



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

**Congregational  
Newsletter  
December 2019**

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

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

# *Christmas Eve Services*

- **3:00 pm**  
Family Service
- **5:00 pm**  
Contemporary  
Candlelight Service
- **11:00 pm** Traditional  
Candlelight  
Communion Service

10805 Main St, Huntley, IL 60142 • Phone: 847-669-9448 • [www.sotp.org](http://www.sotp.org)  
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-2pm, Mon-Fri

## *A Note From Pastor Mark*

Pastor's  
Corner

At this time of the year, many of us may be hoping for a better year in 2020.

Jobs, meaningful relationships, health, forgiveness or reconciliation of family differences all could head your list of desired changes.

During the Christmas season, advertisers often depict families sitting down to a table laden with delicious food, or gathered around a cozy fireplace with a tinsel-laden Christmas tree. Everyone is laughing or smiling.

But this might not even come close to portraying the situation which surrounds a vast amount of our population today. Shouldn't this be a time when everyone is happy and well fed? But, for many, hope seems gone forever.



Sometimes we have a tendency to shrug our shoulders. It's been like that since the beginning, right? There's nothing I can do about it.

But there is something you can do about it. Something we can do about it. We can give someone else hope. We can invite someone into our home for a meal, or direct them to a church or organization that can meet their other needs. We can simply talk to those who are so often treated as though they're invisible. We can sign up to serve at PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter) on Thursday night.

We don't have to don a halo and pretend to be angelic because it's Christmas. There are constant opportunities for caring and giving in every community.

When Mary became pregnant, Joseph could have divorced her. According to the standards of the time, a quiet divorce was by far the kindest outcome for Mary. But Joseph placed his hope and trust in the angel's words, even though they probably made no sense. He was supposed to go against the social norms of the time? Really? And he did.

Is it possible that our words, at critical times, might make all the difference in someone else's life? Especially if we backed them up with real acts of service and compassion?

When we are a beacon of hope for someone else, it gives us the opportunity to live out this story rather than just reading the words.

As we prepare for Christmas this year, let's live and serve the way God hopes we do, the way Jesus does.

This season, and in the months to come, let's let love and compassion loose. Let's live hope!

Peace, *Pastor Mark*

## *Ministry Musings*

This has been a busy and exciting year so far at SOTP. New ministries starting, ongoing ministries continue to come up with new ideas about how to serve God's people here at SOTP, the surrounding community and world at large well.

This December I would like to say thanks and well done to all who have worked hard to make things happen here at SOTP. The staff works tirelessly to serve this congregation; many serve well above and beyond their schedule hours. Our council endeavors to lead us in the ways we should go, always with Christ at the forefront.

Our Ministry Leads put in so much time, effort and love in all they do; our sub team leaders work with tirelessly to get things done for Christ and his people. And there are so many who work on the teams, participate in groups, make the coffee, set up tables, repair the problems, make phone calls, send emails and cards, fold bulletins and newsletters, serve in worship, teach others, care for or teach children, knit or crochet, do computer work, beautify our worship space, make music, fellowship together, care for others, and do so many unknown gifts of selfless love.

To all, we say a heartfelt thank you. Without all of us working together, nothing would be done. Christ is the head and we are his hands and feet. "God's Work, Our Hands".

As we look forward to the New Year, there are some wonderful new things in store, even as our current ministries continue! We will be expanding our current small groups by introducing a congregation-wide new Small Group Ministry. Please see the article on it in this newsletter. I believe this will be a amazing way for us to connect in even more and deeper pathways of faith and love for one another. Merry Christmas! Thanks be to God!

*Donna Kelly*



## *Come and See*

As we start off the Advent Season, I always try to think of new ways we can celebrate this season with our families and what important things we should remember during this time. Of course, we can think of the typical Christmas celebrations that go on and all the fun traditions we carry on, but what about the celebration of what is to come? What is the month of December leading us up to and how can we teach our kids what Advent is really about?

