

**JUNE 2017**

# SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

## Shepherd's Office Hours:

Mon - Thurs  
Hours vary

## Interim Pastor

Tom Hiller  
Wed. - Fri.  
And by appt.

Office phone;  
503.645.4994  
Sovlutheran.com

## Summer Worship Services

8:30 a & 10:30 a

## Wednesday Bible Study

10:00 a

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

## Youth Group

Have you been spring cleaning??? We are going to have a rummage sale in mid-July and need your unwanted items! We will start a collection of items in July. All the proceeds will go towards the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston 2018.

Are you going to be in high school in 2018? If so, you are eligible to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston! Contact Stacey at [roedersi5@gmail.com](mailto:roedersi5@gmail.com) for more information.



**YOUTH  
GROUP**  
★ News ★



- June 27 - July 1, 2018 we will be gathering in Houston for the ELCA Youth Gathering.
- Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering.
- Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

## Interim Pastor Tom's Message

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Summer is approaching. That's great! We've all been looking forward to it. As wonderful as summer is, it's not always an easy time for congregations. Members begin to travel and go on vacation, and giving often goes down because of this absence. So, remember your offering this summer because, certainly, the church's expenses will still be there.



The above paragraph is common in many church notices this time of year. At other times, church councils have to send similar notices to their congregations when gifts have not kept up with expenses, or when special projects are being planned and there is a concern that there may not be enough money for the job.

At such times members of the congregation might be tempted to say, "Oh they're always asking for more money". There's an old joke that is also remembered at times of financial difficulty in a congregation: "The problem is not that we don't have enough money to give for the church's needs. We do have enough. The problem is that it's still in our pockets".

In the past, when I have written or spoken about the financial needs of my congregation I have found myself embarrassed about several things:

My salary is the biggest single item on the budget. It may look to some that the only reason I am talking about giving is because I want to be sure that I get paid. At the same time, there is an expectation that as the Pastor, I should encourage people to give.

Most of the time in my career as a Pastor I've been paid below the Synod suggested guidelines for the salary for a Pastor, sometimes significantly below. This has meant times of hardship for me and my family.

I still make more money than most people in the world. Compared to most people in the world, I am comparatively rich, even in times of hardship for me and my family. When I think of the total resources that God provides for our world, I realize that I am taking more than my share.

I'm not supposed to boast, but I tithe. I give at least 10% of my income to my congregation. I always have. Sometimes that feels like a boast. But I also know that as leader of the church I need to let people know that I do what I hope they would do and that God has provided for me and my family so that we are financially ok.

There are a number of realities concerning our financial gifts to our congregation:

It's not ours, it's God's. We do not truly own the stuff we possess. God has made us "stewards", caretakers, of that stuff. How much does God want in return? 10%? Of our gross or net? God doesn't want 10%, God wants 100%. God wants us to give 100% of the money, time, talent,

## Interim Pastor Tom's Message Contd.

skills, land, houses, and everything else we possess to God for the good of the church, our families, and our world. It doesn't belong to us anyway.

Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt.6:21). We usually interpret that to mean that if we want to see where our heart is, look where we spend our time and money. But there's another way to think about it. Nike says "Just do it". If you just exercise, in this case, even if you don't want to, eventually your habits will change and you will want to do it. Heart follows treasure. If we just give, even if it's hard, even if we don't want to or aren't used to it, eventually we will have a giving habit and we will want to give. We will learn how to give and how much to give.

God has given us responsibility and freedom in our stewardship decisions. Every day God says to us, "Here's the stuff that I have given you. You have the freedom and responsibility to decide how to use it. For church? Good. For charities? Good. For your family? Good. For your country? Good. For the earth? Good. For your own enjoyment? Good."

We need to give, for our sake. Consciously and conscientiously being involved in the stewardship of possessions causes us to be alert to where the Spirit is leading us in God's mission. It reminds us that we are a part of what God is doing in the world. We learn that we can depend on God providing for us and through us. Giving is good for us.

May the Spirit lead you in your stewardship decisions.

Pastor Tom

## June 4th is Confirmation Day!

On Pentecost Sunday, June 4, these young people will be affirming their baptism in the second service: Japhety Ngabireyimam, Jospin Mugisha, Matthew Vignolo, Swayam Jain, and Edward Niyongere. Please welcome these young people as they become confirmed members of our congregation!



