

February 2011

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1

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

Pastor Randy's Office
Hours;
Tues-Fri 9:00 -12:00
(by appt after 12:00)

Office phone;
503.645.4994
Sovlutheran.com

Worship Services
8:30 a & 11:00 a
Sunday School for all ages
9:45 a

Sunday School outing...

Bowling at Sunset Lanes

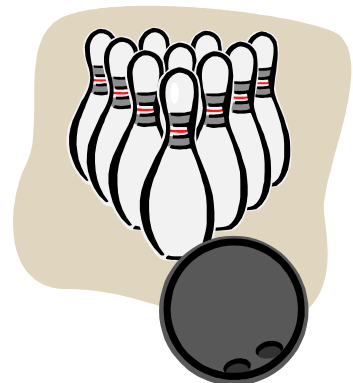
Sunday, February 27th

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Please RSVP to Lisa, Theresa or Kristi

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



PASTOR'S PAGE

"O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!" Psalm 95:6

".....and they knelt down and paid him homage." Matthew 2:11

Many of you have noticed it. Some have asked about it. It even got mentioned a bit in worship on the first Sunday it was there. What is the "it" I am talking about? It is that beautiful piece of wood work at front of the sanctuary, near the altar. As a single piece it is called a "prie dieux", or "prayer desk". I would simply call it a kneeler. It is a place to use for prayer, and to assume a position that many would assume to be one of worship. That is certainly what those quotes from scripture above would point to. Hopefully that offers a bit of an answer to the wonderment.

But there is more. Two more of those are being made (by Dave Saalfeld actually, thank you Dave), and they will be lined up in front of the altar to serve as an altar rail at least part of the time. The intent is to use them at the time of our sharing of the Lord's Supper.

I know that is a cause of concern for some. It seems like a step back in time, a point that visitors without a church background will not understand, or will feel uncomfortable about. I pray that that will not be the case. It is not my intent to introduce things into our worship life that will divide us. There is no need to create problems for myself.

The intent is this. To use the kneelers sometimes on Sunday morning, not always, during our sharing of the Lord's Supper (as stated above). But please note, you do not have to kneel if you do not want to. It is an opportunity to add something to our experience. A moment of prayer or meditation that might not otherwise be possible. We will still approach in the continuous stream that we do now, but there will be a chance to pause, which is not possible now. It does not make the sacrament more or less effective as a gift of grace in our lives, that is still God's work.

It is a chance to slow down, to appreciate the gift, and maybe as we come shoulder to shoulder at the table, kneeling or not, we will become all the more aware of the real physical community that we are a part of. And it may be one more way for us to know the reality of that prayer we offer often at the time of the reception of the offering. "Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen."

So, kneel at communion, or not (for some I know it is a physical impossibility). Let the old become new again, and may our lives be enriched all the more as we celebrate the gifts we have been given, and continue to be given.

In the peace and power of the Christ,

Pastor Randy

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by Peggy Jo Vermaas

Greetings and Gods Peace to all.

On Epiphany we met together to remove and store the Christmas decorations from our sanctuary. There were about seven of us. A bit of sorting out and carefully packing away the good stuff. Lots of laughs. Then we sat around the big table in the rainbow room and shared coffee and King of Kings bread. An Epiphany tradition in some cultures, it is a colorful coffee bread with a baby Jesus hidden inside for some lucky person to find. We found three of them and so lots of blessings, and more laughs the result!!! Perhaps a sign that we are luckier than most?? Thanks to those who participated.



As Council works on the business end of our church, I believe that we continue to keep Christ at the center of all that we do. Our vision of growth is us acting as the hands and feet of Jesus here on earth . . . doing God's work. To that end you can expect a focus on our missions and encouraging you all to review and consider your giving . . . of yourselves. Small steps. Our goal continues to be to provide opportunities and hope that something speaks to you. As you read our monthly newsletter and our website, we hope you will watch for your opportunity. Shepherd of the Valley. Shepherd. Missions.

As always, we invite your input and participation. Here are some highlights:

Our Youth Group: Under the leadership of Stacey Roeder and Caitlin Garcia, our Youth Group is becoming an active and vibrant group!!! Kids (and friends) are attending! The group had dinner at Red Robin and movie night to see "Tangled." Plans are in the works to meet at Starbuck's for coffee and conversation. A 'Parents Night Out' scheduled for February 11th from 5:30 to 9 pm. More interest is developing and plans being made! Are you interested in helping?? In March we will begin offering ways the congregation can help support our Youth Program. Send prayers of gratitude for this blessing.

Building Renewal Project: We will close on our refinanced mortgage in early February. We have a separate bank account open and are ready to receive funds. Lee, our Vice-President, has written proposed controls for the fund (guidelines for how the money can be used and how money is dispensed) which have been initially reviewed by the Executive Committee and are now being additionally reviewed by some of our congregation members for input. The final draft will come to Exec. and Council this month for approval. By the beginning of March we will have both the funds and the controls in place ready for our projects to begin. Property Management will be leading us in this Building Renewal project. Keep in prayer as we begin this journey.

