

February 2012

# SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH 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

Fall Worship Services  
8:30 a & 11:00 a

Sunday School  
9:45 all ages

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

# YOUTH GROUP NEWS...

## HS & MS Youth Group Outing

Sunday February 18th

Bowling @ Park Lanes

More info to come.

## HS & MS Youth Group Fundraising Event

Tuesday February 21st

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner (prepared by SOV Youth)

6:00 pm @ SOV



HS will meet Sunday  
February 5th @ 6:00 pm

MS will meet Sunday  
February 12th @ 6:00 pm

All meetings take place in  
the youth room

## PASTOR'S PAGE



Today was mild and dry, even some sunshine for a while. The kind of day to revel in at this time of the year in this part of Oregon. I even saw some green shoots peeking up from the ground. It did my heart good. And it also did something else. It made me think of the season of Lent. The time is fast upon us, with Ash Wednesday coming on the 22nd of February.

I have read that the word Lent itself comes from the Old English "lenten", which means "lengthen". And indeed our daylight hours, here in the northern hemisphere, are blessedly getting longer as spring approaches. It is the time of late winter and early spring. It is a time of preparation, for gardens and the like certainly, but in thinking of Lent it is a time of preparation for our spiritual selves.

It is a time that last 40 days, from Ash Wednesday to the Vigil of Easter, not counting Sunday's. It is based in part on the ancient church custom of a 40 day preparation period for baptism. The number occurs often in scripture as a time of preparation for a new beginning. In the Old Testament we read of the 40 days and nights of rain during the flood, Moses on Mount Sinai with God for 40 days before receiving the 10 Commandments, the people of Israel wandering in the wilderness for 40 years, Elijah journeying 40 days before his vision of God, the people of Nineveh fasting for 40 days. And of course, in the New Testament, Jesus fasting in the wilderness for 40 days before beginning his ministry.

So, may we give some thought to that time before it gets here? What might we do in a sense of preparation? (In general terms it is a time of penitence, baptismal renewal, prayer, fasting and service, confession of sin rooted in the promise of God that comes through the cross of the Christ.) Many folks will abstain from something for the whole 40 days, or fast from all things on a given day, or dedicate themselves to particular charitable giving. It might be a time to focus on prayer and devotions. It isn't something we do as a legalistic ritual that centers on us, but turns outward to what the Christ has already done for us, and what we might do for others in His name.

As the lengthening of the days lifts our hearts, so may they also be lifted by the ways we prepare ourselves once again for the Easter celebration.

In the peace and power of the cross,  
Pastor Randy

## COUNCIL PRESIDENTS REPORT...Submitted by Lee Bonacker

Last month we talked about the need to stop and assess the previous plans for SOV's future. I'm happy to tell you that Council has approved a Task Force to start on a revised Strategic Plan for SOV. There are already three members, so thank you to Cal, Linnea and Tom. We will talk more about the Task Force at the Town Hall Meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January. We will also ask anyone who wants to help to be a member on this short-term effort. It would be great for there to be more congregational members than Council members, to share the load and provide new voices.

So why should we do any planning at this stage? As my mother-in-law says, "You do the best you can at the time, with what you knew then." So the Task Force will review "what we knew then" and compare existing plans to current needs and circumstances. For example, one of the spurs to start the planning process again was a request for direction from the Building Committee. What do you think should spur new construction? A study back in 2004 came up with some congregational growth metrics. How realistic are those in light of what we know now? Do we need new ones? These types of questions could be asked, but new construction isn't necessarily the only topic for reflection. It would be good to generate a wish list, like the split HVAC system for the church office side of the building which cannot have heat or air conditioning ducts. The property management committee suggested a handrail for the sidewalk going to KOK. There will be a point at which the Task Force will ask for comments from the congregation. So if you have ideas on subjects for improvement, gather your thoughts together because your input will be requested.



At the Town Hall meeting we will also discuss and vote on the budget for 2012. Betty has all the figures ready for us. On the subject of finances, I got the yearly update from the Synod on how they use their Mission Support money. Before I came to SOV I didn't know that churches could tithe, just like their members do. Last year by December SOV tithed \$5,181.00. So 41% of what we gave went to church wide mission and ministries which are national and global in scope, 59% stayed in Oregon, where the Synod partners with social service agencies, etc. The rest pays for Synod staff and their work which also includes community outreach. You can get all the details at [www.oregonsynod.org/budget](http://www.oregonsynod.org/budget).

