



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

**Congregational
Newsletter
December 2018**

Statement of Purpose

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

Christmas at Shepherd of the Prairie

- **Children's Christmas Musical**
 - Saturday, December 8, 5pm
 - Sunday, December 9, 10:45am
- **Heartland Voices & SOTP Choir Christmas Concert**
 - Sunday, December 16, 3:00 pm
- **Christmas Coffee House**
 - Friday, December 21, 6:30pm
- **Christmas Eve Services**
 - 5pm, Family Candlelight Service
 - 11pm, Candlelight Communion Service



A NIGHT IN BETHLEHEM

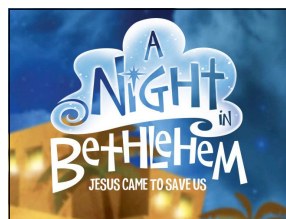
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

4:00—6:00 pm

Travel back in time & visit Bethlehem on the night of Jesus' birth.

- Make bread with The Bethlehem Baker
- Grind spices at The Spice Shoppe
 - Visit The Woolery
- Be counted at The Census Taker's Office
 - Come see The Stable
- End the night with a Birthday Party for Jesus

**Fun for the young & young at heart.
All are welcome, bring your family & friends!**



10805 Main St, Huntley, IL 60142 • Phone: 847-669-9448 • www.sotp.org
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-noon, Mon-Fri

A Note From Pastor Mark

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In days of old, God gave people on earth a prophecy that a new kingdom was coming. It would be restoration and redemption, a just and right rule, a true Kingdom of God. Jeremiah and Isaiah told of this kingdom, as did Micah and other prophets.

God said there would be plenty of signs; the universe and nature would be affected. Just as falling leaves signal the arrival of autumn, the heavenly bodies and the seas of the world and the clouds in the sky will give warning to the arrival of God's power and glory. In other words, get ready for something big!

And when God's time was right, Jesus arrived. The One bringing the new Kingdom of God, bringing justice and righteousness, bringing redemption to all. So here we are — 2,000 years into life in the new Kingdom.

The Gospel is in our hands to read and ponder, to guide us into understanding and living, to celebrate and worship the long-awaited Savior of the world.

And what do we do when his birthday comes around? We let the party get filled with frivolous hubbub, with stress, with unnecessary to-do lists.

What positive, worshipful activities do you want to include this year? Do we have to do "everything" every year?

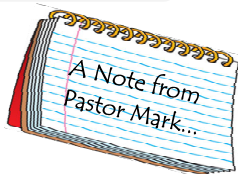
What can we do to lift a song to Jesus in our homes and in our hearts?

What simple, loving gifts can we share with family, friends, and neighbors?

Are there meaningful traditions that we want to carry on? How can Jesus be celebrated with peace and love?

Peace,

Pastor Mark



Adult Education News



A grand shift is taking place here at SOTP on Sunday, December 2nd. It's the beginning of Advent! Now the season of Advent brings with it many things: the start of a new church year, four Sundays of preparation for Christmas (similar to what Lent is to Easter), AND a

(Continued on page 3)

Adult Education News (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

change is whose voice we hear in the Sunday gospel readings. For the past year we've heard the voice of our Lord through Mark's witness. Now, beginning with Advent 1 and continuing through The Reign of Christ Sunday next November, we'll hear the wondrous story of Jesus through the gospel of Luke. Luke, as each gospel does, has a unique perspective on who Jesus is, why he has come among us, and what good news he brings. During December we'll hear his word six times--the four Sundays in Advent, Christmas Eve, and the First Sunday after Christmas. Listen intently! What do you hear? "Do you hear what I hear?" And to help you listen more clearly, put down the bulletin, and just listen. Hear the word of the Lord through St. Luke!

And then come join us, **beginning on Sunday, January 6, and on Wednesday, January 9**, as we spend the first few weeks of the new year exploring in more detail what to listen for as Luke's gospel is read each week.

Pastor Bill

Ministry Musings

This is the month of Thanksgiving and that made me stop and take stock of all the things I am thankful for. I'm thankful for God's love that he revealed in Jesus and for the grace and mercy he gives me daily. I'm thankful for my family, my kids and grandkids and how each one of them is special and my favorite in their own unique way. I'm thankful for my home and especially my nice warm bed at night; so many don't have that amazing luxury. I'm thankful for the fact that I live in this country and the freedoms that provides. I'm even thankful to pay my taxes because they provide for all the things I take for granted in this country; good roads, safety, fire and police service, schools and many more things. I'm thankful for all those who work hard to protect those freedoms here and abroad and for those who work tirelessly as first responders and in emergency service situations.



