

Loved by God; Loving Others. Fed by God; Feeding Others

May 2021

The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

*Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town.
Matthew 9:1*

May is the month of transitions. I'm hoping we will be transitioning from pandemic isolation into safe gatherings. I know we will have graduations, confirmations, baptisms, and weddings. There are also the natural transitions from snow and dark into abundant life and light.

I know there are some connected with our community who are transitioning from work into retirement, some are transitioning into a new gender identity, some into life without a loved one, and some into moving to a new land. Regardless of how you might feel about any of those transitions, the role of the church is not to judge but to accompany people with the constant reminder that we are God's beloved.

The word transition means to cross over and it's fascinating to see how much time Jesus spends crossing over. He crosses land boundaries and social boundaries, but mainly he crosses over bodies of water. His time in a boat crossing over from one land to another, one ministry to another, is essential to his life.

I think Jesus would have liked a good ferry ride. This is the longest I've gone without a ferry ride since we have lived there. It's hard to help people outside Southeast understand that our youth often ride 36 hours to go to a band or athletic event. People will often comment on how helpful it is to have the long ferry ride up here when they move, because it assists wrapping their mind around the transition.

There is something about a good ferry ride where you get to play cards, visit, sleep, stare at the water, and eat the best ice chips, that helps prepare your being for whatever adventure is ahead.

Church architecture used to resemble a boat. If you look into the ceiling of old churches, they will often look like the hull of a boat. I like the idea of the church as a ferry ride. We are gathered together not because we all agree or we all see the world the same way, but because we are all crossing over together, from life into death into new life; from meaningless wandering into a vision of moving toward shalom.

May reminds us that faithful ministry is about accompanying one another on these transitions, knowing it's a long haul. There are some tedious parts, some difficult parts, and some amazing experiences but through them all we pray, love, play, wait, and remind one another of our identity as God's beloved children.

Peace,
Pastor Tari



Faith Formation at SOV

We hope you will join us as part of your faith journey.

Faith Formation opportunities for all ages are offered via Zoom and in-person. Recordings of our worship services and the Faith Formation videos are available on our YouTube Channel. You can access it through the SOV website or app.

Final Day of Faith Formation

We will wrap up this somewhat unusual, but faith-filled and fun year, on Sunday, May 2. Thank you to everyone who helped teach, provided videos, put together crafts, and in any way contributed to our time together.

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

We will celebrate and surround the following young adults with prayer as they affirm their baptisms on May 23. This crew was ready to be “confirmed” a year ago, but things got a bit delayed, and we’re excited to surround these 9th graders with our love as they share their gifts and witness with us: Corbin Corson, Elijah Harvey, Shaelyn Newport, Lauren Stichert, Kennedy Love, and Adella Dihle.

High School Graduate Recognition

During worship on May 23, along with the Affirmation of Baptism, we will recognize our high school graduates who were confirmed four years ago: August Kiessling, Sophia Harvey, Meredith Fritsch, Katherine Fritsch, and Keegan Reilly.

“What We Believe” Conversation

Youth and their families are encouraged to attend this conversation at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, May 20 on Facebook Live (on SOV’s Facebook page). It features questions about faith for young people with rabbinical student Max Antman and Lutheran pastor Tari Stage-Harvey. It’s a thirty-minute conversation starter about what we mean when we use the word “god.” If you would like to be part of the conversation, but do not have a Facebook account, look for the Facebook Live link on the SOV website.

Small Group Devotions on Tuesday Evenings; and Thursday & Sunday Mornings

There are lots of opportunities for adults through the variety of small groups. Join the following “regulars” at one of these weekly devotion groups. Please note, just because the groups happen weekly doesn’t mean you have to attend weekly. You can find the Zoom links for these events on the SOV website.

8:30 a.m. Sundays with Chris Wallace, Glenn Mitchell, and Kirt Stage-Harvey

5:30 p.m. Tuesdays with Kristina Abbott, Trevor & Talea Kellar, Katherine Andrews, and Marie Kanan

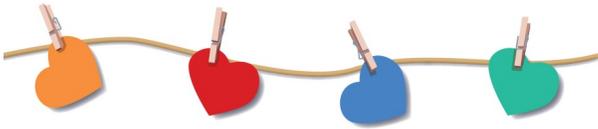
9 a.m. Thursdays with Becky Corson, Teresa Kissel, Sue Trivette, and Nancy Hixson



Prayer & Worship at SOV

Holden Evening Prayer on Zoom—5:30-6 p.m. Wednesdays, May 5, 12, and 19. This is a lovely and reflective service. You can find the Zoom link on the SOV website.

