



Choices, something we make all the time and don't always think about. Recently my father shared with me some thoughts on making choices that I want to share with you. I hope you find these thoughts as useful and insightful as I did. ~ In Christ, Pastor Paul

There is a point along the Continental Divide high in the Rocky Mountains in Colorado at which the waters of a small stream separate. It would not seem to matter much whether a drop of water goes to the left or to the right. But the outcome of those drops of water is totally different. One drop goes to the west and eventually flows into the Colorado River and empties into the Gulf of California and the Pacific Ocean. Another drop goes east until it flows into the Mississippi River and dumps into the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean. Two drops of water, two entirely different destinations, but one small turning point that determines the outcome.

Many choices in life are like that. At the time, they don't seem significant. But those choices set in motion a series of events which shape your life and the lives of your children and grandchildren after you. The original choice wasn't a big deal, but the outcome was life-changing.

Sometimes people make unwise choices which aren't momentous in themselves, but they lead to tragedies: A teenager chooses to ride with a friend who has been drinking, resulting in a serious accident and the loss of life. A girl decides to have a drink at a party, resulting in her letting down her inhibitions. She ends up pregnant or with a venereal disease. Since seemingly small decisions can have such momentous consequences, how can we protect ourselves from making wrong choices?

A. MAKE CHOICES WHICH VALUE RELATIONSHIPS OVER RIGHTS. So much strife could be avoided in the family and in the church if we would put a premium on our relationships, set aside our rights, and let the Lord take care of us.

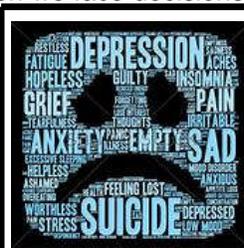
B. MAKE CHOICES WHICH VALUE GODLINESS OVER GREED. If we find ourselves thinking more about the things of this world and how to get them than about God; or if the thought of having them brings us more pleasure than our thoughts about God; or if we are willing to violate our conscience or neglect spiritual duties to pursue those things, then we are governed by greed. If our joy rides on our possessions or if we are filled with anxiety and grief if we lose them, then we are more governed by greed than by God.

C. MAKE CHOICES WHICH VALUE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD OVER THE APPROVAL OF THE WORLD. As Christians, we always face a tension: If we pull out of the world too far, we lose our witness because there is no contact. But if we blend in with the world, we lose both our fellowship with God and our witness to the world. Jesus was the friend of sinners, but He was never tainted by their sin because He put a premium on fellowship with the Father and He never sought the approval of the world. We must put fellowship with God above the approval of the world in all our decisions.

D. MAKE CHOICES WHICH VALUE GOD'S ETERNAL PROMISES OVER IMMEDIATE PLEASURE. Jesus said, "Seek *first* the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you" (Matt. 6:33, emphasis mine). Most of us want to seek the other things first and add the kingdom of God later in our spare time. As believers, we are to live by faith in the promises of God. When we face decisions, we take God into account and make those decisions in line with His promises and principles, not the immediate gratification of the flesh. We deny ungodliness and worldly desires in light of the hope of Christ's return (Titus 2:11-13), trusting that His promises concerning eternity are true.

Someone has said that we tend to think of commitment to Christ like laying a \$1,000 bill on the table: "Here's my life, Lord. I'm giving it all." But the reality is that God sends most of us to the bank and has us cash in the \$1,000 for quarters. We go through life putting out 25 cents here and 50 cents there, in small deeds of faithfulness and obedience. But it's right there, in those little 25 cent choices, that our lives take their direction.

Make your choices based on God's principles: Relationships over rights; godliness over greed; fellowship with God over the world's approval; and, faith in God's promises over immediate pleasure from the world. Because if you have God and His promises, you have everything. So seek Him first, and all else is yours.



SAVE THESE SATURDAY MORNINGS!!

Saturday, April 21st 9:30—11:30 am
"Understanding & Preventing Suicide"

Saturday May 19th 9:30—11:30 am
"Addressing Depression"

Seminar workshops led by Mark Logid, Retired Navy Chaplain, Depression & Suicide specialist, licensed Marriage & Family therapist.