(Continued on page 4)

Ministry Musings (Cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

One of the things I'm most thankful for is this church. Shepherd of the Prairie is a special place where God's love shines and his kingdom comes. We're not perfect, but we confess and forgive when we're not! It's not just that, but the people here are welcoming and friendly, always eager to include the stranger and the new member. This family of God is always standing ready and eager to serve. Whether it is to come together to surround a grieving family, to help out those less fortunate, to bring a meal and friendship to someone healing from an illness or injury, sitting and listening to members who are going through difficult times, taking communion to those who can't be here on the weekend, putting arms around someone to pray, this body of Christ is ready to be where needed at a moment's notice!

My dream job all my life has been to work for the church, and now I'm living my dream; and it could not be in a better place. I believe God saved the best for last in my working life and the best is certainly here at SOTP. I get to spend my days working for you and for God... and I get paid for it!!! I have the privilege to serve all of you and share the love of God at SOTP and on behalf of SOTP in the greater world. I cannot say thank you enough to all of you for the love and grace of God you have shared with me over the past few years. Because of you, my journey of grief over my husband's death was eased and your love helped teach me how to live on my own.

There are no words to express my gratitude, but know how much I appreciate and love you all. May God bless you and yours this Thanksgiving and always.

Donna Kelly

NEW OFFICE HOURS COMING

We are pleased to announce that, **effective January 2, 2019**, SOTP is expanding office hours. The office will be open from **9 AM to 2 PM**, Monday through Friday. Our team looks forward to providing an excellent level of service to our congregation and friends in the community. If you have any questions, please contact our Office Manager, Michelle Rankin at michelle@sotpmail.com.



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

On November 18th we formally welcomed several new members into our family at SOTP:

*Ben & Lesley Beallis (Alex) * Doreen Brangenberg
Chip & Linda Campbell * Jerry & Pat Darow
Janet Fry * Tom & Cynthia Jones
Conny Kramp (Savanna, Emerson, Anneliese Espinoza)
John & Judy Olson * Nina Richardson * Cheryl Rotermund
Alie Schroeder * Dick Schnell * Russ & Donna Sticken
Wayne & Dina Wagner * Mary Jo Winkenwerder (Lindy & Joey)
Michael & Kerry Zimmerman (Karlana, Nick, Odin & Jasmine)*

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.



NEW MEMBER GATHERING



"Come and see!" Jn 2:46b. If you have been worshipping with us for a while here at SOTP and would like to know more about us as a worshipping community, we would love to have you join us at our New Member Gathering. We will be offering the gathering on **Sunday, February 11th from 3:00-5:30 pm**. This will be an opportunity for you to learn more about the life and ministry of SOTP and for you to consider prayerfully whether or not you want to formally become a member of the SOTP family.

We will welcome new members the following weekend, February 17th & 18th. If you have any questions, please contact either Pastor Mark or Donna Kelly through the church office at 847/669-9448.

MINISTRY FAIR

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR
**A PLACE
TO SERVE?**

DECEMBER 1ST & 2ND
After worship services
Find out where you can serve!!

Prizes, Coffee & Goodies, Opportunities!

BARNABAS CAREGIVING PROGRAM

The First Duty of Love is to Listen - Paul Tillich

We are sponsoring another day of training for new Barnabas Ministers with Pastor Chuck Olson on **Saturday, Feb 9, 2019 from 9 – 2**, with lunch provided.

What is the Barnabas Caregiving Program?

It is a simple, effective program for training volunteers to give care in most institutional and home situations. Giving care means having conversations with those who are homebound, in care facilities or facing some of life's most difficult seasons to provide a listening ear and encouragement to those who need to be heard and cared for. The ministry is named after Barnabas, the apostle first mentioned in the book of Acts (4:36-37) who encouraged the twelve by selling a piece of property and laying a gift of the money at their feet. In their gratitude they renamed him "Bar-Nabas" – "Son of Encouragement". Barnabas later traveled with Paul in bringing care and continued encouragement, along with the gospel, to the gentile world.



What is a Barnabas Minister and what do they do?

A Barnabas Minister is a skilled listener who encourages others by that listening. They are trained in how to listen effectively, how to build relational skills, and in how to encourage others. They will also be trained to bring Communion from the Assembly to the special person they visit.

