

DECEMBER 2016

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Shepherd's Office Hours;
Mon-Thurs 7:00 - 12:00pm

Interim Pastor
Brian Brandt

Tues. 10:00 - 12:15 p

Wed & Thurs

10:00 - 2:00 p

And by appt.

Office phone;

503.645.4994

Sovlutheran.com

Fall Worship Services

8:30 a & 11:00 a

Sunday School

9:45 am

Wednesday Bible Study

10:00 a

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

Youth Group News

Operation Toy Angel Sunday Dec 4th after 2nd service. We will be heading to Target to buy the toys for children. We will have a wrapping party at a later date!

Camp Lutherwood High School Retreat

Feb 17-19th

Please let Stacey know if you are interested. You will need to sign up on Camp Lutherwood's website



Interim Pastor Brian's Message

Speaking of Adult Education

by Interim Pastor Brian Brandt



We've got a couple great Adult Ed. offerings coming up on December 4 & 11. On December 4, Joey Jenkins will speak about his organization, Ncompass, which helps at-risk children in Haiti. Ncompass works with many partners to support the Maranatha House Orphanage. It also helps to offer mentoring and transitional services so kids can grow up into well functioning adults. Mr. Jenkins has a compelling personal story to tell of how and why Ncompass was formed. If his story of Ncompass touches your heart, you'll also want to learn about ways to support its work through prayer, volunteering, or financial donations.

On December 11, Matt Burton will talk about Helping Men Heal. HMH is dedicated to helping men from all backgrounds and beliefs heal from trauma and loss. By supporting research, training, prevention, and early intervention, HMH helps men break the cycle of trauma and loss so they can rebuild lives. Like Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Burton also has a great personal story to share about how he came to this work. And of course there are opportunities to partner with HMH if the Spirit moves you.

Both speakers' presentations complement the talk Bill Russell of Union Gospel Mission gave on November 13. Precarious childhoods, poverty, trauma, abuse — all these factor into the crisis of homelessness that faces us in the greater Portland area. Both Ncompass and HMH, in unique ways, try to address the root issues that generate homelessness and misery for so many people. I hope you will plan to attend these two Adult Ed. sessions. We'll start at 10:00 a.m. and finish by 10:45.

Ncompass — <http://www.worldncompass.org/>

Helping Men Heal — <http://helpingmenheal.org/>

Note: no Adult Education sessions are planned for December 18 & 25.

I trust that you'll soon be happily busy preparing for the Christmas Holidays. May God give you a spirit of gratitude and contentment as you get ready to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus.

Council President...Submitted by Linnea H.

As we enter the Advent Season, we prepare for Christ's coming, sometimes patiently and sometimes not so patiently! We reflect on that first coming: The birth of the baby Jesus and all the promise that this incredible gift holds for us. And we look forward to the time when he will come again, a time unknown but promised for us all. As we again celebrate this blessed season, we remember this incredible gift and hold dear to its promise.

Also, as we approach this season, I would like to take a moment to mention how marvelous I think you all are. We have made some huge asks of you recently – funding for the parking lot, catching up on offerings, and feeding families at Thanksgiving. The response was tremendous. The parking lot is done, we provided meals for over 140 people, and October offerings brought us up to budget levels! Thank you for your truly giving hearts!

I have another ask of you, though. Please continue to hold the Call Committee in your prayers. This group of individuals stepped forward to guide SOV in the selection of a new pastor. They have spent countless hours in meetings and interviews and have more ahead of them. Their entire purpose for doing all of this is to make certain we call the perfect Pastor, the one that God is preparing for us.

In closing, I want to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and all the blessings of this season!

Linnea Harmon, President

A Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson

Loving Father,

Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen



ALL CHURCH LUNCHEON

SOV Congregational Holiday Luncheon!

December 15 at Noon!

Everyone is encouraged to make a date to come enjoy our "all congregational" Holiday luncheon, Thursday, December 15 at Noon. Let's share a meal, maybe some singing and a favorite Christmas memory. We will be serving clam chowder and beverages. Anyone that would like to bring a favorite holiday food is welcome to add to our menu.



We are looking for help for transporting some of our members that need a ride. Can you help?

One of the best gifts we can give and receive is sharing time together. Our holiday lunch is for all ages, members and friends. Come and enjoy celebrating the joy of Christmas together.

If you would like to help decorate, set up, clean up or have ideas to add to our holiday lunch please contact Peggy Vermaas, Diane Lewis or Tammy McDonald.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Thanks to Christine Edgar for providing months of coordination with the LifeWorks Northwest agency resulting in the identification of local families.

Thanks to Lisa Ramsey who was responsible for overall project management, as well as cost estimation and cash management.

Thanks also to the volunteers who delivered snacks to our workers Friday evening and Saturday morning.

Most importantly, thank you to the SOV community for your generous contributions and your willingness to volunteer your time and your labor for this longstanding project, reaching out to our neighbors.

Social Concerns Committee - Lisa Ramsey, Chairman - Jonathan Ramsey-Barnes, Christine Edgar, Theresa Kotvis, Christina Maguluri, Andrea Martinelli, Lisa McIntyre, Monica Pandian and Kristi Ray

Ladies Christmas Dinner

Tuesday, December 6th

*5:00 pm**

Old Spaghetti Factory

18925 NW Tanasbourne Dr, Hillsboro, OR 97124

Please RSVP to Tammy

Please note earlier time



Men's Night

Thursday, December 8th

6:00 PM

Reedville Cafe

7575 SE Tualatin Valley Hwy, Hillsboro, OR 97123

ALL MEN INVITED FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP



Scrip Order Sunday, December 4th

New Vendor! Visa®Prepaid Card

There is no activation fee and your organization will earn

1.5% on each card sold. It is accepted everywhere Visa debit cards are.



