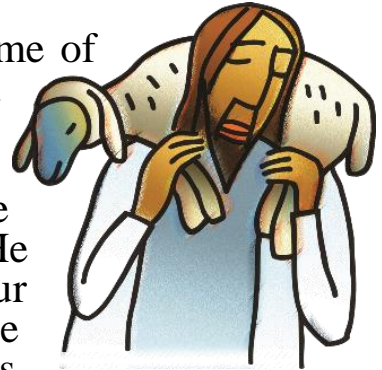


GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

May 12, 2019 • 8:00 & 10:30 am • Ascension Lutheran Church • El Paso, Texas

As We Gather

Jesus the Good Shepherd is the familiar theme of the Fourth Sunday of Easter. He is our Good Shepherd because He lays down His life for us. We are His sheep because we hear His voice, and by the power of the Spirit, we recognize His voice and rejoice in Him. He knows us, and we know Him. That is our comfort and our hope. As we find peace in the words of Psalm 23, so do we find hope in its fulfillment in Christ. He shows us the Father, He gives us eternal life, and He keeps us safe in the face of all our enemies. Today also happens to be Mother's Day. We are grateful for our mothers and the many sacrifices that they have made for their families, especially God's little lambs. Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers in attendance today! May God richly bless you in your calling!



✠ Gathering in Our Shepherd's Name ✠

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Sentences

P We gather in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

P Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

C He leads us to green pastures and still waters.

P Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

C We listen to His voice.

P Jesus is our Good Shepherd.

C He lays down His life for the sheep.

A *“Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!”*

(Revelation 7:12)

Opening Hymn “The King of Love My Shepherd Is” LSB
#709

1. The King of love my shepherd is,
Whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His
And He is mine forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow,
My ransomed soul He leadeth
And, where the verdant pastures grow,
With food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
But yet in love He sought me
And on His shoulder gently laid
And home rejoicing brought me.

Please stand.

Confession and Forgiveness

P We all, like sheep, have gone astray;

C each of us has turned to his own way.

- P** But the Lord has laid on Jesus the iniquity of us all. He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross,
C **so we might die to sin and live for righteousness.**

Moment of silence for personal reflection and examination

- P** Most merciful God,
A *we have sinned against You and against our neighbors in our selfish thoughts, our hurtful words, and our unloving actions. You know our sins, and they are ever before You. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us as a shepherd leads his sheep. Amen.*

- P** Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, has laid His life down for His sheep on the cross. There He sacrificed His life that all who believe in Him will not perish but have forgiveness for their sins and eternal life in His name. In the name of Jesus Christ and by the power of His resurrection from the dead, I, a called and ordained servant of the risen Savior, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen. The Lord restores us and leads us in paths of righteousness.**

Sharing of the Peace

We greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3)

Please be seated.

Hymn of Response "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" LSB #709

4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me,
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,
Thy cross before to guide me.

5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!

6. And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Blessed Good Shepherd, You speak, and we recognize Your voice. You call to us through the voice of Your Word, and we follow You. You give us eternal life, and we shall never perish. Keep us safe in the palm of Your hand, and comfort our hearts from all our fears so that we belong to You forever. For You live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.

C **Amen.**

✠ Listening to Our Shepherd's Voice ✠

A Litany for Mothers

P A woman of noble character, who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. (Proverbs 31:10)

C **Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land which the LORD your God is giving you.**

(Exodus 20:12)

P Her husband has full confidence in her, for she brings him good all the days of her life. (Proverbs 31:11-12)

C **Let the name of the LORD be praised for mothers of their children.** (Psalm 113:9)

P She provides for her family; she sets about her work with diligence. (Proverbs 31:15, 17)

C **For it is in God that we have been brought out of the womb, being led to trust in the LORD, even at our mother's breast.** (Psalm 22:9)

P She is compassionate, courageous, clothed in dignity and strength, laughing at the days to come. (Proverbs 31:25)

C **Her children arise and call her blessed, for a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.** (Proverbs 31:28, 30)

P We thank You, O Lord, for Eve,

C **the mother of all living.** (Genesis 3:20)

P For Sarah, the mother of many peoples,

C **who signifies for us the gracious promises of God.** (Genesis 21:19)

