

OCTOBER 2010

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Shepherd's Office Hours;
Mon-Thurs 9:00—2:00

Pastor Randy's Office
Hours;

Tues-Fri 9:00 -12:00
(by appt after 12:00)

Office phone;
503.645.4994
Sovlutheran.com

Fall worship services
8:30 a & 11:00 a
Sunday School for all ages
9:45 a

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SUNDAY SCHOOL



PUMPKIN CARVING AND FUN!

When: Saturday, Oct. 23 from 2-4 p.m.

Why: share your talents and take home your creation.
Come join the fun and fellowship!

How: bring your own pumpkins, and some snacks /drinks
to share. Some carving utensils will be provided.

What: Donations of food items will go to the Shepherd
Storehouse. Help us fill food baskets!

Where: downstairs in the SOV Sunday School meeting
room. See you there!





PASTOR'S PAGE

"... the light of the moon will be like the light of the sun...." Isaiah 30:26

There was a full moon on the night of the first day of fall. The folks who keep track of such things say it will not happen again until 2029. Had a chance to step outside and gaze into the sky, and it was beautiful. It wasn't exactly like the light of the sun, and am not sure if the paper could have been read by it, but it was a captivating sight. I have long been in love with that silver orb and this night was no disappointment.

This rambling is brought forward here because for me it speaks of hope and the promise of God's presence with us, as individuals and as a community of faith.

These are difficult times and there are many challenges, and we are reminded of that again and again. In fact it seems that some would bring us only bad news and condemnations (and mostly it seems so that we can blame someone else for the unhappiness in our own lives). But it is not good to spend so much time there and see only the grim nature of the situation we find ourselves in.

There is always beauty. There is always promise. And that speaks more clearly to me than any grim prognostications. There is always hope. There are always grand things to look to. SOV is part of the good news in this world of bad news. Thinking of the noise, laughter, food and general foolishness that filled this place, and spilled out of it, on Rally Sunday. There were kids of all ages simply enriched by the presence of each other, and the power of the Creator in their lives.

There is always hope. We are not defeated. We are fools who rejoice in the silver light of the moon. We see beauty when it seems many others see only darkness. That does not make us better than others, but it surely gives us the chance to make this sometimes old and tired world a better place.

May we take in the beauty and share some as well.

In the peace and power of the Christ,
Pastor Randy

COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Submitted by Peggy Jo Vermaas

Greetings and God's Peace to you all.

As most of you know, much of my time is spent in 'grandma-ing'. Today, as I watch Gabriel, he toddles into the kitchen, stretches up onto his tiptoes, opens a kitchen drawer and stretches even further to reach for treasure he knows is there. Out comes an assortment of spoons and forks which land on the floor and then off he toddles to the bathroom. This time he locates his stool, moves it into position, gets up onto the stool and begins to reach towards more treasure on the counter tops. So the day goes . . . stretching and reaching . . . finding the treasure . . . knowing with confidence that it is there in abundance.



And so it goes for us here at Shepherd. We too are stretching and reaching in so many ways. Some perhaps feeling they are stretching up on their tiptoes as well!! Doing as much as they can . . . 'living a generous life' . . . 'giving abundantly' . . . 'touching others for Christ.' I believe all are acting on God's message to us. Walking the walk. We saw it in Rally Day. Lot's of fun. Lot's of kids. Kids and Grown-ups together seeking an answer to 'Did you eat pancakes for breakfast???' as part of the treasure hunt. Eleven kids in our Pre-confirmation class (new this year). About 100 folks at our picnic fully funded by donations. School Backpack supplies donated and filled. Volunteers for the Compassion Clinic. A shower for our newest member - Baby Daphne. New members to Kids Choir and off to the Enchanted Forest for an outing!! Thanksgiving Baskets in the works. Monthly Red Cross Blood drives continue. First Aid classes scheduled. Fourteen kids in our new Kids of the Kingdom Pre-school Program with more parents making inquiries. KOK floors polished, new bark chips in the playground, a new helicopter!!! Over \$100 collected from our Youth Quilt Raffle. Two former SOV kids volunteering to START UP A PROGRAM FOR OUR YOUTH!!!! Field mowing volunteers and more volunteers continue to clean our church and provide alter flowers. New (professionally done) brochures for our Evangelism/Outreach. Our Stewardship program which is educating us all on the joy of giving. A new computer back up system donated and installed. A new (upgraded) church helpmate program donated and being installed. Our Scrip program going strong. And on and on it goes.

