

Newsletter

January 2022

Annual Meeting

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Upcoming

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Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church
Huntley, IL sotp.org 847/669-9448

Picture: Joy Ringers, Christmas Eve 2021

A Note From Pastor Mark

Dear Friends at Shepherd of the
Prairie Lutheran Church:

As we begin a New Year together I
would like to point us to a particular
petition for which we pray in the
Lord's Prayer..."Our daily bread."

Just what does that include?

Certainly, it means food for hungry
stomachs. But in order to sustain daily
hope, and survive daily mundane
routines, and make life worth living, I
think it means more than bread.

Perhaps daily bread includes these
prayers: Rise up your daily portion of
Holy Spirit in our hearts, dish out a bit
of your Godly love, ladle out sunshine
and hope on the horizon, remove the
spoiled portions that block our
contentedness and gratitude.

Maybe the request means: Give us all
the things we need daily, so we have
enough to pass on to others.

Let us be partners, to help sustain



friends and
family around
us, so we can
give them
their "daily
bread."

When we
pray this
petition to our heavenly Father,
perhaps God opens our eyes to see
the world of need as God sees it, so
that we can be God's invitation to
others to participate in a fulfilling life.

A life that is filled with physical
energy, with spiritual wholeness, with
emotional joy, with mind-boggling
ideas to restore the world around us,
can spread until it enlivens all of those
with whom we come in contact.

God can use us to find those who are
in need, and, through God, we can
become the bread-givers.

We have the opportunity to point to
God as the One who initiates all good
gifts, who awakens us to generosity,
who blesses us so we can bless others.
This invites others to a relationship
with our Father, to realize a turning
away from God and a turning back to
God. This invites others to remember
God's promises.

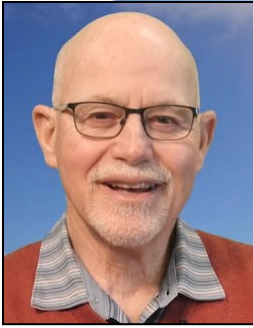
What is "daily bread" for you, in your
life? How can you share what you
receive with others? Where do you
turn for hope during hard times?

I look forward to our journey together
into 2022!

Pastor Mark

Contact Pastor Mark at
pastormark@sotpmail.com





We're
ready to begin
anew on Sunday,
**January 16 at
10:20, and on
Wednesday,
January 19 at
11:00!** We'll be
exploring the

powerful theme of **"covenant"** in the
biblical story. A covenant is a

Adult Education *With Pastor Bill*

promise, and the Bible is filled
with the promises of God. And, when
it's all said and done, the promises of
God are all we have to rely on. So
come join us for this winter journey!

Pastor Bill

Contact Pastor Bill at
pastorbill@sotpmail.com

Ministry Musings *With Donna*

Happy New
Year! As the song goes,
"another year over and a new
one just begun". I don't know about
you, but 2021 seems to have gone by
in a flash!

New Year's Day, is one of my favorite
days of the year. The chaos and frantic
celebrating of Christmas is over and
the holiday season is drawing to a
close. At least in my family, there isn't
a big celebration for New Year's Day;
no gatherings, no gifts, no big meal.
For me it becomes a chance to pause
and reflect on the past year; the ups
and downs, the joys and challenges,
all the things that make life well... life.

It's also a time for me to consider
what the new year might bring. I can
dream of what I would like the coming
year to be; it's an open possibility; no
limits! The new year is a clean slate
with no holds barred. What do I want
to do differently? What would I like to
change; to accomplish; to attempt?
Would I like to work out more
regularly? Maybe spend more time
listening to and in conversation with

God? Would I like to
paint my upstairs area? Maybe I'd like
to learn a new language, or a new skill
like yoga or meditation. The new year
presents us with another 365 days
filled with possibilities and imaginings!

One thing I know I want to continue
into the new year is being present in
each moment and open to
opportunities connect and engage
with all kinds of people.