The events of this past month can be an opportunity for you, your family and your friends and neighbors to develop your understandings and abilities for ministering to people and situations which occur in almost every family and which we are often unprepared. Free workshops will be held in the fellowship hall. Please save these mornings!



LET'S GET TO KNOW EUNICE KANG

Eunice Kang was born and raised in Warren, Michigan to a Catholic mother and Lutheran father. She and her three siblings were raised Catholic but she converted to Lutheran as a young adult. Eunice met her first husband, Russ in 1955, in a chemistry class at college. They married in 1956 and had four sons who all became engineers. They went on several RV trips across the country and visited many national parks. They also went backpacking in the Smokey Mountains. When her youngest son started kindergarten, Eunice went back to school part-time and eventually got a BS in Math and Computer Science. She then worked for the gas company, and General Motors as a software engineer.

In 1977, her marriage to Russ ended in divorce. In 1980, Lockheed hired her and moved her to Sunnyvale, California. There she met Peter at his macramé concession in San Mateo. Peter had two daughters, 12 and 13 years old. In 1983, Peter was given a job opportunity in Los Angeles and had to act on it quickly. The girls stayed with Eunice while she looked for a new job. Northrop hired her and moved them to Southern California, where she married Peter. His girls are now a director at an HMO and a dentist.

After 12 years at Northrop, they gave employees incentives for early retirement. So, Eunice got a job at DreamWorks. It was exciting to be on a team to develop a totally new corporate database. Her manager left DreamWorks for Fox and later hired her to work at Fox. Eunice retired from Fox at 73.

Eunice's six children gave her nine grandchildren and one great granddaughter. They are spread throughout the land which has resulted in many happy trips for graduations, weddings, births, and reunions. A special family reunion was on a Disney Cruise. Two other special trips were an Alaskan Cruise with Peter and a Panama Canal Cruise with her sister Clara.

Peter was a talented man in photography, kendo, and painting. He taught kendo, a martial art, at UCI until his death of lung cancer in 2013. Their home is filled with his kendo trophies, photo art, and oil paintings.

Since her retirement in 2010, Eunice spends much of her time with family and with volunteer activities in her church and neighborhood. She especially loves to bake and sing. In her neighborhood she is on the HOA Board, Communications Committee, and Renovation Committee. She maintains the community directory and writes the community emails. At church she was on the Call Committee and is in the Choir, Outreach Committee, and Growing in Grace Bible Group.

Thank you for telling your story, you are such a treasure to our church family.

~Marlene Alexander, Biographer



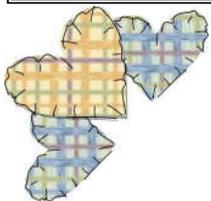
SLEEP AWARENESS

As chronic diseases have become increasingly common, such as heart disease, diabetes, obesity and depression, they all play a role in premature death and illness. Although the amount of sleep is important, the quality of this sleep is vital.

One of the ways to ensure quality sleep is to evaluate your sleep area. Is it dark enough, quiet enough, is your bedding comfortable? One of the best ways to help a relaxing sleep is to use your senses.

- Sight—As you close your eyes imagine a peaceful forest, a beautiful mountain. or watching an ocean.
- Sound—Listen to classical music or soft jazz 30 minutes before going to bed.
- Smell—The essential oil lavender sprayed on your pillow can help you fall asleep faster.
- Taste—Have a lite bedtime snack such as warm milk, walnuts, or tart cherry juice.

~Suzy Langhorne,
Parish Health Minister



Hello everyone from the quilting group. Spring has arrived and so have lots of ideas for our quilts. We have several going and many more to dream about. Please hold on to the items that you want to send to us, as we need to get our closet cleaned out so we can handle new items.

We have had an offer to sew strips, but right now we have to clean material, starch the material then iron all of it before we can think about cutting out designs. It takes us a while longer to get everything done before we reach this point.

