



Shepherd's Scroll

End of the Year 2024

FROM THE PASTOR

Weekly Worship Services

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:30am & 10:00am
8:30am Service is Livestreamed
Nursery Available

Sunday Social Hour

9:15am - 10:15am
Coffee and snacks

Office Hours & Phone

Monday - Thursday
9:00am - 5:00pm
Friday
9:00am - Noon

404 N. Green Street
McHenry, IL 60050

Phone: 815-385-4030

www.shepherdofhills.org

Congregation Council

Christina Johnson
Jason Vanick
Jackie Huddleston
Bob Preston
Paul Morgan
Barb Nalley
Carol Janssen
Jay Quinlan
Jake Stemmen

Our Mission

To LOVE people wherever they are,
To LIVE the grace of God in Jesus Christ and
To GROW in faith and service.

Our Vision

Growing disciples of Jesus
that will change the world.

Our Values

Belonging, Welcoming, Fellowship, Integrity

Dear Sisters and Brothers at Shepherd of the Hills,

The following is a retrospective of 2024. It strikes me as being like a "Family Memory Book." It seems clear that there were many activities and opportunities for worship and fellowship during 2024. This addition of the Scroll was prepared so that we could be reminded that while we are in transition we have continued a robust parish life in preparation for a regularly called Minister of Word and Sacrament to come along side Shepherd of the Hills.

We find ourselves in a time when the Church notes that there is a shortage of eligible candidates for Ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament and a small supply of already ordained ministers to go around. Still, the new kingdom Jesus came to inaugurate is centered in the unexpected. That said, we have hope. One author has outlined a number of practices that help cultivate **Hope**:

First, being present in the moment. Second, expressing gratitude which includes loving the world, accepting what-is, and taking action to persevere for the long haul. Third, and the most critical source of cultivating **hope** is **Imagination**. Hope means we have one foot planted firmly in the present and the other reaching out into the uncertain and unknowable landscape of the future. We use **imagination** to build a bridge between the present and future. Imagination is the image-making power of the mind creating something not previously perceived, but yet to be. For Israel's poets and prophets, **hope** was an act of **imagination** often given in a dream or a divine appearance, a story, or a song—or a temporarily disappointing occurrence. Those imaginative acts were always rooted in the certainty of God's promises and God's purposes. We have a similar prophetic task. That task is to proclaim hope that is a tenacious act of **imagination** grounded in our holy dreams of what God might make of us and do through us. At the same time **Hope** is an act rooted in the **promises, power, and presence of God**.

God cares about SOTH and our **hope** for a regularly-called-pastor.

Our task is 1. Be present in the moment. 2. Express gratitude—*which includes loving the world, accepting what-is, taking action to persevere for the long haul.* And **Use our Imagination**—the most critical source for cultivating **Hope**.

Blessings,
Pr. Rob



Buzzing in and about SOTH



Sunday Stewards

Lee & Sue Borresen, Helen Burlack, Bert Denley, Bob & Bev Flugler, Nevie Gamble, Barb Gaskell, Kevin Harrington, Jackie & Dave Huddleston, Carol Janssen, Christina Johnson, Ron & Lynne Jones, Debby Krause, Jill Holtz Kropf, Sue Larson, Jeff Lichte, Paul Morgan, Sue Murphy, Barb & Jay Nalley, Karen O'Neill, Sandy Orlando, Ruth Paddock, Breine Patton, Lois Randall, Sharon Rinard, Pam Schilf, Jake & Kristin Stemmen, Betty Thompson, Bert Young, Dan Umbarger, Cindy Ziessow



Flower Sponsors

- December 1: Pam Schilf
- December 8: Debby Krause, for God's love
- December 15: Christina Johnson
- December 22: Dennis & Melodee Justen
- December 29: The Robert Preston Family, in memory of Joan Preston
Michele & Scott Madson

Refreshment Sponsors

- December 1: Ron & Joanne Ziska
- December 8: Pam Schilf
Debby Krause
- December 15: OPEN
- December 22: OPEN
- December 29: Michele & Scott Madson



If needed, would you be able to help shovel and/or salt the sidewalks leading into the building on the day of services to keep our members safe?

If so, your help would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact the office.



“You have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ’s own forever.”

Cooper Vaughn Baelum, baptized on 12/1/24
Parents: Megan & Cody Baelum
Sponsors: Brooklyn Baelum, Alexxis Baelum, Addison Klatt & Taylor Snow

Avery James Heard, baptized on 12/22/24
Parents: Maggie & Jim Heard III
Sponsors: James N. Heard, Jr. & Courtney Freihage

Thanksgiving Blessings

Thanks to all who gave so generously and provided 80 turkey dinner for neighbors in our community...