I hope as you contemplate the new
year and all the possibilities that lie
before you in the 365 days ahead, you
will look for ways to become engaged
with the people and the world around
you. There are so many places to
involve your life with your community,
your family, your friends, and here at
SOTP. Come to ministry night on the
second Monday of each month and
get a taste of much that goes on.
Check out the SOTP website, sotp.org,

(Continued on page 4)

Ministry Musings With Donna

(Continued from page 3)

and look at all of the possibilities. January 16th is our 7s Discipleship Groups kickoff at noon. Come and see what these groups are about and consider joining one for 7 weeks.

Whatever you do, make this new year 2022, your best year ever. Find a way to connect with people and causes

and most of all
with our Lord!

Happy New
Year!!!

*Donna
Kelly*



Contact Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com

BARANBAS MINISTRY

Barnabas Caregiving Ministry

A simple, effective program here at SOTP designed to give care through conversations with those who are homebound, in care facilities or facing some of life's most difficult seasons.

Barnabas was an apostle who worked alongside Paul in bringing care and encouragement, along with the gospel, to the gentile world. His name, Barnabas, means "Son of Encouragement".

For more information on how to serve in this ministry, or to request a Barnabas Caregiving Minister, contact Donna Sorensen: sorensensid@comcast.net or Donna Kelly: donna@sotpmail.com

"The first duty of love is to listen."
Paul Tillich



"Everyone will know you as my
followers if you demonstrate
your love to others." John 13:35

Social Media Follow Us



Follow us on
Instagram

[@shepherdoftheprairie](https://www.instagram.com/shepherdoftheprairie)

7s Discipleship Groups Winter Series

7s Discipleship Groups

Winter Series begins January 16
With a kickoff celebration
SOTP fellowship hall 12 noon

For more information contact
Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

Groups
returning!
New groups
forming!



SIMPLY GIVING

What is Simply Giving?

Simply Giving is a program offered through SOTP that allows you to sign up and have your donations to the church electronically transferred from your checking account directly to SOTP's checking account. When you sign up through the church office, all you have to do is attach a voided check or deposit slip, determine the amount, and the frequency. The good thing, is all changes, if any can be done through the church office.

You will be issued a box of envelopes that can be used for special services, and other items such as altar flowers,

youth mission trip, Grafton Food Pantry, garage, etc.

If you want to put something in the collection basket, there are Simply Giving medallions as pictured that are available in the



gathering area. We presently have 89 households that use Simply Giving.

Other advantages are you don't get behind and have to catch up, and the donation goes direct to the church account, bypassing the normal counting procedure. This option works well if you are unable to get to church on regular basis or enjoying better weather somewhere else.

Contact the church office to sign up.

Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022

Join Us in
person or
on Zoom

ANNUAL MEETING

Login info on
sotp.org
under
**NEW
CONTENT**

Following 10:45 am Service
Meeting Will Start at Noon

Giving Tree

We had another great year for the Giving Tree program. Turning Point will be giving out, to each of their clients as they come in (we had gift cards for 60), a gift card and Grafton Food Pantry will give out gift cards to 15 families. Not

only did we have gift cards, check donations and groceries were also accepted.

Thank you ALL for being so generous.
A Happy and Blessed New Year to all.

Contact: Barb Hoppensteadt
hoppen@sbcglobal.net

Grief Journey

NEW TIME!

BEGINNING JANUARY 4TH

GRIEF JOURNEY GROUP

**TUESDAY
MORNINGS
10 - 11AM
SOTP
LIBRARY**

**NEW
TIME!**



MISSION TEAM Updates

- PADS is looking for volunteer in February they first and third Friday to make lunches to go and a hot meal for lunch to be serve between 12-2pm at Willow Creek in Crystal Lake see Vik Bekeris for detail's or call Vik (224)629-8615

for information.

