

**MAY  
2009**

# **SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER**



## **Good Bye and Thank you**

**From Pastor Michelle**

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Dear SOV friends,

Although it's not easy saying good-bye, you helped make my last Sunday a wonderful day! Thank you so much for the beautiful gifts, the good food, and for your warm words and hugs! A special thank you to the Soggy Bottom Beaverdam Boys, the Youth Choir, and the Burundi singers for sharing their musical talents! I'll keep you all in my prayers in the days ahead, as you prepare to welcome Pastor Randy. I look forward to seeing you again at his installation service—which I'm sure will be another opportunity for some amazing SOV hospitality and fellowship!

God's Blessings,

Pastor Michelle Manicke

## **Building Committee/Easement Issues**

by Peggy Vermaas

Recently the Building Committee and the Council authorized the hiring of an attorney to help Shepherd address the easement issues on our property. Jack Orchards agreed to take our case and will be billing us on an hourly rate for his services. Jack is a former member of Shepherd and his practice specializes in land use issues. We feel very fortunate that he will be working with us. Please watch the newsletter for updates on our progress.

# ACCEPTING DIFFERENCES

Submitted by Kristi Ray

How do you notice a new person in the room? Someone wearing a pretty coat? A party guest with a great smile? You watch them, check them out or look at the eye-catching object. And when caught, do you avoid eye contact with them? Let's be honest. We observe them and if they are interesting or non-threatening, we smile or wave when they catch us looking and move on. In other words, if we like them, we *acknowledge* them with a non-verbal greeting. We should teach our children that this is the same regardless of the person's skin color, age, or abilities.

Most people agree but do not practice what they preach. How many times have we looked away from someone in a wheelchair or told our kids not to stare at someone with an atypical ability? As a mom with a child who has special needs, I have become aware of the way our culture encourages this non-existence of people who are unlike us. I was equally guilty of this negative exclusive behavior until I analyzed my discomfort of the public's reactions to Paul.

It is okay to look or watch people with special abilities and if you are caught, *smile*, do not pretend that you were not looking. Avoiding their eyes, pulling children's pointing fingers out of sight and walking quickly by while whispering, 'Don't stare. That's rude,' simply encourages the belief that there is something wrong and therefore "bad" with that individual. The watched begin to feel as if they do not belong.

Think back to a time when people were pointing at you and whispering behind their hands. You probably started checking your pants to see if the zipper was up, your shoe to make sure there was no toilet paper on it, and the back of yourself to see if you sat in something. You began to wonder if you said or did something inappropriate. If you felt like this on the few occasions it has occurred to, you can image the intensity that occurs from the daily barrage of this avoidance.

Some have argued with me that we should not encourage children to greet strangers. So let me clarify, that I am not asking children to go up to the differ-ability person but to acknowledge the individual. A simple smile, nod of the head, or wave of the hand is okay. Children pick up subtle body cues. I know my oldest, Mitch, learned by the age of two, to nod his head or raise his hand slightly to a driver that stopped or slowed down for us in a parking lot. If you are okay with them approaching or speaking to strangers, let the children say "Hi". The few times I told Mitch to say "Hi", the challenged smiled to themselves and went on forgetting that they could respond in kind.

The next courtesy to remember is that curious children need to understand how to respect the privacy of these people. If the child has a question, it is okay to ask. When the answer is shorter than the question though, the child should stop asking more. If the answer is longer than the question, the individual is probably okay with talking about him or herself. The stranger might even be delighted that he/she was treated with acceptance. Encourage your child to share a compliment before asking a question though. For example, "Your wheels are shiny," "I love the color of your cast," or "Your dog is nice." They do not need to comment on the physical attributes of the individual but they don't have to ignore "the elephant in the room" either.

Let us teach our children to really accept everyone and not to continue the awkward un-acceptance our parents taught us. All people regardless of skin color, age or ability should be acknowledged with kindness and respect and not an avoidance of politeness.