There are several ways to serve as a Barnabas Minister:

- Caring for a loved one in your home
- Caring for a congregational member who is homebound
- Caring for a congregational member in a care facility
- Serving on a hospital visitation team
- Caring for a person dealing with a life issue

After attending the training, participants are eligible to be commissioned as Barnabas Ministers. After training, each trainee will be able to choose whether or not they wish to make a commitment to be a Barnabas Minister, and what form of service that will take. Once a minister is commissioned, they will be matched with the care-received they will minister to.

Training:

Saturday, February 9th, 9am to 2pm (lunch and all materials will be provided).

Come and see if this is where God is calling you to serve.

To make a reservation for training or for more information
Donna Sorensen, sorensensid@comcast.net

GRIEF JOURNEY GROUP



If you have lost a loved one and would like to be part of a group that can provide support, comfort and ideas for journeying through this season of grief, we here at Shepherd of the Prairie would like to provide that kind of opportunity for you. There are no requirements, or need to commit to a specific length of time to attend nor that you must attend every session; you don't even need to speak except to introduce yourself and tell us who you have lost. There is no charge for participation in this group. This group is for all who have lost a loved one whether it is a spouse, a parent, a sibling, a child, a grandchild, a friend or any other relational loss. We will meet **every other Monday evening, beginning January 22nd from 6:30 to 8 pm.**

If you have any questions or to sign up, please contact Donna Kelly at donna@sotpmail.com or 214-676-1788 or through the church office.

FOOD PANTRY

Weekend of December 1 & 2

is Food Pantry Collection Weekend at SOTP before all services



THIS WEEKEND ITEMS NEEDED: **DEODORANT, SHAMPOO, TOOTHPASTE, RAZORS, TOOTHBRUSHES, TOILET PAPER**

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

Contact: Alice Hallett agrndmom3@gmail.com

There is also an opportunity to donate \$30 to provide a holiday turkey dinner with all of the trimmings for a family of 8.

SAVE THE DATE! (MORE UPCOMING EVENTS...)

- **Sunday, January 6**, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm, Blood Drive
- **Sunday, January 27**, following 10:45 service, Annual Meeting
- **Saturday, February 9**, 9am - 2pm, Barnabas Training
- **Sunday, March 3**, 5pm - 7pm, Chili Cook Off
- **Saturday, March 9**, 9:30 - 11am, First Communion
Classes start (for 5th grade students)
- **Wednesday, March 14**, 5:30 - 6:45 pm, Suppers with Luther Begin



Save the date!

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY SESSIONS

**December 8 & 9, December 12
December 15 & 16**

We are blessed with a new member who is a professional photographer as part of our SOTP family. He would like to use the talent that God has blessed him with to serve his church.



He has been so blessed in his professional creative career as a photographer, cinematographer, film editor, videographer, video editor. He has produced and edited commercials for airing during the Super Bowl. He has travelled here in the states to many locations, photographed in Hong Kong and was sent on assignment to Haiti that he ended up on a mountain in a remote Haitian Village filming Voodoo ceremonies. Even the local tour guides would not follow his crew there. He and Luke Skywalker have something in common plus he has actually worked with him professionally. He now spends his creative juices doing wedding photography and videography, etc..

He will be taking professional portraits of you, your family and/or friends. **All he asks is that you give a generous donation to help pay down the mortgage of the new building.**

This includes:

- ⇒ Professional Portrait session here at SOTP in his portable studio.
- ⇒ Digital access and online ordering for your photos so you can have them printed
- ⇒ This does not include any printed photos
- ⇒ Things to keep in mind:

Dress as you want to record this moment (matching is always fun and looks good). You can have your immediate family, extended family or a group of friends that you treasure.

**FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN,
PLEASE RESERVE 2 TIME SLOTS BACK TO BACK.**

Sign up for a time slot at: www.bit.ly/2QQrNCq

HABITAT RESTORE



The **third Thursday** monthly 4-6 people from SOTP help at Habitat for Humanity's Restore, Elgin store. We work from **9:30 AM – 12:30 PM NOT CONSTRUCTION WORK, HELPING OUT IN THE STORE ONLY.**

Contact: Carl Hupert, Carlhupert@gmail.com

STAFF ANNOUNCEMENT

We received the unexpected news that our esteemed organist and SOTP family member Micky (Michael) Waal, will be leaving our congregation. Micky has accepted a new employment opportunity and will be leaving Shepherd of the Prairie as of November 30th.

