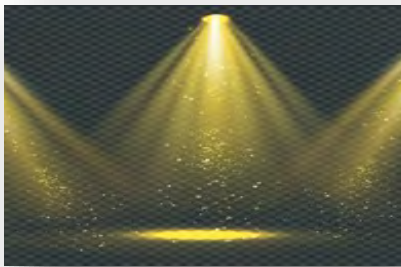


THE VOICE

Thank you for all your donations for hygiene kits for Orphan Grain Train the past quarter! At this writing we are still collecting and assembling kits. We will let you know how many we have put together this far. Orphan Grain Train will continue to be one of our initiatives for 2023, so we will continue to gather those donations.



This quarter's Ministry Spotlight is on Loaves and Fishes. The vision for this ministry came out of the Ministerial Alliance, which is a gathering of pastors and other ministry leaders from Fremont County. In 1984 Loaves and Fishes was borne from those leaders. Seeing great need in our community, the Ministerial Alliance wished to help in a "holistic" way rather than providing necessary, but not lasting assistance. The goal

of Loaves and Fishes is to not only provide for emergencies, but to help people and families to become self-sufficient and not dependent. You could say they are trying to work themselves out of business!

In addition to the emergency assistance, Loaves and Fishes helps previously incarcerated people to find work and gain experience and new skills. They help with transportation, provide respite for people experiencing a mental health crisis which does not rise to the level of hospitalization. They also help to prevent homelessness by assisting with rent, utility bills, and offering life-skills classes like budgeting.

As you are well aware, SOTH is generous with food pantry donations and monetary gifts. This year we also encourage giving of our selves and our time. Charlene Coulson has provided a great list of ways to volunteer in this edition of The Voice. I hope you take a look at it and see if there's a "job" for you. Thank you Charlene for putting the list together! If you are interested in cooking meals, please let me know and we will try to get a team put together. Loaves and Fishes has a great website if you would like to learn more about the important work they are doing in our community: www.lfministries.org.

Blessings! Pastor Chris

YOU'RE INVITED

WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAY MORNINGS

Traditional Worship

In-person: 9:00 am

Online: [youtube.com/
@sothservices1386](https://www.youtube.com/@sothservices1386)

our mission

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church is a reflection of God's love and grace. Our mission is to grow in faith and love, connect with community, and share and serve with compassion.

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

801 N. Sheridan Ave.
Cañon City, CO 81212
(719)275-6797
sothlutherancc.com

IN THIS EDITION

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Holy Week, Easter Schedules | 2 |
| Church Council | 2 |
| Faith Formation | 3 |
| Milestone Celebration | 4 |
| Sharing God's Love | 5, 6 |
| April & May Birthdays | 7 |
| News & Notes | 8-10 |
| April & May Calendars | 11 |

HOLY WEEK and Easter Sunday



Sunday, April 2
Palm Sunday Services at *9:00 a.m.



Thursday, April 6
Maundy Thursday Service at *7:00 p.m.



Friday, April 7
Good Friday Service at *7:00 p.m.



Sunday, April 9
Traditional Easter Sunday Services at *8:00a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
The Men's Easter breakfast will be served between services

**Services will be streamed on our [www.youtube.com / @sothservices1386](http://www.youtube.com/@sothservices1386)*

CHURCH COUNCIL

Join SOTH Church Council!

Election to a Congregation Council carries with it the respect and trust of the constituency of your congregation. The value of your willingness to make a contribution to the life of your congregation is significant and appreciated. Your contribution involves your time, expertise, enthusiasm and energy. Saying yes to this responsibility brings some basic duties. Please reach out to any current council member if you have questions regarding how you can serve as a member of council. We hope you prayerfully consider becoming a candidate!

Please join us

Semi-annual

MEE+ING

Sunday, May 21st
10:30am

with
Council Elections

FAITH FORMATION

The Faith Formation team's mission is to encourage, guide, and support lifelong learning of God's Word for all ages so that we may grow in knowledge, service, and love towards God and all people.



Our adult church members have been blessed to have had the opportunity to attend some faith developing sessions this past season. BeFriender's Ministry classes extended over 7 weeks. and taught us how to care in deeper ways for other people.

Several of us also participated in the Centering Prayer workshop and ensuing support meetings. Our relationship with our God can grow exponentially as we engage in this discipline.

Catechism classes continue for 6 -8 graders on Sundays after worship. This year's classes will conclude with the Youth Led Worship on April 23rd.

Milestone Blessings upon the 3 students who will be Confirmed on Easter Sunday this year, Tucker Anderson, Etta Corkill, and Kellie Williams. We also give thanks to their mentors, Sarah Anderson, Jennifer Corkill, and Rick Romano.

