

APRIL 2010

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

PARISH EDUCATION NEWS!...Submitted by Melinda Ott

Shepherd's Office Hours;
Mon-Thurs 9:00—2:00

Pastor Randy's Office
Hours;
Tues-Fri 8:00 -12:00
(by appt after 12:00)

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503.645.4994
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Kids of the Kingdom
Christian preschool &
daycare
503.645.0236

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There will be a Game Night for Pre-K thru middle school age on Friday May 7th from 7-9 pm. Parents invited for family fun, but it's not required they stay. Friends are welcome! There will be healthy snacks and drinks, and a scavenger hunt. Bring your favorite board game to share. (No electronics.)

SAVE THE DATE!!!!!!!!!! VBS will be Monday June 21st, Tuesday June 22nd, and Wednesday June 23rd. 5:45pm to 8:00pm. Bible Heroes - David, Daniel, and Ruth. Lots of fun in store!!!! Snacks will be provided.

The preschoolers have been play acting as participants of the Sunday Bible stories celebrating God's goodness, acceptance and mercy. They are looking forward to Easter as they count down on their Lenten calendars to Jesus' Resurrection.

We will be trying something new for the High School group next school year—provided we have some volunteers willing to help out. Instead of a weekly Sunday School, there will be a monthly Book Club, using secular books and discussing them through a Christian viewpoint. How can you help? It's a time commitment of only about 1 hour (plus time to read the book) 1-2 Sundays the entire YEAR! Plus, most—if not all—of the books will have prepared discussion questions, so you would only need to facilitate the conversation and spend some time with some wonderful young people. If we have people to help with this, the book list will be published in the May newsletter. If you are interested, please contact Mindy Ott.





PASTOR'S PAGE

" and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were lockedJesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." John 20:19

All the gospel writers, when sharing the story of the first Easter, have fear as part of the story. There was fear in the hearts and minds of those who claimed to be the best friends of Jesus. They pledged their faith in him, but they couldn't get away from that fear, because at first his promise to them was just too much to understand, too good to be true, too hard to believe.

So, what they did, in their fear, was to try to shut themselves off from the reality of the world. They locked themselves in a room and waited. Now I am not sure what they were waiting for, and maybe they didn't know either. Being frozen in fear is exactly that, and it keeps anything from being done. There is nothing to do or accomplish. There was, and is, only hiding and waiting. And everything changed when Jesus came to them. He met them right where they were, in their frightful place, not with condemnation, but with the powerfully understanding words of "Peace be with you". That simply he set them free to go back into the sometimes frightening and overwhelming world.

Sometimes that is the way I have been feeling. Fearful about decisions of my own, decisions of others, things way beyond my control. Wondering about the future, certain that this is not where I expected to be at this point in my life, ready to lock myself away in a room for a while and see what happens. In that dark spot I began to pray and in the midst of a sentence my phone rang, and it was my grandson. (Now I don't usually interpret prayer to be some kind of magic thing that grants a wish when asking, but this sure seemed pretty fortuitous.) I did not tell Chase that he was an answer to prayer, maybe he wouldn't get it, and maybe that is a lot of pressure. After a brief conversation about what he was up to, nothing of necessarily grand import, everything felt different.

Nothing had been drastically changed as far as the reality of the world was concerned. The challenges of life were no different. But the view was certainly different. At the risk of offering simplistic or faulty theology I believe that the Christ still visits us with all kinds of "peace be with you" moments. He invites, calls and commands us to go into the world, to face our fears and doubts, firm in the knowledge that we are not alone.

As we will soon shout, "He is risen! He is risen indeed!"

Pastor Randy

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by Peggy Jo Vermaas

Greetings and God's blessings to all,

Easter is soon upon us. What a joyful time of the year!!! Truly a time of celebration! Once again we will enjoy this holy holiday with breakfast together and watching our kids excitedly participate in the Easter Egg Hunt. Raising kids in the teachings of Christ. Growing in Christ's love. Blessings in action.

As I look around Shepherd, our building is looking loved and cared for. So many folks have contributed to make that happen . . . offering ideas, time and resources. Love and commitment in action. So many thank you's. Know that these are heartfelt.



