

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Shepherd's Office Hours;
Mon-Fri 6:45 - 10:45 a

Pastor Randy's Office
Hours; TBD

Temporary Pastor
Brian Brandt

Tues — Thurs
10:00 - 2:00 p

And by appt.

Office phone;
503.645.4994

Sovlutheran.com

Fall Worship Services
8:30 a & 11:00 a
9:45 a Sunday School

Inside this issue:

Pastor Brian's message	2
Council President	3
Red Cross Parish Education	4
Kids of the Kingdom	5
KOK Contd.	6
Fellowship Prayer Ministry	7
Birthdays Anniversaries	8
Prayer Shawl Council Retreat Reflection	9
Ladies Dinner Men's Night Scrip	10
Calendar	11

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

Youth Group News

SOV has 8 youth that have signed up and committed to going to Detroit for the ELCA Youth Gathering July 2015.



Mitch

Amber

Jean

Amanda

Jonathan

Taylor

Anita

Emily

They are excited for the journey ahead of them. Caitlin and Stacey are chaperoning the trip and excited as well to take a new set of youth to experience the awesome work of God. If you have questions about the trip please ask one of us or check out the ELCA website and click on the Gathering link.

- SOV Youth groups next activity will be laser tag!
- Date and time to be determined.



**Youth group is open to all 6-12th
grade students!**

**YOUTH
GROUP**
★ News ★

Pastor Brian's Message

Pastor Randy, as you've probably heard, is returning to duty part-time in November. This news was announced on October 26, Reformation Sunday, at both services by Council Co-Presidents Cal Sugiyama and Jim Tabor. Randy will be working about 32 hours in November, which amounts to .2 FTE. Some of you will be wondering what this means for me. So, I thought I should address such questions in this article.

First, I am delighted that Pastor Randy is well enough to return to ministry duties, even if it's only part-time. He's worked hard to get to this point. I know he's excited to have the chance to live into his God-given vocation. I join the rest of you in celebrating Pastor Randy's return.

I'm also looking forward to having a second day off each week. Normally, I take Mondays off. Now, for the month of November, I'll be taking Fridays off, too. This will give me a chance to do some chores around my house that I've been putting off. And I'll be able to spend more time with my spouse, Jill. So, I'm grateful for these things.

I'll also have some respite from the constant demand for creativity in preaching and providing children's messages. My sermons are always new, created fresh for the day. Ditto my kids' messages. It takes a lot of effort to stay in tune with the congregation and with developments in the world around us, and to reflect this in proclamation of the word of God week by week. So, I must confess, I'm grateful that Pastor Randy will be preaching and offering kids' messages on two Sundays: November 2 and 16. I'll be preaching and leading worship as usual on the other three Sundays of this month.

On the two Sundays when Pastor Randy is leading worship and preaching, I'll still be here with you. I'll be sitting among you in the congregation, singing, praying, taking communion, and giving thanks to God. It will be good to see things from a different vantage point; it's always helpful for pastors to be worshippers once in a while instead of worship leaders.

Toward the end of November, the Executive Committee will review this month's developments. SOV's elected lay leaders will then make decisions about how many hours Pastor Randy will be working and how many I will be working in December. I don't know what the arrangement will be for December. But I look forward to celebrating Advent and Christmas with you. Whatever comes, it's all a gift from God. So let's wait with confidence and unwrap God's gifts as they arrive day by day.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE NOVEMBER 25TH

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT...Submitted by Cal S.

What can you say about a group of self-proclaimed introverts mixed in with a couple of extroverts? Gifts from God! A week or so ago, 16 of your Council, Committee Leaders or Committee Representatives and Pastors gathered for the "Celebrating Our Gifts" Council Retreat. This was a time to reflect, renew and re-invigorate our gifts of time and talent to do God's work here at Shepherd of the Valley. Do not let the description of self-proclaimed introverts fool you. The Council Group may be comprised of shy and quiet individuals but when it comes to doing what is good for our Ministry, the openness and addressing tough issues that have been negatively affecting us came out clearly. If we are to create a Ministry embracing our Mission and Core Values, we need to address barriers, encourage and facilitate healing, be respectful to all and stay true to what is most important. We had many "take-aways" that the Council Group identified and we will take on Next Steps for incorporation. Stay tuned for more!

A few thoughts that we need to share to the congregation.....

Our morning kick off devotion began with Pastor Brian and our afternoon sessions began with Pastor Randy. What a blessing to have them both participate and lead our spiritual ministry here at Shepherd!