Sunday Worship—Join us at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The Zoom invitations for Sunday worship are published in the SOV Weekly email. Sunday Worship is now both in-person and on Zoom. Folks who worship in person need to wear a mask and will be seated in a “socially distant” manner in the sanctuary. While we miss having little ones around, it’s still not safe for us to have small children wandering around the church. We also encourage folks who want to worship in person to get vaccinated.



Many Hands & Many Hearts!

Serving with Love at SOV

Spring has sprung and we are moving into summer with a healthy list of opportunities to get involved. Check out these ways to contribute gifts of time, money, food, or prayers. Prayers are appreciated for any and all of our ministries.

Let's Spring Clean the Church!

8 a.m. to Noon, Saturday, May 8. Lunch follows clean up. Please join us to get the yard and building ready for summer. We need at least a dozen people so the work isn't too overwhelming. A list of chores and equipment needed will go out in the weekly email and will be posted under "events" on the website.

SOV Service Opportunities—Worship Servants and More

Thank you to everyone who filled out the electronic "service opportunities" survey. Based on these survey results, we will schedule worship servants and food pantry volunteers an entire month at a time (we've already plugged folks into spots for May). Emails go out to everyone who has been plugged into the volunteer positions. If you get an email, take a moment to confirm that you are available at the scheduled time. Please note you are able to let us know which days you are NOT available to volunteer through your SOV account at sovlutheran.elvanto.net.

Here are the folks scheduled to be worship servants in May:

May 2	Readers: Dan Corson and Becky Corson	Lay Assistant: Gail Fenumiai
May 9	Readers: Kristin Wright and Elfrida Nord	Lay Assistant: Katherine Andrews
May 16	Readers: Eileen Hosey and Melinda Birk	Lay Assistant: Sue Trivette
May 23	Readers and Lay Assistants: Confirmation Students	
May 30	Readers: Julie Jenkins and Helen Mehrkens	Lay Assistant: Elfrida Nord

Summer Lunch Staff & Volunteers (also see the flyer on page 5 of the newsletter)

We are going to try and have as normal of a summer lunch as we can. Thank you to our leadership crew of Kristina Abbott, Annette Ranger, Theresa Ross, Marie Stevens and Teresa Kissel. A couple new things this year: we will have two VISTA volunteers who will help with the program, as well as an additional four hours of day camp for 3rd-6th graders. We will also have on-line registration for youth, day campers, volunteers and staff. There are several staff positions for ages 14 and older:

4 Guides (\$15)	12-1:30 p.m.
2 Runners (\$11)	12:30-1:30 p.m.

Staff are expected to do five hours of training in civil rights, preventing sexual abuse, and food handling. Training for volunteers and staff will be 11 a.m., Sunday, May 16 via Zoom (find the link on the website).

Glory Hole Meatloaf

We will cook and serve our traditional meatloaf meal on Wednesday, May 19. Keep an eye out for the online sign-up sheet for needed contributions of time and food.

Food Pantry Operations

Donations of food are always needed and appreciated! The pantry is available for food order pick-ups from 4-6 p.m. Wednesdays and 9-10 a.m. Saturdays. If you know folks who need food, please have them call the direct line to the food pantry (907) 500-3588 and the operator on duty will answer their questions.

Giving Via the Website

If you would like to give financially to a specific ministry, there are a whole bunch of them from which to choose on our website. Go to www.sovlutheran.org, click on "Give" and when you get to the drop down menu, choose your ministry. You can set up recurrent giving or just give a one-time donation.

SOV News Bites



It's Time to Register for Glacier Bible Camp

It's a good time to think about camp. Glacier Bible Camp runs July 19-24, 2021 for Juneau participants. Camp is held this year at the Boy Scout Camp in Juneau and is open to all those going into 5th - 12th grade. The early bird cost is \$100. After June 1, the cost is \$125.

The camp flyer and registration are online on the SOV website under "events." You are able to register for camp online! If you have questions, call us in the church office at 789-4093. The website is www.sovlutheran.org.

You may register as staff or camper by using the link on the website or going to <https://tithe.ly/event-registration/#/3296046>

Update: Ireland and Wales Pilgrimage of Healing

Please keep the following folks in your prayers as they prepare for a time of reflection and healing together: August Kiessling, Becky Corson, Braden Jenkins, Chris Wallace, Christy Wallace, Corbin Corson, Dan Corson, Deb Tempel, Denny Corson, Eileen Hosey, Elijah Harvey, Hannah Harvey, Ilya Wallace, Julie Jenkins, Katherine Andrews, Kirt Stage-Harvey, Kristina Abbott, Linda Landvik, Lisa Wallace, Mark Kiessling, Rosemary Kiessling, Sam Kiessling, Savona Kiessling, Sophia Harvey, Steve Landvik, Tar Stage-Harvey, Whitney Hall, and Liam Kiessling.

