

Newsletter

February 2023



Artist Series

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Food Drive

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Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

Huntley, IL sotp.org 847/669-9448

Photo: Lutheran 101 with Pastor Bill Waxenberg

A Note

From Pastor Mark



Lenten Midweek Worship

This year we are inviting the congregation to experience a new style of worship called “Dinner Church.” It is a style of worship that includes the entire worshipping community with a meal and meaningful worship all in one. It is the style of worship through which Jesus instituted the Lord’s supper with his disciples. Think of a good dinner party with a spiritual twist – and then just add art (music, poetry, Scripture), robust conversation and prayerful moments.

Beginning Wednesday, March 1 all are invited to join us **beginning at 5:45** to gather in the Fellowship Hall of the church. At 6:00 pm we will have a welcoming prayer followed by the community being invited to get their soup and enjoy a meal together. Following our meal, we will sing together, read a Scripture passage, have a brief reflection from Pastor Mark or Pastor Ryan and close with a song and prayer.

Our Lenten Theme this year is “Entering the Passion of Jesus.” The theme is taken from a book written by Amy-Jill Levine. As the author reminds us, “During Lent you have the opportunity to think about

your life alongside the life of Jesus, inviting inward transformation and then outward action.

Dinner and worship will thus be part of our whole evening experience and we will be finished by 7:00 pm.

We hope you will come and experience a new style and way to experience worship together as the body of Christ at Shepherd of the Prairie.

So thankful for your partnership in the Gospel!

Pastor Mark

Mid-Week
Lenten
Worship





A Note From Pastor Ryan

It seems very fitting that, as I write this column, I am also preparing a sermon on the sayings of Jesus commonly known as “the Beatitudes” (the sayings that begin “Blessed are the poor in spirit...; Blessed are those who mourn...; etc..”) because the primary message of this column came to me all the way back in December and has only continued to simmer and reveal itself in new ways, including this week.

The basic message is this, as Christians, yes, we are called to believe in and follow Jesus, but perhaps just as important is our call to care for our neighbor. When asked what the greatest commandment is, Jesus offered two, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” (Matthew 22:37-39, NRSV) Loving our neighbor may sound like such an obvious thing to do but it is not as easy as it sounds, and we often need a reminder of just how impactful loving our neighbor can be.

This world we live in often demands so much from us that we end up too inwardly focused and fail to see the struggles of those around us.

On December 30, Tara and I saw *Dear Evan Hansen* in Chicago. It is a life-changing musical that I recommend everyone see. Its run in Chicago is done, but fortunately it was made into a movie in 2021. *Evan Hansen* is a high school student who finds himself in the difficult position of consoling the parents of a classmate who died by suicide. As the story develops, it touches on so many of the struggles young people face today; social media, depression, anxiety, sexuality, and the struggle many (most?) of us have in finding our place in the world. One of the songs in the musical, *Disappear*, explores how people can feel like the world doesn’t even see them; like they could just disappear and the world would never notice. “No one deserves to be forgotten. No one deserves to fade away. No one should come and go and have no one know he was ever even here. No one deserves to disappear.” Some classmates of Connor, the boy who died by suicide, determined to help others and prevent further tragedies, start a campaign to remember Connor and raise money and awareness of the struggles students like Connor face. *Disappear* is followed by a song called *You Will be Found* and includes the lyrics, “Even when the dark comes crashing through; when you need a friend to carry you; when you’re broken on the ground; you will be found.

(Continued on page 4)

A Note

From Pastor Ryan

(Continued from page 3)

As I took all of this in, I thought of all the people in our families and communities who must feel exactly as these kids do. I wondered how many people, in my life, I have passed by, not knowing how much they are struggling. I thought of all of the privilege I have in living a comfortable life, and wondered what more I could do to understand the struggles of those less fortunate than I.

Loving our neighbor takes some effort. In order to love our neighbor the way Jesus calls us to and the way Martin Luther outlines in his explanation of the Ten Commandments, requires some work. We must first be aware of our neighbors and their needs. We must also be able to at least try to see the world through their eyes. Perhaps their experience does not line up with our own, so understanding their needs, issues, joys, and fears requires us to step out of our own experience and try to see things the way they do.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus says things like, “blessed are the poor, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven,” and “blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.” I don’t see these as statements that say, “we should all be poor and meek because that is how we get closer to God.” I see



these as calls to action. “Blessed are the poor because true followers of Christ will be there to lift them up and care for them.” “Blessed are the meek for there will be a strong Christ follower there to stand up for them and help them live a better life.”

