

December 2013

# SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1

**Shepherd's Office Hours;**  
Mon-Thurs. 8:00 - 1:00 p

**Pastor Randy's Office**

Hours;

Tues-Fri 9:00 -12:00  
(by appt after 12:00)

Office phone;  
503.645.4994

Sovlutheran.com

Fall Worship Services  
Begin September 8th  
8:30 a & 11:00 a

Sunday School; all ages  
9:45 a

Nursery available at both  
worship services

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

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS...

### Middle School Youth

Meeting; December 1st @ 5:00 pm

Babysitting Night @ SOV

Youth group fundraiser

4:30 - 8:30 p

December 14th

Open to friends, family, co  
workers neighbors

### Babysitting



### High School Youth

Meeting; December 1st @ 6:00 pm

Babysitting Night @ SOV

Youth group fundraiser

4:30 - 8:30 p

December 14th



Come join the fun...



## PASTOR'S PAGE

*"I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in the Lord I  
hope:" Psalm 130:5*

Mary received the startling news from the angel Gabriel. She was going to have a baby. She was going to have a baby who was the Son of God, "and of his kingdom there will be no end." (Luke 1:33) It was all pretty astounding territory, and there was more to come. That original announcement would bring about an immediate reaction from Mary, highlighted by her song of praise in response, which we now refer to as the Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55).

After that initial flurry of astounding information and response, during which a few months may have passed, there was still plenty of time to just wait. There was time..... to.....wait. I can only imagine what that was like for Mary, to wait for such a time to come true.

Waiting is a word we are familiar with. We wait in lines of one kind or another pretty much every day. What exactly do we do with our time of waiting? We may wait impatiently, angrily, or we may find it to be a time to relax and just let it be, because some things cannot be hurried. They just are.

So, how do we wait? What do we do with our waiting? That is something that we carry on day to day. This Advent season, in our waiting time, may we join together in our waiting. We could eat together, spend some time with the Jesse tree (do you know what that is? just come and eat on Wednesday evenings) We will wait together.

In preparation for the birth of the Christ,  
Pastor Randy

## **COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT...** Submitted by Terry Wagemann

Greetings All,

It's hard to believe that this is the last newsletter of the year. Lots going on and lots to do, so this month's article is a little random. In November we had our council retreat. It was a great success planning the church calendar for the coming year. The goal was to get all the church events written down so we can plan the year together as one large group. We listed events by month and by anchor committee, then, we linked events to our Strategic Plan. This gave us a chance to see what each month of the year looked like and whether we had any gaps or overloading. After the retreat, we obtained a copy of the Youth calendar and added it to the church calendar for a more complete picture. We average more than 9 church events per month, not counting worship services. And, we have another 12 church activities and 8 youth activities suggested, but not yet planned!



Looking at the Town Hall feedback from last month's newsletter, growing the church's membership and growing the youth/young families were the top 2 hopes recorded. These two hopes have been receiving a lot of attention at both Executive Council and Church Council. In addition to our present youth program with Stacey and Caitlin, we are working to create activities for the teenage youth between services. We are pleased to see a half-dozen or so teens on Sundays, so we're investing time and resources to address their needs.

When it comes to adding new members, we have been blessed over the past year with quite a few new members. Many of the new members have jumped right in by joining committees. It has been great to see our membership expanding with new members and existing members working together in the church. This is great because it ensures that we hear the voices of all members. And if anyone is looking for a place to get involved, one place that needs help is Children's Sunday School. We have teachers, but we still need some assistants in some classes. Helping for 1 or 2 Sundays per month would be a great help to the teachers. Please see Stacie Sandow or any of the Sunday School teachers.

Also at last month's council retreat, we began the annual budgeting process. We continued working on it at November's Council meeting and plan to finish it in December. As usual, costs are rising faster than contributions. One reason is that pledges are down. We also saw some membership changes in 2013 that are putting some burden on income. It's part of the natural cycle of life. One of the large components of the budget is the amount allocated to individual committees. This individual allocation allows committees to carry out the missions and ministries of our church, like creating and printing out bulletins, providing music for worship services, making food baskets for the local community, cleaning and repairing our facilities for all to use, teaching Sunday School, programs for the youth, and much more. As we look for ways to make up the income shortfall, please consider Shepherd in your end of year giving. If you wish to offer a gift for a specific committee or program, please feel free to mark your donation accordingly. The major committees and programs with established budgets are: Worship, Stewardship, Evangelism, Parish Ed., Fellowship, Social Concerns, Property Management, Health Team, and Youth.

