

**NOVEMBER  
2008**

# **SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER**



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...**

**SUBMITTED BY MINDY OTT**

### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

**CAPITAL CAM-  
PAIGN/PRAYER  
CHAIN/DECEMBER  
MEETING**

**2**

**THRIVENT/  
WORSHIP/KOK**

**3**

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE** 4  
**CALL REPORT/  
SOCIAL CONCERNS** 5

**NOV. CALENDAR** 6  
**NOV. 9TH MEETING** 7

**AROUND PARISH/  
GETTING TO KNOW  
YOU/THANKS** 8

**AROUND PARISH—2** 9  
**COMMUNICATION  
W/CHURCH LEAD-  
ERS/BUDGET**

**CHURCH STRUC-  
TURE/FROM THE** 10  
**DESK OF PARISH** 11  
**NURSE**

**Back Page—Birthdays/  
Anniversary**

Fall has been a busy time for Sunday School! Lisa Ramsay-Barnes, Theresa Kotvis and Kristi Ray are leading the large class and Sokha Kwan is heading up the Pre-School Co-Op. Shannon Heizenrader has taken on the oldest students in the elementary grades, who are learning what community means here at Shepherd of the Valley. Also, the Confirmation and High School classes are plugging away.

There are a number of exciting events coming up for the kids of Shepherd of the Valley. For our younger (K-6<sup>th</sup> grade) Youth group, a “Kids Movie Night” is being planned for December 6<sup>th</sup>. Also, a New Year’s Party is in the works! Information on both of these events will be coming soon! And don’t forget the Christmas Pageant, which will take place during the second service on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, a poem from our Sunday School class (submitted by Theresa Kotvis):

On October 5<sup>th</sup> the Sunday School children from grades K-6 worked together on an acrostic poem. We have been reading Philippians and discussing how we come together as a church community, and how we as a whole church go out to help the greater community. Standing together in our faith, standing together to share God’s Love, and sharing what we can with others. These ideas were in mind as the kids worked together to created a poem about our church home....

### **Shepherd of the Valley....**

S ome sing songs

H ope for each other

E veryone who loves Jesus will share

P raying community

H elp people of Shepherd of the Valley

E njoy Easter Egg hunts

R eading the Bible together at church

D onate food for people in need

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS CONTINUED

O bey Jesus

F ishers of men

T ell about Jesus

H elp the people

E verybody prays in church



V olunteer to help everyone

A lways help the community

L ove everyone

L ive to worship Christ

E ager to feed God's children

Y our church home!

The kids are very excited to be published authors and share their poem with you – I bet if you ask they can point out which line of the poem they worked on.....



Help Us Reach Our 3 Year Goal

We continue to grow slowly...

Thank you for your continued support.

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GRAPH

Submitted by Tammy McDonald



### PRAYER CHAIN.....SUBMITTED BY ANN SMITH

PLEASE CONTINUE TO HOLD THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF SHEPHERD IN YOUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS: Bob McFall, Les Peterson, Holly Haydamack, Jacob Tabor, Charlotte Harris, Christine Edgar, Ron Farnsworth and Rachel Flath.

### Congregational Meeting, December 7, 2008 12:15 PM...

Submitted by Diane Lewis

Our congregation will meet to discuss and vote on the proposed general budget for 2009. More details to follow in the December newsletter and bulletins.

## THRIVENT FINANCIAL

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

<u>November 13, 2008</u> - 6:00 pm	Thrivent Retirement Workshop	Lake Oswego Office
<u>December 2, 2008</u> - 6:00 pm	Medicare Supplement Workshop	Lake Oswego Office
<u>January 22, 2009</u> - 6:00 pm	Quarterly Investment Update	Lake Oswego Office

We would love to have you join us for one or more of these informative events. Please call 503-635-2003 if you have any questions or would like to sign up.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE . . . .Submitted by Ann Saalfeld

### **Church Decorating Party - November 23**

November 23 following 11:00 a.m. service

Plan to stay (or come back) after the late service to help decorate the church for the Christmas Season. We will be decorating the tree and the sanctuary so we will be ready for the first Sunday in Advent.

Hope you can come and help!



