



THE PEACE OF EASTER

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I am writing this on Tuesday of holy week while reeling from the news that 30 innocent travelers were killed this morning in Brussels and more than 200 were injured by Islamic terrorists. We live in a dangerous and hate-infected time. Religious hatred – theirs and ours – is the worst kind, followed closely by political hatred. Jesus lived, died and rose in the midst of religious and political violence – condemned to death by both.

No surprise that when He appeared to His frightened, angry, confused disciples the evening of His resurrection His first words were "PEACE BE WITH YOU!" and He repeated it "PEACE BE WITH YOU!" More than anything else that is what they needed to hear. More than anything else we need to hear it again and again – "PEACE BE WITH YOU!"

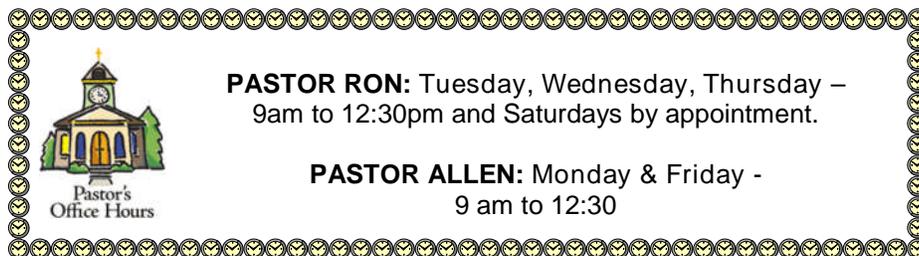
His Word provides a very special peace not available from any other source. His Word feeds us with crucified love. That crucified love brings peace by dissolving the hatreds, guilts and fears that generates violence and hostility.

What is it in your life, your family, your church or your city that cries out for peace? Listen again to Him.

"PEACE BE WITH YOU!"

"PEACE BE WITH YOU!"

Pastor Ron



PASTOR RON: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday –
9am to 12:30pm and Saturdays by appointment.

PASTOR ALLEN: Monday & Friday -
9 am to 12:30



Get excited ABOUT VBS!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL is coming soon!

July 11 - July 15, 3 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
for children age 3 through 5th Grade.

Look for volunteer sign up sheets in the announcement folders and for sign up sheets to register kids in the church entryway or in the church office.

We need lots of volunteers for everything from Bible teachers to group guides to helping in crafts, music, snacks and games. To have a successful VBS we need **EVERYONES** help! Hope you can join the fun! If you have any questions, contact the church office.



mark your calendar



QUILTING FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

Hello everyone from the quilting group. We have been having a computer glitch so you have not had news from the quilting group for a while. We have been very busy getting quilts ready this year, and concentrating on only quilts. We have several of them made and are busy working on more. We are so thankful to our Lord for all the donations that have come in, so we truly thank each and every one for your donations. We are ready to get busy with all the material you have given to our group.

We received news from the LWR tracking system that our quilts from last year have been sent to Georgia and India. No report yet on where the health kits and personal care kits were sent. Will report more when that news comes in. Thank you all so much for your help and donations. You all have made this possible.

If you would like to join us or just come by and watch, we are busy at work on the 4th Saturday of each month, except in November and December. In October we meet early to pack items for sending to Lutheran World Relief.

If you have any questions or want more information call Linda Olson 276-0373.



The first get-together this year to make crafts for the annual Holiday Craft Boutique will be Friday, April 8th starting at 5 pm. The Holiday Craft Boutique this year will be held on Saturday, Nov. 19th.

Please plan to come and help make items for the boutique or we hope you'll be thinking about and working on crafts at home for the sale.

Any questions - call the office. If you'd like be a vendor, contact Paula Winn at 951-485-4305.



THE MORENO VALLEY MASTER CHORALE & ORCHESTRA

directed by Dr. Viorel Gheorghe present:

Music of the Masters from Monteverdi to Mozart

featuring the 17th & 18th century

with soprano soloist: Camelia Voin

on Sunday, April 24th at 4 pm at Shepherd of the Valley.

Tickets (cash only): Adults \$15 / Seniors, students & children \$10.

For information call 951-485-8414.

March 15, 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church,

After prayerfully considering your call and another call from Messiah Lutheran Church in Downey, California, I have been led to return your call as pastor and to accept the call to Messiah Lutheran.

