

**JANUARY 2010**

# 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 8:00 -12:00  
(by appt after 12:00)

Office phone;  
503.645.4994  
Sovlutheran.com

Kids of the Kingdom  
Christian preschool &  
daycare  
503.645.0236

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**BIBLE STUDY with Pastor;**  
Wednesday Mornings at 10:00 am

**JOYOUS LIGHT EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE**

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30 pm



Eva Norland (KOK Director)

Is proud to announce

The birth of

**Nadia Solveig Norland**

Born December 21, 2009

7 pounds 12 ounces

20 inches

Congratulations

God's Blessings on your new daughter

**JANUARY USHERS;**

**8:30 service** Ada Burris and Debbie Zahrowski  
Jeff and Clara Mashek

**11:00 service** Ramsey-Barnes and Kotvis Families





## PASTOR'S PAGE

*"And the one seated on the throne said, 'See I am making all things new.' " Revelation 21:5*

Have thought of those words so often when looking to the future and wanting to do so hopefully. This time of year it is easy to turn to them, maybe even in danger of being trite, because the change of numbers on a calendar doesn't necessarily point to new things. But from where I sit there are many new things afoot, and there is a need to be hopeful about them.

This is not only the beginning of a new year, but also of a new decade. The first decade of a new century has already past, and it was momentous, life altering in many ways, for the whole of the world, for this country, and for each of us individually. I will not begin to list events because some are obvious and some are different for each of us. And whatever shaped us brought challenges, and now what matters the most is how we are continuously made new, and what we do with the new opportunities that appear before us.

In particular what do we do as the community of faith known as Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran? There are constantly new people coming through our doors, plus even more folks new to the larger neighborhood. How do we welcome folks or even make ourselves known to them, or minister to them in the name of the Christ?

That's a lot of questions again. Answers? Maybe they will be found in how we take care of this space, plan for a new one, continue to study and grow in faith, take yet more seriously how we care for Jesus in our midst, and so many more challenges. (We already have the ultimate answer in the Christ, but how does that translate to particulars?)

May we learn from our past, but not be bogged down by it. May we indeed recognize that in and through us the Creator is "making all things new".

In Christ,

Pastor Randy



# COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by Peggy Vermaas

## Looking back and moving forward ...

2009 has come and gone with many changes here at Shepherd. Although there have been many accomplishments, and I will highlight a few, we also have challenges before us. What is God's plan for us? Are we listening for his message? Are we doing his work? Here are some thoughts and I may be a bit direct:

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

We have been blessed that our Capital Campaign has been successful thus far and are now ready to act on a recommitment to a vision of growth. The Capital Campaign is one piece of our long term plan for Shepherd. We have begun putting the plan into action by using approximately \$10,000 from the Building Fund for the upgrade on the plumbing. More projects are being reviewed. Not all members of SOV have supported this vision. It appears to be a long shot given the status of our finances - both historically and currently. However, I would encourage all to pray about this and then to consider joining this effort - in some small way. Your financial participation is your message of support. Yes, many things have changed in this past year but our long term goal of adding to our space in order to improve our missions and our programs continue. Consistent steps, no matter how small, will help achieve all of our goals. Pray about this. Talk about this.

### BUILDING NEEDS

ASSESSMENT AND PLAN: With

the completion of the deck project and, hopefully soon, a positive resolution to paying for the additional building repairs, we are now ready to begin looking more seriously at the needs of our existing building and costs for repairs and upgrades. For me, these discussions began over a year ago when we began work on the deck. Hopefully one of the lessons we will carry forward in this process is that maintenance can minimize the costs of repair/replacement.



Because our resources are scarce, we need to be mindful in planning and careful of our dollars. The existing building is a central part of the long term plan. Therefore, we need to accurately assess the status of our facility, prioritize the upgrades, and create the plans for change. The issue of funding these changes will need to be addressed. This is a task we can accomplish as long as we work together and keep our focus on solutions and not obstacles. We are working on God's plan for SOV and walking in faith. Let's begin this process. Are you on board?