Part of the struggle we have is that we must first understand the struggles of others and to understand how we can help them rather than reject them or neglect them. We must have empathy and a desire to help. As Dear Evan Hansen proclaims, everyone deserves to be seen and heard and loved and cared for. We may not understand or agree with what they are going through, but we must take the first step toward that end and find ways to ensure that every last one of God’s beloved children on earth, feel the love that is the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus walks with each of us, and as he does, he shows us the importance of walking with others. Jesus’ love for us is reckless and he bids us to recklessly love others.

Peace.

Pastor Ryan

Ministry Musings

With Donna Kelly



Recently I was reading the story of the call of Matthew in the gospel of Mark along with a

commentary on it. The commentary didn't focus primarily on Mathew's call but on the events following it where Jesus and his disciples had dinner with Matthew and his friends at Matthew's house. Evidently, the "Social Media" of that day was to walk around town and check out who was eating with whom and chat about the company they kept. The buzz was that Jesus and his friends weren't very particular about their dining partners! In today's world this would be texted, tweeted, shared and posted all over the internet within minutes.

When Jesus is questioned about eating with "sinners and tax collectors" he replies that it is the sick who need physician and he came to call the sick. The commentary then went on to talk about how Jesus came to call the tax collector, the self-aware sinner, and the scribe, the self-presumed saint, and that how on any given Sunday it is difficult if not impossible to tell who is "sick" and who is "healthy". The author also wondered if we come to the table aware of our own sickness and need.

When we break bread and drink the cup, Jesus is dining at our house; and

so are the "sinners and tax collectors" and the "the crowds, the disciples, the scribes and the Pharisees". Included are the leader who is certain he/she is absolutely right about continuing to do things the way it has always been done, or was done at their old church, the one who struggles to stay on their meds to quiet the voices in their head, the one who "fell off the wagon" again and fights to get back on it, the parent with the noisy little ones, the bored middle schooler who would rather be anywhere else, the older person who sees their health deteriorating and the rest of us, each with our own sicknesses, are dining with Jesus today ready to receive the healing he has to offer. The crust of bread and the drop of wine are meant for all of us. But not just for our own sakes, but for the sake of others.

Jesus is often called, "The Great Physician". While on earth he healed many people of various diseases and conditions. If Jesus is the great physician, then we are called to be "physician assistants". Wikipedia defines Physician Assistants as "a healthcare professional who practices medicine as a part of a healthcare team with collaborating physicians and other providers. PAs are concerned with preventing and treating human illness and injury by

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Ministry Musings

With Donna Kelly

(Continued from page 5)

providing a plethora of health care services under a supervising physician". To me that sounds a lot like our call from Jesus, to care for his creation!

We don't need to be a medical professional to care for others. All we need is a listening ear and heart. We may not be able to prescribe medication or run medical tests; but we can hold a hand, listen to another,

serve a meal, send a card, make a quilt, sing a song, teach a child, pray with and for someone, share the gospel, play a game and unlimited other ways to show that Jesus and we care! Isn't that what being a disciple really is, following our leader and caring for his people and his world?

Come and be a physician assistant to the Great Physician, be part of his healthcare team to bring his love and healing to the world.

Donna Kelly

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:

- **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





Barnabas Caregiving Ministry Program

The First Duty of Love is to Listen

- Paul Tillich

We are sponsoring a day of training for new and existing Barnabas Ministers on **Saturday, March 25 from 9 – 1**, with lunch provided.

What is the Barnabas Caregiving Program?

It is a simple, effective program for training volunteers to give care by having conversations with those who are homebound, in care facilities or facing some of life's most difficult seasons to provide a listening ear and encouragement to those who need to be heard and cared for.

What is a Barnabas Minister and what do they do?

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

Training: Saturday, March 25, 9am to 1pm (lunch and all materials will be provided).

Come and see if this is where God is calling you to serve. To make a reservation for training go to www.bit.ly/SOTPbarnabas . For more information contact Donna.

*Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com*



TRAINING
**SATURDAY
MARCH 25**
9am - 12pm

For current Barnabas Ministers
& those interested in information

**Come and find out how
you can care for
our fellow members
by listening & encouraging.**

Ways to Sign Up:

- www.bit.ly/SOTPbarnabas
- sotp.org
- Sign Up Desk in Gathering Area after Sunday services



Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

Dueling Pianos

Artist Series Concert



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2023 7:30 PM

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE
ARTIST SERIES PRESENTS

**TED OLIVER
DUELING
PIANOS**

sotp.org

Enjoy the exhilaration of experiencing a Dueling Pianos musical performance at the Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church, 10805 Main Street, Huntley on **Saturday, February 11, 2023 at 7:30pm.**

No tickets are required for this live performance and freewill donations are gratefully accepted. Everyone is invited to attend.

Professional pianist Ted Oliver will be joined by another highly regarded pianist to captivate the audience with an astonishing variety of music ranging from rock 'n roll, country, blues, jazz, oldies and more.

Oliver began playing piano at the relatively late age of 15 and by the age of 18, he was admitted as a jazz piano major at Webster University in St. Louis, MO where he studied

theory, performance, arranging and history in both jazz and classical piano. He has been a full time musician since 1982.

He has traveled all over the country with the band Straight from the Heart and in 1991 was introduced to the Dueling Pianos scene. With almost 20 years of dueling pianos experience under his belt, Oliver has entertained audiences locally and around the country. He is the owner of Ted Oliver Productions based in Wisconsin.

The Dueling Pianos presentation is sponsored by the popular Artist Series program at the church. Find out more about the Artists Series program at the church website sotp.org.

*Contact: Artist Series
artistseries@sotpmail.com*

Paddy Homan

Artist Series Concert

Shepherd of the Prairie Artist Series Presents

PADDY HOMAN & THE NOBLE CALL

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

SATURDAY MARCH 18, 2023 7:30 PM

Your donations to the Artist Series allow us to continue to bring these events to Huntley. Thank You!

sotp.org

Join Paddy Homan and The Noble Call for a special St. Patrick's Concert on **March 18th 2023 at 7:30 pm**, as they bring the song and story to all who gather in honor of Ireland's patron Saint..... who happened to be a Welshman! But sure, aren't we all Irish in March!

Sit back and listen to some of the very best of Traditional Irish music and song, from some of Ireland's leading musicians, lead by one of Ireland's

foremost traditional Irish Tenors, Paddy Homan, star of the hugely successful I AM IRELAND SHOW. They will be joined by an outstanding traditional Irish Dancer.

Your donations to the Artist Series allow us to continue to bring these events to Huntley. Thank you!

To donate online go to:
www.bit.ly/SOTPartist

*Contact: Artist Series
artistseries@sotpmail.com*

Artist Series Help Needed

The Artist Series has been successfully presenting a variety of programs at SOTP for over 4 years. With our success, the crowds have gotten bigger, and we need a larger pool of volunteers to draw from from who will occasionally be asked to help in distributing flyers and

programs, assisting in ushering and greeting guests. If interested in being a part of this great team, please let us know

*Contact: Jane McMullen
jane@sotpmail.com*

Food Drive

February 2023

Fill The Bag February!!

Come on out and support the Grafton Food Pantry with the Community Outreach team's first food drive of 2023! Mark your calendars for Saturday February 25th between 9am -1pm. We will be accepting canned foods, personal hygiene items (toothbrushes, body wash, deodorant etc), and monetary donations.

The Outreach team is also looking for volunteers to help with setup/clean up, loading and unloading cars and transporting the donations to the Grafton Food Pantry. Please sign up at www.bit.ly/SOTPdrive0223 or check out the SOTP website or the Church Center App to sign up!

We hope to see you there!

Contact: Jeff Ottens
jlojao2112@gmail.com

GRAFTON PANTRY FOOD DRIVE

10805 MAIN ST. HUNTLEY



SATURDAY
FEB 25
9AM - 1PM



Help Collect Donations: www.bit.ly/SOTPdrive0223

Contact: Jeff Ottens jlojao2112@gmail.com

Human Resources Team Recruiting

Shepherd of the Prairie Human Resources team is looking for more members to join us.

HR or management experience a plus but not necessary.



Contact: Lindsay Sparks
lyndz0003@comcast.net

Kids Pizza Party!

Preschool—5th Grade



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.

