

# Newsletter

July 2025



**Vacation Bible School  
Donations, Pg 4 & 6**

**Ice Cream Social & Car  
Show, Pg 4**

**Adult Education Study,  
Pg 5**

**Church Picnic, Pg 8**

**Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church**  
Huntley, IL [sotp.org](http://sotp.org) 847/669-9448

*Photo: SOTP Members & Bishop Stacie Fiddler at Northern IL Synod Assembly*

# A Note

## From Pastor Mark



There are many Christian churches in our country, but many church memberships are in decline. And of course, in many of those churches the old 20/80 rule applies as in most organizations. 20 percent of the people do 80 percent of the work. One of the many blessings at SOTP is the number of people engaged in ministry on our various ministry teams. On ministry night (the 2nd Monday of the month) between 45-60 people gather each month

In the 9th chapter of Luke, Jesus is engaging in his face-to-face ministry on earth. As he proclaims God's message, he encounters a Samaritan village that is not welcoming. His disciples are furious at the response from this village, but Jesus is not deterred. He simply moves on.

Jesus asks others along the way to join his ministry and follow him, but they all have excuses. They are committed to family affairs and business. Jesus responds by telling them to put the things of this life aside, and follow him. And "no one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the Kingdom of God."

Could this mean that unless you have complete trust in God to take care of the details, you will not be able to give serious service to our Lord? Complete trust in God to take care of the details; what a difficult thing to consider!

In his book *Costly Grace*, Jon Walker writes, "There is a totality in discipleship that demands an uncompromising loyalty ... He clears the path by insisting that we adhere exclusively to him, that we rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way."

In our busy lives, filled to overflowing with urgent, important tasks and responsibilities, this sounds impossible. Is it really feasible to lay all of our commitments to work and family aside?

What does this mean in our lives today? What stops you from committing to serve?

Are you too busy? Or maybe you don't know anyone? You don't have enough skills, or the "right" ones? You don't see the opportunities? No one has asked you personally? Are you afraid of giving up too much? Maybe you don't want to interact with people who are different than you? Is this outside of your comfort zone?

Don't feel too bad if you find yourself in one of these situations. You are in good company. The Bible is filled with story after story about people who respond to God's call with excuses. Moses, Jeremiah, Jonah, Gideon, Isaiah, Peter.

God equips every one of them and promises to be with them; the same promise he makes to you and me. There are many things that stand in the way of following Jesus. We're to stay focused as we go through our lives, stepping out in the world with love and grace to be God's hands and feet for everyone we encounter.

Please know how thankful we are for all of you who are stepping out and up to make Christ known through your lives of faith. We are blessed by your partnership in the Gospel!

I'll see you in worship!

*Pastor Mark*

# Ministry Musing

By Donna Kelly



Be still...

Psalm 46:7-11

“Yahweh is with us – our stronghold is the God of Israel!

Come, see what Yahweh has done - God makes the earth bounteous! God has put an end to war, from one end of the earth to the other, breaking bows, splintering spears, and setting Chariots on fire. Be still and know that I am God! I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted upon the earth. Yahweh is with us - our stronghold is the God of Israel!”

When my children were small and confusion and anarchy reigned and I wanted them to be still, I have to admit sometimes I would shout at them to be quiet. At other times when they were hurt or upset or angry, I would hold them in my arms and rock them, quietly murmuring shhhh.

In this Psalm, God speaks to us about becoming still in both ways. In vs. 7-9 God shouts at the world around God’s people to calm down and for confusion to cease. God is a fortress who makes wars cease, who breaks the bow, shatters the spear and burns the shields with fire. But God is also the one who holds us close in his arms, gently rocks us and says, “Shhhh, be still and know that I am God.”

In the midst of a fast paced world where each day brings new news of change or uncertainty, most of us have days where we can be so confused we’re not sure where or who we are. Our stress level can be so high, our disappointment so deep, our fear so crippling that we can lose sight of God and who God is. That is when we can listen for our God to shout to the pain, disappointment and fear to back off and calm down. That’s what Jesus did when he calmed the raging storm. In Mark 4 he stood up, and shouted to the storm, “Quiet! Be still!!” and all was calm.