KOK continues to grow and develop, with a total of 21 children currently enrolled. They are already working on the next school year's issues, planning an open house and are happy to have their two new employees. The Youth Program is going great guns with Stacey and Caitlin's help. We look forward to a report on New Orleans. In case you didn't know, the Youth Groups are doing a brand new fundraiser this year. (You do realize that there are two, now? That's how much the program has grown.) They are going to have a fireworks stand in the parking lot. The fund raising package is very well organized, with all the insurance aspects taken care of along with the stand itself, etc. The one thing they will need help with is manning the booth. It's 24/7, so there will be a trailer to accommodate folks at night. It's a stay-cation slumber party! Seriously, if we all contribute one or two nights, it won't be too difficult. So let's support the youth and bring our binkies and a change of clothes. All fundraising for youth is dedicated to them and does not go into the general budget. The youth will donate back a portion of the firework stand proceeds to SOV. One church which tried this fundraiser made a surprising amount of money, so I hope we will all be pleasantly surprised as well.

## Presidents Report Contd.

A (new to SOV), used organ is being installed this week. What a nice complement to the completed siding and gutters. Dave will also be installing new front doors which will be ADA compatible and much safer to open. The doors are the last thing to be finished before painting later this spring. FYI, the organ was completely funded by gifts without making a congregation-wide appeal. Part of the funds came from the Ann Smith Memorial and the rest from private donors who had an interest in having a well-functioning and more up-to-date organ. Not everyone likes organ music, but as the congregational profile work proved back during Pastor Randy's call process, it's the mix of musical styles at SOV that the whole congregation enjoys and wishes to preserve. The Memorial and Endowment Committee did not spend any of the Kurt Rizer Memorial funds for the organ, but they did review nine organs before making this choice. Thank you to the Memorial Committee for all that work so that this lovely gift could come to fruition.

God is bringing so much to SOV; a renovated building, a better organ, an active KOK, two youth groups, but even more important – people. Make sure to say “hello” to the new faces we are seeing in the congregation. That's one of SOV's nicest qualities – the sense of welcome. Before I came to SOV, I couldn't imagine a church that took time in the service to say, “God's peace” to each other and shake hands. We are so blessed here. Let's share that as much as we can.

## ANN SMITH MEMORIAL FUND Purchases “new to us” Rogers 535 Organ

*Through the generous donations of the Ann Smith Memorial Fund a “new to us” Organ was purchased and delivered on Thursday, January 26th. SOV is now the proud owner of a Rodgers Classic 535 Organ. It is a high quality classical organ in both sound and construction and built in Italy. This two manual organ incorporates an eclectic specification and authentic digital pipe organ sounds. The 535 has 28 speaking stops, expression and crescendo pedals and many other features, that will always stay beautiful.*



**MARCH NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE FEBRUARY 21ST**

## Fellowship Committee... Submitted by Diane

Our New Years brunch with the OES church was very well attended by both congregations. The food was truly a cultural experience and enjoyed by everyone. People had time to relax, share a little more holiday time, enjoy great food and start off 2012 with friendship through Christ.

We are doing some brainstorming for new opportunities for Fellowship. The congregation will be asked to share their ideas for planning different Fellowship activities. An insert in the bulletin will first be given at the congregational meeting and will be available in the Sunday bulletin for the first couple weeks of February. As you do your own brainstorming, please think about ideas for the whole year. Pre-planning will help us co-ordinate with other activities. Ask your children what they like to do and involve them in your discussion. Are there things that fellowship can do that will help build our feeling of community?

The 80's and older birthday club is in the planning stages. Any one of our congregation that is turning 80 years old will be inducted into the "80 and older birthday club". An annual special event will be planned to celebrate any one of our congregation that has turned 80 or will turn 80 this year as well as all those that are already 80 or beyond. This new elite group will have lots of wisdom and fun to share! Have an idea for a fun name for this special club? Send it on to anyone on the Fellowship team.

Sunday fellowship time has been well attended after both services. Our sharing time of course has been enhanced by coffee, tea, punch and treats. We are asking for help to make it possible for the table to be set, for treats to be provided or for donations to purchase food and beverages for our Sunday fellowship time. The "piggy" has significantly helped fund our special events. It is ready to be fed to help with Sunday fellowship. Please think about what you can do to help make this happen each Sunday. All donations can be left in the kitchen or given to Tammy if you bring something in during the work week.

Clean up after late service is also in need of some added volunteers. There is always another set of hands to help out who ever is helping each Sunday. If you haven't tried this opportunity please consider joining in the sharing time that takes place in the kitchen as we share stories and ideas working together. We are looking for all genders to help!

Our goal is to continue to reach out to folks and offer opportunities to connect with old friends and get acquainted with new friends and share God's love with each other and our community.