Paule Anderson, Richard & Gail Anderson, Lee & Sue Borresen, Chuck & Kathy Chamberlain, Michael & Amanda Deubel, DuWayne & Claire Fair, Raymond & Theresa Franklin, Genevieve Gamble, Barbara Gaskell, Gayle & Diana Gowdy, Rich & Beth Gozdecki, Karen Gustafson, Sharon Hanson, James Jr. & Janet Heard, Jackie & David Huddleston, Carol Janssen, Robert & Julia Jessup, Ted & Mary Johnson, Jill Holtz-Kropf, Jeff & Theresa Lichte, William & Janet Lundeborg, Michele Madsen, Stephanie Mikrut, Paul & Carol Morgan, James & Sharie Moy, Susan Murphy, Susan Neral, Brian & Karen O'Neill, David & Terry Parejko, Louis & Carol Paternak, Corey & Caitlin Pitchford, Jay & Donna Quinlan, Sharon Rinard, Josh & Amanda Schmitt, Roger & Rosemary Schneider, Don & Tammy Schnurr, Fred & Susan Schultz, Brian & Cynthia Smith, Greg & Cindy Tabert, Betty & Tom Thompson, Ann Tilling, Kimberly Tilling, Tiffany Umbarger, Ashley & Jeff Wydra, Ronald & Joanne Ziska.

Thank you to those who helped with pick-up, distribution & delivery:

Bob Preston, Mike Moushey, Jay Nalley, Ashley Metcalf, Heather Castaing, Jenelle Buchert and Ann Tilling.



Packing up the turkeys for the Thanksgiving food drive.



Thanks for your help!

Shepherd's Fellowship Events - November



Join the celebration of Shepherd of the Hills 60th Anniversary and New Member Sunday November 3 after the 10am service



- New Disciple - Claudia Brown 11/3/24



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN 

Monday, Nov. 25, 2024
Feed My Starving Children
 742 E Park Ave, Libertyville, IL 60048
 7:00-8:45pm



Shepherd's Fellowship Events - December



CHRISTMAS CARD MAKING EVENT

Join us for a day or a few hours to make Christmas cards to be distributed to homebound and senior residences. Bring a dish to pass for lunch.

Hosted by Christina Johnson and Lois Randall

Saturday, November 30
10am-4pm




Christmas Bazaar

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
 9:00AM TO 11:30AM

Thank you to the following people who donated a craft to the Christmas Bazaar this year: Georgianne Bromley, Terri Franklin, Marian Friend, Kathy Martin, Sue Murphy, Patti Parisi, the Pitchford family, and Bert Young

And to anyone that donated baked goods!

Christmas Extravaganza

Sunday, December 1, 2024
11am-1pm



Sunday School
Children
Christmas
Singing



Christmas Giving Tree

Thank you for all the generous donations to the Christmas Giving Tree Gifts, the meals for local families and Hat & Mitten Tree. We handed out 80 Christmas meals to local families and 105 local children received gifts to make their Christmas a little brighter.



Christmas Blessings

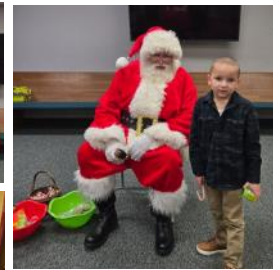
Yvonne Alton, Amanda & Chris Anderson & family, Richard & Gail Anderson, Steve & Barb Arnold, Roberta Bass, Judy & Dan Beyer, Sue & Lee Borresen, the Castaing Family, Bert Denley, Carol Desota, the Drapers', DuWayne & Claire Fair, Bob & Bev Fluger, Theresa & Raymond Franklin, Barbara Gaskell, Katie Gibson, Richard & Beth Gozdecki, Lee Hartwig, Melody Herman, David & Jackie Huddleston, Carol Janssen, Lena Janssen, Robert & Julie Jessup, Lynne & Ron Jones, Ted & Mary Johnson, Steve & Cristy Karaba, Debby Krause, John & Jill Holtz Kropf, the Lorenz Family, William & Janet Lundeberg, the MacMeekin family, Michele Madsen, Jimmy & Sharie Moy, Jay & Barbara Nalley, Susan Neral, the Nichting Family, Karin Novak, David Olsen, Ruth Paddock, David & Terry Parejko, the Patton Family, Caitlin & Corey Pitchford, Donna & Jay Quinlan, Roger & Rosemary Schneider, Susan & Fred Schultz, Joe & Tina Schwarz, the Spraker Family, Dave Stark, Kristin & Jake Stemmen, Greg & Cindy Tabert, Ann Marie Tilling, Kimberly Tilling, Tom & Betty Thompson, the Vrakas Family, Laney Quinlan-Walsh, Glen & Susan Wayman, the Wydra Family, Tina Zabielsk, Cindy & Scott Ziessow