But at other time our God pulls us onto their lap and holds us close like a loving parent. As God gently rocks us back and forth God kisses our brow and says, “Shhh, be still and know that I am your God”.

How do you need God to deal with your storms of life right now? Pause for a moment and think which you need...for God to shout to the storms swirling about you, “Quiet, Be still”. Or for God to hold you close and whisper, “Be still and know”.

There is a song by Peder Eide that touches on this idea of resting in God’s arms.

Be still and know that I am God,  
Be still and know that I am,  
Be still and know,  
Be still,  
Be...

Though mountains fall, the earth give way,  
I’ll be your refuge, I’ll be your strength,

Be still and know that I am God,  
Be still and know that I am,  
Be still and know,  
Be still,  
Be...

Be safe, be loved, because I am sovereign.  
You are not forgotten, of this you can be sure. I know your hopes, I know your dreams. Rest in my promise that I am here,

Be still and know that I am God,  
Be still and know that I am,  
Be still and know,  
Be still,  
Be...

May you know the peace and security or resting in God’s arms.

*Donna*

# Vacation Bible School

## Snack & Financial Donations



**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**VBS**  
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**Snacks Needed**

**SNACK**

**GOLDFISH**  
Easy to eat, fun crackers

**GRANOLA BARS**  
perfect camping snack—tasty and packed with energy

**M&M'S**  
perfect pop-in-your-mouth treat, adding a colorful crunch

**NAPKINS**  
a must-have for sticky fingers and snack-time messes

**ZIPLOCK BAGS**  
keeping our camping snacks fresh and ready

**GO-GURT TUBES**  
Hand held easy to eat yogurt tubes

**MINI MARSHMALLOWS**  
a sweet camping treat, perfect for snacking

**TEDDY GRAHMS**  
HONEY FLAVOR Cute, little graham crackers

**CHEERIOS**  
Crunchy camping snack that's fun to munch

**PRETZEL STICKS**  
crunchy, salty, and great munching on an adventure

**Donations Needed DROP OFF BY 7/1**

**Sign Up at: [www.bit.ly/SOTPsnacks2025](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPsnacks2025)**

# Ice Cream Social & Car Show

## Fun for ALL Ages!



**ICE CREAM SOCIAL & CAR SHOW**

**Friday, July 11**  
6:30-8:30 pm

**Donations & Volunteers Needed**

**AWARDS FOR TOP 5 CARS**

**ICE CREAM WHILE SUPPLIES LAST**

**Register Now**  
(Cars, RSVP & Volunteers & Donations):  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPsocial25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPsocial25)

**Ice cream toppings needed.**

**Limited to 40 cars.**

**Sign up now!**

# Vacation Bible School

## Waitlist Open



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

LIVE IT OUT

DISCOVER HOW TO LOVE LIKE JESUS

WAITLIST ONLY NOW

JULY 7TH-11TH 2025 9AM-NOON

REGISTRATION OPEN: [www.bit.ly/SOTPVBSkids25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPVBSkids25)

The graphic features a vibrant green and blue background with various icons: a kite, a sun, a clipboard, a robot, a snack, a craft, music, and a mission. A large blue arrow points down towards the text.

Registration full—waitlist open.

Contact Jill Gillmiang at [jill@sotpmail.com](mailto:jill@sotpmail.com)



## Adult Study: Forgiveness

### Finding Peace Through Letting Go

**Title of the study:**

Forgiveness... Finding Peace Through Letting Go

**Author:** Adam Hamilton

**Facilitator:** Jan Spees

**Dates:** Fridays July 18- August 15.

**Time:** 11AM to 12PM

- Week 1 - The Divine Answer
- Week 2 - For Better, for Worse
- Week 3 - Seventy Times Seven
- Week 4 - The Dreamcoat
- Week 5 - "Extra credit class" We will watch the movie Amish Grace (The inspirational true story of

forgiveness) followed by discussion. Extended time: 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

The weekly sessions are "stand alone", so if you can't make them all please come when you can.

If you're interested in having a book (not required) they are available on Amazon in multiple formats.

Registration is not required, but preferred so that we can be sure to accommodate everyone!