Your Fellowship team,  
Diane, Peggy, Sharon, Brenda, Tabitha and Tammy



## Ladies Dinner

Lunch went well in January, so we are doing it again

Tuesday , February 7th 12:00 pm

Thai Orchid Restaurant/Tanasbourne

Please RSVP to Charleen

(All ladies are invited as well as friends and family)

## Men's night meets the first Thursday of each month.

February 2nd

Old Chicago Pizza/Tanasbourne

6:30 pm

All men are invited for a time of fellowship



## YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISING EVENT



### "VALENTINES DAY PARENTS NIGHT OUT"

All proceeds go to SOV Youth Group

Drop your little cupids off for some early Valentine's Day fun while you go out with your love.

There will be crafts, games, cookie decorating and much more.

Dinner will be provided.

February 11th 5:00—8:00 pm  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church  
17625 NW Cornell Road



**MARCH NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE FEBRUARY 21ST**

## YOUTH GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP...

Dear SOV family,

In the summer of July 2012, the high school youth group is going on a faith journey to New Orleans for the ELCA youth gathering. At the gathering we will be among 30,000 other Lutheran youth from across the world as we strive for justice, hear the words of God, and share the Lords supper as we proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed. This is a once in a life time experience where we will be able to understand our vocation, and better learn how to articulate our faith in Jesus Christ. Although we are all very excited for this trip and the experiences we will come across, we need your help to make it happen.

The cost of this trip is \$1200 per person and eight of us are going. Although we have been actively fundraising for this trip, we need the money by mid-March and our main fundraiser will be done in in late June/early July. Therefore, we need your help getting the money by March. We are asking for loans and donations to help make this trip possible. All loans will be paid after our main fundraiser is done in early July. We will greatly appreciate any help from you.

If you would like to write a check, please make it out to Shepherd of the Valley with '2012 Youth Gathering' on the memo line. Checks can be given to either Stacey or Caitlin or brought to the SOV office at any time. They can also be dropped off in the offering on Sunday. Please specify if it is a loan or a donation when you turn it in. Thank you for your ongoing support.

In God's Peace,

Solveig Rasmussen, Megan Myers, Austin McDonald, Michael Wagemann,  
Katrina Tabor, and Divine Irambona.

# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

03 Shayne J	18 Bruce G
05 Nathan J	20 Divine I
05 Jennifer M	23 Jim A
08 Martin M	23 Gary G
08 Verna W	23 Kevin H
10 Kathy T	23 Marion L
12 David R	28 Dean K
16 D.J. S	29 Skylar J
17 Mitch R	



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

# FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

*Ken & Charlotte Harris*  
*February 9th*

happy anniversary



## Midweek Lenten Series: You Shall Love the Lord Your God

*In Mark 12, a scribe comes to ask Jesus, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answers, "The first is, Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Mark 12:28-30). Jesus responds to the scribe's question with words from the Shema, the passage from Deuteronomy 6 that is recited daily by many of the Jewish faith. These words form a covenant between God and God's people and show us a way to respond to this God who so extravagantly loves us through the cross.*

### 2012 LENTEN SCHEDULE

*First Sunday in Lent; February 26*

*Ash Wednesday; Service @ 6:30 p*

*Lenten Soup/Supper Wednesdays with Vesper Service;*

*February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28 (5:45 p soup; 6:30 p Vesper Service)*

### Holy Week

*Palm Sunday; April 1, worship @ 8:30 & 11:00 a*

*Healing Service; Wednesday April 4 @ 6:30 p*

*Maundy Thursday; Service @ 6:30 p*

*Good Friday; Service @ 6:30 p*

*Easter Sunday; April 8, worship @ 8:30 & 11:00 a*



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# Kids of the Kingdom

**Registration is now open for classes beginning in the Fall of 2012. An Open House will be held February 24 and 25 from 10 am to 2 pm. We will have information about our program including lesson plans and activities for parents and their children to sample our wonderful program.**



## January Pre-K News

January officially brought winter to Pre-K. We even had some real snow! It was very exciting. We read several stories about winter, snow, snowmen, mittens, polar animals, and the Gingerbread Man. We had fun dressing up in hats, scarves and mittens and building our box "snowman." We had some artificial snow in our sensory area and enjoyed touching and playing with it. We graphed polar animals and made several snowman art projects. We made two special books; one about animals that hide in a mitten and the second about animals that live in earth's Polar Regions. We had a fun pajama day and enjoyed stories, hot chocolate and French toast! We made gingerbread men, decorated them, and then ate them. We graphed which part we ate first. We talked about Jesus being a child just like us. We also talked about how he was baptized and made our own white Holy Spirit doves. We learned what it means to be fishers of people. We reviewed our numbers to 12 and worked on graphing and patterning with our calendar books. We learned a new movement song called the Penguin Shuffle. We enjoyed playing outside in God's amazing creation. We began bringing things special to us to share at Circle Time. We also celebrated birthdays with Isaac and Kourosh.