All youth will meet on Palm Sunday, April 2nd, after worship to assemble hygiene packets for the Orphan Grain Train. Catechism students will also prepare plastic Easter eggs for our Sunday school children during this service project. Lunch will be provided by Thrivent.

Sunday school kids will hunt for Easter eggs on the 16th between worship services. Jesus is risen and new life is everywhere!

May will bring another Milestone marker when we celebrate our seniors, Ryan Williams, Atalia Fisher, and Blaine Putzer on May 14th. We will honor these fine young people that Sunday as we thank their moms/dads for bringing them up in our church family!

The last time our children meet for Sunday school classes is May 21st. Then we will break from Sunday school lessons for the summer holidays. God never takes a break from us so, we will continue to worship Him in His house, on our family trips as well as up at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. We have at least 10 students going up the mountain this summer! Thanks to our generous members giving to the Camper-ship fund.

Please join us to celebrate the Confirmation of

Tucker Anderson
Etta Corkill
Kellie Williams



Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023

Please join us to celebrate the Graduation of

Atalia Fisher
Blaine Putzer
Ryan Williams



Sunday, May, 14, 2023

MILESTONE CELEBRATION

CLASS OF 2023

Atalia Rose Fisher is graduating from Canon City High School on May 17th, 2023. She is graduating with honors with a 4.1 GPA. The past 4 years she has been involved in many activities and clubs including: Speech and Debate, Thespians, Marching Band, FBLA, Student Council, and Link Crew. She enjoys volunteering for AWANA in the Cubbies room on Wednesdays. After graduation she is spending the summer as a staff member at RTALC. In the fall, she will be attending George Fox University in Newburg, Oregon and plans to get a degree in Business Management with a minor in Spanish. Atalia would love to thank her church family for all their love and support throughout the years. It truly takes a village!

.....



Ryan Williams will graduate from Florence High School on May 19th. Throughout his high school career, he has been active in student council, National Honor Society and the band program. Music has become one of his passions, and he has been a member of the band student leadership team as well as participated in Marching, Concert and Jazz bands. Ryan was asked to be a member of the Principal's advisory committee, acting as an advocate and providing communication between the student body and administration. He recently discovered a passion and knack for flying drones, and has been exploring drone photography. Ryan plans to attend Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction Colorado in the Fall of 2023. He will enter college as a sophomore after completing several college classes during his high school career. He chose CMU due to the fact that he will be able to continue both his music education, as well as certification in Unmanned Aircraft Systems, which will allow him to develop his drone skills to utilize in areas such as search and rescue, land management and wildlife conservation. He has been blessed to receive a Distinguished Scholars tuition Scholarship to CMU. Ryan would like to extend his appreciation to the SOTH congregation for their support to attend Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp. His camp experience has helped him grow in his faith, connect him to the community as well as given him an opportunity to provide service to others.

.....



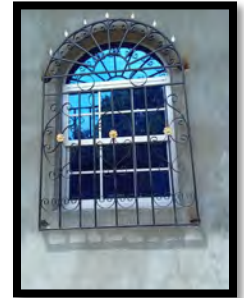
Blaine Putzer First I want to thank the congregation for all their support. I am looking forward to the next chapter in my life. I am graduating from Canon City High School on May 17th, 2023. After graduation, I plan to attend college and obtain my degree in nursing. I am still deciding which college and I hope to play some college baseball as well. *Philippians 4:13*

SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Opportunities to make a difference through the giving of your time, talent, and treasure

Building Update: Jesus de los Milagros

Jesus de los Milagros' building is coming along! Your generosity has been so important to help provide a beautiful and much needed worship space for our siblings in Christ in Israel, Guatemala. Thank you!!!



Save those pop tops! Although our local McDonalds no longer accepts them, Ronald McDonald House is still collecting pop tops. Linda Miller has volunteered to make sure the collection gets to where it needs to be. The collection area remains in the coat room. Thank you Linda and all of you!

Ever wonder why we collect aluminum can pop tabs? Well, the Ronald McDonald House collects the aluminum tabs and then brings them over to a local recycling plant. There they trade the tabs in for money. As of 2022, the Pop Tab Program has generated more than \$4 million! The money goes towards facility expenses, support programs and to help sponsor programs. The foundation isn't interested in the entire can or container though. They just want the tabs, as they are more sanitary and are much easier to store in the long term. Once enough have been collected, the charity brings them to be weighed to determine their value. Then the recycling plant writes and cuts a check then and there!