Effective December 1st, Micky is beginning his new role, as Director of Music, at Christ the Lord Lutheran Church, in Elgin, Illinois.



During the time, Micky has been our Organist, he has faithfully served with excellence, and provided leadership not only at the organ but with Children's Bells and our Blessings vocal choir. Though Micky will be really missed, by our staff and congregation, we wish him continued success and the very best in his new role. Thank You Micky for your 9 years of service to SOTP.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION



Spiritual Direction: "...do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God."

Micah 6:8. Spiritual Direction also called spiritual companionship is a way of intentionally journeying with God to find out more about how we live out this

word from prophet. This is a lifetime journey that some of us have paid special attention to. My name is Bob Leshner I am a retired Lutheran pastor who recently moved to Huntley with my wife Susan, and joined Shepherd of the Prairie. I'm a certified spiritual director having been trained at Christos Center in Lino Lakes Minnesota. If you are interested in going deeper into your spiritual journey please feel free to contact me at **pastorbob-48@hotmail.com** or **all me at 715-451-2138**. The first session is a "getting-to-know-you" session at no charge.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Our Christmas offering this year will be split among the following

- Elgin Community Crisis Center
- ELCA Disaster Relief
- Pioneer Center of McHenry County
- LSSI



Thank you all ahead of time for your generous response

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Thanks to all who have responded to our calendar year 2019 financial drive by filling out their Estimate of Giving cards. This allows our Finance Committee to better plan our budgets for our Mission & Ministry programs next year. Thank you to all those who have given their testimonies in Temple Talks communicating why it is important to give generously and the resulting joy that resides in your heart and soul.

As of the third week of November, 222 family units have returned their cards out of 400 family units. These results will be used for our budget input, but we prayerfully hope that many who have not yet responded will do so in the days to come.

Many who are long time members and some who are new to these financial drives have chosen not to fill out these cards but remain faithful in financially supporting our church. We thank God for this support, but again appeal to your good sense that it makes the job of formulating a budget more difficult when you are unsure of the resources available. As we grow, we need the support of all members to meet the challenging needs ahead. So in this season of Thanksgiving, we ask you to reflect on the blessing He has given to each of us and respond, if you have not yet done so, by going to the SOTP.org website and click on the Forms button on the blue banner under our top photograph, and fill out our 2019 Estimate of Giving card. If you wish to fill out a form in person after one of our services, we will leave those forms on a table with our consecration box until the end of November.

Whatever you decide to commit, be assured that it will be put to good use here at Shepherd of the Prairie. Don't forget to come see what all of your working committees at SOTP do in reflecting Jesus's name and love in today's world at our Service Fair on **December 1 & 2 after each worship service**. Engage with the Body of Christ and Serve with the talents He has blessed you with. ~ Your Stewardship Committee



Stewardship
a way of life

FEMALE FRIDAYS

All women of SOTP are invited to join us for dinner at Jameson's in Huntley on **Friday, December 14th at 6pm**. It's a fun night of dinner and fellowship. We get together once a month. Join us once—or monthly!



Contact & RSVP to Joanne Schwartz

847-659-1740 joanneschwartz@comcast.net

FINANCIAL NEWS

2019

SIMPLY GIVING (electronic giving): Please contact Michelle Rankin at michelle@sotpmail.com if you have any questions or concerns regarding the amount you are giving for 2019.

PREPAID PLEDGES FOR 2019 - If you plan to prepay your 2019 pledge commitment in 2018 please make sure you indicate that on your giving envelope and submit your donation no later than December 30th. All donations received by December 30th, 2018 will be counted and posted in 2019.

FINANCIAL RECORDS - Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church only keeps financial records on members and non-members that have envelopes assigned. If you are not a member and want envelopes, contact the Church office.

2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your 2019 offering envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex. Here are some things to remember regarding the 2019 envelopes.