Contact: Jan Spees  
[janetspees@gmail.com](mailto:janetspees@gmail.com)

# School Supply Drive

## For Grafton Food Pantry

As part of VBS, we are hosting an Elementary School Supply Drive to provide students with new school supplies. This will prepare them for their

**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

for **GRAFTON FOOD PANTRY**

# SCHOOL SUPPLY Drive

July 6-13, 2025  
**M-F, 9AM-2PM & WEEKEND SERVICES**

10805 Main St.  
**HUNTLEY, IL**

**More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPSchool25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPSchool25)**

academic studies, build their self-esteem, and set them up for success in the new school year.

**All are invited to join us in the collection starting the morning of Sunday, July 6th through Sunday, July 13th at 11am.**

Below is the list of supplies requested for grades K-5:

- 2 Yellow/Wood Pencils Sharpened with Erasers, Ticonderoga, 24 Pack
- Crayola® Crayons, 24 Count
- Eraser(s), Paper Mate® Pink Pearl
- Crayola® Washable Markers, Thick/Broad Tip, 10 Count
- EXPO® Dry Erase Markers, Low Odor, Thin/Fine Tip, 4 Pack
- Crayola® Colored Pencils, 12 Count
- Sharpie® Permanent Markers, Black
- School Supply Box | Plastic Pencil box
- Pencil bag/pouch
- Spiral Notebook Wide Ruled, 70 Sheets
- Composition Notebook Wide ruled
- Package(s) of Loose Leaf/Filler Paper, Wide Ruled, Notebook Paper
- Package(s) of Index Cards, 3" x 5", Ruled
- Pocket Folders, Plastic, with Prongs/

- Brads (various colors)
- Pocket Folders, Plastic (Blue, Green, Orange, Red)
- Fiskars Scissors, Blunt/Rounded and Regular school scissors
- Glue Bottle, White, Liquid
- Elmer's® Glue Stick
- Play-Doh 4 Pack
- Plastic Shoe/Storage Box, 6 Quart
- Headphones or Earbuds (Both needed)
- Paint Shirt
- Wireless mouse
- Box(es) of Kleenex® Brand Facial Tissues
- Book Bag - No Wheels
- Gym Shoes/Tennis Shoes/Sneakers Non-Marking

We have an area in our gathering space where supplies can be dropped off when you check-in each day for VBS. All supplies will be given to the Grafton Food Pantry to be distributed.

Thank you for your generosity.

Contact: Jill Gillming  
[jill@sotpmail.com](mailto:jill@sotpmail.com)

# Christmas in July

## ELCA World Hunger



- Buy seeds and gardening tools
- Other gifts may include:
  - \$10 for chicks or stocking a backpack with food
  - \$20 for honeybees or feeding 10 people at a soup kitchen
  - \$30 for a pig

To make your donation, just pick out an ornament and

It's Christmas in July again for ELCA World Hunger by giving through ELCA Good Gifts!

On **July 5th and 6th** look for the Christmas tree display. This year all gifts will be matched by an anonymous donor in the Northern Illinois synod, up to \$100,000! Let's see how much our gifts can multiply and make a difference in the lives of families in ELCA community partners across the globe.

A \$50 donation will:

- Buy a goat
- Provide one share of a \$500 cow

an offering envelop. Place your money or check written out to SOTP in the envelop and drop off the donation in the God's Global Barnyard "barn" at the display table, or donate "online". Hang your ornament on the tree so we see how our gifts are transforming lives, and creating hope in the lives of families facing food insecurity.

Please return all gifts/donations by Sunday July 27th.

Purchase online at:

[www.bit.ly/SOTPELCAhunger](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPELCAhunger)

Contact: *Becky Wright*  
*rawright48@gmail.com*

# Plastic Collection for Bench

## 1018 lbs collected in 154 days!



# Annual Church Picnic

## You Are Welcome!

Annual Church Picnic  
- Aug 17  
Noon

Burgers, Hot Dogs, Water & Lemonade provided.

Last name

- I – Q – desserts;
- A-H & R-Z bring sides or salads.

You are invited to bring your favorite board games to play. The Picnic Band will be playing music for our enjoyment.