*(Continued on page 4)*

## *Come and See (Cont.)*

*(Continued from page 3)*

This is a season of waiting and anticipation, but what, or who, are we waiting for? It surely can't just be Santa and all the presents he brings for Children... It has to be something bigger than that, and it came in the form of a baby thousands of years ago. This season is a time of joyful anticipation for the birth of our Savior, Jesus. It is a time for us to be reminded of the greatest gift the world could have ever received and that was God's one and only son. What a gift indeed! For the four weeks of Advent, translated to "coming" or "coming toward" in Latin, we are celebrating each milestone that leads us towards Christ's arrival. The Savior that God promised, and was prophesized in the Old Testament, has finally come and made his appearance. This was a tremendous event that changed the course of all human history. A fulfilled promise in the form of a baby that would become the focal point of God's big narrative for all people and the world.



During this season, colors play an important role, and they are usually displayed in the candles that are lit each Sunday Service near the altar. They are a symbolism of the milestones we take as we wait for the arrival. Sometimes there are three blue candles and one pink, or there could be three purple candles and one pink. Whether blue candles or purple candles are used, they both signify royalty that Christ brings in his birth. He is the King of the world, and these colors best represent that. The pink candle signifies the joy that comes with Christ's arrival and the joy we have as we wait for this promised gift. For the first two Sundays, the blue/purple candles are lit. The pink candle is lit on the third Sunday and the final blue/purple candle is lit at the final service which is usually Christmas Eve. This is all a part of the big anticipated celebration, and it is a good way to remind our children, and ourselves, of what is to come!

This is a season of excitement, love, anticipation, and celebration. All things, as people, we know well. Our children understand the meaning of anticipation as they wait 25 days for Santa to come and to open presents, but reminding them of the greatest gift that we wait for is the real focus of this wonderful season. Not to say all the other traditions are not fun, but being able to teach our children about the greatest gift we could ever receive is a gift in itself. Let us remind them what the candles we light mean, why we sing wonderful Christmas hymns such as "The First Noel" and "Joy to the World", and why the birth of a baby thousands of years ago changed the course of history forever!

*Tessa DeLong*

## 2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES



Your 2020 offering envelopes are available for pick up in the Narthex. Please try to pick them up ASAP.

If you are a SIMPLY GIVING participant, you will also need to pick up your envelopes, as the offerings are recorded by envelope number. There are special service envelopes, Easter, Lent, Christmas etc. in the box. If you don't have 2020 envelopes and want them please let Ralph know.

*Contact: Ralph Wehnes [ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net)*

## BARNABAS CAREGIVING

The Barnabas Ministry began in February 2017. Since then, two workshops have guided a group of people to encourage and care for God's people through listening. The Ministry is named after St. Barnabas, the Apostle first mentioned in the book of Acts (4:36-37).



Our primary caregiving is visiting shut-ins living at home or in assisted living facilities, the hospitalized, or those with chronic health problems and those experiencing acute or chronic grieving.

Last month's October visitors made 24 recorded visits. This was in addition to visits made by Pastor Mark, Donna Kelly.

Currently there are 21 active Barnabas Ministers. During visits we engage in conversation, laughter, memorable experiences, sing, administer communion, share news of the church, or brighten a day. Four "Card Ladies" send monthly greetings to shut-ins, another reminder of God's Love from Shepherd of the Prairie.

During the winter months we will meet on the second Tuesday at 10 am. Pastor Mark or Donna Kelly assist in facilitating the meeting. Members lead in devotions and discussion using "Christian Caregiving" handbook.

Our church is blessed and is a blessing to so many through Barnabas Caregiving Ministry.

*Contact: Donna Sorensen 224-858-4168*

## ANNUAL REPORTS DUE DATE



Circle the date! Annual Ministry Reports are due to Donna Kelly **December 15th**.

Watch your email for more details!

