

JULY
2008

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER



THANK YOU! BUILDING ON CHRIST OUR FOUNDATION...SUBMITTED BY DIANE LEWIS

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On behalf of our church council and congregation I would like to express our appreciation to our Capital Campaign directors, Bob McFall and Tammy McDonald as well as the Executive team of Peggy Vermaas, Mark Vignolo and Pastor Michelle for guiding us in this exciting first phase of, "Building on Christ, our foundation" capital campaign for our building program! Their hard work and commitment of their faith has made a wonderful impact on developing new areas of leadership and involvement in our church!

Many people in various committees helped create opportunities for education, fellowship, and spiritual growth in our individual stewardship life and for stewardship life of Shepherd of the Valley as a church family. We are stronger in our awareness of the importance of the gift of stewardship that God gives us through sharing our selves, our talents and our resources. It is exciting to see even our children learning new ways of giving and all of us learning that no gift is too small when it comes from the heart and given in God's glory.

Being "One in the Spirit" we are building a stronger foundation on Christ as we come "together in Christ", reminding ourselves that, "Through Christ, all things are possible"!



Our hearts are thankful for this great team of leadership that has worked so hard to help us build towards our future and as we also affirm the importance of being good stewards of our present.

Call Committee Update...by Arden Tarum, Chair

The Call Committee has met and interviewed each of the four pastoral candidates. One candidate was released to consider other opportunities. The next stage requires checking references and meeting as a committee to review the first interviews in order to determine if a second interview would be helpful before they set up a time for the pastors to visit our congregation. The "meet and greet" time will include a short devotional worship time with the congregation, a fellowship opportunity, time to meet with different areas of leadership and some of our youth. Every effort will be made to set these "meet and greet" times as close together as possible. The Call Committee will do their very best to keep the congregation informed on the time schedules for this very important opportunity in the "Call" process. Please make every effort to attend these gatherings and feel free to ask questions of our candidates as well as offering input to the Call Committee. We hope that these will take place after July 6. We also ask that you continue to hold the Call Committee and the pastoral candidates in your prayers.



June 8, Congregational Meeting Update!

Submitted by Diane Lewis

June 8, we gathered as a congregation to elect our officers and committee members and approve the new Memorial and Endowment document for Shepherd of the Valley. We had about 60 people attend to share a lunch of salad and pizza. We discussed as well as voted on the Memorial and Endowment document, had the opportunity to ask questions on any area of the church activity, and vote on our slate of officers and committees.

The Memorial and Endowment document was voted on and passed. The next step will be to work out the policies and procedures to complete our new opportunity for planned giving. When this is all completed, we will provide our membership with the completed information.

The new Executive slate of officers that was voted into office for this year is:

Diane Lewis, President
Peggy Vermaas, Vice President
Ken Harris, Treasurer
Lee Bonaker, Secretary
Valsala George, Financial Secretary

Our constitution requires that each Executive office will be elected on a yearly basis and a member can only be elected for two consecutive years for an office. As we work together in our new program year, we encourage our members to share ideas, concerns and dreams for our congregation with your new team of Executive officers. Look for a list of the committees and chair people of each committee in the August newsletter.

We want to thank Larina Hoffbeck for her outstanding leadership on the Executive team these last 3 years as Treasurer and then as Financial Secretary! Her commitment to the council and her willingness to try new areas of service is very appreciated and honored! Thank you Larina!

THANKS TO OUR 2008 VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

By Larina Hoffbeck

A huge thank you to our 2008 volunteers of the year: James Graham and Marlene Loftus.

James has donated countless hours to help keep SOV up-to-date with technology and goes far beyond the call of duty to welcome new families and help them adjust to life in our area.

Marlene comes in weekly to do the many housekeeping chores that make SOV a clean and welcoming place for all of us. She also pampers our church secretary and keeps our visitor bags filled and the children's clipboards supplied with activities and crayons.

RUMMAGE SALE AUGUST 15, AND 16 – SAVE THE DATES!!

By Peggy Vermaas

Organizational meeting dates: **Sunday July 6th and Sunday July 20th** – between services

PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE GENERAL FUND UP TO \$5,000. ALL MONIES OVER THAT AMOUNT WILL BE DISPERSED AS FOLLOWS: 2/3 TO KOK AND 1/3 TO OUR YOUTH PROGRAMS.

