

MARCH 2012

# SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH 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

Fall Worship Services  
8:30 a & 11:00 a

Sunday School  
9:45 all ages

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

# YOUTH GROUP NEWS...

## HS Youth Group Outing

Sunday, March 11th  
Omnimax Movie  
Meet at SOV 12:00 p \$8.50



## MS Youth Group Outing

Sunday, March 4th Omsi Day  
Meet at SOV 12:00 p return at 5:30 p  
\$2.00 for admission + \$ for lunch



No Youth Group Meetings  
in March for  
HS or MS

## PASTOR'S PAGE



*"...there is hope for your future, says the Lord..." Jeremiah 31:17*

We may, in a days time, or in a week, find ourselves in all kinds of places in regards to hope. That may happen to us as individuals, as a community, even as a country.

This time of the year may sometimes play that out in a microcosm. There are the gray, chilling days that can drag on. Then there are moments of sun, warmth and the promise of spring. And there are the green shoots popping up everywhere, forgotten buried bulbs offering a reminder of life enriched, and hope for the future, but in the present as well.

Received a reminder of that hope for the future, presently expressed, from my littlest grand daughter Daphne. Taking care of her the other day. When I got to her house she was sleeping, and the her mom went off to work. Daphne woke up, none to happy, and after cradling her sobbing body in my arms she eventually drifted back to sleep. And I had a chance to study her as she slept, to look at her curls, which have just grown in over the last couple of months. To watch her deep, comforting breaths. To feel her warmth on my side (as my arm fell asleep).

There was hope in my arms, and not just for the future. There was a miracle in my arms "now". The realities and challenges of life did not go away, but they were framed differently to be sure. Will I hang on to that moment to moment? I know myself better than that, but God knows better than me, and that is why those words are there for us all, "there is hope for your future, says the Lord". May that be known to all of us.

In Christ,  
Pastor Randy

## COUNCIL PRESIDENTS REPORT...Submitted by Lee Bonacker

It's a pleasure to report that there are now twelve people on the Strategic Planning Task Force. Thank you to all the people who signed up. It is still not too late to join and we are a bit light for representation on youth issues. These meetings will be open, so you can come and listen to the discussions any time. We are working on the first meeting time in the next week or so, and there will be minutes available so you can follow the progress.

So now I would like to take some time and talk about finance issues. We had the congregational meeting in January and passed a budget with a significant shortfall. That has happened often before, and somehow through the years, SOV's needs have been met and operations hang together through God's grace. Back in 2004, one of the goals for SOV was to have a fully funded budget, which we haven't really achieved in a consistent manner. I think we are suffering from "budget fatigue" a little bit on this subject, too.



So what does a budget really do? It's a best guess on what will happen when trying to pay the bills. The expense part of our budget is very close to the past several years. An extensive effort was made several years ago to pare the expenses down to bare bones, and has proven to be pretty realistic. The income part is based on projections for Sunday giving and other sources like rent from the OEC church, that Betty discussed at the Congregational Meeting. I used to shudder at the phrase, "budget of faith", because as a bookkeeper I want a budget of cash. But, after being on Council I do understand that a budget of faith is pretty much what we have always had. Of course God meets our needs. But we still have to act in as responsible a manner as we can with the information we have. Add to this mix the fact that there are always special projects that come up and are a lot more appealing than just covering a projected shortfall in daily operations.

So I thought it would be useful to let the congregation know what Council has to consider when facing a budget that isn't fully funded. Earlier, when a person wanted to raise funds, they got to determine where the funds were spent. The logic was that if they were going to all the trouble to help raise the funds, they should have a say in where the funds went. In the past two - three years Council has decided that if a fundraising event is held for anything other than Youth events, the money should first go to the general fund to clear up any budget shortfall. After all, how could fund raising monies be accepted before considering paying the bills first? So that decision is directed towards organized fundraising efforts like the rummage sale, for example.

Now does that decision mean that if there is something special you as an individual want to do as a gift for the church, you can't? - of course not. Does that decision mean that you can't do a memorial for someone? - of course not. Does that decision mean that there will be no special projects that would be nice to fund? - of course not. The decision to direct organized fund raising to the general fund is an effort to deal responsibly with the contradictory position presented by a potential shortness of cash.

With a budget, one month may be high and one may be low, and the whole year is part of the picture. As anyone who has a checkbook knows, the actual cash you have available at any specific moment is the most immediate determining factor in whether the bills get paid. At the end of January, there was a very small cash cushion of less than \$600. So Council will be

## Presidents Report Contd.

looking at expenses very carefully in the next couple months and through the summer when Sunday giving is usually low. So, please to look at the figures that Betty puts in the bulletin every week. There is a reason they are there.

