



What to write for the newsletter? A question I ponder every month. Sometimes the month lends itself to obvious themes, other times it is not so easy to decide what to write. Every once in a while something passes my way that I feel is worth sharing; it might be shared with me, seen on the internet or TV, heard in a conversation, or brought to my attention some other way. This time it was something that came up while talking about baseball with my dad. He told me about how one player put his faith

first. That player was Sandy Koufax. Koufax was one of the most dominant pitchers in baseball history. From 1962 to 1966, he recorded 111 wins against only 34 losses, led the National League in ERA five times, set a single-season record with 382 strikeouts, and won three Cy Young Awards and one Most Valuable Player trophy. He dazzled in the national spotlight when he set a World Series single-game record with 15 strikeouts in 1963, and again when he threw a perfect game to wrap up a record fourth no-hitter in 1965.

As child my dad dreamed of being the next Sandy Koufax. Eventually he gave up any hopes of that dream becoming a reality, but still, he wanted to be like Koufax. Not Koufax the pitcher, but Koufax the man.

He said, "I can't quote from memory any of his career stats and honestly they aren't that important to me anymore. What I do remember is Koufax making headlines for holding fast to his faith. With Game 1 of the 1965 World Series slated to fall on the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur, Koufax famously sat out the game in observance. He returned and lost the following day, but won Games 5 and 7 to clinch the championship for his team, cementing his status as an icon to both his religious community and Dodgers fans.

In a December 1999 profile of former Dodgers player Shawn Green, *SI*'s Michael Bamberger describes the outfielder reacting to an article about Koufax:

He was an aristocrat in spikes, with a gentleman's carriage and an assassin's arsenal—his fastball and curve. His last six seasons are mythic: 129-47 with a 2.19 ERA. He threw 27 complete games with a painfully arthritic arm in 1966 and then quit. He slipped into a private life fundamentally no different from his days as a beloved public icon: unfailingly true to his ideal. He always put team before self, modesty before fame and God before the World Series.

Green put down the Koufax tribute and thought to himself, that's the way to lead a life.

Steve Stone said. "Teams come and go, players come and go, I don't believe your religious beliefs come and go."

His action could have cost him personally and professionally, it could have cost his team mates as well. Koufax's faith was important to him. Not just when it was convenient. That's what I remember about Sandy Koufax and that's why I want to be like him."

This got us talking about how much the world has changed its attitude toward religion. Even in the church today it would be rare to see such devotion to one's faith. And with that my dad shared something that had come across his desk about faithful Sunday worship attendance:

Have you ever woken up on Sunday morning and thought "maybe I won't go to church today, I'm really tired and need more rest. No one will notice if I'm there or not. I can watch church on T.V. I can pray and read my Bible by myself. Others don't go for other reasons like sporting events, hunting, fishing lake trips, etc. Why can't I miss once in a while?"

I wonder what it would be like if God took a day off. What would I do if God said "I don't have time for you today, I need my rest! Let someone else comfort you when things go wrong. Let someone else strengthen, protect, and care about you. I can't forgive your sins today, I'm taking the day off."

I think I'd better get up and get to church. I need His Words and sacrament. I need to pray and sing His praises. I need fellowship with other Christians. I will get my rest in Him today!-just some food for thought.

Where does God fall on your list of priorities? What about worship attendance? Bible study? Church? Think about it for a moment. Then ask yourself where they should fall and what you changes you can make toward that end.

In Christ,
Pastor Paul



QUILTING FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Shepherd's Staff - Vol. 24, No. 05 Published Monthly
by Shepherd of the Valley;
11650 Perris Blvd.; Moreno Valley, CA 92557-6563

Hello everyone from the quilters!

We have been busy trying to beat the heat with our quilts. It is hard to think about quilts when it gets so hot. We have several quilts in the process of being finished but they still need to be tied. Lots of beautiful patterns are coming along this year.

We want to thank Suzie Gorman for the quilt tops and material she has donated. Several asked what we can use we always need clean, stain-free sheets, threads, and materials. We can mix and match them with what we have on hand. Everything that you send is a blessing. If we can't use it we usually know others that can. Thank you so much for all your donations.

We have had a slow trickle of items arriving for the babies at the Pregnancy Center. Everything helps so much. We hope to have a load to deliver to them in the fall/winter again. Bring items to the office or place them in our closet in the hall. Remember, used items are welcomed if they are clean, stain-free with no holes in them.