1. Your name will be on the box
2. Do NOT use 2019 envelopes in 2018
3. The Mortgage Service (reducing the building debt) is listed on the 2019 envelopes as "Forward in Faith (Building Fund)" The envelopes were ordered prior to the name change.
4. Please fill in your preference for your offering in various funds. If this is left blank and there is nothing on the check, all money will go to General Fund
5. All "Simply Giving" participants have envelopes issued. We need the envelope # to give credit for offerings received. Also, you may want to use the envelopes for special services.
6. Please pick up your envelopes, as it will cost the Church more to mail than the cost of the box of envelopes.
7. 7. If you are a non-member and want envelopes or if I missed you and you want envelopes, contact Ralph Wehnes at 224-569-2808.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Men's Coffee: All men are invited to join us at McDonald's by Walmart in Huntley every Tuesday at 8:30 am for coffee & fellowship.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast: All men invited to join us at Sammy's restaurant the first Wednesday monthly at 9:00 am.

NAME TAGS

More of our members are wearing name tags. It really helps visitors and new members meet other members. One easy way to make everyone comfortable is to wear your name tag. If you have misplaced your name tag, you can order a new one at the "Welcome Center" in the Narthex/Crossroads. It also helps Pastor Mark with names as our membership is over 1200.



CULVER'S NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Support Our
SOTP Youth @
Huntley Culver's



VOLUNTEERS STILL
NEEDED

Sign Up at:

<https://bit.ly/2RgqXPB>

Contact Jessica Panella

hawkeye886@comcast.net

DONATE WHILE YOU DINE

Monday, December 10, 4:00 – 8:00 pm

You can also take your bulletin in to the Huntley Culver's after ANY weekend church service and they will donate a % to SOTP.

BOOKS, MOVIES, GAMES, CELL PHONES...

Cleaning house? Donations of these items can be dropped off in the closet across from the new offices. They are turned in for cash which will go directly toward reducing the mortgage on our building.

DO YOU SHOP AMAZON?

Shop AmazonSmile.

When you select SOTP as your nonprofit, Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible SOTP.

We have received **\$741.76** so far toward the new building.

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

PADS

What is PADS?

Public Action to Deliver Shelter (McHenry County founded 1988). This program is not government supported. Since 2009, PADS reports a 51% increase in people needing help (33% increase in homeless individuals diagnosed with mental illness 54% increase in chronically homeless and 46% increase in transitional youth).



How does SOTP help?

We make lunches and serve dinner. Preferably five volunteers are needed. Youth volunteers are welcome (depending on maturity level and if they are able to sit still for one hour following directions without adult supervision). We meet at SOTP Sunday evenings at 5:45 p.m. to make lunches for the shelter, and then transport lunches (including donations) to Bethany. We serve dinner from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Marty Jacobson shops for supplies. This is a ministry that is allocated in our church budget.

To help out:

Bring in items for SOTP volunteers to take to PADS. Items currently needed: individual/travel size toiletries (especially deodorant), paper towels, napkins, twin blade disposable razors, bleach (any size), \$5 fast food certificates, ear plugs, cereal, new or gently used long johns (especially bottoms).

Where?

- We support Bethany Lutheran Church every 4th Sunday at 76 W Crystal Lake Ave in Crystal Lake IL 60014. This is only a 15 to 20 minute commute from SOTP. Linda is our contact at Bethany-- she has been in charge of that facility for over 25 years.
 - Help is also needed Wednesday nights at the Woodstock PADS shelter, contact Vik Bekeris at 224-629-8615 for information.
- There are 7 churches in McHenry County that provide overnight shelters (rotated Monday through Sunday) from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. A transportation bus is used to commute the homeless between the churches.

Sign up at www.bit.ly/2O9pWGq

Contact: *Becky Hennessey at k.b.hennessey@sbcglobal.net*

Volunteers are also needed Wednesday nights for PADS in Woodstock on Dean Street at the Pioneer Center..

Contact: Vik Bekeris 224-629-8615.

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Help us decorate the new sanctuary for Christmas/Advent with red poinsettia plants. **Sales continue until December 3rd.**

We are offering a 6" red poinsettia for \$11.00. Your gift may be in memory of OR dedicated to special people you wish to remember. You will find our table down the main aisle near the church offices. Look for us.

Plants may be taken home after the 11pm Christmas Eve service.

Thank you for supporting the church and making it a beautiful Christmas.



DECORATE THE CHURCH

Another big event is Decorating for Advent/Christmas. **Saturday, December 8** has been set aside for decorating the sanctuary. The committee wants to use as much as we can from the old sanctuary. As you know our new sanctuary is much bigger, so we are going to need more help. We anticipate putting up four (4) trees. There will be a sign-



up sheet in the hallway. You can always call Barb Pagano or Carolyn Cuttle and let them know that you want to help. Start time will be **8am on December 8th**. Please check your calendar and join us.

