

OCTOBER 2016

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume I, Issue I

Shepherd's Office Hours;
Mon-Thurs 7:30 - 12:30pm

Interim Pastor

Brian Brandt

Tues. 10:00 - 12:15 p

Wed & 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

Sunday School

9:45 am

Wednesday Bible Study

10:00 a

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

Youth group is gearing up!

We will be doing small group and large group activities throughout the year.

This year Youth Group at SOV will be open to 7th-12th graders. We will be planning our small group (SOV) activities soon.

Expect a movie night at Caitlin's and a trip to the corn maze!

The Large Westside Group has lots of fun things planned for this year. The October dates are below. Stacey will e-mail out specifics when the dates are closer!

Friday, October 21

6:30pm-9:30am

High School Overnight and Sky High

Saturday, October 29

8:30am-4pmish

Middle and High School

Hiking



Interim Pastor Brian's Message

How Would Jesus Vote?

Well, I suppose he'd use the same ballot forms the rest of us do. I don't know which candidates he'd vote for but I'm pretty sure he'd cast a ballot. Jesus cared about good leadership in his society. He wanted good leaders, not bad ones. That's right in line with the Old Testament's critique of bad leaders (bad shepherds - see Ezekiel 34). Jesus created the Church, breathed his own life into it, so that the Church could lead people to a godly life. And that means life together as a public reality, a good society, "a foretaste of the feast to come."



Since we follow Jesus, we are called to help people lead a good and godly life. One of the ways we do that is by doing our best to elect good leaders and promote good leadership in all areas of life. Consider these words from the ELCA's Social Statement "The Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective" —

God works through the family, education, the economy, the state, and other structures necessary for life in the present age. God institutes governing authorities, for example, to serve the good of society. This church respects the God-given integrity and tasks of governing authorities and other worldly structures, while holding them accountable to God.

The Church participates in society is through its members. ...They fulfill their baptismal vocation in ordinary life as family members, friends, citizens, workers, and participants in voluntary associations. Since "daily life [is] the primary setting for the exercise of [the] Christian calling," it is in that setting that Christians are to serve God and neighbor.

Christians also exercise their calling by being wise and active citizens. This may include service in public office. Along with all citizens, Christians have the responsibility to defend human rights and to work for freedom, justice, peace, environmental well-being, and good order in public life. They are to recognize the vital role of law in protecting life and liberty and in upholding the common good. Christians need to be concerned for the methods and the content of public deliberation. They should be critical when groups of people are inadequately represented in political processes and decisions that affect their lives.

This is wise guidance for us as Christians who live both in the United States and in the Reign of God. Sometimes it's an uneasy co-existence. But our faith in God and the witness of the Church tell us that we can't ignore our calling to elect good leaders who will work for justice and help create a sufficient, sustainable livelihood for all people.

The General Election comes up in just over a month. Please take time to learn about the issues and the candidates. Think carefully about the choices God is calling you to make. And then cast your ballot. Your vote makes a difference. God grant that it make a godly difference!

Parish Education...Submitted by Wendy R.

Parish Education is offering an Education Hour on Sundays for **all ages**.

Classes for **Preschool through 5th grade** meet downstairs while **6th – 8th graders** meet upstairs. The younger group are learning some of the great Bible stories building the foundation of their faith while the older group will dig deeper into the Bible as their faith foundation is applied in their everyday life. Please join us!



Adult Sunday School

In October there will be a series of workshops presented by the Healthy Communication ministry team. The first is on October 9 with Michelle Nelson Sinn, a professional counselor who will do a presentation on how to prevent hurtful speech like gossip and triangulation; and how to practice skills for respectful communication. The next Sunday, October 16, the Healthy Communication team will follow up on the first session with additional information and then do role-plays that make the practices for healthy communication concrete. On October 23 the Healthy Communication ministry team will present a set of "Guidelines for Healthy Communication" for the congregation's consideration (the draft Guidelines will be sent out in advance). Using feedback from that meeting, the team will revise the Guidelines and then present them at a congregational meeting on November 6 with the proposal that SOV embrace the Guidelines as the basis of a "Covenant for Healthy Communication" that we all commit ourselves to uphold. These workshops will help you improve communication skills not only at church but in every part of your life. All sessions will run from 9:45-10:45 a.m. between Sunday worship services. Look for more information in coming weeks.



Confirmation Class

SOV's teens come to Confirmation class filled with joyous hope and expectation, eager to dig into New Testament studies. What a great bunch of teens! We started our Fall schedule on September 18 with a look at the geography of the Holy Land and Roman Empire, the setting for the NT literature. We'll continue with NT studies until the Christmas Holidays with only a few breaks. Pastor Brian is teaching again this year but now has a partner in Alex Klomstad, a young man who's been attending SOV for about a year. Class meets on Sunday afternoons from 1:00-2:30 p.m. We thank God (and parents!) for our teens and thank the congregation for supporting this ministry!



Ladies Dinner

Tuesday, October 4th

6:00 pm

Bethany Public House

4640 SW Bethany Blvd Portland, OR

Please RSVP to Tammy



Men's Night

Thursday, October 6th

6:00 PM

Reedville Cafe

7575 SE Tualatin Valley Hwy, Hillsboro, OR 97123

ALL MEN INVITED FOR FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP



WORSHIP -

Please consider helping out our congregation by volunteering to be an usher. It's easy, painless and would really be a nice thing to do. Sign up sheets are available in the back of the church usually on the fellowship table to sign your name on.

We are also always looking for new members to join our Worship committee team. If you are interested please contact Cyndi Peterson or any council member and they can give you more information. Thank you.

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE OCTOBER 25TH

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

SOV's "Change the World Concert" September 10, 2016

For at least a night we changed the world through music!

