

Newsletter

October 2023



Small Group Info

Pg 8

Game Day

Pg 13

Trunk or Treat

Pg 18

Artist Series Concert

Pg 26

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

Huntley, IL sotp.org 847/669-9448

Photo: Trunk or Treat Winners 2022—High School Youth Group

A Note

From Pastor Mark



“Building a Culture of Generosity by Taking a Step of Faith” is the title for this year’s stewardship emphasis for the 2023 mission support of Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church.

It is an expression of what we believe should happen when God’s people are asked to respond in a biblical manner to the ministry opportunities of our worshipping community.

In years past, we have prepared a budget and then asked the congregation to subscribe it.

This year, we are changing the order. We are asking the church to respond with estimates of giving and then the Finance Team will prepare a budget, or spending plan, for those commitments. This approach takes the focus off the need of the church to receive funds and puts it where it rightly should be according to the Bible.

The focus should be on the need of the giver to give. When presented with this plan, the leadership of our church responded enthusiastically, and we hope you will too.

It is a change, but we believe it is a healthy change. In fact, it is a natural expansion of what we have done for the past few years, and we plan to continue this approach in the future.

For too long, we have been tempted to place too much emphasis on success based on whether we met our budget needs.

Success is better measured when God’s people are given a chance to grow and respond in faith to do so. Transformation is the key.

How much do you need to give? That’s between you and God.

Prayer should be the focus as you seek the answer to this question.

There are people in our church that can only grow one or two steps and there are others that can grow much more than that.

But don’t lose focus. It’s not how someone else will respond or what the church needs you to do. The issue is what you need to do in the stewardship of what God has blessed you with — to make an offering that would be pleasing and acceptable to God.

It is an exciting time in the life of Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church. Will you take the next step in faith with us?

Grace and peace to you as we go on this journey together!

Pastor Mark

A Note From Pastor Ryan



“Created to Be”
The 2024 ELCA
Youth
Gathering
Prior to 2021,
the ELCA

hosted a massive Youth Gathering every three years. It moved from major city to major city, hosting more than 30,000 youth and adult leaders.

My first experience of “The Gathering” (as it is affectionately known) was in 2012 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Tara and I were asked by our pastor to serve as adult leaders that year and we accompanied 12 youth on a weeklong adventure that changed my life. Soon after, I became the youth leader for that congregation and would take two more groups to the Youth Gatherings in 2015 and 2018, in Detroit and Houston, respectively.

The 2021 Youth Gathering was supposed to be in Minneapolis, Minnesota, but was postponed, and eventually canceled, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, in 2024, we will be making a return to New Orleans for the first Gathering in 6 years! As always, the Youth Gathering is for all youth who are in 8th-12th grade this school year. The new twist is that a Young Adult Gathering will be running at the same time. This is for anyone who is 18-35 years old at the time of registration.

For those of you who may not be familiar with the Gathering, I wanted to share a little more about what

makes it so special. The Gathering is a combination of worship, service, learning, fun, and relationship-building. Each night, all youth and leaders will gather in the Caesars Super Dome (home of the New Orleans Saints) for a concert-style atmosphere with a band and a series of speakers, with some worship blended in. The speakers are thought provoking and spirit stirring and the music is energizing and Spirit filled.

Each day has a different focus. One day will be spent performing some form of service to the city. In 2012, the Gathering service projects focused on the continued cleanup from the devastation of hurricane Katrina. Our group helped backpacks with school supplies to ensure that students would have what they needed to start the school year well. Another day will be spent in a convention center full of games and activities that teach us and remind us all of what life can be like, in the US and abroad, for people who suffer injustice or live otherwise difficult lives compared to our lives. Another day will be spent with youth from the Northern Illinois Synod as we spend time getting to know each other and sharing in a worship experience.

Within all of these events is the continued experience of coming together in community, forming deeper relationships, and growing deeper in faith.

No matter what I share with you in worship or in these paragraphs, I could

(Continued on page 4)

A Note

From Pastor Ryan

(Continued from page 3)

never fully capture the excitement and power of this weeklong event. I encourage all of you, whether you have a child who is in 8th-12th grade or you or someone you know is 18-35 to strongly consider registering for this awesome event. For more information, reach out to me and/or check out

<https://www.elca.church/gathering>.

Please register using our Church Center app or by scanning the QR code below by October 22 to take advantage of the reduced registration fee.