So, do we have any helping hands out there that would like to help us get all of this done? Please come see us on the fourth Saturday of each month, except the month of October when we meet the second Saturday and there is no quilting during November and December, that is when we are busy making items for the boutique sale. If you have any questions please give Linda Olson a call 276-0373 or better yet come see us in the fellowship hall where we can talk and enjoy our fellowship. Hope to see you there.





Hallelujah! He Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed!



I pray that you all had a very blessed Easter. This is such a wonderful time of the year when we can share the good news of God's promise to all of our wonderful families.

Our children had fun participating in the church Palm Sunday celebration as well as our Good Friday chapel talk and egg hunts. It is the mission of our school to teach our children the saving grace of God and pray that the seeds we plant grow throughout their lives.

We have made a few changes here at Shepherd of the Valley. First, we have changed our name to "Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Learning Center." We did this so we can include all our children under one name. We are not just pre-school, kindergarten or school age daycare, so now it is all inclusive. Along with this goes our new school website. Check us out at svlearningcenter.com. With the great help and efforts of Tom Hrouda and Barbara Williamson, it is all coming together. You will be linked to our website from the church site if you click on the school. With most people searching for schools online this will be a great boost for us.

Our attendance has picked up for the last half of the school year, we are up to 74 students. We also have started enrollment for next year. If you know of anyone looking for a quality school for their child, please recommend your school at Shepherd of the Valley.

Please continue to pray for our church and school and that God will fill our classrooms with His little ones.

Serving His children.
Linda Williamson, Director

NEXT LUTHERAN CURSILLO WEEKENDS



May 3-6, 2018 for Men
June 7-10, 2018 for Women

Need a spiritual boost? Cursillo is an organization serving the Lutheran churches of Southern California to develop leaders in the Lutheran church through training and spiritual renewal. There is no cost to you to attend a weekend but you must be a baptized member in good standing at a Lutheran church. You will be paired with a sponsor who has been through a Cursillo weekend and have your pastor endorse your reservation request. We recommend praying about it first, then talk to your pastor or others who have attended Cursillo about what you may be able to gain from attending a Cursillo weekend before applying. Cursillo retreats take place at Cursillo House in Pomona. Check their website for more information: www.lcsocal.org. Mark your attendance card or call the office if you are interested in more information.



The Book / New-To-You / Bake Sale and Lunch Court raised \$776 for our Assistance Fund for families in need. We will be able to make this Easter a little happier for many people.

It was heartening to see so many members help in so many ways: advertising, setting up, selling, donating, baking, serving food, buying, cleaning up...

Thrivent supported us in this Outreach Project and you can see many pictures and comments if you go to our project's website at: <https://thrivent.cotribute.co/events/125840/detail> and scroll down.



Tell Your Mom How Much
She Means This



Your mom does so much for you – let her know how greatly you appreciate and love her! Give her a special day, and treat her with a gift card to the spa, a nice dinner out, or with a trip to the mall.

Last day to order SCRIP for Mother's Day is April 29th.



I can't believe how fast the month has come and gone, but time flies when you're having fun, right?

Thank you to everyone who supported our youth group by purchasing See's Candies! We sold over \$1400 in candy and raised over \$400

for our youth program.

March was extremely exciting and busy, and we wouldn't have it any other way! The Open House for the Preschool was a success, and I think our youth got soccer out of their system for a while! We were able to go out on the 17th and hang 150 door hangers. A special thank you to Courtney, Brittney, Schuyler, and Alyssa as well as Marlayna for getting all of those out for Holy Week. Our "Lucky or Blessed" youth group was a blast and a great time of fellowship and getting to know each other.

April is set to be just as exciting as March, starting off with the Easter Breakfast on April 1. There will be NO YOUTH GROUP on April 1st or 8th. On Friday, April 13, we are having a movie night and a Nerf Battle! There will be youth group on April 15, 22, and 29, and we will be getting ready for our youth Sunday service on April 29. Thank you for all the food donations, support and encouragement for our youth group, It is so appreciated by every one of them!

**STITCHED IN PRAYER;
GIVEN IN LOVE.**

Please consider joining us at 10 am on the 1st Saturday of each month. We can show you how to use a very simple pattern to create a gift that provides comfort and hope. Please see Lisa Butterfield if you have any questions.



