



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

CALLED . . .

EMPOWERED . . .

SENT . . .

“Called through the Gospel to be a nurturing, dynamic community, celebrating God’s presence in our lives, and sharing with all God’s abundant grace in Jesus Christ”

FEBRUARY 3, 2010
VOLUME 35, No. 3

OUR LENTEN JOURNEY BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 17



7:00 AM

Holy Communion

followed by the beginning of our Lenten Prayer Breakfast

NOON

Holy Communion

followed by a soup and sandwich lunch

7:00 PM

Holy Communion

with music by the Senior Choir

THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES WILL BE OFFERED AT ALL OF OUR SERVICES.

JOIN US EACH WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 PM FOR OUR LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP.

WHEN YOU COME TO WORSHIP . . .

MORNING WORSHIP - 8:30 & 11:00
YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:45 AM
ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL - 10:00 AM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

The Celebration of Holy Communion.
The lessons will be: *Isaiah 6:1-13;*
Psalms 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11;
and *Luke 5:1-11.*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14
TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
The lessons today will be: *Exodus*
34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Corinthians
3:12-4:2; and Luke 9:28-43a.

FEBRUARY 17
ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNION
7:00 am, 12:00 noon, 7:00 pm

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
The Celebration of Holy Communion.
The lessons are: *Deuteronomy 26:1-11;*
Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16; Romans 10:8b-13;
and *Luke 4:1-13.*

SPIRIT IN THE HILLS
LUTHERAN CHURCH
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
9:30 AM

BRIARCLIFF COMMUNITY CENTER
ON PACE BEND ROAD
[www.spiritinthehills.org]

FROM MY POINT OF VIEW . . .

*The following Point of View was written by
Pastor Stephen Youngdahl.*

A few things today. . .

- ◆ Our Annual Meeting on January 24th went very smoothly under the leadership of President Bill Dawson. In spite of the economic uncertainties of the past 18 months, this congregation continued to move forward both with its own programs as well as in the way it shares with others in our community and in the world, giving \$170,948 to a wide variety of benevolent causes. Well done! At the meeting you also ratified the election of Doug Danforth and Dick Auby to the Endowment Fund Board, and we heard a report on the ministry of Spirit in the Hills which is awaiting their first full time pastor.
- ◆ We all know of the tragedy of the earthquake in Haiti. We can be thankful for the ministry of the ELCA which, through its Disaster Response Fund and through its ministry partners in the Lutheran World Federation and Lutheran World Relief, is already “on the ground” providing much needed assistance to the survivors. During January you were invited to contribute to this work, and together we have raised \$10,163! The really good news is that 100% of this money will be used to help the people of Haiti. Thank you for your most generous response.
- ◆ The Season of Lent is fast approaching with Ash Wednesday on February 17th. To mark the beginning of Lent we will have three services that day at 7:00 am, 12:00 noon, and 7:00 pm. Then throughout Lent we will have worship at 7:00 pm each Wednesday. Make midweek worship a part of your Lenten Journey.
- ◆ Our 2010 Theological Weekend will have a different shape this year with a workshop looking at forgiveness through the lens of the Lord’s Prayer. It will be on Saturday, February 20, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, and I hope that you will consider joining in the journey.

Coming up in March will be our Women’s Retreat [March 6-7] and our Men’s Retreat [March 26-27] both at T Bar M. These, too, are wonderful opportunities to share with others as we grow in our personal faith.

What a blessing it is to be a part of this congregation and all of its ministries! Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you in Christ’s Name.



MEN & WOMEN’S SPRING RETREATS

Women’s Retreat – March 6th and 7th at T bar M in New Braunfels. Women of all ages will be led by Dr. Lynette Reed.

Men’s Retreat – March 26th and 27th Men of all ages will gather at T bar M in New Braunfels.

LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFAST

As a part of our *Lenten Journey* we will have a **Prayer Breakfast** on Wednesday mornings 7:00-7:45 am in the Upper Room. Our focus will be a book study of *Listening for God*, as we create a mindful awareness of God’s presence in our lives. Each week a light breakfast of pastry, fruit, juice, and coffee will be provided. Join in prayer and study together.