Takeaway Spaghetti Dinner

We will host a Take Away Homemade Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner from 4:30-6 p.m., Sunday, May 16 for \$10. Dinners include homemade spaghetti and meatballs, garlic bread, Caesar salad, and a brownie. Delivery within the Valley is available for an extra fee. You may purchase tickets through the link on the website. This is a great way to get a yummy dinner and help keep the pilgrimage more affordable for all. We appreciate your support!

SOV Scholarship Fund

Any post-high school student, involved in their congregation, and continuing their education with a vision of Christian service, is eligible to apply for a \$500 scholarship (preference given to SOV members, but all can apply). The application deadline is July 6. Applications are available at church, or contact the office and we will email one to you.

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May Newsletter Sponsorship

We are blessed with two sets of newsletter sponsors this month! Thank you for your sponsorships!

Becky Corson's parents, Dennis and Ginny Iverson, are sponsoring the May newsletter in celebration of Mother's Day; Denny's 19th birthday; Becky's birthday; and Corbin's confirmation! They send their love and blessings, and look forward to visiting Alaska in May.

Our other sponsors are Cynthia and Ron Plantz, who sponsor in celebration of all mothers. They are both blessed with close relationships with their own mothers, as well as with their godmothers, who are still a big part of their lives. They appreciate and remember their incredible love and caring.

If you are interested in sponsoring a month of the newsletter in honor or celebration of something or someone, let us know. The suggested donation is \$100. Call or email the church to let us know which month you would like to sponsor and any special wording you want included.



Summer Lunch 2021
Monday-Friday, June 1 to August 6
at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
Lunch served 12:30-1 p.m. Games & Activities from 12-1 p.m.

Summer Lunch is happening and begins June 1st. Kids ages 18 and younger are invited to drop in for lunch and activities from Noon to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. The church is located at 4212 Mendenhall Loop Road. Call us at 789-4093 if you have questions. **Please note the program will operate with some changes. We are serving hot lunch and fun activities, but with efforts to keep kids at safe social distances.**

What to Expect this Summer:

- If your child is not feeling well or has cold or flu-like symptoms, please keep them at home.
- Volunteers and staff will wear masks at all times other than eating. Social distancing will be encouraged.
- The program will be suspended for 3 days if anyone participating tests positive for COVID-19.

Schedule:

Noon–12:30 p.m. Check-in time. Games and activities before lunch.
 12:30—1 p.m. Lunch is served. Games and activities as youth finish.

Menu:

Monday	Tacos or Sloppy Joes
Tuesday	Chicken Day
Wednesday	Noodles
Thursday	Breakfast and Fruit Day
Friday	Sandwiches

Shepherd of the Valley is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all children free of charge.

Acceptance and participation requirements for the Program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability; and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Need a Bike? Or a Bike Buddy?

Outdoor bike rodeo will be **Sunday, May 30 from 4:30-5:30 p.m.** There will be bike repair, bike swap, a safety course, and free helmets.

Does your younger child need a little guidance riding his or her bike to Summer Lunch? Bike buddies are older youth that at scheduled times meet younger kids in the neighborhoods around the church, and bike with them to and from Summer Lunch. Call the church office if interested.

Day Camp!

New this year is an additional time for 3rd-6th graders to participate in science experiments, cooking, gardening, crafts and play.

This is limited to the first 12 to register and will occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. beginning June 8.

Register at the bike rodeo or on-line at
www.sovjuneau.org





Let the Blessings Overflow

Good news and celebrations in May

Birthdays

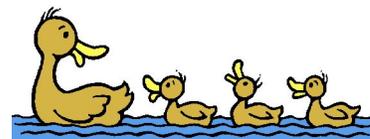
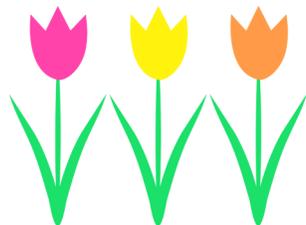
3	Savona Kiessling
3	Jack Morgen
5	Gene Morgen
5	Melissa Fritsch
6	Sven Rasmussen
7	Debra Berggren
8	Morgan Pegues
9	Denny Corson
10	Becky Corson
10	Jack Pegues
12	Ali Witt
13	Jon Gates
14	Tyler Weldon
17	Kyle Reilly
17	Brady Newport
20	Mark Kissel
22	Meagan Hinton
25	John Foster
25	Kyle Schimanski
28	Andy Peterson
29	Per Rasmussen
30	Lauri Walton

Anniversaries

9	Jon & Alice Gates
14	Bob & Cindy Stevenson
15	Bob & Beverly Varness
29	Mark & Andy Peterson

Baptismal Birthdays

4	Katherine Fritsch
4	Meredith Fritsch
5	Amos Kissel
8	Adam Doten-Ferguson
8	Meilani Doten-Ferguson
14	Marie Kanan
17	Rick Fritsch
29	Sven Rasmussen
30	Beverly Varness



Mother's Day at the Beach

Join us at the beach for a Mother's Day potluck from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, May 9 at Auke Rec Picnic Area. Mark your calendar for this lovely time to celebrate the women in our lives! Watch the SOV Weekly email for the potluck sign-up sheet.