Our Deficit: We are now at a critical point in our finances. We have not met our budget during the first two months of 2010 and cannot continue on the path of deficit spending. Although we are working on some fund raising events to help, these will not help us immediately. Very soon Council will have to make decisions to cut expenses. Please make a special contribution to bring SOV current and to balance our budget. If there are issues that need to be addressed, please let us know.

Synod Assembly: SOV is seeking two representatives to attend Synod Assembly which occurs May 28th through the 30th at the Red Lion at Jantzen Beach in Portland. Please let us know if you are interested.

Fund Raising Efforts and volunteer opportunities: Progress has been made on the Scrip Program. See Linnea's article for specifics. April also starts the collection cycle for the July 23rd, 24th Rummage Sale. Copies of the collection schedule have been in the bulletin and are also located at the information station in the Narthex. Boxes are available to take home, fill, and return. See Tammy as needed. The next Rummage Sale planning meeting is Friday, April 9th at noon with lunch provided. The Transport Trio Concert is coming in May. We are seeking someone to anchor the Bingo Night/Chili Dinner targeted for June. All these events will focus on the joy of working together as a family, reaching out into the community, and helping to improve our budget.

We are bringing back what a member called "Meal's on Angel's wings". Ginny Adamo and Pastor are working together to revive this important ministry. We encourage your support and participation. Let us know of needs and watch for requests.

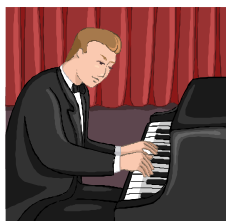
Some Special Thanks: Take special note of the new KOK signage in the stairwell. The McDonald kids at work!! Marissa painted and Austin installed the letters. They look great!!!! Thanks to Trevor for his continued work keeping our Kiosk current and for adjusting and fine tuning all of our four security cameras. Thanks to Dick Kuykendall for spraying round up all over our grounds. Thanks to Harvey Andersen for helping with the vacuuming. Thanks for Vern Wik for planting and maintaining the flowers at our entrance and for creating beautiful alter and narthex bouquets. Thanks to Staff

Breed for repairing all of the KOK fencing. A continued big thank you to those who anonymously donated the paint for our sanctuary. Putting God's love into action.

Bringing our year to a close: Our nominating committee is seeking folks to fill several positions so please consider serving. Our annual congregational meeting will be held on May 16th after second service and will be a time to celebrate all of the blessings that Shepherd has received. Please plan to attend and participate.

Touching others for Christ . . . Building on Christ, our foundation. Blessings, Peggy

TRANSPORT TRIO RETURNS! SUBMITTED BY KEVIN COPE



The Transport Trio (Tammie Dees; vocals, Kevin Cope; piano, Dan Nichols; bass and guitar) will perform on May 15 and May 16 (Saturday and Sunday evenings at 6:00 pm.

They are already hard at work preparing for these concerts, and will present much brand—new material. The theme for both nights will be “AC—CENT—TCHU—ATE THE POSITIVE!”

This is one of SOV's primary evangelistic events, as well as a lot of fun and entertainment. Ideal for inviting your friends, neighbors and families to enjoy. Our Fellowship committee will provide treats with the help of SOV members. So clear your calendars for this special event and come to SOV May 15th and 16th prepared for great time with God's people.

THRIVENTS

Economic and Investment Outlook Update...

Economic and Investment Outlook Update is a free educational event that can help you make more informed investment decisions.

During the event, you'll gain a better understanding of the factors that affect financial markets and trends. You'll also receive an overview of how the changing economy can impact investment markets, how emotions can affect your decisions, and when to get professional financial guidance.

The free one-hour event will be presented by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans representative, Jason Drews, Financial Consultant, on April 28, 8:30-9:30 am at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church; April 28, 12:00-1:00 pm at the Lake Oswego office; and April 29, 12:00-1:00 pm at the Hillsboro Library. For more information, contact Susan at 503-635-2003 ext 245 or susan.rothe@thrivent.com.

The Economic and Investment Outlook Update event is intended only to educate you about financial decisions. It is broad in scope and does not consider your individual personal financial situation, which is unique. The information and advice may not be appropriate in all cases. No products will be offered for sale.

For additional important disclosure information, please visit <https://www.thrivent.com/disclosures/>

SOCIAL CONCERNS... BY LARINA HOFFBECK

Go and do likewise...