- AARK garden is starting to plant for next year beginning of Feb-March sign up to receive veggie for next year for more information contact Vik or call Vik (224)629-8615.
- Celebrate re- entry is looking for volunteer to help out please see Vik or call Vik (224)629-8615.

Contact: Vik Bekeris
vikbek66@yahoo.com

Online Giving



**Remember: your offerings are a blessing.
And blessings keep on giving.
Online Giving Available at:**

<https://bit.ly/SOTPgiving>

Questions? Contact: Michelle Rankin Michelle@sotpmail.com



Holiday Office Closings For SOTP Office

The church office will be closed for the following holidays:

December 31—January 3, New Years Break, Church Office Closed

Monday, January 17, Martin Luther King Day, Church Office Closed

Wishing you & your loved ones many blessings throughout the new year.

Regularly Scheduled At SOTP



SUNDAYS

9:00 am **Traditional Worship**
9:00 am **Kids Connect** (Sunday School)
10:00 am **Frosted Fellowship** (High School Youth)
10:10 am **Sonshine Choir** (Age 3—1st grade)
10:10 am **Parent Coffee Connect**
10:20 am **Adult Education**
10:45 am **Contemporary Worship**
10:45 am **Kids Connect** (Sunday School)
1:00 pm **FBW**

MONDAYS

10:00 am **Staff Meeting**
10:30 am **FBW**
12:30 pm **Friends (Women's) Bible Study**
7:00 pm **Boy Scouts Troop 200**
7:00 pm (2nd Mon) **Ministry Night**
7:00 pm (3rd Mon) **Council Meeting**

TUESDAYS

8:00 am **Men's Coffee at McD's**
9:00 am (1st & 3rd Tues), **Prairie Pointe Quilters**
9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
9:15 am **AL-ANON Meeting**
10:00 am (4th Tues), **Barnabas**
6:00 pm **Grief Journey Meeting**
6:00 pm **Cub Scouts, Tigers Meeting**
6:30 pm (1st Tues), **Scout Troop 200 Committee**

6:30 pm (1st Tues), **Boy Scouts Patrol Leader's Council**
7:00 pm **Adult Bells**
7:00 pm **Cub Scouts, Tigers Meeting**
7:00 pm **FBW**

WEDNESDAYS

9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
10:00 am **God's Girls**
10:30 am **Women's FBW**
11:00 am **Adult Education**
4:30 pm **Spirit Ringers**
5:20 pm **Joy Ringers**
7:00 pm **Confirmation**
7:15 pm **Adult Choir**

THURSDAYS

9:00 am (2nd Thurs), **Prayer Shawl Ministry**
9:00 am (3rd Thurs) **Volunteers from SOTP at ReStore**
9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
5:30 pm (1st Thurs), **Girl Scouts**
7:00 pm **High School Youth**
7:00 pm **Cub Scouts (AOLs, Bears, Webelos & Wolves)**

FRIDAYS

9:30 am **Sonshine Boys**
10:30 am **FBW**

SATURDAYS

5:00 pm **Worship**
Times Vary **Habitat for Humanity**



Upcoming Events

Join Us!

DECEMBER 26 & JANUARY 2, No Kids Connect, Christmas Break

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25
No Services, Church Closed
Christmas Blessings to All

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26
ONE SERVICE ONLY, 10am
DECEMBER 31—JANUARY 3,
New Years Break, Church Office Closed

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9 7s Facilitator Training, 11am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, 7s Discipleship Groups Kickoff, Noon

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12
Adventure Club New Session Starts 5pm

Contact: tessa@sotpmail.com

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12,
Parent's Night Out, 5:30 pm
Contact: tessa@sotpmail.com

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30
Annual Meeting,
Noon (in person & on Zoom)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13, New Member Gathering, 3pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2 Ash Wednesday Services, Noon & 7pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 Suppers with Luther Begin, 5:30 pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 Soup Suppers Begin