Finally, I wish everyone a Blessed Christmas Season, and a Joyous New Year! Please take some time to slow down and enjoy the gift of the season.

Blessings,

Terry Wagemann

## EVANGELISM / OUTREACH REPORT...Submitted by Peggy

Your Evangelism/Outreach committee continues to meet monthly on the second Thursday at 10 AM at SOV. Please join us if you have interest. We completed our plans for Christmas advertising. We will be sending out a bulk mailing to our local community inviting all to our events. This will include a link to our Website to access ten holiday recipes from the SOV cookbook. We are placing another Facebook ad and also encourage all to invite family and friends to our events. Connecting is an important part of this season. Our screen project is progressing. We will be renting the screen (currently in the sanctuary) for a second month. Throughout December the screen will be moved to different locations in the sanctuary. In January we will solicit your feedback on the use of screens in our sanctuary. The survey will be a Sunday bulletin insert. The results will be presented at the January Council meeting and the next steps in this project will be determined by the Council. Our screen project committee is Arden T, Matt K, and Tom B. Feel free to discuss your ideas and questions with them during this next month. We are still attempting to work with McKinley Grade School by providing volunteers to help in the classroom and with individual students. They are having difficulty getting their volunteer program up and working. We will continue our efforts to get connected.

Blessings to all.

## DONATION THANK YOU...Submitted by Lorna

Thank you to all who so generously donated warm clothing to the disabled. What a difference you have made in someone's life with this cold weather we are getting. I will still be taking warm clothing, i.e., jackets, gloves/mittens, scarves, hats, sweatshirts, long pants and etc. for children or adults.

JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE DECEMBER 23RD

## SOV Music Ministry

**EVERYONE!** Get ready for the Annual SOV Christmas Concert on Sunday December 15th at 6pm!

This year, we will have added several special elements to the program. We have the honor of hosting ALL THREE visiting A Cappella Groups from Westview High School, a number of smaller ensemble group performances, AND the Children's Christmas Program (taking place in the first half of the Concert this year). Of course the Little Lambs will also sing. And have no fear, there will be the usual congregational Sing-A-longs to your favorite holiday tunes too! We are very excited to incorporate more elements into the program and make a joyous Christmas celebration night! In addition to all of that, the SOV Choir and Band has been vigorously preparing our 7 Christmas songs which feature music from around the world and several reinvented classics! Come prepared to share an evening of fellowship and music at SOV!



Aside from all of that, the SOV Choir and Band has welcomed Jared Homsley, and Joan Johnson to the choir, and we hope to incorporate more singers and musicians coming into the new year! We are excited to have so much participation. The SOV Band is looking to add a few more members still. I am so proud of our choir and all of the hard work and dedication they put in every week to energize and enhance our services. It is really a phenomenal gift to have so many talented and giving musicians in our congregation. If you get a chance, please thank them for all of their work! SOV Choir and Band continue to meet on Wednesday nights (7pm) and Saturday mornings (10am) and ALL are welcome to join in!



For our Christmas celebration we are changing the date and time. We will be going to the Old Spaghetti Factory in downtown Portland. We are going on the second **Tuesday** which is **December 10** so that we can see the Christmas boats. **RSVP's are required by December 1st.** Our reservations are for **7:00** by the windows. The address of the restaurant is 715 S. West Bancroft St. If anyone is interested we can plan on carpooling from the church.

### Ladies Dinner Group

Join us at our  
Christmas Party!

Starting in January we will do a couple of months lunchtime instead of dinner to accommodate the weather issues for some of our members

As always please RSVP to Lynn Gates or Tammy

## Fellowship Upcoming Events

Christmas-New Years Brunch! Sunday,  
December 29 at 11:30 AM

We will share some time together between Christmas and New Years for our annual Christmas-New Years Brunch following our one service at 10:30 AM.



Our tradition has been to provide the breakfast casserole and anyone that would like to contribute fruit, breakfast breads or any other side dish can add to our menu. If you are interested in helping provide one of the breakfast hot dishes please contact one of us on the Fellowship team. Coffee, milk, juice and tea will also be provided.

This has been a fun and relaxed opportunity to share a meal and time together as we celebrate Christ's birth and the blessings of this year as we go forward into the new year!