EASEMENT ISSUES: Progress continues. Reynold Roeder is assisting us by collecting and integrating SOV ideas on a resolution. Upon completion, this document will be presented to Council for approval and then on our attorney, Jack Orchard, for action. Believe it or not, this process is going very well and is following a good and thoughtful

path. It is not taking a long time . . . it is taking the time that is needed since starting this process in June. Keep in prayer for a positive outcome.

### A YEAR OF ACTION BY ALL:

As the spirit has touched, folks have acted and brought forth their ideas and their energy. It has been a wonder to watch! The financial costs have been minimal compared to the effort. Here is a list made by an SOV member: A TERRIFIC NEW PASTOR!!!! (thanks again Call Committee!!); new lighting in the sanctuary; kiosk in the narthex; new plumbing throughout SOV; flat screen monitor, computer for Pastor and copy machine added; landscaping improved with plants, trees, shrubs and bark dust; deck project completed and some outdoor painting; playground equipment painted; Sanctuary and narthex painted; stained glass window treatment added; kick plates added; all carpets shampooed; Shepherd Storehouse relocated and new shelving added; all gutters and drains cleared and cleaned; trees removed; SOV office redecorated; janitorial maintained by the Rebecca ladies; new sink, counter, wall in KOK; retaining wall added in KOK area.

Thank you to all for responding to God's call to action. WORKING TOGETHER BRINGS US CLOSER TOGETHER!!! Together we will accomplish God's plans for Shepherd . . . . Touching others for Christ . . . . Building on our Foundation . . . Together we CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!! Blessings, Peggy



## SOCIAL CONCERNS... BY LARINA HOFFBECK

November food baskets given:

11 (7 Tuesday, 3 monthly, 1 extra)

Food donations from SOV: \$96 (est.)

Food donations from "I Can Help" drive: \$500 (est.)

Food donations from Light of Life: \$135 (est.)

Cash donations for Thanksgiving baskets from SOV: \$175

Volunteer hours: 157 (includes Thanksgiving baskets)

Volunteer miles: 630 (not including Thanksgiving basket delivery)

Furniture/clothing donated: \$400 (est.)

Toys donated for India: \$100 (est.)

Thank you to everyone who donated items or funds to the Portland VA Medical Center! They accept items from their needs list all year, so if you missed our collection but would still like to donate, you can find their needs list as well as

volunteer information at: <http://www.visn20.med.va.gov/portland/Volunteer/HowCanIHelp.asp> Thanks also to the Sunday School 5th and 6th graders and the Ladies' Bunco Group for raising funds and collecting food for Shepherd's Storehouse.



## Thrivent Economic and Investment Outlook Update

Economic and Investment Outlook Update is a free educational event that can help you make more informed investment decisions.

During the event, you'll gain a better understanding of the factors that affect financial markets and trends. You'll also receive an overview of how the changing economy can impact investment markets, how emotions can affect your decisions, and when to get professional financial guidance.

The free one-hour event will be presented by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans representative, Jason Drews, Financial Consultant, on January 28, 2010 from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm at the Hillsboro Library, and again on January 28, 2010 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Lake Oswego Office. For more information, contact Susan at 503-635-2003 ext 245 or [susan.rothe@thrivent.com](mailto:susan.rothe@thrivent.com).

The Economic and Investment Outlook Update event is intended only to educate you about financial decisions. It is broad in scope and does not consider your individual personal financial situation, which is unique. The information and advice may not be appropriate in all cases. No products will be offered for sale.

For additional important disclosure information, please visit <https://www.thrivent.com/disclosures/>





## Kids of the Kingdom...Susan Johanson, Christine Edgar & Eva Norland

There are new and exciting things happening within the KOK childcare. The preschoolers have a new teacher, Susan Johanson. Susan comes to us with over 15 years of teaching children. Susan was born in Japan. She is bilingual in Japanese and English. The children are learning to speak and understand Japanese every week. She is also teaching them keyboard. The children are learning to play notes, scales, songs, and basic music theory. Susan has over 25 years of playing violin and piano. She also teaches private music lessons.

If you would like information, a tour, and/or have questions about KOK childcare, feel free to call either Susan or Cathy at the KOK office: 503.645.0236. Our director, Eva Norland is currently on maternity leave.

The KOK staff would like to wish you a wonderful and happy new year 2010.