Corrine Gilbertson provided a heartfelt discussion on "Leadership, Setting the Example." It opened up many personal testimonies of hurt, the need for forgiveness and hope.

"Hurt People Hurt People. Break the Chain Today. Meet Anger with Sympathy, Contempt with Compassion, and Cruelty with Kindness. Forgive and Forget about Finding Fault. Love is the Weapon of the Future" Yehuda Berg.

Shepherd of the Valley will be circling back and having all Committees review the Strategic Taskforce Report outlining our Mission and Core Values. We must not lose sight of our Mission Statement and develop a culture that embraces our Core Values – Reaching Up, Reaching Out and Reaching In.

Shepherd of the Valley is a small church with limited Gifts for Time & Talent. We need to better utilize and create Best Practices to be good stewards of our Gifts. Lynn Gates provided insight on how we may want changes in our Committee/Ad Hoc/Team Organization Structure to improve efficiency and effectiveness. She also reviewed a draft Policy governing Social Media, which will become paramount to be respectful, unified and protective of our Ministries. Input and insights will be welcomed!

Calendar Planning was a hoot! Elaine Kingston, lead this exercise, where we were able to post the many committee driven and All Church Events for 2015. This was exciting to see how many activities we have planned. We will be coming out with a process flow for posting activities on the Calendar, eliminating double booking or competing with church events and following our Building Use policies for non-church events.

The really good News to share is Pastor Randy will be leading our Spiritual

Council Presidents Report Cont..... Submitted by Cal S

Ministry on November 2nd and 16th. In addition, he will be leading Adult Bible Study on Wednesday mornings for the 5th, 12th and 19th. Let's all pray and celebrate his Return on Modified Duty. The Executive Council, Synod, Pastor Wally Gustav and many thanks especially to both Elaine & Lynne to facilitate Pastor Randy's return!

Shepherd of the Valley is proudly sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive Monday, November 17th 1:30—7:00 pm

We encourage all eligible persons to help our local community by giving the gift of life. The blood donation process takes about an hour of your time and could save up to 3 lives.



First time donors are welcome! For more information and/or to schedule your appointment to donate- blood please call 800-787-9691 or 503-284-4040. **Walk - in's Welcome**

PARISH ED...Submitted by Stacie S

Please look for additional information about our family event for November. Time and date to be determined. We will send home flyers for the event!

It is almost time to start rehearsing for our Christmas program. This year we will have the SOV youth help us direct our program! We will start rehearsals at the end of November during Sunday school!

Dates to remember:

November 30th - December 21th - Christmas program rehearsals (may add a rehearsal if needed)

December 21st- Christmas program with SOV Choir



Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool and Kindergarten



CHRISTMAS GREENS fundraiser orders are DUE NOVEMBER 2nd. Order forms are available at the usher station or can be printed from the SOV website. The greens will be available for pick up on Sunday November 23 at church and Monday and Tuesday, November 24 and 25, at the school between 9am and 1 pm, just before the Thanksgiving holiday. Questions can be directed to Wendy R., 503-645-0236 OR kokpreschool@gmail.com. Thanks for supporting our school and the tuition assistance program.

Giving: Our character trait emphasis for November and December is GIVING. And that is a great time for KOK to give thanks to all the people of SOV who support this ministry, from those that do maintenance, small and large renovation projects, donate books, serve on the Board, and pray for our families that attend.

WE THANK YOU ALL WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS!



Kindergarten News

Mrs. Rasmussen

We were blessed with an unusually warm and sunny October. The weather changed for our visit to the pumpkin patch, but we had fun despite the rainy and windy weather. We have enjoyed learning about God's creation in the form of apples, spiders, bats, and pumpkins. We made applesauce, sipped different flavors of "tea", ate fruit kabobs that fruit bats might enjoy and made pumpkin muffins. We have learned about the six days of creation and how God rested on the seventh day, Baby Moses, Daniel and the lions, 3 men in a fiery furnace, and talked about how much God loves and cares for us, too. We have been counting the number of days we have been in school. We are learning to read sight words, color words, and word family words. We have been collecting information, organizing it onto glyphs, and graphing it. We also had a Harvest party and enjoyed dressing up in costume and playing games with each other.

