

January 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

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Glory to God in highest
heaven,
Who unto man His Son hath
given;
While angels sing with tender
mirth,
A glad new year to all the
earth.

Martin Luther



PASTOR'S PAGE

"Christ ... was faithfuland we are his house if we hold firm the confidence and the pride that belong to hope." Hebrews 3:6

Facing the coming of, rejoicing in the expectation of, anticipating the realities of, another new year. I know it is really just a matter of turning the pages on a calendar, and that not everything suddenly changes because we write a different number at the end of things that we date. But it still carries that feel with it, of newness and possibility. How many folks may fool themselves into thinking, while earnestly saying, this year is going to be different?

There will be new stuff. That happens every day. There will also be much of the same old same old. And some of that can be appreciated. And so how about us as the community of faith known as Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church? Collectively we will do many of the same things that we do individually. But we may also do some things differently because we are a community of faith. We can rely on one another for strength. And that is very good, a cause for comfort, smiles and rejoicing. But more importantly is the One we are a community around. The gift of the Christ causes us to do things differently, affects our personal and communal attitude.

Thinking of the little piece I wrote a short time ago about going caroling. There was some disappointment in how many folks showed up, but mostly thanksgiving for how excellent the time was. What a gift it was to have little Emery there to lead us. What a blessing to be able to share the good news in song. It was the joy of the time I was left with in my heart. Someone shared with me that they had read the article, and the take was, "so you didn't have many people". The hope that I had intended to convey was apparently not what stuck. I hope that that is not always the case.

In this new year we are bound to know some disappointments. Isn't that the reality? But it is how we respond to those disappointments that helps to define us. And therefore those words from Hebrews speak to me, hopefully to us all, "...and we are his house if we hold firm the confidence and the pride that belong to hope."

Life is rich in all sorts of ways. Lord guide us in seeing the blessings, now, in the new year and beyond.

In promise of hope given us in the Risen Christ,
Pastor Randy

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by Peggy Jo Vermaas

Greetings and God's peace to all,

First of all, thank you to all who helped make the celebration of Christmas at Shepherd of the Valley a beautiful and spirit filled experience. Many attended, many helped and all is appreciated.

January has arrived now. A new beginning. For me, a time of quiet and reflection. So, not a lot to say this month. Still thinking. Pondering. For me it has been a year of some losses (the passing of Ann and Allison) but also some progress. While I could make a list of things . . . sometimes details are nice . . . more pronounced for me is what I am paying attention to . . . the positive, spiritual energy that I feel at Shepherd. That is not to say that there is more of it. Just that I am better attending to it. When I look around Shepherd there are so many folks who are acting as the hands and feet of Jesus . . . doing God's work . . . JOYFULLY!! I find it spiritually enriching to see. I hope you are all also seeing this and appreciating your Shepherd family. I encourage you to keep reaching out and putting God's love into action. Are you involved with one of our mission opportunities??? Stretch and try something new!



Here are some upcoming highlights:

USHERS, COMMITTEE'S AND ALL: Did you know that ushering and committee work is a joyful experience??? It is an opportunity to get acquainted with Shepherd in a different way. Consider giving it a try. Help wanted. No experience required!!!

JANUARY CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: The Council has set the date of January 30th for a congregational meeting to bring forth the proposed annual budget and serve as a town hall meeting. This will occur after the second service in order to allow for adequate discussion. Please plan to attend. A light lunch will be provided. Copies of the proposed budget will be available at the ushers station on Sunday the 23rd or you can pick one up from our office or let us know if you would like one mailed to you. We may also be discussing the refinance of our mortgage, the initial plan for the repairs and upgrades to our building, and memorial and endowments.

MORTGAGE REFINANCE REQUEST: We have submitted all the paperwork and provided additional information as requested. We expect a reply soon. If approved soon, funds would likely be available in February.

MEMORIAL/ENDOWMENT FUNDS: We have money in the endowment fund and we have a new memorial project in memory of Ann Smith. It is to replace our exiting organ - which has been assessed by two sources as beyond the point of repair. Memorials are most often (but not always) designated towards a specific project. Memorial's can be created at any time. We are blessed that our committee has made this long time vision a reality. More information on this opportunity will be forthcoming. Feel free to participate in the Memorial for Ann Smith by designating your contribution.