Special thanks to those who helped with pick-up, distribution & delivery:

Jenelle Buchert, Heather Castaing, Carol Harrington, Jill Holtz-Kropf, Bob Preston, Ashley Metcalf, Mike Moushey, Jay Nalley, Greg Tabert, Ann Tilling, Ashley, Mika, Reese Wydra

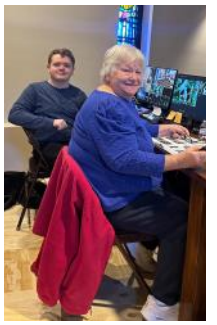


A little Christmas fun with the Sunday School kids and a visit from Santa.



Advent Celebration of Music

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
8:30AM AND 10:00AM



150th Anniversary
CHRISTMAS
FESTIVAL CONCERT
CARTHAGE COLLEGE
SUNDAY, DEC. 8
4:00pm Show



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS *November Service Project*



Our service project for November was making frogs to give to children with cancer or other serious illnesses. The FROG “Fully Rely on God” ministry began in the ELCA in 2004. The frog is used because it depends on its environment to live just like we rely on God. On December 23, 2024 some youth helped Ashley Wydra and Heather deliver the frog kits to Ronald McDonald House by Loyola Hospital. The frogs were cut and sewn together as a service project led by our Fellowship Committee and WELCA. Thank you to all the members who helped make this a successful service project.



Ladies of WELCA making FROGS.



Youth delivering the FROGS to Ronald McDonald House.



Our Musical Director Randy invited the SKIP class to listen to the music rehearsal with guest musician, a high school cello player, and the choir. Randy engaged with the children talking about the cello and song they rehearsed.



SUNDAY School

The Sunday School and Confirmation students wrote inspirational messages on leaves and handed them out to members of the church as they left the service.



junior high youth group  high school youth group



*Youth Group/Confirmation
Wednesday night enjoying
games and activities together.*

*Youth Group enjoying a day out
playing Laser Tag*



In November, we started celebrating our 60 year anniversary, and had a very successful new disciple welcome and pot luck lunch. Thank you to all the members who prepared meals and volunteered to make the event a success. Thank you for sharing your time, talents, and fellowship with us. We are looking to plan more events to commemorate and celebrate our anniversary throughout this upcoming year.

Some other new things the council is piloting is having bulletins available at the 5pm and 8:30am service and the events flyer available at all services.

Recently we met with the Call Committee and the Pastoral Candidate. We continue to work through this process. Please keep the Call Committee, the Council, and our congregation in your thoughts and prayers as we continue to work through this process.

If you have any questions about anything happening at our church or would like to volunteer to be a usher, communion assistant, or liturgist, please talk to any of the council members who are wearing a lanyard, or reach out to the church office.

Shepherd's

UPCOMING EVENTS

Check out our website at www.shepherdofhills.org



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

U.S. Wildfires | Lutheran Disaster Response

Thank you for sharing God's
love with your neighbors
when and where they need it most.

<https://give.elca.org/page/77859/donate/1>



10:00 AM
**Worship
PRAISE
BAND
SCHEDULE**

2/2/25
2/23/25

ALL ARE WELCOME
TO COME WORSHIP



**2025 ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

Please plan on attending the
Annual Congregational Meeting opening on
Saturday, February 1 at the 5:00 pm service
continuing through Sunday, February 2 at the
8:30 am and concluding at the 10:00 am service.



**2nd Annual
Chili Cook-Off**

Sunday, Feb. 2, 2025

Please sign-up to be one of the
chefs to compete in the Narthex.

Contact Heather for more info.
hcastaing@shepherdofhills.org



**2ND ANNUAL
SUPER BOWL
SUB SANDWICH**

YOUTH GATHERING 2027 FUNDRAISER

Order Forms in the Narthex.