HEARTLAND VOICES & SOTP CHOIR CONCERT

Heartland Voices and our SOTP Choir will be presenting a Christmas Concert on **Sunday, December 16th at 3pm**. Can you just imagine the glorious music of Christmas in our new sanctuary? Mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend the Christmas Concert with Heartland Voices and our very own choir.



GIVING TREE



THE GIVING TREE

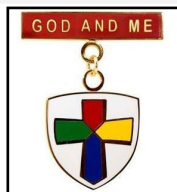
"Giving Tree Reminder". This will be the **last week to bring back your Giving Tree gifts**, as they have to be here by Sunday December 9th. Remember, **DO NOT WRAP THE GIFTS AND ALL GIFTS MUST BE NEW**. Secure the name tag on the bag or box.

Thank you all for joining in this wonderful Ministry.

Contact Barb Hoppensteadt, 847-669-0016 or hoppen@sbcglobal.net

GOD AND ME AWARD

SOTP is planning to offer the God and Me curriculum in early 2019. God and Me is part of a program designed by Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) to foster the Christian growth of children. God and Me is designed to help children become best friends with Jesus and tell their story of "God and Me" together. It is for **boys and girls in grades 1 to 3**. You can find out more about the class at www.praypub.org/god-me.



The class will be lead by SOTP members. It will meet once a week on **Wednesdays** for 4 to 5 weeks. After the conclusion of the class the boys and girls will receive a certificate and a medal. If the boys and girls are part of Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or American Heritage Girls this medal can be worn on their uniform. *Note, however, that this is not a Scouting program; it is intended for all boys and girls in grades 1 to 3.*

Lastly, the God and Me class satisfies the Boy Scout requirements for the religious emblem. See scouting.org/awards/religious-awards for more information.

If you are interested in learning more about the program contact Charlie Powe at ch.powe@gmail.com or complete the form at <https://goo.gl/xSKVML>.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS 2019



The Flower List for 2019 will be posted in November. **The cost of the flowers will be increased to \$50.** The smaller version is getting lost in the new sanctuary. Over the course of the last few weeks, the Flower committee has been trying different sizes (cost) to determine what will work best. Please help make the sanctuary bright with live plants by signing up to provide flowers in 2019.

THANK YOU NOTES

I am so grateful for everyone's thoughts and prayers during my recovery. Thank you for all of the visitors, gifts, the delicious meals and the countless cards. More than anything I am strengthened by all of your prayers. **Thank you, With love, Mary Trodahl**

I am in REMISSION. I really appreciate all the rides to and from my chemo treatments and all the healthy food you brought me. It helped me not having to cook which allowed me to rest and heal faster. Thank you for all your help over these last months.

God Bless all of you, Alice Hallett

FINANCIAL NEWS

Shepherd of the Prairie Financial Update

Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2018 Below is a summary of the church's income and expenses for the month and Year-to-date. We encourage everyone to give regularly, proportionally, faithfully, and generously to support our church's mission and ministry all year long.

General Fund Report The General Fund Balance is \$400,878. Operating Income and Expenses are within the Annual Budget, with Income for the month of \$58,020 and Expenses for the month of \$64,488. Cash in the checking account is \$400,878 of which \$209,558 is restricted and reserved for future expenditures.

Building Fund Report The Building Fund Balance is \$41,005. Building construction and interest expenses related to the new building were \$319,077 for the month. The first mortgage payment will be made in November.

Building on Faith Donations The Building on Faith Campaign resulted in donations totaling \$126,897 and these funds are used to purchase furnishings for the new Sanctuary. To date \$111,767 has been used to purchase furnishings.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>For Month Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income:	\$ 58,020	\$ 57,691	\$ 329
Expenses:	\$ 64,488	\$ 57,194	\$ 7,294
Balance:	\$ (6,468)		

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>ForYear-to-Date YTD Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income:	\$ 598,637	\$ 576,910	\$ 21,727
Expenses:	\$ 554,555	\$ 577,940	\$ (23,385)
Balance:	\$ 44,082		

Forward in Faith YTD \$ 385,324

<u>Building Fund</u>	<u>Month Amt.</u>	<u>YTD AMOUNT</u>
Income:	\$ 115,969	\$ 3,034,988
Expenses:	\$ 319,077	\$ 3,169,005