## **SO LONG, FAREWELL, AUFWIEDERSEHN, GOOD-BYE**

“So long, farewell”....you might recognize those words from a song in the movie “Sound of Music”. Well, I am not about to sing to everyone’s relief – but I did enjoy my position at SOV for the past eight years as secretary for the church. The most enjoyable part for me has been getting to know the majority of folks who attend this church – what a wonderful and caring membership here at SOV. As I head north to a small (450 people) retirement community at the end of the road- REALLY – I know that I will think back over the last few years and all the happenings in this church. As I leave, I know that SOV will continue to move forward and thrive with a new Pastor and a new secretary (please be kind to her – at least for the first few hrs). Thanks to everyone for being so kind to me during my tenure here – I will be back to visit on occasion and maybe even meet my cohort in crime (Joyce) here and the two of us can disrupt your otherwise calm Sunday.

### **Upcoming Events Offered by Northwest Oregon Group, Thrivent Financial:**

July 30, 2009 - 6:00 pm	Quarterly Investment Update	Lake Oswego Office
July 31, 2009 - 12:00 pm	Quarterly Investment Update	Lake Oswego Office

You are invited to join us for one or more of these informative events to be held at our Lake Oswego office, 4000 Kruse Way Place. Please call to reserve a space no later than the day before each workshop. Phone us at 503-635-2003 if you have any questions or would like to sign up.

### **SOCIAL CONCERNS FOR MAY....SUBMITTED BY MERT WARNEKING**

In February we spent 61 hours, 580 miles, \$11.00 on refugees, and received \$200.00 in donations. We gave 13 food baskets and received \$15.00 in donated food and \$112.00 in donated food from Light of Life, plus we spent \$134.00

Health kits were assembled April 26th. We received \$120.00 and the kits cost about \$11.00 each.

We’re looking for new people to join our committee. If you're interested in joining our committee please let Mert know. We’d be happy to have you join us.



*“be generous and ready to share. By doing that, they will be saving a treasure for themselves as a strong foundation for the future. Then they will be able to have the life that is true life. “*

1 Timothy 6:18b, 19 NCV

As we approach the first anniversary of our three year Capital Campaign now is the time to reflect the importance of the Campaign funds as a lifeline to the future. This is a time for *living and giving the way Jesus taught*. Even in this current economic climate. God’s purposes and plans are never curtailed by economic downturns.

We live in a world of abundance, not scarcity. Greed, dishonesty and crime have their effect, but there is always “more” than “less.” An abundance mentality reflects God’s nature, and whatever God expects, He provides.

The future of SOV’s ministry includes capital expansion through, constructing of a new building, and renovating the existing building, If we stop planning for greater impact, growth will also stop, resulting in less people reached and fewer lives changed. Only those churches who keep dreaming God’s dreams, forming His vision with leaders taking action, will find the courage, strength and a path for accomplishing what only God can do through them.

Discover the joy of *living and giving the way Jesus taught* as we grow spiritually and in our giving. This process strengthens the spiritual fiber of *our* church. As we prepare for our one year anniversary re-commitment Sunday consider your joy of *living and giving the way Jesus taught...*

Tammy McDonald  
Bob McFall  
Capital Campaign Directors

## Nominating Committee...submitted by LeeAnn Bonaker

Dear Congregation,

The committee is hard at work brainstorming and asking members to be part of next year's Council and committees. There is a welcome place for everyone, because we all have gifts to offer each other. If the idea of helping on a committee is a bit intimidating, please don't worry about what you may see as your lacks. In 2nd Corinthians 8:12 is the beautiful verse: "For if there is first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what one has, and not according to what one does not have." Even St. Paul had to ask for assistance with church issues, so we are all in the same boat. Let's help SOV sail forward during this exciting time. Please consider serving on a committee. You may grow in ways you never expected, because God enables us to make Him happy. Here are areas where your help would be very appreciated:

***Worship, Fellowship, Parish Education, Evangelism and Outreach, Social Concerns, Parish Nurse program, Stewardship, Property Management, Building, Capital Campaign, Audit and Executive Committees***

## Saying Good Bye to our Secretary... by Peggy Vermaas

As many of you may already know, our church secretary of many years has decided to retire and has submitted her resignation expecting to leave us in mid May. She will be moving to Washington State where she and her husband will begin to enjoy this next phase in their lives. Nancy began at Shepherd of the Valley when Pastor Kurt arrived. She has been a wonderful part of the Shepherd family ever since. Please take time, if you haven't already, to thank her for her years of service to our congregation and wish her the best in her retirement.