Thanks to all who are 'stretching and reaching.' If you are willing to stretch a bit more we would like to increase some of our committees. Not big jobs. Small jobs. Working together. You may be invited. Please pray about ways that you are called.

Here are some highlights:

COMMUNICATIONS: Have you noticed all of our bulletin boards?? at the entrance . . . in the narthex .. in the rainbow room .. in the stairwell .. downstairs in KOK? Are you reading the Newsletter?? and watching our Website .. reading the special emails .. reading the Kiosk in the narthex??? Are you appreciating your Sunday Bulletin? Do you know we are keeping announcements to mostly highlights? We are planning on reviving our Prayer Chain. We are planning on connecting with our Youth who are in college or otherwise out of the area. We are making every effort to effectively communicate and

PRESIDENTS REPORT CONTINUED...

connect. Please appreciate the effort by using these resources. Also, give us some feedback.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS . . AN OPPORTUNITY: Thanks to Betty S., our treasurer, for getting SOV set up to receive Thrivent Choice dollars. We are also getting our mission, Kids of the Kingdom Preschool, set up to receive Choice dollars as well. What are Choice Dollars? Each member who owns a Thrivent product now has control over a portion of the Thrivent Charitable Funds giving. Members should have received a letter which states 'Help choose where Thrivent Gives Back'. This letter included an approximate dollar amount for you, as a Thrivent member, for 2010 giving. You can set up automatic giving as well. This is a new program and we are still learning. In addition to SOV and KOK, there are many great organizations who need financial support. We encourage you to make your wishes known.

MISSIONS: KOK had a great opening and first week. We have fourteen kids and needed ten to break even financially. Kids, parents, teachers, directors are all great and a real blessings to SOV. As mentioned in last month's newsletter, KOK has a scholarship fund for needy parents. Consider donating to this fund so that we can offer this wonderful resource to families in need. Keep this mission in your prayers. Also, we will be filling the shelves of our Shepherd's Storehouse . . . laying in supplies . . . getting ready for winter. Getting ready to help. Would you be willing to help dispense the baskets?? Stretch?

EASEMENT: We are looking forward to meeting with out attorney, Jack Orchard, within the next two weeks. Progress. Patience. The next step is coming.

OUR BUILDING: There are may repairs/upgrades that are needed in our existing building. Protecting this asset is important and a priority. We are beginning the discussions around the next best steps. Make your interest known. More to come.

OUR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: Our Capital Campaign is now into our third year. This has been a blessing to our congregation in so many ways and we thank God for Bob and Tammy and the success that has been achieved during what has been one of the most difficult economic times for us all. We are now at the point where we want to review our progress and plan for the future. To that end, the Council and the Capital Campaign Committee will be looking at the next best steps. Make your interest known. More to come.

Thank you to all who are "stretching" and Giving Abundantly. We are all a blessing to one another. In Christ, Peggy

SOCIAL CONCERNS

... BY LARINA HOFFBECK

Beaverton Compassion Clinic, Saturday, October 9, 2010

Please join SOV's Social Concerns committee and SOV's health team in supporting the 2010 Beaverton Compassion Clinic. This event provides basic health care and social networking for local residents lacking health insurance. There are many ways to volunteer for this event at their website: <http://www.compassionbeaverton.org/>. You can also go to SOV's site and click on the Compassion Beaverton link on Social Concerns' page. If you'd like to car-pool with other people from SOV who will be attending, please let Larina Hoffbeck know that you've signed up. We hope to see you there!