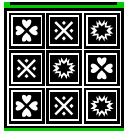


2010 CROP HUNGER WALKERS NEEDED

We will be participating in Austin’s annual **CROP Hunger Walk** March 6 and 7 at Walter E. Long Park [new location]. Funds raised support urgently needed hunger relief in countries around the globe, as well as benefitting local area food banks and food pantries. Walkers can participate on either Saturday, March 6 at 10:00 am, or Sunday, March 7 at 2:30 pm. Walker packets will be available in the narthex February 21 and 28. Contact Jean Friday, 346-3716.

QUILTING BEE

Have you ever been curious about what is done on quilting days? Come to a **Quilting Bee** Saturday, February 27th, 9:00 am in the Multi-Purpose Room to find out. You will get a chance to tie a few knots and enjoy some fellowship. We hope you will return to quilt!



BLOOD DRIVE FEBRUARY 28

The Health and Wellness Committee is sponsoring a **blood drive** on Sunday, February 28 with the mobile unit in the front parking lot from 8:00 am until 12:00 noon. Sign up sheets will be in the narthex.

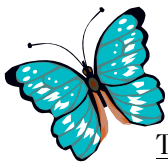
‘OLD CELL’ PHONE COLLECTION

Old cell phones have a use! Please donate your old cell phones for a good cause. The phones are donated to area police departments where they are modified for 911 calls only and distributed as needed. There is a wooden ‘treasure chest’ labeled “old cell phones” on the small table in the narthex [next to the library] where the phones can be dropped off. Thanks!!



MEN’S BREAKFAST

Men of the congregation are invited to **Men’s Prayer Breakfast** in the Multi-Purpose Room on Saturday, February 13, 8:00 am.



BUTTERFLY CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL 2010 - 2011 REGISTRATION

The following dates are important as we prepare for the 2010 - 2011 school year.

- ◆ **Sunday, February 7** is “**Preschool Sunday**” as we celebrate the ministry of our Butterfly Christian Preschool with information about our program.
- ◆ **Monday, February 8** at 6:00 pm there will be an “**Open House**” when you can tour the preschool, meet the teachers, and receive registration information for the 2010 - 2011 school year.
- ◆ **Tuesday, February 9** - Registration for current students begins.
- ◆ **Tuesday, February 16** - Registration for church members and siblings of current students begins.
- ◆ **Tuesday, February 23** - Open registration begins.
- ◆ Butterfly Christian Preschool is **looking for substitutes**. If you have an interest in working with young children, please contact Preschool Director, Karon Miller Hammond [director@shephills.org, 327-6035].



FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES BEGIN

First Communion classes will begin on Sunday, February 14, 10:00 - 10:45 am, with an **Orientation for Parents and Youth** [3rd grade and above] in the Multi-Purpose Room. Following are other important dates for parents and youth:

- ☆ **Separate Classes for Parents and Youth:** Wednesdays, February 24 and March 3, at 5:45-6:45 pm [childcare provided]
- ☆ **Classes for Youth Only:** Wednesdays, 5:45 pm March 10, 24, and 31 [no instruction March 17 during Spring Break]
- ☆ **First Communion** will be celebrated **on Maundy Thursday**, April 1, 7:00 pm.

2010 THEOLOGICAL WEEKEND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20 “THE HEART OF FORGIVENESS”



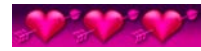
Our **Theological Weekend for 2010** will be a special workshop entitled “*The Heart of Forgiveness*” which will be presented on Saturday, February 20, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. This spiritual event will center our attention on the Lord’s Prayer, offering us exciting new ways to experience the love of Christ at the heart of our daily living as we seek to fulfill the loving intention of Matthew 6. Leading the workshop will be Dr. Steve Larson of our congregation, and Dyana Thomas and Ted Walls of Austin. The cost of the workshop is \$30 and the fee includes lunch. Registration forms are available in the narthex, or you may register by emailing the church office [lisa@shephills.org]. Childcare will be provided if requested by Sunday, February 14th. Don’t miss this Faith Formation opportunity!




FAMILY FELLOWSHIP TO *BEAUTY AND THE BEAST*

Shepherd of the Hills has planned an evening of fellowship and has reserved a block of 40 tickets to the Westlake High School performance of *Beauty and the Beast*, on Friday, February 19th, 7:30 pm in the Westlake Performing Arts Center. Tickets are \$15 each for all ages. Please contact Lisa in the Church Office by 12:00 noon, THIS Friday, February 5th, to reserve and pay for your tickets [lisa@shephills.org, 327-3370]. Come show your support for church youth, Blair Flint [choir] and Timmy Spinelli [theatre tech], as they participate in the musical.


YOUTH MINISTRY FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS



☺ ALL YOUTH & CONGREGATION

- ✓ **Saturday, February 13** 
5:00 Family Fellowship
Valentine’s Dinner & Dance [Church]


☺ PRE K - 5TH GRADE

- ✓ **Sunday, Feb. 21** [4TH & 5TH Grades]
12:30 - 3:00 Retreat on the Old and New Testaments [Church] 

☺ 6TH - 8TH GRADE YOUTH

- ✓ **Friday, February 19** [6th Grade only]
6:00 pm Baptism Retreat [Church]
An evening of fun and fellowship as the Pastors teach about Baptism. We will eat, play games, and share stories about the day we were baptized.
- ✓ **Friday, February 26-27 - Lock-In**
7:00 pm meet at church to ride the bus to Pflugerville for a Lock-in with other Lutheran churches. Cost is \$5 per youth. Friends are welcome. Talk with Mark for more details.

☺ 9TH - 12TH GRADE YOUTH

- ✓ **Sunday, February 7**
5:00 pm 1st 1/2 Half Super Bowl Party [Nelson] Join for commercials, football game, and other games with prizes awarded. Meet at church at 4:45 to ride the bus or meet at the Nelson’s house at 5.
- ✓ **Sunday, February 14** 
No Meeting-In-Home [M-I-H]
- ✓ **Sunday, February 21**
6:00 pm Meeting-In-Home [M-I-H] [TBA].
- ✓ **Sunday, February 28**
6:00 pm [M-I-H] [TBA].
- ✓ **March 13-17 - Spring Break Trip**
Our Spring Break Trip to Eagle Pass as we worship and serve with our Mission Partners there. All families are invited to join in the trip, 9-12 grade youth do not have to be accompanied by an adult. Cost will be \$100 per person. If you have any questions please contact Mark.

- ✓ **July 8-17 High Adventure Trip**
Registration for this summer’s trip of camping and canoeing in Northern Minnesota will open on February 7. This trip is a great opportunity to witness God’s awesome creation in a pristine setting.



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SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS STAFF

Stephen M. Youngdahl, <i>Pastor</i>	❖	Heidi Schwerdtfeger-Jones, <i>Pastor</i>
Merle G. Franke, <i>Pastor</i>	❖	Rebecca Guengerich, <i>Christian Growth & Spiritual Director</i>
Kevin McClure, <i>Music</i>	❖	Mark Dellagiacoma, <i>Youth and Family</i>
Vernon Moeller, <i>Organist</i>	❖	Amy Ruedas, <i>Child and Family</i>
Lisa Schaffer, <i>Administrative Assistant</i>	❖	Trixi Spinelli, <i>Financial Officer</i>
Mary Gimenez, <i>Building Manager</i>	❖	Karon Miller Hammond, <i>Preschool Director</i>
Lois Bilbrough, <i>Technical Support</i>	❖	Morris Janitorial, <i>Custodian</i>

PHONE: (512) 327-3370 ❖ **FAX:** (512) 327-6021 ❖ **WEB SITE:** www.shephills.org
E-MAIL: CHURCH - sheep@shephills.org ❖ STAFF - (first name)@shephills.org

Good News FOR FEBRUARY 2010

The LORD is my strength
and my might, and he has
become my salvation.

— Exodus 15:2

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