*The Contact: Donna Kelly [Donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:Donna@sotpmail.com)*

## CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL



**December 8, 4:30—6:30 pm** Food, Holiday Crafts, Caroling & More! Free Holiday Carraige Rides! Sign Up, First Come, First Serve [www.bit.ly/carriagesotp](http://www.bit.ly/carriagesotp)

Volunteers and Donations appreciated for this year's Christmas Festival! This is going to be a fun event for our families and the community, and we hope you can help us and be a part of it!" [www.bit.ly/christmasfest19](http://www.bit.ly/christmasfest19)

Contact: Tessa DeLong [Tessa@sotpmail.com](mailto:Tessa@sotpmail.com)

## SMALL GROUPS

SOTP is working on something new and exciting; a Small Groups Ministry!

As SOTP grows in numbers and ministry, we need to find ways to enable all of our members to connect with each other in enjoyable and meaningful ways. A great way to do that is through small groups. A small group is a gathering of 8 to 12 people who meet on a regular basis for fun, fellowship, and support. A group consist of people with like interests (young families, retired people, enjoy the same hobbies), or it can be a group of people who just like to be together, or even a group of people looking to get to know each other. Small groups can be fellowship groups, service groups, or Bible Study groups.



But, small groups have a few things in common: they pray at the beginning and end, pray for each other between get-togethers, care for each other regularly and when particular needs come up, and they usually include some type of service project together on a somewhat regular basis (help out at P.A.D.S., Northern IL Food Bank, Feed My Starving Children or Green Trees, etc.).

We already have some groups here at SOTP who fit this description, but we would like to offer more ways to connect. So, we are going to offer a congregation-wide opportunity for participation in some new Small Groups. We will be kicking off this program the first week in February, with an 8-week commitment that will take us through Lent.

We are looking for people to serve as leaders or hosts for the groups as well as people to participate. We will provide training for leaders as well as materials and help along the way. More information will be coming so watch for it.

Our Small Group team includes: Jeff & Wendy Ottens, Jeff & Tessa DeLong, Mary Lou Chamberlain, Bob & Carolyn Malm, Darren Walloch, Mike Parmele, Christine Schurhammer, Donna Kelly.

Contact: Donna Kelly [Donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:Donna@sotpmail.com)



## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE



We will be conducting a Blue Christmas Service on **Monday, December 16 th at 6:30 pm** followed by a time of fellowship. This is a simple service of remembrance of our loved ones. If you have lost someone and would like a special remembrance of them this Christmas please plan to attend.

Contact: Donna Kelly

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD THANK YOU!

**A HUGE  
THANK  
YOU**

to our SOTP family for  
your support of this  
important ministry!  
Thanks to you, SOTP is  
sending **189 boxes**  
to kids through  
Operation Christmas  
Child.



*Blessings to our SOTP family,  
From Your SOTP ReFresh Group*

*(In 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade? Join us!)*

*Info: Youth@sotpmail.com*

## POINSETTIA SALES



Believe it or not....it is time to purchase Poinsettia plants to grace the sanctuary this Christmas season. We are taking orders **until December 1,** you may order poinsettias plants for the church. The cost of the red poinsettia plant is **\$11.00** (same as last year!). On the blue table outside the office, please find order forms and envelopes for our orders. Place your order form and monies inside the envelope and put it in the decorated poinsettia box. Poinsettias may be purchased in memory/or dedicated to. When filling this out, please print neatly. Poinsettias purchased may be taken home with you after the 11pm Christmas Eve service. Thank you for making this Christmas season beautiful!

Contact: Carolyn Cuttle    [ednca@comcast.net](mailto:ednca@comcast.net)

## RESTORE (HABITAT FOR HUMANITY)



**The third Thursday monthly from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm** volunteers from SOTP are needed to help at Habitat for Humanity's Restore, Elgin

**NOT CONSTRUCTION WORK, HELPING OUT IN THE STORE ONLY.**

Contact: Carl Hupert [Carlhupert@gmail.com](mailto:Carlhupert@gmail.com).

## MOPS (MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS) GROUP

MOPS IS COMING SOON to Shepherd of the Prairie!

MOPS International is a Christian organization focused on bringing moms together in their own neighborhoods to help provide support and encouragement. The goal is to equip moms of young children to

“realize their potential as mothers, women and leaders, in relationship with Jesus, and in partnership with the local church.”