Pick up your sandwich order
in Fellowship Hall
Sunday, February 9, 2025
between 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

CONTACT HEATHER FOR MORE INFORMATION
[HCASTAING@SHEPHERDOFHILLS.ORG](mailto:hcastaing@shepherdofhills.org)



S.K.I.P.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Questions contact Heather
hcastaing@shepherdofhills.org





**Registration
now open for
Summer Camp!**

815-276-6829

Contact Ashley Metcalf

ametcalf@shepherdofhills.org

[www.shepherdofhills.org/
beforeandaftercareandsummerprogram](http://www.shepherdofhills.org/beforeandaftercareandsummerprogram)



**BRIGHT
BEGINNINGS
PRESCHOOL**

**Check out the website for 2025-2026
registration and information**

www.shepherdofhills.org/brightbeginningspreschool

- Offering 3, 4, and 5 year old Classes
- Contact Jennifer Walker - jwalker@shepherdofhills.org



**SHEPHERD
of the HILLS
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
Check out our website at
www.shepherdofhills.org



**Monday Night Zoom
Prayer Group**
is every Monday, 7:00pm

Meeting ID: 872 3148 3009 **Passcode:** 562505
[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87231483009?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87231483009?pwd=mBO5orb9vGU2LhCJxmkDVRv16fhRKe.1)
[pwd=mBO5orb9vGU2LhCJxmkDVRv16fhRKe.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87231483009?pwd=mBO5orb9vGU2LhCJxmkDVRv16fhRKe.1)

Questions? Please call or email:
Barb Nalley
815-354-4322 or nalleybarb@gmail.com

Refreshment Sponsors are needed for Sunday morning social hour. Interested? Cost is \$30.00

Sponsor Flowers in honor of birthdays, anniversaries, in memory of loved ones or “just because”. Cost is \$30.00 per arrangement. Sponsors are encouraged to take their floral arrangement home after the 10:00am service.

Sign-up and forms are located in the hallway outside the church office. Any questions give the office a call at 815-385-4030.

Would you be willing to learn to serve as a Greeter? Usher? Liturgist? Communion Assistant? Help set up for communion? Please prayerfully consider serving your church family in one of these ways. Call the church office at 815-385-4030 to sign up.



Sing (or Ring) to the Lord a New Song!
Shepherd of the Hills offers several music ministries; Shepherd's Voices, Shepherd's Bells, Shepherd's Brass & Praise Band.



The groups perform at services, special programs, holidays and other church events. We welcome new members!

If you are interested please call the church office at 815-385-4030.

Ladies' Breakfast

the first Saturday of every month,
8:00am @ Kim & Patty's Restaurant

Men's Breakfast

the first Saturday of every month,
8:00am @ Buddy Z

January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Happy New Year! Office CLOSED	7pm: Shepherd's Voices		8am: Ladies B'fast @ Kim & Patty's 8am: Men's B'fast@ Buddy Z 5pm: Worship
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30 & 10am: Worship 8:30am: Confirmation 10am: Sunday School	5:45pm: Girl Scouts 6pm: TOPS 7pm: Zoom Prayer Grp	6pm: High School Youth Group 6pm: Praise Band 6pm: Membership Com. Mtg. - ZOOM	6pm: Cub Scout 311 7pm: Confirmation 7:30am: Bells/Brass	12:30pm: Staff Mtg. 2pm: HeadStart Parent Mtg. 4:30pm: Men's Bible Study 5pm: Endowment Com. Mtg. 5:30pm: SKIP 6pm: Executive Com. Mtg. 6pm: Cub Scouts 131 7pm: Shepherd's Voices		5pm: Worship
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30 & 10am: Worship 8:30am: Confirmation 10am: Sunday School 11:15am: Soup-ER Sunday and Build-a-Bear 3pm: Private Piano Recital	9am: Fellowship Mtg. 10:30am: WELCA Mtg. 6pm: TOPS 7pm: Zoom Prayer Grp	6pm: Praise Band	6pm: Cub Scout 311 6:30pm: Garden Club 7pm: Confirmation 7:30am: Bells/Brass	4:30pm: Men's Bible Study 5:30pm: SKIP 5:45pm: Girl Scout 772 6pm: Council Mtg. 7pm: Shepherd's Voices		5pm: Worship
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30 & 10am: Worship 8:30am: Confirmation 10am: Sunday School	10am: Quilters 5:45pm: Girl Scouts 6pm: TOPS 7pm: Zoom Prayer Grp	6pm: High School Youth Group 6pm: Praise Band	6pm: Cub Scout 311 7pm: Confirmation 7:30am: Bells/Brass	4:30pm: Men's Bible Study 5:45pm: Girl Scout 772 7pm: Shepherd's Voices		5pm: Worship
26	27	28	29	30	31	
8:30 & 10am: Worship 8:30am: Confirmation 10am: Sunday School 11:15am: Family BINGO	10am: Quilters 6pm: TOPS 7pm: Zoom Prayer Grp	6pm: Praise Band	6pm: Cub Scout 311 7pm: Confirmation 7:30am: Bells/Brass	4:30pm: Men's Bible Study 5:45pm: Girl Scout 772 7pm: Shepherd's Voices	6pm: Preschool Art Show	