Our friends from the OEC church have been invited to join us and we encourage you to bring any of your visiting family and friends to church and share in this special time together. This has been a fun opportunity to continue the celebration of the JOY and gift of Jesus birth as a family of Christ at Shepherd of the Valley!

Thank you to all of you that attended and helped with our Giving Thanks dinner. Our attendance was at least 100 as we gathered to give God thanks for all He blesses us with in our lives and in the life of SOV.

The fun and fellowship that was shared in this event surpassed the wonderful food that graced our table!

Blessings to each of you from the SOV Fellowship team.

Diane, Sharon, Peggy, Divine, Amber, Rachel, Vesper, Adrian and Lynn

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Thank you to All whom have helped maintain the building, Inside and outside this past year.

Merry Christmas to All!  
Property Chair, Jeff Wagemann

## Parish Education....Submitted by Stacie Sandow

We are counting down the days until Christmas, and we have many church activities that all children and their families are invited to participate. Please see church calendar and bulletin for specific event information. Below are important dates to remember:

December 1st - Christmas pageant rehearsal during Sunday School  
(all children welcome)

December 8th- Christmas pageant rehearsal during Sunday School (all children welcome)

December 8th- Christmas caroling (all families welcome)

December 15th– Christmas Concert w/ Christmas Pageant at SOV 6:00pm.

Please note there will be no Sunday school Dec 22nd, Dec 29 and Jan 5th.

Thank you to all who participated in the GEM donation drive in November! Our goal was 12 items and we collected 35 items. Wonderful job!



# Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool and Kindergarten

## Christmas Program

Family and friends are invited to our school Christmas Program December 17, Tuesday, at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary. This is a wonderful celebration of the birth of Jesus. Each class will sing songs and then the whole group will wish us all a very Merry Christmas.



## Christmas Break

Last day of classes is December 20, 2013. Then we will have a two week break and classes will resume on January 6, 2014.

## K-Pre-K News

Mrs. Rasmussen

In November, we learned about the fruits of the Spirit and talked about what it means to be thankful. We made scarecrows and turkeys and talked about harvest and all the fruits and vegetables that God has provided for us. We prepared fruit salad to share with our families at our Thanksgiving Family Feast. We made turkey hats, pumpkin pockets to hold pictures of what we are thankful for, and sang songs about turkeys and being thankful on that special day. We learned about forest animals and how God provides them with food and shelter. We made lots of books and practiced our reading and writing. We cut, glued and drew as we worked on our alphabet books. We collected data, and worked with numbers, graphing, and patterning in math. We practiced reading and writing our color words. We watched the weather and the change of seasons. We played outside and enjoyed the world God has created for us because we know the cold, rainy winter days will be here soon.

December brings us Advent and the birth of Baby Jesus. We will fill our days preparing for the birth of our Savior by listening to stories and responding to them with words and pictures. **We will also be as busy as the elves in Santa's workshop making gifts for our families. We will continue** learning about patterns, shapes, and deconstructing numbers to 10. We will keep practicing writing our numbers and counting to 100. We will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> day of school with special activities and a treat from our friend Zero the Hero. We will be practicing reading word family words, cvc words, and writing and reading our popcorn sight words. We will learn new songs and poems and practice for our Christmas program on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. We will have a special Christmas party on December 19<sup>th</sup> to wish Jesus a happy birthday.

## Pre-K News

Mrs. Benedict

Last month in Pre-Kindergarten, we were busy learning about the letters S, F, and T, counting up to 10, patterning, and sorting by size. We used our 5 senses in 5 different activities, learned about snakes and healthy foods. We also did a lot of fun turkey activities. We made pilgrim puppets and re-told the story of the first Thanksgiving with a special song we learned. We learned about hosting a party when we invited our families to a feast the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We prepared the food we served at our feast for our families and sang some special songs.

In December, we will be learning about Gingerbread men, Christmas stories, and the nativity. It will be a month full of projects, cooking, songs, and games. Our class will be learning a special Christmas poem and songs for the school Christmas program. We will also make a special gift to give our families for Christmas.



# Kids of the Kingdoms

## Preschool 3's and 4's News

Mrs. Johnson

In the month of November, the 3s and 4s classes learned all about the different places that people live. We got to make our own houses out of shapes, and we even shared what type of home we live in with the class. We also learned about all the different types of families there are, and we made a family tree with an apple for each member of our family. We talked all about foods and harvest, and how God provides food from the ground to keep us healthy. We learned about all the things we have to be thankful for, and we thanked God for what he has provided for us. We also learned all about turkeys, and the other foods we eat at Thanksgiving, and we made some very colorful turkeys of our own to decorate the classroom. At the end of the month, we hosted a big feast for all of our families. We baked some delicious pumpkin muffins to share with everyone, and we shared what we are thankful for this year.

