

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church Newsletter

April 2025

Website: svlctownsend.org



Sunday	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
5th Sunday in Lent	Isaiah 43: 16-21	Psalm 126	Philippians 3: 4b-14	John 12: 1-8
Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 31:9-16	Philippians 2: 5-11	Luke 22:14-23:56
Maunday Thursday	Exodus 12: 1-4, 11-14	Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19	I Corinthians 11: 23-26	John 13: 1-17, 31-35
Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalm 22	Hebrews 4:14-17, 5:7-9	John 18: 1-19:42
Easter	Acts 10:34-43	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Corinthians 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12
2nd Sunday of Easter	Acts 5:27-32	Psalm 118:14-29	Revelation 1:4-8	John 20: 19-31

Ushers and Greeters for April

April 6- Margie Urich & Kim Gilligan
April 13 & 17 Marilyn Blumhagen
April 18 Carol McGuire
April 20- Ross & Diane Johnson
April 27- John & Lori Rains

The call person for
April is
Marilyn Blumhagen
Phone: 406-670-5035



Holy Week

April 13– Palm Sunday— Children will sing!
April 17- Maundy Thursday– 7:00 p.m.
April 18- Good Friday Service– 7:00 p.m.


Easter Sunday

April 20th Service: 9:30 a.m.

Christ makes all things new!

Come worship and praise His holy name!




ALLELUIA!
CHRIST IS ALIVE!

Fellowship, Worship, and Service Opportunities

Easter EGG HUNT



Sponsored by WELCA

For all youth
Following Easter Service

WELCA is sponsoring an egg hunt following Easter Service. We will have specific areas for different ages levels.

We need volunteers to help with hiding eggs and helping various age groups get started.

We will stuff eggs at our meeting, April 8th.

An Easter Potluck Brunch

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Following Easter Worship

A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church.



Save the Date and Bring Your Smile!

SVLC is updating the congregation photo! We are hoping to include everyone in the photo following church service

April 27th



SVLC is responsible for the stocking and distribution at the **FOOD PANTRY** during the month of **April**. It's fun, it's easy and it's so fulfilling.

A **sign up sheet** is located on the bulletin board in the kitchen.

Helpers are needed every other Friday and Saturday at 315 Broadway.

Questions???? Talk to Daryl Blumhagen

- ◆ Donations of food are accepted on Friday mornings.
- ◆ Monetary donations may be mailed to Broadwater Food Pantry
PO Box 1164 Townsend, Montana 59644



Worship, Educational, and Service Opportunities



VBS is in the planning stages. Stay tuned for dates and times!

Date	Teacher	Lessons for Sunday School
April 6	Julie Mikela	Jesus is alive with us today! Luke 24:13-35
April 13	Alieda	The Holy Spirit Acts 2: 1-4, 36-42 Palm Sunday– The children will sing.
April 20 Easter	NO Sunday School	Egg Hunt following church!!!
April 27	??	Early Believers Acts 2:43-47, 4:32-37
May 4 Last Day	??	We can give praise for all God has done for us!

Bible Study



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: 1:00 p.m. at the church

- ♦ Studying the book of **Revelation**– books are available

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY: 9:00 a.m.—**BREAKFAST** at the church

- ♦ **Christ in Our Home** is used for the lesson discussion

WE WELCOME NEW FACES AT BOTH BIBLE STUDIES!

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 8	WELCA -We'll bring candy & assemble eggs for Easter egg hunt
April 13	Palm Sunday (The Children will sing)
April 13	Church Council Meeting—following the service
April 15	Men's Prayer Breakfast 6:30 a.m. Place to be announced
April 17	Maunday Thursday service 7:00 p.m.
April 18	Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m.
April 20	9:30 Easter Sunday - egg hunt and potluck brunch
April 27	All Congregational Photo– following worship
May 9	(Traditional date for LWR truck to pick up mission quilts/kits)
May 17	Church Yard Sale– Save your items! See sign up sheet for set up and work times. The yard sale runs Sale 8:00-2:00

May 17th Indoor Yard Sale

9:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.

Shepherd of the Valley
Lutheran Church

301 N. Cherry Street

Price: Donations



Good, clean, saleable items are
needed for the church yard sale.

Please bring your items to the
church

Thursday & Friday

May 15th & 16th

Helpers are needed!

Please sign up to help organize,
sell and/or clean up.



The group shown above worked diligently to assemble 94 Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief.
Everyone worked until the towels ran out!

Eighteen care kits were assembled and donated to God's Love Shelter earlier this year. We are hoping to
assemble more kits before the truck arrives in May.

Donations of new or used bath towels are always welcome.

Thanks to Dee and Susan who shopped for
flannel and utilized the Thrivent Choice Dollars
donated by members of the congregation.



Guthrie Oiestad	April 1
Shirley Wilson	April 1
Reyna McNamer	April 3
Kim Kondelik	April 5
Bonnie Berglind	April 8
Jim Beck	April 16
Tay Dana	April 19
Wanda Watson	April 20
Wesley Oiestad	April 24
Don Kynett	April 24

March 9 2025 Meeting of the SVLC Council

Council members present: Clint Watson, Julie Mikula, Virgil Binkley, Jim Beck, and Rick Arnold

Council members absent: Dave Rowell, Aiden Mosher, and James Lucas

Others attending the meeting: Treasurer Mike Colbert, Alieda Stone, and Steve Ward, SAM

The meeting was called to order at 10:47 am by President Rick Arnold. Steve Ward led the council in prayer.