P For Jochebed, the mother of Moses, Aaron, and Miriam,

C **through whom You led the people of Israel into the promised land, with a mighty hand and outstretched arm.** (Exodus 2:1-11, Numbers 26:59)

P For Hannah, the mother of Samuel,

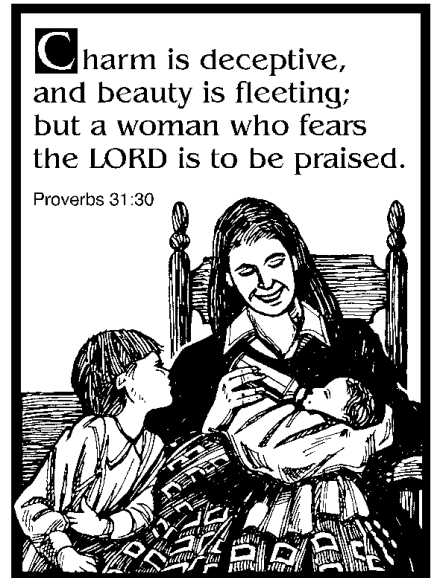
C **whose heart exceedingly rejoiced at the birth of her child.** (1 Kings 2:1)

P For Ruth, who married to Boaz bore a son named Obed, the grandfather of David,

C **thus ensuring the throne through which the Savior would be born.** (Ruth)

P For Mary, the mother of Your Son, Jesus,

C **who as the servant of God brought into this world the**



atonement Sacrifice for our salvation. (Matthew 1:21)

P For the unnamed widow of Nain, who in her grief over her deceased child

C **rejoiced in her day in the One who overcame the sting of the grave for her and her son.** (Luke 7:11)

P For Eunice, the mother of Timothy,

C **who brought up her child in the way of the Lord.** (2 Timothy 1:5)

P Yes, blessed are You, dear Lord, for being our Provider, our trusted Friend, our Healer,

C **for being our Source of life, our Shoulder, our compassionate Touch.**

P Yes, Lord, thank You for godly mothers,

C **the crown of our life in You. Amen.**

Mother's Day Video

"The Beauty of a Mother"

Scripture Reading

Revelation 7:9-17

Christ is the Shepherd who leads His faithful to springs of the water of life. Christ is also the Lamb who vanquishes sin and suffering, in whose blood the saints have washed their robes and made them white.

⁹After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands.

¹⁰And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." ¹¹All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and

ever. Amen!” ¹³Then one of the elders asked me, “These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?” ¹⁴I answered, “Sir, you know.” ¹⁵And he said, “These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, “they are before the throne of God and serve Him day and night in His temple; and He who sits on the throne will spread His tent over them. ¹⁶Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their Shepherd; He will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

Please stand in honor of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

Alleluia Verse

(sung) Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia

Holy Gospel

John 10:22-30

Jesus responds to questions about His identity with the remarkable claim that He and the Father are one. Those who understand this are His sheep; they hear His voice, follow Him, and will never be snatched from His hand.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C (sung) Glory to You, O Lord.

²²Then came the Feast of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter,
²³and Jesus was in the temple area walking in Solomon’s

Colonnade. ²⁴The Jews gathered around Him, saying, “How long will You keep us in suspense? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.”
²⁵Jesus answered, “I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in My Father’s name speak for Me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not My sheep. ²⁷My sheep listen to My voice; I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of My hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of My Father’s hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C (sung) **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

Hymn

“I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

LSB #740

1. I am Jesus’ little lamb,
Ever glad at heart I am;
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need and well provides me,
Loves me ev’ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name.

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day “Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” LSB #711

1. Savior, like a shepherd lead us;
Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us,

For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have bought us; we are Yours.

2. We are Yours; in love befriend us,
Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us,
Seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Hear us children when we pray.

3. You have promised to receive us,
Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us,
Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
Early let us turn to You.

4. Early let us seek Your favor,
Early let us do Your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior,
With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.

Message

Please stand.

✠ Responding to Our Shepherd's Grace ✠

Profession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

P A creed is a statement of what you believe as a Christian. In this Easter season, pay special attention to the words, “the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.” Because Jesus rose from the dead, we too shall rise on the Last Day.

