

JANUARY 2016

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Shepherd's Office Hours;
Mon-Thurs 7:30 - 12:30pm

Interim Pastor
Brian Brandt

Tues. 10:00 - 12:15 p

Wed & Thurs
10:00 - 2:00 p

And by appt.

Office phone;

503.645.4994

Sovlutheran.com

Worship Services

8:30 a & 11:00 a

Wednesday Bible Study

10:00 a

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

ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Westside Lutheran Youth Ministry Event

When: January 16-17, 2016

Arrive Saturday, 1/16, at 4 PM

Conclude Sunday, 1/17, at 12:00 noon

Where: First Immanuel Lutheran Church

1816 NW Irving St

Portland, OR 97219

503-226-2659

What: Overnight/Service Event



Youth will have the opportunity to learn about the challenges experienced by women and children facing homelessness. They will also have the chance to participate in a hands-on service project with Rose Haven, a ministry for women and children located at First Immanuel.

What Else: A fun overnight with food, games, group activities and more.

How Much? Youth are requested to bring \$20 to cover costs for food and to make a donation to Rose Haven's ministry. [If youth would like to bring in-kind donations, winter clothing (coats, gloves, hats) or hygiene items (travel-size shampoo, toothpaste, soap, or feminine hygiene items) are always welcome.]

What to bring: sleeping bag, pillow, toothbrush, etc.

Who: High School Youth, plus adult youth leaders/chaperones, from Westside congregations

*Want to participate even though you aren't a high schooler??? Please help us collect winter clothing and hygiene items to help the people at Rose Haven. Items can be placed in the Youth donation box in the Narthex or handed to Stacey, Caitlin or any of the Youth Group members.

Interim Pastor Brian's Message

Praying for The Call Committee

The Church Council elected a Call Committee at its December meeting. Here's the list:

Sandra Carasco, Ken Plinke, Chris Reger, Reynold Roeder, Cal Sugiyama, and Julie Zetterberg. Alternates are Judith Hedberg-Duff and Lorna Hodgkin. Advisory members: Corrine Gilbertson will serve as an "emerita" member and Amber Kotvis will represent SOV's youth. Those latter two will have voice but not vote in committee deliberations.



Please say thank you to all of these people. Each of them are very capable and will have an important role to play in the discernment that leads SOV to its next permanent pastor.

It is important that you stay connected with the Call Committee during this time of watching and waiting to see what God has in store for SOV. I will encourage the Call Committee to keep the congregation updated regularly. Sunday worship is a great time to do this. Even a 60 second presentation at Sunday worship during announcements is enough to let folks know that things are in process and moving forward, even if only by small steps, week after week.

I encourage you to pray for the Call Committee collectively, and for each member (and alternates and advisory members) individually. God works in mysterious ways; prayer is one of them. Prayer brings spiritual energy and strengthens relationships in ways that do nothing but good for the whole congregation. The Call Committee needs your prayers daily and weekly. Please support them with prayer and good will so they can serve you well.

How long will it take to call a new pastor? Only God knows for sure. But here's my initial response. Pastor Susan Kintner, Assistant to Bishop Dave Brauer-Rieke, has indicated that she hopes to bring names of clergy candidates to the Call Committee in January. Easter is early this year (March 27) so the Call Committee may not be able to get all their interviewing and discussion done before then. April or maybe May is a likely time for Council and congregation to meet a clergy candidate and conduct a vote. If a call is extended, then it will take the pastor a while to arrange a move. Maybe early summer will be when the new pastor comes on board. Remember, this is my guess, not gospel truth — actual timelines may well prove different than my speculations. But it's a plausible guesstimate.

Meanwhile, we watch and wait and pray. Be patient. The Call Committee will want to move as quickly as it can but not so quickly that their haste brings bad decisions. Keep on praying, and God will provide at the right time.

Council Presidents report...Submitted by Linnea H

"It came without ribbons! It came without tags!

It came without packages, boxes or bags!"

"Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store.

Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more."

Yes, I think we can all say resoundingly with Dr. Suess that Christmas means a little bit more – or even a lot more. I hope you continue to rest in the comfort of knowing this gift from God was given to each and every one of us with no conditions but a request to, "do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Shepherd of the Valley was also given another gift right before Christmas. Ten members of our congregation stepped up and said "yes" when asked to serve on the Call Committee to conduct the final steps of our call process. The Ministry Site Profile has been submitted to the Synod, and now your Call Committee has been formed. The members are: Sandra Carasco, Ken Plinke, Chris Reger, Reynold Roeder, Cal Sugiyama and Julie Zetterberg. Alternate members are: Judith Hedberg-Duff and Lorna Hodgins. Two new positions for this call are Youth Representative: Amber Kotvis and Emeritus position: Corinne Gilbertson. Please hold all of these people in your prayers as they begin their work which will culminate in the call of our new Pastor.

Your new Executive Committee has settled into their roles, and the Council will be presenting a 2016 budget for vote of the congregation late in January. As you will hear at the meeting, our number of pledges remains about the same as last year; however, the dollar amount of the pledges is lower. Council is working hard to create a budget which both meets our needs and is realistic given the information we have regarding pledged giving ... more to come on this.

Please continue to pray for the leadership of SOV. Each and every individual is working to support the work of God at SOV, and each and every individual wants to do their best for all of you. Please feel comfortable in approaching any of us with requests and suggestions. We try, but I can guarantee you we can't think of everything!

Blessings to all of you,

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE JANUARY 26TH
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Fellowship News...Submitted by Diane L.