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel L. Wentzloff
Council Treasurer

faith and
finances

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1.....Elizabeth Anderson, Jacob Guttenburg
- 2.....William Chapman, Mark Frendreis,
Tess Miller
- 3.....Tim McMullen, Mike Ulmer
- 4.....Brady Allegretti
- 5.....Raquel Hess, Jackson Moretti
- 6.....Lisa Berens, Amanda Stenson
- 7.....Daniel Black, Barb Douglas
- 8.....Hallie Guttenburg, Mike Maraviglia
- 9.....Larry Rapach, Donna Schnepff,
Scott Seibert
- 10.....Sophie Dowell, Cynthia Jones
- 11.....Sherry Perkey
- 18.....Ericka Berti, Megan Juergensen
- 13.....Devin Burg, Carolyn Cuttle
- 14.....Coral Kolcz
- 15.....Katie Desiato, Macy Luedtke
- 16.....Doug Sandberg
- 17.....Martha Bergman, Seth Boster, Shane
McGuine, Katie Ostrem, Nancy Ramirez,
Richard Stashwick
- 18.....Elaine Mucibabich, Ella Trudeau
- 19.....Emma Johnson, Susan Mattiucci
- 20.....Jack Bloomfield, Sandy Frank, Karen
Gollhardt, Wilma Lyding, Enrique Rojas
- 21.....Tristan Mathiesen
- 22.....Chuck Little, Andrew Raistrick
- 23.....Alexandra Adams, Susan Lewis,
Lynn Meyer, Deanna Moore, Sandra Seibel,
William Waxenberg, Daniel Wills
- 24.....Carol Goodhue, Marina Reicher,
Lydia Seibert, Mary Ann Wiek
- 25.....Jim Henley, Jake Satalino
- 26.....Chelsea Greene, Matthew Ostrem,
Darlene Polzin
- 27.....Amy Johnson, Shelby Kowalski, Carol Lilla,
Hannah Retzlaff, Darrel Thompson
- 28.....Annette Boster, Ernie Clifford,
Mike McCann, Taylor Wade
- 29.....Chuck Lamb, Angeline Stoica,
Robert Weldon
- 30.....Michael Grabs, Karen Mulcay
- 31.....P.J. Knudsen, Pat Milford