Ok, all that being said – guess what? There are some special projects that you will be hearing about. The ADA front doors are proving to be more expensive than the original estimate. You may have already heard about the excellent idea to have a sign board out front, with letters that can be changed. Property management has an estimate for a split HVAC system for the side of the building that can't be vented. It would be nice to have a handrail by the KOK entrance for safety. Is it unusual to have a wish list and still have cash flow issues? Of course not! It's just life.

So now you have a taste of what Council thrashes around in meetings, when considering the subject of money. Of course, your ideas and comments are more than welcome because Council is a representative body and it's all about you. Or should I say, "us" in the Body of Christ sense, because really it's all about Him.

## Greetings from the Prayer Team!

**Prayer Requests:** We want to let you know of the many ways you can receive prayer.

- If you would like to ask for prayers from the congregation, please continue to notify Tammy, especially if you have an urgent need. Please let her know if you would like the request to be confidential, limited to the Prayer Team only, or if it can go out to the congregation.
- You can also fill out a prayer request cards and place it in the prayer box located in the narthex.
- Prayer requests can be left with the ushers for those who would like their request included in the service during the Prayers of the Church.
- If you indicate a need on the prayer request card, Pastor Randy or a member of the prayer team would be glad to meet with you and pray together with you.

Prayer partners are available after services to meet one-on-one and pray together with anyone who has a need. If you are interested in serving as a prayer partner, please let me know.

The next Prayer Team meeting is on Tuesday, March 13th, at 6:30 p.m. Please consider joining us. We'd love to see you there!

Blessings,

Sandra Carasco



**APRIL NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE MARCH 20TH**

## Fellowship Committee... Submitted by Diane

The SOV Fellowship team is listening to the comments that have been shared with us about the need for time to have time together. We hope that you will mark your calendars and be part of the varied opportunities to connect with your church family in the next 4 months.

**March in Oregon signals “Spring Break”** and it also finds us liturgically in the season of Lent. We will mark the Sunday’s in March as a break from food being served during Fellowship time. Beverages will be available and we will encourage our congregation to take this time to reflect on the direction the majority would like to take in providing food as part of our Fellowship time. We hope each of you will think about how you can help in providing food, clean up, set up or making donations to our Sunday fellowship time between and after services on Sunday.



**April 1 is Palm Sunday**, or otherwise known as Passion Sunday, the Fellowship team will be organizing a 5:30 PM “Dinner and Movie night”. The movie will be the Mel Gibson movie, “The Passion of Christ”. We want to offer the option of Easter related movies that would be more appropriate for younger children that will include adult supervision. Please let the Fellowship team know if this option works for your family so that we can plan accordingly. Spaghetti, French bread, salad and dessert will be available for a minimum donation of \$5 a person or \$10 a family. SOV Youth Group will help with food service and youth movie supervision as this fund raiser will help fund their trip to the New Orleans Youth Gathering. Advance tickets will be sold as well as at the door. This will help us in purchasing the food for the event. Everyone is asked to bring a friend and take advantage in preparing for Holy Week by sharing this time together as we revisit the story of the passion of Christ. Our dinner will be ready to go by 5:30 PM. We will also offer a non tomato base sauce.

**April 29, at 5:30 PM** will be a “Dedication and Celebration” party as we share an “Old Fashion Lutheran Potluck”! When we look around at what has been accomplished, donated and designated it offers a perfect opportunity to lift all we have in thanks for the blessings that God has given our congregation. Part of being good Stewards of what we have been given is to give God the Glory, share time together as a family of Christ and celebrate what Christ has helped us accomplish. We will celebrate and dedicate the completion of the Building renewal program, the gift of our new organ, our new blinds, new In Focus machine and all the donated time, energy and other gifts. A to L bring a main dish, M to Z bring a salad or side dish. We will provide more information on this event in the April newsletter. We hope to have some entertainment. Plans are still in the process so if you have ideas please feel free to share them with the Fellowship team. Invite your friends and family to share in the fun, fellowship, food and excitement of how God has blessed us as a family of Christ at SOV.

**May 5, 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM.** Baby Shower Brunch! We will be having a baby shower for **Denise and Ben Miles** as they prepare for the arrival of their baby boy in June. If you would like to help, contact any one of us on the Fellowship team. Watch for more details in the April newsletter.

## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE CONTINUED...

**June 3, 5:30 to 7PM.** “Young at Heart”, “Forever Young” or “Senior Spotlight”! The congregation is invited to a new annual event to celebrate our members 80 years young and beyond! Each member that has or will be turning 80 will be formally inducted into this elite group of our SOV family. We are still in the planning stages and there is a lot of opportunity to help us pick a name, offer suggestions and participate in planning this party.