In December, we will start to learn about advent and how we count down to the day Jesus was born. We will learn all about the Christmas story, and the people and animals that were at the nativity. We will get to act out the nativity story and sing lots of Christmas songs together as a class. In the middle of the month, we will put on a performance for our parents in the chapel, and show them all that we have learned so far. We will also learn about gift giving, and we will be making some very special ornaments to take home as gifts for our parents. We will finish off the month with a special Christmas party to celebrate with our friends before our two week break!

*SCRIP ORDER DATES; DECEMBER 1 & 15*

**Remember all your Christmas Gift Giving Shopping needs.**



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



04 Rich M	18 Kevin H
04 Aimable N	20 Lisa RB
08 Lorna H	22 Terry W
08 Tommy W	23 Linda R
09 Sabrina H	23 Orion S
09 Hayden P	24 Ron F
10 Jessley B	24 Elaine K
12 Prosper H	25 Desire H
14 Nidhi K	29 Sheila V
14 Aaron S	31 Trevor M

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

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

*Matt & Theresa Kotvis  
December 30th*



# PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Meeting Monday, December 16th at 7:00 pm  
Thursday, December 19th 1:00 pm (following the All Church Luncheon)

Bring your knitting needles. Have lunch with the group followed by fellowship with the prayer shawl knitters/crocheters.



## MEN'S NIGHT

Thursday, December 5th  
6:30 PM @ Lil Cooperstown  
2947 SE 73rd Ave  
Hillsboro, OR 97123  
New Location



ALL MEN INVITED FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

*Shepherd of the Valley is proudly sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive Monday, December 16th 1:30—7:00 pm*

*We encourage all eligible persons to help our local community by giving the gift of life. The blood donation process takes about an hour of your time and could save up to 3 lives.*



*First time donors are welcome! For more information and/or to schedule your appointment to donate blood please call 800-787-9691 or 503-284-4040. Walk - **in's Welcome***

JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE DECEMBER 23RD

# December 2013

*May the love of baby Jesus surround your home with peace and joy, this Christmas season!*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a Scrip Order Sunday Birth-day Sunday Blood Pressure 1:30 p OEC	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool Kindergarten	9:00 - 1:00p KOK Preschool Kindergarten/ Chapel	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool/ Kindergarten 10:00 a Bible Study 6:00 p Advent Soup 6:30 p Advent Devotion 7:00 p Choir	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool Kindergarten <b>6:30 p Men's</b> Night @ Lil Cooperstown (New Location) 2947 SE 73rd Hillsboro	9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmetto Piano	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a 1:30 p OEC 4:45 p Christmas Caroling w/ soup/chili potluck	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool Kindergarten 	9:00 - 1:00p KOK Preschool Kindergarten/ Chapel 7:00 p Ladies Christmas Dinner/Christmas Ship Viewing Old Spaghetti Factory	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool/ Kindergarten 10:00 a Bible Study 6:00 p Advent Soup 6:30 p Advent Devotion 7:00 p Choir	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool Kindergarten 7:00 p LLL	9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmetto Piano	Youth Group babysitting night @ SOV 4:30 - 8:30 p
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a 1:30 p OEC 6:00 p Christmas Concert/ <b>Children's</b> Pageant	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool Kindergarten 1:30 p Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00 p Prayer Shawl Ministry	9:00 - 1:00p KOK Preschool Kindergarten/ Chapel 6:00 - 8:00 p KOK Christmas Program	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool/ Kindergarten 10:00 a Bible Study 6:00 p Advent Soup 6:30 p Advent Devotion 7:00 p Choir	9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool Kindergarten 10:00 - 11:30 a LLL luncheon 12:00 p All Church Luncheon	9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmetto Piano 6:30 p Piano Recital/ Stacie Sandow	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Worship 8:30 & 11:00 a 1:30 p OEC		Christmas Eve Candle Light Services  4:00 p 6:00 p 11:00 p	Christmas Day Service  10:30 a		1:00 - 9:00 p Palmetto Piano	
29	30	31				
One Worship @ 10:30 New Years potluck Brunch 1:30 p OEC 						