:30pm

Psalm 96:1 ~ ~ *Sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.*

If you love to praise the Lord with your voice, there's a place for you in the Choir Loft in the Shepherd Choir. We sing praises to our Lord on Sundays at the traditional, organ-led service at 8:30am, and other church festivals between September and June. Special musical selections are offered during the summer months.

Through its music of traditional Lutheran anthems, as well as other Christian music from different ages and styles, the Choir glorifies God and ministers to the congregation and each other.

We also use different instruments with our anthems and hymns. ☐ So if you play an instrument, let us know ~ no use letting it collect dust!

PRAISE TEAM - MONDAYS, 6:30pm

[1 Chronicles 15:16](#) ~ ~ *David told the leaders of the Levites to appoint their brothers as singers to sing joyful songs, accompanied by musical instruments: lyres, harps and cymbals.*

The Contemporary Worship Service is in need of more help to run the slide show each week. Ideally, a team of four to six people could make sure that the slides are created, set-up, and manned for the one hour service each week. You do not have to be a high-tech specialist to do this! We will train you. Please see Andy Patterson if you are interested in serving our congregation in this way.



ON-GOING FUND-RAISING EVENT

To Assist in Paying
LAVADA TERRELL'S
Excessive Medical Expenses
For Cancer Treatment

 **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans™**
Central Santa Clara Chapter
Will Match Donations

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
SHEPHERD OFFICE FUND
With "LaVada Terrell" in memo line

SEND TO
THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS
SILICON VALLEY GROUP
Attn: Joanne/Brenda
2021 THE ALAMEDA, Suite 140
SAN JOSE, CA 95126-1126

For questions on the Fund, call 408-984-1777 x312

Charitable Giving: How to Make a Difference by Giving Back

Would you like to use your time, talents and treasures to make a profound impact on the organizations you care about most? Join us for a free workshop to help you learn about:

- Charitable giving financial tools that may decrease your taxes and/or supplement your retirement income.
- Options for leaving a lasting charitable legacy.
- Different ways to "give back," including volunteering.

The workshop will be presented by Thrivent

Financial representative Carol Hack and hosted by the Santa Clara County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

When: Wednesday,
May 18 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Where: Thrivent
Financial for Lutherans
2797 Park Avenue,
Suite 204
Santa Clara, CA

Refreshments will be served.

Sign up for this free event today! Contact Carol Hack at 248-4225 or carol.hack@thrivent.com by Wednesday, May 11.

Elder of the Month: Jon Skoglund

April 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Organists:</p> <p>3 Vikenna Anderson 10 Tom Jorgensen 13 Douglas Peterson 21 Douglas Peterson 22 Tom Jorgensen 24 Douglas Peterson</p>		<p>Ushers:</p> <p>8:30am Brent Cisneros & Brian Yamabe 11am Joseph Easley & Ted Schwartz</p>		<p>Alfar Guild:</p> <p>Jackie Werbelow Cynidi Wilkinson</p>	<p>6PM PRAYING MONIE NIGHT</p>	
<p>8:30am Traditional Service 9:45am SS/Adult Bible 11am Contemporary/Comm Baptism 8pm AA</p>	<p>6:30pm Praise Team 7pm Pack 281</p>	<p>7pm Shepherd Women</p>	<p>8:30am Bible Study 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Lenten Service 7:30pm Choir 8pm AA</p>	<p>1:30pm Sewing Group 7pm Bible Study (Seip's)</p>		<p>9am SERRING CLEANING</p>
<p>8:30am Traditional Service/Comm 9:45am SS/Adult Bible 11am Contemporary Service 8pm AA</p>	<p>6:30pm Praise Team</p>	<p>6:15pm Board of Ed 7pm Council</p>	<p>8:30am Bible Study 12:30pm Shepherd Women 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Lenten Service 7:30pm Choir 8pm AA</p>	<p>1:30pm Sewing Group 7pm Bible Study (Seip's)</p>		<p>9:30am-12noon Palm Saturday Journey to the Cross</p>
<p>PALM SUNDAY 17 8:30am Traditional Service/Comm 9:45am SS/Adult Bible 11am Contemporary/Comm BAPT/CRAFT SALE</p>	<p>6:30pm Praise Team</p>	<p>6:30pm Men's Club</p>	<p>8:30am Bible Study 8pm AA</p>	<p>7:30pm Maundy Thursday Service/Communion</p>	<p>7:30pm Good Friday Tenebrae</p>	
<p>EASTER 24 8:30am Service/Comm 9:45am Breakfast 11am Service 12noon EASTER EGG HUNT</p>	<p>6:30pm Praise Team</p>		<p>8:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Bible Study (Kotima's) 8pm AA</p>	<p>1:30pm Sewing Group 7pm Bible Study (Seip's)</p>		

May 2011

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

8:30am Traditional Service 9:45am SS/Adult Bible 11am Contemporary/Comm 8pm RA	6:30pm Praise Team 7pm Pack 281	7pm Shepherd Women	8:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Bible Study (Koitimas) 8pm RA	1:30pm Sewing Group 7pm Bible Study (Scip's) 7:30pm Choir		
8:30am Traditional Service/Comm 9:45am SS/Adult Bible 11am Contemporary 11am Contemporary/Comm 8pm RA	6:30pm Praise Team	6:15pm Board of Ed 7pm Council Meeting	8:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Bible Study (Koitimas) 8pm RA	1:30pm Sewing Group 7pm Bible Study (Scip's) 7:30pm Choir		6pm San Jose Giants
8:30am Traditional Service/Comm 9:45am SS/Adult Bible 11am Contemporary 12pm Congregation Mtg 3pm Spring Worship Fest 8:30am Traditional Service/Comm 9:45am SS/Adult Bible 11am Contemporary/Comm 8pm RA	6:30pm Praise Team Office Closed 6:30pm Praise Team	6:30pm Men's Club	8:30am Bible Study 7:30pm Bible Study (Koitimas) 8pm RA	1:30pm Sewing Group Pack 281 7pm Bible Study (Scip's) 7:30pm Choir	Organists: 1 Tom Jorgensen 8 Virginia Anderson 15 Tom Jorgensen 22 Douglas Peterson 29 Virginia Anderson	Alkar Guild: Marty Herzog Sunny Williams