Looking ahead to November, we will learn about the fruits of the Spirit and what it means to be thankful. We will talk about advent and what it means to get ready for the Christmas season and the birth of baby Jesus. We will make scarecrows and turkeys and talk about harvest and all the fruits and vegetables that God has provided for us. We will talk about what God has given us and what we are thankful for. We will prepare some special dishes and invite our families to share a special Thanksgiving lunch with us. We will share what we are learning at school with our families on the day of our family feast. We will learn about forest animals and how God provides them with food and shelter. We will continue making books and practicing our reading and writing. We will be cutting, gluing and drawing as we work on our alphabet books. We will continue working with data collection, numbers, counting, and patterning in math. We will watch the weather and the change of seasons. We will play outside and enjoy the world God has created for us.

Preschool 4's News

Ms. Benedict

In the month of November, our 4-year-old preschoolers will study animals that live in the forest. We will learn about their habitat, what pinecones tell us about the weather, and animal footprints. Our block play area will transform into a forest where we can pretend to be the animals we are learning about.

With Thanksgiving at the end of the month, we will also focus on giving thanks to God for all He has given us. We will do some fun Thanksgiving activities and turkey art projects as well as prepare a feast for our families to enjoy with us. We will learn about giving to others and giving thanks to God.

Preschool 3's News

Mrs. Sandow

In October we had a wonderful time learning about God's creation and the beautiful seasons throughout the year. We focused on everything we find during Fall. Harvest time, leaves, pumpkins and spooky Halloween spiders were the highlights we explored this month. We will finish out the month going on a class field trip to Lakeview Pumpkin patch and dress up in costumes for our class Halloween party. In November, we will focus on giving thanks for all that God has given us and how we can share with others. We will be making "Thankful Turkeys" and have a special feast with our families.

Pumpkin Patch Field Trip



Fellowship News...Submitted by Diane L

Giving Thanks Dinner & Oktoberfest Celebration

Sunday, November 2 @ 5 pm, we will have an all congregational “Oktoberfest” dinner event to celebrate all the many blessings that God has bestowed on us individually and as a congregation.

This year our menu will feature an “Oktoberfest” dinner theme. Lyle Heilman will be making all the German sausage for our event. Roasted turkey will round out the main course menu choices. A potluck will complete our menu. We encourage menu choices to reflect Fall or “Oktoberfest” ideas. As always, contributing to the pot luck is optional. The SOV “Piggy” donations will go towards paying for the meat, turkey and beverages.



Suggestions to divide the potluck options: A to M: Salads or hot dishes, N to Z: Desserts. Our priority is to have all of us together.

This year's event will include music provided by our own German Oktoberfest professional accordionist, Lyle Heilman. He will provide lively German music as we arrive, during dinner and with a short concert at the end of our meal. Prepare to sing along. Oktoberfest attire is optional. Plans are in place to have a dance floor available to add to the festivities.

Each committee will have involvement with making this all come together. We will also have a children's table again this year and a simple craft for the kids.

Signing up ahead of time is encouraged so that we have enough Oktoberfest sausage prepared.

Our SOV youth will be helping us with our event. The “Mason” jars on the tables will offer the opportunity to support the youth's National Youth Gathering convention in Detroit, Michigan the summer of 2015.

Living a Generous Life Through Prayer...Submitted by Sandra C



There are many ways to love one another; intercessory prayer – praying on behalf of other people – is one of the most powerful. By praying with and for others, we assure them they are not alone and we share our confidence that a loving God is present and will act, even if not in the manner or timing we seek.

During the Children's Message in October, Pastor Brian had the kids write their names in the Book of Life. The prayer team has been praying for each of these children and will continue to pray for them through the coming months as we move towards Christmas and the celebration of the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, God present with us.

Please remember the prayer team is here to pray for you and your loved ones as well. Fill out a prayer request, talk to Tammy or one of us, and we will join you in submitting our prayers to God.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Marlene L	17 Caryl H
4 Grant H	19 Reynold R
6 Denni K	23 Cheyenne H
8 Ken P	28 Debbie J
8 Julie Z	28 De'Juan S
9 Stacey R	29 Larry G
11 Marv V	29 Melody W
14 Enith G	30 Craig Z
17 Joseph G	Dan N



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

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Bruce & Enith Gilbertson

November 17th



happy anniversary

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Meeting Monday, November 17th at 7:00 pm

Thursday, November 20th 1:00 pm (following the All Church Luncheon)

Bring your knitting needles. Have lunch with the group followed by fellowship with the prayer shawl knitters/crocheters.



COUNCIL RETREAT REFLECTION

by Pastor Brian

Saturday, October 11th the leaders of your favorite church — SOV — held a retreat: “Celebrating Our Gifts.” We met morning and afternoon. It was time well spent. We did things church leadership groups need to do once in a while if the congregation is to serve God well. We heard and pondered God’s word. I felt fortunate to lead a couple study sessions on one of my favorite books of the Bible, Ephesians. (Warning: don’t ask me why I like Ephesians... you’re likely to be talking with me all day long!) We also listened to one of our elders impart wisdom harvested from many seasons of Christian service. How fortunate we are to have wise elders willing to share!