STAFF & COUNCIL

STAFF

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

Jill Gillming

Little Lambs Preschool
LittleLambs@sotpmail.com

Tyler Greene

Contemporary Worship Leader
Tyler@sotpmail.com

Donna Kelly

Connections Facilitator
donna@sotpmail.com

Daryl Laird

Business Administrator
Daryl@sotpmail.com

Dennis Lilla

Technology Support Manager
dennis@sotpmail.com

Jane McMullen

Director of Music & Worship
jane@sotpmail.com

Michelle Rankin

Office Manager
michelle@sotpmail.com

Dave Shotick

Accounting Administrator
dave@sotpmail.com

Michael Waal

Organist/Piano Accompanist
michael@sotpmail.com

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Bud Hansen, President

Matt Greene, Vice President

Amy Brittain, Secretary

Dan Wentzloff, Treasurer

Adam Adams

Marlene Boehler

Cliff Dungey

Sheri Ott

Nancy Ottinger

DECEMBER SCHEDULES

		Dec 1 & 2	Dec 8 & 9	Dec 15 & 16	Dec 22 & 23	Dec 29 & 30
Presiding Minister		Pastor Mark Boster				
Assisting Minister	SUN 9AM	Joyce Shotick	Wayne Schmidt			
	SUN 10:45	Keith Steen	Tim Reincke			
Bulletin & Newsletter Folders	FRI	June Kobler Annette Carlson	Marian Mesenbrink Sharon Stangle	Barb Krmpotich Janet Kling	Alice Hallett Elaine Neukirch Donna Turner	
Coffee Hour Host		HELP NEEDED, SIGN UP IN THE MISSION & MINISTRY HALLWAY				
Coffee Hour Treats		Jill Brown & Gerilyn	HELP NEEDED, SIGN UP IN THE MISSION & MINISTRY HALLWAY			
Communion Assistants	9:00 AM	Adele Wogstad Judie Symbal Dave Shotick Randi Dawson Carol Roth Donna Sorensen	Alice Hallett Audrey Schmidt Pam Richard Jocelyn Doden Ron & PJ Knudsen	Donna Sorensen Cheryl Adams		Cheryl Adams Jill Hoffman
	10:45 AM	Sandy Hupert Lisa Adams Jessica Panella Sandi Stewart Laura Hinkle	Jan & Don Koerner Chuck & Sandy Petersen Bob & Tracy McDuffee	Elaine Neukirch Laura Hinkle		
Communion Bread	SUN	Jacque Stashwick PJ Knudsen	Jen Kolcz Jeanne Henley	Renae Greene Pam Perrrott	Lantia Palmermo	Nancy Morbeck
Communion Set Up & Take Down	5:00 SAT	Barb Hoppensteadt, Sue Mattiucci, Tom & Tammy Polzin				
	9:00 AM	Adele Wostad Judie Symbal	Jill Hoffman Donna Newbanks	Judie Symbal	Judy Lindsey Sandy Schuessler	Alice Miller Barb Miller
	10:45 AM	Sandy Hupert Linda Jahr	Marlene Boehler Sandy Petersen	Kara Burg Jenny Hollabaugh	Jan & Don Koerner	Pam & Darren Walloch
Counters	MON	Ralph Wehnes, Warren Brody, Donna Turner, Marilyn Wilhelm				
Greeters HELP NEEDED	5:00 SAT	Stevie Massei	Dottie Bobzin Randi Dawson	Karen Eckert	Dottie Bobzin	
	9:00 AM	Terry Halpin Cheryl Adams	Terry Halpin Ron & PJ Knudsen	Terry Halpin Cheryl Adams Elaine Gillam	Terry Halpin Ron & PJ Knudsen Len & Dolly Cardascio Elaine Gillam	
	10:45 AM	Bob & Carolyn Malm				

DECEMBER SCHEDULES (CONT.)

		Dec 1 & 2	Dec 8 & 9	Dec 15 & 16	Dec 22 & 23	Dec 29 & 30
Readers	9:00 am	Randi Dawson Betty Hansen	Ed & Pam Richard			
	10:45	Carl Hupert	Jan Koerner			
Rejoice Worship Band	10:45 am	VOCALS: Annette Boster Dana Turk, Jen Huston GUITAR: Grant Jahr	GUITAR: Grant Jahr	VOCALS: Chris Brittain Sheri Ott, Jim Rhode, Kim Szekely GUITAR: Grant Jahr KEYBOARD: Allison McCann	VOCALS: Aly Johnson Jacob Fiandalo Melissa Bala Payton Marx Shonna Rankin GUITAR: Harry Choin Trevor Dowell KEYBOARD: Allison McCann DRUMS: Brian Buesing	
Sound	5:00 SAT	Dan Wills	Dan Wills	Dick Brush	Dick Brush	
	9:00 AM	Jim Rice	Tom Polzin	Jim Rice	Tom Polzin	
	10:45 AM	Brian Ott	Tim Torkelson	Brian Ott	Tim Torkelson	
Ushers	SAT 5:00 PM	Denis & Carol Minutillo	Barb Hoppensteadt, Karen Eckert Vik Bekeris	Barb Hoppensteadt Sue Mattiucci	Randi Dawson Steve Murphy	Rich & Arlene Wille Vik Bekeris
	SUN 9:00 AM	WAYNE SCHMIDT Walter Lempke John Jensen Warren Brody Joanne Bychowsky	JACK CONTI Merlyn Thompson Harriet Thompson Dick Gerhart	VIK BEKERIS Dave & . Sharon Stangle Carol Engstrom	ED CUTTLE Carolyn Cuttle Ralph & Sue Wehnes (A) Jerry & Pat Darow	Volunteers Needed Contact Andrew Szekely aszekely01@ hotmail.com
	SUN 10:45 AM	BOB MCDUFFEE Vik Bekeris Chuck Peterson Jacob Fiandalo	MARK FRENDREIS Charlie Powe Vik Bekeris Sandi Stewart	JOHN BOEHLER Darren Walloch Don Koerner Jessica Panella	ANDREW SZEKELY Jim & Marina Rhode Kim Szekely Bob Mollis	
Visuals	9:00 AM	Josh Harding	Josh Harding	Josh Harding		
	10:45 AM		Alan Torkelson		Alan Torkelson	
Worship Leader	SAT 5PM	Michael Waal				
	10:45 AM	Tyler Greene				



**What
is
your
NICHE?**

If you aren't currently involved in a ministry at Shepherd of the Prairie and would like to find your niche, please contact Donna Kelly through the church office or Donna@sotpmail.com