If you would like to come join us we meet the 4th Saturday of each month (except in October we meet on 2nd Saturday and no meetings are held in November and December). We love to have you drop in and see our work in progress. If you want more information call Linda Olson 276-0373 and I will try to answer your questions.



You appreciate the hard work your children's teachers have put forth this school year to make learning exciting and fun. Give them a gold star, and say thank you with a gift card for coffee, a nice meal out, or for a couple summer reading books!

**Order scrip before services each Sunday!
Here's a sample of what's available:**

Amazon.com

Cheesecake Factory

Macy's

Staples

AMC Theatres

Gap

Marshalls

T.J. Maxx

Applebee's

HomeGoods

Office Depot

Target

Barnes & Noble

iTunes

Panera Bread

TGI Fridays



OUR OUTREACH COMMITTEE is exploring ways in which we may lovingly serve our community and (God willing) grow our church. Our next meeting will be on Monday, May 1st, at 6:00 PM, in the conference room. Please join us and bring your ideas. For more information call Eunice Kang (951-500-3835) or Janet Gasco (951-924-4588).

CELEBRATE THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION IN GERMANY

August 12-20, 2017 on a Trafalgar Tour with Kedma Wenz from Faith, Riverside.



The 16th century split from the Roman Catholic Church, resulting in the Protestant religious movement, is explored on this nine-day trip following the story of the main protagonist, Martin Luther. Guests will explore Erfurt, the town where Luther lived as a young man when he was a student and a monk, Wartburg where he lived in exile and incognito devoting himself to translating the New Testament into German, and Wittenburg where he nailed 95 Theses to the church door, among other Luther heritage attractions. \$3,200 (approx.). Contact the church office for more information.

HAPPY MAY

We pray that you all had a blessed Easter. Here at school we celebrated with an all school luncheon and egg hunt. We are in the process of becoming Nap Sacc certified through first five. This means that we focus on healthy choices with our food and activities. Our luncheon was loaded with fresh fruits, veggies, and yummy turkey sandwiches. The children had such a great time and love choosing their own foods.

May 1st through 5th we are celebrating our staff throughout "Teacher Appreciation" week. We are blessed to have a wonderful group of dedicated people to teach and direct our children with God's love. If you would like to show your appreciation to the staff you may drop off your gifts in the office anytime during the week. Gift cards are always helpful and you can purchase them at the scrip table after church ☺ It's a win / win. (We have 11 staff members)

We are still in need of fully qualified teachers. If you know anyone who has the calling to work with little ones and looking for part time employment, please have them call or come in to the office. We will have morning and afternoon positions available.

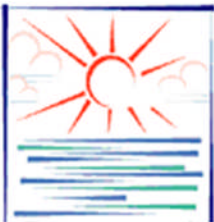
The following are our Upcoming Events:

May 1-5	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 12	School Mother's Day Chapel & Tea
May 29	Memorial Day – school closed
June 9	Promotion/Graduation Day



Please continue to pray for our school and that God will fill our classrooms with His little ones. Have a blessed May.

Linda Williamson
Director



OUR FINAL PLANS

My Fellow Members,

This past month as we accompanied our Savior to His death on the cross we also had to confront our own death with hope for Resurrection and eternal life.

Included in this newsletter is a page that invites all of us to record with the church office our final wishes for the end of our earthly lives--especially about funeral/memorial/burial services. Pastors and church leaders often find that family members have no idea what their loved one wished for in their final ceremonies. We find ourselves sometimes working with persons who do not share the faith and church life of their relative.

You can do a great favor to your family by recording your wishes in writing with them and with the church office.

This might also be a good time to make sure that those who will be managing for you have the information they need - existence and location of will, living trust, military records, assets, insurance policies, deeds, lock boxes, names of lawyers and executors, guardians, mortuary arrangements, burial plots etc. Most church leaders have experienced family and friends who could not find valuable documents and resources especially if the death occurred suddenly or in a tragedy.

Most of us – myself included tend to postpone or avoid taking care of these things -- so lets encourage each other to do this. It's the loving thing after all!

Pastor Ron



In The
Mailbag

April 5, 2017

SVLC,

A blessed Holy Week and Easter to all of you. It's a very special time of year as we remember the incredible love God has for us in the sacrifice of his only son – Jesus our savior.

Tristan and I (& Chloe our Lab) are doing well. Actually he just returned from a trip to CA, visiting friends. He would like to move back someday to the warmer weather and many friends. He plans to start college this Fall at the local community college (and hopes to play basketball). Right now he is working full time in a warehouse shipping department.