A *I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.*

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgive-ness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.

Please be seated.

Offering

A SPECIAL NOTE: The mission and ministries of Ascension are supported by the love, generosity and sacrificial giving of our members and friends. If you are a GUEST today, please do not feel obligated to make a contribution, but know that any financial gift which you make will be used

to help share Christ's love and salvation. Our offerings are an important part of our worship. Also, take a moment to fill out a Friendship Card and place it in the offering plate. Thank you!

Choir Anthem

“Shepherd Psalm”

arr. Mary McDonald

Anita Stedman, violin

Prayer of the Church

P Shepherd of love, You provide us with all we need to support this body and life. We lack for nothing. Help us to appreciate all the good gifts You have given us of clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home. Good Shepherd, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Shepherd of love, when we are lost and weary, You restore our souls. Make us to lie down in the green pastures of Your Word and Sacraments, basking in the abundance we find in those good gifts. Good Shepherd, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Shepherd of love, in this fallen world we often walk through the valley of the shadow of death. War, terrorism, disease, and chaos threaten to steal our peace of mind. Remind us daily that we need not fear any evil since You are with us, since Your rod and staff comfort us. Good Shepherd, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Shepherd of love, send healing, strength, and patience to all who are sick, injured, and recovering, (*especially. . .*). Restore their health with the overflowing abundance that comes only from Your gracious hand. Good Shepherd, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Shepherd of love, many grieve and mourn the death of loved ones. (*Today we remember the families and friends of. . .*). Comfort them with the knowledge that those who walk through the valley of the shadow of death and trust in You will dwell in Your house forever. Good Shepherd, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Shepherd of love, Your goodness and mercy follow us all our days. We thank You for the blessings You have poured out upon

us. We rejoice with those who rejoice, (*especially . . .*). Good Shepherd, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P (*Other intercessions may be offered.*) These and any other things You would have us ask of You, Good Shepherd, grant to us for the sake of Your name. Remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

A *Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.*

Please stand.

✠ Departing with Our Shepherd's Blessing ✠

Blessing

Hebrews 13:20-21

P Now may the God of peace—who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant— equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through ✠ Jesus Christ,

C to whom be glory forever and ever! Amen.

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Closing Hymn

“Christ Is Our Cornerstone”

LSB #912

1. Christ is our cornerstone,
On Him alone we build;

With His true saints alone
The courts of heav'n are filled.
On His great love
Our hopes we place
Of present grace
And joys above.

2. Here may we gain from heav'n
The grace which we implore,
And may that grace, once giv'n,
Be with us evermore
Until that day
When all the blest
To endless rest
Are called away.

3. Oh, then, with hymns of praise
These hallowed courts shall ring;
Our voices we will raise
The Three in One to sing
And thus proclaim
In joyful song,
Both loud and long,
That glorious name.

Sending

P In the name of our Good Shepherd, go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C Thanks be to God!

Postlude

✠ Exiting to Witness for Our Shepherd ✠

Acknowledgments

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**ASCENSION NEWS &
MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

- ▶ **Flowers Today:** Flowers on this Mother’s Day are given by Anita & Elliot Werner in honor of BJ Mason and in memory of Lorena Werner.
- ▶ **Flower Chart:** This is a lovely way to remember birthdays, anniversaries, and loved ones. One set of flowers is \$25 or both for \$50. Please place your check in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office.
- ▶ **Opportunity Center:** The Board of Christian Service is collecting donations of paper products for Ysleta Lutheran Mission—paper towels, paper plates, napkins and toilet paper are all helpful to the ministry. Thank you!
- ▶ **Membership:** Those interested in membership at Ascension can go through the New Member Class online at our website: www.ALConnect.faith. Click on “Media” then the “New Member Class” link and follow the prompts.
- ▶ **Refreshments:** sign up today to share refreshments between services! Sign-up sheets are in Fellowship Hall by the kitchen.

Raise the Roof Nearing \$160,000!



Praise the Lord! As of May 6, we have reached \$158,473, 91% of our \$175,000 goal! Only 9% to go! Thanks to all who have contributed so generously during the Lenten season. All glory, praise, and honor to our crucified and risen Lord!