Puzzle!

Search for these words that are all associated with the Lenten journey.

crown donkey hosanna penance Pilate sins
colt crucifixion forsaken kiss prayer suffer
confess death Gethsemane lots repent thorns
cross denial Golgotha palms silver vigil

E N A M E S H T E G R L W Y
C L E U X B M T H B U C W B
N R I K Y P A T E T I Y X Y
A V J G A L B R E Y A R P B
N G N L I S N L A I N E D X
E W M P R V R D H B N R D F
P S O G O L G O T H A B S C
D L N R O C O N F E S S I K
O T H T C P E K W U O U N D
M N S H N P W E D R H F S K
U N F O E T K Y C S G F O E
H E C R E V L I S W Q E C M
H V H N C X S O C C J R L O
F Q E S U D S H C A A Y M C
C R U C I F I X I O N S R V



**Mark your Calendar
Faith n' Family Night
with the 66ers**

May 18th at 7:05 pm

\$7.00 a ticket

Everyone is invited!

Tickets will go on sale soon. Watch for more info.



HOT DOGS · BEEF · BURGERS · SALADS

Fellowship Dinners
are returning!

On Monday, April 30th
from 3:00 to 9:00 pm
at Portillo's Hot Dogs
12840 Day Street.

20% will come back to us to
help pay for VBS!

We're sorry if we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the office & make sure we have the dates.



- 2 * Della Stange
- 5 * Andrew Rader
- 6 * Mike Olson

- 8 * Melissa Fury, Amber Olson
- 14 * Wyatt Berringer
- 17 * Kathy Krumholtz, Gregory Ross, Lora Wheel
- 22 * Pastor Allen Deinert
- 24 * Laurie White
- 25 * John Rockwell
- 27 * Dorothy Little



- 4 * Gil & Janet Gasco (37 years)
- 23 * Bob & Carol Maurer (24 years)

2018 FLOWER CHART

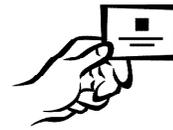
If you'd like to donate flowers for the altar, sign up on the board hanging in the church lobby. Indicate what the flowers are for - anniversary, birthday, in honor of or in memory. Take a slip with ordering instructions. Flowers are ordered by you from Moreno Valley Flower Box (653-3171) and they deliver them to church. Each large bouquet is \$26. Small altar bouquets are \$19 each. Questions? Call the office.



Joseph Project - Community (Citywide) Food Bank

Shepherd is working with other churches in Moreno Valley with this community food bank that provides food for the needy every Thursday from a distribution center at the Koinonia Evangelistic Center, 21866 Brill Rd., Moreno Valley (951-867-3050). Volunteers are needed to help out with distribution, sorting, clean up, etc. at the center. Contributions to the Joseph Project will be gratefully accepted through Shepherd. Please pray for this ministry and volunteer your time and talents! Contact Larry Alexander for more information.

PIANIST WANTED: The Praise Team is looking for 10 good fingers and an open heart that loves music. Do you already play piano, or know someone who does (or any other musical instrument)? Would you like to improve your music skills while contributing "joyful noise unto the Lord?" If this is you, or if have any questions or need additional details, please contact the church office at (951) 924-4688 or Gary Speck at (951) 313-4234. Feel free to join us as many Sundays as you are available. We gather for practice on Sunday at 9:30 am, prior to the 10:45 am service.



INVITE OTHERS TO OUR CHURCH AND SCHOOL!

SVLC business cards are available (in packets of 10) in a basket in the church lobby. Take a pack and pass them out to strangers, friends and neighbors who need a church home or a preschool for their children.

NEEDED FOR NURSING HOMES:
Magazines and greeting card fronts.
Bring to the church or office.



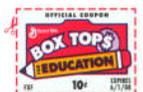
DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR FOOD DONATIONS FOR OUR LOCAL FOOD BANKS EACH SUNDAY!
Thank You!



