

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 1

NOVEMBER 2007

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS By Linda Rasmussen

In October we learned about Moses and God's promise that he is always with us. God often calls us to do things we think are impossible to do, but then God gifts us with his Holy Spirit enabling us to do what he has called us to do. There is no need to fear or doubt when we put our trust in God.

Our average attendance for October was 20 children. We received \$96.73 in monetary offering to share with our neighbors through the ELCA's global barnyard project and 70 food items to share with hungry neighbors for the Shepherd's Storehouse.

In November we will begin studying the Christmas story from the book of Luke.

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SAVE THE DATES

UPCOMING SUNDAY SCHOOL SPECIAL EVENTS

Sun	Nov 25	Christmas song practice
Sun	Dec 2	Christmas Program practice
Sun	Dec 9	Christmas Program practice
Sat	Dec 15	Christmas Program practice & pizza party 3:00-5:30 pm
Sun	Dec 16	Christmas Program 2 nd Service

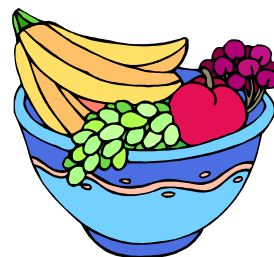


SUNDAY SCHOOL (CONT.)

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NOVEMBER IS FRUIT MONTH!

Remember to bring your gifts of canned fruit for the Shepherd's Storehouse. Share Christ's love with our neighbors who do not have enough to eat!



SUNDAY SCHOOL MITTEN TREE

Sunday School needs your HELP! We are sponsoring a mitten tree to help those less fortunate in our community keep warm these chilly fall and winter months. If you would like to help us share Christ's love of mankind, please bring a pair of new gloves or mittens (**SOCKS TOO!**) to clip on our tree. We will take all kinds—men's, women's, youth and children's. If our



New Adult Sunday School Class November 4-December 16: "Reclaiming the 'L'-Word"

Submitted by Pastor Michelle

You are invited to join Pastor Michelle during the Sunday School hour (10-10:45 am), as we look beyond lutefisk and lefse to discover what it means to be Lutheran. Using Kelly Fryer's down-to-earth book, Reclaiming the "L"-Word: Lutheranism as a Way of Life, we will discover that Lutheranism isn't just some dead doctrine; it is an approach to Christianity that offers some refreshingly practical insights to us practicing Christians. (You don't have to have a copy of the book to follow along in this class, but for those who would like, I have ordered some copies of the book, and these will be available for pickup on November 4.)



Confirmation Christmas Greens Fundraiser

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....is gearing up now for the December holidays. Orders will be taken on Sundays until November 11, 2007. Wreaths, plant baskets, dwarf trees, swags and garlands are all available. You may pick up your order at the Church November 30, December 1 and



2. Please make checks payable to SOV Lutheran Church – Youth Fund. We thank you for supporting our confirmation class. Funds are used for their spring retreat.

Questions, contact Wendy Roeder at 503-407-9876 or wsroeder@aol.com.

Feliz Navidad!!!!

Submitted by
Wendy Roeder

The **Advent Fair** has a new date and time. It is now scheduled for December 1 from 4 pm to 7 pm. A planning meeting will be held at the Church on November 8 at 7 pm for anyone that wishes to help. As they say "the more the merrier". If you have questions, please contact Wendy Roeder at 503-407-9876 or wsroeder@aol.com.

Come and Share God's Love with Us

Kids of the Kingdom Christian Childcare Center has a few openings in all our classrooms. We are a ministry of Shepherd of the Valley Church and are blessed with a loving staff that wish to share God's love with children. We are able to serve children ages 12 months to 12 years.

On Sunday, November 4th, our Director, Linda George, and Board Co-chairs, Debbie Johnson and Lisa Ramsey-Barnes will be sharing KOK's ministry with SOV members during both services.

We hope to fill you in on what is going on "downstairs" at KOK. Please join us!

