

**AUGUST 2018**

# SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Shepherd's Office Hours;  
Mon-Thurs

Pastor  
Dan Heath  
Mon - Wed  
10:00 - 12:30 pm  
And by appt.  
Office phone;  
503.645.4994  
Sovlutheran.com  
Summer  
Worship Services  
8:30 a & 10:00 a

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*"A caring community  
touched by Christ,  
touching others for Christ"*

## YOUTH GROUP

**Coming soon**

Stories and photos of SOV's Youth  
in  
Houston, Texas



## Pastor's Message

Greetings!

Happy New Year!

Again!

In the life of this congregation we mark many “New Year” occurrences. Of course as a part of our cultural location we celebrate New Year’s Day on January 1<sup>st</sup>! In many congregations this also marks the beginning of the fiscal or budget year as well. Contributions as of this date are not reportable on the previous year’s taxes or statements of giving.



A month or so before New Year’s Day we begin the new liturgical year. This “New Year’s Day” is the First Sunday of Advent, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before December 25<sup>th</sup> each year. Our Lectionary (schedule of appointed Sunday readings) starts anew, moving into the next Gospel in the rotation as we prepare to mark the birth of Jesus.

At Shepherd of the Valley there is one more significant “new year”—the Administrative year begins after the congregation elects officers in June. So, as I write this, we are marking the beginning of a new Church Council, a new beginning of the ongoing life of the congregation. Happy New Year!

We will soon schedule a Service of Installation on a Sunday morning to mark this new beginning. Our officers, President Linnea Harmon, Vice-President John Pedapalli, Secretary Peggy Vermaas, Treasurer Dave Rasmussen and Financial Secretary Jacob Tabor will be joined by the council representatives elected by each committee to form this year’s church council.

These are not positions of power and authority as they might be in other denominations; they are roles of accountability. The members of church council are selected to do the business of this congregation in between congregational meetings and to discern when it is appropriate for special congregational meetings should the policies and instructions of the congregation deem it necessary. These persons are obliged to know, follow and support the constitution, policies and adopted documents of this congregation. These persons are required to suspend personal interests and agendas to reflect the priorities as designated by the congregation as a whole in their discernment and judgments.

It is no easy task to have to set aside one’s own preferences for approved policies of a congregation. To measure the use of one’s voice as an elected leader rather than “just a member” of a congregation can be challenging. Pray for these folks you have selected. Church Council is not a legislative body but exists to carry out the policies and stated priorities of an entire congregation. Pray for these folks, who strive to uphold, promote and act according to the instructions we as a congregation provide. Pray for these folks, that they may flourish as servants of this congregation in whatever challenges lie ahead.

Along the way,

Pastor Dan

## Council Presidents Report

It's hard for me to believe, but one year ago this month my newsletter article started with the following paragraph:

I know at times it must have felt as if it would never happen, but it has. Pastor Dan Heath delivered his first sermon as Pastor of SOV on Sunday, July 23. It was a thought-provoking message about why the crazy farmer allowed the weeds to grow in his field along with the wheat until harvest time. Sprinkled in the message were some personal recollections which added to the message and allowed us to learn a little more about Pastor. It is truly wonderful to have Pastor Dan here. Thanks be to God!

It's been an interesting – and sometimes challenging – year full of ups and downs, but we've made progress. Are things exactly the way we would want them? Probably not. But when is life ever exactly the way we would want it? Pastor came on board willing to listen and learn, and he has. He brought a wealth of experience and knowledge and has a view and ideas drawn from that experience. It is truly wonderful to have Pastor Dan here!

One of the areas we are hoping to make more progress on and very soon is Reaching Out, Reaching In and Reaching Up. A Task Force is being formed to look at how SOV can reach out to the community, reach in to our fellow congregants and reach up to God. We've had these as a goal for several years, but we've learned that the old ways don't really work anymore. Now we are trying to identify the new ways. How do we reach out to the community in a way they can relate to? How do we greet visitors so they will want to return? How do we make our worship experience even more satisfying? How do we minister to each other and hold each other up? I have no expectation that the Task Force will be able to come up with a magic answer to these questions and others. However, I do hope that with everyone working together to generate ideas and to put those ideas into action we will see real progress in these areas.