## "Mikes" and "Lites" ... by LeeAnn Bonaker

Did you notice how wonderful the choir sounds? The choir is now miked from the ceiling in two places, so they don't have to rely on hand microphones anymore. That is just one of the reasons that they sound so good. Kudos to Arden, Jim and everyone who helped install the microphones and lights.



## Around the Parish...By Ann Smith

Thursday March 26, The Rebecca Ladies met at the church at 9:30 am. It was a work day, we cleaned the fridge, we vacuumed, cleaned some cupboards, dusted. Then we talked with Betty Stoltenburg about what was needed to build the children's costumes for the Christmas Pageant. We will ask for anyone to save coupons for use in buying material at Joann's. We will need 3 1/2 yards per costume. Any scraps for trim? Look around ladies. We will have a box in the rainbow room to place these things in. Thanks!

We had a clean-up day on Sat. April 4th. People started arriving about 9:00am. Maybe a little sleepy but here they were. We had 26 people cleaning, raking cutting, trimming, dusting, window washers were Larina Hoffbeck, Beth Kight and Linda Garrett. They used the secret sauce to make them shine. Jim Tabor spent almost all day running the steam cleaner. The men were outside pulling weeds, trimming the bushes. Wendy and Reynold Roeder shoveled sand and spread bark dust. I can not even list all of the things done.

We had chili and pizza for lunch. The men were outside pulling weeds, trimming the bushes. Thanks to all, we had a clean church for Easter.

**Easter Breakfast:** Each year we have an Easter breakfast held by the youth group. This year the menu was egg dishes, potatoes, fresh fruit, choc-dipped strawberries, danish rolls and croissants. The donations made at breakfast will help our young people with their activities, we enjoyed every minute of the good food served. Many came and enjoyed.

Our Easter Services were outstanding this year. Thanks Kevin, for all the work you did

**Stations of the Cross:** Another successful moment, beautiful, reverent and thoughtful minutes were spent enjoying those stations and what they stand for, again Thanks Larina!

Sunday, April 19 was a beautiful day with bright sunshine, plenty of green jello, green shirts and green M & M's. What else could you ask for? How about those Soggy Bottom Beaver dam Boys. We may have to keep them; they kind of grow on you! Clara told us about the Sunday with no piano, no organ and how Pastor Michelle came thru like a real trooper and did everything her self.

The Youth Choir (16 Members in all) sang several songs for us and so did the Brundi children. Would it not be nice to have a translation of their songs?

Pastor Michelle seemed to be real pleased with her going away gifts. Now whenever she uses her travel communion kit she will know that the SOV members are with her in spirit. As usual SOV had lots of great food. Our former Pastor Al Solomon and his wife Maryann were present with us. Michelle's family, husband and all three children were also there to join our appreciation party.

Corrine Gilbertson gave a very touching speech about how Pastor Michelle was there when they needed her. We have all appreciated her compassion, love and understanding. We could not have asked for anyone to be more loving than she was. Thanks from each and every one of us.

Michelle for what you have given to us over these past two years. We all wish you the very best for your future and want you to know you are welcome anytime to be in our hearts.

Wishing you all the best, your friends here at SOV.

**"New to you"** Another load of clean pressed items were taken to McMinnville. You know men's clothes are also acceptable. In another couple of months we should have enough money earned to buy the computer for the pastor's office. I hope all of you can put in one garment a month to help us earn this money. Let's keep it going!

## Around the Parish Continued

**Book Sales:** Don't forget to bring in your books for Mike Maynard to put on e-bay these fund raising monies do not go into the general fund. These are ear-marked for special projects.



We need to think of "Quality not Quantity" when we plan our fund raising events.

Did any of you notice the extra lighting that Jim Tabor, Arden Tarum and Bill Hessler put up in the church? The banners are now illuminated which makes them show up so much better. Keep up all of this good stuff!

I think this is all I could remember! Thanks for bringing it to my attention!

A woman is in the grocery store and happens on a grandpa and his poorly behaved three year old grandson. At every turn it is obvious grandpa has his hands full with the child screaming for candy in the candy aisle, cookies in the cookie aisle, same thing over and over through out the store. Meanwhile grandpa is working his way around saying in a controlled voice, easy Larry we won't be long, easy boy. Another outburst and she hears grandpa calmly say "it's ok Larry just a couple more minutes and we will be out of here just hang in there".

