

Newsletter

January 2023



Annual Meeting

Pg 7

New Year's Day Service

Pg 21

Game Day

Pg 9

New App

Pg 6

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

Huntley, IL sotp.org 847/669-9448

Photo: Children's Christmas Program Cast Picture

A Note

From Pastor Mark



Isaiah 63:7-9

Our first reading into the New Year is from Isaiah. Isaiah reminded the Israelites who had returned from exile of all that God had done for them throughout their existence as God's chosen people.

At the beginning of 2023 we are reminded of all that God has done for us throughout the generations.

Can you trace the threads back through your ancestors, remembering the trust and belief of a grandparent in God's leading of their lives?

Was it your parents' love and service to God through their church which became the pattern for your life? Or did you receive that first glimmer of belief through a pastor or Sunday School teacher when you were still a young child?

Or maybe it was the challenge of a camp counselor who encouraged you to make Jesus the Lord of your life.

Was it a committed friend, a college professor or a spouse whose example led you to wonder what made a difference in their lives and thus influenced yours?

In all these ways, was God working through the people in your life according to God's loving kindness and mercy to you and thus for God's glory?

That is the very thing that the prophet Isaiah long

ago was speaking into the lives of people living alongside of him.

Are we today conscious of the responsibility and privilege we have to forward this treasure of belief through our children, grandchildren and others in our path, so that the treasure continues to be a blessing to others?

Isaiah would also speak to us as Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church. How has God's glory been extended from our church into our community through the past years?

How are we going to ensure that it does not grow dim and diminish but rather shine brighter than ever before in 2023, bringing Jesus to others? What part will you play in fulfilling our Lord's prayer..."on earth as it is in heaven."

How blessed we are to have this responsibility and privilege. God grant that we look to the past for the reassurance of your presence and then go forward in confidence.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Pastor Mark

A Note From Pastor Ryan



2022 was an incredible year for me and my family. Between graduating

from seminary, my ordination, and our family moving to Crystal Lake, the greatest blessing God gave us was calling me to serve the wonderful, amazing people of Shepherd of the Prairie. I can't begin to tell you how grateful I am to have found a home in this worshipping community. It was a year for the books, but now I am looking forward to journeying into 2023 with you!

Now that I have had over four months to get immersed in the culture of SOTP, I would like to take this opportunity to give you an update on our youth ministry and where I see us going in the coming year. Bob McDuffee shared with me, just before the holidays, that he was ready to step down from his role as coordinator of our confirmation program. He wanted to give me a chance to get to know the youth and families of the program and teach me all about our program's history and routines before stepping down, and we both feel he accomplished that and more. I owe so many thanks to Bob for his faithful service to our confirmation and youth programs. He has done a tremendous job of connecting with youth and families

and helped me in so many ways over these months.

For the remainder of this confirmation year, I will be taking care of all the administrative duties related to confirmation. I am blessed to work with some amazing small group leaders who do so much to make our program run smoothly. At SOTP, we make it a major goal to lift up leaders from all over the congregation, and our confirmation program does exactly that in how we recruit and support our leaders.

As we have put some more distance between us and the COVID safety protocols of 2020, we have begun to see and understand the effects the pandemic has had on our young people. We have begun to see some ways we are being called to improve our confirmation program. Students' needs change all the time, and to respond to those changes we are currently trying out a different curriculum and brainstorming some ways to restructure the whole program to be more engaging and meaningful for our youth. I share this with you all so you may know, and rest assured, that we have some great leaders working behind the scenes to make our educational ministries as effective and meaningful as possible. I expect some new and positive changes for our 2023-24 academic year.

(Continued on page 4)

A Note

From Pastor Ryan Mackey

(Continued from page 3)

As for the high school youth group, we are looking forward to a service trip to Milwaukee in late June. We have a great core of students who regularly attend youth group on Thursday nights, and I hope to continue to make more and deeper connections with our confirmation students so they will feel encouraged to join youth group after middle school. Youth ministry is ever changing, and I am still (in some ways) learning the desires and needs of our high schoolers and determining

the type of youth group they want to have, whether it be built around service projects, Bible studies, social events, a combination of those, or something else altogether.

We have a solid foundation upon which we will build an exciting youth program. Look for good things in 2023!

Thank you for all you do for SOTP, and may God bless you greatly this new year!

Pastor Ryan

Ministry Musings

With Donna Kelly

Happy New Year, a time for new beginnings! Between Christmas and New Years our Grief Group met together and participated in a ritual of finding one thing we wanted to leave behind in the old year, and the next “right thing” we wanted to pursue in the new year. That’s different than making a New Years’ resolution in that it is something we want to pursue, even if it takes all year to do so. What would you like to take up as the next right thing for your new year? If you are not already involved in the ministry at SOTP, consider where you can best fulfill your mission and ministry here at SOTP.