## Council Presidents Report

Either because of computer error or – more likely – user error, my article for the May newsletter was sent toward the end of April but not received by Tammy until early in May. There was some information, however, which I did want to make certain was expressed so, a little late, I offer:

I would like to thank Jon, the choir, the band and our guest musicians for the incredible music on Easter Sunday. Jon's skill is apparent, and we are so fortunate to have him as our Director of Music! In addition, I would like to thank Stacey Roeder and the youth who served such a wonderful breakfast between services. The food was tasty, and the hard work was very much appreciated. Thanks also must go out to Pastor Tom. He stepped in at SOV so effortlessly (it seems) and shares his message with each and every one of us each and every week. We are honestly blessed to have him.

Having said that about Pastor, though, I cannot help but be excited about the news that the Call Committee shared with us recently. They have a candidate they would like to introduce to us! This committee has worked very hard for over a year to seek out the right Pastor for SOV. They never wanted to settle; they always wanted to find the person who would be the best fit. I think it must have been difficult at times to continue to hold to that ideal, but we are so thankful they have. Update: Over 100 members and friends attended service on May 21 and heard our pastoral candidate, Dan Heath, preach. After getting a bite to eat from the marvelous array of food provided, we then had a question and answer period with him.

At this point, the Call Committee is recommending we call Pastor Dan and so we will have a vote to call on Sunday, June 11. That date probably sounds familiar as it is also the date that we will be having our annual meeting. The plan for the day is to have the annual meeting immediately following the 10:00 service and then to adjourn that meeting at the conclusion and convene the meeting to vote on calling Pastor Dan. If the vote to call is positive, we will also vote on his salary and benefits package.

During the annual meeting, we will be receiving reports from Council Committees, voting for Council Committee members and for the two open Executive positions (President and Treasurer), and voting for the amendment to clarify Section 11.03 of the Constitution.

I also want to send best wishes to Jon as he leaves for New York City on June 5. As you have probably heard, the musical he wrote is receiving production in NYC this summer as part of the New York Musical Festival. He will be gone from June 5 until July 23. He has arranged for Scott Bradner to fill in for him and hold down the fort. You may know Scott already as he has played for us and filled in for Jon in the past. I am sure you are as excited for Jon as I am! I am especially excited because he assured me that he will be returning. Bon Voyage, Jon. I doubt they say, "break a leg" to the play's writer so I hope the occasion is all you want it to be and more.

Blessings to you all!

Linnea Harmon

**JULY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE JUNE 27th**

## Reflections of a Parish Nurse

The following appeared in the *Shepherd of the Valley Newsletter*, written by **Corrine Gilbertson**, parish nurse:

"I spent some time thinking of pastor's Sunday sermon—particularly the phrase—'What does **WELLNESS**—mean to you?' I could best describe my interpretation of that question by sharing an incident that took place in my life a few months back. I had just boarded the Max train at the Convention Center after an 8-hr work day.

Not long after someone gave me their seating space, I heard

this giggling and laughing coming from somewhere behind me. It

was so refreshing and of course I had to see who was responsible for this laughter and in turning around I saw this beautiful girl with black curly locks and a smile big as a house—maybe 10 years of age—and her little sister and mother. This girl was playing a game of sorts with mother and sister and they were all laughing.

So First I **HEARD** the JOY and then I **SAW** the JOY—**AND** then I saw **WELLNESS!**—and then—and only then did I see that this beautiful girl was in a



wheelchair—and this beautiful little girl had no legs and her arms only extended to above the elbows—but I saw wellness as **NEVER** before! Amidst all her diversities—she was **WELL** and sharing her joy and love with those around her.

I only wished I could have spent a few minutes with them but they departed at the next stop. This was a special moment in my life. Thank God for this special moment! They say that real life is about these special moments and not about the week in Hawaii or winning the lottery! **I BELIEVE IT!"**

## One Scrip Order in June

June 4th

### Columbia Sportswear

#### **Employee Store Passes - we still have 250 passes.**

For every \$50 Columbia Sportswear scrip card purchased, you will receive 1 pass to the Employee Store.  
(good for up to 5 people per entry)

This can also be used on online purchases when logging into the website link on the back of the pass.

This give you up to 50% off your purchase.