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, Lenten Services Begin, 7pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 19,
Pre-Teen Retreat, 9 am
Contact: tessa@sotpmail.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 19 First Communion Class (1 of 3), 3pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 26 First Communion Class (2 of 3), 3pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 2 First Communion Class (3 of 3), 3pm

WEEKEND OF APRIL 9 & 10
First Communion Weekend

SATURDAY, APRIL 9
Easter Egg Hunt, 10am

SUNDAY, APRIL 17 Easter

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27
Adventure Club New Session Starts 5pm

Contact: tessa@sotpmail.com

SUNDAY, MAY 8 Muffins with Mom, 10am

SUNDAY, MAY 15 New Member Gathering, 3pm

SUNDAY, MAY 22 Last Day of Kids Connect Before Summer Break, 9am & 10:45 am

SUNDAY, MAY 22 End of School Year Celebration, Noon

SUNDAY, JUNE 19 Donuts with Dad, 10am

JUNE 20—23 Vacation Bible School, 9am—Noon

SATURDAY, JULY 23 Kite Day, 10am

Birthdays

January

DateName

1 Marlene Hunt, Tom
Keane, Nellica
Seibert

2 Ava Allison, Evan
Reincke, Jim Zei

3 Vik Bekeris,
Emmanuel Bozza,
Ezekiel Bozza, Elise
Brockman, Phil
Casablanca, Riley
Dobrolinsky,
Addilynn Grady,
Jessica Panella,
Gretchen Rossman

4 Mark Miley

5 Sandy Petersen

6 Denis Minutillo,
Elaine Neukirch

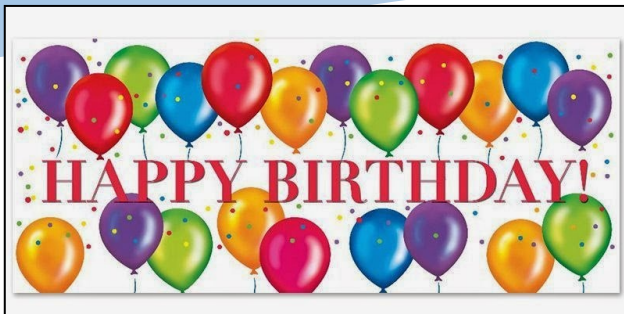
7 Heather Farnam

8 Liss Kundich, Barb
Niemic, Elizabeth
Rojas

9 Linda Murphy,
Michael Parmele,
George Sebastian

10 .. Sue Trestrail

11 .. Lucy Dahlin, Joan
Doege, Noah



Murray
12 ...Caiden Luedtke,
Lanita Palermo, Jack
Trevino

13 ...Maddox Black,
Alexander Linton

14 ...Kurtis Arndt, Evelyn
Olbrich

15 ...Dinah Lindsey,
Joyce Thompson

17 ...Rick Behm,
Christian Kasal,
Emilie Ulmer

18 ...Steven Brown,
Connor Martin,
Joan Smith

19 ...Eliott Burg,
McKenzie Fulcer,
Jeff McNeal, Quinn
Murray, Ruth Roper

20 ...Loretta Brindell,
Jared Davis, Raegan
DeLong, Daniel

Hibbeler, Pam
Luedtke, James
Murphy, Tim
Torkelson

21... Mel Kling

22... Bill Berens, Melody
Emery, Shayne
Piskule, Hailey
Trudeau

25... Kevin Hennessey,
Kate Kemblowski,
Annette Petersen,
Benjamin Sparks

26... Sophia Burian

27 ... Marilyn Schnake,
Pamela Walloch,
Dorothea Wills

28... Danielle Crespo,
Bradley James,
Audrey Schmidt

30... Patrick Fleener

31... Connor Brittain

*Our amazing heavenly Father knew you before you were
born. May His precious love and care warm your heart as
you celebrate another year.*





Involvement Ways to Serve

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

Are you looking for ways to use your talents and participate in our church family?