Looking ahead to February we will be talking about friends and what it means to be a good friend. We will celebrate St. Valentine's Day with a friendship party. We will talk about Jesus blessing the children and what it means to love your neighbor. We will make stone soup and do a friendship soup activity. We will learn more about homes and families and about a man named Zacchaeus. We will celebrate Dr. Seuss and enjoy some green eggs and ham! We will work in our new phonics workbooks and practice writing our names, letters, and numbers correctly. We will work on one to one correspondence, sets and recognizing numbers 1-12. We will continue working on rhyming words, and sequencing. We will learn another new table grace to share at snack time. We will continue to praise and thank our loving God.

## January 3's News

In January, we learned about Jesus growing up, being baptized and visiting the temple. We also learned about winter weather and polar animals. We painted with ice, made cotton ball snowmen, and danced like snowflakes! We worked on learning some numbers and letters and even created a graph of our favorite polar animals.

February will bring lots of love to our classroom! We talk about God's love for us, how to love our neighbor and the amazing things that Jesus did to show love. We will play games and sing songs about family, friends and being great helpers. We will create a lot using our hands and exploring hearts. We will continue to work on our letters, numbers and recognizing our names in print. We will celebrate Valentine's Day with our friends and enjoy a special treat!

## January 2's News

January was a time to learn about Jesus being our light and becoming one of Jesus' helpers. We made a tube candle to remind us that Jesus is the Light. We sang "I Will Make you Fishers of Men" while fishing for our classmates. We heard the story about Zaccheaus. We also learned about Winter and cold. We played with snowman ice cubes, fished for polar bears in ice bergs, and skated like penguins. We tried on mittens, scarf's and hats to a song so we could learn to keep warm when it is cold. We tossed soft snowballs up in the air. We made a penguin puppet, water colored, served fish for dinner and played with penguins in play dough.

February is a time to focus on love- God's love and sharing Jesus' love with our friends and also helping others. Our stories will cover Jesus amazing things he did—healing the blind and feeding the 5,000. We will make hearts and valentines for our classmates. We will pretend to be a doctor and make soup together. We learn about our community helpers and drive trucks and trains. We have such a great time with our friends!

*Kids of the Kingdom* 

**Christian Preschool and Kindergarten**

You and your child are invited to our

**OPEN HOUSE**











**Friday and Saturday**  
**February 24 and 25, 2012**  
**10 am to 2 pm**

Visit classrooms, chat with teachers,  
explore curriculum and  
let your little ones enjoy an activity or two.

We offer preschool classes for 2, 3 and 4 year olds and also Kindergarten for 5 year olds. Please see additional information on our website at [www.sovlutheran.com/kok](http://www.sovlutheran.com/kok) or email us at [kokpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:kokpreschool@gmail.com). We are located at 17625 NW Cornell Rd, Beaverton, OR.

**We are now accepting registrations  
for the Fall 2012 school year**

# FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<p>1</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Acts 2:42 7:00 p Adult Choir</p>	<p>2 Presentation of our Lord</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 7:30 p OEC</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 6:30 p Men's Night</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5</p> <p>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship w/ communion Birthday Sunday Blood Pressure ck 6:00 p HS Youth group 1:30 p OEC</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00 a KOK/ Chapel 12:00 p Ladies Lunch @ Thai Orchid</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Acts 2:42 7:00 p Adult Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 7:00 p LLL 7:30 p OEC</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>11</p> <p>5:00—8:00 p SOV Youth Baby- Sitting fundraiser</p> 
<p>12</p> <p>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship w/ communion Scrip Order's 6:00 p MS Youth group 1:30 p OEC</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 a KOK/ Chapel</p> 	<p>15</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Acts 2:42 7:00 p Adult Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 6:15 p Executive Council 7:00 p Council Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 7:30 p OEC</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship w/ communion 1:30 p OEC</p> <p>Transfiguration of Our Lord</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 a No KOK</p> 	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 a KOK/ Chapel 11:00 a Sunset Cluster Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper</p>	<p>22 Lent Begins</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 p Adult Choir</p> 	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 12:00 p All Church Luncheon 7:30 p OEC</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 10:00 a KOK Open House 7:00 p Confirmation Retreat</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00 a Confirmation Retreat continued 10:00 a KOK Open House</p> 
<p>26</p> <p>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship w/ communion New Member Sunday 1:30 p OEC</p> <p>First Sunday in Lent</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:00 a KOK/ Chapel</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group 9:00 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 5:45 p Lent Soup Supper 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir</p>			

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