In His love,

The KOK Board
Debbie Johnson
Lisa Ramsey-Barnes



SUMMER EVENT...SUBMITTED BY JOHN RATLIFF

Earlier this summer, I took my Canon T90 with the 35mm, F-2.0 lens to our Environmental Health and Safety Workshop in Santa Clara, California. My company has a rigorous safety program, and I was to speak on radiation hazards later in the week, using a rare Canon 35mm lens with a radioactive element in it (low-level). I used this lens as a radiation source to demonstrate our radiation meters. But I also wanted to take some photos with it. I had foregone the usual rental car in favor of walking the two miles back to my hotel along Bowers Street and the Great American Expressway. On this evening, I walked back to the hotel, then grabbed my tripod and went back out. My destination was the "Our Lady of Peace" statue in the park of the church of the same name, near the freeway.

Before taking any photos, I knelt down in front of Our Lady of Peace, and said a short prayer. Then I got up to look for good compositions.

At first, I set up the tripod out toward the front of Our Lady of Peace. I took two exposures, but wasn't too happy with the composition. So I moved off to the side, just behind the statue. I wanted to capture not only the statue, but the people interacting with her. There were clouds in the sky too, and I hoped that they would turn pink as the sun set. I had one problem, and that was a very bright light pointed directly at the camera. I masked that light with a tree, and let it backlight the tree too. I kept this setting, and took a number of photos as the people came in and out of the scene. Finally, as the night grew blacker, and the exposures subsequently longer, I decided that I had what I wanted from that angle. I went out front of Our Lady of Peace, and looked for another composition; however, all others did not satisfy me, and so I pulled in the legs of the tripod, and decided to call it a day.

I walked up to the front of the statue, and was about to leave, when a young woman of Asian descent came up to me and asked if I had taken photos. I told her that yes, I had, and she asked whether I was a Catholic person. I said that I was, but not Roman Catholic; I was a member of the Lutheran faith. We then sat down on a bench, and talked a bit. I told her that I had said a short prayer to Mary and Jesus before taking the photos. I had prayed that our Muslim brothers and sisters would come to understand the miracle that was their own bodies, and decide not to blow themselves up by a suicide bombing. She asked what I thought made people think like that, and I replied that I felt it came from a deep sense of hopelessness. I told her that I looked at the photos of Iraq, and saw very little living, few trees, flowers, grass, only people without much around them but destruction. Then I looked around the Our Lady of Peace Park, and noted the trees, grass, flowers, and the quiet people coming simply to pray or contemplate in the park. It truly was a peaceful scene. Then I showed her photos of my son's recent wedding, and described the joy surrounding that event in my life. She told me that she had come to the park a bit depressed, and felt better now. As I got up to leave, I told her that I hoped that she had found some peace here, and she smiled.

Photography has the potential to open people up to new possibilities, as I hope happened with this young woman. I hope that you also enjoy this story, and this photo. There are many ways to say, "I care..."

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SOME DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Sunday, November 4th—5:00 p**—Thanksgiving Dinner
- **Monday, November 5th—7:00 p**—Parish Ed meeting at the Rasmussen home
- **Thursday, November 8th—11:15 a**—Rebecca Circle meets at church. We are studying the Beatitudes. Please come for a visit, study and enjoy a brown bag lunch with the ladies.

STOCK DONATION INFORMATION

SUBMITTED BY LARINA HOFFBECK

For those who donate stock to Shepherd of the Valley, we have an updated account number to use with Morgan Stanley. Please use **181 020758 048** when transferring shares in the future. If you have any questions, please contact Larina Hoffbeck at hoffbeck@verizon.net. Thank you for your stock donations, they provide a very important portion of SOV's income.





Thanks Giving Dinner

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Sunday, November 4 at 5:00 PM

submitted by Kari Pinc, Fellowship Co-Chair

Please join us to Give Thanks and celebrate our new programs, welcome new members, and get to know our refugee families. We will serve turkey, roast beef, ham, and the fixings, and ask for potluck salads, vegetables, and dessert or make your favorite family dish to share. Don't feel you have to bring a dish—we need also need help setting up, cooking, serving and cleaning up, and we need donations in advance to defray costs.

Please mark your donation "Thanks Giving Dinner" to distinguish from food baskets or other donations. Please look for sign-up sheets in the narthex.