There are only a limited supply - we still have enough for next week - so don't wait to order. Just in time for Mother's Day, Father's Day, Graduation gifts or just getting ready for the summer months.

Passes expire June 14th.

# Couples Night

Thursday, June 1, 2017

6:00 PM

Cruise In Country Diner

9785 SW River Rd

Hillsboro, OR 97123

ALL COUPLES INVITED FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP



## 2017 SOV Graduates

### Come join the celebration on June 18!

June 18 we will be honoring our SOV graduates. Cake and punch will be served between our 8:30 and 10:30 services. Cards for each graduate will be available to sign. We are working on getting a bio of each graduate as well as a current photo or a group of photo's that the family might want to share at our SOV Graduate celebration. We are asking that any family that has a graduate send the bio and photo's to Tammy at her email: [secretarysov@gmail.com](mailto:secretarysov@gmail.com) or to Diane Lewis: [delewis911@aol.com](mailto:delewis911@aol.com).

If you have a high school, college or graduate school graduate please let us know! Our church family has a long standing tradition of honoring our special graduates!

It would be fun to do a slide show of our Graduates! Let's have fun and have friends and family share pictures or even messages for us to make this a special day! We need this information and photos as soon as you can send them in. Please try to get everything into the church by June 10.





## Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool

### Fairytale Fun For our Prek/K Class

For the last month of school, our Prek/K class is studying fairytales. We are reading and comparing multiple versions of the “Three Little Pigs,” “Goldilocks,” and “Little Red Riding Hood.” Story-retelling is happening through art, science, and math. At the end of each week, we are acting the story out as a class. It should be lots of fun! Our last day of school will be June 15th.



### Registration for September

Our classes are getting full for the coming school year. We will be offering tours during the summer by appointment. If you are someone you know is interested in finding out more, please email us at [kokpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:kokpreschool@gmail.com).



### Thank You SOV

Thank you to everyone at SOV for a great school year. We appreciate the church's backing in making it possible for us to love and serve the families who come to Kids of the Kingdom for preschool. Many families are impacted in positive ways through the ministry of KOK.

The KOK board members, Debbie Johnson, Wendy Roeder, Lisa Ramsey, Christine Learned, and Linda Rasmussen have been a great support to the school. And thank you to Arden and Michael Johnson for their help in keeping the facilities and playground in good working order.



**JULY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE JUNE 27TH**

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

4 Ellen R

10 Adrian G

10 Edward N

10 Anita R

10 Wendy R

11 Judy F

12 Matt K

12 Valsala K

12 Wesley P

14 Emily V

27 Sara P



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

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

*Dick & Charleen Kuykendall*  
*June 20th*

*Eric & Diane Lewis*  
*June 22nd*

*Bob & Lisa McIntyre*  
*June 23rd*

*Marv & Sheila Voss*  
*June 25th*




*Gary & Tabitha McVey*  
*June 26th*

*Ken & Brenda Plinke*  
*June 28th*





# June 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Holy Spirit, we ask You to fill us with the knowledge of Your will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding. Help us to walk worthy and fully pleasing before You. As a Church Family, help us to be fruitful in every good work and to increase in Your knowledge. Teach us how to live together in unity. Walk us through the steps to restore balance to our Church Family. Please strengthen us and help us to represent Your Kingdom in the earth.</i></p>				1	2	3
				9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool  6:00 pm Couples Night at	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool	9:30 - 11:30 am SOV Choir rehearsal
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Summer worship begins 8:30 & 10:30 Pentecost Sunday (wear red) OEC 1:30 pm 5:00 pm Baby Shower Regina & Desire	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool  	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool  10:00 am Bible Study	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool	9:30 - 11:30 am SOV Choir rehearsal
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
One Worship Service at 10:00 am Congregational Annual Meeting OEC 1:30 pm	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool  10:00 am Bible Study	9:00 - 1:00 pm KOK Preschool		9:30 - 11:30 am SOV Choir rehearsal
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30 & 10:30 a Worship  2017 Graduation Celebration  OEC 1:30 pm			10:00 am Bible Study			9:30 - 11:30 am SOV Choir rehearsal
25	26	27	28	29	30	
8:30 & 10:30 a Worship OEC 1:30 pm			10:00 am Bible Study			