PRESIDENTS REPORT CONTINUED...

EASEMENT ISSUES: We are expecting a meeting date in January. This meeting was requested by Mr. Parker and his attorney. Our next step will be determined after that meeting. Delays do not discourage. We keep moving forward.

NEW TO YOU: We are ready for more winter donations. Please put your like new garments cleaned, pressed, and on a hanger, into the closet in the narthex. Our next trip is on Tuesday, January 4th leaving the church at 10 am. Join us! Tuesday is Senior discount day at New to You!! The proceeds continue towards our mission of Shepherd's Storehouse.

MEMBER LUNCHEON: The member luncheon continues to have a regular attendance of ten to twelve people. It is the last Thursday of each month. The January luncheon is on the 27th at noon in the Rainbow room. All are invited to come and just visit!!!

Thank you all for the many ways you support your Executive team and your Church Council. You are all one of the blessings that is Shepherd of the Valley Church.

Yours In Christ, Peggy

A QUICK NOTE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

It was a pleasure to see all the warmth and love shown at SOV during the Christmas season. The church theme for this year is "Living a Generous Life" and that is certainly what I saw during these holidays. How nice to look forward to the coming year working with all of you.

The mortgage refinance paperwork has been presented to Thrivent and their first review is finished. When the final decision comes back, an email with the results will be sent to the congregation. There will be numerous ways you can choose to stay informed of the repair process. These communication processes will be finalized shortly. In the meantime, your comments and ideas are always welcome. Please email me at any time at lee.bonacker@comcast.net.

SOV has leased space to other non-profits in the past, and would like to do so again. The reason is partly to help church finances, but mostly in the spirit of stewardship to extend an invitation to the community or other congregations in need. Please keep your ears open for any groups that might need some space.

Praying for a Happy New Year for You,

Lee Ann Bonacker

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE JANUARY 25, 2011

SOCIAL CONCERNS... BY LARINA HOFFBECK

The day before the big game, you are invited to join SOV's youth for our 2011 "Souper Bowl" service blitz at the Oregon Food Bank West on Saturday, February 5th from 9am to 11am. We need 20 people, ages 6 and up for our service group to help with repacking and sorting bulk non-perishable food items, fresh produce, frozen foods or other projects. This is a great multi-generational opportunity to get to know others from SOV while serving your community and sharing God's love at the same time. For more information about the food bank, please see their site at: <http://www.oregonfoodbank.org/Our-Work/OFB-Network/OFB-Washington-County-Services>



If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Larina Hoffbeck at 503-617-9297 or hoffbeck@frontier.com by Wednesday, January 26th.

Shepherd of the Valley is proudly sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive Thursday, January 6th, 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.



Walk-in's Welcome

NEXT SCRIP ORDER...

JANUARY 16th

DONT FORGET TO RECYCLE YOUR USED GIFT CARDS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT.



SOV Building Committee Update...Submitted by Reynold Roeder

Although we have not been very vocal, your Building Committee continues to work toward the goal the congregation established of a new building. As many of you know, a key part of the funding for the new building was proposed to come from the sale of excess land that SOV currently owns. Though there was some initial buyer interest in this land at the listing price, the current recession has significantly weakened the commercial real estate market, resulting in lower prices and longer listing times. As such, the SOV Building Committee is assessing our current plan and looking at alternatives for congregation and Council's consideration.

This process is in its initial phase of information gathering and everything is open for review. We intend to look at: (1) an estimate of what amount might be raised from the sale of excess land, (2) ideas on alternative building designs, (3) build-out phasing options, and (4) have an open dialogue with congregation members to solicit further ideas. This project belongs to each and every one of the family of SOV, and your voice is important. Though there will be formal methods for the congregation to present their thoughts (e.g. surveys, meetings, etc.), the committee members encourage you to also approach any of us one-on-one to communicate your concerns or ideas.

