



# Shepherd's Voice

*We have this hope—God's promise of salvation—as a sure and steadfast anchor for the soul!*  
~Hebrews 6:19

*A Letter from Pastor Stoltenow*

## The Lord Gives Us Strength and Peace

***"The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace."***  
~Psalm 29:11

As I write this, Jodie and I are getting ready to go on our vacation in Minnesota. We go back every summer to our lake cabin and enjoy the beauty and peacefulness of God's creation. So, I started to consider what Scripture I might expound on for this month's VOICE and I was led to Psalm 29:11.

I have been thinking about all the blessings we have enjoyed in these few last months at Shepherd of the Hills. We were privileged to host the worship services at the recent Rocky Mountain District Convention (Gail Black did a magnificent job), there were two weddings in the sanctuary (with two more to come), Vacation Bible School took place with 162 kids plus volunteers, and we received a new Associate Pastor when Candidate Ben Oesch was ordained and installed. We had celebration dinners connected to VBS, Pastor Oesch's welcoming (can Valerie Boggess and her family cook, or what?!), and the outdoor service at the end of June. The Fellowship Committee was awesome with all these events, and our volunteers did their usual excellent job. Our mission team went to Cambodia in July and had a successful and safe trip. And just today, our youth and their leaders left for the LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Praise be to God for the many blessings!

The hot weather in July has slowed the pace of summer down a little. Thankfully, we have had some time to rest from all the celebrations and enjoy the peace of the days of summer. It is time for some refreshment.

***"The Lord gives strength to His people; the Lord blesses His people with peace."***  
~Psalm 29:11

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**Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church**

7691 S. University Blvd.  
Centennial, CO 80122

303-798-0711 [ShepherdHillsChurch.org](http://ShepherdHillsChurch.org)

# Member News



## SOS! Choir

SOS stands for "Sing One Sunday." This is a low commitment, once-in-a-while opportunity to sing. You may sing parts or just melody! Watch for "SOS! Sing One Sunday" announcements throughout the year. Questions? Contact **Gail Black, 303-707-4364, [gblack@sothfamily.org](mailto:gblack@sothfamily.org).**

## Sunday, August 24:

- + rehearse: August 24, 7:47am, choir loft
- + song: *Amazing Grace*
- + sing: at the beginning of Traditional services

## Adult Choir ~ Save the Date!

Those of you ages 14-104 are invited to join the Shepherd's Chorale family in the sanctuary choir "loft" **Wednesday, September 17, 6:37-8:07pm** as we begin our Fall season! We practice most Wednesdays and sing about once a month in both Traditional services. Questions/Information? **Gail Black: [gblack@sothfamily.org](mailto:gblack@sothfamily.org), 303-707-4364.**

## Texas Flood Relief Donations

Shepherd is collecting donations for the Texas Flood victims and recovery through August 31. Missions will match up to \$1000 in donations. Lutheran Church Charities is the donations recipient, giving relief to local Lutheran churches in the flood-affected areas.

**To give online:** [ShepherdHillsChurch.org/Give](https://ShepherdHillsChurch.org/Give). On the drop-down menu, choose: Missions Human Care - benevolence, nat. disasters. Enter the amount and note: Texas Floods.

**To give by check:** Make check out to Shepherd of the Hills. In the memo line, note: Texas Floods.

Thank you for being the hands and feet of our Savior.

## Ushering and Greeter Training and Appreciation

On **Sunday, August 17**, Shepherd will host an Ushering and Greeter Appreciation/Training/Information lunch. Come to the Parish Hall at **12:15pm** (after late services are done) and bring anyone who may want information on ushering or greeting. RSVP to David Renner so he can plan for food. Contact him at: [david.anthony.renner@comcast.net](mailto:david.anthony.renner@comcast.net). We'll go over ushering duties, exchange tips and tricks, and have a good time.