When we talk about ministry we say a lot about each of us having a gift we need to share to make the church whole and complete. But what do we mean by that? Some gifts are easy to recognize; a gifted musician, an artist, someone who works well with children, etc. But we all have a gift. At a prior church there was a lady who worked behind the scenes in near every event or project. Alberta was always in the kitchen, or pinning up costumes, cleaning the dishes left



(Continued on page 5)

Ministry Musings

With Donna Kelly

(Continued from page 4)

over after the potluck, even making sure the toilet paper in the bathrooms was always full. Once she and I were at a retreat and we were asked to identify one gift we had. When Alberta's turn came she mumbled that she didn't have any special gift. My mouth dropped open in astonishment! She didn't see her amazing gift of service and what a joyful gift of love it was to God and to the whole congregation.

Many are like Alberta, we think if we don't have a "big" gift to give, we don't have one at all. But God wants to use each and every one of us. We each have different lives we touch in different ways. Paul spoke about the different parts in the body of Christ in 1 Corinthians 12 where he says, "... and if the ear should say, 'because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,' it would not for that reason stop being a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But, in fact, God

has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be."

In the same way, if we all had only the gift of music we would raise a glorious song to God, but the building would fall apart from neglect, the children wouldn't be educated about God, the communion bread wouldn't get baked, no one would go to Northern Illinois Foodbank, the computer information wouldn't get updated and newsletter wouldn't go out. In the same way if we were all gifted to care for and maintain the building and property, there would be no music!

It takes all of us doing our part, whether we view those parts as small or large. So, I challenge you this year to discover what is your "next right thing"; where you can connect to the body of Christ here at SOTP. Explore your interests and talents and then find a way to use them for God. We need every one of us to make the whole community complete.

Merry Christmas

Donna Kelly



Christmas Offering

Our 2022 Christmas Offering was split evenly and donated to:

- Home of the Sparrow
- McHenry County Senior Center
- Lutheran Social Services of IL
- Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

Contact: Sandy Hupert

Mission Team Chair

sandyhupert@gmail.com

Adventure Club

4th & 5th Graders



4TH & 5TH
GRADERS

Adventure
CLUB

Winter Session
starting

Wednesday
January 11
5pm

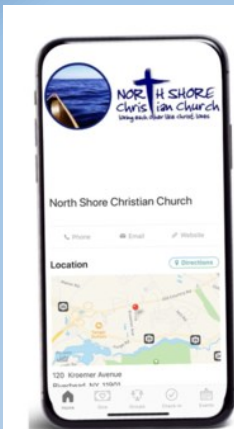
Register: www.bit.ly/SOTPadv

Contact: *Pastor Mark Boster* pastormark@sotpmail.com



New Phone App

Download Now To Stay Connected



church center
by planning center

groups check-in events

Contact: *Michelle Rankin* michelle@sotpmail.com

Adult Education

Shame, Guilt & Forgiveness



Should guilt be a part of healthy Christian living? I hope so. What about shame? Are shame and guilt

the same thing? How would you explain the difference? Does Jesus expect us to be forgiving? Again, I hope so. But does he tell us how? Some of us have difficulty forgiving ourselves. Most of us have tremendous difficulty forgiving those who have wronged us, especially when they show no remorse. In our next unit on “Faith and Mental Health” we will tackle these questions and related issues. Please join us on **Sunday mornings at 10:20 AM**

according to the following schedule:

- **January 15th** – Shame in New Testament Culture
- **January 22nd** – Is it Shame or Guilt?
- **January 29th** – How do we Forgive Ourselves?
- **February 5th** – Jesus’ Words on Forgiveness
- **February 12th** – The Power of Forgiveness (DVD)
- **February 19th** – Forgiving those Who Wronged Us, Part 1
- **February 26th** – Forgiving Those Who Wronged Us, Part 2