Thanksgiving Baskets, Saturday, November 20, 2010

SOV will again be giving out Thanksgiving Baskets to our neighbors in financial need. If you would like to volunteer to help with assembly and/or delivery on Saturday morning, November 20th or set-up on Friday evening, November 19th, please contact Larina Hoffbeck at (503) 617-9297 or hoffbeck@frontier.com. Also, if you know of anyone who would appreciate receiving one of our food baskets for Thanksgiving, please let someone on Social Concerns know. If you would like to donate towards this project, please put your donation in the Sunday offering plate marked: "Social Concerns - Thanksgiving Baskets" between now and November 7th.

Thank you for helping to support our community and for being a part of sharing God's love with others. What a wonderful way to Live a Generous Life!

Shepherd of the Valley is proudly sponsoring a third American Red Cross blood drive Thursday, October 7th 1:30 – 7 pm.



**American
Red Cross**

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.

From the Desk of Parish Nurse...Corrine Gilbertson

So the summer has come and gone and we are in the fall schedule at Shepherd of the Valley and we are off to a running start! We have a beautiful new banner with the words "Living a Generous Life"! Pastor Randy will be leading us as we explore and learn the full meaning of this theme.

I think you will also discover a new face unfolding from the Health Ministry Team! Our focus is on how we can best care for each other—Body, Mind, and Spirit. We have divided our people / families as Shepherd of the Valley into groups with a member of the team in each group. Many of you, perhaps are familiar with churches that have "shepherd groups". Small groups will provide opportunities to get to know each other as well as discovering each others needs. We will learn about each ones gifts! We will be a support to each other during those "troubled times on life's journey" as well as celebrated the joyous times! These groups may meet in the church, homes, restaurants, parks or where ever, in the name of Christian fellowship. These groups may establish various traditions or projects i.e. Ice cream socials, hosting coffee hour, sports activity or event. Some will want a certain Bible Study or other book study.

The health team will conduct surveys to establish what Health Education programs you desire. SOV now has the Red Cross Blood Drive the first Thursday of every month. Call the Red Cross for an appointment to donate blood. The next blood drive is October 7th.

Compassion Clinic will take place October 9th, Saturday 9 - 4 pm. This is a free clinic for anyone who needs Health Care including Dental but does not have Health Insurance. It will take place at Barnes Elementary School. The clinic is staffed with doctors and nurses and many other volunteers! This is wonderful service! Please share this information with anyone who would qualify.

Also have we lost a wheelchair?—I can only find one! We do loan one out for short periods providing we have one at the church at all times!

Remember to get your flu shot. Call me if you need some assistance with a medical problem.

If you need a BOOST in your immune system—sing more, laugh more!

Yours in Christ

Corrine

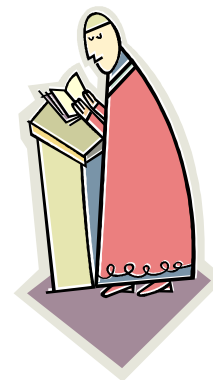


MEN'S NIGHT

Meets the first Thursday of each month

6:30 pm

Old Chicago Pizza @ Tanasbourne



All men are invited to join in food and fellowship



VESPER SERVICE

Beginning with the first Wednesday in October a series on the Miracles from the Gospel according to St. John will begin. This series will last for 7 weeks (takes us right up to Thanksgiving).

Wednesday's 6:30 pm

THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS...

Economic and Investment Outlook Update

Economic and Investment Outlook Update is a free educational event that can help you make more informed investment decisions.

During the event, you'll gain a better understanding of the factors that affect financial markets and trends. You'll also receive an overview of how the changing economy can impact investment markets, how emotions can affect your decisions, and when to get professional financial guidance.