Sign up to attend or help with set up and clean up at: [www.bit.ly/SOTPicnic25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPicnic25)

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

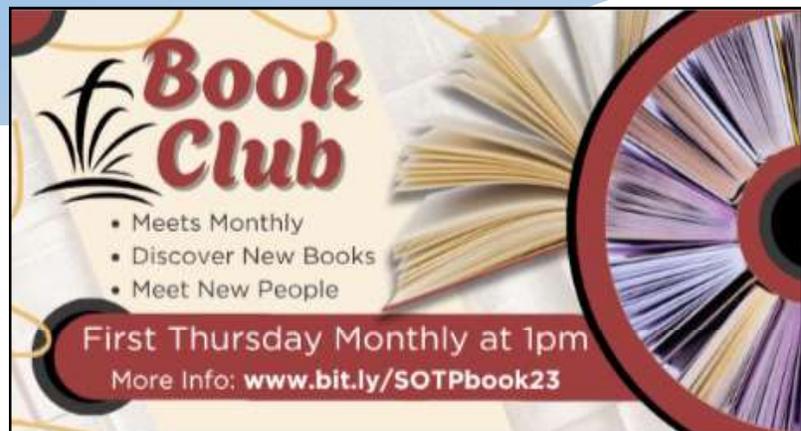
## Book Club

### Read With Us

Do you enjoy reading? Looking for a way to connect with others? Then you just might enjoy our Book Club. We will take turns reading several different genres such as mystery, biography, fiction, non-fiction, religious.

We will meet once a month on the first Thursday at 1pm.

We plan to pick books that are either available at the library or discount bookstores. If you have a Kindle or tablet and library card, you can have the library set you up with being able to “borrow” the book to read on your tablet.



⇒ **July: HOUSE of SECRETS** by Brad Meltzer (Mystery Thriller)

⇒ **August: LIGHTNING STRIKE** by William Kent Krueger

Registration at [www.bit.ly/SOTPbook23](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPbook23) recommended but not required.

Contact: Dottie Bobzin  
[dbinil@att.net](mailto:dbinil@att.net)

# New Member Gathering

## Find Out More About Us



**NEW MEMBER GATHERING**  
FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY

**SUNDAY AUGUST 10**  
**3PM**

Sign up & More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0825](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0825)

5:30pm. 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.

If you have been worshipping with us for a while here at SOTP in person or online 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 holding the gathering on Sunday, August 10, from 3 -

If you have any questions or would like to attend, please contact Donna Kelly;

You can also sign up online at [www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0825](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0825).

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

# Monthly Food Drive

## 1st Sunday Monthly



**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Helping our Neighbors!

**GRAFTON FOOD PANTRY**

FILL THE SHELVES

**FOOD & Necessities DRIVE**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Monthly  
8:30 to 11:00 am

Donations Needed

MORE INFO, ITEMS MOST NEEDED & DONATE:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPGRAFTON](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPGRAFTON)

**EASILY VIEW CURRENT EVENTS & REGISTRATIONS**

[www.bit.ly/SOTPsignup](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPsignup)

Adult Education - Faith & Mental Health - Shame, Guilt & Forgiveness  
January 15, 2025

Shower, Guilt & Forgiveness  
Sunday 10:20 am  
Jan 15 - Feb 26

Go on a Prayer, Boy, Olney  
Oshawa, Ontario, Canada

Grade WEDNESDAY CONFIRMATION Resuming  
6:00-7:30 PM

March 5-6 PM  
Soup Supper worship

QR Code

**DEMENTIA**  
Caregiver Support Group

MEETINGS:  
MONTHLY  
3RD TUESDAY  
2:00 PM

More Info & Sign Up:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPdem](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPdem)

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH & the ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

QR Code

**TRANSITIONS**  
A JOURNEY THROUGH LOSS

TUESDAYS  
7:00 PM

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPtrans](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPtrans)

QR Code

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

SECOND TUESDAY MONTHLY AT 9AM

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOIPshawl](http://www.bit.ly/SOIPshawl)

God, May this shawl be a sign of your loving, healing presence

QR Code

**SECOND MONDAY MONTHLY**  
7:00 pm

**MINISTRY NIGHT**

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPministrynight](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPministrynight)

Volunteers Needed

QR Code

**GRIEF JOURNEY GROUP**

TUESDAY MORNINGS  
10AM

Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPgrief](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPgrief)

QR Code

**THE GIBSON GIRLS**

"Please Mr. Postman"  
"The Gospel"  
... and more!