### **Advent Soup Supper and Vespers**

Wednesday nights

December 3, 10, 17

Soup at 5:45 p.m.

Vespers at 6:30 p.m.

See sign-up sheet in narthex later this month if you would like to bring soup or bread



### **Christmas Eve Services**

SOV will have 3 Christmas Eve Services again this year at 4:00 p, 6:00 p, and 11:00 p.



## KOK . . . .Submitted by Wendy Roeder

Kids of the Kingdom Christian Child Care Center, a ministry of Shepherd of the Valley, is selling Christmas greens for the holiday season. Orders are due 11/9/08 and delivery will be made the week of 11/24/08. Please see the Order Form included in this newsletter. Proceeds to benefit families who are in need of tuition assistance that attend our child care center. There are 13 products available and a picture brochure is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex and on the bulletin board as you enter KOK. Questions can be directed to Wendy Roeder, [wsroeder@aol.com](mailto:wsroeder@aol.com). Thank you for your support.

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR MICHELLE

November 2008

Dear Friends in Christ,

It's hard to believe that it's November already! Where has the year gone? It's time to catch our breath and get ready for what we pastors sometimes call "the festival half of the church year." After that great secular festival, Halloween, we will enter full bore into the season of thanksgiving and preparation for the coming of our Lord.

This coming Sunday evening we will gather for a Shepherd of the Valley tradition, the annual Thanksgiving Dinner, which was originally started as a means for helping congregation members connect with the refugee families sponsored by SOV. I mention this because this is a piece of history some of our newer members may not know. I'm aware, as I'm sure you are, too, of the many transitions that have taken place here at SOV in the past couple of years. In the midst of change, it's good to hold onto some familiar routines. I'm also very aware that new traditions are being formed, which is also a good thing: New ideas and traditions are signs of God's creative Spirit at work among you, bringing forth new life. One of the new traditions that seems to be catching on at SOV is the practice of holding "town hall"-type meetings. Many people have expressed their appreciation for these opportunities to gather as a church family and learn more about all the things that are happening at SOV. Your council leadership has decided to facilitate another such gathering after second service on November 9<sup>th</sup>. Of course, food will play an important role, so bring your favorite potluck dish!

Although we've been through some rocky times with the failed call vote, I am pleased to see how much all the members of SOV care about the congregation. The recent stewardship speakers have shown this in their temple talks. All of you who volunteer at SOV show it by giving of your time, talent and treasure. The high attendance at the town hall meetings is also evidence of your deep commitment to God's ministry in this time and place.

The other thing that pleases me is that people are recognizing the need for improved communication. In every congregation I've served communication has been an issue, but it's never more important than during the interim ministry transition. There's no such thing as too much communication! At any rate, I'm please to see SOV's leadership recognizing that the various parts of the body need to communicate and work together with each other and the Holy Spirit, if you are going to accomplish all of the wonderful goals you have set.

As we get ready to step across the threshold into the busy holiday season, I hope we will all take some time daily to give thanks to God for all we have and all we are. Also, let's give thanks for Shepherd of the Valley and all the blessings this congregation enjoys. You have come a long way in this past couple of years. It hasn't been easy, but God has been with you, raising you up and giving you what you needed to carry on and grow stronger. You have stuck together through great challenges, and I have no doubt that you will continue to stick together! Remember: The family that prays together stays together. So, let's hold each other in prayer, and let's also lift up the pastor whom God is preparing to lead SOV into the future.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Michelle*

## **CALL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR NOVEMBER**...submitted by Lee Ann Bonacker

The Call Committee thanks the SOV Council for filling the two open Call Committee positions so quickly. Bill Hessler was endorsed as the permanent member, and Pat Ott was endorsed as the alternate member. They replace Daniel Carlson and Dick Kuykendall, respectively. Daniel has decided to worship with members of his family who are active in another church. Dick has an increased travel schedule, and so will be unable to attend the committee meetings as much as he would like. We appreciate Daniel and Dick's contributions very much and look forward to working with the new members, Bill and Pat.

In mid-November, the committee plans to meet with Susan Kintner, Assistant to the Bishop, to discuss possible pastoral candidates. The date has not yet been set, but Susan is busy screening potential candidates. You may remember from her last address to the congregation, that there are numerous churches in the call process right now.