THANKFULNESS --- from Corrine and Larry Gilbertson and the Families of Mary and David White, Mike and Bruce Gilbertson and Jennifer Gilbertson

Words cannot truly describe our gratefulness and thankfulness to each of you -- ---- our church family! Your generosity just keeps on coming! Your prayers, love, visits, meals, phone calls, hugs, letters, cards, and more hugs have been such a God-send for all of my family. Special thanks to Pastor Michelle, Kevin Cope and Pastor Tom Kidd for their continuous ministry. Oct 10th we lost our precious Kevin! Our world stopped! In shock, we hugged our family members, and called to God for His comfort and strength. People began arriving from near and far!! And in the midst was our SOV family caring for all of us. As we began our days of planning The "Celebration of Kevin's Life" there was our SOV family in the midst of Where, What, and When!! Planning the service, the beautiful cover of the bulletins, special music, ushers, the meal following the service and oh so many others things ----- you were all there for us giving, giving, and giving. What a ministry! Thank you for the gifts of money given to the fund for "Kevin Kids"!! We are just beginning our journey of Grief. It will not be easy but in the midst of it all -----We know that our church family will be by our side every step of the way! Even though we will miss Kevin terribly we can rejoice in knowing he has passed from this earthly life to eternal life! We will meet again!




Our hearts are ever so grateful to you all! Blessings and our love to you!

Philippians 1:3

I Thank my God upon every remembrance of you!

NOVEMBER 2007 CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Sunday, November 4th at 5:00 p Thanksgiving Dinner at SOV.</p>	<p>Sunday, November 4th Day- light Saving time ends</p> 			<p>1 All Saint's Day</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4 8:30 & 11:00 a Wor- ship 9:45a— S.School & Confirmation 10:00a—Adult Class</p>	<p>5 1:00p—Prayer Ministry 7p—Parish Ed Meeting at Rasmussens</p>	<p>6 7:15a—Coffee @ Tanasbourne Starbucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—Jr. Choir</p>	<p>7 7:00p—Choir Practice</p>	<p>8 11:15a— Rebecca Circle meets at church 7:00p— Planning meet- ing for Advent Fair</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10  Martin Luther's Birthday 1483</p>
<p>11 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45a— S.School & Confirmation 10:00a—Adult</p>	<p>12 1:00p—Prayer Ministry 6:00p—SOV Exec. Meets 7p Scouts</p>	<p>13 7:15a—Coffee @ Tanasbourne Starbucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—SOV Women's Dinner 6:30p—Jr. Choir</p>	<p>14 7:00p—Choir Practice</p>	<p>15 7p—Church Council Meet- ing</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Thanksgiving Basket Distribution</p>
<p>18 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45a— S.School & Confirmation 10:00a—Adult Class</p>	<p>19 7p Scouts</p>	<p>20 7:15a—Coffee @ Tanasbourne Starbucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 5:00-8:00p—KOK Board 6:30p—Jr. Choir NEWLETTER DAY!</p>	<p>21 7:00p—Choir Practice</p>	<p>22 THANKSGIVING Day—Church Office Closed </p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25 8:30 & 11:00 a Worship 9:45a—S.School & Confirmation 10:00a—Adult Class Christmas Song Practice</p>	<p>26 1:00p—Prayer Ministry 7p Scouts</p>	<p>27 :15a—Coffee @ Tanasbourne Starbucks 9:00a—KOK Chapel 6:30p—Jr. Choir</p>	<p>28 7:00p—Choir Practice</p>	<p>29 CONFIRMATION CLASS CHRISTMAS GREEN FUNDRAISER—ORDERS TAKEN UNTIL NOVEMBER 11TH.</p>	<p>30 ADVENT FAIR \$CHEDULED FOR DEC. 1ST 4:00P-7:00P</p>	

Who's Driving our Ministries at Shepherd of the Valley?

Submitted by Diane Lewis, Congregational President

So much is happening within the life of our congregation! Things are getting cleaned up, sorted out, organized, painted, trees coming down, zoning accomplished, new people joining committees, our new prayer ministry is evolving, a new caring and sharing ministry has started to meet, the call committee is getting organized, interviews were completed to explore hiring a capital campaign consultant, Sunday School is up and going (with the need for more teachers), Children's Sabbath was a wonderful time for everyone, a new youth choir has had one performance and continues to add new children to the program, the parcel of land that we are selling is being marketed for sale, our church is now wired for wi-fi, Kevin will soon have an office upstairs and the list goes on! Maybe by the end of the year we will even get city approval for the replacement of our upstairs deck!

