

The Shepherd's Staff

Volume 55, No. 5 May 2019



THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER | MAY 2, 2019

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

LOVE ONE ANOTHER. JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU JOHN 13:34



NATIONALDAYOFPRAYER.ORG #LOVE1ANOTHER

National Day of Prayer calls Americans to “Love One Another”

The National Day of Prayer was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed the amended law designating the first Thursday of May as a day of national prayer. Every year, millions of Americans, in tens of thousands of meetings across all 50 states, come together for unified public prayer for America.

This year's National Day of Prayer theme is **“Love One Another.”** The theme comes from the words of Jesus in John 13:34, “Love one another. Just as I have loved you.” Dr Ronnie Foyd, president of the National Day of Prayer Task Force says, “We tend to forget that Jesus didn't say we would be known by our creeds or by our knowledge or how much we know about the Bible — he said we would be known only by our love, and love has been painfully absent in America in so many ways.”

The National Observance will be held at 7:30 p.m. ET in the National Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol. In attendance will be a few members of Congress as well as hundreds of American faith leaders. The Brooklyn Tabernacle Singers will lead worship.



May 19, 10:30 a.m.

Our confirmand has completed a 2-year course of instruction in the faith.

Katie Ludy

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Roar: Life is Wild; God is Good



June 24-28

Register at the Welcome desk or online.

Coming Events

Graduate Sunday
June 9

Vacation Bible School
June 24-28

Relay for Life
June 22-23

Prime Timers Sunday
June 23



Current Sermon Series

"Daniel: Dare to be Different"

April Topics:

Youth Sunday—Living Out Your Faith

Palm Sunday—How God Moves In A Life

Easter Sunday—Lessons From An Empty Tomb

Dare to Give God Glory

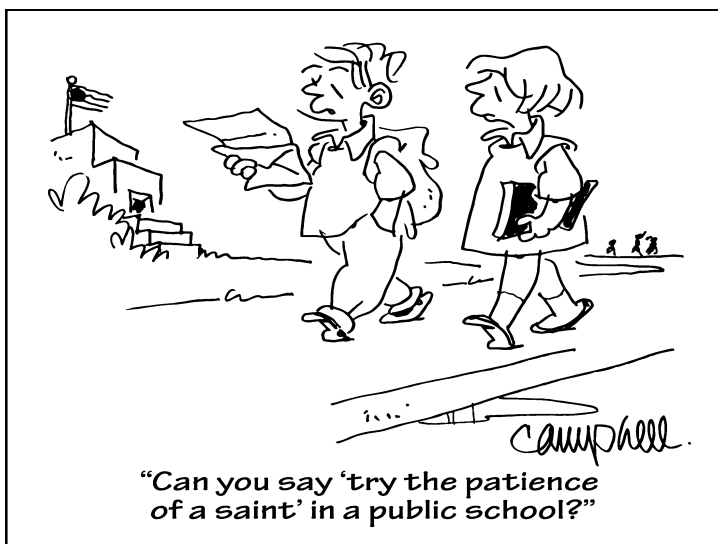


Floating on Faith

As a man and his young daughter were boating one day, their vessel sprang a leak. The father knew he'd have to swim to shore but couldn't with the child in tow. She hadn't gotten far in swimming lessons but could float on her back, so he told her to do so and promised to return.

Coast Guard personnel were skeptical that a child could survive so long in the water. But hours later, as the sun set and they considered halting the search, someone spied a red dress amid the waves. The girl, still floating, was singing a hymn. Astounded, rescuers asked how she held on so long. "My daddy said he'd come back for me," she said, "and he never breaks his promises."

Prayer rests on just such trust. We can't know when God will answer or act, but we know he promises never to abandon us and that God keeps his promises. So we can lie back and float — on faith.



Prime Timer Events

Montco-Berks Golden Age

Thursday, May 10

Hunterdon Hills

Show: "Steel Magnolias"



H2O

Wednesdays

6:30—8:30 p.m.

Children's Church

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

Sunday School

9:15 a.m.

Children & Youth

Toddler—Room 14

3-4 year olds—Room 12

Grades 1-6—Room 24

Grades 9—12—Den

Confirmation Class (Grades 7-8)

Library

Adults

Adult—Room 25

Discussion—Parlor East

Spiritual growth—FH



Youth Mission Trip

July 21-27

Easton

Participants
will be
announced.

MISSION REPORT

The **Mission Commitment Project** for May is Bob Mendelsohn of Jews for Jesus. Bob is well known to the congregation, having visited with us many times. He is presently stationed with Jews for Jesus in Sydney, Australia. He will be visiting Shepherd in September.