A BLEND OF GOSPEL & VINTAGE CLASSICS

FRIDAY  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2025  
7:00 PM

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPGIBSON25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPGIBSON25)

QR Code

**Women's Coffee Gathering**  
Fridays 10am

MCDONALD'S BY HUNTLEY WALMART

QR Code

**MEN'S COFFEE**  
McDonald's by Huntley Walmart

Tuesdays at 7:30 am  
INFO: [www.bit.ly/SOTPmen](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPmen)

QR Code

**WHAT'S NEXT?**

Group for seniors talk about changes & challenges & ideas on how to cope.

11:00 AM  
SECOND TUESDAY

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPwhatsnext](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPwhatsnext)

QR Code

**High School YOUTH GROUP**

STARTING NOW SUMMER HOURS!

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS  
6:30 - 8:30 PM

[www.bit.ly/SOTPHYOUTH](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPHYOUTH)

QR Code

# *The Lakes Area Swing Band*

## *An Artist Series Concert*

**SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ARTIST SERIES  
PRESENTS

# THE LAKES AREA SWING BAND

**SATURDAY, JULY 19, 2025 AT 6PM**

More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPswing25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPswing25)

Swing along with the great music associated with the big band eras. The Lakes Area Swing Band to perform at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church, 10805 Main Street, Huntley, on Saturday, July 19 at 7:00pm.

Sponsored by the SOTP Artist Series, the public is invited to attend this free performance. No tickets are required and freewill donations are gratefully accepted.

The band's repertoire consists of a wide variety of tunes and styles, from the 1920s through the current day. Its main focus is on the music associated with the "Great American Songbook" and the Big Band era of the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s—from favorites by Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, and Count Basie; to classics from Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, Bobby Darin, and many others.

Founded in 1999, the Lakes Area Swing Band has grown to a full 18-piece swing band with over 170 charts in their books.

They play for a variety of events all over Lake and McHenry counties, simply for the love of swing music.

Under the direction of Don Morrison, music director, the Lakes Area Swing Band features vocalists Mike Unti and Chris Vail and the lively sounds of musicians playing saxophones, trumpets, trombones, and a rhythm section with guitar and drums. All musicians are volunteers as they play simply for the love and enjoyment of sharing this timeless music.

The Lakes Area Swing Band is an official 501(c)(3) not-for-profit. All funds received go the purchase of new music, equipment, and most importantly, through its scholarship fund which is awarded to school music departments and students studying music beyond high school.

*Contact: The Artist Series  
[artistseries@sotpmail.com](mailto:artistseries@sotpmail.com)*

# Involvement Schedule

		July 5/6	July 12/13	July 19/20	July 26/27
Greeters	SAT 5:00 PM		Phyllis Thomson		
	SUN 9:00 AM	Lynn & Ken Rotter	Eileen Gerald Terry Halpin	Dottie Bobzin Candace Beck	Laura Attaway Cyndi Monson
	SUN 10:45 AM	Carolyn & Bob Malm			
Ushers	SAT 5:00 PM	Karen Eckert Lynn Meyers	Tom & Therese Cox	Carol Hartman Peggy Lynn Loiselle	Steve Murphy Carol Davis
	SUN 9:00 AM	<b>WALTER LEMKE</b> Tim Bueschel Jeff Stangle Jeff Ottens Mickey & Cathy Kappel	<b>JACK CONTI</b> Cheryl Rotermund John & Patti Witt Carol Engstrom	<b>VIK BEKERIS</b> Wayne Schmidt Arja Kasper Dan Wentzloff Don Wickersham Andrew Lick	<b>RALPH WEHNES</b> Stan Crissman Jerry & Pat Darrow George Attaway Chuck Zindel
	SUN 10:45 AM	<b>BOB MCDUFFEE</b> Annika Yndestad Tim & Karen Doyle	<b>JIM STANCL</b> Mike & Peggy Kargol	<b>DOUG NAGEL</b> Don Koerner Judy Petropulos	<b>BOB MOLLIS</b> Diane Mollis