The Call Committee is refining its procedures so that interviews, vetting and presentation of candidates can proceed as smoothly as possible. As in the past, the Call Committee will continue making sure all processes are in compliance with ELCA requirements. Please remember that there is a new email address so that you can correspond with the call committee whenever you wish. Emails go to all Call Committee members from that site. The address is [sovcallcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:sovcallcommittee@gmail.com). The Lord already knows who our new Pastor will be, so we want to be ready to work efficiently within His timing. God bless you all and remember to pray for the call process.

## **SOCIAL CONCERNS NEWS**.....submitted by Mert Warneking

We spent 79 hours and drove 659 miles. We gave out 12 food baskets.




Our annual Thanksgiving dinner will be on Sunday, November 2nd at 5:00 p. Hope to see you there. We will supply the turkey, prime rib, ham, potatoes, gravy, dressing, yams and rolls. We are asking everyone with names starting with A to L to bring salads or veggies and names starting M to Z to bring dessert. It should be fun.

On Friday, November 21st at 6:00 p, we will get the general setup ready for Thanksgiving baskets. On Saturday, November 22nd, we will be assembling and delivering the baskets. If you can help, please be at the church at 10:00 a on Saturday. If you know of anyone who would like a food basket, please give Mert Warneking the person's name.



## 2008 CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Thanksgiving Dinner at 5:00 p on Nov. 2nd. Turkey, ham, prime rib, mashed potatoes, yams and dressing provided. A-L—please bring salad or veggies M-Z, please bring dessert</p>						<p>1</p> <p>All Saint's Day</p>
<p><b>2</b> 8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship Services 9:45a—Sunday School 10:00a—Adult Class</p>	<p><b>3</b> 6:30p— Men's Group meets at Old Chicago Pizza</p>	<p><b>4</b> 9:00a—KOK Chapel  6:30p—Jr. Choir</p>	<p><b>5</b>  7:00p—Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>6</b> 11:15 A—Rebecca Circle meets—brown bag lunch</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>
<p><b>9</b> 8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship Services  9:45a—Sunday School  10:00a—Adult Class  12:15—Potluck</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> 9:00a—KOK Chapel  6:30p—Jr. Choir  Veterans Day</p>	<p><b>12</b>  7:00p—Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>
<p><b>16</b> 8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship Services  9:45a—Sunday School  10:00a—Adult Class</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> 9:00a—KOK Chapel  6:30p—Jr. Choir  6:30p—SOV Women's Dinner</p>	<p><b>19</b> 7:00p—Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>20</b>  7:00p—Church Council  Newsletter Day!</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b> 10:00a  Food basket  Assembly &amp; distribution</p>
<p><b>23/30</b> 8:30 &amp; 11:00 a Worship Services  9:45a—Sunday School  10:00a—Adult Class</p>	<p><b>24 Sunday, Nov. 23rd—Church Decorating Party—following 2nd service</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> 9:00a—KOK Chapel  6:30p—Jr. Choir</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b>  <b>Thanksgiving</b>  </p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>

**November 9, 2008, 12:15 PM!**

**COMING TOGETHER IN CHRIST!...**submitted by Diane Lewis

**ALL SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY MEMBERS**

**AND**

**INTERESTED FRIENDS OF SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY!**

**Food! Fellowship! Sharing Information!**

We are gathering after 11 AM church, on November 9, for an old-fashioned Lutheran potluck lunch. (Red jello is optional)

After we share some fellowship time and our meal we will have the opportunity to ask questions about different areas of our congregations direction.

More information will be available on what we can expect for pay package options as the call committee prepares to receive names of prospective pastoral candidates. We will have the opportunity to review our financial requests for the planning of our new general budget and work to help the congregation understand what goes into creating the proposed budget for the coming year.

Leadership will be available to receive and give information in areas of the building committee, ideas for paying off the mortgage, status of the capital campaign, KOK and any other areas of our church that our membership is interested in discussing.

We want to respond to our member's interest, ideas and questions as we work to build more unified community. Our goal is to share information with each other, become better informed and involved so that as a congregation can strengthen our foundation in Christ for all areas of ministry at Shepherd of the Valley.