Peace,

Pastor Ryan

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
is going to the
**2024 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
& YOUNG ADULT GATHERING**

CREATED
TO BE

Info & Registration:
www.bit.ly/SOTPyg24

8TH
GRADE
- AGE 35

Ministry Musings

With Donna



Forgiveness

A few weeks ago, our Gospel reading was Matthew 18:21-35 which included a lesson

from Jesus on forgiveness. In his reading, Peter comes to Jesus and asks how many times he needs to forgive a fellow member of the church (a brother or sister). "Seven times"? he queries. Jesus says not just seven times but seventy-seven. As a kid I remember wondering if that meant I should keep count and when I got to seventy-seven, I was done forgiving that person!

Of course, we know Jesus doesn't mean for us to keep count. In Jewish thinking seven is a holy or a complete number. Maybe Peter used seven to ask, "Lord do we need to practice total and complete forgiveness?" And Jesus is saying, total or complete forgiveness isn't enough; you must practice forgiveness that goes beyond total and complete! In the Thesaurus, forgiveness is pardon, reconciliation, compassion and mercy. I think Jesus is saying that forgiveness isn't to be conditional or limited in scope. We need to forgive absolutely and completely. If we're still counting how many times we have forgiven someone, we're not really forgiving them at all, but simply postponing revenge. Please know that I am not talking about enduring an abusive relationship. That is a completely different situation.

Forgiveness is not always or even

often easy. When we have been hurt deeply and the relationship has been broken in some way, it is hard to let go of the hurt and forgive. But instead, we often feed the anger within us; rehearsing the situation and what they did to us and how much we have been hurt. We go over the incident again and again in our minds, and repeatedly tell the story to ourselves and others.

We want retribution and vindication! We want them to pay for what they did! But withholding forgiveness is often more damaging for us than for the person we don't forgive; and unforgiveness can be like a cancer that eats away at us and the body of Christ as a whole.

Jesus goes on to tell a parable of an unmerciful servant who is forgiven a huge debt, impossible to repay. This servant then goes on to be unforgiving of a fellow servant who owes him a tiny amount. The king who forgave him punishes him in a terrible way. Jesus says afterwards that if we expect to be forgiven, we must forgive. The same idea is included in what we call the Lord's Prayer. We ask to be forgiven in the same way we forgive others, and Jesus says that's how God will forgive us.

I've often wondered if Jesus is saying that there are limits to God's mercy and forgiveness. It's difficult for me to reconcile a merciful God with one who also withholds forgiveness if I don't forgive. Then I read a

(Continued on page 6)

Ministry Musings

With Donna

(Continued from page 5)

commentary on this where the author wrote, "Forgiveness is more like the air in your lungs. There is only room for you to inhale the next lungful when you've breathed out the previous one." That really made me think. When you breathe in and hold that breath, your body will quickly extract all the oxygen out of that air filling your lungs. If you don't exhale that breath so you can breathe in another one, you could actually suffocate! Until you exhale that breath there is no room for you to breathe in again. I wonder if that is the same way with forgiveness and what Jesus meant by his words. As long as I hold in my forgiveness,

refusing to exhale that forgiveness out to others, I have no space to inhale the forgiveness God has for me.

Like our lungs are either full or empty, our "hearts", are either open or closed. If our heart is open, able and willing to forgive others, it will also be open to receive God's love and forgiveness. But if it is locked up tight to forgiving, it will be locked up to receiving forgiveness. How is your heart? Locked up to others and therefore to God and God's forgiveness; or open to both God love and forgiveness and your love and forgiveness to others?
ering...

Donna Kelly

Wednesday Adult Education

With Pastor Mark



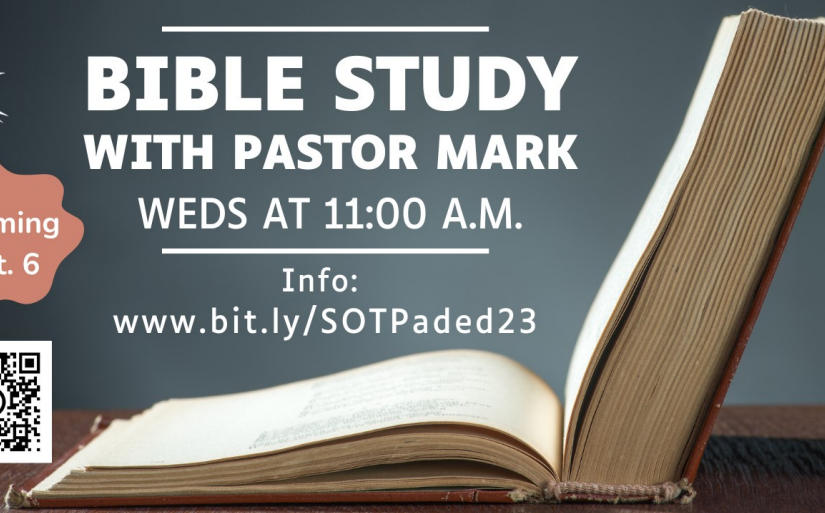
Resuming
Sept. 6

BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR MARK

WEDS AT 11:00 A.M.