Register online:
www.bit.ly/SOTPpizza0223

Contact: Jill Gillming
jill@sotpmail.com



Prairie Quilters

Your Help Needed

The lessons are done, now we just need people to help. We have about 51 quilts that we have already made for Lutheran World Relief and a few more for Home of the Sparrow. Ways to help:

- Come to SOTP **1st & 3rd Tuesdays monthly at 9 am** (no experience required)
- Fabric for backings
 - FLAT cotton sheets

- 4 yards of cotton fabric (Hobby Lobby has a sale on their fabric every other week).
- If you have Thrivent insurance and you're not getting the gift card each year, we use them to get batting or fabric.

We would appreciate anything that you can do. Would love to see some new faces.

Contact: Bev Kenny
krkbjk@comcast.net

Memory Bricks

In Memory Garden

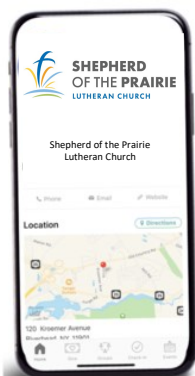
Memory bricks are available to order. Order forms are in the Narthex hallway. The 4X8 & the 8X8 are both available. .

Contact: Ralph Wehnes
ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net



New Phone App

Download Now To Stay Connected



church center
by planning center

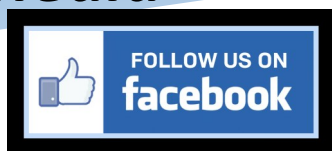
groups

check-in

events

Contact: Michelle Rankin michelle@sotpmail.com

Social Media



Follow us on
Instagram

@shepherdoftheprairie



You Are Invited

To Join Us CRE 2023

Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) 2023

The annual CRE is scheduled for **Saturday, March 4, 2023** at Sauk Valley College in Dixon, IL from **8:30 am to 3:15 pm**.

This event is a wonderful time to get together with leaders and members of other congregations in our Northern Illinois Synod to exchange ideas and to learn about viewpoints and concerns in the ELCA as a whole and our Synod in particular.

There will be time for gathering as a large group and for worship as well as the opportunity to attend three workshops of your choice on various topics as well as workshops for Church Council Leaders. There are also workshops on personal faith and

growth. The leaders of these workshops are clergy and lay persons with expertise in these areas. There is also an opportunity for lunch.

Several members from here at SOTP went last year and found it a valuable asset to their continued ministry. We invite members to attend again this year. We should have the formal list of workshops, costs and times shortly and I will pass that info on to all. If you are interested in being part of this great day or have any questions, please register online at www.bit.ly/SOTPCRE23 or contact Donna Kelly at the church office.

*Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com*

2023

CONGREGATIONAL

RESOURCING

EVENT



INFO & REGISTRATION:
WWW.BIT.LY/SOTPCRE23

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com



NORTHERN ILLINOIS SYNOD
CRE MARCH 4, 2023

Altar Flowers

We continue to ask you to please consider signing up to donate flowers to brighten up the sanctuary. 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