Greetings People of God,

Our rummage sale is now coming fast upon us. We have had a good response to the pre-collection process and that has helped us to know in advance that we will have merchandize to sell and, we are noticing, that the quality of the merchandize is very good.

Here is the list of items from the months of **MAY** and **JUNE** we are continuing to collect: kitchen items, linens, small appliances, storage containers, canisters, decorations for the kitchen, tablecloths and napkins, bed and bath towels and linens, sheets and pillow cases, bedding, picture frames, sewing items, craft supplies.

Here is the list of items for **JULY**: holiday costumes, holiday décor, vases, floral arrangements, wrapping paper and gift bags, Children's toys and books, Children's furniture, sports equipment, office supplies, yard equipment.

AUGUST COLLECTION: Clothing, jewelry, collectibles, large items/ furniture.



OVERALL PLAN:

August 3rd CLOTHING COLLECTION AND DISPLAY BEGINS

In general, the goal is to minimize the time this sale disrupts the church and KOK. **YOU CAN HELP!!!** Beginning on Sunday, August 3rd, clothing racks with wire hangers will be set up along the curved wall in the Rainbow room so they do not interfere with KOK and the after service social hour. There will be wire hangers available (or bring clothing on wire hangers if possible) and the racks will have organizational postings i.e. children's SML, Women's SML, Men's SML. If you are able to do so, please bring clothing and hang in the appropriate areas. Otherwise, volunteers will begin working on that task so we are cleaning, sorting, and displaying clothing over the two weeks prior to the sale.

August 10th STORED GOOD DELIVERED AND ALL MERCHANDIZE ACCEPTED

On Sunday, August 10th after service the rummage sale display tables will be set up in the sanctuary and their signs set on top of the tables, the goods delivered from storage, and set into their identified areas for unpacking and display. Boxes of mixed items or bags of goods will be placed in the area by the organ for volunteers to select and unpack to their display areas. As boxes are emptied they will be set out on the deck (weather permitting) to use for later repacking as needed. When tables are full of goods, additional goods will be kept in opened boxes but underneath the display tables where customers can still select items for sale. As tables are emptied, goods from underneath will be brought up for display on the tables and empty boxes removed to the

SOV RUMMAGE SALE—FRIDAY, AUG. 15TH & SATURDAY, AUG. 16TH

deck. As clothing is sold, emptied hangers will be collected into groups, wired together for storage, and placed out on the deck in a large plastic container. At the completion of the sale, left over items will be repacked, placed on the sidewalk area east of the entrance for pick by the Veteran's organization – unless another group is selected. Last year the clean up took a little over one hour with 8 people working on clean up.

August 14th – PRE-SALE TO SOV to congregation members and KOK staff and families.

August 15th and 16th Public Sale from 8 am to 6 pm.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. Extend our advertising by bringing one (or lots more!!!) acquaintance to the sale. If all SOV families brought one customer that would give us 100 new customers!! in addition to those we reach via our advertising.
2. Plan to bring your guests for our always delightful HOT DOG LUNCH!! and BAKE SALE. We made \$100 for our Youth last year and want to increase our proceeds this year.
3. Ask friends and neighbors for donations. Again, one small box of donations times 100 families will give us a lot of merchandize we otherwise would not receive.
4. Contribute to the Bake Sale. The Bake Sale was very well received by the public. If you can't attend the sale or otherwise donate, here is your chance. Send your donation with a friend.
5. SAVE THE DATES!!! We are all busy. Attending and participating is a plan. We need help with all aspects of delivery, preparation/set-up/pricing throughout the two weeks prior to the sale. We need to have 8 to 10 people on sight at all times once the sale begins. That is a lot of folks!! Numbers increase security and lighten the load!!

SUMMARY: We will soon begin the advertising and making calls to schedule our workers. We will appreciate your participation and look forward to this being a fun event for our congregation. DON'T WAIT FOR THAT CALL!!! LET US KNOW IN ADVANCE HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE. More details will follow. Watch the bulletin.



Hearing support is on it's way!