Please join us for an informational meeting at SOTP on **Wednesday, January 8th at 5:00PM!**

Bring all your “mommy friends” to learn more about this exciting new group... Everyone is welcome (not just members of SOTP). Light refreshments will be served. Childcare will also be available.

Contact Tessa DeLong [tessa@sotpmail.com](mailto:tessa@sotpmail.com)



## MUSICIANS NEEDED



We need you! Do you play an instrument or sing? We are in need of volunteers to help create a moving worship experience. If this sounds like something you would enjoy doing, please consider joining the SOTP

Worship Team. We are always looking for singers, instrumentalists, sound and visual technicians. The Worship Band rehearses weekly at 6:15pm on the Thursday night before the Sunday that they lead worship. If you are interested, please contact Tyler for more information and to set up a meeting.



Contact: Tyler Greene [Tyler@sotpmail.com](mailto:Tyler@sotpmail.com)



## FOOD PANTRY

### Weekend of December 7 & 8

is Food Pantry Collection Weekend at SOTP before all services

#### NEEDS THIS WEEKEND:

**TOLIET PAPER \* SHAMPOO**  
**DISH SOAP \* COOKIES \* CRACKERS**  
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

## PRAYER SHAWL CHRISTMAS MEETING



Prayer  
Shawl  
Ministry

Mary Tabatt is hosting our December Christmas meeting at her house on **December 19th at 9:00 am.**

Contact: Jeanne Henley cjhenley2003@yahoo.com

## CHILDREN'S MUSIC MINISTRY REHEARSALS

#### REHEARSALS SCHEDULE:

##### ⇒ Sundays

- ⇒ Blessings Choir, (3rd - 8th grade),  
10:10 - 10:40 am

##### ⇒ Wednesdays

- ⇒ Chimers ring & sing (K - 2nd grade) 4:30 - 5:00 pm  
(Music/Education Room)
- ⇒ Cherub Choir (toddlers - Kindergarten) 5:00 - 5:20 pm  
(Big Sunday School Rm)
- ⇒ Jubilate Bells (3rd - 8th grade) 5:15 - 5:50 pm (New  
Sanctuary)

Contact: Jane McMullen Jane@sotpmail.com



## SAVE THE DATE (CRE)

Save  
the  
Date

Annual Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) **March 14, 2020** at Kishwaukee College in Malta IL. Presiding Bishop, Elizabeth Easton will be the keynote speaker. Sure to be an exciting day!

Contact: Donna Kelly Donna@sotpmail.com

## WINTER SUPPER CLUB - JAN – APR 2020

Meet, Greet and Eat!

**Sign up** at or on the sign-up sheet in front of the office. The **deadline for sign-up is December 28, 2019.**

*SupperClub*  
FOOD & FRIENDS

Here is the scoop:

Once people have signed up, all names are split into groups of 6 to 8 people with a designated start up person. We encourage everyone to participate, singles and couples, in order to get to know the folks you see at service!

Each small group then decides for themselves when and how they want to meet. Typically, each month there is a host couple who provides the entree, and the remaining participants fill in with appetizer, salad, and dessert. Then the next month there is a different host couple and those taking care of the appetizer, salad, and dessert rotate as well.

In that way each month one couple or person is responsible for a different course of the meal. Each group meets 3-4 times for the current session depending on the number of couples or singles in the group. Once the winter session is complete, if you choose to sign up again, then the co-chairs form different groups from the sign-ups.

If you choose not to cook, you may decide to order in Chinese or pizza, or go out for the evening. It is entirely up to the group how they would like to handle the logistics so the designated lead in the initial phone call will discuss with the rest of the group, how everyone wishes to proceed; host, order in or go out to dinner.

If you have any questions or would like more information.