It's time for our annual ingathering of Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief. We will be collecting funds to purchase kit items as well as completed kits to be shipped to people throughout the world who have faced some sort of disaster be it natural, accidental or political. The need is especially great this year as LWR's stock of health kits was depleted by it's response to the earthquake in Haiti. It normally costs between \$10 and \$13 per kit, depending on where you shop. If you'd like to donate funds, please have them to church by April 25th marked "Social Concerns - Health Kits" on the memo line of your check. If you'd like to donate completed kits, you can find a list of items to include as well as assembly instructions on the Social Concerns bulletin board or at: http://www.lwr.org/be_involved/healthkit.asp

Shepherd of the Valley will be participating in a MobilePack Event for "Feed My Starving Children" at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Aloha on Saturday, May 22. During this wonderful event, 500 volunteers will pack 100,000 meals for starving children throughout the world. SOV would like to have a group volunteer together from 3:00-5:00pm. If you'd like to join us at that time, please contact Larina Hoffbeck at 503-617-9297 or hoffbeck@verizon.net as soon as possible as volunteer spaces are filling up quickly. They have other volunteer times available that day as well as the evening of Friday, May 21st if you are unable to attend with our group but would still like to participate. If you wish to register at a time other than the group time, please go to: <http://bethlehemaloha.eventbrite.com/> and fill out their registration form. For more information on this event, please see Bethlehem Lutheran's site at: <http://www.blcfamily.org/>. For more information on "Feed My Starving Children" please see: <http://www.fmsc.org/Page.aspx?pid=398>



They are asking for a donation of \$40 per volunteer to pay for the meal ingredients. (Each volunteer should be able to pack about 200 meals during their 2-hour shift which adds up to about \$40 worth of ingredients.) This is not mandatory but is strongly encouraged. If you'll be volunteering with our group and would like to contribute \$40 per volunteer, or if you'd like to sponsor someone else from SOV to serve, please have your donations to church by May 9th marked "Social Concerns - FMSC" on the memo line of your check.

We hope you'll consider participating in one of or both of these wonderful opportunities to share God's gift of love with our neighbors in need throughout the world!

Luke 10:36-37 (New International Version)

³⁶"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

AROUND THE PARISH...by Ann Smith

New to You: We did it again, went to McMinnville, spring time was definitely here, flowering trees, green meadows, what a beautiful drive, of course we talked a mile a minute all the way there and back. We had 6 ladies go, two car loads. \$50.00 was given to SOV Storehouse from our consignments.

SOV Newsletter Survey: Results to the recent survey were about half of the members read it on line, the other half like to read hard copies and the email notice is a helpful reminder. So for now we will keep it as is.

Monthly Luncheon: Our "all gender, all age, all church" luncheon kicked off on March 25th. We are going to try this for three months and see how the response goes. It will be the 4th Thursday of the month. Lunch will be provided, you just come for lunch and conversation that's it, nothing more, no strings attached. The next luncheon will be April 29th at 11:00 am. See you *all* there.

SOV Rummage Sale: Due to constant demand the SOV rummage sale will return this year. The date has been set, July 23 & 24 (presale will be July 22). Start cleaning out your closets and storage areas. Please bring your items clean and in working order. This year we ask No adult clothes or shoes (they will go to New to You and can be placed in the appropriate closet) also there will be a limited amount of electronics accepted. Watch for more info to come. Collection starts April 5th.

Rebecca Ladies: Met for brown bag lunch and conversation on March 3rd. We will continue to clean the church as we can until we hear from the council. But we do need some young, energetic (good-looking) person to volunteer to vacuum the sanctuary. I will watch! (Thank you Harvey who has spent several days vacuuming already)

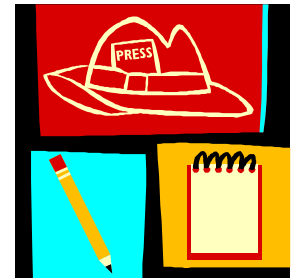
Respect & Reverence: It's been noticed that people (adults and children) are treating our sanctuary and newly arranged loft areas with more respect and reverence. Thank you for taking pride in our "new look/new paint" and helping us keep it clean and cared for.