The KOK Christmas program, celebrating the Nativity, was held on December 3. Parents and grandparents enjoyed the kids' performance of traditional Christmas carols. A selection of cookies and holiday treats were available afterward for refreshment.

**A new little angel Nadia Solveig 7lbs 12 oz 20" was born on December 21 to our Director, Eva Norland. Nadia and Mom are both doing well.**

The KOKCCC Board wants to thank the SOV Council and congregation once again for their continuing support of our program. We have a stable enrollment now and eagerly look forward to increasing that enrollment. Keep us in mind when talking to your relatives, friends and neighbors about how much all our children enjoy being part of our program. Respectfully, Christine Edgar



KOK has been very busy and we are looking forward to the changes with the plumbing. The kids are having fun in their classrooms and are looking forward to meeting the Director's baby. Thank you everyone for your help with our December Christmas Program, volunteer work downstairs and making sure we are all safe. The Lord is good and gracious and we are blessed to have KOK still running. This year we remained open through the Christmas season with all our children in attendance and very few going on vacation breaks. We look forward to the New Year and the new beginnings God has in store for our own personal lives and the growth of KOK.

Blessings...Eva



# AROUND THE PARISH...by Ann Smith

A word to Rudy and Aggie, you have done a wonderful job with your kids, I watched on a recent Friday and Saturday as Jeff and Tammy worked together cleaning and painting the sanctuary. Not a crossword was spoken. You could tell they had done things together many times. It was a real family event. Marissa and Austin shampooed the narthex and vacuumed through out the church and the joy they shared working together was a real eye opener.

**Decorating the church** for Christmas~ WOW! It is beautiful. What a job. Larry Gilbertson and Rudy Wagenmann were there doing the man stuff. Then Clara Mashek, Verna Wik and Brenda Plinke did the swags and red bows. Connie McFall was everywhere, a finger in every pie, so to speak. I sorted one box of ornaments, a small effort. Karen Kohler helped us decorate the tree.

**Pastor's Bible Study** had a good turn out. I guess we'll keep him on

the job, so JOIN US, on Wednesdays, we have a fun time figuring out those bible stories.



**Pictures, pictures,** We did it! We had a pretty good turn out, be watching for the new directory coming in the spring.

**New to You~** another trip to McMinnville. We had a full load of clothes going down. Thank you for your continued donations. It has been a nice income for extra projects.

Guess who I saw on TV in a Thanksgiving commercial? Our very own Haydamack Family. The girls looked so cute and bright eyed. What a fun thing to happen and what a surprise to see them.

**Rebecca Circle;** Our service contract with SOV to clean has run out December 1st. We have been cleaning while waiting to hear what the congregation wants to happen next. We need a few ideas or a family to volunteer to clean once a week. This has saved us

\$200.00 a month.

**Painting** will continue as we get paint donations. If you like to contribute please mark your check or place your donation in the offering plate in a marked envelope.

**Sunday School Program** was a big hit. Those kids did a great job. The narrators were outstanding. Could you believe how well they followed directions? The costumes were great. We can all be proud of our special kids and special teachers!

**Christmas Concert;** Sunday nights concert brought about 120 people to SOV for singing, listening and sharing Christmas goodies. We sang our hearts out and sounded good too. The youth choir out did themselves. Not only did they sing good they looked beautiful in their Christmas best. We enjoyed the guest appearances by Tammie Dees and Karen McClendon. Our adult choir did a great job singing 'Prepare' and 'Drummer Boy'. Patricia Nelson did a fine job playing the piano for our sing a long time.



## Around the parish continued...

We closed with hot chocolate, hot cider and favorite Christmas cookies. Who was that guy with the blinking red nose and antlers?

**Ladies Dinner** at the Embassy Suites, we had about 22 ladies attend. We were blessed with a couple young ladies who joined us this year; Solveig Rasmussen and Marissa McDonald. It was a nice evening spent with good company. Our guest visitor was Nancy Shetterly our retired former secretary, we missed having Joyce Allison as the pass was not safe for her to travel.