Contact: Marilyn Sauerberg [ggmar35@gmail.com](mailto:ggmar35@gmail.com)

## THANKSGIVING OFFERING



The Shepherd of the Prairie special Thanksgiving Eve offering will be equally divided between:

- AARK
- Northern IL Food Bank
- Feed My Starving Children
- Grafton Food Pantry

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*On November 24th we formally welcomed several new members into our family at SOTP.*

*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.*

Bob & Pat Buesing \* Greg & Barb Carr \* Lucille Connelly

Lois Dama \* Simone Galati (Matteo, Ava, Anthony)

Rich & Inge Heidorn \* Nick & Betsy Liotus \* Bill Shine & Judy Below

Jim & Kim Standl \* Matt & Amy Stech (Caitlyn, Leah, Emily)

Stan & Wendy Werner

## NORTHERN IL FOOD BANK ~ THANK YOU!

***You folks are  
amazingly  
wonderful!***

I can't possibly thank you enough for all the work you did packing up boxes of food for Thanksgiving for our hungry neighbors. I'm sure they will enjoy the meals. I hope they realize what a wonderful blessing you have been to them.



As you know our group was divided into two groups doing the same work. So I added the figures together. This is the end result: You packed up 15,806 pounds of food providing 12,980 meals! Many of you were able to join us for lunch and we really enjoyed being together.

*"This was definitely a day that the Lord had made, so let us rejoice and be glad in it!" Psalm 118:24*

Contact: Sharon Stangle [stangle.ds@gmail.com](mailto:stangle.ds@gmail.com)

## REFRESH YOUTH (GRADES 7—12)

In our culture, we often look for meaning and identity in many other sources. But only when we recognize Jesus as our life source can we experience complete, fulfilled joy. In verse 11, Jesus says he has spoken these things so our joy will overflow. We appreciate your prayer and support for our ministry. May God bless you.



- Join us Sundays from
- Sign up to bring lunch or a snack to Refresh [www.bit.ly/RefreshSnacks](http://www.bit.ly/RefreshSnacks)
- Sign up for Remind to stay connected to Refresh: [www.bit.ly/RefreshText](http://www.bit.ly/RefreshText) or text to the number 81010 using the message @mjuergensen and you will start getting the text messages as we send them.
- We have lots of fun exciting events planned for the next few months. **Please plan to join us at Refresh on Sundays from Noon - 1:30 pm ~ even if you have never attended before.**
- **Sunday, December 8, 1:30—3:30** Bowling event at Bowlero
- **Dec. or Jan.** Holiday/New Year celebration with progressive dinner, gift exchange and lock in
- **Mission Trip for 8th—12th grade students** is scheduled for **June 6-14, 2020**. Planning has begun. We will be starting the fundraising and Trivia Night planning soon!

*Contact: Bob McDuffee & team [youth@sotpmail.com](mailto:youth@sotpmail.com)*

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMMUNITY DINNERS



Come one, come all! Join our SOTP community with **Wednesday night dinners** for \$2 per person **from 5:30 - 6:15 pm** most Wednesday nights (check calendar).

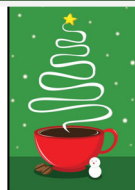
COMMUNITY DINNER

*Contact: Nick Wolf [bsa.nwolf@gmail.com](mailto:bsa.nwolf@gmail.com)*

## CHRISTMAS COFFEE HOUSE

Join us on **Friday, December 20th from 6:30—8:30** for Christmas music, fellowship, coffee & sweets. Feel free to bring a game to play as you enjoy your night out with your SOTP family.

*Contact: Tyler Greene [Tyler@sotpmail.com](mailto:Tyler@sotpmail.com)*



## LUV IN A GLUV BOX & PADS

### ITEMS NEEDED----CAN YOU HELP?

We can use any or all of the items listed below:

- ⇒ 6 oz. toothpaste
- ⇒ toothbrush
- ⇒ 1-2 oz. men's deodorant
- ⇒ Shaving Cream
- ⇒ Disposable Razors
- ⇒ 3 in 1 Shampoo Conditioner & body Soap
- ⇒ Clean heavy socks for men
- ⇒ Men's size gloves or mittens
- ⇒ Beef jerky
- ⇒ Gallon sized zip lock Bags
- ⇒ Granola or protein bars



They will be used for:

- ⇒ Luv N Gluv Box (*Bag for homeless to be kept in your car when the occasion might occur.*)
- ⇒ PADS
- ⇒ LSSI Partners in compassion Prison release Hygiene kits

PLACE ITEMS in Mission Box on Hallway table or Mission Box in closet across from the tables.

