



# SHEPHERD'S VOICE

Shepherd of Life Lutheran Church Weekly Newsletter

## Dates at a Glance

- July 24th: Pastor Becca's Last Sunday
- August 14th: Council Meeting @ 11am
- August 21st: Semi-Annual Meeting
- September 24th: Bunco Night in Remembrance of Karen Nahrstadt.

## A Word From Pastor

This is the last piece of writing I will do as the Pastor of Shepherd of Life. It has been an honor to be here and I will miss this place and you people dearly. Now, however, we look towards the future. The council is working hard and needs your support. Pray for them, and the renewal team, that together you all might discern the will of God for this place. You will continue to be in my own prayers. Thank you for the past two years. May God's peace and blessings abound at SOLLC!

## When a Pastor Leaves

When a pastor leaves a congregation, it can be difficult to figure out boundaries. To prevent things becoming muddy, here are some tips to keeping healthy relationships that the ELCA provides:

- Don't reach out to former pastors for professional pastoral care in times of emotional, spiritual, or physical need or invite them to perform or participate in pastoral acts.
- Do not seek the counsel of former pastors (or their family members) on matters relating to the congregation, including its worship life, finance, administration, leadership, or issues.
- Do speak positively of former pastors. As Martin Luther explains in the Small Catechism, the Eighth Commandment compels us to do so: "We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead, we are to come to their defense, speak well of them and interpret everything they do in the best possible light."
- Do, in continuing personal relationships, regard former pastors as friends only. Although it is proper to address any ordained minister as "pastor," in light of the new relationship members will remember that the former leader is no longer serving as *their* pastor.

*"God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.*

*God be with you till we meet again; holy wings securely hid you, daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again.*

*Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet. God be with you till we meet again."*

*-God Be with You Till We Meet Again, ELW 536*



*Regardless of what pastoral leadership may come afterwards, the Gospel will continue to be preached and the sacraments will continue to be administered.*

**A congregation of the Pacifica Synod, part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**