

Grace Notes

The Newsletter of Shades Valley Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA) + Birmingham, Alabama + May 2020



We are Church for the Sake of the World

Pastor Eric Murray

Grace and peace to you dear church. In her first term as our presiding bishop, the Reverend Elizabeth Eaton identified four emphases for us as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The fourth emphasis being, "We are Church for the Sake of the World." In writing about this emphasis, Bishop Eaton states: "We are the Body of Christ and together, we are church for the sake of the world."

Ah yes, together. I'm sure you join me in longing to be together again. We all miss our in-person worship services, our fellowship time, our quilters gatherings, choir rehearsals, and youth group meet-ups. And yet, it is paramount that we remember that our togetherness is "for the sake of the world." So, every decision we make as "the church" we need to make in terms of how it helps us serve for the sake of the world. That is why our

decision regarding "when" to begin gathering again in person, is such a critical decision. Our decision must be for the sake of the health and safety of you, our membership, as well as visitors, and most especially those of our community who are most vulnerable.

Thus, after considering the recommendations of the CDC, our ELCA Presiding Bishop, and our ELCA-Southeastern Synod Bishop & Council, and out of a desire to demonstrate love for the sake of the world, your SVLC Council has elected for the congregation to continue practicing physical distancing. For now, the SVLC building will remain closed to in-person worship and ministries.

Needless to say, we will continue to monitor the latest recommendations and prepare the building for our eventual return.

Until then, we will continue to be socially accessible to one another via online gatherings. Sign up for our e-news, go to our calendar page, and check us out on social media for upcoming opportunities to gather with us online. And, most importantly, even, or most, especially during this pandemic, let us be the church for the sake of the world.

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Weekly Worship and Formation Opportunities

Tuesdays:

7:00am - Matins (Morning Prayer)

Wednesdays:

7:00pm - Vespers (Evening Prayer)

Thursdays:

12:00pm - Lunch & Lectionary

Fridays:

5:00-6:30pm Virtual "Happy Hour" and check-in

Sundays:

9:30am Sunday worship

6:30pm Children's Zoom (Sunday School)

Your Input Needed!

Our ELCA is working on its latest social statement, "A Social Message on Government and Civic Engagement: Discipleship in a Democracy." To read and provide feedback, please follow this link:

<https://bit.ly/2L8Aqqt> Thank you!

How to Join an Activity

You may access all activities from the video conferencing site, ZOOM.



For the best experience with all activities simply click on the Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/8657480226>

You may be asked for a meeting ID and/or a password: Meeting ID: 865 748 0226
Password: 0226

Or, you may call in and listen by dialing +1 312 626 6799, with the same ID & Password.

All activities (accept the Children's activities) will also be Live Streamed on YouTube. To view live or check out the live recording at a

time convenient to you, simply go to

[YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and

search for the **Shades Valley Evangelical Lutheran Church**



Channel and look for our logo. Then, please subscribe and tune in.



Senior High

Dear SVLC Family: We miss you all, and cannot wait for the day when we can reunite in worship.

It is our hope that everyone is staying safe, healthy, and searching for the positive during this time. It is with deep sadness that we've decided to cancel our "Mission Trip" to Chicago this Summer. With this cancellation, we will not have our Annual SVLC Garage Sale this summer. However, we are still accepting any and all



items as we plan to have a very large Garage Sale in the early part of Summer 2021. The youth will not be offering home pick-ups for any items until 2021. Any items

that are dropped off will need to go into the back right area of the youth room (downstairs). As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns!

Peace and Blessings,
Johanna Graham
and Caleb Hopkins

May Birthdays

5/3 Jeanette Mittermaier
5/14 Lydia McCormick
5/15 Julianne Minton
5/16 Susan Harchelroad
5/17 Rick Mittermaier
5/19 Mary Schabacker
5/20 Jan Mittermaier
5/20 Sam Walley
5/27 Len Capps
5/28 Alexander Karr
5/28 Rick Lampkin
5/28 Marti Rowe
5/29 John Trombley

Financials

Month-to-date

Offerings: \$27,183
Budget: \$28,950

Year-to-Date

Offerings: \$108,916
Budget: \$115,800

Please consider making an offering to SVLC by using the QR code below or sending a check by mail or giving through our website, shadesvalleylutheran.org



Please pray... for these members of our community:

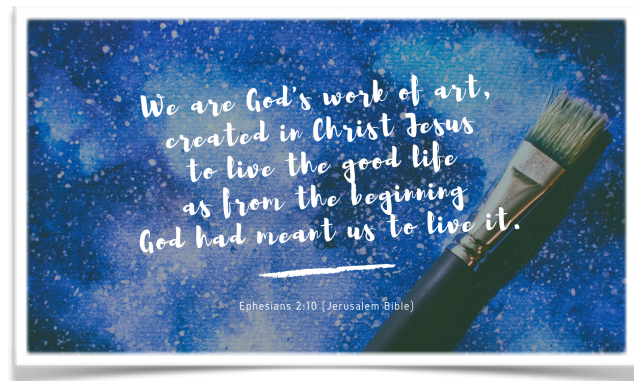
Paula Parsons, Amy Harper, Sallie Buchanan, Greta Kezar, Marti Rowe, Gerry Arndt, and Ann Veren, Kinsley Green, the family of Marie DuBois upon her death; The Graham Family as they continue to grieve the death of Gordon; Lori, Anna Grace, Ashleigh, and Sam Walley and the extended Walley Family as they continue to grieve the death of Taft.



Our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and our Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth; and our ELCA – Southeastern Synod and our Synodical Bishop, Kevin.

Need Assistance?

If you or a family member needs help with anything, please contact the office 205-871-3512 or Pastor Eric at 865-748-0226 or pastor@shadesvalleylutheran.org



CONGRATULATIONS 2020 GRADUATES



Congratulations to...

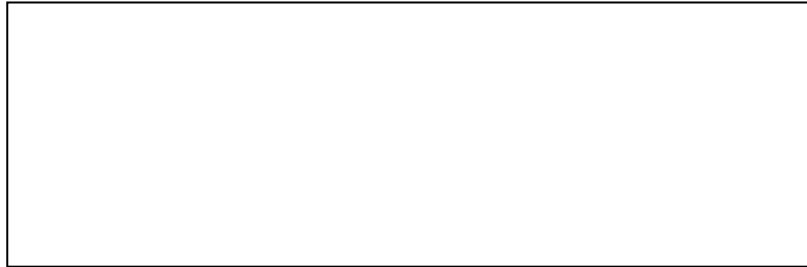
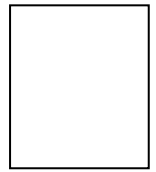
Mitch Plamondon. Mitch is taking a gap year to work and make plans for future educational endeavors.

Will Poole. Will is planning to attend Jacksonville State University beginning this fall.

Jackson Smitherman. Jackson is considering offers from several colleges to play college baseball, and is currently undecided.



**Shades Valley Evangelical
Lutheran Church
720 Shades Creek Parkway
Birmingham, AL 35209**



CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

May 17, 2020

approximately 10:30am

Please join us for our annual congregational meeting on Sunday, May 17 following the 9:30 Service of the Word on ZOOM.

Our agenda will include council elections, an update on our ministry status during the current pandemic, as well as an update on the office building ground lease project. As with worship, we will meet on ZOOM. You'll be able to use the same log in and password as we have been using throughout this period.

Use your QR reader to take you to SVLC's website where you can read bios for council nominees and conference meeting representatives, as well as congregation meeting minutes from Nov. 2019 and Feb. 2020. Please mark this on your calendar and plan to join us. Your participation is essential to our life together.