Ok I did it...I asked Pastor Randy to bless my house. I even built a fire just to take the chill out of the air. I noticed Pastor removed his jacket after a short time. I looked at the temperature and noticed it was 82 degrees- no wonder he was mopping his brow. Then I realized I had not even offered him a chair. I guess he will just have to consider the source. Some of us get nervous and forget our manners. I guess you learn to roll with the punches when you are a pastor. But I am feeling

much more confident about my house now. Thank you Pastor Randy.

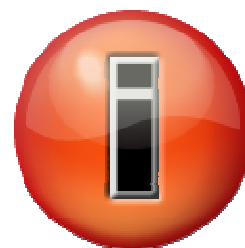
Darlene Anderson's cousin Greg Mortensen who wrote 'Three Cups of Tea' was in town for a book signing of his newest book 'Stories into Spools'.

**Water's Running!** Anttil Plumbing came in with the lowest bid and did some plumbing repair/upgrade. They removed all the old galvanized pipes and replaced them with PEX material. We were having leaks springing up here and there and in KOK. They even replaced the outside hose bibs. Now they are frost free or in other words no more Freezing! This should really cut down on our water bill right? Did you know that we had all the down spouts cleaned and cleared out? The KOK flood downstairs was caused by tree roots clogging the drains and then the water backing up. That cost us about \$600.00. It's a good lesson to learn from, we need to keep up with regular maintenance.

**Catch up or ketch up** January, February and

March have been designated as catch up months for our general budget. We as a congregation have made much progress this past year. I hope you take pride in all we have done to improve our building and growth that you will prayerfully consider increasing your gifts to the church to help the budget deficit.

**Newsletter Deadline** please remember to have your article to Tammy at secretarysov@gmail.com by the third week of each month.





## OUR NEW DECK...

Submitted by Arden Tarum

Fred Vincent...

I used to go skiing with Fred every year. It stopped 17 years ago when he attended a house warming party at a townhouse in Hillsboro. He leaned against the railing of the newly remodeled second floor deck and it gave way, causing him to fall backwards into the parking lot below, instantly killing him. His fiancé witnessed his fall & death, and his two young children were left without a father.

This and similar accidents have caused people and building code officials to rethink how strong and durable decks need to be. New wood construction that just meets the strength criteria for safety and legality when new is not good enough as even pressure treated wood outdoors immediately starts deteriorating and will have perhaps only 25% of its original strength in 20 years. For indoor construction 2x 6 planks need to be supported every 4 feet, for outdoor construction every foot. This makes for a deck that is four times stronger than necessary when new, but still has 100% of its required strength in 25 years when the wood has deteriorated.

It is not just rotten deck boards and floor joists, it is also railings. Our new deck has a railing structure that is blocked and bolted, not nailed, so there is no danger of it coming loose and causing an accident like that which killed Fred. The railing is the hardest part to frame and fasten securely on a deck.

Two years ago we submitted permit drawings to the City of Beaverton that met all the requirements in the building code, but the plans were rejected because the City knew it wasn't good enough to be truly safe for the long term. They did us a favor by forcing us to go to contractors that knew how to build safe decks.

Jim Tabor got quotes on several types of composite and wood constructed decks from numerous contractors. We also considered concrete deck on steel framing and a totally enclosed fire escape, but did not pursue those options due to their higher initial cost and possible conflict with long term plans for Phase III changes to the church on that side of the building. We settled on a design that used a pressure treated wood support structure and composite deck board & railing materials that will have a life in excess of 25 years. We did consider cedar, several imported hardwoods, and concrete. The hardwoods and concrete have a life of more than 50 years, but they would have nearly doubled the cost of the deck and potentially interfered with future building plans.

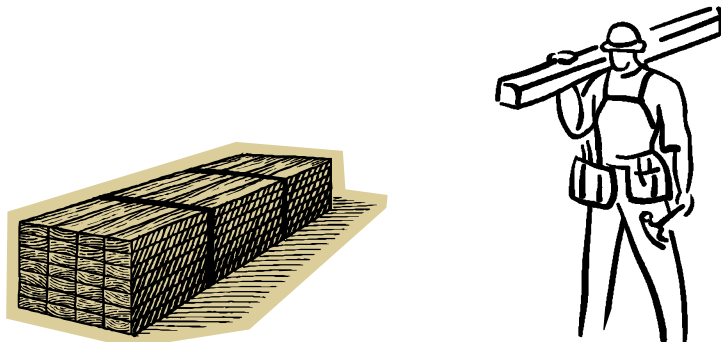
We did have a KOK mother step through the original cedar decking after about 15 years and then 8 years later an SOV member stepped through the red wood decking that replaced it. We have had two accidents with our old deck since I have been a member. Unprotected cedar and redwood are inadequate for our climate. The TimberTech composite will keep us safe for 25 years.