Contact: *Pastor Roy Olson*
olson612sr@sbcglobal.net

Annual Meeting

January 2023

IN PERSON & ONLINE

ANNUAL MEETING



JANUARY 29
NOON

Join Online: www.bit.ly/SOTPzoom

Passcode: 1234



**SHEPHERD
OF THE PRAIRIE**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

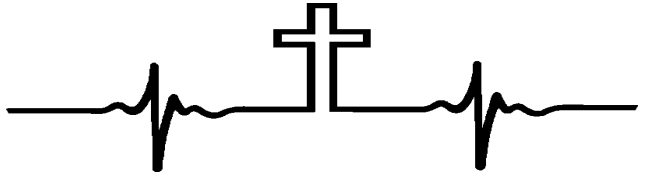


sotp.org

7s Discipleship Groups

The Heartbeat of SOTP

Small Group Ministry really is the heartbeat of SOTP. We have many types of Small Groups; Ministry Teams, Fellowship Groups, Study Groups, Care Groups and Discipleship Groups, and we wouldn't be SOTP or be able to care for each other and our neighbor if we didn't. Thanks to all of you who are currently involved in our Small Group Ministry in any way. Our next set of 7 week Discipleship Groups begins the week of January 8th. These groups will strive to bring us closer to Jesus so that we can be what Luther called, "little Christs" to each other. We will apprentice to Jesus to build community and relationships as we



journey to grow as his disciples. Our kick off for our Winter groups will be part of the January 8th Game Night. Hope you can come for a night of fun and games and food! We have room in our existing 7s groups, and have two new groups forming; one especially geared toward our newest members and a group for parents of young children. You can sign up for one of our 7s groups on our website, at our sign up kiosk in the Welcome Area, or at Game Night.



Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com

You're Invited!

7s Discipleship Groups



Sign Up Now: www.bit.ly/SOTP7groups



Starting the week of January 8

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com



Game Day 2023

Sunday Game Day January 8 at Noon

FOOTBALL

Bears/Vikings
Packers/Lions



GAMES

Bring your own games
(Cards, board games...)



CHILI COOKOFF

Bring a pot of chili
or come, enjoy & vote

KIDS ACTIVITIES

Escape Room * Movie
Cookie Decorating & More

Sign Up: www.bit.ly/SOTPgD23

Contact: Michelle Rankin michelle@sotpmail.com

Get Ready for GAME DAY!!!

Sunday, January 8, 2023 @ Noon

SOTP is excited to host an afternoon
of fun and games for the whole family.

GAME DAY will feature:

⇒ a showing of both:

- Chicago Bears vs. Minnesota Vikings
- Green Bay Packers vs. Detroit Lions

⇒ a chili cook-off

⇒ card games for adults

⇒ board games for the whole family

⇒ a movie and activities for the kids

We invite you to bring the whole

family, sample some chili, enjoy some
football, and play some games.

You can register to:

⇒ Attend

⇒ submit a chili

⇒ donate items for the event

Register one of these ways:

⇒ on our *Church Center* app

⇒ go to sotp.org, simply click *SERVE*,
then *REGISTER FOR EVENTS*, and
click on the slide for GAME DAY!

⇒ go to www.bit.ly/SOTPgD23

We look forward to seeing you there!

Contact: Michelle Rankin

michelle@sotpmail.com

Christmas Decor Take Down

Many Hands Make Less Work

There is an old saying that what goes up- must come down. Time to undecorate the church from Christmas.

We have the date set as Friday, **January 13th starting at 9:30am.**

We have six trees to take down and pack away for next year.

Then there are a few miscellaneous decorations to be stored for another year.

If you can help, sign up:

www.bit.ly/SOTPdecor23

The other saying that comes to mind is “many hands make light work”. Hoping that you can help.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Most of all – stay healthy!!!!

Contact: Carolyn Cuttle
ednca@comcast.net



FRIDAY, JANUARY 13
9:30 AM
MORE HANDS - LESS WORK FOR ALL

***TAKING DOWN
CHURCH
CHRISTMAS
DECOR***

Sign Up: www.bit.ly/SOTPdecor23
Contact: Carolyn Cuttle
ednca@comcast.net



Social Media



Follow us on
Instagram

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

Prairie Quilters

Next Steps



the bottom. And then it's finished and stored until we have a quilt dedication.

We meet the **first and third Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am until about 11:30.** There is a lot of talking and laughter going on with these great

Happy New Year everyone! This is the last lesson from our quilting group. After the squares have been sewn, then sandwiched, and binding sewn then the ladies tie the top to

ladies. We would love to have you join us!

Contact: *Bev Kenny*
krkbjk@comcast.net

Bible Study

With Pastor Mark

Resumes
January 11

———— Midweek ————
BIBLE STUDY
— with Pastor Mark —
Wednesdays
11:00 am

Contact: Pastor Mark Boster pastormark@sotpmail.com

Children & Family

Upcoming Events

- **January 8th, Noon:** Game Day
Family activities will be in the gathering/coffee area. Escape Room, board games (connect four, checkers, dominoes) cookie decorating, and kid's movies will all be available.
- **February 11th, 5:00—7:00 pm:** Kid's Pizza Party, Fun, games, and pizza for the kids so parents can enjoy a kid free dinner before attending the Artist Series Program.