I'm hanging in there. In a little over a week we'll have made it through all the major holidays, our anniversary, and her birthday since Ruth's passing almost 6 months ago. No vacation plans yet for the summer... Stephen Ministry Leadership training for a week in Pittsburgh and possibly a week in Haiti with the mission team from our church. My brother is trying to convince me to go to Ireland with him – but not sure I want to...(yet?) It's quite a bit of money – so I should really want to do it if I go.

Blessings to all!
Pastor Dennis Krueger

Surviving Allergy Season

How to dress:

- wear large sunglasses that can block pollen from entering your eyes.
- wear large brim hat.

Pollen count: the pollen count is highest on hot, windy and sunny days. Check local weather reports.

Exercise: exercise late in the day when counts are lowest.

Bath before bed.- shampoo and shower nightly.

Change your clothes before entering the bedroom.

Rinse sinuses: use saline rinses or body-temperature distilled water no more than twice a day

Suzy Langhorne, Parish Health Minister



SOCIAL MINISTRY

Thanks to everyone who helped with donations to the Easter food boxes. Our donations this year for our food boxes came from multiple contributors, which included the weekly donations from our church members on Sundays, our ham angels (we received seven donated hams for Easter), a contributor who donated 6 gift cards from Stater Bros, and our final contributor was our local Food 4 Less supermarket who also donated a gift card. Because of the generosity of the above contributions, we were able to prepare a total of seven Easter food boxes. Without the help of everybody banding together to help with food donations on a weekly basis and monetary gifts, we would not be able to help families in our community or even in our church. Shepherd has always shown the true gift of giving to others. Our next project within the next several months will be to make donations to local food banks in our city. Please check your Sunday announcement folder for suggested items that will be collecting for donation to the local food banks in the next coming months. Once a donation has been made to a local food bank, we will let everybody know the total weight of food donated and the local food bank that received it. Thank you again for your help and prayers for this ministry.

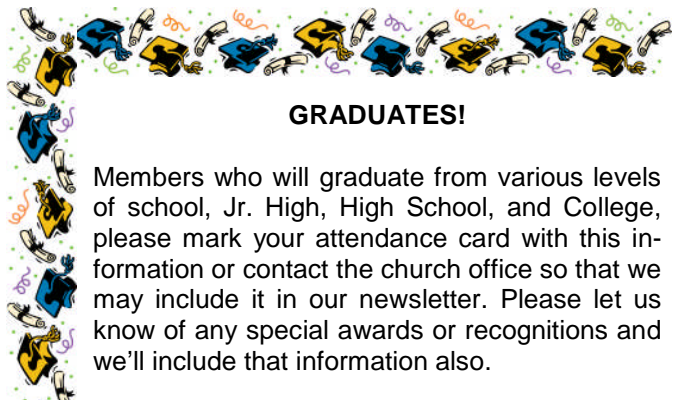
Eva Carlson and Bernice Bennett

LABOR DAY CAMPING - Friday, Sept. 1 to Monday, Sept. 4

Thanks to all who have expressed interest in camping over Labor Day weekend. We will be asking everyone to make their own reservations. Go to www.reserveamerica.com and enter Heart Bar Campground in Barton Flats. Select the Grinnell Loop and make your reservation for the weekend which starts Friday, September 1. At last check almost all sites were still available but don't wait too long! If you have questions, call John or Marlayna Hamann at 951-924-2920.



OUR LENTEN MISSION PROJECT was collecting donations to supply our troops with Military BibleSticks through "Faith Comes by Hearing." Thanks be to God we surpassed our goal of 100 and received enough for 114 BibleSticks. Thank you for your support! We'll be receiving special recognition from Faith Comes by Hearing for donating \$12,155 to their ministry since 2013. Of special note, one of our members mentioned that her father came to faith by receiving one of the BibleSticks while in the service. What a blessing to be part of sharing God's Word in this way.



GRADUATES!

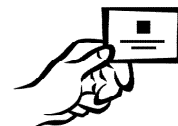
Members who will graduate from various levels of school, Jr. High, High School, and College, please mark your attendance card with this information or contact the church office so that we may include it in our newsletter. Please let us know of any special awards or recognitions and we'll include that information also.



NEXT LUTHERAN CURSILLO WEEKENDS

Aug. 17-20, 2017 for Men / Aug. 24-27, 2017 for Women

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. Pray 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.



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.

2017 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.



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.