Three different contractors gave us bids that were within a few hundred dollars of each other to design, get permits, and build a new deck with TimberTech decking & railings



## New Deck Continued...

on a pressure treated wood structure. Dave Squared, which consists of our SOV member Dave Saalfeld and his partner Tony, was awarded the bid. When you get three identical bids like we did, you know that the bidders have the correct information, a good plan, and a good understanding of the job. We did not get any ultra low bids or ultra high bids for this method of construction.



## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### A problem and an Opportunity

PROBLEM: Hopefully all are aware that we incurred approximately \$14,000 in expenses to make repairs on our building in the process of replacing the deck/fire escape. We had anticipated that we could obtain an unsecured loan from either Thrivent or the Mission Investment Fund to cover this shortfall. We have been denied the unsecured loan from the Mission Investment Fund as they will not offer this option if they are not carrying the full mortgage for the property. This was new information obtained only after our request was with the underwriter. We are now exploring again the options with Thrivent knowing that we will have fees associated with the loan. More information will follow on that.

A TEMPORARY SOLUTION: The Council obtained a two month loan from the building fund in order to pay our contractor and allow ourselves time to explore all options. Interest is being paid on this loan.

OPPORTUNITY: The Council has decided to offer the opportunity to fund this shortfall to the member of our congregation. The amount will be between \$10,000 – \$14,000 as some donations for the project are still coming in. The length, terms and interest rate are up for discussion. As a reference point, we currently pay 6.25% on our existing mortgage. Please be in contact with our church secretary Tammy if you are interested.





## Upcoming Capital Campaign events;

**January 9, 2010** 12:00—2:00 pm John Cross will lead us in growing together in leadership and stewardship. Come learn how to work together for Christ. A light lunch will be provided, please RSVP to Tammy McDonald at secretarysov@gmail.com

**January 10, 2010** John Cross will lead us in worship.

**January 27, 2010** 6:30 pm Healing Service for the growth of SOV

**January 29, 2010** 10:00 –8:00 pm Prayer Vigil held at SOV

**January 31, 2010** Re Commitment Sunday

## DID YOU KNOW Submitted by Mark Vignolo

Since communication is always a goal, I have been asked to provide some examples of our monthly expenses. Here is an example of just this month:

Total Monthly Payroll	\$10,250	Verizon (Phone & Internet)	\$ 200
Thrivent Mortgage	\$ 1,293	NW Natural Gas	\$ 427
Synod Benevolence	\$ 847	Water District (2 months)	\$ 537
Note: Always 5% of regular (non-committed) offering		Portland General Electric	\$ 444

We will likely be approving a new budget in February. If you have any suggestions to increase our income or decrease our expenses, all input would be appreciated.



## From the Parish Nurse-----Corrine Gilbertson

### Parish Nurse Activity and Events:

Our Health team and our Spirituality team from the Capital Campaign project have joined forces in the plans for a Healing Service and a Prayer Vigil (10am to 8 pm) to take place the end of the month. The need for a Healing service seems to be a welcome ministry to so many! Thanks Be to God. Pastor Randy will share more information regarding this service which will take place January 27 @ 6:30 pm at church.



Our prayer vigil will happen January 29 Friday! The hours will accommodate those who work during the day! We will send out the schedule by e-mail with designated time slots (1/2 hr. increments) with 3 slots for each time frame so several may be there at the same time. There will be volunteer helpers waiting as you arrive to give you a hand-out and answer any questions you may have! There will be a record book for members to record prayer requests so others may also pray for your requests! We are working on providing the setting to be quiet and comfortable. We will be contacting our members who do not have e-mail by phone! We are striving for 100% participation! Prayer vigil can be used for any reason and at an time! Certainly with all we have had going on at SOV in the past and what is yet to come ----- (and all those extra surprises) we are long over-due for a PRAYER VIGIL!! Let us remember to offer many prayers of thanksgiving to our Lord! He has given us so much!