Contact: Jill Gillming
jill@sotpmail.com

Men's Coffee

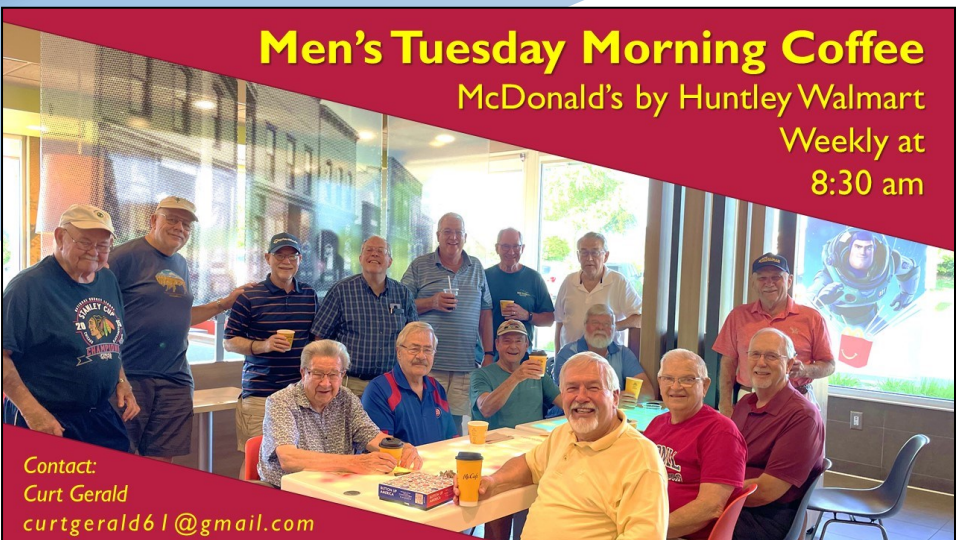
Weekly Fellowship

Men's Tuesday Morning Coffee

McDonald's by Huntley Walmart

Weekly at

8:30 am



Contact:
Curt Gerald
curtgerald61@gmail.com

Missionary Update

For Christmas



An Advent reflection from Daudi Msseemaa, our sponsored missionary in east Africa: December in Tanzania is many things to the country's many cultures and faiths. Not all Tanzanians are Christians, but

everyone enjoys the month of Advent celebrations. There are weddings, baptisms, confirmations and visits to home villages. Schools are closed for the month of December. Many offices are closed for two or three weeks. Work is important, but in December, there are people to visit and celebrations to enjoy. Keep Daudi, Kellen and their family in your prayers as they witness and spread God's Word in east Africa.

Contact: Steve Legel
sjvet@yahoo.com

Prayer Chain

PRAYER CHAIN

RECEIVE PRAYER REQUESTS:
ADMIN@SOTPMAIL.COM

SEND IN PRAYER REQUESTS:
DONNA@SOTPMAIL.COM

New Photo Directory

Of Members

Many of you have asked recently when we are going to put together a new photo directory. Our last one is about six years old so that is a fair question!

Instead of contracting with a company to take professional photos and generate a separate book that will be out of date within a few months, we are looking to add photos to our existing member directory which is updated after every New Member Welcome, so four times a year. This way after

each New Member Welcome, not only would our regular member directory be updated with names, addresses etc., it would include new member photos as well!

Church Photo Directory



We have photos of many members, but many of them are out of date (children have grown a lot!!).

During the first few weeks in January, you'll receive more information on how to make sure your photo is up to date.

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com

Ushers Needed

Training Available

WHO: People needed to join our Usher Team Ministry

WHEN: Serve once a month (or every other month)

WHAT: Fun filled & rewarding way serve our SOTP family at worship services!



Contact: Ed Cuttle
edschn28@comcast.net
Worship Ministry Usher Coordinator
(Training Available!)

WHY: Enjoy meeting many members, and feel good as you meet and greet our church goers.

New Member Gathering

New Member Gathering

Learn More About
Our Community

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 5
3:00 - 5:30 PM

Sign up:

www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0223



Contact:

DONNA KELLY
DONNA@SOTPMAIL.COM



“Come and see!” John 2:46. If you have been worshipping with us for a while here at SOTP or on line 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 5th, 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.

If you have any questions or would like to attend, please contact Donna Kelly; donna@sotpmail.com or 214-676-1788.