New To You: Because of your donations, we continue to provide some monthly income to our Shepherd's Storehouse mission for the purchase of fresh items. Please continue to participate by placing your freshly cleaned items (and pressed if possible) into the closet in the narthex. Items must be appropriate to the season and in like new condition. Our next trip is Tuesday (Senior Discount day) March 1st. Meet at church at

PRESIDENTS REPORT CONTINUED...

10 am. We are happy to provide transportation. Let us know.

Christmas Gifts: Sorry, I overlooked this in my January article. Thanks to all who contributed for Christmas gifts for our staff. We were able to provide gift certificates for one night's stay at the beach each for Pastor and Kevin and restaurant gift certificates for Tammy and Pat.

Easement: A meeting with Mr. Parker from Lazy Boy and his attorney, also Mr. Parker, is scheduled for Thursday February 4th. Our attorney, Jack Orchard, and SOV members Reynold Roeder and Dave Rasmussen are representing SOV. Progress. Keep in prayer for a successful meeting that moves us to resolution.

Capital Campaign: The Capital Campaign will be a central topic for February Exec. and Council. We will reach the three year marker in April. Our next best steps will be a topic for discussion and decision making.

A reminder of giving opportunities: (1) Our Kids of the Kingdom Pre-school maintains a scholarship fund to assist needy families with tuition. . . . our mission statement in action. (2) A memorial fund has been established in the memory of Ann Smith for a new (used) organ for SOV. The music of our church was very appreciated by Ann. (3) Our Endowment Fund is open . . . a gift that keeps on giving. More Information to come.

Look for the positive. Keep Christ in the Center of all.

Peggy



*The Staff of Shepherd of Valley
wish to express our "Thank you"
for the Christmas gifts received.*

MARCH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FEBRUARY 22, 2011

Habitat for Humanity...submitted by Rod Stoltenburg

Habitat for Humanity

is building 8 houses in Aloha.

Many of the churches in the Tualatin Valley Chapter of Thrivent will be participating in work teams and fund-raising.

Are you interested in joining a team from SOV? The build effort will occur around March/April.

We would like to get a rough count of volunteers as soon as possible.

Rod Stoltenburg will be coordinating efforts from SOV.

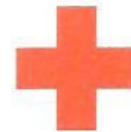
If you are interested in helping, ***please contact Rod (503-719-2543)***. He will be providing more details as they become available.

All skill levels are welcome



Shepherd of the Valley is proudly sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive Thursday, February 3rd, 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.



**American
Red Cross**

Walk-in's Welcome

NEXT SCRIP ORDER...

FEBRUARY 13TH

DONT FORGET TO RECYCLE YOUR USED GIFT CARDS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT.



Evelyn Selzer has been moved to a memory care unit and no longer able to live with George. If you would like to send Evelyn a card or message or make a visit while George is away her address is;



McLoughlin Place
1153 Molalla Ave
Oregon City, Or 97045

SOV YOUTH GROUP... Submitted by Caitlin Garcia



February 11th 5:00—9:00 pm SOV Youth Group (7-12 grade) will offer babysitting services as a fundraiser. They will provide games, crafts and movies. Parents make your plans now for an evening out and leave your children with us. Questions can be directed to Caitlin or Stacey.

February 20th SOV Youth Group outing (7 - 12 grade)

Bowling at Park Lanes

8:30—11:00 pm (no school on February 21, President's day)



PRAWL SHAWL MINISTRY...

Open to men, women and youth~

Will meet February 14th, 7:00 pm

@ New Seasons Market/Orenco Station

No experience required...



MARCH NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE FEBRUARY 22

Kids of the Kingdom

Preschool February News: This month we will be learning about how God gives us our bodies and how to take care of them. Each class we will learn about a different part of our body from the top of our heads to the tips of our toes! We will start with our hearts and how God fills them with love for Him and for others, as well as, how our hearts work. At the end of the month, we will have a complete body for the kids to piece together and wear!



Along with the body unit, we will be cooking every Friday. The goal is to make nutritious food that the kids will eat like fruit smoothies and pizza! We will also be talking about benevolence and those less fortunate. The preschool families will be bringing in non-perishable foods during February. The class will then take a field trip to the food bank and donate the food.

*Our Bible verse for February is: "His love endures forever." **Corinthians 16:34***

By Deb Halligan, Preschool Teacher

We are delighted to announce that **Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool and Kindergarten** registration is open for the 2011-12 school year.

We have added additional classes for next year. Our new **Pre K-Kindergarten class** will meet Mondays thru Thursdays from 9 am-1 pm. Our **4's class** will meet Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am-11:30 am and our **3's class** will meet Tuesdays and Thursday from 9 am-11:30am. And our new **Two's Time with Parent class** will meet Fridays from 10 am-11:30 am.

OPEN HOUSE--You and your child are invited to join us for our Open House Thursday, February 24, 2011, from 9 am-12 pm and 6:30 pm-7:30 pm. Visit classrooms, chat with teachers, explore curriculum and let your little ones enjoy an activity or two.

Please visit the church website at www.sovlutheran.com for more information or contact Linda Rasmussen or Wendy Roeder at the Preschool email kokpreschool@gmail.com or phone 503.645.0236. Brochures and registration form are available at the church or will be mailed upon request.