Our SOV "Change the World" Choir Concert was attended by more than 80 people. Guests and members alike had the opportunity to experience pop, bluegrass and Gospel music. Guest musicians and vocalists complimented our own SOV choir.

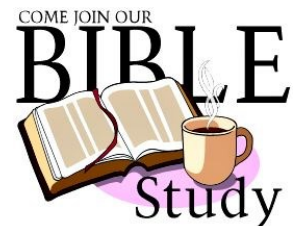
Our goal was to have a "Fun-raising" event and create an evening filled with energetic, inspirational and soul moving music. Those attending responded with love and generosity by supporting our event through a free-will offering. After our expenses are met the remainder of the funds raised will go to the National Youth Gathering in Houston in 2018.

We want to thank all the SOV music team, our guest musicians, vocalists, and all the volunteers that helped bring this "all congregational" event together. Special thanks to Cyndi Peterson who helped bring volunteers together and to our wonderful Music Director, Jon Quesenberry for all the love, talents and time he gave to pull together the music and musicians to create an evening where we changed the world (even if for one night) through God's gifts of music.



Bible Study Wednesday Mornings

The Bible study class meets on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00. Pastor Brian is leading an extended study of the Letter to the Ephesians. It's one of the most visionary and useful books of the New Testament. Good stuff! Of course you'll want to take Wednesday mornings off from work just to join the fun. :) Ask Pastor Brian for details. You are welcome!



NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES ARE DUE OCTOBER 25TH

Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool

Parent's Night-In On Tuesday, October 4th from 6:30pm-7:30pm, we will be hosting a special night for toddler and preschool families. The children will enjoy a night of play with Ms. Sharyl and Ms. Sarah downstairs while the parents meet upstairs for fellowship and a preschool parenting question/answer time with our director, Ms. Hannah. Church families with preschool aged children are invited to join as well. Please email Hannah at kokpreschool@gmail.com to RSVP.

We Love School! What a great first month of school we've enjoyed. Each class is off to a great start, learning and growing more and more every day. As a school, we believe kids learn best through play and hands on experiences. Here are some of the things we are looking forward to this coming month:

- **Bible:** During the month of October, we will be learning about being brave. Brave mean standing up for what is good and right, even when it's hard. We will learn about three people in the Bible who were brave: David, Queen Esther, and Gideon.
- **Chapel:** Every Wednesday, our 4's and Prek/K class meets with Pastor Brian for chapel. It's always full of lots of fun and love as we learn more about God's love for us and the stories that go along with our Bible curriculum.
- **Pumpkin Patch Field Trips:** We are learning about harvest and how things grow. One of the best ways to experience this during the fall season is at the pumpkin patch. All of our classes will be taking a trip to see pumpkins growing in the fields and to pick one out to take home.
- **Pumpkins, farms, creepy crawly Spiders, Bats and so much more:** During the month of October we learn our letters, shapes, numbers, and so much more through our themes. It's not uncommon to find us, painting with straw, exploring our pumpkins with our 5 senses, or cooking pumpkin muffins

Help Us Spread the Word! If you or someone you know is interested in enrolling their preschooler, each of our classes still has room for more students. Call or email Hannah today for more information. 503-645-0236 or kokpreschool@gmail.com

Christmas Greens Annual Fundraiser

Place your Christmas Greens order by October 25! Lots of Oregon greens are available for purchase including wreaths, centerpieces, swags, and garlands with prices between \$15-\$35 each. Forms are available at the usher station. This fundraiser is sponsored by SOV's preschool, Kids of the Kingdom Christian Preschool, and benefits the tuition assistance program. Purchases will be available for pick up at the church November 20. Thanks for your support.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Richard K

4 Karen S

8 Betty S

9 Chris R

11 Marissa M

11 Aggie W

17 Beth K

18 Cyndi P

22 Jack R

26 Austin M

27 Charleen K



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

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Aaron & Kaye Zahrowski

Michael & Debbie Johnson

Chris & Amie Kelley

George & Valsala Kurian

Reynold & Wendy Roeder

October 1st

October 4th

October 10th

October 21st

October 29th

**Happy
Anniversary**



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October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS. NAME THEM ONE BY ONE. COUNT YOUR MANY BLESSINGS SEE WHAT GOD HAS DONE.						1 9:30 - 11:30 a SOV choir rehearsal
2 8:30 & 11:00 worship 9:45 SS No Confirmation 1:30 OEC	3 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool	4 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 6:00 p Ladies Dinner / Bethany Public House 6:30 - 7:30 p KOK parent skills	5 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 10:00 a Bible Study	6 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 6:00 p Men's Night at Reedville Café	7 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK preschool	8 9:30 - 11:30 a SOV choir rehearsal 
9 8:30 & 11:00 worship 9:45 SS 1:00 p Confirmation 1:30 OEC	10 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool Columbus Day	11 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 	12 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 10:00 a Bible Study	13 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 7:00 p LLL	14 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK preschool	15 9:30 - 11:30 a SOV choir rehearsal
16 8:30 & 11:00 worship 9:45 SS No Confirmation 1:30 OEC	17 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool	18 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool	19 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 10:00 a Bible Study	20 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 10:00 a LLL 7:00 p Council Mtg.	21 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK preschool 	22 9:30 - 11:30 a SOV choir rehearsal
23 8:30 & 11:00 worship 9:45 SS No Confirmation 1:30 OEC	24 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool	25 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 	26 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool 10:00 a Bible Study	27 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool	28 9:00 - 12:00 p KOK preschool	29 9:30 - 11:30 a SOV choir rehearsal
30 8:30 & 11:00 worship 9:45 SS 1:30 OEC Reformation	31 9:00 - 1:00 p KOK preschool Halloween	 <p>Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. GALATIANS 6:9</p>				