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon Fundraising

If you shop Amazon, shop AmazonSmile and select SOTP as your nonprofit. Amazon donates .05% to SOTP-

We have received **\$2,514.79** as of November '22.

Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

Altar Flowers

We continue to ask you to please consider signing up to donate flowers to brighten up the sanctuary. As normal, each arrangement is \$50.

The bouquets are delivered from the florist for the weekend worship services. You can pick up your flowers after the Sunday services or on the Monday following. The church is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Provide your name, address, phone number, for whom the flowers are dedicated to

or in memory of, and which Sunday you are interested in displaying the bouquet. I will send you a special offering envelope for the flowers in the mail. Thank you for contributing to beautify the altar during our services at Shepherd of the Prairie.

Contact: Diane Mollis
dem910@outlook.com



A sign for Altar Flowers featuring a background of pink and white roses. The sign is semi-circular and contains the following text: "ALTAR FLOWERS", "DONATE FLOWERS TO BRIGHTEN UP THE SANCTUARY", and "\$50/EACH". There are small floral illustrations on either side of the text. A QR code is located in the top right corner of the sign. Below the sign, a dark red banner contains the text: "SIGN UP: www.bit.ly/SOTPaltarflow" and "CONTACT: Diane Mollis dem910@outlook.com".

High School Youth



A sign for High School Youth with a dark, textured background. The text "HIGH SCHOOL" is in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. "YOUTH" is in a very large, bold, blue, distressed font. Below it, "THURSDAYS" and "7:00 - 9:00 pm" are in a bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the contact information "Contact: Bob McDuffee" and "youth@sotpmail.com" is written in a smaller font. To the right of the text is a colorful graphic of various rectangular shapes in different colors and patterns, resembling a mosaic or a collage.

Women's Coffee

NEW

Womens' Coffee Gathering

Join us every Friday at 10:30 am
at the McDonald's by the Huntley Walmart

**JOIN US FOR
COFFEE**
YOU'RE INVITED TO FELLOWSHIP

Contact: Phyllis Thomson
phyllisthompson@aol.com

Sunday School



SOTP KIDS NEED YOU!

Ways You Can Help Sundays
at 9 or 10:45 am:



MC

Read
script
and lead
session

Participate
in
Activities

Keep
Children
on Task

Contact: Jill Gillming jill@sotpmail.com

Name Tags

Please wear your name tags to make life easier for our members.
If you need a new name tag, please email Michelle Rankin.

Artist Series

Dueling Pianos

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023

SAVE THIS DATE

Ted Oliver Productions and the Shepherd of the Prairie Artist Series will present THE DUELING PIANOS. Dueling Pianos don't really duel each other. It is not piano pistols from 40 paces at dawn. It is two voices and four hands bringing a wide variety of music to life. Plan to join us at 7:30 pm on February 11, 2023 for an evening of FUN!

Contact: The Artist Series
artistseries@sotpmail.com



Habitat ReStore

Help Needed

HABITAT FOR
HUMANITY
RESTORE

3rd Thursday morning
monthly volunteers
needed to help in Elgin

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

Contact: Carl Hupert
Carlhupert@gmail.com



Feed My Starving Children

February 2023



**SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 18
9:00 AM**

SIGN UP ONLINE:

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/SOTPFMSC0223](https://bit.ly/SOTPFMSC0223)

CONTACT: RONDA SHOEMAKER
RONDAPATTON313@GMAIL.COM



Offering Envelopes

For 2023



also need to pick up your envelopes. There are special service envelopes, Easter, Lent, Christmas etc. in all the boxes that are that are reminders to be used in addition to your regular giving.

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church only keeps records of giving for members and non-members that have envelope numbers or on line giving numbers.

If you don't have 2023 envelopes and want them, contact the Church office.

Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

2023 offering envelopes will be available for pick up in the Gathering Area outside the Sanctuary.

When you see them out, please try to pick yours up ASAP. Please don't use the 2023 envelopes in 2022.

If you are a SIMPLY GIVING, CREDIT CARD, or DEBIT CARD user, you will

Electronic Giving Made Easy

Have you considered participating in a program designed to simplify giving at SOTP?

“Simply Giving” will enable every household or individual to make their church offering using electronic funds transfer.

You may already be using EFT to pay your mortgage, car payment or insurance premium through an automatic withdrawal from your checking or savings account.

There is no cost to you for this giving option. And, when travel, illness, or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly, monthly, or



quarterly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

Your offering also will bypass the counting procedure.

Sign up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPGIVING

Contact the church office for more information.

Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

**YOUR OFFERINGS
ARE A BLESSING.
AND BLESSINGS
KEEP ON GIVING.**

Online Giving Available at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPGIVING

Questions?
Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

**SHEPHERD
OF THE PRAIRIE**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grief Journey *A Safe Place to Heal*

TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM

Grief Journey Group

Meet in SOTP Library

Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

New Year's Day *One Service*

JANUARY 1



2023

KICK OFF THE NEW YEAR
ONE SERVICE 10AM

Poinsettia Donations

Thank You!

Thank You to All Who Donated Poinsettias

Thank you to everyone who ordered Poinsettias
to grace the altar for Christmas 2022.

The Worship committee appreciates your support and dedication
to making the church beautiful this Christmas.

- **George & Laura Attaway** (1), In memory of their parents
- **Marcia & Bill Ball** (2), In memory of loved ones and to the Glory of God
- **Gloria Benkendorf** (2), In memory of Sol Benkendorf and Scott Carlson
- **Sue Blotch & Gail Quam** (2), In memory of their parents, Gail's sister & Sadie, and in celebration of all Shepherd of the Prairie staff
- **John & Marlene Boehler** (2), Dedicated to Ardis Lanzillo, and in memory of Clementine Boehler
- **Lynn Broederdorf** (1), in memory of Lenny Johnson
- **Tim & Pattie Bueschel** (2) In memory of Stephanie Bueschel Warner
- **Shannon Burington-Whitt** (1) In memory of Voyd Whitt
- **Rick & Marcy Coffman** (2) in memory of Sandi Hernancez & Linda Martin
- **Carolyn & Ed Cuttle** (2) Dedicated to our children and grandchildren, and In memory of our parents, Carolyn's brother and Aunt Bette
- **Jerry & Pat Darow** (2) In memory of Mark Boltzersen
- **Harold & Joan Doege** (1) In memory of Rich Hass
- **Janet Fry** (1) In memory of Ron Fry
- **Elaine Gillam** (1) In memory of her husband, Bob
- **Jim & Jeanne Henley** (1) In memory of their parents
- **Sally & Dennis Houghton** (1)
- **Martha Jacobson** (1) In memory of Jim Jacobson
- **Grant & Linda Jahr** (1) In celebration of their 46th wedding anniversary

Poinsettia Donations

Thank You!

Thank You to All Who Donated Poinsettias

- **Lois Jensen** (2) In memory of Bob & Bill Jensen
- **Sue & Bill Kamphausen** (1) In memory of loved ones
- **Marshall & Catherine Kappel** (1)
- **Mary Klatt** (1) Dedicated to Our Saviour
- **Jeff Kling** (1) In memory of Janet Kling
- **Judy Lindsey** (2) In memory of her mom and Mark
- **Mike & Judy Luecht** (1) Dedicated to our families
- **Mike & Lori Malczewski** (2) In memory of family members
- **Susan Mattiucci** (1) In memory of Richard Brush
- **Orv McElfresh** (1) In memory of Jayne McElfresh
- **Corrie Gronau & Dave McIntyre** (1) In memory of Gloria Nelson & all those gone before us
- **Cal & Sandy Meyer** (2) Dedicated to our families
- **Glenn & Ellen Nissen** (1) In memory of Rhodes Huntley & Betty Nissen
- **Jorge & Julie Perez** (1) In memory of Lillian Mueller
- **Nina & Rina Richardson** (2) In memory of Kevin Richardson
- **Donna Schnepff** (1) In memory of her husband, Marty Schnepff
- **Sandra Schuessler** (1)
- **Donna Sorensen** (1) In memory of Sid Sorensen
- **Bonnie Vanaria** (1) In memory of Louis Vanaria
- **Ralph & Sue Wehnes** (1) In memory of Ralph, Sr., Louise, Marguerite, Edward, & our parents
- **Alison Womac** (2) In memory of LeaAnn Voges Schwartz, Bernard & Virlea Voges, & Robert Womac
- **Lisa Wondriska** (1) In memory of Ed Hladik

Regularly Scheduled



SUNDAYS

- 9:00 am **Traditional Worship**
- 9:00 am **Kids Connect**
- 10:45 am **Contemporary Worship**
- 10:45 am **Kids Connect**
- 1:00 pm **FBW**

MONDAYS

- 9:00 am (3rd Mon) **Gazebo Valor Quilts**
- 10:00 am **Staff Meeting**
- 10:30 am **FBW**
- 6:30 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 by Huntley Walmart
- 9:00 am (1st & 3rd Tues), **Prairie Pointe Quilters**
- 9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
- 9:15 am **AL-ANON Meeting**
- 10:00 am **Grief Journey Meeting**
- 10:00 am (4th Tues), **Barnabas**
- 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**
- 7:00 pm **AL-ANON Meeting**

