

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER

*"A CARING COMMUNITY TOUCHED BY CHRIST,
TOUCHING OTHERS FOR CHRIST"*



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS By Linda Rasmussen

This year, SOV's Sunday school served a total of 55 children ages preschool through 8th grade; 47 registered students and 8 guests. We had 8 volunteer teachers and assistants: Mindy Hart and Wendy Roeder 6th, 7th, and 8th grades; Harvey Andersen and Brenda Plinke 4th & 5th grades; Lisa Ramsey Barnes and Kathy Tabor 2nd and 3rd grades; Larina Hoffbeck Kindergarten and 1st grades; Linda Rasmussen Preschool; and 1 dependable, anonymous substitute teacher.

We met a total of 32 Sunday sessions with the theme All God's Children. Our children offered \$580.54 for the ELCA's Global Barnyard program; 120 pairs of mittens for Care to Share; \$229.33 for Care to Share; and 412 food and hygiene items to our own Shepherd's Storehouse. We chose to vary the theme monthly to let the children choose what to give.

We used the Come Join the Circle curriculum by LOGOS Publishing and supplemented it with teacher created materials and activities. Thematic units included: God Calls Sarah and Abraham; Jesus is Born; Jesus, the Teacher; Jesus, the Good Shepherd; and, Praying with Jesus.

Special activities enjoyed by the children this year included our Rally Sunday kickoff; our Christmas program, Ring the Bells for Christmas; Christmas Caroling at two senior centers; "Souper Bowl" Sunday Stone Soup; our Valentine service project; the annual Palm Sunday Egg Hunt; a special 2 Sunday Communion lesson with Pastor Michelle; and our end of the year VBS kickoff Mystery. We also put together a special memory book for the Rizer family after the loss of our beloved Pastor Kurt. Second grade children were presented with Bibles on Reformation Sunday.

We are grateful to God for the opportunity to serve the children of our parish and community and thankful for the wonderful volunteers who stepped up to share Christ's love with our children this past program year.

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN NEED YOU

Sunday School is looking for someone to step up and become coordinator for the 2008-09 program year. Please pray about this request and see if it might be the job for **you**. Linda Rasmussen is happy to have someone shadow her this program year to learn the ins and outs of Sunday School program planning and delivery. If this position speaks to you, please call Linda at 503.531.8699.

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Sunday School is also looking for teachers and substitute teachers. We would also like volunteers to help with planning activities for our 3rd through 5th grade youth group. Please call Linda Rasmussen at 503.531.8699 or Wendy Roeder at 503.690.0627 if you have time to share God's love with the children and youth of our parish.

THANK YOU SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Thank you to all the Sunday School teachers for giving your time, patience, creativity, love of Christ, and love for our children this program year. Your care for them is evident in the way they care for others in the world around them. You have given hands and feet to your faith and in turn our children are feeding Christ's sheep in our world. Thank you for your service and may God bless you in all your endeavors.