We are always open to new ideas and participation in creating time together as a family of Christ at SOV. Come and share time together, invite your family and friends as we enrich our relationships as a family of Christ through fellowship.

In Christ,

Peggy Vermaas, Diane Lewis, Tabitha McVey, Sharon Graalum, Tammy McDonald and Brenda Plinke

### Ladies Lunch

Tuesday , March 6th 12:00 pm

Chang's Mongolian Grill

1935 Northwest 167th Place Beaverton, OR 97006

Please RSVP to Charleen

(All ladies are invited as well as friends and family)



### Men's night meets the first Thursday of each month.

March 1st

Old Chicago Pizza/Tanasbourne

6:30 pm

All men are invited for a time of fellowship



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## YOUTH GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP...

In the summer of July 2012, the high school youth group is going on a faith journey to New Orleans for the ELCA youth gathering. The cost of this trip is \$1200 per person and eight of us are going. Although we have been actively fundraising for this trip, we need the money by mid-March and our main fundraiser will be done in in late June/early July. Therefore, we need your help getting the money by March. We are asking for loans and donations to help make this trip possible. All loans will be paid after our main fundraiser is done in early July. We will greatly appreciate any help from you. If you would like to write a check, please make it out to Shepherd of the Valley with '2012 Youth Gathering' on the memo line. Checks can be given to either Stacey or Caitlin or brought to the SOV office at any time. They can also be dropped off in the offering on Sunday. Please specify if it is a loan or a donation when you turn it in. Thank you for your ongoing support.

In God's Peace,

Solveig Rasmussen, Megan Myers, Austin McDonald, Michael Wagemann, Katrina Tabor, and Divine Irambona.

## SOV Welcomes New Members

Mark & Deirdre A., Elaine K. and Justin S.

- **Mark and Deirdre;**

Mark is an Engineer at Intel, Deirdre is a researcher in the biomedical engineering department at OHSU.

They have lived in the area 3 1/2 years, both from the Midwest where there families remain and are expecting their first child in April.



**March 11th**

**(turn your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed Saturday March 10th so you wont be late for worship on Sunday)**

# MARCH BIRTHDAYS

01 Doug H.	16 Don R.
04 Johana H.	18 Rebecca T.
08 Chris G.	20 Chelsea P.
10 Jameson T.	24 Japhety N.
11 Craig H.	24 Kristi R.
11 Nicole S.	28 Darin H.
12 Matthew V.	30 Hope R.
16 Michael J.	



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

# MARCH ANNIVERSARIES



*Ron & Judy Farnsworth*

*March 4th*

*A. Mark & Doina Branes*

*March 12th*

*Bob & Connie McFall*

*March 16th*

*Arden & Erin Tarum*

*March 17th*

*Randy & Choice Schutt*

*March 30th*



## Midweek Lenten Series: You Shall Love the Lord Your God

*In Mark 12, a scribe comes to ask Jesus, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answers, "The first is, Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Mark 12:28-30). Jesus responds to the scribe's question with words from the Shema, the passage from Deuteronomy 6 that is recited daily by many of the Jewish faith. These words form a covenant between God and God's people and show us a way to respond to this God who so extravagantly loves us through the cross.*

### 2012 LENTEN SCHEDULE

*Lenten Soup/Supper Wednesdays with Vesper Service;*

*February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28 (5:45 p soup; 6:30 p Vesper Service)*

### Holy Week

*Palm Sunday; April 1, worship @ 8:30 & 11:00 a*

*Healing Service; Wednesday April 4 @ 6:30 p*

*Maundy Thursday; Service @ 6:30 p*

*Good Friday; Service @ 6:30 p*

*Easter Sunday; April 8, worship @ 8:30 & 11:00 a*



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# Kids of the Kingdom

We are now registering children for Fall 2012 classes. Please check us out on the web ([www.sovlutheran.com](http://www.sovlutheran.com)) or on facebook. Share the news with your friends.

## No School March 26-30-closed for Spring Break.

**Pre-K class:** February was a time to think about love in Pre-K. We read several stories about friendship, families, valentines, and Jesus Loves Me! We listened to many bible stories including Jesus blessing the children, the Good Samaritan, Zacchaeus, and Mary and Martha. Our dramatic play area became both a bakery and a soup kitchen. We enjoyed a friendship soup activity and then ate friendship soup. We had great fun celebrating Valentine's Day with our friends and enjoyed a special Valentine's treat. We listened to many of Dr. Seuss' rhyming books and ate green eggs and ham! We also collected food for the Oregon Food Bank and took a walking field trip to deliver it and check out their facility. We are putting our love into action!