WEDNESDAYS

- 9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
- 10:00 am **God's Girls**
- 10:30 am **Women's FBW**
- 11:00 am **Bible Study with Pastor Mark**
- 4:30 pm **Spirit Ringers (Age 7-13)**
- 5:20 pm **Joy Ringers (Age 4-6)**
- 6:30 pm **Confirmation**
- 7:00 pm **Adult Choir**

THURSDAYS

- 9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
- 9:00 am (2nd Thurs), **Prayer Shawl Ministry**
- 9:00 am (3rd Thurs) **Volunteers from SOTP at ReStore**
- 5:30 pm (1st Thurs), **Girl Scouts**
- 6:30 pm (2nd Thurs), **Lions Club**
- 7:00 pm **High School Youth**
- 7:00 pm **Cub Scouts**
- Times Vary **Volunteers at Habitat for Humanity ReStore**

FRIDAYS

- 9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
- 9:30 am **Sonshine Boys**
- 10:00 am **Women's Coffee** at McD's by Huntley Walmart
- 10:30 am **FBW**
- Noon **Help Serve Homeless Meals in Crystal Lake** (1st & 3rd Fridays, Contact: Vik Bekeris vikbek66@yahoo.com)

SATURDAYS

- 5:00 pm **Worship**

Upcoming Events



DECEMBER 30—JANUARY 2 Church Office Closed for New Year's

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1 New Years Day, One Service, 10am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 Game Day (Chili Cookoff, Football, Games, Kids Activities & More), Noon (pg 9)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 7s Discipleship Groups Kickoff This Week (see pg 8)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11 Midweek Bible Study with Pastor Mark Resumes, 11am (pg 11)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11 ADVENTURE CLUB WINTER SESSION STARTS, 5pm (register: www.bit.ly/SOTPadv — See pg 6)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15 SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION WITH PASTOR ROY OLSON (see pg 7)

MONDAY, JANUARY 16 Special Mission Team Meeting, 6:30 pm

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 Annual Meeting, Noon (see pg 7)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5 New Member Gathering, 3pm (see pg 15)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 DUELING PIANOS, ARTIST SERIES CONCERT, 7:30 pm (see pg 18)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 KIDS' PIZZA PARTY, 7:30 pm (see pg 12)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 Feed My Starving Children, 9:00 am (see pg 19)

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 NORTHERN IL FOOD BANK, 9:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22 Ash Wednesday, 7pm Service

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 7s Kickoff, Noon

SUNDAY, APRIL 30 New Member Gathering, 3pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 First Wednesday Night Lent Service, 7pm

THURSDAY, APRIL 6 Maundy Thursday Service, 7pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 7 Good Friday Service, 7pm

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 Easter Sunday

JUNE 25—30 High School Youth Group Service Trip (Contact Pastor Ryan Mackey pastorryan@sotpmail.com)

Birthdays

January



- 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 Niemiec,
Elizabeth Rojas
- 9 Linda Murphy,
George Sebastian
- 10 Lynn Kapheim,
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 Elliott Burg,
McKenzie Fulcer,
Jeff McNeal,
Quinn Murray,
Ruth Roper
- 20...Loretta Brindell,
Jared Davis,
Daniel Hibbeler,
Pam Luedtke,
James Murphy,
Tim Torkelson
- 21...Mel Kling
- 22...Bill Berens,
Melody Emery,
Shayne Piskule,
Hailey Trudeau
- 25...Kevin Hennessy,
Kate Kembrowski,
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.





**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**—Pastor Mark Boster
pastormark@sotpmail.com
- **ASSISTING MINISTER (9AM)** - Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
Sign up at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam
- **A/V TEAM** - 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,

Get Involved

Ways to Serve

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
- **USHERS**—Ed Cuttle
edschn28@comcast.net
- **WELCOME CENTER**—Rachael Yndestad, r.yndestad@icloud.com
Sign up at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPwelcome
- **WORSHIP BAND (SINGING & INSTRUMENTAL)**—Jeff Moore,
jeff@sotpmail.com