Adult Bible Class

FELLOWSHIP HALL • 9:15 A.M.



Pastor Bestian will continue the study on the Book of Acts during Family Bible Hour @ 9:15 a.m. All members & friends of Ascension are encouraged to attend.

Sunday School

LESSON SUMMARY

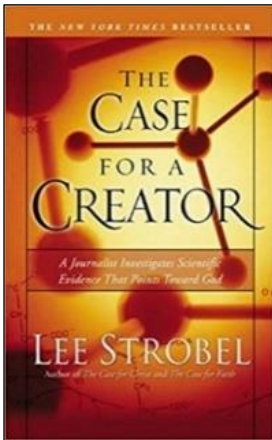


Today the Sunday School students study the account “Jesus Calms a Storm.” Just as Jesus calmed the storm with His Word for the frightened disciples, so He calms and ends the storm of sin and death by taking our sin upon Himself and dying in our place so we may live eternally. Consider discussing, “What did Jesus do to calm the storm? How does Jesus calm the storms in our life?”

Sunday School Head Coordinator: Mrs. Wanda Melendez
Preschool/PreK/Kindergarten: Peggy Bartel, Debbie Epperson, Jan Schlak
Grades 1-3: Linda Canada, Jean DeWitt
Grades 4-6: Lauren Hannemann, Kirsten Moravec

*Children's Sunday School
meets in the Children's
Christian Education Wing
of the building.*

Youth News



Bible Study

Our Bible study delves further into Scripture and science, where our youth will encounter the mind-stretching discoveries from cosmology, cellular biology, DNA research, astronomy, physics, and human consciousness presented as astonishing evidence in Lee Strobel's *The Case for a Creator*. Meet in the Youth Room downstairs at 9:15 a.m. for the Bible study!

Sunday School Teachers | Bible Study Leaders

At Ascension, there are several opportunities to grow deeper in God's Word! We thank those teachers and substitute teachers who give of their time to teach, lead, and facilitate the study of Scripture!

Sunday School Head Coordinator
Cradle Roll Coordinator
Junior/Senior Youth Bible Study
Adult Bible Class

Wanda Melendez
Keri Howell
Luz Soto
Pastor Brian Bestian

Weekday Bible Study Leaders



Tuesday Women's Bible Study
Tuesday Men's Bible Study

Woman-to-Woman Bible Study
Thursday Women's Bible Study
Saturday Men's Breakfast & Bible Study

Anita Werner
Ryden Richardson
Leo Melendez
Kim Bestian
Gretchen Schmalz
John Witty

New Member Class is Online!



Those interested in membership at Ascension are now able to go through the New Member Class online at our website: www.ALConnect.faith. **Roll over the "Media" tab at the top right of the homepage and then click on the "New Member Class" link.**

GodConnects is a video-based adult confirmation course developed by Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM). It has been doctrinally reviewed by the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod (LCMS) and covers Christian doctrine in 12 topics. Each topic begins with a short video and is supported with a downloadable discussion guide and PowerPoint presentation.

When you have completed all 12 lessons, please notify the Church Office at (915) 833-1009. A New Member Orientation meeting will be held to complete the process of your membership. During this orientation session, you will be given the opportunity to ask any questions or to seek further clarification on the GodConnects course. We will also give you a quick overview of our congregation's history and our mission, vision and goals. **For those without internet, we have the DVD and discussion book for your use.**

Prayer Ministry

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7



If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain, please call Olga Sullivan at 581-1450 or e-mail Jan Schlak at oveja6925@aol.com.

Please call the church office @ 833-1009 to include a prayer request for the bulletin.

Missions: Orphan Grain Train & Lutheran Bible Translators. Please pray for all missionaries around the world.