Village Concerts Altavita:
Sunday, May 7, 2017 at 3 pm

Quarteto Nuevo: soprano saxophone; guitar; cello; percussion

Quarteto Nuevo could easily be called "Fusion at its Finest," a world chamber music group that merges western classical, Eastern European folk, Latin and jazz with an organic feel that packs a wallop! The ensemble's razor sharp precision is enhanced by its jazzy interludes, lightly rumbling percussion motifs and difficult to navigate tie signatures. The quartet richly colors their wide-ranging repertoire, from classical to contemporary, Eastern Europe, to original works. We look forward to this lively, fascinating conclusion to our eighth season. For more information go to www.villageconcerts.net



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to pray
each
day



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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.

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.

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May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Teacher Appreciation Week May 1 - 5</p>	<p>1</p> <p>10:00 AM First Place TLC (Reese Home)</p> <p>6:00 PM Outreach Committee (O)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10:45 AM BSF (H)</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>6:00 PM School Board Meeting (O)</p> <p>7:15 PM Troop 210 Court of Honor (S)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>5:00 PM Diamond Girls (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM Growing in Grace Bible Study (H)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:30 AM Cursillo Grouping @ Panera Bread</p> <p>10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (O)</p>
<p>7</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>8</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Koffee Klatch @ Brandon's</p> <p>6:00 PM Diamond Girls (H)</p> <p>6:00 PM School Staff Meeting (O)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 AM BSF (Riverside)</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>7:00 PM Lay Minister Meeting (H)</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 AM BrailleMail(H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 AM School Mother's Day Chapel & Tea (S-H)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 AM Knights of the Holy Spirit Bible Study (H)</p>
<p>14 Mother's Day</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>6:30 PM Youth Group (Y)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 AM First Place TLC (Reese Home)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>7:00 PM M & M Board (O)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10:00 AM Funeral Pre-Planning (H)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM Growing in Grace Bible Study (H)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry (O)</p>
<p>21</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>22</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:00 PM Vacation Bible School Meeting (H)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00 AM BrailleMail(H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Brandon's</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilting for LWR (H)</p>
<p>28</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>6:30 PM Youth Group (Y)</p>	<p>29 Memorial Day</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p> <p>School & Office Closed</p>	<p>30</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>31</p>	 <p>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY</p>		

Sunday Worship: 8 AM and 10:45 AM
Holy Communion - First, Third, and Fifth Sundays

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 9:00 am -- 5:00 pm, MONDAY - FRIDAY



The Shepherd's Staff

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

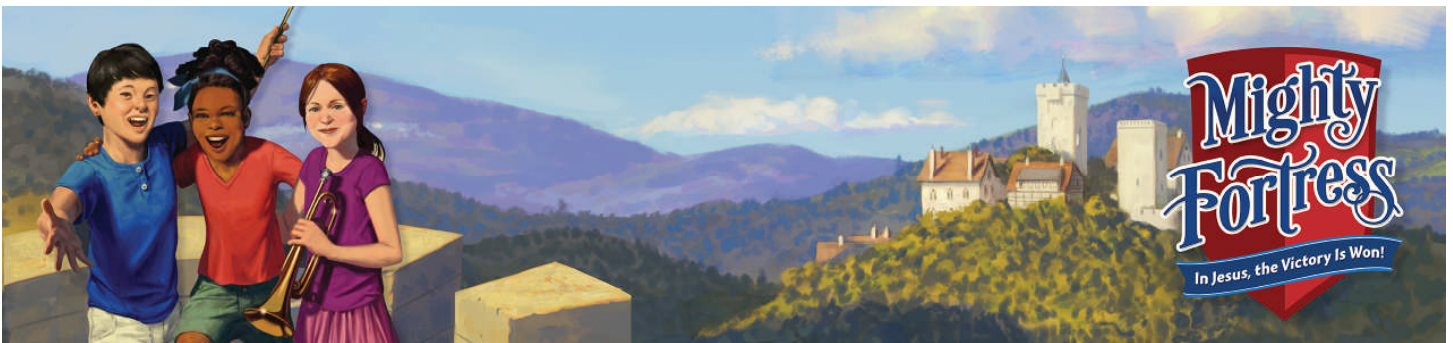
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If you can help full or part time, we have many ways to be involved to suit your schedule and interests. Join us to see how in Jesus, the victory is won! Fill out one of the green volunteer slips available in the church or office or call the office or e-mail svlc@svlcmoval.net, for more information.

Start inviting your friends and neighbors - VBS is for kids age 3 and up.
Have them register online at www.svlcmoval.net