Thursdays at 9:30 AM
In the Fellowship Hall
Presented by **Suzy Langhorne**
Certified Instructor
Please join us - it's free!

SAVE BOX TOPS FOR OUR SCHOOL!

Specially marked box tops are worth \$.10 each when redeemed from Box Tops for Education. Encourage friends & family, near & far to help, too. Thanks for taking the time to help our school.



THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS:

Thrivent members are eligible to designate Choice Dollars to a church or charity of their choice. **Undesignated dollars "expire" after March 31.** Go to thrivent.com and click the MyThrivent button on the upper right side of the site and direct your Choice Dollars. Both the church and school are registered to receive Choice Dollars and Shepherd is grateful to those who have contributed through this program.



The sponsors appearing on the back cover of the newsletter help defray the cost of printing the Shepherd's Staff, please give them your consideration when possible.

**Ads
Go
Here**

**Calendar
Goes
Here**



The Shepherd's Staff

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES: Sunday: 8:00 & 10:45 AM

"Preach the Gospel at all times. If necessary, use words." — Francis of Assisi

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LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL**
11650 Perris Blvd.
Moreno Valley, CA 92557
Church (951) 924-4688
School (951) 924-3422
www.svlcmoval.net

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

**PAUL YEARYEAN, PASTOR
LINDA WILLIAMSON, PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR
MARLAYNA HAMANN, SECRETARY**

April 2018

Vacation Bible School 2018

**Save the
Date**

**June 18th
to 22nd**



**VBS
Director:
Mindy Lowe**

If you'd like to
volunteer, contact
Mindy at
(951) 707-3618
or by email at
youth@svlcmoval.net
or contact the
church office

More information
coming real soon!

April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>6:00 AM Easter Sunrise Service</p> <p>7:00 AM -11:00 AM Easter Breakfast (H)</p> <p>12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:00 AM First Place TLC (Reese Home)</p> <p>6:30 PM Pack 210 (H)</p> <p>6:30 PM Women of Faith TLC (Riccardi Home)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>6:00 PM School Board Meeting (O)</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:00 PM A.A. Meeting (H)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:30 AM Cursillo Grouping @ Panera Bread</p> <p>10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (O)</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 AM Blood Pressure Screening (H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class (O-H-PS)</p> <p>12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)</p> <p>5:00 PM Confirmation (O)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Koffee Klatch @ Brandon's</p> <p>6:00 PM School Staff Meeting (O)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10:00 AM Outreach Committee</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>7:00 PM Elders Meeting (O)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30 AM Bible Study Fellowship (H)</p> <p>6:30 PM Moreno Valley Historical Society (O)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 AM BrailleMail(H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM Growing in Grace Bible Study (H)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p> <p>8:00 PM A.A. Meeting (H)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 AM Knights of the Holy Spirit Bible Study (H)</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class (O-H-PS)</p> <p>12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)</p> <p>5:00 PM Confirmation (O)</p> <p>6:30 PM Youth Group (Y)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>10:00 AM First Place TLC (Reese Home)</p> <p>6:30 PM Women of Faith TLC (Riccardi Home)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>7:00 PM M & M Board (O)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 AM Bible Study Fellowship (H)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00 PM A.A. Meeting (H)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30 AM Understanding & Preventing Suicide Workshop (H)</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 AM Blood Pressure Screening (H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class (O-H-PS)</p> <p>12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)</p> <p>3:00 PM MV Chorale Concert (S)</p> <p>5:00 PM Confirmation (O)</p> <p>6:30 PM Youth Group (Y)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:30 AM Bible Study Fellowship (H)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 AM BrailleMail(H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM Growing in Grace Bible Study (H)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p> <p>8:00 PM A.A. Meeting (H)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Brandon's</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilting for LWR (H)</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class (O-H-PS)</p> <p>12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)</p> <p>5:00 PM Confirmation (O)</p> <p>6:30 PM Youth Group (Y)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>3:00 PM -9:00 PM Portillo's VBS Fundraiser</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>					

Sunday Worship: 8 AM and 10:45 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 am -- 4:00 pm, MONDAY - FRIDAY