If we are unable to answer a question, then we will research it and get back with a response. This is a time for everyone to be better informed and part of how we can better serve each other and the ministries of our church.

Members with last names A-L can bring a main dish and M-Z can bring a salad. Ice cream and beverages will be provided.

Child care will be available during our sharing time after we have lunch.

Please contact the Executive committee for further information.  
(Diane Lewis, Peggy Vermaas, Lee Bonacker, Valsala George and Ken Harris)



## AROUND THE PARISH....SUBMITTED BY ANN SMITH

### Traveling Ladies...

Patricia Nelson, our worthy organist, made a train trip to Chicago. She visited her daughter plus a sister and general old friends. She even went to the old church. Enough going Pat! It's time to get back here and practice, practice, practice.

### New to You...

Another trip or two we made to New-to-You. Beautiful ride, the colors of fall are starting to show. We are doing pretty good on our consignment sales. Aug. 17th, we received a check for \$158.55. They sold 41

garments. Then on Sept. 17th, we received another check for \$181.70. That total for the 2 months came to \$340.45. The \$181.70 will go to KOK to help the low-income parents with child care. These checks go into the General Fund unless we dedicate them to a special use.

**Marlene Loftus** went to Lincoln Nebraska. She went on that new airline which is operating out of Minnysota, also serving Visconcon, Nortan Michigan and Nort and Sout Dakotta. There is no first class on any Lutheran flight, meals are pot-luck, rows 1-6 bring rolls, 7 through 15 bring a salad, 16-21 a

hot dish and 22-50 bring dessert. Marlene brought a beautiful jello salad.

All fares are by free-will offering and da plane will not land unless the budget is met. They start lunch right after noon and it is buffet style. Da coffee pot is up front. Feel free to help yourself. Den we will have da hymn sing. Hymnals are in the seat pocket in front of you. She assured us that all went well and she saw 3 of her grandchildren plus both of her sons. She did bring the hymnal home so that she could practice her singing.

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU—CHRISTINE EDGAR...SUBMITTED BY ANN SMITH

Christine is a fairly new member at SOV. She was born in Philly, went to Muhlenberg College in Minnesota. She did work as an internal auditor for a large accounting firm in the east. She married Nathan's father and moved to Baltimore, Maryland.

Nathan was born and her husband was transferred to Oregon. As a result, Christine has commuted back and forth to Oregon for the past 3 years. Now she has moved here. She has one sister who lives in Dallas, TX. She was telling me

she is pretty crafty (with art projects that is). She has been busy since she moved here. She has helped with Fellowship, Social Concerns and also helped with the church audit. Thanks, Christine and welcome to SOV.



*"The greatest gardener is God."*

## THANKS...SUBMITTED BY VERNA WIK

Thanks and acknowledgement to all of you who have helped in the watering and care of the planters at the church entrance. An enjoyable experience has been aided by several who regularly check the dry-

ness of the planters. Among the helpers are Pat, Ann, Peggy and others saving many trips for me. The greatest gardener is God. Among the clay pots was one that we

faithfully watered and I fertilized along with the others. Finally a plant popped up and what a lovely orange marigold appeared! The proper nurturing here lets all bloom!



## AROUND THE PARISH PART 2 –SUBMITTED BY ANN SMITH

**On October 21st**, the women had dinner and conversation at Bugatti's Restaurant. We missed Tammy and Linda. Now Clara, did you say you were going to a crap game or was it a quilt show? Explain! And, Nancy, you were on vacation so you were excused.

**On a Friday evening in October**, we had a wonderful time going to see Jacob Tabor play the part of Charlie Bucket

in the "Willie Wonka" play. What talent this young man has. We enjoyed every moment he was on stage. Look out Jameson, here comes Jacob! Dancing, singing—he did it all and very well I must add. I can hardly wait for the next one that he will be in.

**Brown bag lunch** was a hit with the Rebecca Circle ladies. Dolores and Corrine led the meeting. We read about Ruth,

Naomi and Orpah. We decided that being the mother-in-law as a big job! We passed! The November circle will meet on Thursday, November 6th at 11:15 a. Please bring a brown bag lunch.