Here are some ideas and who to contact for more information for each one:

- **ADVENTURE CLUB**—Tessa DeLong, tessa@sotpmail.com
- **ADULT CHOIR**—Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- **ASSISTING MINISTER (9AM)** - Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
Sign up at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam
- **A/V TEAM (ALL SERVICES)** - Mike Yndestad, mike@sotpmail.com
- **BARNABAS MINISTRY**—Donna Sorensen, sorensensid@comcast.net
- **BELL CHOIR (ADULT)** —Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- **BELL CHOIR (KIDS & YOUTH)** - Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- **COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**—Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
Sign up at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam
- **COMMUNION SET UP & TAKE DOWN**—Judie Symbal, judie.symbal@att.net
- **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**—Mike Yndestad, mike@sotpmail.com
- **COUNTERS**—Ralph Wehnes, ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net
- **CRAFTING GIFTS FOR SR. CITIZENS & HOMELESS BLANKETS**—Alice Hallett, agrndmom3@gmail.com
- **GREETERS**—Elaine Gillam, suggillam@aol.com
- **NEWSLETTER MAILING PREP**—Michelle Rankin, michelle@sotpmail.com
Sign up at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPFolders
- **PROPERTY TEAM**—Mark Frendreis, SOTPproperty@gmail.com
- **PRAIRIE QUILTERS**—Bev Kenny krkbjk@comcast.net
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS**—Mike Yndestad mike@sotpmail.com
- **READERS**—Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
Sign up at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS**—Tessa DeLong, tessa@sotpmail.com
- **USHERS**—Andrew Szekely, Adrew.Szekely@outlook.com
- **WELCOME CENTER**—Rachael Yndestad, r.yndestad@icloud.com
Sign up at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPwelcome
- **WORSHIP BAND (SINGING & INSTRUMENTAL)**—Brian Buesing, brian@sotpmail.com

Involvement Schedules

January 2022



		Jan 1 & 2	Jan 8 & 9	Jan 15 & 16	Jan 22 & 23	Jan 29 & 30
Assisting Minister	SUN 9:00 AM	Help Needed Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam				
Communion Assistants HELP NEEDED Contact Judie Symbal judie.symbal@att.net	SAT 5:00 PM	Mary Holbrook	Barb Hoppensteadt	Barb Hoppensteadt	Sandy Scalise	Karen Eckert
	SUN 9:00 AM	Help Needed Contact Judie Symbal judie.symbal@att.net				
	SUN 10:45 AM					
Counters	Mon	Ralph Wehnes, Rick Miller & Diana Murphy				
Greeters HELP NEEDED Contact: Elaine Gillam suggillam@aol.com	SAT 5:00 PM	Help Needed Contact: Elaine Gillam suggillam@aol.com				
	SUN 9:00 AM					
	SUN 10:45 AM					
Newsletter Mailing Prep		Help Needed Sign Up at: bit.ly/SOTPFolders				
Readers HELP NEEDED Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam	SUN 9:00 AM	Help Needed Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam				

“... do it all to the glory of God.”

1 Corinthians 10:31



Involvement Schedules

January 2022

		Jan 1 & 2	Jan 8 & 9	Jan 15 & 16	Jan 22 & 23	Jan 29 & 30
Ushers HELP NEEDED Contact: Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net	SAT 5:00 PM	Karen Eckert Lynn Meyer	Diana & Jim Murphy	Sue Mattiucci	Steve Murphy Peggy Loiselle	Arnie & Carol Didricksen
	SUN 9:00 AM	R LEMKE Art Rydan Warren Brody Joanne Bychowsky	JACK CONTI Pete Thompson Harriet Thompson Carol	VIK BEKERIS Pete Thompson Harriet Thompson Mike	RALPH WEHNES Jerry Darrow Pat Darrow Dennis Houghton	WALTER LEMKE Art Rydan Warren Brody Joanne Bychowsky
	SUN 10:45 AM	BOB MCDUFFEE Vik Bekeris Chuck Peterson	MARK FRENDREIS Vik Bekeris Sandy Stewart	VIK BEKERIS Don Koerner Jeff Ottens Judy Petrooulos	VIK BEKERIS Bob Mollis Diane Mollis	BOB MCDUFFEE Vik Bekeris
Welcome Center HELP NEEDED Contact: Rachael Yndestad r.yndestad@icloud.com	SUN 9:00 AM SUN 10:45 AM	Help Needed Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPwelcome				