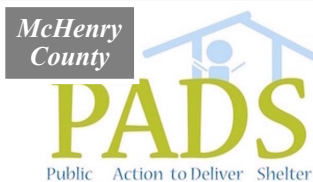
Contact: Sandy Hupert [sandyhupert@gmail.com](mailto:sandyhupert@gmail.com)

## PADS

If anyone is interested in helping out  
**Thursday nights** at Willow Creek in  
Crystal Lake, please sign up at  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPOct19](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPOct19)

Volunteers needed for  
donating food and/or working shifts.

Contact: Vik Bekeris [vikb1706@gmail.com](mailto:vikb1706@gmail.com)



## 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.

Contact: Pastor Bill Waxenberg [pastorBill@sotpmail.com](mailto:pastorBill@sotpmail.com)



## PRAYER CHAIN

To add a prayer request or to start receiving prayer requests to pray for those in need of prayer, please e-mail:

**SOTPrayers@gmail.com**



## SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School for our preschoolers - 5th graders has started **at both the 9am & 10:45 am services**. Kids will begin in the service with their families and then head off to Sunday School after the children's sermon.

**STILL LOOKING FOR A FEW TEACHERS TO TEACH ONCE A MONTH!**

Contact: Tessa DeLong [Tessa@sotpmail.com](mailto:Tessa@sotpmail.com)

## SATURDAY MORNING MEN'S BREAKFAST

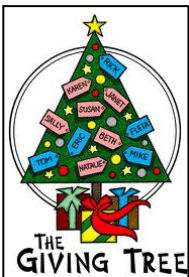
Men of SOTP, start your Third Saturday of the month off at SOTP! Join us **December 21st, 7am**. Have some fun with the guys as we share biscuits and gravy for breakfast. **This is a new event** that we get to plan, execute and eat our way through good conversation. Come and be a part of the fun and food!!



Contact: Jim Zei [jzei1@comcast.net](mailto:jzei1@comcast.net)

## GIVING TREE

"The Giving Tree" will be up the weekend of **November 9/10**. The needy families will be from Grafton Food Pantry and Turning Point, in Woodstock, a shelter for abused women and children. If you wish to give money, instead of taking an ornament, please make out the check to either Grafton Food Pantry or Turning Point. **DO NOT**



**MAKE THE CHECK OUT TO SOTP CHURCH.** There is a box, next to the tree, for gift cards and checks. Do not wrap the gifts and make sure the ornament is secured to the bag or box.

*If you take an ornament, please follow through with the purchase of buying the gift & bringing it back as we have been missing many gifts not brought back to church.*

The gifts are to be NEW items only.

**All gifts MUST be returned by Sun, December 8th.**

Contact Barb Hoppensteadt [hoppen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hoppen@sbcglobal.net)

## HEARTLAND VOICES & SOTP CHOIR



Heartland Voices , along with our own SOTP choir, will present their annual holiday concert on **Sunday, December 15 at 3pm**. This being the 4th event in the inaugural season of our Artist Series, is sure to put you in the Christmas spirit.

This Christmastide: Holly, Ivy, Mistletoe will feature many glorious and beautiful choral selections including a new arrangement of "I Heard he Bells On Christmas Day" by J. David Moore, several selections by the Norwegian composer Kim Andre Arnesen including "Norwegian Alleluia", "Christmas Night", "His Light In Us", and "I will Light Candles This Christmas". There will be several favorite pieces including "Do You Hear What I Hear?", "White Christmas" and Donald Fraser's "This Christmastide", a favorite of Heartland Voices sung each holiday season.

A holiday reception will be conclude the performance where we hope to see you. The performance is offered free of charge to all that attend. A pay it forward offering will be collected.