Looking ahead to March we will be talking about weather. We will also learn about Noah, Jesus calming a storm, and many of Jesus' miracles. We will see the changes that come with spring and start talking about Palm Sunday and Easter. We will continue graphing, patterning and working with letters and sounds. We may even start keeping track of words that we can recognize. We will continue to praise and thank our loving God.

Submitted by Mrs. Rasmussen

**Three's Class:** In February, we talked a lot about love! We learned about how God shows us His love, how to love our neighbor, and that our family and friends love us very much. We had so much fun singing songs and reading stories about making friends and loving others. We had a very fun Valentine's Day celebration! Our families joined us to exchange valentines and decorate cookies. We also learned about the amazing miracles that Jesus performed and learned how we can be great helpers in our community. We visited the food bank to make a donation to those in need. We practiced sorting by size and shape, worked on number recognition and counting, had a scavenger hunt and cut with scissors.

March will bring weather and Spring to our classroom. We will be talking and doing lots of activities about Noah's Ark and Palm Sunday. We will remember God's promise by creating rainbows. We are excited to explore all different types of weather. We will read and act out stories, sing songs, and create art about sun, rain, wind and flowers. We will continue to build friendships as well as work on playing cooperatively, name recognition, letters and letter sounds, numbers and counting, shapes, and colors.

Submitted by Mrs. Wolf

**Two's Time Class:** February was our LOVE month where we learned about hearts and how to be good friends and helpers. We made a friendship tree and a Jesus Loves Me planter. We played fire fighter and doctor/hospital. We read about the AMAZING things Jesus did like healing the sick and feeding the 5,000. We brought canned goods for the preschool food drive.

The first part of March has us marching two by two in acting out the story of Noah's Ark and remembering that God keeps His Promises. We will also talk about rain and rainbows and make rain with a strainer and handprint painted rainbows. We will then play with farm animals and read the story of the Lost Sheep. Toward the end of March, we will talk about Palm Sunday, sing Hosanna and learn what lives in and around ponds.



Submitted by Mrs. Roeder

## SOV's Strategic Planning Task Force Committee

The committee has been formed and held their first meeting February 27th.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 6th @ 7:30 pm (this meeting is open to the congregation)

Committee Members are: (and committees they represent)

Ann S. (Executive council & worship)

Arden T. (property management & Memorial endowment)

Bill H. (property management)

Bob M. (Building & Stewardship)

Cal S. (Building)

Elaine K. (New Member/Congregation)

Harvey A. (Evangelism & Prayer Team)

Linnea H. (Building & Social Concerns)

Marlene L. (Fellowship)

Matt K. (Property Management)






Reynold R. (Building)

Tom B. (Property Management)

Linda R. (KOK)

Ben M. (Congregation)

# March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<p>1</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 6:30 p Men's Night @ Old Chicago</p> <p>7:30 p OEC</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>3</p> 
<p>4</p> <p>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship Birthday Sunday Blood Pressure's MS Youth group to Omsi 12:00 p 1:30 p OEC</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:00 a KOK/Chapel 12:00 p Ladies Luncheon @ Chang's Mongolian Grill 6:00 p Exec. Council Mtg</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group @ Starbucks 10:00 a Bible Study 5:45 p Soup Supper 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir Practice</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 11:00 a Evangelism Mtg 7:00 p LLL</p> <p>7:30 p OEC</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>10</p> 
<p>11</p> <p>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship Scrip Order HS Youth group to Omsi 12:00 p 1:30 p OEC Daylight saving time</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 a KOK/Chapel</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group @ Starbucks 10:00 a Bible Study 5:45 p Soup Supper 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir Practice</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:00 a KOK 10:00 a LLL 7:00 p Council Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p> <p>7:30 p OEC</p>	<p>17</p> 
<p>18</p> <p>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship 1:30 p OEC</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 a KOK/Chapel</p> 	<p>21</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group @ Starbucks 10:00 a Bible Study 5:45 p Soup Supper 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir Practice</p>	<p>22</p> <p>12:00 p All Church Luncheon</p> <p>7:30 p OEC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 a KOK</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship 1:30 p OEC</p> 	<p>26</p>  <p>Spring Break</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Spring Break</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:15 a Coffee Group @ Starbucks 10:00 a Bible Study 5:45 p Soup Supper 6:30 p Vesper Service</p> <p>Spring Break</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:30 p OEC</p> <p>Spring Break</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Spring Break</p>	<p>31</p> 