It was brought to my attention that we are not on the old rule of thumb that 20% of the members do 80% of the work! The family of Shepherd of the Valley is expanding those ratios! More opportunities are coming! It is exciting to see us moving forward. Yes, not as well as we could in some areas as we still really need more Sunday School teachers, volunteers for ushering and fellowship. Yet look at the fact that we are working together to create more opportunities to minister to the needs of our membership, take care of our building as well as using our outreach to continue the support for our refugee program, Shepherd's Storehouse and other social concerns commitments. We have committees working with other committees to help share the responsibilities for activities that are being planned.

For me, this is God driving our ministries here at SOV!

The trees came down with not only no expense to us but the county paid us for our property and will pay to replace the trees in the future!

As the road work is a burden with extra traffic issues and the trees being cut down are ugly and it is noisier it also provides an opportunity for more people to see that we not only are a Lutheran church but that we have a Christian day care and preschool! (Two services for the price of day care!)

Another way God is providing us with more opportunity for our ministry! Look at the organization of our new youth choir. This wasn't in our budget yet the council believed in Kevin's commitment to bring our children together in a new youth choir. The unexpected rental of our building for four weekends by the SDA church will offset one half of the budget for the youth choir for this year. We are going forward in faith and trusting God to "drive" us in the direction He wants us to go.

As our congregation prepares for the stages of the "call" process, prepares for the next stages of our building program that will include a fundraising campaign as well as selling our piece of property, we need to continue to pray for God's guidance and trust Him to be the driver of all we are doing in all aspects of our church life and ministries.

Remember in our journey the seating is unlimited and the insurance (assurance) is eternal. Invite your family and friends to be part of our church life and give them the opportunity to be part of what God has planned for Shepherd of the Valley. Let God lead you to find an area of interest and get involved. It is more fun to be part of what is being planned and have ownership in all that is going on here at SOV. Be part of the excitement that is growing with the new avenues we are exploring in growing our ministries, nurturing what we already have in

Who's Driving our Ministries...(cont.)

place and planning for our future at SOV. All areas of giving and service are needed, honored and appreciated.

Please continue to pray for us to let God lead, direct and drive us in all aspects of our journey in Christ's service.

STEWARDSHIP AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE!

The steering committee made their evaluation to the Executive committee to hire KIROs as our stewardship-capital campaign consultants.

The members of this steering committee are: Caryl Husk, Bob McFall, Linnea Harmon, Diane Lewis and Mark Vignolo and Pastor Michelle. They interviewed three companies on site at SOV as well as researching one over the phone.

The Executive committee voted to accept this proposal and it was presented to general council and was approved with the direction to the steering committee to negotiate the terms of the contract.

Please know that each person on this steering committee has been very diligent and prayerful in working towards the selection of consultants that would be the best "fit" for our congregation.

The main goals for this program will be to lead us spiritually, educate us individually and as a congregation, into new levels of awareness of the possibilities of being good stewards of all gifts from God, helping us to build new ways to connect with each other in the dreams of expanding the possibilities of our ministry in our congregation and community and to work towards a three year financial pledge.

Once this is completed, Pastor John Cross will be the KIROs consultant that will work with us to develop our Stewardship/Capital campaign team and program that will be individualized to the needs and dreams of SOV.

This is an exciting opportunity for the life, ministry and future of Shepherd of the Valley. Please continue to pray for the whole congregation as we continue to go forward in faith in all directions of what God is calling us to do within our ministry at SOV. This is an exciting opportunity for the life, ministry and future of Shepherd of the Valley.

Dear Friends in Christ,

The poet T.S. Eliot wrote that April is “the cruelest month,” but for God’s people here at Shepherd of the Valley, January or October seem more likely candidates for this title. As a congregation, you have faced so much loss and transition in the past couple of years, especially in the untimely death of Pastor Kurt in January...and now, in the death of Kevin Gilbertson—two warm and wonderful men, cut down in the prime of life.... In times like this, what can we do, but cling to our faith in God and to each other? As I said in a recent sermon, in the midst of Kevin’s death, there was life, as you gathered around the Gilbertson family to support them in their grief. Once again, we are reminded of what is really important in life: the relationships of love God gives us. In the days ahead, all of us need to be aware that this most recent death will stir up memories and fears for some of our members, and it will be important for us to be patient and provide extra support, especially as we approach the holiday season.