The **Vision Project** for May is Bob and Carmen Morrison of Reclaim Life in Mexico. Reclaim Life is an international ministry dedicated to transform the emotional and spiritual health of poor, marginalized adults, youth and children. Additionally, they want to develop them to be change agents who break the bonds of helplessness and poverty in their families and communities across generations.

Reclaim Life means to “take back” that which was lost or discarded, to restore a person to living the life and being the person God had in mind all along.

The ministry focus is to equip local churches primarily in the urban slum context with small group programs designed to bring emotional and spiritual healing and growth across a wide spectrum of unmet needs: parenting, marriage, trauma, addictions, domestic violence, grief and anxiety, among others. Trainers equip lay people to facilitate the groups which continue to grow sustainably. Lay counselors trained via our 2-year online Christian counseling program provide additional, skilled support at the local level.

The ministry growth plan involves adding more programs, as described, as well as expanding to reach more cities around the world, primarily where the urban poor have little to no access to mental health resources.

As of 2018 they are working in five cities in Mexico and Ecuador with three programs developed (emotional healing, marriage and parenting), small group facilitators beginning to run their own groups. Their first group of lay counselors graduated in July 2018.



Bob and Carmen Morrison

Above and Beyond

When 20-year-old Hunter Shamatt lost his wallet while traveling to a wedding last fall, he assumed its contents — including \$60 in cash — were gone forever. But not only did someone return the wallet and everything inside it; the good Samaritan also *added* money. “I rounded your cash up to an even \$100 so you can celebrate getting your wallet back,” read a note signed with the initials TB.

Hunter’s mom, who posted a photo of the note on Facebook, said her faith in humanity was restored. The world’s “not as grim as it’s being made out to be,” Jeannie Shamatt wrote.

Like the good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37, “TB” — who turned out to be Todd Brown of Omaha — went above and beyond in expressing kindness to a stranger. May we do likewise, bandaging one another’s wounds, providing comfort, sacrificing our resources and showing mercy, all in Jesus’ name.



**Boyertown Relay
for Life**

Special Offering

Sunday, June 9



**Congo Community
Blood Drive**

Saturday, May 11

8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

At St. Paul’s Lutheran
Church, Sassamansville



**Preschool Closing
Program**

Friday, May 10

7:00 p.m.

Bits and Pieces

Vacation Bible School dates for 2019 are June 24-28.

Please submit names of members who are graduating this spring from high school, college or other educational institutions to the church office. Information needs to be in the church office by the 19th of May in order to be included in the summer Shepherd's Staff. You may use the Welcome Card in the Sunday bulletin or call the church office to provide the name, school and degree earned.

Children's Church Helpers are needed. Contact Steph Houck for more information at sahouck10@gmail.com.

The Preschool clothing drive collected 5,103 pounds and earned \$1,031.74.

The Preschool candy sale sold out with receipts of \$1,467.

A congregational pot luck and information meeting will be held on Sunday, May 5 following the 10:30 a.m. service.

SOTH is a polling site for the May 21 primary election. Friends for Life has hoagies and soup available for sale on this day.

Communion Clean-Up Volunteer is needed for April and September. Contact Janet in the church office for more information.

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m.

Traditional Service

10:30 a.m.

Contemporary Service

May 12

Mother's Day

Trinity Brass special music at 8:00 a.m. service

May 19

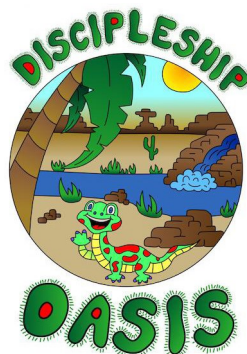
Confirmation



Discipleship Oasis

Discipleship Oasis is the children's ministries of Shepherd of the Hills Church, it includes everything kid for a Sunday morning. Sunday school, children's church, our care room, and the infant's crib room are all included. During the first service we offer childcare and provide a friendly engaging atmosphere for the children. Between services, 9:15-10:15, there is a class dedicated to each child's age group and geared towards teaching them solid biblical theology at their level!

During our 10:30 service, we offer a children's church program. After the worship time the children are led by one of our Discipleship Oasis teachers to their appropriate room. At these rooms, we have some incredible volunteers who are committed to the ministry of children. If you have a passion for children's ministry or want to know more about Discipleship Oasis contact Pastor Charles.



Pastoral Staff

Collin Monger

Senior Pastor

Charles Rowden

Executive Associate Pastor

Jonathan Grove

Associate Pastor

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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