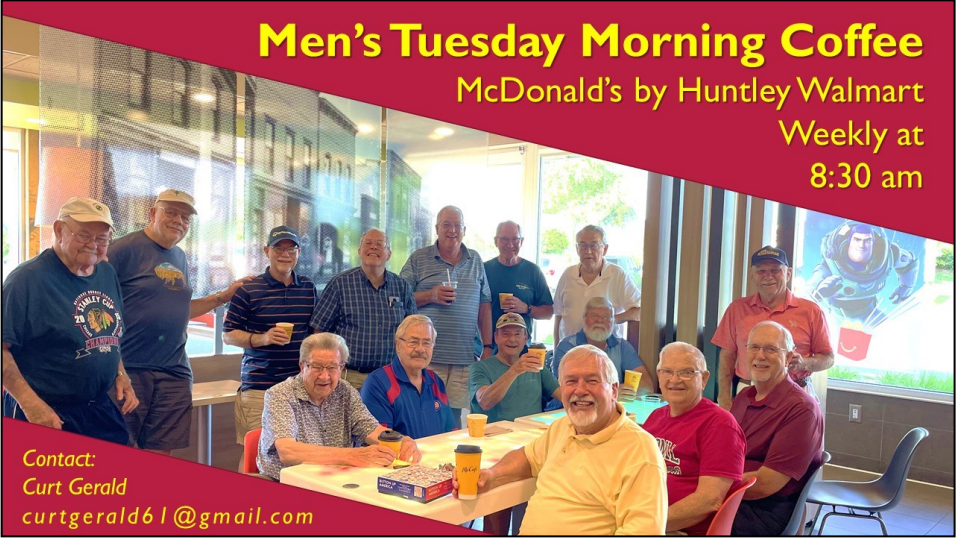
High School Youth



Men's Coffee Fellowship

Men's Tuesday Morning Coffee

McDonald's by Huntley Walmart
Weekly at
8:30 am



Contact:
Curt Gerald
curtgerald61@gmail.com

Women's Coffee Fellowship

NEW

Womens' Coffee **Gathering**

NEW TIME

Every Friday at 10:00 am
at the McDonald's by the Huntley Walmart



JOIN US FOR
COFFEE
YOU'RE INVITED TO FELLOWSHIP

Contact: Phyllis Thomson
phyllisthompson@aol.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!!).

In the upcoming weeks, 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



www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0223

SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 5
3:00 - 5:30 PM

Sign up:

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 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 any questions or would like to attend, please register online at www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0223 or contact Donna Kelly; donna@sotpmail.com.

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile Ending


Amazon is going to stop it's AmazonSmile program as of **February 20, 2023**. Thank you to all who have participated over the years!

We received \$2,514.79 as of **November 2022**.

Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

Ash Wednesday

Services



FEBRUARY 22, 2023

ASH WEDNESDAY

SERVICES
NOON & 7:00 PM

Lenten Dinner Church & Soup Supper



**WEDNESDAYS
IN
MARCH
5:45 PM**

Lenten
**Soup
Supper
Worship**

SET UP | BRING SOUP | CLEAN UP
www.bit.ly/SOTPsupper23
Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com



More information in Pastor Mark's
Note on pg 2. Sign up to set up,
clean up &/or bring soup:

www.bit.ly/SOTPsoup23

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com

AV Team

Serve with Us

JOIN THE AV TEAM



**CREATING AN INVITING
AND ENGAGING WORSHIP
EXPERIENCE THROUGH**

- **SOUND**
- **VIDEO**
- **GRAPHICS**
- **LIGHTING**

Contact: Mike Yndestad
mike@sotpmail.com

Offering Envelopes

For 2023



2023 offering envelopes are 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 2022 envelopes in 2023.

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

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

Feed My Starving Children

Register By Feb 4



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 9 AM
Sign Up: www.bit.ly/SOTPFMSC223
Contact: Ronda Shoemaker rondapatton313@gmail.com

Register at
www.bit.ly/SOTPFMSC223
before February 4.

Contact: Ronda Shoemaker
rondapatton313@gmail.com

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



Grief Journey

A Safe Place to Heal

TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM

Grief Journey Group

Meet in SOTP Library

Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

Prayer Chain

Praying for Those in Need

PRAYER CHAIN

RECEIVE
PRAYER REQUESTS:
ADMIN@SOTPMAIL.COM

SEND IN
PRAYER REQUESTS:
DONNA@SOTPMAIL.COM

SOTP Kids

Need You



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

Adult & Youth Bells

We Need More Ringers

Adult Bells:

Rehearsals
Tuesdays
7:00 TO 8:15 PM

COME JOIN US!!

Contact: Jane McMullen
jane@sotpmail.com



*Know anyone with
bell ringing experience?
Bring them to join us
as ringers are needed!*

See What's Happening At Shepherd of the Prairie

The screenshot shows the website for Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church. At the top left is the church's logo. The navigation bar includes links for 'Me', 'Check-In', 'Signups', 'Groups', and 'More'. A user profile picture is visible in the top right. The main content area features several event listings: 'ADULT EDUCATION Faith & Mental Health Shame, Guilt & Forgiveness' on Sundays 10:20 am from Jan 15 to Feb 26, contact: Pastor Roy Olson; 'ALTAR FLOWERS' with a sign-up link; 'SOTP KIDS NEED YOU!' with ways to help on Sundays; 'NEWSLETTER PREP' with an envelope icon; 'Soup Supper Worship' on Wednesdays in March 5:45 PM; and a 'COFFEE' section with a QR code. A large blue banner in the center reads 'EASILY VIEW CURRENT EVENTS & REGISTRATIONS' with the URL 'www.bit.ly/SOTPsSignup'.