Please remember in your prayers your leadership team and all those who work so hard at SOV. There is an incredible number of good things happening at SOV!

Blessings to you and yours,  
Linnea Harmon  
Council President

## Greetings from the Worship Team!

When you face challenges, know that you are not alone, we are here. Please let us know how we can pray for you. Let us share your burdens and let us rejoice with you in your joys. Remember the prayer team is here to pray for you and your loved ones. Fill out a prayer request and put it in the box in the narthex, talk to Tammy or one of us, and we will join you in submitting our prayers to God.

Thanks to a suggestion from John Pedapalli, we are going to open the church once a week for people who want to come and pray. We are offering this on Tuesdays from 11am to 1pm.

The flowers on the altar are a beautiful addition to our worship. Thank you to all who provide. There is a chart on the wall of the rainbow room if you want to sign up to provide the flowers for a particular Sunday.

We are still looking for volunteers to help with communion clean up.

Large print copies of the music for each worship service are available on the usher's counter. Please ask an usher if you would find it helpful.

Linnea graciously updated our usher instructions to include leaving the doors open during worship.

Blessings,

Sandra Carasco



## Women's Bible Study at SOV

Join us each Friday 5:00 - 6:00 pm

**SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE AUGUST 22ND**

## Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool

Enrollment is still going on even though KOK is now closed for Summer Break. If you or someone you know would like more information about our preschool, and/or would like to take a tour, please contact us at [kokpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:kokpreschool@gmail.com). Staff will be back in the office in August and classes will start the week of September 11th. Have a great summer!



## Memorial and Endowment Board: WHAT'S NEW?

The Memorial and Endowment Board was established at SOV in 2008. It is responsible for accepting gifts in memory or honor of a loved one and then disbursing those monies for the benefit of SOV Church ministries or needs.

What's new is a brochure which outlines how and what memorial gifts are. These brochures are now available at church.

The Board is elected by the congregation and has 5 members in 3 rotating terms. Feel free to contact any Board member through an email to SOV's Church Secretary.

## Parish Ed Committee:

### DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY AT SOV?

This summer, our committee is focusing on developing more educational programs at SOV and we would like to hear from you. Would you like to meet at church or at a home for a Bible study? Would a Christian book club be for you? How about a church wide movie night? Does an online group appeal to you? Please let Kristi R. or Wendy R. know your ideas.

### DO YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Our committee currently has 2 members. So any new programming will require additional volunteers. Please prayerfully consider volunteering for an event or program at SOV. Let Kristi R. or Wendy R. of your willingness to volunteer.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 Lloyd H	18 Amie K
2 Ginny	18 Mark V
4 Chanel H	19 Jenny M
4 Paul R	21 Jonathon RB
5 Ada B	25 Summer M
8 Anabera H	26 Sandra C
8 Diane L	26 Amber K
12 Sharon G	
16 Tammy M	



God's Blessing  
For a  
Joyful New Year  
In  
Life!

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Craig & Julie Zetterberg  
August 21st

Samuel & Adrian Garcia  
August 22nd



# AUGUST 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 a Coffee Group 7:00 pm Choir rehearsal	2	3 5:00 p Women's Bible Study	4
5 8:30 & 10:30 a Worship  1:30 p OEC	6  	7	8 7:00 a Coffee Group 7:00 pm Choir rehearsal	9  	10 5:00 p Women's Bible Study	11
12 8:30 & 10:30 a Worship  1:30 p OEC	13	14	15 7:00 a Coffee Group 7:00 pm Choir rehearsal	16	17 5:00 p Women's Bible Study	18
			<i>Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed. Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude.</i>			
19 8:30 & 10:30 a Worship  1:30 p OEC	20  	21	22 7:00 a Coffee Group 7:00 pm Choir rehearsal	23	24 5:00 p Women's Bible Study	25
26 8:30 & 10:30 a Worship  1:30 p OEC	27	28	29 7:00 a Coffee Group 7:00 pm Choir rehearsal	30	31 5:00 p Women's Bible Study	