*Contact: Orv McElfresh ohm4306@gmail.com*

## FEMALE FRIDAYS

SOTP women are invited to join us for dinner at Jameson's in Huntley on **Friday, December 13th at 6pm** for a fun night of dinner & fellowship. Looking forward to another fun night together.



Join us once—or monthly!

*Contact: Alice Miller admiller93@comcast.net*

## BOOK CHATTERS



Book Chatters meets **the 3rd Wednesday monthly from 1-3 pm**. We are starting with a book about a book club. The group is informal and very welcoming, and we'd love to have you join us on our special Wednesdays!

**December 18**  
**WOMEN OF CHRISTMAS**  
**by Liz Curtis Higgs**

*Contact: Gail Barnard gbarn664@gmail.com*

## FINANCIAL NEWS

### **Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2019**

**General Fund Report** The General Fund Balance is \$180,266. Income for the month was \$59,299 and Expenses for the month were \$56,788. At this point in the year our expenses exceeded income by \$ 2,358.

**Mortgage Service Fund Report** The Mortgage Service Fund Balance is \$78,051. Income for month was \$21,492. The required monthly mortgage payment is \$19,536.

	<u><b>For Month</b></u>		
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income:	\$ 59,299	\$ 66,658	\$ (7,359)
Expenses:	\$ 56,788	\$ 66,261	\$ (9,473)

	<u><b>For Year-to-Date</b></u>		
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income:	\$ 611,045	\$ 666,580	\$ (55,535)
Expenses:	\$ 613,403	\$ 665,704	\$ (52,301)

#### **Mortgage Service Fund**

Income for month:	\$ 21,492
Fund Balance:	\$ 78,051

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel L. Wentzloff  
Church Council Treasurer

faith and

finances

## DO YOU SHOP AMAZON?

Shop AmazonSmile, when you select SOTP as your nonprofit. Same Amazon you know & love, but Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible purchase to SOTP.



We have received **\$1,077.99** so far toward the new addition.

Contact: Michelle Rankin [michelle@sotpmail.com](mailto:michelle@sotpmail.com)

## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

**Bud Hansen, President   Matt Greene, Vice President**  
**Dan Wentzloff, Treasurer   Cliff Dungey, Secretary**  
**Carla Elam   Jacob Fiandalo   Sarah Wolf**  
**Marlene Boehler**

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

## STAFF

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### **Mike Yndestad**

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#### **Jeni McCann**

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#### **Emily Schoenberg**

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# DECEMBER SCHEDULES

		Dec 1	Dec 7 & 8	Dec 14 & 15	Dec21 & 22	Dec 28 & 29
Presiding Minister		Pastor Mark Boster				
Assisting Minister SIGN UP AT <a href="http://www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipsteam">www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipsteam</a>	9:00 AM	Donna Kelly			Wayne Schmidt	
	10:45 AM			Tim Reincke		
Bulletin & Newsletter Folders	FRI	Annette Carlson Marian Mesenbrink	Marian Mesenbrink Sharon Stangle	Jody Linton	Elaine Neukirch Donna Turner Sharon Stangle	Alice Hallett Donna Turner Elaine Neukirch
Coffee Hour Host	SUN	HELP NEEDED Sign Up on Bulletin Board outside of Office Suite or Contact Annette Petersen <a href="mailto:petersenannette12@gmail.com">petersenannette12@gmail.com</a>				
Coffee Hour Treats	SUN	Marlene Hunt				
Communion Assistants SIGN UP AT <a href="http://www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipsteam">www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipsteam</a>	SAT		Dorothy Wills Judie Symbal	Ralph & Sandy Scalise	Sue & Bill Kamphausen	Tom Polzin Bethany Bower
	9:00 AM	Ed & Carolyn Cuttle Ralph Wehnes Carol Waxenberg Judie Symbal	Judie Symbal Ralph Wehnes	Elaine Gillam Judie Symbal	Audrey Schmidt Judie Symbal Elaine Gillam Jill Hoffman	
	10:45 AM	Sandy Hupert Marge Marlowe Mike & Alicia Parmele Colleen Bender	Sandy Hupert		Colleen Bender Donna & Marty Schnepff	
Communion Bread	SAT	Barb Hoppensteadt				
	SUN	JoAnn Ward Rob Lindsey	Bethany Bower	Nancy Stopka Nancy Morbeck	Lori Malczewski	Sandy Martin Sharon Mundt
Communion Set Up & Take Down	5:00 SAT	Barb Hoppensteadt, Sue Mattiucci & Tom Polzin				
	9:00 AM	Sandy Schuessler Judy Lindsey	Judie Symbal Adele Wogstad	Alice Miller Barb Davis	Jill Hoffman Donna Newbanks	Judy Lindsey Sandy Schuessler
	10:45 AM	Sandy Hupert Merrily Burkland	Jan & Don Koerner	Marlene Boehler Sandy Petersen	Linda Jahr Donna Schnepff	Pam & Darren Walloch
Counters	MON	Ralph Wehnes, Warren Brody, Rick Miller, Donna Turner				
Greeters  HELP NEEDED CONTACT DOLLY CARDASCIO	5:00 SAT					
	9:00 AM					
	10:45 AM					