Immediate Concerns: **Chris Fitzpatrick** (healing after surgery), **Shirley Atkins** (pastor's aunt – lung infection), **Janice Levenhagen** (Linda Canada's sister -hospice), **Aaron Levenhagen** (Linda Canada's nephew - correct diagnosis), **Mona Chandler** (Alzheimer's – Harry Clark's sister), **Anastasia Markum**, **Judy Pinal** (successful

surgery/recovery), **Elizabeth Karl** (cancer), **Julie May** (Lynn Burchfield's mother), **Brian DeWitt** (correct diagnosis), **Suzette Barber** (knee injury), **Cindy McGuire** (motorcycle accident), **Kay Mcleod**, **Sandra Eckland**, **Richard Cummings** (relief of pain), **Jerad Knight**, **Louise Hatton** (Gail Regalado's sister), **Arelis Baez Covault** (Ryden Richardson's friend - rare eye condition), **Olga Sullivan** (Parkinson's), **Judy Freubenburg** (Ordella Uhde's sister-in-law), **James Goldsmith**, **June McClanahan** (Pastor's aunt – pancreatic cancer), **Brent Behrens** (continued healing after stroke), **Roselie Ross** (Gisela Lichon's sister – chemotherapy), **Christy Chavez** (Olga Sullivan's niece – recovery from surgery), **Pauline Sudnahufski** (family of Schwitters' – hospice care), **Mike Arredondo** (stroke), **Iris Arredondfo** (effective treatment of cancer), **Helen Warke** (cancer treatment), **Jan Larson** (continued healing), **Natalie Knight**, **Gloria Garcia** (friend of Weyers – heart attack), **Tony Evans** (ALS diagnosis), **Erin Naylor Leach** (friend of Hite family – swelling of brain), **Herb Harper** (effective treatment), **Lorie Nadelborg** (inoperable brain tumor), **Debi Maki** (successful treatment).

Ongoing Prayers: **Ron Spott**, **Bob Gallagher**, **Annabelle Leupp**, **Todd Maki**, **Jerry Aguilera**, **Helen Allen**, **Arelis Baez**, **Rick Barber**, **Eric Bell**, **Juan Chacon**, **Peter Chisholm**, **Ron Cleavenger**, **Micah Cohen**, **Josephine DeMartelaere**, **Julie DeRusha**, **Travis Dickson**, **Humberto Garcia**, **Angelika Grossnick**, **Tina Guerrero**, **Karla Herbert**, **Wayne Kendrick**, **William Peevey**, **Lenae Rasmussen**, **Cheryl Rassette**, **Eloisa Regalado**, **Gideon Rhodes**, **Alicia Rich**, **Paul Robinson**, **Julio Rodriguez**, **Gabriella Rubio**, **Jim Schwab**, **Garry Simmons**, **Bill Strickland**, **Louise Strickland**, **Anthony Sullivan**, **Tony Sullivan**, **Fred Svarney**, **Jim Swegarden**, **Jim VanEtten**, **Greg Vaughan**, **Jenny Vicencio**, **Carol Watson**, **Joan Watson**, **Grace Wells**, **Jim Werner**, **Marge Jordan**

Home Bound: Sandra Eckland, Ralph Matarrazo

Deployed Troops: Christopher Dahl & Nathan Hannemann. Please pray for all deployed troops and their families as they serve our country around the world.

This Week at Ascension

MAY 12 - 18

SUNDAY – 12 (MOTHER'S DAY)

- 8:00 am Worship
- 9:00 am Board of Christian Service**
- 9:15 am Family Bible Hour
- 10:00 am Worship
- 11:30 am Confirmation
- 11:30 am Board of Evangelism**

MONDAY - 13

Church Office Closed

TUESDAY - 14

- 10:30 am Woman-to-Woman Bible Study - church
- 6:00 pm Men's Bible Study - church
- 6:30 pm Women's Bible Study – Wade home

WEDNESDAY - 15

- 8:45 am Preschool Chapel
- 10:00 am Weight Watchers
- 6:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY – 16

- 9:45 am Women's Bible Study – Schlak home
- 10:00 am Preschool Graduation**
- 3:00 pm June/July Newsletter Articles Due**
- 6:30 pm Ladies Night Out (State Line Restaurant)**

SATURDAY – 18 (ARMED FORCES DAY)

- 8:00 am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast
- 9:00 am Board of Stewardship**
- 10:30 am Summer Sunday School Teachers & Staff Meeting**



Summer Sunday School Meeting

MAY 18



Mark Your Calendar: Summer Sunday School teachers and staff are meeting on Saturday, May 18 at 10:30 am.

Sermon Notes