By James Graham

Do you or someone you love have difficulty hearing in church service? Please contact Peggy Vermaas, Diane Lewis, Arden Tarum, Matt Kotvis or James Graham with your story and questions so we can help to improve the worship experience for those with hearing issues. The church is moving forward with hearing support beyond the sound system speakers. We want to reach as many members in need as we can with this new ministry and help develop a system that will meet the needs of our members.

What we want to know is who needs help and what type of devices will provide the greatest benefit? Try to answer these questions in order to help find our best answer for our congregation:

1. Do you or loved ones wear hearing aids?
2. Do they have problems hearing during service with or without personal aids?
3. What type of hearing aids do they have or are considering?
4. Have you heard of T-Coil feature on hearing aids?
5. Would they be willing to wear an ear bud or head phone during service?



Your participation with gathering this information will assure that we get the correct technology for our church and that the choice of equipment will be used by those that need the extra audio support.

The systems in most cases use a receiver that the Ushers would have at the counter and folks would pickup and return for use during service.

James Graham, Matt Kotvis and Arden Tarum are the team that is doing the research and development of technology that will assist our members with hearing related needs. Peggy and Diane will be assist in gathering your feedback. Please take the time to contact any one of these five people in order to share your need to enhance your worship experience.

It is exciting to know that this project could be completed by the end of this year!

Thank you for your time, input and suggestions!

EXCERPTS FROM AN EXCHANGE STUDENT WITH MESSAGE FROM HOST PARENTS

*..."My name is Raewon Jang, 16 years old, and I'm from South Korea. I've lived in American since last September for a school year....first stepped on America, I was proud of myself, since nobody helped me and I arrived safety....it sounds might be boring, living with grandpa and grandma who are Rudy and Aggie Wageman, but I ever felt like that, because I don't have grand parents....I joined in Aloha high school couple of days later. At the first day of school, I was really impressive...Now, it's time to go back to Korea. I made many kinds of mistakes especially to my host family and friends...Also I figured out how the time flows fast as rocket, and how precious the time is. I don't know when I'm going to come back again, but I was really impressive living in America...."

*These are just excerpts from Raewon's letter which was included in one of the June bulletins. The complete letter written by Raewon is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Raewon was a wonderful addition to our family. We enjoyed having his company the last 9 months. Just as he mentioned in his letter that he would miss America, he missed two flights trying to get to Los Angeles on June 15. But he did call to say he made it home to South Korea on June 22.

Rudy & Aggie Wagemann

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MICHELLE

Dear Friends in Christ,

July 2008

Summer is finally here! I hope all of you are having a chance to catch your breath and enjoy the beautiful weather we've been having. Many of you have been or will be traveling; I pray that you will come back safely to us. As I write this, Gunnar Rasmussen is with an exchange program in Japan, Connie McFall is touring Italy with her granddaughter, and Daniel Carlson is enjoying the excitement of London. I also heard a rumor that Deniese Fredericks and Joyce Allison are going on an Alaskan cruise. I'm sure there are many other wonderful destinations for SOV members that I haven't heard about yet!... Those of us who are here "holding down the fort" at Shepherd of the Valley will look forward to swapping stories with you when you return.

The walk of Christian faith is often likened to a journey, and so even those of us who are staying home this summer are on a journey, both personally and as a congregation. Some of your sisters and brothers in Christ are at challenging crossroads in their lives, and I hope you will hold them close in prayer. As I write this, we have just learned that Theresa Kotvis has suffered a miscarriage as the result of an ectopic pregnancy and blood clot in one fallopian tube. Prayers for healing and peace in this time of loss are appreciated, as Theresa recovers at home. George and Evelyn Selzer suffered a terrible loss in their family last week when George's 21-year-old grandson was found dead under mysterious circumstances, and then just a few days later, the grandson's mother (George's daughter-in-law) died of pneumonia. They leave behind George's son, Tom, and a younger sister/daughter, who just finished her senior year in high school. Please pray for the whole Selzer family that they will find comfort in this time of great sorrow. Ann Smith has been in the hospital for five days now, and will likely spend the better part of another week there. She has had an angiogram and is now facing the possibility of a heart valve replacement. Jenny Graham was hospitalized last week with complications of congestive heart failure, including nausea and pneumonia. Thankfully, she has now gone home. It does seem that SOV has had more than its share of tough times, but on the bright side, you are all so wonderful about reaching out and caring for each other.... More and more, I am rediscovering the truth that the church is about relationships. It doesn't matter so much what style of worship you have or what curriculum you use for teaching, what matters is taking the time to get to know each other and to care for each other.