**How many of you** were able to answer the question "What do backpacks and coffee urns have in common?" Well, the answer is Bob McFall, who was the nice guy who donated them.

### **Communication within church leadership**..submitted by Diane Lewis

1. Any member can communicate with the Pastor in a safe and confidential environment.
2. The Executive committee meets at least once a month and is available for confidential dialog. Any member can request to attend the Executive committee meeting and have a forum to share information and concerns with confidentiality.
3. All members of the congregation are always welcome to attend council meetings. Members that attend council can participate in any discussion and share information. The only limitation is being able to vote. Anything that is presented or discussed at the regular council meetings is recorded in our minutes and is available to all membership.

### **General Budget**

The general operating budget is put together after the Stewardship program that usually is presented in October of each year. Pledges and records of the previous year's giving are used as a guide to formulate a proposed operating budget. The proposed budget is presented to the council for discussion and vote. The congregation is given the proposed budget to review at least a week before the congregational meeting convenes to review, discuss and vote on the budget. At the end of each calendar year a full year end report is completed and made available to the congregation. The church council treasurer provides the council a monthly detailed report on the status of the general budget. It is available for any member to review.

This is a brief description of how council is structured. A more thorough look at our constitution and bylaws is available for anyone that is interested in learning more about how Shepherd of the Valley is structured.

One of the council's goals is to work at keeping our membership involved and informed. No question is a bad question. Feel free to attend our council meetings, ask questions, give input and be involved. The Executive committee usually meets the Monday before the church council meeting, which usually is held on the third Thursday of each month at 7 PM.

## **HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED HOW THE CHURCH IS STRUCTURED?**

SUBMITTED BY DIANE LEWIS

During the last few months, people on council have had conversation and questions revolving how our church structure is set up. Questions have been asked about the functions of the council, the Executive committee, Kids of the Kingdom (KOK), the building committee, call committee and capital campaign committee.

We are working to come together in Christ in so many different directions yet our purpose is the same.....to be stronger in the ministries of our church.

We can be working independently yet, as Paul writes in Corinthians 12, we are one body with different parts that can only be “whole” and successful by working together.

It has become evident that we need to be talking with each other, listening, asking questions, being better informed as individual members to enable us to be work together for the good of all the exciting things that are happening within the life of SOV.

Here is a brief explanation of how our constitution is structured for our leadership and the progression of accountability.

A. Executive team of President, Vice President, Secretary, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer is elected by the church membership at our congregational meeting that is conducted at the end of May or the first part of June each year. The term of office is for a one-year term with no member of the Executive team holding the same office for more than two consecutive years.

The pastor is also part of the Executive committee but doesn't have a vote.

This Executive committee is mandated to be a safe and confidential place for any issue

B. We vote on all the committee members for each committee. A committee chairperson is chosen within the committee and is the council representative yet because the entire committee has been voted on by the church membership any member of the committee can attend and vote on council if the chairperson cannot attend council.

C. The SOV council appoints ad hoc committees, i.e. memorial and endowment, building committee, call committee, capital campaign committees. Each ad hoc committee has a chairperson and the committee reports to the Exec. Committee and council.

## **HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED.....CONT.**

D. Kids of the Kingdom (KOK) is a ministry of SOV as a non-profit daycare and preschool. KOK was chartered under SOV's tax ID number yet has a separate board of directors and budget. The board reports to the council and a cost share for expenses is paid to SOV's general budget to cover utilities, space and insurance costs.

### **FROM THE DESK OF THE PARISH NURSE...**

SUBMITTED BY CORRINE GILBERTSON

Please mark your calendars for December 6th and 7th SOV will be entertaining a couple (husband & wife) from Tanzania. Their names are: Eden and Rogathe Koambwe. He is a school teacher in Monduli.

Petersburg Lutheran Church in Alaska invited them to be their guests for three weeks in Petersburg, Alaska. Pastor Al Solmonson met Rogathe when he taught at the school in Monduli for a few weeks during the time he was Pastor here at Shepherd. Shepherd of the Valley was actively involved in the establishing of the first all-girl secondary school in Monduli. What an opportunity for us—to spend some time with these two special people.

More news regarding their visit with us at SOV will follow. They will be house guests of Larry and Corrine Gilbertson.