You Are Invited to a Party!

Sophia Harvey is graduating from high school and would like to invite everyone to her open house at Eagle Valley Center by Amalga Harbor, from 4-6 p.m., Monday, May 31. She is hosting this party with four of her best friends so it might be best to park at the Harbor and we'll shuttle people back and forth. Stop by to play some games, get a bite to eat and wish them well.

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A Moment for Prayer

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, and shield the joyous; all for your love's sake. Amen. www.sundaysandseasons.com

Also, please keep in your prayers Alaska Synod Bishop Shelley Wickstrom; ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton; and Pastor Tari Stage-Harvey.

4-6 pm Wednesdays

9-10 am on Saturdays

Food Pantry Direct Line: 500-3588

Food pantry details on page 3 of newsletter.

Pastor Tari's Office Hours:

10 am—2 pm Tues/Wed/Fri



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

www.a-printable-calendar.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Sunday Worship is now both in-person and on Zoom. Folks who worship in person need to wear a mask and will be seated in a “socially distant” manner in the sanctuary. While we miss having little ones around, it’s still not safe for us to have small children wandering around the church. We also encourage folks who want to worship in person to get vaccinated.</p>						<p>1 9-10 am Food Pantry</p>
<p>2 Via Zoom: 830 am Devos 930 am Worship ... 11 a.m. Last Sunday of Faith Formation</p>	3	4	<p>5 4-6 pm Food Pantry 530 pm Holden</p>	<p>6 9 am Zoom Devos</p>	7	<p>8 8-Noon Church Spring Cleaning 9-10 am Food Pantry</p>
<p>9 <i>Mother's Day</i> Via Zoom: 830 am Devos 930 am Worship ... 11 am Mother's Day Potluck at Auke Rec</p>	10	11	<p>12 4-6 pm Food Pantry 530 pm Holden</p>	<p>13 9 am Zoom Devos 630 pm Columbarium Meeting</p>	14	<p>15 9-10 am Food Pantry</p>
<p>16 Via Zoom: 830 am Devos 930 am Worship 11 am Summer Lunch Training ... 430-6 pm Takeaway Spaghetti Dinner</p>	17	18	<p>19 <i>SOV at the Glory Hall</i> 4-6 pm Food Pantry 530 pm Holden</p>	<p>20 9 am Zoom Devos 530 pm What We Believe</p>	21	<p>22 9-10 am Food Pantry</p>
<p>23 Via Zoom: 830 am Devos 930 am Worship with Confirmation & Grad Recognition</p>	24	25	<p>26 4-6 pm Food Pantry</p>	<p>27 9 am Zoom Devos</p>	28	<p>29 9-10 am Food Pantry</p>
<p>30 Via Zoom: 830 am Devos 930 am Worship ... 430-530 pm Bike Rodeo</p>	31	<p>1 (June) <i>First Day of Summer Lunch</i> 530 pm Zoom Devos</p>	<p>2 4-6 pm Food Pantry</p>	<p>3 9 am Zoom Devos</p>	4	<p>5 9-10 am Food Pantry</p>

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

4212 Mendenhall Loop Road

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Email: sovjuneau@gmail.com Office: (907) 789-4093

Food Pantry Direct: (907) 500-3588

Web: www.sovlutheran.org Like us on Facebook

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May

**SOV**

LOVED BY GOD; LOVING OTHERS

Your church family is here for prayers, visits, and encouragement. Please call if you would like a visit from Pastor Tari, or anytime you can use a kind word.

Pastor Tari enjoys opportunities to go for walks while visiting with folks. Feel free to call her and plan a time to go for a walk.

We would also love to hear from you with comments about or submissions to *The Shepherd's Voice*. If your address has changed, or if you no longer wish to be on our mailing list, we want to know that too.

Rev. Tari Stage-Harvey, Pastor

Please see inside the newsletter for the many ways we are connecting.

Sunday Worship: 9:30 a.m. (via Zoom)

Faith Formation Classes for All Ages: See page 2 of newsletter for details.

Pastor Tari's Office Hours: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tues, Wed, and Fri.

Food Pantry Order Pick-Up: 9-10 am Sat. and 4-6 pm Wed.

Food Pantry Direct Line (call with questions or to place orders): 500-3588