

**JANUARY
2009**

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER



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PASTOR'S

ARTICLE

(INSERT)

Building a Sanctuary

Looking back. Looking ahead. Looking at the present.

Submitted by Diane Lewis

Over 35 years ago, we came together and built our church. I'm not sure of the exact date we moved into our building after worshiping at Rock Creek Covenant Church...maybe about 33 years ago. I remember how wonderful it was to have our own building...our own sanctuary. SOV didn't have a formal mission statement then...at least that I can remember. What we did have was an excited community of faith and we grew!

Over the years we had our growing times; our treading water times; our times to re-think who we were; how we could grow with the changing world we live in; we had some very sad times; a time to build a safe place with a Christian commitment for what became Kids of the Kingdom; times to again adjust to how we want to minister within our congregation and with out reach; a time to come together and work towards building another new sanctuary to strengthen and expand our ministry opportunities. About 15 years ago we came together with a formal mission statement for our church.

"We are a caring community, touched by Christ, touching others for Christ"

Last year we came together and embraced a new Capital Campaign program; "Building on Christ, our foundation."

Once again, we are working to build a new sanctuary and expand our facility. Our hope is to reach more people and create more opportunities for sharing God with others as well as enhance our worship experience with a new sanctuary.

As I look back over the last year and look around at what is happening within our congregation, I feel we are building on Christ, our foundation and we are striving to be, "A caring community touched by Christ, touching others for Christ. It also occurs to me that we have created a "sanctuary" within our membership where more people are experiencing the joy of participation. More people are attending worship. New members are joining our church. We have more opportunities to come together and share information and have ownership in what is happening in our congregational life. The Holy Spirit is at work within our church.

Building a Sanctuary (cont.)

Building a sanctuary is much more than building a new building. It creating a place for people to gather, be involved with other Christians and feeling nurtured to grow in their faith through the community of faith. This is what I see when I look back, look ahead and look at where we are.

We may have challenges along the journey to build a new building yet we are, “Building on Christ, our foundation” and we remain committed to walking the talk of being, “A caring community, touched by Christ, touching others for Christ”. We are creating a sanctuary for the people of Christ at Shepherd of the Valley as we work towards building a Sanctuary for worship. Thanks be to God! This is a good way to start a new year together!

SOCIAL CONCERNS REPORT...SUBMITTED BY MERT WARNEKING

We spent 31 hours and 240 miles.
We gave 8 weekly food baskets in December.

Thanks to every one who contributed to the Hillsboro Homeless Shelter. We had a lot of contributions, which are much needed.

And thanks to every one who contributed children's books for Sandeep to take to India.

CALL COMMITTEE REPORT...SUBMITTED BY CALL COMMITTEE

The Call Committee has finished interviewing three pastoral candidates and checking references. We are providing a biography of one candidate for the congregation’s review prior to the Meet and Greet with him on January 25th at 6:00 PM.. This information is following to honor the congregation’s request for advance notice. This candidate has not been endorsed yet, so he has requested some privacy because the call process is still on going. Therefore, his name and some historical details will be left off in this version. A revised bio with the few remaining specifics will be provided at the Meet and Greet.

Please remember that you can provide feedback to the call committee at any time using the sovcallcommittee@gmail.com email address.

Profile of Pastoral Candidate

Personal

Pastor grew up on a farm, in a small community in northwest Ohio. He went to high school there, graduated from Capital University with a major in psychology in 1976, and from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in 1982. (Both schools are in Columbus, Ohio.) He did an internship in Bend, which was the first time he had been west of Chicago. The experience that year was so excellent that he and his wife came back to the Pacific Northwest twenty six years ago.

He and his wife have been married for nearly 34 years. She actively supports his call, and participates in church activities. Their daughter lives in Portland with Pastor’s three grandchildren. His son lives in Oregon and works for Target.

Profile of Pastoral Candidate

Prior Life Experiences

The church has always been a part of his life. He was brought up in the Lutheran church, but wandered away briefly. Coming to Christ for him was not the result of a single incident, but of continual shepherding. The call to be a Pastor for him was a constant “still, small voice” which he couldn’t deny. He has served two congregations in Oregon; one for over thirteen years, and presently at one church for nearly thirteen years. He did not expect to be at either place as long as he has been, but both experiences have been very positive. He appreciates the importance of a long term pastorate for himself, personally.

Continuing Education

Pastor continues education through classes at the Graduate Theological Union, Pacific School of Religion, preaching workshops, plus other activities. He is always willing to try new experiences for learning. For example, he took a creative writing class.