As always, we thank you, the congregation, for your support of this ministry. We ask that you continue to help us by sharing this information with those that may be interested in our preschool/kindergarten classes. We will gladly give tours upon request to highlight our program where we help children grow in God's love and stimulate their curiosity through intentional hands on activities.

Yours in Christ's Service,

Linda and Wendy, Co-Directors

FROM THE HEALTH TEAM...

Leota knew the Lord was with her everywhere she went – even in that depressing hospital – but she had always felt His presence here the most. Is it because everything of great importance happened in a garden, Lord? Man fell in the Garden. You taught in a garden. You arose in a garden. I love this place, for when I sit out here, I see the wonder of Your creation. I smell the earth and flower-scented air, and it soothes me. It reminds me that Your hand is in it all. For I heard the voice of the Lord in the garden, calling to me.

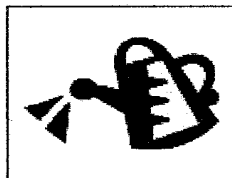
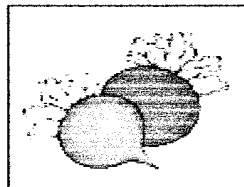
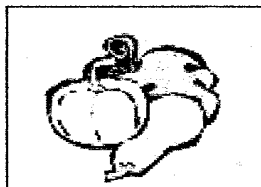
Oh, Father, will she see that a garden is color and proportion and rhythm and line and balance and focus? Will she come to understand that some of us are poppies, blooming bold and brief?

Others are ornamental vines, passion flowers, or trumpets. Still others are shy violets, and wallflowers. But we are all in the garden by Your design, each one here to proclaim the glory of Your name.

Oh, Father God, teach Annie that a garden is for sharing, for meditating on Your Word, for exercising faith and experiencing the surpassing joy of Your grace.

She closed her eyes, imagining the scent of stalk, hyacinth, sage, mock orange, gardenias, star jasmine, honeysuckle.....

From Leota's Garden by Francine Rivers
Used with the author's permission

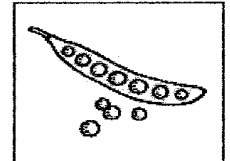


THE GARDEN

♪ Come to the garden alone
while the dew is still on the roses....

PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul



PLANT FOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce love one another

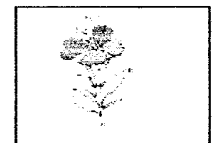


NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS:

1. Turnip for church
2. Turnip for Bible study
3. Turnip to help one another

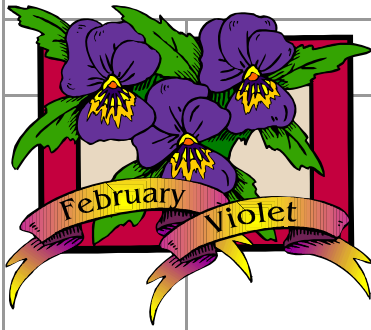
TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN WE MUST HAVE THYME:

1. Thyme for God
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends



WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE
AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE
THERE IS MUCH FRUIT
IN YOUR GARDEN BECAUSE
YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW

February 2011



		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p>1 1:00 p Food Basket Distribution 6:30 p Youth Choir Practice</p>	<p>2 7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK No Bible Study 6:30 p Vespers Service 7:00 p Adult choir</p>	<p>3 1:30 - 7:00 p Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30 p Men's Night</p>	<p>4 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK</p> 	5
<p>6 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>Birthday Sunday Blood Pressure Check</p>	<p>7 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK</p>	<p>8 1:00 p Food Basket Distribution 6:30 p Youth Choir Practice 6:30 p Ladies Dinner @ Buggattis</p>	<p>9 7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vespers Service 7:00 p Adult choir</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00 p Parish Ed Meeting</p>	<p>11 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK</p> <p>5:00 - 9:00 p SOV Babysitting Fundraiser</p> 	12
<p>13 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>Scrip Orders due</p>	<p>14 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 7:00 Social Concerns Meeting Happy Valentines Day!</p> 	<p>15 1:00 p Food Basket Distribution 6:30 p Youth Choir Practice 6:30 p Executive Council</p>	<p>16 7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vespers Service 7:00 p Adult choir</p>	<p>17 10:00 LLL 7:00 Council Meeting</p> 	<p>18 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK</p>	19
<p>20 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>8:30 - 11:00 p SOV Youth Bowling</p>	<p>21 7:00 p Prayer Shawl New Seasons/Orenco</p>  <p>Presidents Day</p>	<p>22 1:00 p Food Basket Distribution 6:30 p Youth Choir Practice</p> <p>Newsletter articles due</p>	<p>23 7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vespers Service 7:00 p Adult choir</p>	<p>24 KOK Open House 9:00 - 12:00 p 6:30 - 7:30 p 12:00 p All Church Luncheon</p> 	<p>25 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK</p>	26
<p>27 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship</p> <p>1:00 - 3:00 p SOV Sunday School Bowling</p>	<p>28 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK</p>					