## Baptism

Ezra Jacob Howard  
Son of Matthew and Bethany Howard  
Born: 7/26/2019  
Baptized: 7/11/2025



Sponsors: Yael and Grace Vences

## Breakfast With Baby Serves 17 Children in July

On July 12, Breakfast with Baby served 17 children from 11 families. After breakfast and a devotion in English and Spanish, parents shopped for diapers, wipes, clothing and other available items. Looking forward to the **August 9** event, boys' size 2, 3 and 4T clothes are needed as well as Size 4 and 6 diapers. We also need wipes. Thank you for continuing to share God's love.

## Save the Date for Dinner on the Green

Dinner on the Green, sponsored by the Mission Team, is scheduled for **Saturday, August 16, 5:30pm at Shepherd of the Hills**. Dinner will be provided. Some of our Missionaries and Human Care organizations will give updates on their mission field. All are welcome!

## Summer Office Hours, 9am-noon, end August 11.

## August Anniversaries

<i>"And now these three remain: Faith, Hope and Love. But the greatest of these is Love."</i>	8/1	Bob and Jeanette Faust, 66 years
	8/3	Kris and Deb Saline, 34 years
	8/4	Heidi and Gary Dudley, 46 years
	8/4	Dave and D'Wayn Stone, 46 years
	8/6	Jeffrey and Kristi Cooper, 42 years
	8/12	Lisa and Pat Esola, 31 years
	8/16	Pete and Linda Klein, 50 years
	8/18	John and Debbie Misegadis, 41 years
	8/19	Virgil and Barbara Koeneke, 53 years
	8/19	Duane and Sue Feldmann, 53 years
<i>1 Corinthians 13:13</i>	8/20	Ed and Betsy Barstad, 37 years
	8/20	Kyle and Jayme Klepacki, 20 years
	8/27	Ron and Julee Orrell, 60 years
	8/27	Russ and Pam Robbins, 37 years
	8/28	Gary and Clarice Groeling, 65 years
	8/28	Travis and Lindsey Jarvi, 9 years



**NOTE:** Don't see your anniversary listed? Please contact the front office to have your member information updated!



## Quilts & Kits: You Helped Us Fill Our Backpacks!

Our Lutheran World Relief Team sews school backpacks to be used in disaster relief here and around the world, and our goal was to fill 73 backpacks with needed school supplies. WOW, Shepherd! You more than met the challenge! Thank you for your generous response to our school supply appeal. We've almost reached our goal, and now, with your help, we may make and fill even more backpacks!

For more information contact **Sharleen Jespersen** at [jesper417@yahoo.com](mailto:jesper417@yahoo.com).



*What do I do now? How can I keep going? I'm so confused. I'm all alone.*

Maybe you've had thoughts like these. When someone you love dies, grief can be lonely and overwhelming. But you are not alone! God sees you and loves you. One of the ways He helps you in times of grief is through other people who have experienced and understand the hurt you feel. Join us and find hope and courage for your journey toward healing:

### **"Loss of a Spouse" Special Seminar**

Tuesday, August 12

6:30-8:30 PM

Shepherd of the Hills Atrium

Register online at [GriefShare.org](http://GriefShare.org)

### **Weekly Support Group Meetings**

Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:30 PM

August 19 - November 11, 2025

Shepherd of the Hills Atrium

Register online at [GriefShare.org](http://GriefShare.org)

## Praise the Lord! LWR Truly Makes a Difference!

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) pre-positions quilts and kits that groups like Shepherd's Quilts & Kits group make. The LWR products previously provided to San Antonio demonstrated the amazing value of pre-positioning supplies. Within 12 hours of the flash floods, products were in the hands of those who needed them most. Thank you for being Christ's love in the world!

## Church Landscape Work Days Scheduled

We have two work day opportunities for you: **Friday, August 8** and **Thursday, August 21, 7:30am-noon**. We have over 50% of weeding and laying mulch already done! To keep costs down and work moving forward, may we have your help? We want to finish removing the mulch, rocks, dirt, and weeds from the planter strip along University and from the south fence line. Bring a shovel and wheelbarrow if you have them. Thank you so much!

## Active Seniors Honorary Luncheon

Please join us for the annual Active Seniors planning committee appreciation lunch on **Friday, August 29 at 11am** in the **Parish Hall** to thank our Active Seniors committee ladies for their hard work! Please bring a side dish or dessert. RSVP by August 10 to **Sandy Garberding, 303-669-0274, [rsgarb@comcast.net](mailto:rsgarb@comcast.net)**.

## September 7 is Fall Kickoff Sunday at Shepherd!

A few quick details to help us prepare for this special day. **Praying With an Open Heart** is our 2025-26 theme. The Scripture passage to accompany the theme is **Philippians 4:6-7**. We will celebrate Fall Kickoff at all three services on **Sept. 7**. During the **9:30-10:30am Education Hour**, High School age-Adult classes will join in the **Gym** for a program based on our theme. Toddlers-8th grade will have special theme activities as well.

Watch for more details in the Friday E-blasts and Sunday Announcements!

What a privilege we have as Christians in the USA to **pray** freely to our Lord! What a blessing is His Word, filled with many **prayers** for us to study and learn (and memorize)! What a gift we have from the Holy Spirit, that we may **pray** directly to our heavenly Father through the merits of our Savior Jesus, knowing **our Lord ALWAYS listens and answers!**

# Member News

## Bible Readings for the Month

### August 3 – 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Lessons:* Psalm 100; Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26;  
Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21

### August 10 – 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Lessons:* Psalm 33:12-22; Genesis 15:1-6;  
Hebrews 11:1-16; Luke 12:22-40

### August 17 – 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Lessons:* Psalm 119:81-88; Jeremiah 23:16-29;  
Hebrews 11:17-31 (32-40); 12:1-3; Luke 12:49-56

### August 24 – 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Lessons:* Psalm 50:1-15; Isaiah 66:18-23;  
Hebrews 12:4-29; Luke 13:22-30

### August 31 – 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Lessons:* Psalm 131; Proverbs 25:2-10;  
Hebrews 13:1-17; Luke 14:1-14



## Usher Schedule for the Month

### August 3 – 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Sanctuary – Justin Hart / Zane Hart  
10:45 Sanctuary – Pam & Russ Robbins  
10:45 Gym – Kathy & Chris Biondolilo

### August 10 – 9<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Sanctuary – Chad Ropte / Kasey Ropte  
10:45 Sanctuary – Tina & Chris Skirde  
10:45 Gym – Sue & Duane Feldmann

### August 17 – 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Sanctuary – Bruce Boggess / Chuck Place  
10:45 Sanctuary – Sandy & Bill Griffis  
10:45 Gym – Jennifer Luckinbill / Sander Luckinbill

### August 24 – 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Sanctuary – Brooklyn Schuchman / Dave Stone  
10:45 Sanctuary – Josh Hoener / Lindsey Jarvi  
10:45 Gym – Kathy & Chris Biondolilo

### August 31 – 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

8 am Sanctuary – Rick Monson / Paul Rodeck  
10:45 Sanctuary – Pam & Russ Robbins  
10:45 Gym – Sue & Duane Feldmann



## Ministry Opportunities

**Priscilla Circle** serves meals for families after funerals and memorial services. If you are interested in being part of this circle as a helper or to bring food for these occasions, please contact **Sandy Garberding** at [RSGarb@comcast.net](mailto:RSGarb@comcast.net) or **Kay Stolzenbach** at [gkstolzenbach@comcast.net](mailto:gkstolzenbach@comcast.net).

### Loving Meals Ministry

When someone in our Shepherd family has surgery or becomes ill, help with preparing meals may be needed. If you or someone you know could use help with small meals on a short-term basis, please contact the church office at **303-798-0711** and you will be contacted by one of our meal coordinators.

### Contemporary Service Altar Setup/Cleanup Team

This setup/cleanup team takes turns preparing the altar for the Contemporary services by filling candles and setting out the altar ware on Sunday mornings. After the service, things get put away. It doesn't take much time and there are no meetings to attend. To be a part of this team, please contact either **Mary Powers** at [powersworld@live.com](mailto:powersworld@live.com) or **Luanne Reimer** at [reimer.luanne@gmail.com](mailto:reimer.luanne@gmail.com).

The women of **Altar Circle** prepare the chancel area in the Sanctuary for the traditional services. Communion preparations, changing paraments, filling candles with oil and vacuuming are just a few of the duties performed before services. On Communion Sundays, there is cleanup after the services. We get together for a meeting once a quarter and enjoy fellowship, a devotion and treats! We're always looking for women to help with preparations and Communion cleanup. The work is shared among our members so it isn't a big commitment of time. Even if you don't want to come to the meetings, please consider assisting with Communion cleanup after the services. Contact **Luanne Reimer** through email at [reimer.luanne@gmail.com](mailto:reimer.luanne@gmail.com).

### Used Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids

Another 30 pair of eyeglasses have been collected and delivered to the Lions Club, to be distributed to those in need throughout the world. Since 2010, Shepherd has donated 1,879 pair of eyeglasses. Several hearing aids were also collected and given to the Sertoma organization. Place any eyeglasses and hearing aids in the designated basket in the Sanctuary Welcome Center Cry Room. Thank you! Your contributions are a blessing to many!

## Mission Team Update – August 2025

### Rev. James and Angela Sharp – Puerto Rico

Rev. James and Angela Sharp serve the Lord as missionaries of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and have moved from Uruguay, South America, to Puerto Rico. Pastor Sharp is helping to plant churches throughout Puerto Rico – in Bayamón, Ponce, and Mayaguez. Soon there will be another church in Carolina. Church planting takes a dedicated team of pastors, deaconesses, and workers/volunteers. The full team meets once a month in Ponce for devotions, planning, and fellowship. You can follow the Sharps on social media at:

- [Facebook.com/sharpmission](https://www.facebook.com/sharpmission)
- [X.com/sharpmission](https://www.x.com/sharpmission)
- [Instagram.com/sharpmission](https://www.instagram.com/sharpmission)



### Why Would I Need a Stephen Minister?

"Why would I need a Stephen Minister? I have my family and friends to support me during this difficult time."

What can a Stephen Minister offer even though you have a support system? A Stephen Minister can be:

1. A listening presence. A Stephen Minister is not as emotionally involved as your spouse or children. You can be open and honest about whatever feelings you are experiencing. People often protect or hide their true feelings from those they love because they don't want to hurt or burden them.
2. Encouragement for family members. Knowing that another is also caring and giving to the one who is hurting will give additional support to family members.
3. A source of caring. After your initial responses to the crisis are over, a Stephen Minister can be a consistent, dependable listener and friend. You will have a companion in the process of healing.
4. A part of our faith community. The presence of a Stephen Minister says, "You are an important member of our parish, and your parish community cares about you."

With all these reasons, why not ask for a Stephen Minister to walk with you in your hurt and confusion? Do it as a gift to yourself and to those who love you. Call our Stephen Leader, **Ron Manuella (303-587-0001)**, or **Pastor Stoltenow** to begin the process.

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As I was looking at this Psalm I came across the footnotes of the *Concordia Study Bible* where the author, regarding verses 10 and 11, writes "The Lord's absolute and everlasting rule is committed to His people's complete salvation and unmixed blessedness – the crowning comfort in a world where threatening tides seem to make everything uncertain." I hope you read the first sentence of this quote carefully when the author talks about God's complete commitment to our eternal salvation and the blessings that happen here on earth and those of the kingdom that is to come. God is absolutely committed to our eternal life and blessedness!