**CRAFT TABLE**  
PAYING DOWN OUR  
**MORTGAGE**

**4TH SUNDAY MONTHLY**

- **Donate crafts**
- **Pay what you can to purchase crafts**

*Crafts are donated so every penny goes directly to paying down our mortgage.*

**More Info: [www.bit.ly/SOTPcrafts](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPcrafts)**

# ***Regularly Scheduled*** *You Are Invited*

## SUNDAYS

8:30-11am (1st Sun) **Food Drive for Grafton Food Pantry**  
8:30am-Noon (4th Sun) **Craft Sales Table for Mortgage**  
9:00 am **Traditional Worship**  
10:45 am **Contemporary Worship**  
1:00 pm **FBW**

## MONDAYS

9:00 am (3rd Mon) **Gazebo Valor Quilters**  
9:00 am **Staff Meeting**  
10:30 am **FBW**  
12:30 pm **Friends (Women's) Bible Study**  
6:30 pm **Boy Scouts Troop 200**  
7:00 pm (2nd Mon) **Ministry Night**  
7:00 pm (3rd Mon) **Council Meeting**

## TUESDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**  
8:00 am (2nd Tues) **Gazebo Quilt Guild**  
8:00 am **Men's Coffee** at McD's by Huntley Walmart  
9:00 am (1st & 3rd Tues), **Prairie Pointe Quilters**  
9:15 am **AL-ANON Meeting**  
10:00 am **Grief Journey Group**  
2:00 pm (2nd Tues) **What's Next for Seniors**  
2:00 pm (3rd Tues) **Dementia Caregiver Support Group**  
6:30 pm (1st Tues), **Scout Troop 200 Committee Meeting**

6:30 pm (1st Tues), **Boy Scouts Patrol Leader's Council Mtg**  
7:00 pm **Transitions Journey Through Loss**  
7:00 pm **FBW**  
7:00 pm **AL-ANON Meeting**  
7:00 pm **Adult Bells Rehearsal**

## WEDNESDAYS

10:30 am **Women's FBW**  
6:30 pm **High School Youth Group**  
7:00 pm **Adult Choir Rehearsal**

## THURSDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**  
9:00 am (2nd Thurs), **Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
1:00 pm (1st Thurs) **Book Club**  
6:30 pm (2nd Thurs), **Lions Club**  
7:00 pm **Cub Scouts**  
Times Vary **Volunteers at Habitat for Humanity ReStore**

## FRIDAYS

10:00 am **Women's Coffee** at McD's by Huntley Walmart  
10:30 am **FBW**

## SATURDAYS

5:00 pm **Worship**



# Special Events

Save the Date



## TUESDAY, JULY 1

- Drop all VBS Snack Donations Off By Today

## SATURDAY JULY 5

- Christmas in July, ELCA World Hunger Kickoff

## JULY 7—JULY 11

- Vacation Bible School Week Waitlist Registration:  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPVBSwait25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPVBSwait25)

## FRIDAY, JULY 11

- Ice Cream Social & Car Show, 6:30pm  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPsocial25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPsocial25)

## FRIDAY, JULY 18

- Start of New Bible Study Series, "Forgiveness... Finding Peace and Letting Go with Dan Spees, 11am

## SATURDAY, JULY 19

- The Artist Series Presents The Lakes Swing Band, 7pm  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPswing25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPswing25)

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

- New Member Gathering, 3pm [www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0825](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0825)

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

- Annual Church Picnic, Noon  
[www.bit.ly/SOTPicnic25](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPicnic25)

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- Bible Study with Pastor Mark Resumes, 11am

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- The Artist Series Presents The Gibson Girls, 7pm

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- Barnabas Minister Training & Refresh, 10am

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- Northern Illinois Synod Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 36th Annual Convention, Rockford

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

- Matthew 101—A New Perspective with Pastor Bill Waxenberg, 10am

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

- Trunk or Treat, 2pm

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- Feed My Starving Children, 9am