Newspaper Drop Box: Our last check from the "paper drop box" was \$191.00. Remember to continue to bring your paper products; newspapers, shredded mail in paper bags, junk mail, paper grocery paper bags etc. to the drop box and help us continue our extra income.

SOV Olympic Games: Although this is unofficial a Gold medal has been awarded to Jeff W. for painting the most hours and highest places, Tammy M. received the silver and Marissa M. the bronze for her efforts in painting and reinstalling the kick plates. I think team SOV did a great job. I challenge anyone to take on this task. Thank you to our generous paint donors. Thank you to our handicap sign installers, it had to be done twice but I think the new installation will stay put.

SOV Florist: Thank you to Verna who has stepped up and volunteered to be our in house florist for Altar flowers on Sunday. If you have 'extra' vases, baskets or items that make a great container for floral displays you may donate them to the church.

Loft: The loft area has had a make over, if you haven't taken a look to see the new change take time to do so. It's a great place to sit and read, engage in small

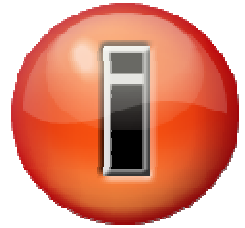


Around the parish continued...

conversation or meeting space as well as a child friendly space.

Ladies Dinner: 17 ladies descended upon Chang's Mongolian Grill on March 9th. What a quiet reserved group. Tabitha brought her fiancé and he even stayed and ate dinner with all of us. Good Job Tabitha!

Table Talk: March 25th was our first all church luncheon, we had 13 people attend. It was just like being home, Pat was waxing the woodwork, Verna was arranging the crab apple blossoms in the narthex, Karyn was singing a few scales on the piano, Ginny was picking up ironing for new to you, pastor was running around looking for the palms for Sunday and romantic Neil was holding Dolores's hand and whispering sweet nothings in her ear, Harvey was telling us about his job in college and Mert (not a happy morning person) was making soup, Christine was listening to Karyn and Marlene was busy keeping warm and of course Ann was sitting and taking notes. But we had a great time. Peggy was late but we forgave her. Next month come join us for lunch at 12:00 pm, April 22nd.



2010 Lent and Easter Dates to Remember

Healing Service - March 31 at 6:30pm

Maundy Thursday - April 1 at 6:30pm

Good Friday - April 2

Stations of the Cross from noon to 6:00pm

Service - 6:30pm

Easter - April 4

Easter Worship Services

8:30 & 11:00 am

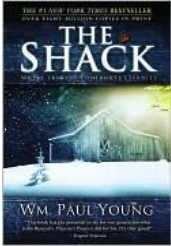
Easter Breakfast 9:45 am

Easter Egg Hunt 12:00 pm



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

Beginning April 18th, the Adult class will be discussing the book titled "The Shack" Where tragedy confronts eternity by William Young. This discussion will require the purchase of the book. You can find it at Barnes and Noble for \$10.79 (available in large print also) or through your favorite book source. Copies will not be available at the church. (There are 2 copies of the book available for purchase through Tammy at \$10.00 each)



LADIES DINNER...Submitted by Charleen Kuykendall

Ladies Dinner Group will meet April 13th, 6:30 PM at Newport Bay Restaurant in Tanasbourne. Please RSVP to Charleen or Clara.

SCRIPT FUNDRAISER...Submitted by Linnea Harmon

In case you haven't heard the news, Shepherd of the Valley is establishing a Scrip Program very soon. What is "Scrip" you might ask! Scrip means substitute money, and that is exactly what it is. It is a debit gift card or paper gift certificates for specific stores, restaurants, and services. It is a dollar for dollar exchange and costs the buyer nothing!

Then why would SOV do this; how do we make any money? It's simple, really. If you buy a \$50 gift certificate for Fred Meyer, you give SOV \$50. SOV then, in turn, buys the certificate for \$46, and gives the certificate to you. Some of the stores pay us a 4% return and some pay us much more! It all varies and is detailed on the order form.

Next question: Where do you get the order form? It will be on our website soon and also available at church. We are working on a schedule now but expect that we will be ordering and delivering scrip monthly.

Stay tuned for more specific schedule information to come.