ADULT EDUCATION
Faith & Mental Health
Shame, Guilt & Forgiveness
Sundays 10:20 am
Jan 15 - Feb 26
Contact: Pastor Roy Olson
olson612sr@sbcglobal.net

**EASILY VIEW CURRENT
EVENTS &
REGISTRATIONS**
www.bit.ly/SOTPsSignup

ALTAR FLOWERS
SIGN UP: www.bit.ly/SOTPflowers

SOTP KIDS NEED YOU!
Ways You Can Help Sundays
Feb. 9 - Mar. 40:45 am

Read Script and Lead session
Participate in Activities
Keep Children on Task

Contact: Jill Billings jill@sotpmail.com

Adult Education - Faith & Mental Health - Shame, Guilt & Forgiveness
January 15, 2023

NEWSLETTER PREP

SOUP SUPPER WORSHIP
WEDNESDAYS
MARCH 5:45 PM
SET UP | BRING SOUP | CLEAN UP
www.bit.ly/SOTPsupper23
Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

COFFEE
Register: <https://bit.ly/SOTPconfirm>
Contact Youth Team: youth@sotpmail.com

Easily access current events & registrations at www.bit.ly/SOTPsSignup

Contact: Michelle Rankin michelle@sotpmail.com

Bible Study With Pastor Mark

The graphic has a yellow-to-orange gradient background. In the top left corner, an orange banner says 'Resumes January 11'. The main text is in large, bold, dark green letters: 'Midweek', 'BIBLE STUDY', 'with Pastor Mark', and 'Wednesdays 11:00 am'. At the bottom, an orange banner contains the contact information: 'Contact: Pastor Mark Boster pastormark@sotpmail.com'.

Resumes January 11

Midweek

BIBLE STUDY

with Pastor Mark

Wednesdays 11:00 am

Contact: Pastor Mark Boster pastormark@sotpmail.com

Regularly Scheduled



SUNDAYS

9:00 am **Traditional Worship**
9:00 am **Kids Connect**
10:20 am **Adult Education** (Faith & Mental Health, through 2/26)
10:45 am **Contemporary Worship**
10:45 am **Kids Connect**
1:00 pm **FBW**
4:00 pm **7s Group** (Mike & Julie Dahlin)

MONDAYS

9:00 am (3rd Mon) **Gazebo Valor Quilts**
10:00 am **Staff Meeting**
10:30 am **FBW**
1:00 pm **7s Group** (Annette Petersen)
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**
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**
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



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4 Final Day
to Register for Feed My Starving
Children on Feb. 18
www.bit.ly/SOTPFMSC223

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5
New Member Gathering, 3pm
www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG0223
(see pg 17)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 Dueling
Pianos, Artist Series Event,
7:30 pm (see pg 8)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 Kids'
Pizza Party, 7:30 pm
www.bit.ly/SOTPpizza0223
(see pg 11)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18 Feed
My Starving Children, 9am
Register by Feb 4 at:
www.bit.ly/SOTPFMSC0223
(see pg 10)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
Ash Wednesday, Noon & 7pm
Services

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25 Food
Drive for Grafton Food Pantry,
9am—1pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1 Weekly
Wednesday Lenten Dinner
Church Begins, 5:45 pm
www.bit.ly/SOTPsoup23
(see pg 6)

SATURDAY, MARCH 18
Paddy Homan & The Noble Call—
Artist Series Event, 7:30 pm

SATURDAY, MARCH 25 BARNABAS
CAREGIVING MINISTRY TRAINING,
9am (see pg 7)
www.bit.ly/sOTPbarnabas

THURSDAY, APRIL 6 Maundy
Thursday Service, 7pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 7 Good Friday
Service, 7pm

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 Easter Sunday
SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 7s Kickoff,
Noon

SUNDAY, APRIL 30 New Member
Gathering, 3pm

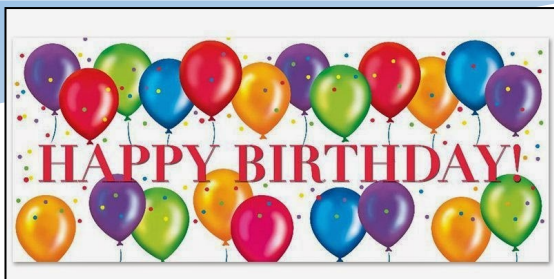
JUNE 25—30 High School Youth
Group Service Trip
(Contact Pastor Ryan Mackey
pastorryan@sotpmail.com)