The nonprofit organization is well known. They operate totally on volunteers and donations, and when you look at what Ronald McDonald House does, it makes you look beyond yourself to help somebody else. It's an amazing example of doing something so simple in order to help children in need. Ronald McDonald House Charities of Southern Colorado keeps families and their critically ill children close to each other and provides them the care and resources they need, when they need it most. When the health and well-being of a child hangs in the balance, there's no other place where their family would rather be than by their side. And, their child needs them there, too.

If you would like to do more, go to: www.rmhcsontherncolorado.org to check out the ways you can help. A \$50 donation pays for a family to stay one night at the McDonald House in Colorado Springs.



SHARING GOD'S LOVE

Opportunities to make a difference through the giving of your time, talent, and treasure



Contact with Lorraine at Loaves and Fishes provided abundant opportunities for volunteering for members of SOTH and to partner with Christ Episcopal as a team to accomplish the goal of hands and feet in service to others.

1. Cook at the emergency shelter. Brett, Emergency Shelter Director, is the contact for this option. He is available 8-4, Monday-Friday, for consultation and tours. The shelter provides the food for the meals. The menu would be your option. There is a kitchen on site that will comfortably accommodate four (4) people. Doors open at 4 and dinner is served at 6pm for clients. Cleanup would involve washing pots and pans as you go. Clients perform the remainder of the duties. After the meal there are Grab and Go meals available to others. Only residents are allowed in the dining area. Friday and Monday food is taken to residents at the New Creations Inn. Currently there are no cooks Monday, Thursday, or Friday, and one (1) on Tuesday.
2. 6 AM hand out food
3. Warehouse- Monday-Thursday, 9-1, making up food boxes from supplied goods for distribution.
4. Third Friday of each month, 11-2, hand out Senior (60+) boxes
5. Reception area-sit down opportunity-answering the phone and assisting with food bank applications. This is a come and go-your time frame.
6. New Creations Inn, Mike Merlino, Director, 1-719-431-1993.

Lorraine and Brett can be reached at 1-719-275-0593.



Please continue bringing in requested items for the Hygiene Kits.



Watch for future information.

Thanks for being such a responsive membership whereby, as a team, we continue the ministries to our community and the world community.

Peace of the Lord, Charlene Coulson, Stewardship Team

APRIL & May BIRTHDaYS

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bella Hjelmstad 4/2 | Sarah Anderson 4/15 | Matthew Norden 5/14 |
| Diane West 4/2 | Ruth Nelson 4/21 | Barb Knicely 5/15 |
| Dave Jarvis 4/5 | DeDe Waldmann 4/23 | Karl Freed 5/19 |
| Tonya Fisher 4/7 | Rick Romano 4/26 | Rebecca O'Guin 5/23 |
| Linda Freed 4/7 | Ron Zenobia 4/27 | James Dumas 5/25 |
| Rosa Schuler 4/7 | Jim Reppert 4/27 | Casey Varner 5/26 |
| Taiya Fisher 4/8 | Al Ballard 4/30 | Barbara Ritter 5/28 |
| Hunter Salyer 4/11 | | |

WAYS TO GIVE



IN PERSON

During worship or
church office hours



MAIL

801 N. Sheridan Ave.
Cañon City, CO 81212



ONLINE

sothlutherancc.com/donate

Online contributions for pledges can be set up through Vanco. This option is helpful as it enables us to count on a reliable income stream for the financial obligations of our church. If you are on a trip or, otherwise unavailable, your contribution is made automatically. You may select weekly, biweekly, monthly, whatever meets your needs. Thanks for considering this easy option.

Vanco secure website: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z5RF/home>

The mobile app invite code is **BBTCEY**.

Checkout the church website at –sothlutherancc.com –for information and options.

Church phone is 1-719-275-6797.

Also available is the QR Scan code for your phone. (Are we “uptown” or not?! Awesome!)

NEWS & NOTES

Shepherd of the Hills Men's Fellowship and Bible Study Group

The meeting is open to all men of faith, meeting every Saturday starting at 8AM, and finishing up at 9. Some stay later to continue the discussion, but those with a busy schedule know that at they are free to head out at 9...The cooking and meeting leadership is shared on a voluntary basis, with contributions collected to make the group fully self-supporting. We check our politics and controversy at the door, welcoming all brothers to grow in Christ and in fellowship with their brothers. With any questions, please contact Ian Forbes at iansteri@aol.com.

.....

Crafting for Christ

The Crafting for Christ Ladies have once again started a craft sale– with a twist. It is a “Year Round Mini Craft Sale” and is currently posted on the wall beside the Free Table. Look for the red display in the corner with items hanging on hooks.