Needless to say, much of my work in recent days has been in the area of pastoral care. Yet the work of SOV's Call Committee also continues (see the article elsewhere in the newsletter), as do all the preparations for Vacation Bible School and for SOV's fall program year. Fall will be here before we know it, and so it's important that we plan ahead. I will be working with the members of the Parish Education Committee to restructure the organization of Sunday School for the fall. Part of this will include redefining the role of coordinator, so that tasks are divided up among several individuals. In addition, Mindy Ott, Debbie Johnson, and I will be working on revising the curriculum and expectations for confirmation.

I will be gone on vacation with my family July 7-13 and will keep you informed as to emergency pastoral care contacts. Again, I pray that this summer will be a time of renewal for all of us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Michelle

AROUND THE PARISH...SUBMITTED BY ANN SMITH

"Ladies Night out" We met at the Mongolian Grill. We had nine ladies there to eat and visit. We really had a fun time. We talked and laughed and ate way too much. Where or where will we go next time? It will be on June 17 at 6:30 Guess !

The traveling ladies Society had a couple of trips to report: Mert Warneking went to Nebraska for a cousins reunion. She was gone for a week. They had 24 cousins gathered. While there she saw other family members plus old friends.

Corrine Gilbertson went for a week to So. Cal for her grand-daughter's graduation but Larry told us today she came home sick so he says she may be restricted. Nothing slow about these ladies!

Have any of you worked on your genealogy ? WE all know there are 5 stages. I have listed them for you!

1. Denial= "I'm not related to you !"
2. Anger= "I'm related to you?"
3. Bargaining= OK, I'm related to you BUT only by marriage!"
4. Depression= "You mean I am related to YOu?"
5. Acceptance= "I guess I am related to you!"

Pretty simple huh??

Past Members of S.O.V. (sounds better than saying old members)

Do any of you remember Fred Warneking? He was very active in his church life. He and Mert were married in Nebraska and left on their honeymoon in June 1956 and they moved to Portland, Oregon. When they arrived they joined St. Matthew's in Beaverton. They had two children, a boy David and a daughter Sandy. They moved over to S.O.V. in 1979. Fred made the Doves and Fish and the two figures that hang like crosses at the front and back of the church. He died in 1984. Mert has remained very active in the refugee program sponsored by Social Concerns. Fred's Mother was born in New Guinea. Her father was a missionary from the German Lutheran Church. Fred was a partner with R. Morrison in their construction co that built S.O.V.

A small intimate Memorial Service was held on Wednesday, June 11th for Arlene Kruse. Her son Dean wrote her history which we all enjoyed reading. Cookies and coffee were served after the service.

"New to You" As of June 2008 we have collected \$916.92 from our program with the New to YOU selling used clothing. At this rate we are averaging about \$100.00 per month. You have really come through on this project. Keep those clean-used items coming into the Narthex, and we will keep hauling them to McMinnville! Thanks one and all!

Newspapers: We are doing pretty darn good on those too! Keep bringing in those newspapers We love seeing that drop box get full. I'm guessing but I think that is somewhere around \$100.00 per month. Do any of you have any suggestions for the use of these monies?

Rummage Sale: Are you getting ready for the big push in a couple of months? August will be here before you know it. We are collecting, storing items over at Vern Wik's place. Do you think it will be as big as last year? Speaking of Verna, did you see the front doors to the church? Verna applied a fresh coat of paint to both sides...THANK YOU VERNA!

Aug. of this summer, Sandeep is planning a trip to India, He would like to take a few items with him to go to the orphanage's over there. We have talked about good Christian books. Please feel free to ask him any questions you might have!

A big thanks to Kitty Heide who spent long hours putting together a picture album of SOV's 25th anniversary celebration. Unfortunately Kitty has moved to St. Helens and will be attending church there.

"Fathers Day" I just had to share my thoughts with all of you! I am sure that all of you saw what I saw! Katrina was standing next to her father in the choir loft. They were singing along, exchanging looks as they sang. You could see the love passing back and forth between father and daughter. It certainly did bring back some moments I shared with my father.