Although I feel at peace that this is God's will for my ministry and yours, and the ministry at Messiah Lutheran Church in Downey, I am also filled with sadness at having to tell you this difficult news. The reason for this sadness is that my heart was filled with so much joy at meeting all of the wonderful people at Shepherd of the Valley, that I hate to break your heart at the thought of what could have been a wonderful ministry together. I am very impressed with the work of all the dedicated members in your church, with you wonderful facilities, the beautiful community and the great mission opportunities that are present through your school. Please be assured that this decision has nothing to do with anything you have done or said or with any perceived weaknesses of your congregation. I have nothing but positive thoughts about your congregation. I really struggled with this decision, but in the end felt God's leading me to become the shepherd of Messiah Lutheran Church in Downey.

God continue to bless you and sustain you in your faith in Jesus, our crucified and risen Savior, that you might continue to shine the light of Jesus' love and grace into your community. Be assured that you will continually be in my prayers as you continue the process of calling your next pastor.

Peace, Love and Joy in the Risen Lord!
Pastor Bruce A. Pepper





The youth are asking for donations of the following items to be made into care packages to hand out to the homeless:

bottled water new socks granola bars handkerchiefs or bandanas small bars of soap.

The World Vision 30 Hour Famine this year will take place April 30th - May 1st. The youth will again be "Flamingo-ing" houses for donations to World Vision. Watch for more details coming soon!



Un-Apologetic Column 34

TIME

The most frequent questions I get are "Where do you get your information" and "How do you have time to learn all this?" Finding time to study scripture and learning to defend what you believe does take time and effort, but it may not be as daunting as you think. Remember, any time you can spend in these pursuits is better than having done nothing. In this article, I'll give you some of the ways I find time to study and learn, and also some of my go-to places for learning to be a good Christian case maker.

Since I have become a Christian, I have felt time slipping away from me. When I didn't believe in God, I wasn't too concerned about how I spent my time. It really didn't matter much to me. Having fun was key, and anything resembling work was to be avoided at all costs. I now look back at many wasted years and regret not having used that time better. The lyrics to the song "Time" by the rock band Pink Floyd capture this sentiment pretty well I think.

Tired of lying in the sunshine, staying home to watch the rain, you are young and life is long and there is time to kill today. And then one day you find, ten years have got behind you, no one told you when to run, you missed the starting gun.

And you run and you run to catch up with the sun but it's sinking. Racing around to come up behind you again. The sun is the same in a relative way, but you're older, shorter of breath, and one day closer to death.

So how do I find the time? Much of it is intentional. Time I would spend watching T.V gets turned into reading time. Sure, I make time to go to conferences and audit some classes at Biola Universities' Apologetics program, but the bulk of what I learn is from reading books and articles on the subject. You'd be surprised at how much you can learn from reading one article a day from web sites such as [Stand to Reason](#) or [Cold Case Christianity](#). Challenge yourself to read one article or blog post from these sites each day, and you will be amazed at how much you learn in a relatively short period of time. I've even found time to read articles or blog posts while standing in line for a ride at Disneyland!

My other secret is using my commute time for learning and study. I have a 45-minute drive each way to work. That's an hour and a half of free time I can take advantage of. There are many great podcasts out there, such as [Stand to Reason](#), [Cold Case Christianity](#), [Cross-examined](#), [Reasonable Faith](#) and [Come Reason](#) that will increase your knowledge rapidly. Having trouble making time for Bible study? Try purchasing or downloading an audio Bible to listen to while you drive or work out. There are many options, from a single person reading, all the way to full dramatizations with a huge cast and sound effects. [Audible](#) is a great source for both audio Bibles and audio books. When I drove trucks over the road, I would listen to audio books daily, and as a result I was able to take in a number of books I simply wouldn't have had time to sit down and read.

I hope some of these tips were helpful to you. Next month I'll continue with my series on why other Christians may not want to hear about the evidence for God by examining the idea that blind faith is superior to an evidential faith. If you enjoy these columns, I invite you to follow my weekly blog at againstthestreamblog.wordpress.com. New articles come out every Thursday morning. Remember, each day we are "One step closer to death." Use the time God has given you wisely and to His glory!

Yours in Christ,
Drew



DIABETES RISK FACTORS

Right now there are many programs, articles, etc. about diabetes. The medical community is saying that about 30% of Californians with pre-diabetes will have diabetes in five years.

Three behaviors – poor nutrition – lack of physical activity – and smoking – cause nearly two-thirds of premature deaths in this country.

Small changes, such as losing ten pounds, can lower your blood sugar and blood pressure. Gradually increase your intake of fruits and veggies. Do gentle stretching exercises throughout the day and in the evening. Take an evening walk even if it is just around your house. **DO NOT BECOME A STATISTIC!**

God bless you all.

Suzy Langhorne, Parish Health Minister

WHOLE GRAINS REDUCE DIABETES RISK

Whole grains reduce the risk of Type 2 diabetes, according to a study of nearly 43,000 male health professionals. The men who ate three or more servings of whole grains a day were 40% less likely to develop diabetes over the next 12 years than those who rarely ate whole grains. Even obese men at the greatest risk for diabetes benefited from whole grains. The study also noted that refined grain products, such as white bread and pasta, did not reduce the risk.

Whole-grain foods include cereals and breads, oats, and brown rice. When buying bread as a source of whole grains, the phrase “whole-wheat flour” should appear at the top of the ingredients list, and there should be 2 or 3 grams of fiber per slice.

Source: *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*

PRESCHOOL NEWS



Spring is here and we are off to a good start with enrollment for next year. With our “Open House” behind us we now have open registration to the public. If you know anyone with young children, please recommend our school at Shepherd of the Valley. The “A Beka” curriculum surpasses the public school requirements and our students are very successful as they move on. We have room for 2 year olds through Kindergarten.

We are still in the process of getting the “school age” program up and running for next year. I will be attending an orientation this month which will catch me up on the changes made since I last attended. It is a completely different license and is the same as starting a school from the ground up. This is a long process but will be worth the effort when we get it running! Please continue to keep this process in your prayers that it goes smooth and is a blessing to all involved.

Please continue to pray for our school and church.

In His Service,
Linda Williamson, Director



If you need to change your schedule, or have any questions on how to run the system, please contact Drew Covert at 951-525-8111 or email lcmsdrew@roadrunner.com. Thank you all for your service to our Church and our Lord!

	<u>First Service:</u>	<u>Second Service:</u>
Apr. 3	Gerry Klepps	Marvin Niles
Apr. 10	Josh Hamann	Drew Covert
Apr. 17	Mike Olson	Abby Covert
Apr. 24	Bud Kenefick	Jim Wilson
May 1	Gerry Klepps	Marvin Niles
May 8	Josh Hamann	Drew Covert
May 15	Mike Olson	Abby Covert
May 22	Bud Kenefick	Jim Wilson
May 29	Mike Olson	Drew Covert



Seek the LORD
and his strength;
seek his presence
continually.
Psalm 105:4, NRSV

NEXT LUTHERAN CURSILLO WEEKENDS
July 14-17, 2016 for Men and July 21-24,
2016 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. 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. Check their website for more information: www.lcsocal.org.



INVITE OTHERS TO OUR CHURCH AND SCHOOL!

Business cards are available in packets of 10 in a basket in the church lobby. Take a pack and pass them out to 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.

2016 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 Bradley's Florist (242-1519) and they deliver them to church. Each large bouquet is \$26. Small bouquets for the altar 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.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Your pastors, your lay ministers and the church office want to know when someone is hospitalized or home bound. There have been instances of not finding out for several days. We would rather hear from several sources than none at all so, PLEASE – PLEASE pick up the phone or e-mail us whenever there is an opportunity for ministry to members or to family or friends.



Thursdays at 9:30 AM
In the Fellowship Hall
Presented by Suzy Langhorne
Certified Instructor
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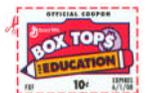
DON'T FORGET YOUR FOOD DONATIONS FOR CAP - Moreno Valley's Community Assistance Program EACH SUNDAY!
Thank You!

JOIN IN THE CHALLENGE

Join us in choosing a time (maybe even 10 or 15 minutes) of any day of the week that is best for you individually and lift your silent (or loud) voices to the Lord. Ask for His touch on Shepherd, our Pastors, the members of our congregation, our school, and our community. His promise is clear - if His people gather together in prayer, He will hear our prayers. Let's do it!



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.

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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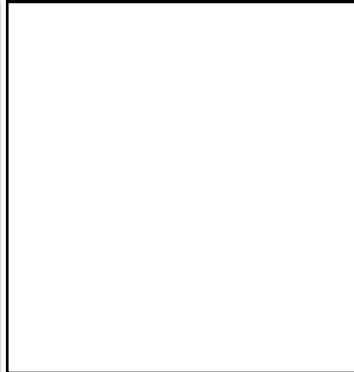

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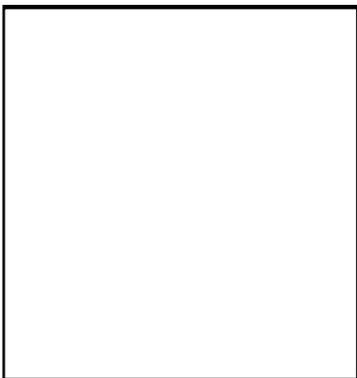
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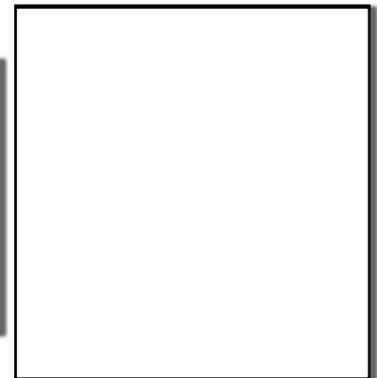
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April 2016

Sunday Worship: 8 AM and 10:45 AM - Communion: 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>Mark your calendar in MAY - Confirmation Sunday will be May 22 with ONE SERVICE ONLY at 9:30 AM.</p>					<p>1</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:30 AM Cursillo Grouping @ Panera Bread</p>
<p>3</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>Youth to "God's Not Dead 2" Movie</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10:00 AM First Place TLC (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p> <p>6:00 PM School Board (O)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>11:00 AM Grace Korean Bible Study (O)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 AM BrailleMail(H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM Life of Christ Bible Study (H)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p> <p>5:00 PM Craft Workshop (H)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 AM Knights of the Holy Spirit Bible Study (H)</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class (O-H-PS)</p> <p>12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)</p> <p>2:00 PM Congregational Call Service (S)</p> <p>5:00 PM Confirmation (O)</p> <p>6:30 PM Jr/Sr Hi Youth (Y)</p> <p>BP Screening between Services</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00 AM Women's Koffee Klatch @ Brandon's</p> <p>6:00 PM School Staff (O)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p> <p>7:00 PM Lay Ministers (H)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>11:00 AM Grace Korean Bible Study (O)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 AM BrailleMail(H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30 AM Pack 210 Pinewood Derby (H)</p>
<p>17</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 Jr/Sr Hi Youth (Y)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10:00 AM First Place TLC (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p> <p>7:00 PM M & M Board (O)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>11:00 AM Grace Korean Bible Study (O)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 AM BrailleMail(H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM Life of Christ Bible Study (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Dress Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Brandon's</p> <p>9:00 AM Quilting for LWR (H)</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class (O-H-PS)</p> <p>10:45 AM Preschool Children Singing (S)</p> <p>12:30 PM Grace Korean (S-H)</p> <p>4:00 PM MV Chorale Concert (S)</p> <p>5:00 PM Confirmation (O)</p> <p>6:30 PM Jr/Sr Hi Youth (Y)</p> <p>BP Screening between Services</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:00 PM Diamond Girls (H)</p> <p>7:00 PM MV Chorale Rehearsal (S)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:45 PM Chancel Choir (S)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>11:00 AM Grace Korean Bible Study (O)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00 AM BrailleMail(H)</p> <p>9:30 AM Tai Chi (H)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 AM School Chapel (S)</p>	<p>30</p>



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

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**RON KRAFT & ALLEN DEINERT, INTERIM PASTORS
LINDA WILLIAMSON, SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

April 2016



**CONGREGATIONAL CALL SERVICE
SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016 AT 2:00 pm**

FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE:

Following Pastor Peffer's decline of our call to Shepherd, both of the remaining pastors that were under consideration by our church at the last call service held on February 21, 2016 were contacted by phone.

Pastor Burton informed me that he has accepted a call to a church in Tehachapi, California. Pastor Yearyean told me he would still consider a call to Shepherd.

The Call Committee feels that under the circumstances, the Congregation will have another Call Service on Sunday, April 10, 2016 at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary. At this service we would ratify a vote to call Pastor Paul Yearyean to be pastor at Shepherd of the Valley.

At the Call Service in February, Pastor Yearyean received considerable support from the congregation, receiving only one vote short of the nomination.

All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

Sincerely,
Dennis Paulsen
Call Committee Chair