Highlights of Church and Community Volunteer Work

Pastor enjoys both tradition in worship and trying newer ways of worship. His preaching style is relaxed and he strives to show the Biblical truths in personal experience. He uses humor a great deal in relationships, preaching, as well as story telling. He believes that study of scripture must be constant, not done in isolation and that shared Bible study is key for the pastor and congregation alike.

In ministry, he enjoys preaching, teaching and visiting with people the most. He has had considerable experience ministering to people suffering in very difficult situations. He has always been involved in community outreach. He established a shelter for homeless families in Portland and worked with groups building low income housing in both Oregon communities where he was a Pastor. He has served in prison ministries, street ministry, and on many boards concerned mostly with children in need and the homeless.

He believes in sharing what we have in common to guide us through our differences. He asks, “How do we enjoy each other? How do we love one another?” He believes in talking forthrightly with one another and establishing trust in the strength of the community. Of himself he says, “I am pretty laid back, not hesitant to express opinions, but also aware that sometimes the only way to learn is to fail, or succeed, on our own efforts. I ask many questions when necessary and try to keep non-requested advice to a minimum.”

He emphasizes the quality of our relationships, both within the church and while ministering to the community. He has supervised two interns and served with multiple staff in both churches where he has been Pastor. Selected examples of current church activities include leadership training school for youth, planning for Thanksgiving youth gatherings, Synod Council, leading and planning community worship gatherings for a local charitable organization. He also taught at a local community college, organized baccalaureate services, and coached little league and youth basketball.

UPDATE ON CAPITAL FUNDS CAMPAIGN



Capital Funds Campaign received \$43,376.00 as of December 8, 2008.

SPECIAL NOTICE

January 11, 2009 9:40 AM to 10:50 AM SOV

Congregational Budget Meeting! SUBMITTED BY DIANE LEWIS

To all SOV members, We will meet January 11th to review and vote on the revised 2009 SOV General Budget. If we are delayed again because of weather this notice includes back up dates of January 18 and then January 25, 2009. Please attend and participate in the financial planning for SOV's 2009 operating budget.

Thank you for supporting the many ministries of our church as we build a stronger foundation in Christ through working together for the present and future of SOV.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 17TH AT 1:00 PM

There will be an outing for the Sunday School pre-school age children to the Oregon Zoo.

Please contact Sokha Kwan (503) 531-8756, with any questions.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20TH AT 6:30 PM

Women's Christmas Dinner is a little delayed because of the weather. It is has now been rescheduled for **Tuesday, January 20th at 6:30 pm.** For those who had signed up for the Christmas Dinner in December, please consider yourself still on the list for January 20th. If you cannot attend the January dinner, please contact Charleen Kuykendall as soon as possible. Charleen's phone number is: **(503) 629-9763.** The dinner will be held at the Embassy Suites, 9000 SW Washington Square Road, Tigard, near Washington Square. The cost of the dinner will be between \$11.75—\$15.95 plus added gratuity.

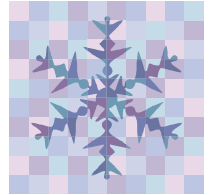
Sunday, January 25th following second service


There will be a baby shower for Mindy Ott. A light lunch will be provided, as well as cake and punch. Everyone is welcome. Mindy and Pat are expecting a girl. The shower is sponsored by Adrian Garcia, Tammy McDonald and the Fellowship Committee.





2009 CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>SUNDAY, JANUARY 11 9:40 A TO 10:50 A—SOV CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING!</p>				1 NEW YEARS DAY!	2	3
4 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship Services 9:45a— Sunday School	5	6 9:00a—KOK Chapel	7	8 11:15 a— Rebecca Circle	9	10
11 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Service 9:45 a— S.School 9:40 a— congregational budget meeting	12	13 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30 p—Jr. Choir	14 7:00p—Choir Practice	15 7:00 p Church Council Meeting	16	17 1:00 P  Sunday School Pre-
18 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship Services 9:45a—Sunday School 10:00a—Adult Class	19	20 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—Jr. Choir 6:30 p—SOV Women's Belated Christmas Dinner	21 7:00p—Choir Practice	22 9:30 A— Rebecca Circle gathering	23	24
25 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship Services 9:45a—Sunday School 10:00a—Adult	26 SUNDAY, 1/25 BABY SHOWER FOR MINDY OTT FOLLOWING 2ND SERVICE	27 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—Jr. Choir	28 7:00p—Choir Practice	<p>MEET AND GREET FOR PASTORAL CANDIDATE WILL BE SUNDAY, JANUARY 25 AT 6:00 PM</p>		

FUND RAISING PROJECT...SUBMITTED BY PEGGY VERMAAS

SOV is collecting used books for resale. Please bring your books to SOV and place them in one of the empty boxes upstairs in the library area. Thank you for supporting our latest fund-raising project.

OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT ANN SMITH & FAMILY

SUBMITTED BY PEGGY VERMAAS

Many of our members have inquired about how SOV can support Ann Smith and her family as they recover from a house fire. If you would like to contribute, please send funds to SOV with the notation "for Ann Smith and family".

SOV will continue to receive this special offering through February 7th.

AROUND THE PARISH

SUBMITTED BY ANN SMITH

Peggy and Staff pressure washed outside KOK. It now looks 100% better. We have been so busy here at SOV with all of the clean-up jobs, I can hardly keep up.

Next big issue will be our budget for year 2009. We had a meeting on Sunday, Nov. 30th after services to discuss and exchange ideas for dealing with the items on the budget plus we met again on December 6th. Lots of comments were made, i.e. if you don't read the Lutheran Magazine, tell Nancy to remove you from the subscription list.

I know I saw Larry Gilbertson outside in the parking lot with his leaf blower having a grand old time cleaning off the leaves. Where are we going to put up our church sign? I think we need the direction in order to be in the right place.

That pair (father & son) Larry & Bruce Gilbertson were here and painted the stair well going downstairs. We need to let them know how much we appreciate their good work. Thanks Guys! They also painted the wall in the narthex area.

Books on E-Bay—Another fund raiser (please see article in newsletter) - thanks to Mike Maynard. We are collecting book upstairs for Mike to look over and post for sale on E-Bay. Keep bringing them in! Books that is! We have made \$90.00 so far.

Remember to keep bringing your newspapers to SOV to put in the newspaper drop outside. All of these things take only a small effort on your part but pay us well.

AROUND THE PARISH (CONT.)

Ladies of Rebecca Circle: Just a word to all of you **“JOB WELL DONE”**. The sanctuary has been cleaned. Corrine made sandwiches for all of us for lunch. It doesn't take a lot to keep us happy. At our next meeting, we will discuss what we can do to help KOK. We will talk about a once a month party with lunch and a lot of visiting of course. We will enjoy each other's company while we are taking care of our church home. All of you are welcome to join us!

Our traveling ladies have returned home. Beth Kight and Helen Jean both went to California. Helen Jean returned from 2 weeks in Concord visiting her son and grandchildren. She did not mention playing football this time...maybe they retired her number. Now Beth is not talking, I think she must have gotten in trouble there!

We are now numbered! Jim Tabor and Eric Lewis put our address numbers on the outside of the church building. No excuses now! You know where to go. Then a couple of days later Larry Gilbertson added another set, so you can look right or left and know our address.

For my birthday this year, my daughter (the dear) purchased a month of personal training at a local health club just for me! Although I am still in great shape (since being a high school football cheer leader 58 years ago) I decided it would be a great time to go ahead and give it a try. I called the club and made my reservations with a personal trainer named Linda, who identified herself as a 26 yr. old aerobics instructor and model for athletic clothing and swim wear. My daughter seemed pleased with my enthusiasm to get started. The club encourage me to keep a daily diary to chart my progress.

Monday: I started my day at 6:00 am (it was tough getting out of bed). Linda was waiting for me. She is something of a Greek goddess with blond hair, dancing eyes and a dazzling white smile. Wahoo!

Tuesday: Linda gave me a tour of the place. She was also very encouraging as I did my sit ups. (This is going to be a fantastic week.)

Wednesday: I drank a whole pot of coffee before I left the house, but I made it! Linda made me lie on my back and push a heavy iron bar into the air. My legs were a little wobbly on the tread mill, but I feel great!

Thursday: I can't brush my teeth, I believe I have a hernia in both pectorals. Linda was impatient with me insisting that my screams bothered other members. Her voice is just a little too perky for early mornings and when she scolds, she gets that nasally whine that's very annoying.



Friday: I tried the tread mill, but my chest hurt, so I tried the stair monster. Why would anyone invent a machine to simulate an activity rendered OBSOLETE by elevators. Don't ask me!

Saturday: Linda was waiting for me with her vampire-like teeth exposed. I could not help being 1/2 hour late. (It took me that long to tie my shoes.) I hid in the restroom, but she sent some skinny gal in to find me. The rowing machine was the next punishment. I can't stand that gal Linda. Next she wanted me to work triceps. (I don't have triceps).

Sunday: I am having Pat pick me up for services today. I can go and be thankful that this week is over. I will also ask that next year my daughter will choose a gift for me that is fun—like a root canal or a hysterectomy.

Hey Lorna...or anyone interested in using the rest of my time at the health club—let me know!