Stay Connected

emails

Do you receive our email communications?

- Daily Devotionals (Food for the soul)
- Weekly Friday Flourish (Church info)
- Monthly Newsletter (More detailed information)

To start receiving any (or all) of the above, please e-mail your request to:
Admin@SOTPMail.com

If you aren't receiving other e-mail blasts from us, please reach out to
 Michelle Rankin at Michelle@sotpmail.com to be added.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report
as of November 30, 2021

General Fund Report: The Unrestricted General Fund Balance is \$288,235. Total income for the month was \$62,290 and total expenses for the month was \$63,589. Approximately 4.4 months of General Fund reserves.

Mortgage Service Fund Report: The Mortgage Service Fund Balance is \$67,534. Income for the month was \$15,436. The monthly mortgage payment is \$19,536. Approximately 3.5 months of Mortgage Service Fund reserves.

		<u>This Month</u>		
General Fund	Actual	Budget	Difference	Percentage
Income:	\$62,290	\$65,115	(\$2,825)	-4.3%
Expenses:	\$63,589	\$65,912	(\$2,323)	-3.5%

		<u>Year-to-Date</u>		
General Fund	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Percentage
Income:	\$684,328	\$716,265	(\$31,937)	-4.5%
Expense:	\$688,606	\$716,020	(\$27,414)	-3.8%

Mortgage Service Fund

Income for Month: \$15,436
Income YTD: \$219,141
Payments YTD: \$214,896
Fund Balance: \$67,534

faith and
finances

Respectfully Submitted
Robert C. Mollis

Amazon Fundraising

Do you shop Amazon? If so, you can shop AmazonSmile and select SOTP as your nonprofit. Amazon then donates 0.5% of your eligible purchase to SOTP.



It may not seem like much, but **we have already received \$2,043.73** as of November 2021.

Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

Prayer Requests Submit &/or Receive

To submit a prayer request, please go to www.bit.ly/SOTPrayers and fill out the form.

To join us & pray for those who need prayers, e-mail



your request to:

admin@sotpmail.com

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com



SOTP Staff

Pastor Mark Boster

Senior Pastor
pastormark@sotpmail.com

Pastor Bill Waxenberg

Director of Adult Education
pastorbill@sotpmail.com

Brian Buesing

Contemporary Worship Leader
brian@sotpmail.com

Melanie Chesny

Accounting Administrator
melanie@sotpmail.com

Becca Colson

Youth Ministry Intern
youth@sotpmail.com

Kendra Coots

Preschool Asst. Teacher
kendra@sotpmail.com

Tessa DeLong

Director of Children & Family Ministries
tessa@sotpmail.com

Jill Gillming

Preschool Director
LittleLambs@sotpmail.com

Donna Kelly

Connections Minister
donna@sotpmail.com

Dennis Lilla

Technology Support Manager
dennis@sotpmail.com

Jane McMullen

Director of Music & Worship
jane@sotpmail.com

Matt Morrison

Operations Manager
matt@sotpmail.com

Michelle Rankin

Office Manager
michelle@sotpmail.com

Mike Yndestad

A/V Coordinator
mike@sotpmail.com

Mike Luecht, President

Sarah Wolf, Vice President

Bob Mollis, Treasurer

Joyce Shotick, Secretary

Church Council

Cheryl Adams

Kathy McGuine

Ellen Nissen

Christa Serpe