



*Shepherd*  
OF THE PRAIRIE  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*Caring For All God's Children*

## Congregational Newsletter November 2015

### **SOTP Statement of Purpose**

*"We care for God's children of all ages by growing disciples who make disciples."*



Every weekend in worship, we look at the banner Pat Fiorese designed for our Forward In Faith Campaign. It hangs on the front wall to the left of the cross.

On it is our church Logo with the words "Forward in Faith". It also has colorful footsteps that direct our eyes upward

toward the cross. Pat reminded us as she designed the banner that she wanted all of us to focus on her faith statement that it is God who is leading us into this campaign, and it is for the mission and ministry of Shepherd of the Prairie that we are moving forward. Thank You Pat.

Meetings have come and gone, leaders have been chosen and trained, our church council has hired RSI Stewardship Firm to guide us, the Building Committee is working with Groth Architectural Firm and the congregation voted on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> to approve building a sanctuary, increase our parking lot and provide space for ministries.

And now we ask, What footsteps can we take toward moving Forward in Faith? Colleen Bender and I, your print team leaders encourage you to join us in our footsteps.

- Participate by praying daily: "Dear Lord, What would you do through me to achieve your vision for our church? Help me discern a sacrifice that is meaningful and joyful."
- Read daily "Forward in Faith Devotional"
- Pray daily for the RSI Stewardship Campaign team members, the Building Committee Team Leaders and Pastor Mark

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## *A Note From Pastor Mark*

### **FORWARD IN FAITH**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Shortly, you will receive a Commitment Brochure in the mail. It will have a three year “Forward in Faith” campaign pledge card, a 2016 operating budget pledge card and more information regarding your pledge.

I hope you have been captured by the vision God has planted here, and I hope you are excited about the plans to build a sanctuary and expand our ministry and parking lot space. My prayer is, in the course of this capital appeal challenge, God will stir the hearts and will of the people of Shepherd of the Prairie like never before.

All of the prayers and planning of this capital appeal come down to this upcoming commitment weekend, November 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. You have been a part of the conversation for months now. Perhaps you have come to information meetings or studied the brochures. I hope you have prayed about how God might work through you. I hope you have talked about this opportunity to give and to make a difference with your family. Now is the time for each of us to make a decision about financial participation.

This Commitment Weekend, as a part of worship services, families will respond individually and celebrate together. I encourage you to prayerfully fill out your commitment card in advance of the service you attend and bring your card with you to worship. We will offer our commitments together in an act of worship and praise. I look forward to what God will do through each of us—and through all of us.

Faithfully,

*Pastor Mark*

## *A Thank You From the Bosters*

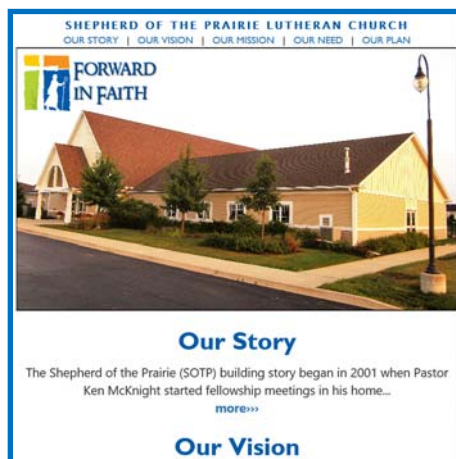
Dear Friends in Christ,

Annette and I, over these past weeks, have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of love and support at the time of her mother's death. Your generosity of love expressed in so many ways has been a gift of God to us. What a blessing it is to be a part of such a caring community of faith as Shepherd of the Prairie. Thank you for your many generous offerings of love and encouragement. We are so blessed to be partners in the Gospel here with you.

Thanks again,

The Bosters

### NEW "FORWARD IN FAITH" WEBSITE



We have just released a companion website which will cover our "Forward in Faith" Capital Stewardship Appeal. This site will focus on the Stewardship Appeal with content on background and vision, planning, architect renderings and tracking progress. In addition, we have a "Frequently Asked Questions" section as well as forms for your comments and suggestions. To see the "Forward in Faith" website, visit <http://goo.gl/JD8C0p>.

(Continued from page 1)

- Use the Forward in Faith Brochure as a prayer tool: Thank God for all who are in "Our Story", uplift "Our Need" in Prayer and ask how "Our Plan and Our Vision" can be accomplished toward The Glory of God!
- Replay the Forward in Faith video and thank God for each person's testimonial
- Read the Personal Commitment Guide-use the Bible passages and pray for Spirit Led Discernment
- Join us at the All Church Event at 12:00 noon on Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Participate in Commitment Weekend
- Walk Forward in Faith and pray- Psalm 26:3 *"For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you."*

—Colleen Bender and Donna Sorensen

## "FORWARD IN FAITH" FESTIVAL PARTY



## SOTP PRAYER WALK NOVEMBER 8TH



We invite you to “Step Forward in Faith” and join us on this journey, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. We will have a path that is less than a mile, with a prayer broken out onto signs for you to read along the way. If you are not able to walk, we would love for you to pray at the Church around the prayer bench or in the sanctuary. We will have copies of the prayer to hand out. We look forward to seeing you there!

## IMPORTANT DATES

### **Prayer Walk**

November 8 at 2:00 p.m.

### **Commitment Weekend**

November 14 & 15

### **Fall Festival/Tailgate Party**

November 15 at 12:00 noon

### **Thanksgiving Eve Service, with Pie Fest following Service**

November 25 at 7:00 p.m.



### **Church Office Closed** *(Have a blessed Thanksgiving weekend)*

November 26 & 27

## COMMITMENT CARDS COMING

Please note: We will be sending a Commitment Folder to members in the mail that will have a three year Estimate of Giving Card for:

- the “Forward in Faith” Building Program
- the 2016 General Fund

The 2016 General Fund Budget will be approximately 4% higher than it was in 2015 . Please prayerfully consider how you can participate with both. It is extremely important that the General Fund is fully funded because this is the fund that pays the day-to-day bills.

## Trends

### **Prescription Drug Abuse**

In recent years, CPYU has consistently sounded the warning regarding the growing number of kids who abuse prescription drugs. Kids are both tapping into the family medicine cabinet, and even abusing drugs that have been prescribed for them by family physicians. One particular class of prescription drugs that are being abused are the stimulants that are prescribed to treat ADHD. For example, research has shown that a quarter of adolescents who have a prescription for ADHD medication share or sell their drugs to other kids. Seven percent have even had their medication stolen. Despite the stereotype that the abuse of stimulants like Ritalin is most common among college students, the reality is that young people are most likely to start misusing prescription stimulants during their high school years. Parents, keep an eye on all prescription drugs in your household. And, be sure to discuss the legal, moral, and health issues of prescription drug abuse with your kids.



## Latest Research

### **The Role of Grandparents**

From time to time, the results of research validate common-sense assumptions we can make about kids. A study recently published in the *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* confirms a common-sense reality we know about the role that grandparents can play in the lives of their teenaged grandchildren. The study found that teens who form close, loving-relationships with a grandparent are more likely to have fewer behavioral and emotional problems than less-attached teens. This is especially true for teens who may not have an especially close relationship to their parents. God made us to be in relationship. The family is the primary institution God made to provide love, guidance, and direction. In a world where family breakdown and negative cultural influences are on the rise, grandparents are especially important. Grandparents, you play a powerful role. Enter in your grandkids' lives, and point them to Jesus and the life of discipleship.

### **QUICK STATS**

- The rates of underage drinking among young people ages 12-20 fell from 28% in 2002, to 22.7% in 2013.  
—*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*
- 87% of driving aged teenagers admit to using their cellphones to talk or text while they are behind the wheel.  
—*Allstate Foundation*

## **The Camera Usually Lies**

***Walt Mueller, CPYU President***

Parents, this is the kind of stuff we should love! And for those of us looking for teachable moments that allow us to push back on the lies and pressures of today's youth culture, it's the stuff worth showing to and talking about with our kids. What I'm talking about are those crazy "with" and "without" make-up photos of celebrities. They're the photos that expose the lies told by the camera and digital manipulation. They are the photos that expose the body image lies our vulnerable kids are led to believe which have led to a culture-wide epidemic of worry, obsession, image curation, and disordered eating.

What our kids need to learn is that celebrities are real normal-looking people just like us who don't have super-model looks. Time and gravity do take a toll on their physical shells. . . in the same way time and gravity do the same to the rest of us.

A few weeks ago, celebrity Scarlet Johansson posted a stunning photo on her Facebook fan page. Johansson is the thirty-year-old actress, model, and singer who is also known as one of entertainment's "sex symbols." She's been proclaimed "Sexiest Woman Alive" on two occasions (2006 and 2013) by Esquire magazine. The photo was stunning because it doesn't show Johansson in the stunning light we're all so used to. Instead, it's the real Scarlet Johansson sans make-up and digital manipulation.

Beneath the photo were these words from Johansson:

"Behind the glamour, behind the make up, behind all those flashy clothes, there's an ordinary girl who just happens to have an extra ordinary job. I have seen young girls follow celebrities and try to be one of them. They try to attain perfection, have the perfect body, perfect skin tone. They aren't fully aware of the fact that behind the looks there are a lot of designers, make up artists, and photoshop/video editing. Their whole sense of beauty is flawed. There is no good to looking good if you are conscious all the time about how you look. You should be care free. Love the real you. The way you are so that even if you are without makeup, you can look into the mirror and with a big smile embrace your imperfections. Just imagine if you don't even love yourself how do you expect anyone to love you. So first and foremost learn to love yourself by being who you are and not what the world wants you to be. All you need

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## YOUTH CULTURE NEWS

(Continued from page 7)

to do is have a great heart and be compassionate towards others. I hope you spread the message and let the world know that you value inner beauty more than the outer appearance.”

Perhaps you can use Johansson’s photo and post as a starting point for a discussion with your teen about identity, body-image, and the consuming pressures that can take over our lives. Parents, this is a simple and practical way you can shift the cultural identity script to a biblical identity script. . . one that encourages our kids to flourish by finding their identity in Christ. Remember, God is most concerned with our inward character and integrity. But sadly, the world tells our kids to focus on nothing but their outsides. How tragic and destructive that message is. Let’s push back with a vengeance!

### HOT QUOTE

*“Sometimes. And to be honest, I’ve had a week of deleting my Instagram off my phone, so I didn’t have it, and I would have to go to my laptop if I wanted to post something — so that I wouldn’t get caught up in it. You always get wrapped up in it. You look at one image and then you’re on different pages, and then you are 52 weeks in, and it’s just a lot. I don’t know how I can get through it other than to just know that it isn’t real. I have to put my phone down and look up and look at life and know that I’m in this moment that I’ll never have again, and I need to enjoy it and not give in to those people.”*



—Selena Gomez, answering the questions “How do you deal with the negativity of social media? Are you able to ignore it?” from Yahoo editor Bobbi Brown, Yahoo.com, Sep. 24, 2015



### *From the Word...*

As they journey from childhood to adulthood, our kids (both girls and boys) are forming convictions on what to value, believe, and pursue in life. The voices of contemporary culture shout loud and convincing messages that not only shape who our kids are now, but who they will be and what they will believe for the rest of their lives.

*“He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm.”*  
—Proverbs 13:20

Perhaps no message comes through more loud and clear in today's youth culture than the message that says it's your outward appearance that is most important and praiseworthy. Consequently, our kids are spending an exorbitant amount of time obsessing over and tending to what they look like and how they present their appearance to the world. Of course, social media has only served to magnify this pressure as kids carefully curate themselves in an effort to catch the affirming eye of the watching world.

Sadly, what gets lost in the adolescent identity shuffle is the one voice that clearly and rightly defines what's most important and praiseworthy. Towards the end of the book of Proverbs, we find descriptors of what a man should value most in his wife. The clear message is contrary to what today's culture leads our kids to believe. As the chapter comes to an end, we read these words: “Cham is deceptive and beauty does not last, but a woman who fears the Lord will be greatly praised” (Proverbs 31:30). When understood in a general way within the entire message of the Bible, it's clear that when both men and women pursue and value outward appearance in themselves and others, they are engaging in idolatry. Instead, we need to pursue and value that which is enduringly beautiful: a deep and growing relationship with God.

## THANKS FROM THE MISSION TEAM

On October 17, 62 volunteers from our church visited the Northern Illinois Food Bank and helped sort/pack/organize food for those in need. This group of volunteers was the largest we have ever had working at the NIFB. Just a huge thank you from the Mission Team and the NIFB for a tremendous job done that Saturday.

For the record you packed 13,176 lbs. of food providing 10,980 meals. Wow!



Also, we made a huge statement with everyone by wearing our "God's work, Our hands" shirts. Keep the shirts handy because you will need them again next time we volunteer at the NIFB.

## NEW MEMBERS

On Sunday October 4<sup>th</sup> Shepherd of the Prairie was blessed by welcoming new brothers and sisters in Christ into our fellowship. Please make sure you meet them and invite them to join you in worship or in whatever activities you are a part of. Our newest members include:

- **Mike & Kristi Allegretti; Tyler, Austin, Brady and Colton**
- **Arnie & Carol Didricksen**
- **Lynn & Kevin Miller; Caitlyn & Ryan**
- **Linda Dupler**
- **Bill & Joy Nesta**
- **Fred & Karen Schimmel**
- **Lee & Karen Gollhardt**
- **Jeff & Karen Stipes**
- **Ron & Donna Johnston**

## MISSION TEAM NEWS

### SOTP HELPS BOAT PEOPLE IN NEWS THIS SUMMER

Southeast Asia is faced with a huge refugee problem. This summer we read in the headlines about the “so-called boat people” seeking refuge. The majority of these persecuted people were of the Kohingya ethnicity. In recent years millions of persecuted Southeast Asians left the country illegally in search of security and a better life elsewhere. The vast majority (not all going by boat) became illegal immigrant migrant workers in Thailand, Malaysia and beyond. A smaller population is registered as refugees with the UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) Including 150,000 in a Malaysian Camp.



#### Enter SOTP

In early October representatives of the mission team delivered an Exodus **Welcome to America Pack** to which VBS and others so generously contributed household items.

The Bin family you see in the pictured here Thank YOU for helping them get started. They are Rohingya from Malaysia. The father Abu, 34 years, mother Ismail, 23 years and their son Rohmat who is 4 years old.

Please keep them in your prayers as they struggle to find a new home in a new country

## *Pastor Bill's Adult Education News*

The month of November for adult education is a time of endings. Two, in fact. First we'll complete our capital campaign Bible study, **Forward in Faith**, the weeks of November 1 and 8. And second, during the week of November 15 we'll conclude our study in Genesis as we focus on the Tower of Babel and the story of Abraham. After that, we'll take a break until after the first of the year. Remember, we meet on **Sunday mornings at 10:20, on Wednesday mornings at 11:00, and on Wednesday evenings at 7:00.** We invite you to join us!

Blessings,

*Pastor Bill*

## *Ministry Musings*

Recently I have been reading again the Gospel of Mark along with a commentary. When reading the story of the feeding of the 4000 I came across this commentary from N.T.Wright from his book, "Mark for Everyone"; "The closer we are to Jesus the more likely it is that he will call us to share in his work of compassion, healing and feeding, bringing his kingdom-work to an even wider circle. Of course our resources will seem and feel totally inadequate. That is Jesus' problem, not ours; and these stories indicate well enough that he can and will cope with it. Our task is not bemoan how few loaves and fishes we have for the crowd, but to offer them to Jesus to do whatever he wants with them; and then to be ready to distribute them, to our own surprise, at his command!"

This seems so appropriate to where we are in the life of SOTP. We talk about how little space we have in which to do ministry. But while we look forward to our expansion, we can't let our current small supply of "loaves and fishes" to keep us from moving "Forward in Faith"; not just to our building project but forward in faith in continuing the ministries in which we already serve our world and to look towards expanding them now rather than waiting until we have "room".

Jesus calls us here and now to serve him; not to wait until we have more space, or money or time. Not just as congregation, but as individuals. Give Jesus what you have and stand back to watch him multiply them and be ready to jump into his distribution!

*Donna Kelly*

—Lay Ministry/New Member Coordinator

## 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CRAFT BAZAAR & BAKE SALE

The Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Craft Bazaar & Bake Sale is almost here!

This is a great opportunity to purchase gifts for teachers, grandparents, new babies and loved ones of all ages. Every item being sold has been donated (both time and material) so that every penny you spend is being donated toward the reduction of debt on our building.

We are looking for volunteers for the days of the event to be helping hands for Alice Hallett. **WE ALSO NEED BAKERS.** We know SOTP has some of the best bakers in the Huntley area ~ please consider donating cupcakes, cookies, muffins, small loafs of specialty breads, etc. (Items that are broken down into smaller portions tend to sell better than whole cakes.) If you are able to help out as a volunteer and/or with baking, please sign up on the "Mission Control" board in the Crossroads or call Alice Hallett at 847/515-7556.

What a great way to support SOTP and get your shopping done!

Plan to attend, let us help you get through the busy holiday season with a smile! SOTP 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Craft Bazaar & Bake Sale :

- Friday, November 6—5:00-8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, November 7 —9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and before & after 5:00 p.m. service
- Sunday, November 8—before & after services.

## FOOD PANTRY

SOTP is committed to the Grafton Food Pantry program, which meets the needs of families and individuals who do not have the means to purchase food and other essential items. Food collection is the first Sunday of the month. Food items needed this month: **Deodorant, Cereal, Ready to eat Soups, Baking Items (flour, sugar, baking powder, salt, etc.).**

## STEWARDSHIP TALES



I am a dollar bill. I used to be proud of myself. When I was put in the offering plate, I tried to unfold so I could stick my head up above the lowly nickels, dimes, and quarters. No more, now I feel like 25 cents-because that's all I'm worth when it comes to supporting my church. I wonder why so many church people don't consider that? They just go putting me in the plate, or pledging what they used to give 20 years ago. Maybe they recognize inflation when they shop or pay

household bills or go on vacation, but not when it comes to balancing their church budget. I have faith in church people, and they have faith in me. They realize how much money can do; wonderful helpful things. Church people also have faith in God, who can multiply their gifts. Look: I even bear the legend, "In God We Trust." Perhaps all I need to do is remind them that I'm only one fourth as strong as I used to be. Then I think they'll put others beside me so together we can make the church as fine and strong and helpful as God intended it to be.

A bag of U.S. currency was being sent to Washington for replacement. This bag of money, which would be incinerated, contained a \$20 bill and a \$1 bill. The \$20 bill said "I don't mind going to the incinerator for I have led a full life, I was spent in the best places and was used at ritzy clubs for fancy tips." "What about you?" he said to the \$1 bill. The \$1 bill replied, "I led a very dull life, all I did was go to church, go to church, go to church."

## A NOTE ABOUT ARM CHAIRS

You'll note that some of our chairs in the Sanctuary are arm chairs, which are very useful if a person needs help standing up. If you do not need an arm chair to help you stand up, please do not take one before Service starts. These chairs need to be available for people that need them. Thanks for your consideration.

## THANKSGIVING OFFERING

The Thanksgiving offering will be divided equally between the following four charities all of which are connected to food:

**Grafton Food Pantry:** meets the needs of families and individuals who do not have the means to purchase food and other essential items.

**Northern Illinois Food Bank:** serves individuals through food pantries and other agencies.

**Feed My Starving Children:** volunteers pack fortified meals which are sent to 70 countries around the world to feed malnourished children.

**ELCA World Hunger:** responds to communities in need by supporting solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty

## QUILT DEDICATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, December 6 we will be displaying the beautiful quilts in the sanctuary that the quilters have been working on these past months.

## 2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2016 offering envelopes will be available for you to pick up in the Crossroads/Narthex by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Please DO NOT use the 2016 envelopes in 2015.

## CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

This year's "Giving Tree" will be and ready for our congregation to take names the week of Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. We will again care for 25 needy families, 15 families from Grafton Food Pantry, Huntley, who will deliver food to the families, and 10 families from Turning Point, Woodstock, who provide help to women and children who are victims of severe violence by a family member or partner.

DO NOT WRAP the gifts as each family will wrap the gifts themselves, paper provided. Attach the ornament, securely, to either the bag or box and if there is a gift receipt, place with the gift. Boxes will be furnished for drop off.

All gifts must be returned to church by Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Let's help these unfortunate families have a Merry Christmas. If you have any questions, please call Barb Hoppensteadt at 847-669-0016.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child: There's still time to be part of Operation Christmas Child! Just fill a shoebox—often the only gift a child in a war-torn, poverty-stricken country will receive—with toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. Or bring some individual items (toys, crayons, hard candy, etc.) to be combined with others to fill more boxes. Or if you'd rather donate cash, our church youth will do the shopping for you.

You can pick up a ready-to-fill red and green box at the OCC table, along with a How To Pack brochure (note the requested \$7 shipping donation). Please bring all filled boxes and other donations to SOTP by Sunday,

November 8th, so there is time to get them to children in need around the world. Our youth will be having a packing party that day to get the boxes ready to go.

A huge thank you to all of you who are helping with shoeboxes, donations and prayers. Together, we are making a difference in the lives of many children. Questions? Contact Sophie Dowell or Grace Boster. And thank you!



## NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

### **NURSERY**

<b>Date</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Clean</b>
Nov. 1 .....	Jen Kolcz .....	Betty Ferina .....	Jen Powe
Nov. 8 .....	Jen Powe .....	Blue Geller .....	Judie Symbal
Nov. 15 .....	Judie Symbal .....	Mary Lee Rishel .....	Mary Lee Rishel
Nov. 22 .....	Jen Powe .....	Jen Powe .....	Jen Powe
Nov. 29 .....	Jamie Patel .....	Sandy Hupert .....	Sandy Hupert

**COUNTERS:** Warren Brody, Jim Rice, Donna Turner



## NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES (cont)

### **ALTAR GUILD**

**Saturday (setup)** .....Becky Tuzik & Sue Mattiucci

**Saturday (take-down)** ..... Tom & Darlene Polzin

**Sunday (9:00 a.m.)**

**(setup & take-down)**..... Donna Newbanks and Caryl Fabian

**Sunday (10:45 a.m.—take-down)**

November 1 ..... Sandy Hupert & Barb Beaudette

November 8 ..... Marlene Boehler and Merrily Burkland

November 15 ..... Linda Jahr & Donna Schnepff

November 22 .....Jan and Don Koerner

November 29 ..... Pam and Darren Wallach

### **GREETERS**

**Saturday 5:00 p.m.**

Nov. 7 ..... Karen Eckert

Nov. 14 ..... Betty Knawa

Nov. 21 ..... Gail Quam

Nov. 28 ..... Gail Quam

**Sunday 9:00 a.m.**

Nov. 1 ..... Terry Halpin, Elaine Brody

Nov. 8 ..... Terry Halpin, Warren Brody

Nov. 15 ..... Terry Halpin, Dolly Cardascio

Nov. 22 ..... Terry Halpin, Kim Clementi

Nov. 29 ..... Terry Halpin, JoAnn Ward

**Sunday 10:45a.m.**

..... Bob & Caroline Malm

### **SUNDAY WELCOME**

November 1 9:00 a.m. ....Joanne Bychowsky

10:45 a.m. ....Helen Fenzan & Marty Jacobsen

November 11 9:00 a.m. ....Nancy Ottinger & Cheryl Adams

10:45 a.m. ....Tom and Betty Knawa

November 18 9:00 a.m. ....Jan Suski & Joyce Thompson

10:45 a.m. ....Elaine Neukirch & Judy Petropulos

November 25 9:00 a.m. ....Chris & Mary Trodahl

10:45 a.m. ....Sandy & Carl Hubert

November 29 9:00 a.m. ....Barb & Jim Auwerda

10:45 a.m. ....Kathy & Victor Pizarro

### **COMMUNION BREAD BAKERS**

**Saturday**

Nov. 7-21 .....JoAnn Ward

Nov. 28 ..... Nancy Ottinger

**Sunday**

Nov. 1 ..... Beth Wintersteen

Nov. 8 ..... Jeanne Henley

Nov. 15 ..... Judie Brady

Nov. 22 ..... Lanita Palermo

Nov. 29 ..... Brandi Lorenzo

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Treasurer's Report

#### Operating Budget Year-to-Date as of September 30, 2015:

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
General Fund Income:	\$ 412,089.38	\$ 415,269.00
General Fund Expenses:	\$ 397,331.02	\$ 425,388.00
Net Income:	\$ 14,758.36	\$ (10,119.00)

**General Fund Notes:** Through September, operating income was less expenses by \$3,179.62. Member contributions are under budget by \$1,227.54. Expenses are under budget \$24,877.36. Overall General Fund Income is more than Expenses to Budget YTD \$14,758.36 primarily due to funding Provision Accounts \$11,628.00 unfunded, reduced staffing costs of \$15,813.92. We continue to encourage the restraint of staff and mission teams in their spending in the various expense categories.

#### Building Fund Year-to-Date as of September 30, 2015:

Building Fund Begin Balance 09/01/2015:	\$ 68,931.49
Debt Reduction Donations	\$ 29,226.75
Building Fund Donations:	\$ 130,838.21
Forward in Faith	\$ 5,100.00
Mission Plus Interest Income	\$ 278.72
Memorial Donations Building Fund	\$ 1,100.00

Building Fund Income/Donations: \$ 166,543.68

Loan Principal Payments:	\$ 108,692.90
Loan Interest Payments:	\$ 14,373.10
Principal Only Payments:	\$ 28,262.10
Capital Campaign Consultant	\$ 21,111.83
Building Fund Expenses:	\$ 172,439.93

Ending Fund Balance: \$ 63,035.24

Net Income(Loss): \$ (5,896.25)

**We continue to accumulate funds in the Building Fund account per Council direction and Congregation approval on building expansion future requirements.**

The September month end building loan balance is \$550,960.39. Loan rewritten and payments beginning 10/01/2015 adjusted to \$5,503.00 per month. Thank you for your faithful tithing as we continue to cover our mission operational costs, funding our building loan obligation, and our future building expansion.

Jim Henley  
SOTP Treasurer

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

### Date

- 1 Dolores Cardascio, Lee Gollhardt,  
Tracy McDuffee, Kylie Rankin
- 2 Elaine Brody, Terri Corless,  
Bevely Pinnelli
- 3 Samantha Johnson, Diana Reincke,  
Sherry Roberts
- 4 Jonathan Black, Betty Harter
- 6 Autumn Maraviglia, Maggie Rojas,  
Joseph Trevino, Michael Yndestad
- 7 Carol Gerhardt, Nancy Morbeck,  
Katie Parker, Dylan Schorsch
- 9 Patricia Bour, Sarah Frederickson,  
Breanna Huston, Brock Riebock
- 10 Zoe Bishop, David Johnson,  
Mike Kasal, Nate Reincke
- 11 Merrily Burkland, Jeffrey Case,  
Carol Legel, Jake Scalise
- 12 Norris Bretsen, Brennen Clementi,  
Randi Dawson, Thor Forsythe,  
Paul Marx, Dylan Miley,  
Megan Prather
- 13 Melissa Juergensen, Don Koerner,  
Paul Lemke, Joe Lindquist,  
Alexander Stenson, Rebecca Tuzik
- 14 Mark Boster, Jill Brown, Elise Dean,  
Richard Himebaugh, Mike Parmele,  
Don Schneider
- 15 Richard Hoffman, Jake Luedtke
- 16 Gavin Lee
- 17 Gina Debolt, Rylen Jacobs,  
Patti Schmitendorf
- 18 Kristine DeBolt, Barbara Pagano,  
Ronald Petersen
- 19 Cassidy Serpe, Kim Szekely,  
Pattie Young
- 20 Helen Fenzan, Brittany James,  
Dick Maiman
- 21 David Kann, Jen Raines
- 22 Elizabeth Johnson, Joyce Thompson
- 23 Drew Anderson, Laura Miley
- 25 Janet Thunholm
- 26 Jill Bohrnell, Barbara Hoppensteadt
- 27 Ted Anderson
- 28 Bailey Greene, Scott Wintersteen
- 29 Terry Halpin, Richard Juergensen,  
Venessa Lorenzo, Jim Rhode,  
Robert Vitner

## STAFF AND CONTACTS

### **Pastor Mark Boster**

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Little Lambs

### **Sandy Martin**

Cherub Choir

### **Michael Waal**

Blessings Choir

### **Denise James**

Joy Ringers

### **Michael Parmele**

Sunday School Director

### **Sue Wehnes, Renae Greene**

Contributions Secretaries

### **Tammy Uteg**

Music Librarian

## **Congregation Council**

**Bob McDuffee**, President

**Marlene Boehler**, Vice President

**Mike McCann**, Secretary

**Jim Henley**, Treasurer

**Adam Adams**

**Amy Brittain**

**Cliff Dungey**

**Matt Greene**

**Larry Newbanks**