Speaking of the holiday season, as I write the word “November” in the heading of this article, I am acutely aware of how quickly the calendar year is drawing to an end. Take a deep breath, everyone, because we’re entering into a busy time in the church year, as well as in everyday life! By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have celebrated Reformation Sunday, including the distribution of Bibles to the second graders and the reception of new members. Next, we will remember the saints on All Saints’ Sunday (Nov. 4), both those who have died and those who walk among us. That same day, we will welcome staff and families from Kids of the Kingdom, as we celebrate this ministry to the wider community. The celebration will be complete with that evening’s Thanksgiving dinner at 5 pm.

Exciting things are on the horizon for Shepherd of the Valley, as your Call Committee prepares to survey the congregation this month about your thoughts on Shepherd’s ministry. Your input is vital to the process of creating an honest portrait of the life of the congregation: The more accurately the profile portrays the congregation, the better your chances of finding a pastor who is a good match for your leadership needs. The Call Committee welcomes your questions and comments; please feel free to contact any of the members of the committee or me. The members of the committee are: Arden Tarum (Chair), Daniel Carlson, Valsala George, Joe Hoffbeck, Connie McFall, Linda Rasmussen, Lee Bonacker (alternate), and Dick Kuykendall (alternate).

At the same time, your Church Council has authorized the hiring of a Capital Campaign consultant to help with raising funds that will be needed for building and remodeling. Pastor John Cross, a Lutheran pastor who works for Kairos, will be Shepherd of the Valley’s consultant. The first steps in the process will include leadership training and individual interviews that Pastor Cross will conduct with congregation members. Stay tuned to your weekly e-mails and Sunday worship announcements for more breaking news! J

In the past month, I’ve enjoyed working with the Confirmation students; they are a bright and delightful group of kids! Similarly, I enjoyed my time with the younger kids during Children’s Sabbath. Looking ahead, I will take a turn teaching the adult Sunday School class during November and the first half of December. Using Kelly Fryer’s book,

DEAR FRIENDS IN CHRIST (CONT.)

Reclaiming the "L"-Word: Lutheranism as a Way of Life, we will take a very down-to-earth look at what it means to be Lutheran. One of the reasons I chose this topic is that I'm aware that there are a number of people here at Shepherd who come from other backgrounds. Some have expressed curiosity about what makes Lutherans distinct from other Christian denominations. The interim ministry period seems an especially appropriate time to address the question of Lutheran identity, because discerning your congregational identity is key to the process of calling a new pastor. It is my hope that our discussions of what it means to be Lutheran can serve as a springboard for you as you seek to discern Shepherd of the Valley's unique identity in this time and in this community where God has placed you and called you to reach out to others with the love of Christ.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Michelle Manicke

My Guardian Angel

My Guardian Angel is probably the most unlikely person you can imagine as a Guardian Angel. He is 6' 4" inches tall and weighs about 250 lbs.

His name is Richard "Dick" Brown. He is a custom cabinet maker by trade having operated Scribner's Cabinet Shop in Aloha for at least the past 30 years.

He is also a very good friend.

When Connie, Christy and I were in the Kansas this past month providing care for Connie's mother, I was not behaving very well when it came to my eating habits and my personal dealing with the stress of the ordeal even though I am sure my stress level was far less than that of Connie and Christy's but it was out of control.

I am diabetic, which apparently is a side affect of Agent Orange from my Viet Nam service. I was put in the hospital in Kansas City with blood sugar count in excess of 500. By all accounts I was a time bomb waiting to go off or going into a diabetic coma.

Enter my Guardian Angel – Dick Brown.

He flew to Kansas City on Wednesday after I was dismissed from the hospital. He needed to tie up a few loose ends at his business and I kept telling him it was not necessary for him to come however he was insistent. I guess he is as stubborn as I am.