## DECEMBER SCHEDULES (CONT.)

		Dec 1	Dec 7 & 8	Dec 14 & 15	Dec 21 & 22	Dec 28 & 29
Readers <b>SIGN UP AT</b> <a href="http://www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam">www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam</a>	9:00 AM	Betty Hansen Carol Waxenberg	Chris & Sara Solem		Chris & Sara Solem	
	10:45	Carl Hupert	Donna Kelly	Bob McDuffee	Colleen Bender	
Sound	SAT 5:00 PM					
	9:00 AM					
	10:45 AM					
Sunday School Teachers	9:00 AM	Megan Prather Deb Hansen	Jen Nagel Lindsay Sparks	Jeff DeLong Barb Pagano	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
	10:45 AM	Barb Pagano Geri Lynn Schlichting	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	Jeff DeLong Barb Pagano	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
Ushers <b>HELP NEEDED</b> Contact: Andrew Szekely <a href="mailto:Andrew.Szekely@outlook.com">Andrew.Szekely@outlook.com</a>	SAT 5:00 PM		Karen Eckert Sue Mattiucci	Jim & Diana Murphy	Sue Mattiucci Judie Symbol	Steve Murphy Randi Dawson
	SUN 9:00 AM	WAYNE SCHMIDT Walter Lemke Warren Brody Joanne Bychowsky Carol Engstrom	JACK CONTI Merlyn Thompson Harriet Thompson Dick Gerhart Frank Cesario	VIK BEKERIS Merlyn & Harriet Thompson Sandy Seibel Dave & Sharon Stangle Carol Engstrom	ED CUTTLE Carolyn Cuttle Len Cardascio Jerry & Pat Darow Ralph & Sue Wehnes	JACK CONTI Vik Bekeris
	SUN 10:45 AM	BOB MCDUFFEE Vik Bekeris Chuck Peterson Jacob Fiandalo Melissa Bala	MARK FRENDREIS Charlie Powe Vik Bekeris Sandi Stewart	JOHN BOEHLER Don Koerner Jessica Panella Ron Mudge Darren Walloch	ANDREW SZEKELY Jim & Marina Rhode Bob Mollis Vik Bekeris Casey Rhode	ANDREW SZEKELY Vik Bekeris Mark Frendreis Bob McDuffee Don Koerner
Visuals	9:00 AM					
	10:45 AM					
Welcome Center	9:00 AM	Dennis & Sherry Perkey	Cheryl Adams	Jan Suski Joyce Thompson	Dina Wagner Nina Richardson	Alice Miller Barb Davis
	10:45 AM	Joanne Bychowsky	Sandy Werner Marge Marlowe	Elaine Neukirch Judy Petropolis	Carl & Sandy Hupert	Marty Jacobsen Jan Curtiss

**If you aren't currently involved in a ministry at Shepherd of the Prairie and would like some help finding your niche, please contact Donna Kelly through the church office or [Donna@sotpmail.com](mailto:Donna@sotpmail.com)**

