

The Shiloh Informer

April 2016

Shiloh Lutheran Church 703 Lewisville-Vienna Rd/ PO Box 125 Lewisville, NC 27023 Church Office phone: 336-945-5255 Vicar Brandon Heavner

Vicar Brandon Heavner Cell: 1-980-429-6275

Email: shiloh!utheran@gmail.com
Office Hours at Shiloh: Wednesday 9 am-12 noon

Thursdays 2-5 pm

"And one night they both dreamed—the cupbearer and the baker of the king of Egypt, who were confined in the prison—each his own dream, and each dream with its own interpretation. When Joseph came to them in the morning, he saw that they were troubled. So he asked Pharaoh's officers who were with him in custody in his master's house, "Why are your faces downcast today?" They said to him, "We have had dreams, and there is no one to interpret them." And Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Please tell them to me." Genesis 40:5-8"

Joseph was a man surrounded by dreams. Since his youth, Joseph expressed his gifts from God through the interpretation of his own dreams, and the dreams of others. These visions and prophecies all came to pass in some form or another. When the cupbearer and the chief baker of Pharaoh's court told their dreams to Joseph, the interpretations were harsh. The cupbearer would be delivered from prison and restored to his office of duties in three days, but in the same span of time the baker would be hanged and killed for whatever crimes he had committed.

When Pharaoh was plagued with nightmares of fatted and famished cows emerging from the Nile River, Joseph was the only one in all of Egypt with the gift to interpret. These visions provided prophecy of seven years of wealth and prosperity, and an abundance of crops, followed by seven years of drought, pestilence, and famine. For his gift, Joseph was released from prison and made Pharaoh's chief advisor and steward over all of Egypt.

The last of Joseph's dreams to come true was actually the first one recorded in Genesis. After Joseph had dreamed his father and brothers would encircle him and bow down before him, they had captured him and sold him into slavery. Now, as Pharaoh's right hand and authority over the welfare of Egypt, Joseph sat enthroned above his brothers, who had come to him searching for some supply of food as the drought had taken their crops.

Our dreams and visions can be fulfilled in various ways. For the cupbearer and baker, Joseph's words came to pass word for word and action for action, both the good, and the bad. And the same was true for the people of Egypt, who faithfully stored up their crops during the seven years of plenty, so that when the drought did come, their vision of a vibrant and secure nation could be sustained. As for Joseph and his family, the road that each of them took to get to the throne room could never have been predicted, and the moment resulted in reconciliation and forgiveness, not bitterness, starvation, or death. It was through this act that the people of Israel settled in Egypt, setting the stage for their eventual slavery, and ultimate deliverance by God into the Promised Land.

All because of a dream.

The lesson that Joseph's story brings us is that interpretations truly do belong to God. God *does* work in each of our lives, sometimes in the smallest and most peculiar ways, to bring about power change and deliverance into our lives. As people of faith, we always look forward to what God has in store for us. Sometimes, the future looks bleak, and our faces are downcast, our spirits burdened. At other times, God gives us a glimmer of hope, and takes something overwhelming or crippling and intends it for good (Genesis 50:18-21).

What are your dreams for Shiloh? How do you see God working in our congregation, and in our community, to bring about good for the sake of Jesus? In what ways can we help one another bring the visions we have been given to life? "Please, tell them to me."

Easter blessings, Vicar Brandon Heavner In Our Prayers: Calvin Dull, Leasa Cooper, Michael Dull, Allen Craver, Joan Thompson, Paul Thompson, Joyce Wilson, Bill & Frances Lefler, Angelina Taddeucci, Peggy Norris, Betty Adkins, Debbie Kepley, Philip O'Toole, Maureen O'Toole (father and sister of Margaret Lualdi), Geraline Tussey.

Thank You!

We've had a busy and hopefully blessed Lent and beginning of Easter season for all. Thanks to all who have worked so diligently preparing for all the extra services and activities during this time.



Shiloh Website & Facebook page

If you have not already checked out our new website: www.shilohlutherannc.com, please check it out. There is also a link to the Shiloh Facebook page.

Since we will be adding pictures of Shiloh events and activities to both the website and/or Facebook page, we ask that everyone please sign the photo release form giving permission or declining permission to use pictures that may or may not be included on the website or Facebook page. Most pictures will be group activities rather than individual photos. The forms will be included in the Sunday bulletin and extras will be placed on the table in the narthex. A shoebox will be in the narthex to collect the completed forms. If you have questions regarding the website or facebook page check with Vicar Brandon or Gail Dull.