Prayer Shawl Ministry...Submitted by Brenda Plinke



SOV is starting a "Prayer Shawl" ministry. A brief informational meeting will be held April 18th 9:45 –10:00 am.

What are prayer shawls?

The purpose of a prayer shawl is to give someone a tangible example of God's love and care to those in need. The shawl is made of soft yarn, either knit or crocheted, so the recipient can wrap up in it and feel God's loving arms around him or her. A prayer shawl is made with prayer. The maker of the shawl prays before, during, and after they work on the shawl. Sometimes we know who we are making the shawl for, and sometimes we don't, but we pray for the person who receives it just the same.

No experience required! Just come! See what fun you can have while making a difference in someone's life.

Our first introductory meeting will be Sunday April 18 at 9:45, in the office. This will be a short 15 min. meeting to introduce what the ministry is all about and determine a future time and date that works for all.

Questions? Contact Ginny or Brenda

EASTER BREAKFAST... Submitted by Brenda Plinke

Easter Breakfast will be served at 9:45 am on Sunday April 4th.

We are still in need of Breakfast Casserole dishes, and fruit for our fruit salad.(Please bring one whole fruit, cantaloupe, bunch of grapes, bag of frozen blueberries etc) we will then make the fruit salad at church. Help is needed with set up and clean up.



There will be a free will offering.

Contact Brenda for more details.



MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE APRIL 26, 2010

Spring Training!

A Wedding Shower for

Tabitha McDonald

&

Gary McVey!

Sunday, April 18, 2010, 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

The congregation is invited to help Tabitha and Gary get into the “swing” of things as they prepare for the “big game” (their wedding in June).

We will have a short, preseason game that will include a salad lunch, surprises, getting to know Gary and Tabitha together and showering them with ideas, gifts and wisdom.

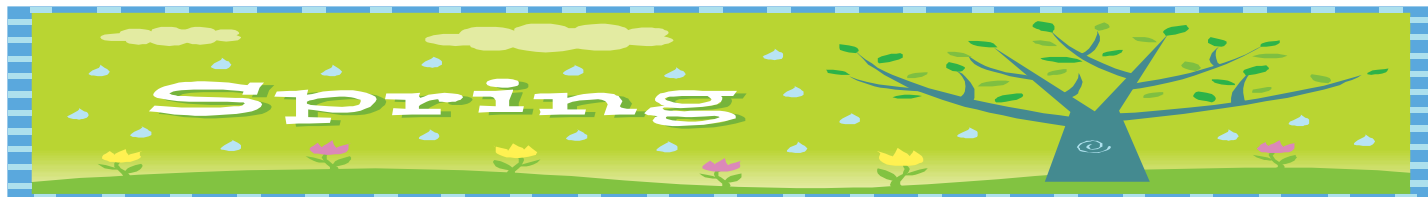
The invitation includes all members of the SOV family team that would like to help make this preseason game a bit “hit”.

We would like to have you bring a 3X5 card with a helpful hint for each the two players. It can be words of wisdom, a household hint or a favorite recipe.

If you would like to help prepare for the Spring Training Bridal Shower please contact Diane Lewis @ 503 648 5939 or email: delewis911@aol.com



MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE APRIL 26, 2010



An American wedding celebration for Sandeep and Kranthi!

The congregation is invited to a special party!

May 2, 12:30 PM (following late service)

Sandeep and Kranthi were married in India on May 11, 2009 in a traditional Christian Indian wedding. They had less than a month to get to know each other before the wedding. Kranthi had to wait until the end of July to join Sandeep in the United States.

We finally have our party scheduled to introduce them to some of our American wedding traditions as well as to those of you that haven't had the opportunity to get to know them. The wedding shower/wedding celebration will include having a traditional Lutheran pot luck. We are asking that you bring a favorite salad or main dish (including the recipe on a 3x5 card) to share as part of our celebration. Kranthi is excited to learn more about American cooking and they love American food! Beverages and dessert will be provided.

Feel free to bring another 3x5 card with helpful hints for around home or some words of wisdom. We want to make this a fun day as they are welcomed with some American traditions and "showered with love" from their Shepherd of the Valley family.

Sandeep made his church home with SOV before Kranthi became part of his life. After their marriage we were introduced to Kranthi through pictures of their wedding until she could join Sandeep in Oregon in July. Our church family has become their family and we will help celebrate the joy of their marriage through our party on May 2. It will be fun to share our traditions with them as well sharing some of their Indian wedding story.