The free one-hour event will be presented by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans representative, Jason Drews, Financial Consultant, on November 16, 5:00-6:00 pm location Hillsboro Library-Main Meeting Room and October 27, 12:00-1:00 pm 4000 Kruse Way Place, Bldg 3-Ste 155, Lake Oswego. For more information, contact Susan at 503-635-2003 ext 245 or susan.rothe@thrivent.com.

The Economic and Investment Outlook Update event is intended only to educate you about financial decisions. It is broad in scope and does not consider your individual personal financial situation, which is unique. The information and advice may not be appropriate in all cases. No products will be offered for sale.

For additional important disclosure information, please visit <https://www.thrivent.com/disclosures/>

Living a Generous Life

The playwright George Bernard Shaw said, *"The possibilities are numerous once we decide to act and not to react"*.

In 2008, the world saw a lot of economic reactions. From the fall of Wall Street and the near collapse of the U.S. economy, many of us reacted by pulling our purse strings tighter and deciding to "hunker down" until the end of the recession.

You and I have a unique opportunity to put aside reacting and put action front and center. Taking action will help SOV recover and rebound. However, action without heart and connection to the greater good could get us back where we started.

I offer you a tool that never fails: leading with generosity.

What does it mean to lead with generosity?

According to Webster's Dictionary, generosity is "the habit of giving." But as we leap into a new year of the church filled with new possibilities, let's add to it "the habit of giving... especially when it feels terrifying!" Now is not the time to give less. Now, especially in these tough economic times, is the time to give to your fullest potential.

We cannot create the possible until we practice what feels impossible. I urge you to take a leap like you've never taken before. What do you have to lose? Be as generous as you can in anyway that you can in every moment that presents itself. By doing so, you will develop a habit of giving that will transform SOV. It will also transform you.

Being generous does not mean making a charitable gift that you cannot afford. However, **being generous does mean writing any size check, even if you're worried about money.**

Being generous does not mean overextending yourself to a point of fatigue and burnout. However, **being generous does mean revisiting the priorities you set and ensuring that the material does not supersede the spiritual.**

Being generous does not mean allowing others to take advantage of your talents and gifts. However, **being generous does mean offering your talents and gifts without expectation of return.**

God's richest blessings

Bob R. McFall

Stewardship



KIDS OF THE KINGDOM - CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL



Excitement, curiosity, joy! These are just a few of the emotions children display every day at preschool. Excitement at claiming a place for their own that they can share with the new friends they have made.

Curiosity with the new toys and experiences that await them, for each day is a new day. Joy at knowing they are loved by God, their teachers and their friends.

October will bring the newness of creation to our preschool children. They will be learning the God loves us so much that he created this wonderful world for our pleasure. Seven days to create, rest and revel in that Creation. Darkness and light. Earth, sky and water. Plants, animals and people, too. God's world, our world, a gift and a blessing. The children are busy creating, too. The creation table is a favorite as children explore and use various media to build unusual creatures and make beautiful pictures. Math concepts will come into play as children pattern, sequence and graph items found in the classroom. A highlight of this month will be a field trip to the pumpkin patch to find the perfect pumpkin. This outing is sure to encourage language development as children talk about what they say, smelled, heard, and touched. Experiencing God's creation first hand helps children experience the greatness of our God and how much he loves us by providing us with so much bounty.

We thank God for the children and families we are able to touch and the teachers who give so much of Christ's love to the children. Please offer prayers of thanksgiving for our program.



When Sunday's offering plate comes back empty ... Bob R. McFall

"Have you been "shackin' up" with the church? Just wanting all the benefits and blessings as being in the church, but none of the responsibilities and duties? The faith we profess requires us to serve others. Discover your divine calling and go fulfill it. It's time to stop playing church and get serious!" (Quote from an anonymous person)

Have you ever wondered why we put money in the offering plate on Sunday morning?