At the check out, the little terror is throwing items out of the cart and grandpa again in a controlled voice is saying. Larry, Larry, relax buddy, don't get up upset, we will be home in five minutes. Stay cool Larry. Very impressed, the woman goes outside where grandpa is loading his groceries and the boy into the car. "You know sir" it's none of my business but you were amazing in there. I don't know how you did it. That whole time, you kept your composure and no matter how loud and disruptive he got you just calmly kept saying things. Larry is very lucky to have you for his grandpa. Thanks lady, said grandpa but I'm Larry and this little buggers name is "Johnny".

## SOFTBALL SEASON.....SUBMITTED BY MEGAN SAALFELD

SOFTBALL SEASON is upon us  
First game Sunday, May 3 @ 4:30pm  
All Games are played at Trinity Lutheran in Hillsboro



### 2009 Softball Schedule

5/3 - 4:30pm  
5/10 - Mother's Day, no games  
5/17 - 1:00pm  
5/24 - Memorial Weekend - no games  
5/31 - 6:15pm (let's get pizza after the game!)  
6/7 - 1:00pm  
6/14 - 4:30pm  
6/21 - Father's Day - hold for make-up games  
6/28 - 4:30pm

July 5 - Fourth of July weekend - no game  
7/19 - 2:45pm  
7/26 - 1:00pm  
8/2 - hold for make-up games

**Please contact Megan Saalfeld for more details**

[megan.saalfeld@nike.com](mailto:megan.saalfeld@nike.com)



## **June 14, 2009 - Annual Congregational Meeting**

Submitted by Diane Lewis



(Traditional Pizza lunch will be delivered at Noon)

Our annual meeting to elect new officers and committees will begin after late church (approximately Noon). We will begin with our traditional pizza and salad lunch. Vegetarian and non-tomato base pizza will be included. We will cover the costs of the pizza and salad with a free will offering. Beverages will be provided.

A written presentation of all committee reports will be available as well as an update of our financial outlook for our general budget, capital campaign and building program.

More information with plans for the day will follow in the bulletin and June newsletter. Please mark your calendars to attend this special meeting on June 14. Come and share in this opportunity to be better informed about the busy life of Shepherd of the Valley as well as being part of shaping the future and direction of our congregation.

## **Service of Installation for Pastor Randall L. Schutt Pastor of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church**

**June 7, 2009 at 3 PM...Submitted by Diane Lewis**

We will be having a formal installation service on the afternoon of June 7, at 3 PM. to install Pastor Randall L. Schutt as pastor of Shepherd of the Valley. Oregon Bishop David Brauer-Rieke will officiate at the service and be assisted by Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Susan Kintner.

Music, food and fellowship will be included in the celebration party that will follow the installation service. We expect to have many visiting clergy as well as Pastor Randy's family, friends and former parishioners visiting Shepherd of the Valley for this exciting event.

We invite you to be part of planning a joyous celebration for our church as Pastor Randy and his wife Choice become part of our church family. We want to "raise the roof" with joy and celebration! We need help with planning the service, work with invitations, publicity, planning our food, entertainment and decorations. Find a place that you feel comfortable and be part of the excitement of helping with this special day. Feel free to contact Diane Lewis, Peggy Vermaas or Tammy McDonald. This will be a fun opportunity to include as many members participation as possible. All members are encouraged to invite family and friends to join us for this special service and celebration. This will be an event to remember for SOV!



## **Christmas Costume Project...**Submitted by Peggy Vermaas

The Sunday School teachers have requested new kids costumes for the Christmas Program this coming December. So, the Rebecca Circle ladies have graciously agreed to assist with organizing this project and Betty Stoltenburg is helping with obtaining patterns and advising us on the sewing of the garments. At this time we are seeking any and all donations of fabric, notions, costume jewelry, etc. It takes about 3.5 yards of fabric to make one of the garments. Then, there will be sashes and scarves and adornments. We are asking that folks look first into their closets and see what items can be donated from their supplies at home. If we fall short of donated goods then we will be purchasing the fabric. If you are interested in contributing money for this project just add it to the collection plate and mark it as a contribution to the Christmas Costumes. Before we purchase any goods we will ask folks to watch for coupons for JoAnn's Fabrics so that we can get discounts on anything we need to buy. Lastly, we will need persons who will help with cutting out the garments; the sewing of the garments and, possibly, hand sewing of decorative trims. Our goal is to have the costumes completed by the end of July so watch for more information in both the bulletin and the newsletter. You will find a box covered with Christmas wrap in the Rainbow Room which will be the collection site for both the fabrics and the coupons. Thanks to all who are willing to support this project.