Various items will be available for purchase all year long and will be changed out as they sell or just keeping things interesting. We have been working diligently to come up with ideas for items to sell so something is bound to be displayed that will catch your eye or your fancy.

Come back frequently and take a look. An Honor Bucket is available for ease in paying. Cash and checks Cash and checks will be accepted but please make any checks out to SOTH. Funds raised will go towards Church Expenses.

.....

Meals on Wheels

Please join SOTH every other Monday morning to package food for Meals on Wheels. Meet us in the St. Thomas More kitchen at 9:00 am and we will be done by 10:30. We will meet April 3, April 17, May 1, May 15, and May 29.

.....

Save the Date - June 10, 2023 - I'm F.I.N.E. How are you?

Our news headlines say it all!! Fear, depression, rage, family disruption, digital bullying, suicides, and..... We are facing this chaos together! The S.E. Colorado Women of the ELCA (SECO WELCA) has chosen to focus on mental health/mental illness at its spring gathering. It will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, 1128 E. Boulder St., Colorado Springs. The day will include guest speakers and panelists from NAMI, the National Association for Mental Illness. We will watch NAMI's video, “In Our Own Voice” and then have discussion time with a panel of people from NAMI. Did you know that one in four Americans is affected by mental illness? But there are many misunderstandings about it! Exploring these misunderstandings helps understand mental health issues. More information and registration forms will be available in mid-April.

NEWS & NOTES

Get Your Can To Church

Thank you to all who have donated items for the Mission Team's "Get Your Can to Church" Lenten project. Since this project ran through the week of April 2nd, we don't have a total of how many pounds of food was donated. Watch for that info in our weekly SOTH emails.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle meets next on **Thursday, April 13th, at 10 a.m.** Session four of our study of the Ten Commandments is entitled "For Love of God and Neighbor" and covers Commandments seven through ten ("You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. You shall not covet..." Exodus 20:15) This session we will consider sayings from Proverbs and other biblical wisdom related to minding our tongues, integrity in the marketplace and practical ways to serve our neighbors.

We meet last on **Thursday, May 11th, at 10 a.m.** It's a devotional entitled "Love in Action – the Art of Intergenerational Hospitality". This devotional explores what creativity can teach us about hospitality. While studying passages from Romans, 1 Kings, Matthew and Luke, participants will see how we all have the capacity to help others feel welcome and to accept this welcome for ourselves. All women are invited to attend. Come for learning, discussion and fellowship. We continue to collect tuna for Mercy Today Ministries. Please bring some if you're able.

A Thrivent Tradition Continues

For nearly three decades, Thrivent has created unique calendars by—and for—their membership. Thrivent clients and friends submit the featured photos in response to social media posts and articles in *Thrivent Magazine*. *Thrivent* is looking for your original photos or artwork that reflect the theme of the 2024 calendar: **Perspective**.

As Christians, we sometimes see things differently. When you reflect on your life, your family, your community and the gifts you've been given by God, what puts things into perspective for you? It may be time with someone you love, a volunteer activity you enjoy, a favorite place you go or a leisurely walk in nature.

If you feel you have a photo or piece of art that captures that perspective—whether it's in your relationships, a creative endeavor, a scenic view or a response to the needs around us—*Thrivent* would love to see it!

Submit your entry by June 30, 2023. Be sure to include a description of what's in the photo and how it represents your perspective. If *Thrivent* chooses your entry for the calendar, your description could appear with it on a page. All entries must be original artwork or photography and submitted electronically using the online Entry Submission Form at <https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/calendar>. Entries will be reviewed and selected by the end of August.

NEWS & NOTES

Thank God for Our Food

God said [to Adam and Eve], ‘See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.’-Genesis 1:29

There’s an old joke about the first-grade teacher who asks her class, “Where do apples come from?” Little Ian speaks up: “From the supermarket!” We laugh, but the sad truth is that many of us are so far removed from farms that we forget that our food – every bite – comes from life, life that God alone created. Yes, farmers sow seeds and care for the plants and trees, but it’s God’s miracle of life that makes them grow.

As stewards and disciples, we desire to cultivate in ourselves and our communities a deep appreciation for all God provides us, particularly what we need to live. With every mouthful at every meal we thank God for our daily bread, and for the soil, air and water that sustain life. Easter and springtime are perfect occasions to celebrate God’s miracle of life that gives us fruit, vegetables, grains, meat, fish and dairy foods.