Do we put money in the offering plate on Sunday morning not because the Church needs the money but because we want to give it? We have a spiritual need to worship God and through the offerings given on Sunday morning we are able to express our love and devotion for God.

Placing money in the offering plate on Sunday morning is an act of WORSHIPING! Giving as an act of worship takes us beyond duty to delight. It's not a matter of the size of the gift or motivation of the giver but a simply act of worship.

By giving through direct deduction from our bank accounts on a weekly or monthly basis is how we go about taking care of the church's budgetary expenses which is very necessary and appreciated. Many churches including Shepherd of the Valley have encouraged automatic deductions to create a way for contributions to cover the monthly operating expenses of the church be received on a regular basis.

I fall into the above category of my giving to the church through deductions from my checking account on a monthly basis.

It wasn't until I started participating on the "New" Stewardship Committee did I realize that all I have been giving to is helping cover the operating expenses and not really "worshiping" on a regular basis.

While it is necessary that we all give on a regular basis to cover the regular operating expenses if we are truly to worship our God we must also place a Gift from God in our Sunday morning offering plate.

Thank you to all the members of Shepherd of the Valley who give to support the monthly church operating expenses and also give on Sunday morning as a true way of **worshipping our God and Savior.**

CHRISTMAS GREENS—KOK FUNDRAISER



REMINDER----Christmas Greens orders will be taken in October! Please support Kids of the Kingdom's tuition assistance program and order a Christmas wreath, swag, centerpiece or garland. Order forms will be available mid-October and greens will be available for pick up after Thanksgiving.

Volunteers Needed...

Is there a committee that interests you? Bet they could use one more member, its not to late to join.

Committees;

Evangelism, Stewardship, Social Concerns, Sunday Kitchen clean up, fellowship, altar guild,

Other volunteer opportunities;

Ushering,

Altar flowers,

Coffee hour

YOUTH GROUP MEETING

Submitted by Stacey Roeder
and Caitlin Garcia

All 7th - 12th grade Youth and Parents

Sunday October 10th following 11:00 am service there will be a brief meeting to introduce the new youth leaders and discuss plans and ideas for SOV's Youth Group.

Please plan to attend, we would love to hear your input. If you have any questions please contact Stacey; roed-ersi5@gmail.com or Caitlin; saalfeca@gmail.com



LADIES DINNER

Ladies Dinner

Tuesday October 12

6:30 pm

Reedville Café

7575 SE TV HWY, Aloha,

RSVP to Charleen or Clara

PRAWL SHAWL MINISTRY...

Open to men, women and youth~

Will meet October 21st

7:00 pm at SOV

*No experience
required...*



FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE...

- Fall Worship Schedule

Worship services with communion at 8:30 a & 11:00 a

Sunday School for all ages at 9:45 a

- Wednesday Vesper Service

6:30 p each



CONCERTS ARE PLANNED...



MARK YOUR CALENDARS;

SUNDAY OCTOBER 24, 2010 6:00 PM ... SOV VARIETY SHOW

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2010 6:00 PM ... TRANSPORT TRIO



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 19TH

TREASURER'S REPORT...Submitted by Betty Stoltenburg

Executive Committee knows that many of you purchase items for SOV and then do not turn in a receipt for reimbursement. We sincerely appreciate your generosity and have discussed ways that you could continue this practice and still receive the proper tax deduction at the end of the year. Therefore, we've devised a Donation without Check Request form.

Procedurally this is how it will work:

- Member to fill out SOV Donation w/o check request form (can be found in church office)
- Member to get your Committee Chairs Signature
- Member to put form along with receipts in Financial Secretary's Box
- SOV's Financial Secretary to update Giving Statement for tax purposes (if receipts are attached)
- SOV's Financial Secretary to summarize totals and give to Treasurer
- SOV's Treasurer to make a journal entry to account for both the income and expense of the donation.