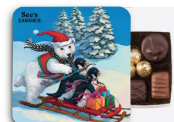
Columbia Sportswear Employee Passes will now come with every \$50 scrip card purchased.

Good for up to 5 people to get in to the store, AND can be used to purchase items online at the employee prices.

Good for other Columbia brands as well:

Sorel, Mountain Hardwear, Prana and Montrail.

Passes are good thru January 16th, 2017 and make a great addition to the Columbia cards as a gift.



JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE DECEMBER 27TH

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Please take a moment to reflect upon the Advent season that has begun here at SOV. We are asking for volunteers to help with the Wednesday evening Advent soup suppers that will be held on November 30th, December 7th and December 14th. We will be providing soup and bread at these services and we can always use help with set-up as well as clean-up. Judith has volunteered to provide food for November 30th and December 14th and Cyndi has volunteered food for December 7th. Please sign your name on the clip board that will be in the narthex to help us with whatever you can. Thank you in advance.

Also please sign up for ushering - especially for our second service. That would be a fantastic help for all of us. Thank you from the Worship committee and have a joyous and blessed Christmas.

REPAIRE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

The annual Sunday School Children's Christmas program is coming. The children are looking forward to sharing the story of Jesus's birth with everyone.

**Children's Christmas Program,
Sunday, December 11 during 11 am worship service**

All students please attend all Sunday School classes in December (4th and 11th, 9:45-10:45am) to prepare. We will also have a practice on Saturday, December 10th, from 2:00pm -4:00pm. Thank you to the parents for helping make sure they arrive on time.

Children's Sunday School classes will be on December 4 and 11. No classes December 18, 25 and January 1. Confirmation class will meet December 4, 11 and 18 but not on December 25 and January 1.

Have a wonderful Christmas holiday.



JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE DECEMBER 27TH

Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool

Christmas Greens Thank You

A big and warm thank you to all who participated in our Christmas Greens fundraiser. The proceeds benefit our tuition assistance fund and bless some of the families in our school.



Christmas Program

We will be celebrating Christmas with a school wide Christmas Program on Monday, December 12 from 6:30pm-7:30pm. Each class is busy learning special Christmas songs and poems.

In the Classroom

Our classes are full of Christmas celebrations this month. We are busy making gifts for our families, decorating our classrooms and so much more. We're having so much fun and learning lots at the same time. For example, our 3s and 4s are using Christmas tree puzzles to work on name recognition and spelling. In Prek/K we are practicing patterns by making Christmas countdown chains, learning about cones by making 3D Christmas Trees and much more.



Each class will celebrate Christmas together with a special party before our Christmas Break. The school will be closed December 19-January 2.

Winter Family Day



We will be hosting a Winter Family Day for all toddler and preschool aged families at the end of January. This is a great event for any family who has toddler or preschool aged children. We will have fun winter games, activities, art and snacks for the entire family. More information will be coming soon.

SOV Christmas Caroling Party!

We will be meeting at the church on Sunday evening, December 18, at 5:15 PM. Our caroling party is for all ages and everyone's invited to wear their Christmas sweaters, Santa hats, jingle bells, antlers or elf hats. We will carpool to several retirement homes and return to the church for chili, cornbread and hot cider. Song sheets will be provided! All we need is you! Feel free to contact Diane Lewis or Corrine Gilbertson.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

04 Aimable N

08 Lorna H

08 Tommy W

09 Hayden P

10 Jessley B

12 Prosper H

14 Nidhi K

14 Aaron S

18 Kevin H

20 Lisa RB

22 Terry W

23 Linda R

24 Ron F

25 Desire H

27 Rachel R

29 Sheila V

30 Claire A

31 Trevor M



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

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

*Matt & Theresa Kotvis
December 30th*

**Happy
Anniversary**



JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE DECEMBER 27TH

December 2016

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|
|  | |  | | 1 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool | 2 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool | 3 9:30 - 11:30 a SOV Choir rehearsal |
| 4 Second Sunday of Advent  8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45 a Sunday School 1:00 p Confirmation 1:30 p OEC | 5 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool | 6 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 5:00 p Ladies Christmas Dinner , Old Spaghetti Factory | 7 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 p Advent soup/devotion | 8 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 6:00 p Men's Night 7:00 p LLL | 9 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool  | 10 9:30 - 11:30 a SOV Choir rehearsal |
| 11 Third Sunday of Advent  8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45 a Sunday School 1:30 p OEC | 12 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 6:30—7:30 p KOK Christmas program | 13 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool | 14 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 5:30 - 7:00 p Advent soup/devotion | 15 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 10:00 a LLL 12:00 p All Church Luncheon 7:00 p Council Meeting | 16 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool 7:00 - 9:00 p Private Event  | 17 9:30 - 11:30 a SOV Choir rehearsal |
| 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent  8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 1:00 p Confirmation 1:30 p OEC | 19  | 20 | 21 10:00 a Bible Study | 22 | 23  | 24 Christmas Eve Candle light Services 4:00 p & 6:00 p |
| 25 11:00 a Christmas Day worship  Christmas | 26  | 27 | 28 10:00 a Bible Study | 29 | 30 | 31 New Years Eve  |