### ***May brings new beginnings for Shepherd of the Valley!*** **SOV welcomes Pastor Randy Schutt and his wife Choice!**

Submitted by Diane Lewis

Shepherd of the Valley will be welcoming our new pastor and his wife to the family of Christ at Shepherd of the Valley. It seems timely that we begin our new ministry with Pastor Randy in the middle of springtime. This is a time of new beginnings in the life of our church as well as in the beauty of new growth that signals spring.

On May 10, 2009, Pastor Randy Schutt and his wife Choice will be joining us in worship as they prepare to become part of the family of Christ at Shepherd of the Valley!

May 12, 2009 will be Pastor Randy's first day in the office. His schedule in the church office will be Tuesday through Friday. Pastor Randy will be communicating with the congregation with other details after he begins his ministry with us on May 12.

May 17, 2009 will be Pastor Randy's first service with us as our new Pastor. We will have a special fellowship time between services as well as after late service.

The formal service of installation will be June 7, at 3 PM. Look through the newsletter for more information about the service and celebration.

## Nancy Shetterly retires from Shepherd of the Valley!

Submitted by Diane Lewis

May 14, will mark the end of Nancy's eight + years as SOV's faithful church secretary. She will begin a new life in retirement and relocate to a new home she and her husband have purchased in a retirement community in Ryderwood, WA.

Nancy has been our official greeter, office assistant, personal help for committee people and keeper of more information than you can possibly know, which she will tell you, is just part of being a church secretary!

She has worked with all the transitions that our church has gone through, especially in the last 3 years. Pastor Kurt hired Nancy in January. She has worked with three other pastors as we navigated through the sabbatical plans, Kurt's illness, death and the call process. The consistency Nancy has provided our congregation has been a stabilizing gift to our congregation.

We wish her well in her retirement, joy in her new home, and appreciation for her commitment to our congregation as our secretary and friend. We ask God to bless her and her husband in all the new journeys in life that will be part of their new life in retirement.

## **Tammy McDonald to begin as SOV's interim secretary!**

Many of our congregation have seen Tammy working in the office when Nancy has been gone or when she needed extra help. Now you will see Tammy here as she continues training to be our interim church office secretary.

She will start on the payroll on or before May 11 and take over on interim status on May 18.

The secretarial position will be on an interim status in order to give Pastor Randy time to get on board, prepare for the installation service and our congregational meeting. He will then proceed to go through the process of hiring this secretarial position as a permanent position.



# 2009 CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 3rd — Pastor Al Solmonson		May 10th — Pastor Fred Ruhnke			1	2
3 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Service	4 6:30 p—Men's Group Old Chicago Pizza	5 6:30p—Jr. Choir	6 7:00 p—Choir Practice	7 11:15 a Rebecca Circle brown bag lunch	8	9
10 <b>Mothers Day</b> 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services	11	12 6:30p—Jr. Choir	13 7:00 p—Choir Practice	14	15	16
17 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship Services 9:45a—Sunday School 10:00a—Adult Class	18	19 6:30p—Jr. Choir 6:30p—SOV Women's Dinner	20 7:00 p—Choir Practice	21 7:00 P Council	22	23
24 <b>One Service only at 10:30 a</b> Baptism of Lillie Ott	25 <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>	26 6:30p—Jr. Choir	27	28 9:30a— Rebecca Circle Project Day	29	30

31  
8:30 & 11:15 a  
Worship Services  
9:45a—Sunday  
School  
10:00 a—Adult  
Class

*Service of Installation for Pastor Randall L. Schutt*
  
*Pastor of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church*
  
*June 7, 2009 at 3:00 PM*