PRAWL SHAWL MINISTRY...

Open to men, women and youth~

Will meet January 17th, 7:00 pm

No experience required...



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE JANUARY 25

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 20, 2011 – 6:00-7:00 pm, 4000 Kruse Way Place, Bldg 3-Ste 155, Lake Oswego; and January 26, 2011 – 12:00-1:00 pm, Hillsboro Library-Main Meeting Room. For more information, contact Susan at 503-635-2003 ext 245 or 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/>

ALTAR GUILD NEEDS VOLUNTEERS...

WANTED: ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS

Want a FUN way to volunteer at church?

We've got the job for you...join the Altar Guild!

Our philosophy: "Many hands make light work" and we need a few more HANDS!

Our tasks include, weekly altar set-up/clean-up (at your convenience) plus Quarterly meetings, Christmas Eve and Easter set-up and that's it!

Please see Betty Stoltenburg, Ann Saalfeld or Tammy if interested.

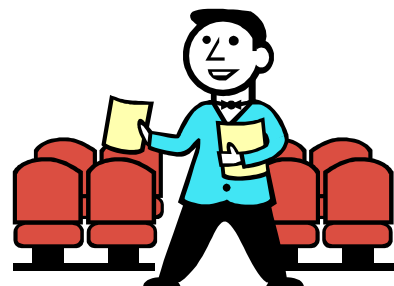
USHERS ARE NEEDED

JANUARY 11:00 AM SERVICE

FEBRUARY ~ BOTH SERVICES

MARCH ~ BOTH SERVICES

APRIL ~ BOTH SERVICES





Confidential ~ Professional ~ Pastoral

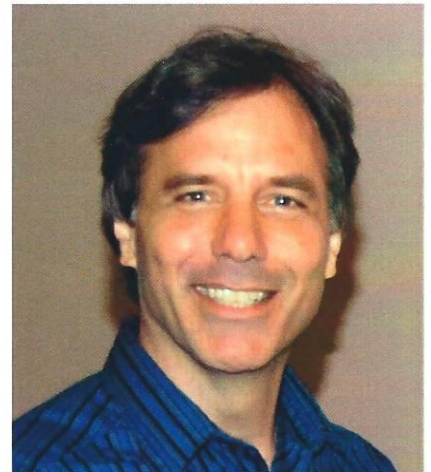
**Westside Pastoral Counseling (WPC) is now offering hours at
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church:**

Mondays

9 am – 2 pm

7 pm – 9 pm

Westside Pastoral Counseling provides confidential and affordable care to individuals, couples and parents seeking help and guidance. Rev. Bob McIntyre, D.Min., has served in full-time pastoral ministry for 26 years. As a pastoral counselor he offers seasoned and experienced support to the ministry of local pastors and congregations and the people they serve.



Westside Pastoral Counseling

“Where hope, healing and faith come together”

(503) 477-2627

January 2011



		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Service New Years Brunch 9:45 a Birthday Sunday Blood Pressure CK	3 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK	4 7:15 a Coffee Group 1:00 p Food Baskets	5 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 11:15 a Rebecca Circle lunch 6:30 p Vesper Service	6 1:30 - 7:00 p Red Cross Blood Drive	7 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK	8
9 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Service	10 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 5:30 p Men's Night at Pastor Randy's for BCS Championship	11 7:15 a Coffee Group 1:00 p Food Baskets 6:30 p Youth Choir 6:30 p Ladies Dinner	12 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir	13	14 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK	15
16 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Service	17 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK	18 7:15 a Coffee Group 1:00 p Food Baskets 2:00 p Stewardship 6:30 p Youth Choir 6:30 p Executive Council	19 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir	20 10:00 a LLL 7:00 p Council Meeting	21 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 7:00 p Confirmation Retreat	22 Confirmation Retreat
23 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Service	24 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK	25 7:15 a Coffee Group 1:00 p Food Baskets 6:30 p Youth Choir	26 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir	27 12:00 p All Church Luncheon	28 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK	29
30 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Service 12:00 p Congregational Meeting	31 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK					