



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

**Congregational  
Newsletter  
September 2016**

### **Statement of Purpose**

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

## **PEDER EIDE IS JOINING US WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 AT 6:30 PM**



### **Celebrate the 15th Anniversary of Shepherd of the Prairie's first worship service!**

Join us this evening as we celebrate 15 years of  
Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church.

**Please join us before worship for a  
free will offering dinner at 5:30 pm,  
Pastor Mark is cooking!**

### **Confirmation Kickoff!!!**

6th, 7th, and 8th Graders get ready, because Confirmation kicks off  
on September 21st at 6:30 pm with a special treat—

This evening is hosted by Peder Eide!  
It will be a great night of worship.

#### **THIS IS OUR CONFIRMATION KICK-OFF.**

All confirmation students are  
required to attend.

***If you haven't already, please register  
your child for confirmation at  
[www.sotpyouth.com](http://www.sotpyouth.com)***



**10805 Main St, Huntley, IL 60142 • Phone: 847-669-9448 • [www.sotp.org](http://www.sotp.org)  
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-noon, Mon-Fri**

## *A Note From Pastor Mark*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

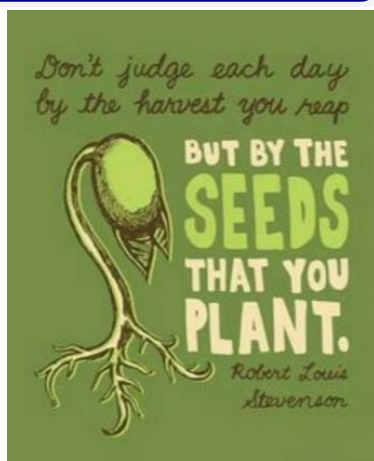
Matthew 13:1-9 and 18-23

Do you ever wonder if what you say or do has any positive effect on others?

Our words could result in turning someone's life around.

By the same token, our words can be destructive.

If we are going to plant seeds of faith, we need to take care with how we use our words. We need to consider what example we're making. By God's grace we have the power to be fruitful, and to plant an entire orchard of believers.



The first nine verses of Matthew 13 evoke some questions.

For example, if your words burst with promise, if some seeds of faith begin to grow in someone you have touched, but then begin to peter out, what's your next step? Ignore them and move on? Or continue to nurture that seed?

Personally, I would try to find out what happened.

Sometimes those seeds need our care to be nourished and grow. But ultimately it's not up to us. In all honesty, it may be hard to determine whether or not we're sowing in good soil.

I don't think that's for us to decide.

Perhaps we'll never know if our words fall on good soil or not.

What's most important for us is to simply plant seeds.

Where did you first learn of God, Jesus, and the Bible? Who first spoke those words to you?

Your parents, grandparents, neighbors, friends?

Do you remember your first reaction or response?

If we as Christians are not willing to open our hearts, to be servant examples, sowing seeds of love and faith, who will step in and sow seeds in our place? What do you think could happen in your family, in your neighborhood, in your country, if there is no one around to plant seeds of faith?

As we begin a new year of learning as well as approaching the 500<sup>th</sup>

*(Continued from page 2)*

Anniversary of the Reformation (November 31, 2017) let's consider how we each are called to scatter seed. Leave the results to God's. Let's be faithful in telling others about what Jesus means to us, if necessary use words.

*Pastor Mark*

## *Pastor Bill's Adult Education News*

Let's celebrate! Let's have a party! It's Reformation time! Beginning in September and continuing for a whole year plus, SOTP will celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. It began on October 31, 1517, when an otherwise obscure monk named Martin Luther walked to the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, and nailed a list of 95 topics to the church door that he wanted to debate. Known as the "95 Theses", these brief statements, written in Latin, were quickly translated into German. And with the help of Guttenberg's printing press, they were just as quickly disseminated throughout Europe. The chief concern for debate was the sale of indulgences, whereby people could pay a fee and receive a guarantee from the Pope that their sins were forgiven. Bad choice as far as Luther was concerned! Christ, and Christ alone, he declared, can forgive our sins which he accomplished on the Cross. And thus began the debate--and the Reformation--at least in part.



More information on SOTP's grand party will be coming soon, but for this September newsletter, know that adult education will kick off the year! Beginning on Sunday, September 11, a new year of study and conversation will commence. We'll meet for one hour every Sunday at 10:20, and the class will be repeated twice on the following Wednesday at 11:00 in the morning and 7:00 in the evening. Our initial topic will be "Luther and the Gospel of John" since it was John's story of Jesus that influenced Luther more than the other three gospels.

An hour of study, reflection, and conversation may well be a part of your regular routine. But if it's not, this would be a great time to begin as we celebrate the work of God's continually reforming Spirit! Come join us!

Questions? Contact Pastor Bill at [bwaxenberg@gmail.com](mailto:bwaxenberg@gmail.com).

*Pastor Bill*

## *Ministry Musings*

The Biggest Loser...many of you, like me, may have followed that show and cheered on the contestants as they make life affirming changes to their lives. Sometimes the changes last for the rest of their lives and sometimes they don't. But they all fight for the title of "Biggest Loser".



This past weekend we were reminded that being the biggest loser should be our goal as Christians. Greg and Kurtis did a wonderful job telling us about being big losers and that idea really caught my attention.

Jesus tells us in Luke 9, "...Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it". Just before he says, "...Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."

Deny ourselves, now that is a difficult task! Telling ourselves no to the extra cookie, the shopping spree on the credit cards, the demand to have our way, the desire to be right or to have the upper hand, the nagging need to make ourselves appear greater by gossiping about someone else. Saying no to these things and more don't necessarily come natural to us as broken human beings. We have to stand strong and work at denying those tempting, yet possibly destructive enticements so that we are free to follow Jesus where he leads. For me, following my own desires instead of his makes it hard to see what Jesus is holding out to me as a better way. When I am preoccupied with what I want or want to do, I'm like Peter when he took his eyes off Jesus and started to sink into the stormy waves. That's when I once again need to call out, "Lord, save me". And he reaches for me with love and forgiveness and renewal!

But letting go of our plans and what we desire to follow Jesus is taking up our cross; it's losing our life our life for his sake; it's being a big loser!

My prayer for all of us is that we become the biggest losers of all!

*Donna Kelly*

## BUILDING TEAM UPDATE

### Your Flexible Building Team is proceeding with the following:

- Have the existing Berm (between our building & the east entrance) leveled and dirt moved. There is a buyer for the dirt, and our Gift in Kind donors are also flexible and have agreed to do this part of the preparation now, and Parking lot later. Time Saved & Money Saved
- Have the Water Main work completed this summer/Fall. This gives us a head start on our build in April, 2017. It also sends a message to our neighbors that something exciting is happening at SOTP!!!! Time Saved!
- Send out Civil Engineer RFPs to 3 companies, and this would encompass the whole project: Sanctuary/Music Education Wing Shell/ Parking Lot. ONE large project cheaper than TWO projects. Money Saved!
- Our Construction Manager, Shales McNutt would be present for the project from beginning to end since the Parking Lot will be done at the same time as the Sanctuary/Music Education Shell. Money Saved!

### So, TO REVIEW :

#### *In August/September 2016:*

- The Berm will have soil removed & sold. The clay will be moved to another site. All thanks to our Gift in Kind Donors!!!
- The Water Main Extension will be done after the Berm removal. This will be supervised by Shales McNutt.

#### *In April, 2017: (Only 7 short months from now!!!)*

The Sanctuary/Music Education Wing Shell/Parking Lot will all be started at the same time...supervised by Shales McNutt.  
Completion date?????

**THE BERM SHOULD BE THE FIRST  
DIRT TO BE MOVED, TO BEGIN OUR  
MISSION FOOTPRINT  
EXPANSION JOURNEY!  
YOUR BUILDING TEAM THANKS THE  
CONGREGATION FOR BEING SO  
FLEXIBLE!**



## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

On August 28th, we formally welcomed several new members into our family at SOTP **ADULTS IN BOLD** (CHILDREN IN PARENTHESIS):

**MARY ANN BUSCH** \* **JARED & KRISTIE DAVIS** ALEXIS, KEELI  
**RICH & BARB DOUGLAS** \* **JODY LINTON** \* **LYNN MEYER**  
**KATHY MONDAY** (ROBERT LIMING, KATHRYN LIMING)  
**CAROLYN MORRIS** \* **GINNY PULVER** \* **SANDY SEIBEL**  
**PHIL, KIM STEGGE** (EMMA & LILA) \* **KATHY STRANG**



We are blessed to have these brothers and sisters in Christ join us! Please make yourself known to them and invite them to activities here at SOTP.

*Updated directories, including our newest members are available on the Usher's table.*

## EXODUS ~ WELCOME TO AMERICA

Mission team is again looking for gently used or new **SPECIFIC** household items to help settle a new family arriving in America. Things like a set 8 drinking glasses, 2 rolls of paper towels, sheets, etc. Check out the "NEW SPIN" to sign up for these items in the crossroads.

## NORTHERN ILLINOIS FOOD BANK & SORENSENS

I would like to thank everyone who participated in the NIFB event on May 23rd. I'm sorry I couldn't make, but from what I have heard it went very well. Thank you.

*On another note I want to thank you for all the cards, visits, phone calls, and prayers during my recent illness. They all meant so much. On a lighter note, if anyone is interested in quality of care, food, or other medicals needs at Sherman Hospital, Alden rehab facility in Barrington, Good Shepherd Hospital, or the Lexington Rehab facility in Lake Zurich, give me a call as I spent at least two weeks at each of them. My medical education has been going on long enough and therefore I hope to suspend it for as long as possible. Thanks again for your support. ~ Sid Sorensen*



By the way the next **NIFB trip will be SAT., OCT. 15TH, FROM 9-12.** I hope you can make as we have committed 80 people. More information and sign up opportunities will come later.

## STEWARDSHIP TALES

There once was a little girl who needed a transfusion. She had contracted a rare disease, and her only hope for recovery was a transfusion from someone who had already fought the disease and won. Two years earlier her brother had suffered from the same illness and, since the siblings were the same blood type, he was the ideal donor. Would you give your blood to Linda?" the doctor asked him. Danny hesitated for a moment. His lower lip trembled. Then he smiled and said, "Sure for my sister." When the time came the children were wheeled into the operating room. Neither of them spoke. Linda was too weak to speak and Danny appeared too frightened. But when he saw his sister he gave her a big smile. The nurse inserted the tube into his arm and Danny's smile slowly faded to a look of concern. He watched his blood leave his body and flow through the tube. When the transfusion was almost over, the boy looked at the doctor and said in a very trembling voice, "Doctor, when do I die?" It wasn't until that moment that the doctor realized why Danny had hesitated, why his lips had trembled when he agreed to give blood. He thought he would have to give up his life, and yet he joyously made the decision to give freely to someone he loved. We should remember Danny as we consider how much love there is in our giving. Do we give what others need, of our time, talent and treasure, or do we only give whatever we can do without.



## FOOD PANTRY

### Weekend of September 3 & 4

is Food Pantry Collection Weekend at SOTP before all services

- Cereal
- Bleach
- Condiments
- Cookies
- Paper Products



AND AS ALWAYS,  
CHECKS MADE OUT TO SOTP  
THAT STATE "FOOD PANTRY"  
IN THE MEMO WILL BE  
FORWARDED  
TO THE FOOD PANTRY.

## BOOKS, GAMES, DVD, VHS, CD & MORE

If you are cleaning house & want to bring these items into church, we will take them to Half Price Books and sell them. The money will go toward our FORWARD fund for the new addition to our building. Please drop off in the office, black drawer marked for these items under the mail slots.





## SUPPER CLUB

SOTP ADULTS Don't "FALL" out of touch with fellow SOTP members. Meet new people. Expand old relationships. GATHER TOGETHER OVER A MEAL, 4 TIMES SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER. Add your name(s) to the "FALL" Yellow Supper Club Signup sheets posted in the Cross Roads.

**Sunday Sept. 4th is the last day to sign up.**

You can sign up every 4 months (*you aren't automatically signed up for more, it is up to you.*) After the cutoff date, folks (*singles are welcome*) are divided into small groups of 6-8 people. Usually, one hosts the main entree in their home and others bring a dish, rotating homes. Some order in or eat out for 1 or more of their meals. Each group makes their own plan and times.

Questions? Or want to sign up via phone or e mail?? Please do contact Sandy! sandyhupert@gmail.com or call 224-569- 6041.

## BOOK CHATTERS

Book Chatters posted its reading list for the coming year but somehow there was a slip. The February selection was listed as LEAKHOUSE by Charles Dickens. We are NOT reading a plumber's manual!!!

Don't know who the dickens made the mistake about our reading for one of the bleakest months of the year, but we caught it in time. We'll be tackling BLEAKHOUSE by Charles Dickens and hoping to make it an exciting afternoon if you join us.

Book Chatters meet each third Wednesday at 1 pm. **We want new friends to join us.** We hope you plan to join us!!

Gail Barnard, Book Chatters Leader



## FRIENDS BIBLE STUDY

We're excited that we'll be starting a new Bible Study this fall featuring a series of six videos filmed in the HOLY LAND. The study is called THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW and contains some study sheets. I think you will all enjoy this study!!

We'll meet as usual at church on Mondays from 12:30 until 2:00. The actual study will begin on **Monday, September 26th** but on September 19th we will be having a pot luck lunch at Carol's house. Just bring a dish to pass—beverages, plates, napkins, silverware, and good cheer will be provided!

Contact Carol Gerhardt with questions about the group at 847-683-2746.





## BOWLING LEAGUE

Attention all bowlers! Sign up now for the "NEW" SOTP bowling league. We have "MOVED" to Bowl-Hi Lanes in Huntley on the North East corner of Rt. 47 & Algonquin Rd. We meet the **3rd Friday of each month, at 6:30 PM**, starting September 16th. We have 4 on a team, & we bowl 3 games. We are always looking for new bowlers, regular or substitutes. Full teams or single bowlers.



There is no requirement to be a good bowler, as this is a "FUN" social league. It is open to all ages from high school to 100, men & women, married or single. Couples CAN bowl together (*or we can separate you if your mate criticizes your style or score*).

This is a great way to have some fun, get together with friends, make NEW friends, get some exercise, and only have to make 1 evening commitment a month. And best of all, since we're a Church League, no one will "PREACH" to you about your style, gutter balls, or bad bowling.

Call Wayne Schmidt at (847) 659-1331. Leave a message if no answer. I will get back to you or E-Mail me at [schmidtw12@comcast.net](mailto:schmidtw12@comcast.net).

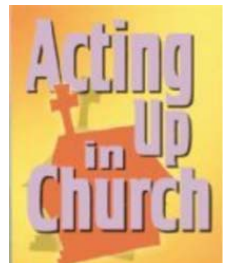
## SUPPERS WITH LUTHER

Are you new to being a Lutheran, or has it been a while since you were confirmed? Come join us for "Suppers with Luther" on Wednesday evenings in this fall. We will be looking at the core values and practices of the ELCA Lutheran Church. Come at 5:30 and grab dinner and bring it to the Adult Ed room and we will learn as we eat together. The class will run from 5:45 to 6:45 (you'll be able to hang around for Pastor Bill's class at 7 if you'd like). We will meet Sept, 28th, Oct 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th and Nov 2nd so come and join us! If you have any questions please contact Donna Kelly through the church office 847-669-9448 or [donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com)



## SUMMER DRAMAS

I was honored to lead the Biblical portrayals drama series this summer. Many members of the congregation have expressed how much they enjoyed the fleshing out of the luminaries of the Bible. The success of the series would not have been possible without the contributions of the many talented players who gave their time generously. I wish to thank everyone, including the sound board, cue cards, and the actors, especially the many first timers. If you have an interest in participating in the dramas, contact Donna Kelly. ~ Chris Solem



## EXODUS RUN/WALK FOR REFUGEES

Some of you have been asking for SOTP to do a 5K.... Here it is.

**SAVE THE DATE, SATURDAY MORNING SEPT. 10, 2016**

Refugees walk hundreds of miles to find safety.

**Will you walk or run to support them?**

More than 13 million refugees do not have a safe place to call home. This year some will be invited to find safety and freedom in the U.S.A. Starting over is difficult. Exodus World Service helps these refugees.



### **YOU CAN HELP by:**

- Being a participant in this walk/run in Long Grove
- Supporting a runner/walker

Contact Sandy Hupert at [sandyhupert@gmail.com](mailto:sandyhupert@gmail.com) (224-569- 6041) or any Mission Team member if you are interested in participating or would like the name of a participant to support. They are a great source for any other question concerning Exodus as well. Carl and Sandy have done this walk with their 6 & 8 year old grandchildren . It is a great family activity, benefiting those in need. Also, some of the stores in Long Grove will open up for the event.

### **WE NEED RUNNING & WALKING MATES.**

**WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN BEING A PART OF A SOTP TEAM to Help Exodus Run/Walk for refugees?!?!?!?**

Event course is a 5K Chip-timed race and a 3K walk through historic business district and Long Grove country roads. Entry fee of \$35 (waived for children under 12 and refugees) includes water, goodie bags, pancake breakfast, t-shirt (of course) ,etc.

## ACTIVE CHRISTIAN PARENTING

Another opportunity!

In case you missed it last year, we once again will be offering a six-week class, titled "Active Christian Parenting". If you're looking to improve your parenting skills, your communication skills with your kids, your ability to be a better listener and more consistent disciplinarian, then this is for you! Last year several families took the class and all said the art of being a parent was enhanced.

The six classes will meet on Sunday afternoons, from 3:30 - 6:00, beginning September 11. The cost is \$25 per family, child care provided.



Want to know more? For three Sundays in August--the 14th, 21st, and 28th--an information table will be available in the Crossroads. Want to know even more than that? Then come to an Information Night on Sunday, August 28, 4:00 - 5:30. This might be just the thing you're looking for! Contact Chuck & Sharon Little

## LITTLE LAMBS

**We are now accepting registrations for the 2016-2017 school year.**

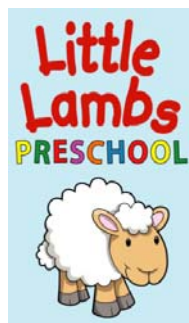
Our program is Bible-story-based and includes developmentally appropriate structured time (*craft, music, calendar, learning activities, etc.*), as well as free play. We have programs for children who will be between the ages of 2 - 4 by September 1, 2016.

Children do not need to be potty-trained. Our class sizes are small (*not more than 10 children in the 1 day classes on Wednesdays or 12 in the 2 day classes on Tuesday and Thursday*). Children are welcome to attend classes 1, 2 or 3 days.

**Classes meet from 9:00 a.m. until noon.**

Our classes are open to members and non-members of SOTP.

For more information, availability, and tuition/registration fees, see our "Registration" page on our website [www.sotp.org](http://www.sotp.org) or **contact Jill Gillming at [LittleLambs@sotpmail.com](mailto:LittleLambs@sotpmail.com).**



## NEW PICTORAL DIRECTORY

Many of you had photos taken in August ~ THANK YOU!  
Some of you have appointments scheduled for September ~  
THANK YOU!

**Yet we are still missing many of you ~ please make your appointment off the link on our website. We would love to have everyone in our SOTP family album!**

## MUSIC REHEARSALS ~ JOIN US!



- ⇒ **Prairie Ringers & Spirit Ringers** rehearsals resume Aug 30 at 7:00 pm
- ⇒ **Shepherd's Voices** rehearsals resume Aug 31 at 7:15 pm
- ⇒ **Youth Band** rehearsals:  
9/11 & 9/18 at noon  
9/22 at 6:30 pm  
Playing at 10:45 service on 9/25

⇒ **Children's choir & bells**  
rehearsals resume Sept 7

- 4:30 - 5:00 pm, Jubilate Ringers (grades 3-5)
- 4:30 - 5:00 pm, Treasures Choir (grades 1&2)
- 5:00 - 5:30 pm, Joy Ringers (grades 1&2)
- 5:00 - 5:30 pm, Cherub Choir (2½-5 year olds)
- 5:15 - 6:00 pm Blessings Choir (grades 3-5)
- 5:00 - 5:45 pm, Jubellation Ringers (middle school)

## GEMS GIRLS CLUB (GIRLS EVERYWHERE MEETING THE SAVIOR)

**ALL 4TH & 5TH GRADE GIRLS** are invited to join us (bring your friends). The mission of GEMS Girls' Clubs is to help bring girls into a living, dynamic relationship with Jesus Christ. Our vision is to see girls around the world actively and enthusiastically expressing love for God and others.

REGISTER AT [WWW.SOTP.ORG](http://WWW.SOTP.ORG) \* FORMS \* CLASS REGISTRATION \* GEMS  
Please join us with your families **Wednesday, September 21st**

- \* Free will offering dinner at 5:30 (*Pastor Mark's cooking*)
- \* Worship with Peder Eide at 6:30 pm

First official meeting will be **Wednesday, September 28th.**

- \* 5:30 pm Dinner (\$2, Optional)
- \* 6:00 - 7:00 Meeting

Bible lessons, crafts, serving & fun

~ Barb Pagano, Instructor



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

Wednesday Night Dinners will be resuming! Please join us between 5:30 - 6:15 pm on Wednesday nights. The cost is \$2 per person (max of \$10 per family). It's so nice to sit down & enjoy a meal with your SOTP family. *(Want to help? Please contact Brandi Lorenzo or Jenn Huston.)*



**September 21:** 15th Anniversary Free Will Offering, *Pastor Mark cooking*  
**September 28:** Tacos

## CONFIRMATION

### Confirmation Begins September 21st!!!

See exciting kickoff information on the front page of this newsletter!

Please put these important dates on your calendar:

- **September 7**, Parent/Student Information Night 7:00 - 8:00 pm
- **September 21**, Confirmation Kick-Off With Peder Eide 6:30 - 8:00 pm
- **November 11-13**, Confirmation Retreat @ LOMC
- **Saturday, December 17, 9-11 am**, Feed My Starving Children

**If you haven't already, please register your child for confirmation at [www.sotpyouth.com](http://www.sotpyouth.com)**

## YOUTH CULTURE ~ CONCUSSIONS

CONCUSSION EFFECTS LAST 2 YEARS—As parents, we need to protect our children and teens from harm, while providing for their well-being. In recent years, we've been hearing more and more about the physical dangers related to youth sports, particularly in those sports that are high-impact in nature. Medical experts are calling on parents to understand and respond to the dangers related to concussions. When we were kids we were told to shake it off and get back in there after getting our bell rung. Some new research from York University is now telling us that children and youth take longer to fully recover from a concussion than previously thought. In fact, it might take up to two years to fully recover from a concussion. Since their brains are still developing, kids are neurologically more fragile than adults. Because we live in a culture that idolizes athletics and sports, we need to pause and ask, "What's best for my kids?" Parents, you are called to be a good steward of your child's physical health.



## Trends

### *Fentanyl Abuse*

The CDC recently posted warnings about a deadly new drug trend that we need to communicate. It is being reported that a growing number of young people are now abusing the prescription painkiller Fentanyl, and many are overdosing. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 50x more potent than heroin and 100x more potent than morphine. Pharmaceutical Fentanyl has been used to treat severe pain, usually in cancer patients. Now, illegally manufactured Fentanyl is being mixed with heroin, cocaine, and other drugs with or without the user's knowledge. An amount that's the size of three grains of sand can be deadly. The drug is typically being peddled in powder or pill form, but is also manufactured as a liquid. Parents, the sad reality of life in today's world is that we need to be warning our kids about the dangers of all illicit drugs.



## Latest Research

### *Smartphone Addiction*

The folks at Common Sense Media have released some survey data that should serve as a wake-up call to all of us who are concerned about the very real

possibility of smart-phone addiction. The new survey found that 80% of teenagers say they check their phones hourly, and 72% felt the need to immediately respond

to texts and social networking messages. This reality has become a point of contention between many parents and their kids. 36% of parents said they argued with their child daily about device use, and 77% of parents feel their children get distracted by their devices and don't pay attention when they are together at least a few times a week. Here at CPYU we believe that parents have a responsibility to set technology limits for their kids. We are called by God to raise children who care for others and who redeem the gift of time. Smart-phone addiction is just another form of idolatry.

- The number of poisonings related to e-cigarettes in children ages 5 and under increased 15x over the 3-year period from 2012 to 2015. (*Pediatrics*)
- In a recent survey of college students, almost 8% reported having had drugs put in their drinks without their knowledge. About 4 out of 5 drinkspiking victims are women. (*Psychology of Violence*)

## QUICK STATS

### FROM THE WORD...

When you discover your kids engaged in sinful or immoral behavior, how do you respond? William P. Smith reminds us that like when our first parents (*Adam and Eve*) fell into sin (*Genesis 3:6*) and rebelled against God, “they attempted to hide.” Doesn’t that sound a bit like our kids?



Smith says that the way we respond to our children’s sin can set the table either for more deception, or for repentance and restoration. He writes, “We provide powerful incentives for others to run and hide rather than confess what they have done wrong.” These incentives include pouring out our anger, listing all the ways they have hurt us, ridicule, humiliation, and shame.

But the fact that God is different should point us to a more redemptive and helpful approach to responding to our kids when they

*“But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, ‘Where are you?’”  
Genesis 3:9*

sin. Smith says, “He doesn’t swoop down on Adam and Eve and start demanding, ‘What were you thinking?!’ He doesn’t berate, badger, and interrogate them. Nor does he hold himself aloof, waiting for them to make the first move. Instead, he comes to them.”

Our kids need us to gently, yet with conviction, approach them to start the process of making things right. Next time your kids fall into sin, lovingly seek them out, and then parent them through their sin into confession and repentance.



## SEPTEMBER SCHEDULES

|                      |          | September 3 & 4                             | September 10 & 11                                      | September 17 & 18                     | September 24 & 25         |
|----------------------|----------|---|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Presiding Minister   |          | Pastor Mark Boster                          |  |                                       |                           |
| Altar Guild          | 5:00 SAT | Becky Tuzik & Sue Mattiucci                 |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | 9:00 AM  | Ann Lehman & Caryl Fabian                   |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | 10:45 AM | Sandy Hupert & Merrily Burkland             | Marlene Boehler & Sandy Peterson                       | Jan & Don Koerner                     | Darren & Pam Walloch      |
| Altar Flowers        | Weekend  |   | Gayle & Bob Uhlman, celebrating their 50th Anniversary |                                       |                           |
| Assisting Minister   | 9:00 AM  |   |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | 10:45 AM |   |  |                                       |                           |
| Coffee Hour Hosts    | SUNDAY   | Carol Waxenberg & Eileen Gerald             | Marilyn Schnell  |                                       | Marilyn Schnell           |
| Coffee Hour Treats   | SUNDAY   | Shel & Elaine Lewis                         |  |                                       |                           |
| Communion Bread      | 5:00 SAT | Jen Powe                                    |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | SUNDAY   | Jen Kolcz                                   | Elaine Neukirch  | Renae Greene                          | Jacque Stashwich          |
| Communion Stewards   | 5:00 SAT | Tom & Darlene Polzin                        | Sue Blotch & Gail Quam                                 |                                       |                           |
|                      | 9:00 AM  |   |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | 10:45 AM |   |  |                                       |                           |
| Counters             | Weekend  | Warren Brody, John Throckmorton & Fred Wisk |  |                                       |                           |
| Greeters             | 5:00 SAT | Becky Tuzik                                 | Karen Eckert   | Sue Blotch                            | Betty Knawa               |
|                      | 9:00 AM  | Terry Halpin & PJ Knudsen                   | Terry Halpin & Judy Sanford                            | Terry Halpin & Barb Niemiec           | Terry Halpin & Sara Solem |
|                      | 10:45 AM | Bob & Carolyn Malm                          |  |                                       |                           |
| Nursery              | 9:00 AM  |   |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | 10:45 AM |   |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | Clean Up |   |  |                                       |                           |
| Readers              | 9:00 AM  |   |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | 10:45 AM |   |  |                                       |                           |
| Rejoice Worship Band | 10:45 AM | GUITAR: Grant Jahr<br>(The rest TBA)        |  | VOCALS: Kim Szekely<br>(The rest TBA) |                           |
| Sound-board          | 5:00 SAT |   |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | 9:00 AM  | Jim Rice                                    |  |                                       |                           |
|                      | 10:45 AM |   |  |                                       |                           |

## SEPTEMBER SCHEDULES (Cont.)

|                |          | September 3 & 4  | September 10 & 11   | September 17 & 18  | September 24 & 25   |
|----------------|----------|--|---|--|---|
| Ushers         | 5:00 SAT | Steve Murphy & Doreen Drinan   | Denis & Carol Minuttilo   | Carol Hartman & Becky Tuzik  | Steve Murphy & Randi Dawson                                       |
|                | 9:00 AM  | WAYNE SCHMIDT<br>Jerry & Marty Bergman<br>Waren Brody<br>John Jensen<br>Walter Lemke | JACK CONTI<br>James Blanchard,<br>Chris Hinde,<br>Merlyn & Harriet<br>Thompson<br>Marlene Tresp | ROY RANKIN<br>John Arneson, Chris Solem<br>Walter & Carol Roth<br>Carol Engstrom | ED & CAROLYN CUTTLE<br>Jeff Stipes<br>Harold & Joan Doages        |
|                | 10:45 AM | BOB MCDUFFEE,<br>John Richardson,<br>Paul Ross,<br>Chris Swanson                     | MARK FRENDREIS<br>Patrick Fleener,<br>Charlie Powe,<br>Andrew Szekely                           | JOHN BOEHLER<br>Don Koerner,<br>Darren Walloch<br>Vik Bekeris                    | BOB MCDUFFEE<br>Vik Bekeris,<br>Dick Gerhardt,<br>John Richardson |
| Visual         | 9:00 AM  | Josh Harding   |   |  |   |
|                | 10:45 AM |  |   |  |   |
| Welcome Center | 9:00 AM  | Wayne & Elaine Brody   | Nancy Ottinger & Cheryl Adams   | Jan Suski & Joyce Thompson   | Jim & Barb Auwerda  |
|                | 10:45 AM | Marty Jacobsen   | Noreta Walker   | Elaine Neukirch & Judy Petropolis  | Victor & Kathy Pizarro  |
| Worship Leader | Sat      | Michael Waal   |   |  |   |
|                | Sunday   |  |   |  |   |

If you aren't currently involved in ministry at Shepherd of the Prairie and would like to find your niche, please contact Donna Kelly at [donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:donna@sotpmail.com) or the church office at 847/669-9448.



There are so many different ways to get involved, you may be our missing piece!

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### Treasurer's Report - Operating Budget Year-to-Date as of July 31, 2016:

|                        | YTD Actual    | YTD Budget    |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| General Fund Income:   | \$ 359,117.59 | \$ 335,153.00 |
| General Fund Expenses: | \$ 319,152.54 | \$ 335,174.00 |
| Net Income:            | \$ 39,965.05  | \$ (21.00)    |

**General Fund Notes:** Through July operating income was more than expenses by \$39,965.05. Member contributions are over budget by \$23,964.59. Expenses are under budget \$16,021.46. Overall General Fund Income is more than Expenses to Budget YTD \$39,986.05 primarily due to unfunded Provision Accounts, prepaid pledges, controlled staff costs, and increased member contributions. 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 July 31, 2016:

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Building Fund Begin Balance 07/01/2016: | \$ 192,880.21 |
| Debt Reduction Donations                | \$ 2,702.00   |
| Building Fund Donations                 | \$ 0.00       |
| Forward in Faith                        | \$ 319,436.56 |
| FORWARD                                 | \$ 72,310.00  |
| Mission Plus Interest Income            | \$ 1,609.59   |
| Memorial Donations Building Fund        | \$ 0.00       |

**Building Fund Income/Donations:** \$ 396,058.15

|                              |               |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Loan Principal Payments      | \$ 27,234.21  |
| Loan Interest Payments       | \$ 10,366.79  |
| Principal Only Payments      | \$ 2,312.00   |
| Capital Campaign Expenses    | \$ 730.95     |
| Architectural Expenses       | \$ 6,599.10   |
| Building Fund Total Expenses | \$ 47,243.05  |
| Net Income(Loss):            | \$ 348,815.10 |
| Ending Fund Balance:         | \$ 541,695.31 |

**We continue to accumulate funds in the Forward in Faith (Building Fund) and FORWARD accounts per Council direction and Congregation approval on future building expansion requirements.**

The July month end building loan balance is \$501,662.53. 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

## DO YOU SHOP AMAZON?

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you already know. The only difference is Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchase to Shepherd of the Praire. Shop at AmazonSmile ([www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com)) and select SOTP as your non-profit organization. It's a great way to shop and donate to the new building at the same time.

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 ..... Beverly Noffz, Natalie Dobrolinsky,  
Susan Krewer
- 2 ..... Abby Fiandalo, Jason Lindquist,  
Steve Sparks, Phillip Jacobs
- 3 ..... Nancy Eberly, Judie Brady, Lois Long,  
Kristina Harvat
- 4 ..... Brett DePorter, Beth Wintersteen,  
Kira Frendreis
- 5 ..... Harold Henkle, Colleen Bender,  
Jake Harding, Teri Wilson
- 6 ..... Kelly Hibbeler, Olivia Krewer,  
Adam Walloch
- 7 ..... Jeremy Hollow, Jean Clausen,  
Stephen Browne, Pearl Kolcz
- 8 ..... Gerhardt Neukirch
- 9 ..... Riley Petersen, Gail Quam
- 10 ..... Jordan Wills, Samantha Szekely,  
Beth Mudge, Nicole Grabs
- 11 ..... Donna Sorensen, Gloria Scimeca,  
Sally Schuett, Alan Henningsen
- 12 ..... Jamie Bremer, Leah Anderson,  
Bryce Prather, Emma Konie
- 14 ..... Marilyn Sauerberg, Gladys Meese,  
Adam Luedtke, Janice Shuff
- 15 ..... Eric Lindgren, Deb Case, Todd Schilling,  
Tyler Allegretti
- 16 ..... Ava Mans, Luther Yndestad,  
Andrew Fulcer
- 18 ..... Victor Pizarro, Marty Schnepff,  
Joseph Case, Morgan Bach
- 19 ..... Raymond Dunn, Crystal Schilling,  
Linda Christopherson, Donna Newbanks,  
Kristi Cordle, Joyce Shotick,  
Chris Swanson
- 20 ..... Rob Schuett, Josh Bremer,  
Gordon Burseth, Joshua Miley,  
Meredith Parmele
- 21 ..... Autumn Kasal
- 22 ..... James Blanchard
- 23 ..... Sandy Scalise, Adele Wogstad,  
Teagan Papka, Sharon Stangle
- 24 ..... Ruby Haerle, Tyler Greene,  
Wendy Papka
- 25 ..... Cameryn Piskule
- 26 ..... Lois Kosmen, Nanette Wade
- 27 ..... Candy Henningsen
- 28 ..... John Shepard
- 29 ..... Haley Sabie
- 29 ..... Lori Wysk, John Arneson
- 30 ..... Nathan Ulmer, Mike Huston, Bill Harding,  
Gianna Young, Cheryl Mandro

## STAFF AND CONTACTS

### **Pastor Mark Boster**

847-515-2713 (Home)  
pastormark@sotpmail.com

### **Pastor Bill Waxenberg**

Director of Adult Education  
pastorbill@sotpmail.com

### **Greg Dowell**

Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator  
greg@sotpmail.com

### **Jane McMullen**

Director of Music & Worship  
jane@sotpmail.com

### **Dennis Lilla**

Technology Support Manager  
dennis@sotpmail.com

### **Donna Kelly**

Lay Ministry/New Member Coordinator  
donna@sotpmail.com

### **Michelle Rankin**

Office Manager  
michelle@sotpmail.com

### **Michael Waal**

Organist/Piano Accompanist  
michael@sotpmail.com

### **Dave Shotick**

Accounting Administrator  
dave@sotpmail.com

### **Jill Gillming, Little Lambs Preschool**

### **Annette Boster, Cherub Choir**

### **Michael Waal,**

Blessings & Treasures Choirs

### **Denise James, Joy Ringers**

### **Michael Parmele**

Sunday School Director

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

Contributions Secretaries

## **Congregation Council**

**Mike McCann, President**

**Matt Greene, Vice President**

**Amy Brittain, Secretary**

**Jim Henley, Treasurer**

**Adam Adams**

**Marlene Boehler**

**Cliff Dungey**

**Bud Hansen**

**Bob McDuffee**