Church member comments:

- Alieda Stone told the council that WELCA had purchased, for about \$275, the new banners that were now decorating the Church. She said that a set of Christmas banners were available for about \$300. She asked if the church would be interested in defraying part or all of the cost of the Christmas banners.
- Jim Beck made, and Steve Ward seconded a motion to have Alieda obtain the banners for the church and reimburse her for the cost. The motion passed.

Virgil Binkley made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 9, 2025 regular-meeting. The motion was seconded by Julie Mikula and passed.

Treasurer's report: Mike Colbert reported:

- The offering income for February was \$5219, or \$1305 per service
- Other income was \$938
- Church expenses for the month were \$3646
- The monthly rental income was \$1650, with expenses of \$350
- End of the month checking balance was \$5038
- The money market balance was \$43,560, with \$3500 of that encumbered
- The MIF CD balance was \$210,000, with \$30,000 of that in a plumbing reserve
- The total of the California fire disaster relief offering was \$310. By general consent, it was decided not to change the church's \$500 contribution.
- Treasurer Colbert reminded the council that a review of the 2024 financial record was in order.
- Mike said that he had explored a debit card and credit card through Opportunity Bank (the debit /credit card is helpful in handling the several subscriptions that the church has). Mike noted that the debit card was available locally, but a credit card would have to be obtained from another source.

After discussing the local aspect of the debit card, Clint Watson made a motion to proceed with obtaining a debit card for the church through Opportunity Bank. Steve Ward seconded the motion and it passed. Treasurer Colbert reminded the council that it was imperative for users of the debit card to obtain receipts when they made purchases.

- Jim Beck asked the council their thoughts concerning the activation of the on-line giving feature on the web site. Mike Colbert mentioned that he was not sure how he would track individual giving from the web site donations. Julie Mikula assured Mike that a receipt would be available, electronically, to the donor at the time of the transaction.

Steve Ward made, and Clint Watson seconded a motion to support activating the on-line giving portion of church's website. The motion passed.

- Mike said that he had been given a verbal confirmation for the upcoming insurance billing. The total premium is \$6939, with \$5627 (\$1.1 million coverage) for the church, \$762 (\$262,000 coverage) for the parsonage, and \$550 (\$182,000 coverage) for the rental. Steve Ward said that he would review the policy.
- Julie Mikula asked what authorization was needed to spend money for Sunday School and VBS. She was assured she, as the Sunday School Superintendent, was free to spend the remaining budgeted amount for Sunday School as she deemed appropriate. If spending would exceed the budget, it was advisable that she consult the council before the purchase.
- Clint Watson moved to accept the treasurer's report, Steve Ward seconded the motion, and it passed.

SAM Report:

- Steve Ward explained that the interest in the adult confirmation class was greater than anticipated, he needed to order 30 instruction books. He said that because of his pending surgery, he would begin the class sometime after Easter.
- Virgil Binkley moved to authorize \$600 for the purchase of the adult confirmation books. Clint Watson seconded the motion and it passed.

Committee Reports:

- Jim Beck reported that he had contacted the Montana Synod saying that we would be interested in calling and working with an upcoming seminary graduate. Associate Bishop Brenda Frelsi responded that we are on the top of her list of options for a pastor candidate, but that she is not sure if the Synod will get any graduates to place this year.
- WELCA and the Membership & Hospitality Committee has scheduled Kelly Morris to take a church group photo on Sunday, April 27.

Continuing Business:

- Jim Beck offered a summary of the results of the rental survey. The survey results will be discussed, along with a presentation by councilman Binkley, at the April council meeting.
- Steve Ward asked if there were rental agreements for the rental houses. One was found for the parsonage, but no one was aware of an agreement for the rental (307 N Cherry). Steve suggested that a rental agreement be revised and be in effect for both rental locations.
- The California fire relief contribution was discussed during the treasurer's report.
- A brief report was made concerning an automatic water shutoff system and a sump alarm for the basement drainage sump. It was decided that we would not further consider the automatic water shutoff system, but would revisit the sump alarm at the April meeting.

New Business:

- Steve Ward informed the council that he would have surgery on March 24. He plans to deliver sermons through Sunday, March 23, but would then be unavailable for about six weeks. He suggested that his compensation be discontinued for that period.
- Virgil Binkley made, and Clint Watson seconded a motion to pay Steve three quarters (3/4) of his compensation for March and none for April. The motion passed.

Council Member Concerns:

- Jim Beck explained that the church's annual report had been sent to the Montana Synod.
- It was asked if any early registration information for Flathead Bible Camp had been received. Some information was recovered. It will be used to make a presentation to the congregation for any campers planning to attend this summer.
- The meeting was adjourned by President Rick Arnold with general consent at 12:14 pm. The meeting attendees prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Jim Beck, Secretary Rick Arnold, President



We are called to welcome, teach God's word, and nurture the spiritual faith of these children. (2Timothy 3: 14-15) Please pray for them.