The people who signed up for CPR- Heart-saving classes will soon be notified with date and time . We have 14 signed up!

Please read the inserts in this newsletter regarding more Health information.

Peace, Corrine Gilbertson





# **Stewardship 2010    Acting Together, Sharing Enough**

**Submitted by Diane Lewis**

Stewardship can include many different opportunities to share our time, talents and resources so that we each can help make a difference for our church and within our own lives.

Bunco Babes! Did everyone know that there is a small group of women that get together once a month for fellowship, play Bunco, enjoy a potluck supper and compete for the prizes offered?

In December we decided to do something different and give our money to the Shepherd's Storehouse as well as bring food to help stock the shelves. We collected two boxes of food and \$150 cash for the Shepherd's Storehouse. Last Spring, there was over \$100 collected at Bunco for the new window coverings in the Sanctuary. Finding opportunities to "act together and share enough" as we work together to make a difference.

This last Fall, the SOV Ladies dinner group had a potluck at church instead of paying for dinner out so that they could donate their dinner money for special projects for Shepherd's Storehouse. In November they gathered for dinner and supported the fundraiser for KOK at Sweet Tomatoes that went to help with scholarship funds for KOK families in need. More people working to find opportunities to "act together and share enough" to help make difference.

Our Rebecca Circle ladies have been cleaning the church and have extended their commitment through February in order to give us time to create a new plan for getting the church cleaned on a weekly basis. Once again, "acting together and sharing enough" we all can make a difference.

The Sunday before Christmas some members of all ages joined in going Christmas caroling at two different retirement facilities. We sang to four different groups of people and came back to church to share some fellowship and food. This was Stewardship in action and making a difference for those that sang and those that we were singing for.

Our Stewardship committee is committed to keeping our program alive with new ideas and more education on how we can make Stewardship a fun and learning opportunity for members of all ages. The "Cans, can make a difference" will be our focus for January and February. We challenge our members to remember to bring something for the Shepherd's Storehouse each week. Bring your children or grandchildren into this opportunity and have them choose something for the Storehouse that they like. We will place a big basket or box near the altar so that each item can be given as an offering each week. A running count of items will be shared every couple weeks.

Let's make 2010 an opportunity to share God's love and blessings in new ways that makes a difference.

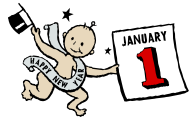
Together in Christ,

SOV Stewardship Team





# January 2010

Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 	2
3 Worship with Communion 8:30 & 11:00 Birthday Sunday Blood Pressure Check	4	5 Coffee Group 7:15 a @Starbucks	6 Bible Study w/Pastor 10:00 am Evening worship 6:30 p Adult Choir 7 pm	7 Men's Night @ Old Chicago Pizza 6:30 pm	8 9 Leadership/Stewardship Training w/ John Cross 12—2pm
10 Worship with Communion 8:30 & 11:00 Confirmation Class 10 am John Cross	11	12 Coffee Group 7:15 a Starbucks Youth Choir 6:30 pm	13 Bible Study w/Pastor 10:00 am Evening worship 6:30 p Adult Choir 7 pm	14	15 16
17 Worship with Communion 8:30 & 11:00 Confirmation Class 10 am	18	19 Coffee Group 7:15 a Starbucks Youth Choir 6:30 pm 6:30 p Executive Council 6:30 p Ladies Dinner	20 Bible Study w/Pastor 10:00 am Evening worship 6:30 p Adult Choir 7 pm	21 Council Meeting 7:00 p	22 Confirmation Retreat 6:00 pm 23 Confirmation Retreat contd.
24 Worship with Communion 8:30 & 11:00	25	26 Coffee Group 7:15 a Starbucks Youth Choir 6:30 pm	27 Bible Study w/Pastor 10:00 am Healing Service 6:30 p Adult Choir 7 pm	28	29 Prayer Vigil 10-8 30
31 Worship with Communion 8:30 & 11:00 Capital Campaign Sunday	