2015! Many Thanks! 2016!

We served over 70 people at our new year's/holiday brunch on December 27. Thank you to all that helped set up, clean up, provide hot dishes, cinnamon rolls, fruit, sweet breads, cookies, cheese and crackers to give us a wonderful smorgasbord of food. It was a wonderful tradition of how our SOV family celebrates the end of the year and the beginning of the new year together.

Reminder

Sunday fellowship time between services and after late service will continue as we have volunteers to clean the kitchen after late church. If you have questions or suggestions feel free to contact one of our Fellowship team: Diane Lewis, Sharon Graalum, Ginny Adamo or Peggy Vermaas.



SCRIP SUNDAYS JANUARY 3RD AND 7TH

New Forms - New Vendors

Natural Grocers Walmart Ulta Beauty Whole Foods

Changes;

Washman is now at \$6.00 See's Candies is now at \$17.00

Oswego Grill is also good at Cooper River Restaurant

Macy's Friend and Family Sale

Nike scrip purchase includes friends and family pass good at Nike clearance store or Nike Factory Store.

Columbia scrip purchase includes employee store pass.



NEW TABLES



New 60" round tables are being ordered and will arrive soon. All donations that are given with "adopting" one of our old tables will go towards the cost of our new tables. Now is your chance to take home one of our current 60" folding round tables and help us make room for the new tables.

Tables will be available for adoption starting Sunday, January 3 through January 15. The remaining tables will be sold outside the congregation after January 15. There are 8 tables available.

Our goal is to reorganize the storage area where the tables and chairs are stored and create a safer and more convenient access for our tables and chairs.

If you are interested in "adopting" one of our current tables please contact Arden Tarum, Diane Lewis, Peggy Vermaas or Tammy McDonald.

Ladies Dinner

Inviting all Ladies to our monthly Dinner

Tuesday, January 5th

6:00 pm

Old Spaghetti Factory

Please RSVP to Tammy



Men's Night

Thursday, January 7th

6:00 PM *(please note time change)*

Reedville Cafe

Hillsboro. 2947 SE 73rd Ave. Hillsboro, OR 97123.

ALL MEN INVITED FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP



Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool

January is a time for snow, arctic animals, hibernation and Pajama Day parties in our Kids of the Kingdom classrooms. Each class will experience learning through different activities, art projects and science experiments. We will make snow, explore ice, drink hot chocolate all while learning more about our letters, numbers and more. In our weekly chapel time with Pastor Brian, we will learn about Jesus as a boy and his baptism.



On Saturday, January 30th, Kids of the Kingdom will host Family Day. We are inviting all families with toddler or preschool aged children to enjoy a morning of engaging family activities, games, art projects, and snacks. Don't have a toddler or preschooler but know a friend of neighbor, feel free to share the information with them! Watch for more information coming soon.

Just a reminder; to recycle your paper products in our brown recycle drop box located in the upper church parking lot. The more we fill it the more revenue we receive.

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|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| • Newspapers | junk mail | dry food boxes |
| • Magazines | envelopes | |
| • Phone books | catalogs | |
| • Cardboard | cereal boxes | |



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE JANUARY 26TH

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01 Samuel G
03 Peggy V
05 Joe R
06 Rita N
07 Isabel G
10 Mert W
17 Avery M
17 Patricia N
20 Ann S
28 Regina B



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











Happy New Year

*On New Year's Day
and the whole year through, I hope the kindness
you've given to others
returns many times to you. May hope, love, and warmth
be in your heart's possessing,
and may the New Year
bring you and yours
many blessings.*



January 2016

“Your success and happiness lies in you. Resolve to keep happy, and your joy and you shall form an invincible host against difficulties.” — Helen Keller

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Year's Day 	2 
3 8:30 & 11:00 worship 1:30 pm OEC 6:00 - 7:30 p Confirmation Epiphany Sunday	4 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 	5 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 6:00 pm Ladies Dinner Old Spaghetti Factory	6 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 7:00 - 8:30 p SOV Choir Epiphany of Our Lord	7 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 6:00 pm Men's Night at Reedville Café 7:00 p LLL	8 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmer Piano Studio	9 10:00 - 11:30 SOV Choir
10 8:30 & 11:00 worship 1:30 pm OEC No Confirmation Baptism or Our Lord	11 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 	12 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool	13 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 7:00 - 8:30 p SOV Choir	14 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 	15 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmer Piano Studio	16 10:00 - 11:30 SOV Choir Youth Group overnight/ service project
17 8:30 & 11:00 worship 1:30 pm OEC 6:00 - 7:30 p Confirmation	18 M L King Day "Faith is taking the first step even when you can't see the whole staircase" MLK  Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	19 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool	20 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 7:00 - 8:30 p SOV Choir	21 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 10:00 a LLL	22 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK Preschool 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmer Piano Studio	23 10:00 - 11:30 SOV Choir
24 8:30 & 11:00 worship 1:30 pm OEC 6:00 - 7:30 p Confirmation	25 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool	26 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool	27 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 7:00 - 8:30 p SOV Choir	28 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK Preschool 12:00 p All Church Luncheon	29 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmer Piano Studio	30 10:00 - 11:30 SOV Choir 
31 8:30 & 11:00 worship 1:30 pm OEC 6:00 - 7:30 p Confirmation 				Develop an attitude of gratitude, and give thanks for everything that happens to you, knowing that every step forward is a step toward achieving something bigger and better than your current situation.		