

# *The Shepherd's Staff*

Volume 54, No. 3, March 2018



## *Holy Week Services*



PALM SUNDAY

### *PALM SUNDAY*

March 25, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

### *MAUNDY THURSDAY*

March 29, 7:00 p.m.



MAUNDY THURSDAY



GOOD FRIDAY

### *COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE*

March 30, 12:00 -1:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Boyertown Area Ministerial Association

Location: Hope Community Church, Route 663

### *SOTH GOOD FRIDAY*

March 30, 7:00 p.m.

### *EASTER SUNDAY*

April 1, 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.



EASTER SUNDAY



Greetings, Shepherd! Well, winter is almost over and I, for one, cannot wait for the warmer weather and ocean visits! Don't get me wrong, I like the snow, and there's nothing quite like a warm fire on a cold day, but I do enjoy the flowers, the sounds of lawn mowers, and, of course, our vegetable garden.



This is also the season of Easter. This year Easter comes a little early, on April 1<sup>st</sup>, and no doubt you're looking forward to the colors and the symbolic start of Spring. Last year we gave Easter bags to all the kids, something we're planning to do again. We're also planning for our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.

Easter, for us this year, also represents the end of our series, "The Road to Calvary." I don't know about you, but I have enjoyed this time of looking at the different events that led Jesus to the cross and those that point that direction. Our next series is already being prepared and I'll just say this: it will be powerful. We'll be announcing it toward the end of the month.

There's more to look forward to as well. The Life of Carter (musical guest) will be visiting at the end of April. Carter is a nationally touring worship artist and has recorded several records. You can check them out on YouTube and Amazon.

Our Bible College is continuing, and our first groups are nearing the end of their journey. Some will be continuing with us, into a more advanced program, but all will be graduating this summer. We're planning a graduation ceremony for August and I want to invite you to pray for our students, and come out and see them receive their certificates. Dates will be made available closer to the event.

Our home groups ministry, called Connect Groups, also begins this spring. If you haven't yet signed up for a group I want to encourage you to do so. The church will be supporting these groups by helping to provide material and making sure new members are being connected. Our goal this year is to have 100 people connected to a small group, and you can help!

In April we will be having a new member's class for all those who have not yet become official members of the church. You don't have to be at Shepherd for any specific amount of time to join, either; even if you just started attending, we want to encourage you to join. The Bible provides a great example of believers intentionally getting connected with the local church, and membership is how we do that. Our membership classes run for three weeks where you'll learn about the church, ministries, and get a chance to discover your personal gifts and how you can use them here.

Other things are coming up as well. Financial Peace University starts this month, Confirmation is coming in May, and of course we will be celebrating Mother's Day and Father's Day, we're looking to schedule a baptism event, and our youth are preparing for their mission trip to Easton this summer. Our Wednesday night services are also going well, as is the radio ministry.

Spring often represents new life. Trees bud, the birds come back, the days get longer, the sun comes out more often, and the temperatures rise. And our church is full of life, too! We're reaching people with the gospel in new ways, we're finding ministry opportunities that no one else is pursuing, needless to say this church is moving and, most importantly, God is moving through it!



### **Fellowship Lunch**

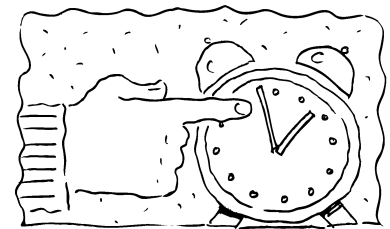
Thursday, March 22,  
11:30 a.m.

Meet at Moccias Train Stop,  
Schwenksville  
Please register

### **Montco-Berks Golden Age Club**

Thursday, March 1, 2:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran,  
Bechtelsville  
Program: Lady and the Tramps



SET YOUR CLOCKS  
**Ahead!**

### **Daylight Saving Time**

**Sunday, March 11**

### **Coming Events**

**April 1**  
Easter

**April 8**  
Youth Sunday

**April 14**  
Ladies Tea

**April 21**  
Clothing Drive

# Missions Commitment



Don & Christine Ames

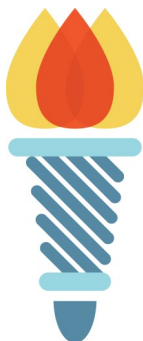
Don and Christine Ames are our March Mission Commitment project. They have served with La Mission in Florida for about 13 years, providing support services to missionaries and mission stations. This often included travel to other countries where Don's skills as an electrician were highly valued. In the past year they have retired from full-time active service although still continuing with projects from time to time.

**The Vision Project for March** is Bridge the Gap Ministries in Belize. John and Beate Vandermark head this ministry which disciples youth in the faith and trains them in a vocational skill such as computers or diesel engine repair, for example.

In the summer 2013 our youth went on a mission trip to their location. Many changes have occurred since then—with new buildings going up and older ones expanded.

## Christian Symbol

**Torch** — The torch primarily represents the Passion of Christ, perhaps because he was arrested and tried during the night, when the Temple guard would have used torches for light. The torch also can symbolize spiritual enlightenment, or martyrdom for the sake of the gospel.



**New E-mail for Church Office**

admin@soth.church

## Youth Club

Wednesdays, 6:15- 8:30 p.m.

4 years to Grade 6

Term II will conclude April 18

The format this year is for everyone to gather in the fellowship hall for worship at 6:15 p.m. This is followed by a lesson, craft time, game time, a snack at 8:15 p.m.

Dismissal is from the lower level at 8:30 p.m.

## H2O Youth

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Shepherd's Den

## Children's Church

Pre-K to Grade 4—every Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. service.

## Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Toddler—2 years—Room 14

3 years—K—Room 12

Grades 1-3—Room 24

Grades 4-6—Room 25

Grades 9—12—Den

Confirmation Class (Grades 7-8)

Library

Adult—Room 22

Discussion—Parlor East

Spiritual growth—FH



## Escape Shepherd

H2O Youth Fundraiser

Saturday, March 3





## Sunday Services

8:00 a.m.

Traditional Service

10:30 a.m.

Contemporary Service

## Wednesday Service

7:00 p.m.

Magnify!

**The 2017 Annual Report and Auditor's Report** were accepted by the congregation at the annual meeting held Sunday, February 25.

**The Miller-Keystone Bloodmobile** had a successful blood drive on Sunday, February 4. They collected 22 units of blood.

**The March-April Upper Room Devotional** is available at the literature racks at both entrances. A \$1 donation is suggested.

**Financial Peace University** will offer a 9-session money-management course at SOTH, beginning Friday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$109. The link to register can be found on the church website.

**Easter Candy** will be made for sale by the Pre-school Board. Cost is \$6 for 8 oz. It is available in peanut butter and coconut, light and dark chocolate. Orders are being taken until March 18. Candy will be available for pick-up on Sunday, March 25. Order forms are available as an insert in the Sunday bulletin and at the information desk in the sanctuary foyer.

WALK BY  
Faith,  
NOT BY  
sight.

SPOT-  
LIGHT  
ON...

## H2O Youth Ministry

Shepherd of the Hills values educating young men and women, fostering them into personal relationships with Jesus Christ. Led by Lucas Hahn, our youth pastor, and supported by an amazing congregation and group of volunteers, the H2O ministry seeks to engage youth in meaningful, faith based, conversations. With an energetic and welcoming atmosphere, the H2O ministry truly is a vibrant part of the church's ministry.

Here at H2O, we want you to feel welcomed and comfortable expressing questions about faith. If you are a middle school or high school student and you want to make new relationships with people, are looking for a fun environment, and want to grow in your relationship with Christ, then come join us on a Sunday morning, Wednesday night, or for any of our awesome events! We would love to meet you and get to know you better. If you have any questions contact our Youth Pastor, Pastor Lucas!



Chris Smith, Dan Little, Corey Black, Brianna Little, Kim Little, Lucas Hann

## Pastoral Staff

Collin Monger

*Senior Pastor*

Charles Rowden

*Executive Associate Pastor*

Lucas Hahn

*Associate Pastor of Youth*

James Jessum

*Associate Pastor of Visitation*

Shepherd of the Hills' regular office hours are Tuesday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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