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- New Member Gathering,

# July

## Birthdays



- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 1-Jul Michele Miller<br>Bethany Bower<br>Allyson Berens<br>Breanna Walker<br>Margaret Dirks           | 10-Jul Jerome Darow  | 20-Jul Nicholas Brown  |
| 2-Jul Sharon Neubauer<br>Kyle Lemke<br>Doug Nagel<br>Pamela Richard<br>Jacob Fiandalo<br>Barry Farnam | 11-Jul Arthur Uteg<br>Jake Spencer   | 21-Jul Jerry Christopherson<br>Marina Rhode<br>Brian Rojas<br>Kim Satalino |
| 3-Jul Joseph DeBolt<br>Tammy Sabie<br>Jack Nissen<br>Cooper Krewer                                    | 12-Jul Anne Skidmore<br>Elaina Hibbeler<br>Howard Larson                       | 22-Jul Casey Bozza<br>Avery Michalak<br>Ralph Wehnes                       |
| 4-Jul Jennifer Nagel  | 13-Jul Phil Turk<br>Andrew Szekely<br>Lori Malczewski<br>Barb Doty             | 23-Jul Dolores Barry<br>Rich Wille   |
| 5-Jul Cynthia Schoenfeld  | 14-Jul Andy Patel<br>Jamie Patel<br>Donna Turner<br>Jason Hunt<br>Julie Dahlin | 24-Jul Dick Tabatt<br>Logan McCabe   |
| 6-Jul Kristen Fleener<br>Barbara Davis  | 15-Jul McKenna Hess<br>Maria Michalak<br>Gloria Beavis<br>Ian Walloch          | 25-Jul Judy Below<br>Kathy Ary   |
| 7-Jul Julie Wills<br>Nicholas Nissen  | 16-Jul Kaia Huston<br>Jane McMullen<br>Benjamin Hollabaugh                     | 26-Jul Ava Ullrich<br>Delaney Krewer                                       |
| 8-Jul Kim Stegge<br>William Dwyer<br>Richard Mundt<br>Rob DeBlicek<br>Fred Schimmel                   | 17-Jul Karen Eckert<br>Jose Araoz  | 27-Jul Ryan Flanagan<br>Ken Hoving<br>Jeneane Zeimen                       |
| 9-Jul Les Lawrence<br>Krista Glosson  | 18-Jul Nicholas Wolf<br>CaSandra Reicher<br>Peter Walthers<br>Lukas Nagel      | 28-Jul Destry Arndt  |
| 10-Jul Nicole Scalise<br>Caiden Parker  | 19-Jul Emily Stech   | 29-Jul Megan Moretti<br>Mackenzie Ehmen<br>Amir Kagdi<br>Linda Wright      |
|   | 20-Jul Roy Rankin  | 30-Jul Justin DeBolt<br>Adrianna Crespo<br>Gavin Schlachta                 |
|   |  | 31-Jul Rick Hess<br>Donald Huntington                                      |





## **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:**

- Adult Choir—Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Adventure Club—Jill Gillming jill@soapmail.com
- Annual Church Picnic – Donna Kelly— donna@sotpmail.com
- Assisting Minister (9am) – Sue Sroka —dssroka5@gmail.com
- Artist Series – Jane McMullen jane@sotpmail.com
- A/V Team – Jeff Moore— jeff@sotpmail.com
- Barnabas Ministry—Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com
- Bell Choir (Adult) —Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Bell Choir (Kids & Youth) – Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Communion Assistants—Sue Sroka— dssroka5@gmail.com
- Communion Bread Baking—Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Communion Set Up & Take Down— Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Community Outreach—Tara Mackey, rtmackey10@yahoo.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
- Habitat for Humanity – Sandy Hupert sandyhupert@gmail.com
- Kids Academy—Amy Stech amc\_stech@yahoo.com
- Kids Connect—Jill Gillming jill@sotpmail.com
- Mission Team – Sandy Hupert sandyhupert@gmail.com
- Newsletter Mailing Prep—Michelle Rankin, michelle@sotpmail.com
- Next Step Fellowship (Single Seniors Fellowship) – Dave Stangle, dstangle.ds@gmail.com or Phyllis Thomson, phyllisthomson@aol.com
- Property Team—Mark Frendreis, SOTPProperty@gmail.com
- Prairie Quilters—Bev Kenny krkbjk@comcast.net
- Prayer Shawls—Jeanne Henley, cjhenley2003@yahoo.com
- Public Relations—Matt Morrison, matt@sotpmail.com
- Readers—Sue Sroka— dssroka5@gmail.com
- Small Groups—Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com
- Ushers—Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net
- Vacation Bible School – Jill Gillming jill@sotpmail.com
- Welcome Center—Tara Mackey, rtmackey10@yahoo.com
- Worship Band (Singing & Instrumental)—Jeff Moore, jeff@sotpmail.com