2016 NC Synod Assembly, June 3-4, 2016 at the **Renaissance Suites Airport**

Shiloh may send two members to represent the congregation. Let Vicar Brandon Heavner or Calvin Dull know if you would like to attend. Additional information is available on the NC Synod website: http://www.nclutheran.org/about/assembly.php

Items We are collecting for April:

Lewisville Assistance Program (LCAP) canned turnip greens and spinach

Operation Christmas Child (OCC): Hair & hygiene related items:toothbrush, toothpaste, washcloth,comb, brush, hair clips/bows, hand towel, soap, (small canvas bag for items would be nice), headbands, caps, hats, sunglasses.



Area Code Overlay Approved for North Carolina **Piedmont Area Residents and Businesses Prepare** for 336 Area Code Overlay and 10-digit Local Dialing

Customers may continue to use 7-digit local dialing until April 22, 2016, when that option will come to an end. Effective on April 23, 2016, all local calls must be placed using the 10-digit telephone number (336 or 743) plus the 7-digit local telephone number). Beginning May 23, 2016, customers in the 336 area code region requesting new service, adding an additional line, or in some cases moving their service, may be assigned new numbers using either 336 or the new 743 area code.

For more information, please visit your service provider's website or the North Carolina Utilities Commission's website at www.ncuc.net. If customers have any questions regarding information provided in this release, please call your service provider at the customer service number on your bill.

Be sure to reprogram all cell phones, home phones, and business numbers to include the AREA CODE + 7 digit number before APRIL 23, 2016.



MADE TO CRAVE (cont.)

"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body" (1 Corinthians 6: 19)

In <u>Made to Crave</u>, Lysa Terkeurst writes, "Like so many people, I'd struggled with a flawed perception of myself. My sense of identity and worth were dependent on the wrong things; but from God's word, I realized that I am a lavishly loved child of God!

The body God has given me is good. It's not perfect nor will it ever be. But it is a gift for which I am thankful because within it lives another gift of God-the Holy Spirit, who uses God's words to nudge us, remind us, redirect us, empower us and lead us to victory over our problems.

Expecting anything outside the will of God to satisfy us is idolatry. We are not to flee things we need but we are to flee the *control* these things may have over our lives.

We grow closer to God as we learn to look and act more and more like Him. Not only do our actions need to reflect the self-control the Holy Spirit affords us, but our sense of identity needs to reflect His presence in our lives as well-since we are to be God's representatives as we live out loud the message of God in our daily lives.

I realize I cannot rely on my own strength, but must grab hold of God's strength. If we fail to fill our souls with spiritual nourishment, we will be triggered to numb our longings with temporary physical pleasures."

Perhaps what Lysa means is that when we "crave God" (seek Him in prayer, Word, worship), we are assured that we will accomplish His goal for us.

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. " (Philippians 4:13)

From:

FORSYTH

Jail &

Prison

MINISTRIES

Please join this ministry <u>Friday</u>, <u>April 22</u>. at 6pm, as hundreds of volunteers from across our community gather to form <u>a human prayer circle around the jail</u> to pray for the inmates inside and their families, our officers, and those affected by crime in our community. The next day, Saturday, April 23, llam - 4pm, approved jail volunteers will facilitate a half-day retreat with the nearly 800 men and women currently incarcerated in the jail.

Program costs and materials for inmates, staff and volunteers are approximately \$30 per inmate. We are asking churches, individuals and businesses to sponsor one or more inmates for this much-needed event that has helped transform lives. There have been as many as 100+ men and women give their lives to Christ during our "Hope on the Inside" events, and we believe that the power of an authentic relationship with Christ is necessary to break the cycle of crime and reduce recidivism in our community.

For additional information, please contact Forsyth Jail & Prison Ministry office at (336) 759-0063 or visit forsythjpm.org/hope-on-the-inside/.

Shiloh Lutheran Church

PO Box 125/703 Lewisville-Vienna Road

Lewisville, NC 27023

Shiloh Office: 336- 945-5255

Augsburg Lutheran office: 336-722-8144

Vicar Brandon Heavner

Email: shilohlutheran@gmail.com

Cell #:1-980-429-6275

Office Hours: Monday & Friday at Augsburg Lutheran Tuesday: off, but available in the event of an emergency. Wednesday morning (9-12) in the office at Shiloh Lutheran,

visitation for the afternoon

Thursday: morning visitation & afternoon office at

Shiloh 2-5pm

Worship Schedule

Sunday School: 09:15 am Worship Service:10:30 am April 2016



Bible Study resumes on April 13 @ 11 am April 23: Area Code +7 digit number dialing goes into effect all Local calls

The Shiloh Informer

is distributed the first Sunday of every month. Information is due the **20th** of each month

Announcements for each Sunday's bulletin should be sent to by

4 pm Thursdays

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