Involvement Schedule

January 2023



		Jan 1	Jan 7 & 8	Jan 14 & 15	Jan 21 & 22	Jan 28 & 29
Assisting Minister	SUN 9:00 AM		Rick Miller	Annette Kandall	Interested in Serving Here? Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam	
Communion Assistants Interested in Serving Here? Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam	SAT 5:00 PM		Mary Holbrook	Ron Mudge	Sandy Scalise	Karen Eckert
	SUN 9:00 AM	10:00 am Annette Kandell	Interested in Serving Here? Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam			
	SUN 10:45 AM					
Communion Bread	Week end		Sue Wehnes Joanne Klinger	Lori Paeth Merilyn Schnell	Bev Pinnelli & Tom Noesen Jeanne Henley	PJ Knudsen Barb Hoppensteadt
Counters	Mon	Ralph Wehnes, Diana Murphy & Rick Miller				
Greeters Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Elaine Gillam suggillam@aol.com	SAT 5:00 PM					
	SUN 9:00 AM	10:00 am One Service Linda & Ken Rotter	Sue Wehnes Eileen Gerald	Cheryl Adams Dottie Bobzin	Laura Attaway Elaine Gillam	Elaine Gillam Cheryl Adams
	SUN 10:45 AM		Bob & Carolyn Malm			
Newsletter Mailing Prep		For this Newsletter: Ronda Shoemaker				
Readers Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam	SUN 9:00 AM	Interested in Serving Here? Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipteam				



Involvement Schedule

January 2023

		Jan 1	Jan 7 & 8	Jan 14 & 15	Jan 21 & 22	Jan 28 & 29
Ushers Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net	SAT 5:00 PM		Lynn Meyer Karen Eckert	Jim & Diana Murphy	Carol Harman Sue Mattiucci	Steve Murphy Peggy Lynn Loiselle
	SUN 9:00 AM	10:00 am One Service BARB HOPPENSTEADT Ralph Wehnes Douh Nagel Walter Lemke	WALTER LEMKE Art Ryden Chris Solem Jeff Ottens	JACK CON Pete Thompson Cheryl Rotermond Brandon Surma (A) Carol Engstrom (A) Mickey & Cathy Kappel (A)	WAYNE SCHMIDT Nancy Wilson Arja Kasper Dan Wentzloff Mike Malczewski (A)	RALPH WEHNES George Attaway Jerry & Pat Darrow Jan Cuttles (A)
	SUN 10:45 AM			BOB MCDUFFEE Chuck Peterson Annika Yndestad	MARK FRENDEIS Sandy Stewart Jessica Panella	DOUG NAGEL Don Koerner Judy Petropulos
Welcome Center	SUN 9:00 AM	Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Rachael Yndestad r.yndestad@icloud.com				
	SUN 10:45 AM					
Worship Flowers	Chris & Sara Solem, Celebrating 51st Anniversary	Interested in sponsoring weekend worsip flowers? Contact Diane Mollis: dem910@outlook.com				

Do you
receive our email
communications?



Stay Connected

- 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

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report as of November 30, 2022

General Fund Report: The Unrestricted General Fund Balance is \$365,227. Total income for the month was \$66,411 and total expenses for the month was \$79,229. Approximately 5.3 months of General Fund reserves.

Mortgage Service Fund Report: The Mortgage Service Fund Balance is \$70,600. Income for the month was \$15,587. The MIF five-year monthly mortgage payment is \$18,807. Approximately 3.8 months of Mortgage Service Fund reserves.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>THIS MONTH</u>		
		<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Income:	\$66,411	\$60,310	\$ 6,101	10.1%
Expenses:	\$79,229	\$68,286	\$10,943	16.0%

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>		
		<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Income:	\$823,103	\$734,813	\$88,280	12.0%
Expense:	\$755,554	\$751,672	\$ 3,882	0.05%

Mortgage Service Fund

Income for Month:	\$ 15,587
Income YTD:	\$211,954
Payments YTD:	\$209,064
Ending Fund Balance:	\$ 70,600



Council Action Item Approvals:

No Finance Team recommendations were presented to Council at the November 21, 2022 meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert C. Mollis
Congregation Treasurer

SOTP Staff

dennis@sotpmail.com

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pastormark@sotpmail.com

Pastor Ryan Mackey

Pastor
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mike@sotpmail.com

Church Council

Mike Luecht, President

Sarah Wolf, Vice President

Bob Mollis, Treasurer

Joyce Shotick, Secretary

Cheryl Adams

Kathy McGuine

Ellen Nissen

Christa Serpe

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church
is a congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

“A Growing Church, For Growing People”

For information, please call (847) 669-9448
or go to our website at www.sotp.org

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 pm

**Sunday 9:00 am Traditional
& 10:45 am Contemporary**

*Worship with us in person
or online at sotp.org
and Facebook Live*

Shepherd of the Prairie
Lutheran Church
10805 Main Street
Huntley, IL 60142



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