# **Get Involved**

*Ways to Serve*

# Treasurer's Report

## TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MAY 31, 2025

### UNRESTRICTED GENERAL FUND

	MONTHLY	MONTHLY	MONTHLY ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL	YTD PERCENT	YTD PERCENT
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. MONTHLY BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. YTD BUDGET	BUDGET	RECEIVED	EXPENDED
May 1, 2025 Beginning Balance	\$ 418,407.79								
Monthly Income	57,014.36	77,514.00	\$ (20,499.64)	419,301.20	433,443.00	\$ (14,141.80)	\$ 1,008,800.00	41.56%	
Monthly Expenses	92,976.89	98,517.00	\$ (5,540.11)	416,711.14	420,966.00	\$ (4,254.86)	\$ 1,008,800.00		41.31%
Income vs. Expenditures	(35,962.53)	(21,003.00)		2,590.06	12,477.00				
May 31, 2025 Ending Balance	\$ 382,445.26								
Average Monthly Expenses (Budgeted)	\$ 84,066.67								
Approx. Months Covered by Fund Balance	4.55								

### MORTGAGE SERVICE FUND

	MONTHLY	MONTHLY	MONTHLY ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL	YTD PERCENT	YTD PERCENT
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. MONTHLY BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. YTD BUDGET	BUDGET	RECEIVED	EXPENDED
May 1, 2025 Beginning Balance	\$ 62,134.67								
Monthly Income	15,627.52	18,807.00	\$ (3,179.48)	119,532.42	94,035.00	\$ 25,497.42	\$ 225,684.00	52.96%	
Monthly Expenses	18,807.00	18,807.00	\$ -	96,674.57	94,035.00	\$ 2,639.57	\$ 225,684.00		42.84%
Income vs. Expenditures	(3,179.48)	-		22,857.85	-				
May 31, 2025 Ending Balance	\$ 58,955.19								
Average Monthly Expenses	\$ 18,807.00								
Approx. Months Covered by Fund Balance	3.13								

Respectfully submitted,

George Attaway, Treasurer

*faith and*  
**finances**

## SOTP Emails

Let's Stay in Touch



**STAY CONNECTED & PERSONALIZE YOUR**

# Email Selections

[www.bit.ly/SOTPEMAIL](http://www.bit.ly/SOTPEMAIL)

Daily  
Devotionals

Friday  
Flourish

Newsletter





# SOTP Staff



**Pastor Mark Boster**  
*Senior Pastor*  
pastormark@sotpmail.com



**Pastor Ryan Mackey**  
*Pastor*  
pastorryan@sotpmail.com



**Kendra Coots**  
*Assistant Preschool Teacher*  
kendra@sotpmail.com



**Jill Gillming**  
*Director of Children and Family Ministry*  
jill@sotpmail.com



**Josh Harding**  
*A/V and Office Support Staff*  
josh@sotpmail.com



**Donna Kelly**  
*Director of Connections Ministry*  
donna@sotpmail.com



**Jane McMullen**  
*Traditional Music & Worship Director*  
jane@sotpmail.com



**Jeff Moore**  
*Contemporary Music Director*  
jeff@sotpmail.com



**Matt Morrison**  
*Operations Manager*  
matt@sotpmail.com



**Michelle Rankin**  
*Operations and Communications Assistant*  
michelle@sotpmail.com



**Dave Shotick**  
*Accounting Administrator*  
accounting@sotpmail.com

# Church Council

**Kathy McGuine**, President  
**Bob Mollis**, Vice-President  
**George Attaway**, Treasurer  
**Ellen Nissen**, Secretary

**Jim Puls**  
**Christa Serpe**  
**Jim Stancl**  
**Lisa Wondriska**

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