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13 New
Member Gathering, 3pm

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20 Annual
Church Picnic, Noon

Birthdays

February



- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Barbara Hoch | 12 ... Grace Boster, | 21 ... Patty Driscoll-Shaw, |
| 2 William | Addison Buesing, | Patty Opfer |
| Kamphausen, Noel | Aileen Zei | 22 ... Heidi Dunfrund, |
| Lemke, Ivan Suski | 13 ... Zoe Dowell, Zachary | Jerry Frank, Julia |
| 3 Steve Barnard, Jody | Zeimen | Hoving, Lillian Perez |
| Linton | 14 ... Susan Barta, Colin | 23 ... Nikki Bach |
| 4 Ryan Gartzke, | Glosson, Logan | 24 ... Laura Attaway, Rich |
| Bradley Linton, | Glosson | Douglas |
| Brigitte Pelka, | 15 ... Silvia Forsythe, | 25 ... Justin Anderson, |
| Dorothy Scrocco, | Sandee Keane, | Raquel Lemke |
| Emma Stegge | Elizabeth Raines | 26 ... Tim Papka |
| 5 Pat Darow, Abby | 16 ... Alexa Piskule | 27 ... Alan Busch, Nicole |
| Gillming, Judith | 17 ... Gail Barnard, | Flanagan, Charlie |
| Petropulos | Ingeborg Heidorn, | Powe |
| 6 Judy Luecht, Sydney | Donna Kelly, Maggie | 28 ... Jason Bloomfield, |
| Patel, William | Kemblowski, Chuck | Linda Campbell, |
| Trudeau | Petersen, Karen | Jacob Elam, Joshua |
| 7 Brian Harvat, Arlene | Schimmel | Elam, Lauren Hoster, |
| Kraaz | 18 ... Karin Arndt, Robert | Lois Jensen, Matt |
| 8 Eileen Gerald, Amy | Buesing, Kim | Konie, Orville |
| Koegel, Susan Leshner | Kowalski | McElfresh, Joan Rice, |
| 9 Susan Blotch, Jordan | 19 ... Carter Dean, | Mary Trodahl |
| DeBolt, Elaine | Gregory Gillming, | |
| Gillam, Conner | Linda Jahr, Ralph | |
| Gillming, Jack Voss | Scalise, Dave Shotick | |
| 10 ... Judith Corole, Carol | 20 Halie Gartzke, Carol | |
| Fiandalo, Mark | Kalbas | |
| Kowalski, Joshua | | |
| Symbal, Betty | | |
| Tazbier | | |
| 11 ... Annika McNeal, | | |
| Zachary Serpe | | |

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



Get Involved

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:

- **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/SOTPworship
- **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/SOTPworship
- **COMMUNION SET UP & TAKE DOWN**—Judie Symbal, judie.symbal@att.net
- **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
- **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
- **PRAYER SHAWLS**—Jeanne Henley cjhenley2003@yahoo.com
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS**—Matt Morrison matt@sotpmail.com
- **READERS**—Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com Sign up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworship
- **USHERS**—Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net
- **WELCOME CENTER**—Tara Mackey, rtmackey10@yahoo.com
- **WORSHIP BAND (SINGING & INSTRUMENTAL)**—Jeff Moore, jeff@sotpmail.com

Involvement Schedule

February 2023



		Feb 4 & 5	Feb 11 & 12	Feb 18 & 19	Feb 25 & 26
Assisting Minister	SUN 9:00 AM	Donna Sorensen	Annette	Annette	Annette
Communion Assistants Interested in Serving Here? Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipsteam	SAT 5:00 PM	Annette Kandell	Interested in Serving Here? Sign up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworship		
	SUN 9:00 AM				
	SUN 10:45 AM	Doreen Brangenberg Donna Kelly	Doreen Brangenberg Donna Kelly	Doreen Brangenberg Donna Kelly	Donna Kelly
Communion Bread	Week end	Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Judie Symbal judie.symbal@att.net			
Counters	Mon	Cheryl Adams, Diana Murphy & Marilyn Wilhelm			
Greeters Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Elaine Gillam suggillam@aol.com	SAT 5:00 PM	Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Elaine Gillam suggillam@aol.com			
	SUN 9:00 AM	Linda & Ken Rotter	Sue Wehnes Eileen Gerald	Cheryl Adams Dottie Bobzin	Laura Attaway Elaine Gillam
	SUN 10:45 AM	Bob & Carolyn Malm			
Newsletter Mailing Prep		For this Newsletter: Mary Lou Chamberlain			
Readers Sign Up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworshipsteam	SUN 9:00 AM	Annette Kandell	Interested in Serving Here? Sign up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPworship		