He has been and continues to be on my case day in and day out. He told me I could not have any sweets or any kind until my blood sugars reached 90. (His own goal for me).

Today my blood sugars are not 90 however they are 144.

Thank God for my Guardian Angel Dick Brown. He probably saved my life.

Bob R. McFall

SOCIAL CONCERNS FOR OCTOBER

SUBMITTED BY MERT WARNEKING

Outreach for September:

We spent 45 hrs. @ \$10 per hour = \$450 and 469 miles @ .45 per mile equals \$211. We had in kind donations of \$1,355. We spent \$344 on 10 food baskets, which included \$181 in donated food. We spent \$11 on refugees and \$113 on Desiree and his brother, Prosper. (Paid by LCS)

The total outreach is \$2,484 and offerings for Sept. were \$13,365 for a total of \$15,849. The % of outreach to outreach plus offerings is 16%.

THANKSGIVING DINNER:

The Thanksgiving Dinner will be November 4, 2007 at 5:00 pm. Hope you can all come. We are asking everyone to bring their favorite family dish. We will supply the turkey, ham and roast beef, plus the potatoes and gravy. Because we are buying these food items, we are asking for monetary donations for the

Thanksgiving Dinner.

We also have a sign-up sheet on the window for the people to sign up to bake turkeys and a beef roast, as well as sign up for help in cleaning up after the dinner. We will be asking folks after the second service to bring out the tables and chairs and set them up.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS:

After the Thanksgiving dinner, we will be working on the Thanksgiving baskets, which will be November 17th. Thrivent

is going to give us \$600, but we will need more donations in order to give more baskets. Last year we gave out 50 baskets and they cost about \$30 each.

Update on refugees:

Our second refugee family from Burundi arrived on September 29th. Prosper Hezumuryano is the brother of Desire, who arrived July 3rd with his family. Prosper and his family are living at Cedar Royal, behind Bales Thriftway on Cornell and Saltzman. I could not find an apartment closer to Desire and his family. Their 3 older children, Rosata, Japhety and Edward just started at Terra Linda School. They also have 2 younger sons, Aimable (3) and Tiely (6 months).

Prosper and his wife, Anita are attending IRCO where they learn English and help them find jobs. Right now we are having problems finding a baby sitter. If anyone knows of



Please join us for Thanksgiving Dinner at Shepherd of the Valley on Sunday, November 4th—5:00 pm.

SOCIAL CONCERNS (CONT.)

a babysitter, please let Mert know.

The family has been in a refugee camp in Tanzania since fleeing Burundi. In the refugee camp, Prosper made flour from corn and sold it. In Burundi he had a meat market and also drove a truck.

Just an update on Desire Hezumuryango and his family. Desire graduated from college in Burundi, majoring in Electro-Mechanics. After they left Burundi in 1993 and went to the refugee camp in

Tanzania, he had a job as a contractor and moved from one refugee camp to the other building houses, other buildings, roads, etc. He arrived with a certificate from the organization that hired him. He is now working at Precision Wire in Tualatin. Jenny is a freshman at Beaverton High School and Divine, Jean and Jospin are at Raleigh Hills. His wife Regina, is attending IRCO. A neighbor is babysitting Jessley who is 10 months old.



.....moved from one refugee camp to the other building houses....

PARKING LOT ENTRANCE AND TRAFFIC CONTROL ALERT

Submitted by Diane Lewis

Starting immediately the west entrance to the parking lot will be controlled with the use of the cable across the driveway just before the entrance into the church.

Please use the entrance at 173 rd Street if at all possible and please don't double park if the parking spaces on the west side of the cable are full.

We will have the cable down during church use times on Sunday's or special events.

With the work that is being done on Cornell Rd. it has brought the need to use this cable for traffic control for the safety of our KOK program, the protection of anyone using the church and from the misuse of our parking lot area. Big trucks have been using this area as well as the public wanting to cut through our parking lot to avoid the long wait lines on Cornell Rd.

We understand that this is

not user friendly for our congregation or for our KOK program yet personal safety and the protection of our parking area out weighs the frustration.

If the cable needs to be taken down during the week please make sure it is replaced.

If you have any question on this issue you can contact Diane Lewis or Dave Rasmussen. Thank you for your patience.