Here are some ideas:

- Mealtime grace, thank God not only for food, but also for the cycles of seedtime, growth and harvest; for life-nourishing soil, water and air.
- While eating, discuss the origins of the variety of food on your plate. How and where are the plants grown? How do they get to your kitchen?
- As a church or family, celebrate Earth Day (Saturday, April 22) by learning about food production and how climate change, pollution and economics impact our food.
- Celebrate Earth Day by planting a garden in your yard or a community garden on church grounds.
- Learn about nutrition -- what foods are the best and worst for us, and why. Promote healthy eating.
- Learn about food waste in our culture and take steps to reduce it in your home.
- At church, reserve a Sunday for a service highlighting creation and food. Maybe “Blessing of the Seeds,” or the ancient “Rogation Sunday” ritual.

We live in a culture where food is all around us all the time. As steward-disciples, we want to be sure not to take even a mouthful for granted.

--Rob Blezard

Copyright ©2018 Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Pastor Blezard works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.orgs and serves as pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD.

April 2023



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|--|------------------------|
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 |
| | | | | | | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| <i>Palm Sunday</i> 4:30-7 PM Seder Meal | 9 AM Peace In Motion 9 AM Meals on Wheels | 1 PM Mahjong | 9 AM VITA 6:30 PM Choir Practice | 3 PM VITA 7 PM Maundy Thursday Worship | 9 AM Peace In Motion 7 PM Good Friday Worship | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| <i>Easter Sunday</i> 8 & 11 AM Easter Service w/ Breakfast between services | 9 AM Peace In Motion Office Closed | 1 PM Mahjong 1 PM Faith Sisters | 9 AM VITA 1 PM Crafting for Christ 2 PM Book Club 6:30 PM Choir Practice | 10 AM Ruth Circle 1 PM Book Club 3 PM VITA | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 9 AM Holy Humor Sunday | 9 AM Peace In Motion 9 AM Meals on Wheels | 1 PM Mahjong | 6:30 PM Choir Practice | | 9 AM Peace In Motion 5-7 PM Sangre de Cristo/Volunteer Appreciation | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 1 PM Mahjong 6 PM Council Meeting | 1 PM Crafting for Christ 6:30 PM Choir Practice | | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 30 | 1 | | | | | |
| 10 AM Joint Worship at SOTH | | | | | | |

May 2023



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 30 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | 9 AM Peace In Motion 9 AM MOW PC Vacation thur 5/8 | 1 PM Mahjong | 6:30 PM Choir Practice | <i>National Day of Prayer</i> | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| <i>Fellowship Breakfast</i> | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 1 PM Mahjong | 1 PM Crafting for Christ 2 PM Book Club 6:30 PM Choir Practice | 10 AM Ruth Circle 1 PM Book Club | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| <i>Mother's Day</i> <i>Noisy Offering</i> <i>PC to Synod Assembly thru 5/19</i> | 9 AM Peace In Motion 9 AM MOW | 1 PM Mahjong | 6:30 PM Choir Practice | 6:30 PM FCCCA | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| Semi-Annual Meeting Council Elections | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 1 PM Mahjong 6 PM Council Meeting | 1 PM Crafting for Christ 6:30 PM Choir Practice | <i>Ascension Day</i> | 9 AM Peace In Motion | 8-9 AM Men's Breakfast |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | <i>Memorial Day</i> <i>Office Closed</i> 9 AM Peace In Motion 9 AM MOW | 1 PM Mahjong | 6:30 PM Choir Practice | | | |

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

801 N Sheridan Ave.

Cañon City, CO 81212

The Voice is published bi-monthly to keep you connected to Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church. Newsletter announcements can be submitted to sothnewslettersubmission@gmail.com by the 15th of the month.

If you no longer wish to receive the church newsletter, please inform the church office at 719-275-6797 or sothoffices@gmail.com

SOTH Lutheran Church Staff

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Christine Hjelmstad | Pastor |
| Sheila Foley | Office Administrator |
| Bobbie Anderson | Youth Ministry & Administrator |
| Dean Richter | Faith Formation Director |
| Gerry Willis | Music Director |
| Leslie Woodhull | Violinist |
| Cheri Chiaro | Accompanist |
| Andy Fisher | Audio-Visual |
| Lois Petersen-Kelley | Book Keeper |
| Barbara Knicely | Financial Secretary |
| Teresa Burdick | Custodian |
| Caroline Barnhardt | Grounds Maintenance |

SOTH Council Members

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Dianne Bush | President |
| Brad Putzer | Vice President |
| Sarah Anderson | Secretary |
| Jennifer Corkill | Treasurer |
| | |
| Blaine Putzer | Glennie Forbes |
| Jon Runa | |