Involvement Schedule

February 2023

		Feb 4 & 5	Feb 11 & 12	Feb 18 & 19	Feb 25 & 26
Ushers Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net	SAT 5:00 PM	Karen Eckert Lynn Meyer	Jim Murphy Diana Murphy	Sue Mattiucci Carol Hartmann	Steve Murphy Peggy Loiselle
	SUN 9:00 AM	WALTER LEMKE Art Ryden Chris Solem Jeff Ottens	JACK CONTI Pete Thompson Cheryl Rotermund Carol Engstrom [A] Kappels [A]	WAYNE SCHMIDT Nancy Wilson Arja Kasper Dan Wentzlof Mike Malczewski [A]	RALPH WEHNES Jerry & Pat Darow Ed & Carolyn Cuttle
	SUN 10:45 AM	BOB MCDUFFEE Chuck Peterson Annika Yndestad	MARK FRENDEIS Sandi Stewart Jessica Panella	DOUG NAGEL Don Koerner Judy Petropulos	VIK BEKERIS Bob Mollis Diane Mollis
Welcome Center	SUN 9:00 AM	Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Tara Mackey rtmackey10@yahoo.com			
	SUN 10:45 AM				
Worship Flowers		Interested in sponsoring weekend worship 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 Michelle Rankin at Michelle@sotpmail.com to be added.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2022

General Fund Report: The Unrestricted General Fund Balance is \$368,758. Total income for the month was \$90,071 and total expenses for the month was \$86,540. Approximately 5.3 months of General Fund reserves.

Mortgage Service Fund Report: The Mortgage Service Fund Balance is \$66,511. Income for the month was \$14,697. The MIF five-year monthly mortgage payment is \$18,807. Approximately 3.5 months of Mortgage Service Fund reserves.

<u>THIS MONTH</u>				
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Income:	\$90,071	\$83,479	\$ 6,592	7.9%
Expenses:	\$86,540	\$66,611	\$19,929	30.0%

<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>				
<u>General Fund</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Income:	\$913,174	\$818,283	\$94,891	11.6%
Expense:	\$842,094	\$818,283	\$23,811	2.9%

Mortgage Service Fund

Income for Month:	\$ 14,697
Income YTD:	\$226,651
Payments YTD:	\$227,871
Ending Fund Balance:	\$ 66,511



Council Action Item Approvals:

Finance Team recommendations were presented to Council at the December 19, 2022, meeting.

1. Recommended the 2021 Audit team's recommendation that Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church increase our insurance coverage for Dishonesty Bond from \$25,000 to \$1M, our Sexual Misconduct coverage from \$250,000/ \$500,000 to \$1M/\$3M and our Umbrella Policy from \$1M to \$3M at an annual policy premium increase not to exceed \$1,700. The resolution passed.
2. Recommended that Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church utilize Memorial funds to build two new Sign-Up Kiosk cabinets with a total cost not to exceed \$1,500. The resolution passed.

Respectfully Submitted
Robert C. Mollis
Congregation Treasurer



SOTP Staff

Pastor Mark Boster

Senior Pastor
pastormark@sotpmail.com

Pastor Ryan Mackey

Pastor
pastorryan@sotpmail.com

Kendra Coots

*Assistant Teacher—Little
Lambs Preschool*
kendra@sotpmail.com

Jill Gillming

*Director of Children and Family
Ministry*
LittleLambs@sotpmail.com

Donna Kelly

*Director of Connections
Ministry*
donna@sotpmail.com

Dennis Lilla

*Computer Applications &
Technical Support*
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Jane McMullen

*Traditional Music & Worship
Director*
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Jeff Moore

Contemporary Music Director
jeff@sotpmail.com

Matt Morrison

Operations Manager
matt@sotpmail.com

Michelle Rankin

*Operations and
Communications Assistant*
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Dave Shotick

Accounting Administrator
accounting@sotpmail.com

Mike Yndestad

Audio Visual Coordinator
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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