

THE MESSENGER
Monday, October 14, 2024
Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church

Be sure to read all the way to the end!

Worship in the Park with
SELC & ST. STEPHEN'S
COMING OUT
CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20TH
Veterans Memorial Park Ramada #1
10:00 am WORSHIP SERVICE
11:30 am POT-LUCK PICNIC

Please plan to bring:

- A chairs or blanket to sit on
- A dish to share (with serving utensil)
- Your own tableware
- Any outdoor toys you'd like to use
(a volleyball court right by us)
- Don't forget your sunscreen and/or a hat or umbrella.

**The Fellowship Team will be providing
water, tea, and lemonade!**

Please Note:

- *No alcohol allowed.*
- *No pets, except service and emotional support animals.*



**NEEDED!!! YOU + TRUNK + FUN for
TRUNK-OR-TREATING
WITH SHEPHERD'S FOLD CHILD CARE CENTER
Thursday, October 31 from 3:00 – 5:00 pm
in the North parking lot and playground areas**



Share in the fun with our Shepherd's Fold families, passing out candy to the kids as they trick or treat from your vehicles "trunk." (Candy will be provided that day by Shepherd's Fold.) Have fun by decorating your trunk dressing. It doesn't need to be extravagant, just fun. There will also be some "mini fair like activities/games," if you would like to volunteer to do that. **To sign up or for more information contact Shepherd's Fold 459-0444.**

CANDY DONATION FOR TRUNK OR TREAT
We need sugar, lots of sugar... to hand out to the S.F. kids at their Trunk or Treat. Donation baskets are in the Narthex and church office. Please donate by Oct 27th.

"SHOWERS OF GRACE" UPDATE

On Sunday, September 8, we joined ELCA congregations for an annual day of service, "God's work. Our hands." Our theme was "Showers of Grace." 96 Grab-and-Go hygiene packs were assembled for our neighbors in need.

Approximately 300 washcloths, 100 hand towels, and 50 towels were donated. In addition \$566.54 was donated to purchase further washcloths and towels. Thrivent and our Endowment Fund have provided funds to purchase hygiene supplies and detergent.

Hygiene kits along with towels are being distributed to the Cove and hygiene supplies, kits and laundry detergent to Good Neighbor Alliance. Both are very thankful for our gifts. We will continue to distribute these items into 2025 until supplies and funds run out.

We are making a difference in our community.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

THRIVENT T-SHIRTS

“Showers of Grace” was one of my Thrivent Action Teams. Thrivent funds were used to purchase hygiene kits. I have Thrivent T-shirts for those who helped with the event in any way, including those who assembled hygiene kits and/or gave donations. If you would like a T-shirt, please contact me or see me on the patio on Sunday, October 27. I have a limited number of t-shirts in various sizes including youth. Thank you for supporting this event. -Becky Randall



2024 SELC CHALLENGE IN SUPPORT OF ELCA WORLD HUNGER'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

THANK YOU for your donations. As of September 30, we have raised \$4612.76 for our Well Project Fund. Only \$387.24 more to reach \$5000, the amount needed for two “Safe Water Access” through ELCA Good Gifts, ELCA World Hunger.

At an average cost of \$2,500, a spring box is one of many types of water projects supported by your gifts. With a simple water well, spring box or other water point, as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

Our Endowment Fund will be matching all donations until the end of the year.

Further information about our challenge and how to make a donation can be found in the narthex. A secure online donation can be given at our website, selcaz.org by choosing “Well Project” under online giving. The coin jar in the narthex is also available for donations.

“Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.” —1 John 3:18

(Weekly Calendar on back page.)

October 15-20, 2024

TUE 10/15	9:00 AM	Shepherd's Fold Chapel - Sanctuary
	11:00 AM	Worship & Music Team – Music Room
	5:00 PM	Good Neighbor Alliance Meal Prep @ location
	6:00 PM	Fellowship Hall Reserved
	6:30 PM	Shepherd's Fold Board Meeting – Music Room
	6:30 PM	Confirmation– Youth Room
WED 10/16	10:00 AM	Bible Study – Music Room
	4:30 PM	Grace Group – Meeting Room
	5:30 PM	Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary
THURS 10/17	9:00 AM	Stitch In Time Quilters – Fellowship Hall
	10:00 AM	Sierra Ringers Rehearsal – Music Room
	5:00 PM	Council Meeting – Music Room
	6:30 PM	Plus Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall
	6:30 PM	Enneagram Study – Music Room
FRI 10/18		Church Office Closed Fridays
	6:30 PM	Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall
SAT 10/19		
SUN 10/20	10:00 AM	Worship Service & Pic Nic in the Park Veterans Memorial Park, Ramada #1

MAKE AN IMPACT GIVE GENEROUSLY



Last year was the most generous on record in the United States. Another study found that the median (the person in the middle if lined up from smallest percentage to largest) Protestant only gave 0.62% of their income to the church.

For most people the reason for this has less to do with their wealth or income and more to do with intentionality and regular systematic giving.

Over the course of a year, \$1 per day comes to a gift of \$365, which for about 35-40% of Americans would be significant growth in their giving to the church. A basic Starbucks coffee costs \$3. This amounts to over \$1,000 if one is purchased every day of the year.

Regular, systematic giving can help all of us become more generous. We get overwhelmed when we think about larger numbers like \$1,000. However, most of us can find \$2.75 per day. As you think and pray about your generosity this year. Consider how systematic giving may help you become more generous.

Quote from a present-day disciple:

For years, I didn't think my giving was very important to the life of the church. After all, we were just starting out, had a lot of expenses, and didn't really have much money. Then, we started by giving \$5 per week. It felt like a lot to us. I don't think we could have written a check for \$250, but we could do that \$5 per week. We have grown this amount every year and it is through the discipline of regular gifts that the amount doesn't overwhelm us.

Anonymous

MAKE AN IMPACT GIVE GENEROUSLY

PLACE GOD FIRST IN YOUR BUDGETING AND SPENDING

The Ten Commandments stress that God must be first in our lives. And Jesus said, “Seek first God’s kingdom and righteousness and all these things shall be yours as well.” (*Matthew 6:33*)

Many experience difficulty giving generously despite the desire and pledge to do so, because they attempt to give from what is left over at the end of the week or month rather than from first fruits, from all they have received.

The simple practice of placing God and The Church first in budgeting and spending has helped many to experience joy in their giving. When you do this, you are giving from all that a good and loving God has provided. And you are practicing stewardship, understanding that you are but a temporary trustee of what God has entrusted to you.