Then we talked at length about the work of this congregation. We spoke honestly and listened respectfully to tales of the shared joys and frustrations we experience working together in this beautiful but flawed institution we call the Church of Jesus Christ. Important truths were told. Some tears were shed. Forgiveness was requested and bestowed. Hope and resolve were kindled. When leaders embrace these core church practices, then energy, healing, and vision needed for church work flow abundantly from the Holy Spirit. That was happening for us last Saturday. God saw all this and said, “behold, it is very good.”

Later we reviewed the Report of the Strategic Task Force and grounded ourselves again in the mission and vision of SOV. We remembered our covenant to “Reach Up, Reach Out, Reach In.” We also talked about governance structure and discussed a forthcoming policy to guide the use of Social Media at SOV. Last but not least, we pasted twelve big sheets of paper on the wall and sketched out a calendar of church events for 2015. That will help our ministry teams not to double-book the congregation as we carry out God’s work in this community.

I am grateful for the good work our Council and other leaders did at this retreat. I am proud of them for investing themselves in their leadership tasks with energy and integrity as they respond faithfully to God’s call. I consider myself fortunate to have such fine partners in the gospel. I hope you do, too.

November 4th @ 6:00 pm

Gyro House

530 Southwest 205th Avenue,
Beaverton, OR 97006

<http://www.thegyrohouse.com/>

**Ladies Dinner Group****Ladies Annual Christmas Dinner**

December 2nd

5:30 pm **(please note we are starting at 5:30)**

Stanford's Tanasbourne

2770 NW 188th Ave, Hillsboro, OR 97124

<http://stanfords.com/menu.php?c=tanasbourne>

Please RSVP to Deann or Tammy

**MEN'S NIGHT New Night****Tuesday, November 4th**

6:30 PM @ Lil' Cooperstown

2947 SE 73rd Ave
Hillsboro, OR 97123

ALL MEN INVITED FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP**Scrip Order Sundays** November 2nd & 16th**GET ON BOARD! SCRIP PROFITS BUY NEW CHAIRS!****DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE NOVEMBER 2TH**

November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>  <p>Count Your Blessings</p> </div>						
Psalms 118:1 <i>10 give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!</i>						1 10:00 - 11:30 a SOV Choir Rehearsal
2 8:30 & 11:00 Worship All Saints Sunday Scrip, Birthday, Blood Pressure 5:00 p Give Thanks Dinner 1:30 p OEC	3 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK 7:00 p Ad Hoc Mtg 	4 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK 6:00 p Ladies Dinner Gyro House 6:30p Men's Night Lil' Cooperstown	5 7:00 a Coffee Group 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK 10:00 a Bible Study	6 9:00 - 1:00 p KO K 7:00 p LLL	7 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmetter Piano Studio	8 10:00 - 11:30 a SOV Choir Rehearsal 
9 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 1:30 p OEC	10 NO KOK 7:00 p Ad Hoc Mtg  <p>Thank you, Veterans!</p>	11 NO KOK	12 7:00 a Coffee Group 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK 10:00 a Bible Study	13 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK	14 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmetter Piano Studio 6:45 - 10:00 p Confirmation Class	15 10:00 - 11:30 a SOV Choir Rehearsal
16 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Scrip Sunday 1:30 p OEC	17 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK 1:30 - 7:00 p Red Cross 7:00 p Prayer Shawl 7:00 p Ad Hoc Mtg	18 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK	19 7:00 a Coffee Group 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK 10:00 a Bible Study	20 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK 10:00 a LLL 12:00 p All Church Luncheon	21 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmetter Piano Studio	22 10:00 - 11:30 a SOV Choir Rehearsal 
23 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Christ the King Sunday 1:30 p OEC 	24 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK 7:00 p Ad Hoc Mtg <i>KOK Christmas Greens pick up 23, 24, 25</i>	25 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK	26 7:00 a Coffee Group NO KOK 10:00 a Bible Study	27 NO KOK Happy Thanksgiving 	28 NO KOK 1:00 - 9:00 p Palmetter Piano Studio	29 10:00 - 11:30 a SOV Choir Rehearsal
30 8:30 & 11:00 Worship 1:30 p OEC  <p>First Sunday in Advent</p>	 <h1>November</h1>					