If you would like to help in any way or have some fun creative ideas to share for organizing this party please contact Diane Lewis or Peggy Vermaas.



Stewardship 2010, Acting Together...Sharing Enough! Giving God Our Best

GUEST SPEAKER COMING; April 11th Nancy Kingston will be speaking during adult Sunday school hour.

Our council is “acting together” by asking our membership to “share enough” to facilitate a stable financial picture for our congregation. This was done in love and with prayer. As a member of the Stewardship committee the question comes up on how we as a committee can support, teach and ignite the joy of giving, especially in this economy.

What has God given us? Simply.....He gave us life. He loved us enough to give His son for our life to be eternal through Him. Love remains the answer. We are reminded throughout the scriptures about His gift of love and the importance of love in our lives.

While growing up I remember my Dad telling our family that we can never out give God. It is something that I relearn and revisit. Now how do we teach it? How much more can we do? How much is enough? The answer lies within our hearts. It will be different for each of us. What we give financially or through our time and talents will be different for each of us. Giving from the heart creates a joy that can't be described and has no age boundaries.

God expects us to be good stewards of His bounteous gifts, to do the best we can with what we have and to be a joyful giver. Each of us has the ability to make a wonderful contribution to the life of SOV's missions and ministry by sharing what we have and giving our best to God. We each can find our own joy of giving through many different choices when we open our hearts to share the love God first gave us. Sharing God's love is good stewardship and the joy is unending.

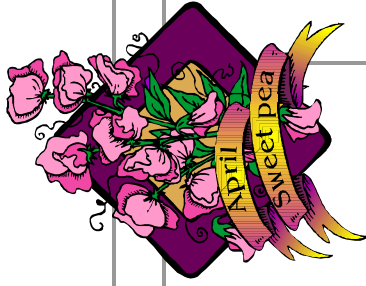
Together in His service,
SOV Stewardship committee

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...



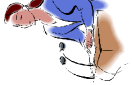




What is your responsibility with the church? Do you feel a responsibility for the upkeep? Do you worry about the money coming in? Is there enough to pay the lights, gas, water and salaries? Who is responsible for that?

Yes we do worry, stew and fuss about this. I guess each of us must think about these things as we make our 'pledges'/tithes each week, month to SOV. Remember Clara's suggestion of an extra few dollars from each of us would make a big difference.

We need our church for all kinds of reasons, each one of us must accept responsibility for a small part of those expenses, or do we close the church one day a week? How should we respond? We have a clear choice to make. Support our beliefs and church with our dollars or stand aside and live with the cuts.



April 2010

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship Ser- vice w/ hand washing	2 Good Friday Stations of the Cross 12:00—6:00 pm 6:30 pm Good Friday Worship Service	3
4 EASTER 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Service 9:45 am Easter Breakfast 12:00 Easter Egg Hunt <i>Resurrection of our Lord</i>	5 	6 6:30 pm Youth Choir Practice	7 10:00 am Bible Study 11:15 am Rebecca Circle Brown Bag lunch 6:30 pm Vesper Service 7:00 pm Adult Choir	8 6:30 pm Men's Night @ Old Chicago Pizza 	9 Rummage Sale Meeting 12:30 pm
10					11 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Service New Member Sunday Birthday Sunday Blood Pressure ck Guest Speaker Nancy Kingston 
12 6:30 pm Youth Choir Practice 6:30 pm Ladies Dinner Newport Bay @Tanasbourne 	13 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Vesper Service 7:00 pm Adult Choir	14 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Vesper Service 7:00 pm Adult Choir	15 10:00 am LLL	16	17  National Volunteer Week April 18-24
18 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Service Wedding Shower Tabitha McDonald 1:30 pm 	19 6:45 pm Social Concerns Meeting	20 6:30 pm Youth Choir Practice	21 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Vesper Service 7:00 pm Adult Choir	22 12:00 am All Church Luncheon (time change) 	23
24					25 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Service
26 6:30 pm Youth Choir Practice	27 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Vesper Service 7:00 pm Adult Choir	28 10:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Vesper Service 7:00 pm Adult Choir	29	30	