Through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus, God showed His absolute and everlasting love for us in committing to death His Son, Jesus. By Jesus' death and glorious resurrection, we have been given *strength, blessings, and peace*. We walk faithfully in the *strength* of

our Lord every day as we navigate the ever-changing and threatening tides we all encounter. We are led by God's Holy Scriptures and nurtured by the Sacraments. We receive our *blessings*—our daily bread—as we receive from the Lord all that we need to support this body and life. (Luther's explanation of the 4th Petition of the Lord's Prayer) And, finally, we are given the *peace of God* that surpasses all human understanding as our hearts and minds are kept steadfast in faith to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Strength, blessings, and peace. All gifts of God for you. For all of us!

Enjoy your summer! I am going fishing!

Blessings,

*Pastor Brad*



## ELC

### Help us welcome the ELC families back to school!

If you love seeing kids playing on the playgrounds and in the field, if you can help point new families in the direction of their classrooms, if you can serve hot dogs and chips, if you want to *eat* hot dogs and chips, have we got an event for you! Join us for the ELC's Back to School Night on **Thursday, August 7 at 5:30pm**. Come and help, eat, or just come for the fellowship and fun!

## Youth

### Summer Sunday School Schedule Through Fall Kickoff (Sept. 7)

- Infants-4<sup>th</sup> gr. (2025-26 school year): no Summer classes
- Incoming 5-8th gr.: with Mr. Scheck in LL-15
- Incoming 9-12th gr. and graduating seniors: in SHYP in the Youth Room with Adam, Bethany, and Sina
- Graduating seniors, you may stay with SHYP or go to the Young Adult class (HS Grads-30's) in the Atrium with Patrick



### August Dates to Remember:

#### SHYP

- August 3 (Sun) - from 3:45 – 6:00pm  
Pickleball at Sporty Pickle  
8640 S Peoria St, Unit 100, Englewood  
Cost: \$10  
You must wear athletic shoes and attire. Let Sina know if you need a ride.

#### Xtreme

- August 10 (Sun) - from 12:30 – 2pm

#### Young Adults

- August 1 & 8 - Open gym. Friday nights in August. 7-10pm. Join us for volleyball, basketball or other games. Questions? Contact **Ben Barstad, 303-956-9851**.
- August 24 (Sun) - Lunch at 12:15pm

### SHYP LCMS Youth Gathering Presentation

On **Sunday, August 24**, everyone is invited to hear the testimonies of the youth, adults, and young adult volunteers who participated in the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July. Join us in the **gym** at **9:30am** as we share what we learned, what God revealed, and how we served in New Orleans!

## Youth Group Notes

Shepherd of the Hills' **Spiritual Formation Plan** encompasses your child's spiritual formation from the womb all the way to when they leave the nest after high school. It is age appropriate and designed to assist your children to mature as Lutheran Christians so they may take a joyful stand for Christ.

For specific information about Confirmation and/or Catechism Class, please contact **Pastor Brad Stoltzenow** at [BStoltzenow@sothfamily.org](mailto:BStoltzenow@sothfamily.org). For information about junior and senior high youth groups, please contact **Pastor Stoltzenow** or **Sina Williams** at [swilliams@sothfamily.org](mailto:swilliams@sothfamily.org). For information about Family Ministry, contact **Jodie Stoltzenow** at [jstoltzenow@sothfamily.org](mailto:jstoltzenow@sothfamily.org). You can also find specific youth information and upcoming events online under either the Connect tab or the Calendar tab at [ShepherdHillsChurch.org](http://ShepherdHillsChurch.org).



**CHURCH STAFF**

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Shepherd's Voice is the monthly newsletter for the church family at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
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The deadline for the September issue of the Shepherd's Voice is August 18. Please have all articles entered into the Communication Request system by this date.

**POSTMASTER**

*Send Address Changes to:*  
Shepherd's Voice  
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