In addition to providing documentation so that you can receive tax credit, this information will be extremely useful when planning the budget for SOV. Just a reminder, that the budget is based on what it takes to run the church. The more we understand about the actual cost of programs, the more realistic our budget will be.

May you be blessed for all your financial support, it's greatly appreciated and we wouldn't have been able to do as much as we have without your support.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Property management announced on Sunday imperative building improvements are needed to our church home (building);

- new furnace w/ optional A/C,
- new electrical,
- siding/paint.



Financial funds are being explored at this time. Any questions can be directed to Connie or Jeff on property management.

Betty's Sew Fun



Dear SOV members:

I'm in the process of opening a small online store on etsy.com (link <http://BettysSewFun.etsy.com>). The items carried in my online store are all handmade by me. One item that I will be carrying is a Customized Reversible Casserole Carrier for \$28.



Features:

- Reversible
 - Button Closure that accommodates your different baking dishes (9"x13", 7"x11", 2.8L corning ware)
 - Serving utensil holder
- Machine washable/dryable (just remove wooden dowels)

You get to choose:

- Pre-quilted Fabric choices (red/burgundy, hunter green, cobalt blue, or purple)
 - Coordinating Fabric Choice (multi-colored, sunflowers, or ribbons)
 - Embroidery Appliqués: (Pink ribbon w/Hope,, praying hands, cross, or a letter of the Alphabet (one letter),
- Serving utensil (spoon, slotted spoon or spatula)

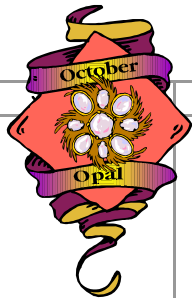
As a Grand Opening Special: I've decided to donate 100% of the net profit of this item to SOV for all orders purchased by SOV family and friends before Nov 1, 2010.

Order forms will be available at church or you can go to the online store @

<http://BettysSewFun.etsy.com>

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE OCTOBER 19, 2010

October 2010



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
					1 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool	2
3 Worship Services W/communion 8:30 & 11:00 a Sunday School 9:45 a Birthday Sunday Blood Pressure Ck 6:30 p Movies w/Meaning (no childcare provided)	4 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 	5 7:15 a Coffee Group @ Starbucks 1:00 p Food Basket Distribution 6:30 p Youth Choir	6 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 11:15 a Rebecca Circle brown bag lunch 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir practice	7 2:00 - 7:00 p American Red Cross Blood Drive 6:30 p Men's night @ Old Chicago Pizza	8 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool	9
10 Worship Services W/communion 8:30 & 11:00 a Sunday School 9:45 a	11 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool	12 7:15 a Coffee Group @ Starbucks 1:00 p Food Basket Distribution 6:30 p Youth Choir 6:30 p Ladies Dinner 6:30 p Executive Council	13 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir practice	14 7:00 p Council Meeting	15 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 	16
17 Worship Services W/communion 8:30 & 11:00 a Sunday School 9:45 a	18 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 7:00 p Social Concerns Meeting 7:00 p Prayer Shawl Ministry	19 7:15 a Coffee Group @ Starbucks 1:00 p Food Basket Distribution 6:30 p Youth Choir	20 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir practice	21 10:00 a LLL 10:00 Stewardship	22 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 7:00 p Confirmation Retreat	23 2:00 - 4:00 p Pumpkin Carving
24 Worship Services W/communion 8:30 & 11:00 a Sunday School 9:45 a 6:00 p SOV Variety Show	25 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool	26 7:15 a Coffee Group @ Starbucks 1:00 p Food Basket Distribution 6:30 p Youth Choir	27 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool 10:00 a Bible Study 6:30 p Vesper Service 7:00 p Adult Choir practice	28 12:00 p All Church Luncheon	29 9:00 - 11:30 a KOK Preschool	30
31 Worship Services W/communion 8:30 & 11:00 a Sunday School 9:45 a Reformation Sunday						