Info:

www.bit.ly/SOTPaded23



Sunday Adult Education



ADULT EDUCATION

WITH PASTOR ROY OLSON

EXPLORING THE DANGERS OF
CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM



Sundays Starting

September 10th, 10:15 am

Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPadultED23



“Christian nationalism is a cultural framework—a collection of myths, traditions, symbols, narratives and value systems—that idealizes and advocates a fusion of Christianity with American civic life.” It can distort Biblical Christianity and prevent proper patriotism and true love of country. During each session we will listen to a podcast produced by the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty (BJC) and then discuss what we have heard. The weekly topics and schedule are listed below.

- **October 1:** Theological view of Christian nationalism (featuring Walter Brueggemann)
- **October 8:** Understanding Project Blitz

- **October 15:** Standing against Project Blitz in a state legislature (featuring John Marty, son of Martin Marty)
- **October 22:** Christian nationalism, race and white supremacy
- **October 29:** Christian nationalism and white nationalism
- **November 5:** Religious freedom, church-state law and Christian nationalism
- **November 12:** Embracing civic pluralism

Contact: Pastor Roy Olson
olson612sr@sbcglobal.net

Financial Records

We only keep financial records on members and non-members that have envelopes assigned. If you would like an envelope,

contact the Church office.

Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

Small Groups

Kickoff & Group Signups



OCTOBER 2023
You're Invited

Small Groups Kickoff

7s
Groups

Next Step
Fellowship

Book
Club



More Information:
www.bit.ly/SOTPgroups23

Our Small Groups including our 7s Groups will begin meeting the first week in October.

- Our 7s Groups will be resuming the first week in October. They are called 7s Groups because they meet for 7 weeks in the fall (finishing before Thanksgiving), 7 weeks after the holidays (finishing before Lent begins) and 7 weeks after Easter (finishing before Memorial Day). Some of our groups will be watching and discussing “The Chosen”, a video series on the life of Jesus and his followers. Another group will be talking about the readings for each Sunday and how they and the messages from our pastors influence their lives. More details are forthcoming.

We have two new groups this year.

- Next Step is a fellowship group that began over the summer and continues throughout the year. It is a fellowship group for single senior citizens.
- The second group is brand new and will begin in October. It’s a Book Club and they will meet once a month and will read a variety of different genres of books. Check the newsletter, Friday Flourish and the website for more information.

So, consider becoming engaged in one of our Small Groups including our Ministry Teams. It’s a wonderful way to connect with other people here at SOTP to learn, grow and flourish in our faith.

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com

Confirmation

For Middle School Youth



**6TH, 7TH
& 8TH GRADE
CONFIRMATION
WEDNESDAYS
6:30 PM**



Register:
www.bit.ly/SOTPConf23

Kids Connect

Join Us On Sundays!



2023 -2024
Kids Connect
Registration



Register:
www.bit.ly/SOTPKids23

Kids Academy

For Elementary Youth



INTRODUCING.... SOTP'S NEW
KIDS ACADEMY
JOIN US FOR ONE CLASS... OR MORE!
www.bit.ly/SOTPkidsAC23



We are excited to announce a new ministry at church... the SOTP Kids' Academy!

(Sign up at www.bit.ly/SOTPkidsAC23 now, space limited)

This program will provide workshops, classes and lessons in all sorts of areas. The SOTP Kids' Academy will offer various enrichment classes for kindergarten- 5th grade. The Academy is bringing together adults in our church with talents and passions that they are passing on to the younger members.

You do not have to sign up for all of the classes just the ones that interest you and fit in your schedule.

New classes will be offered throughout the year.

Some classes coming up after Christmas are storytelling, photography, art and so much more!

Some classes will have a small fee to offset the cost of supplies.

- 10/19/23 (2nd - 5th Grade) 4:00 - 5:30 pm - Fall Craft: Halloween Blocks (2nd-5th grade)
- 10/26/23 (K- 3rd Grade) 5:00 - 6:15 pm - Art with Julie: warm/cool color spider webs (K-3rd grade)
- 11/16/23 (K - 3rd Grade) 5:00 - 6:15 pm - Art with Julie: Henri Matisse Fall Leaves (K-3rd grade)
- 11/30/23 (3rd - 5th Grade) 4:00 - 6:00 pm - Canvas Painting of a Snowman-\$5 FEE (3rd-5th grade)
- 12/14/23 (K-3rd Grade) 5:00 - 6:15 pm - Art with Julie: Hanging Water Color Ornaments (K-3rd grade)

Contact: Amy Stech
amc_stech@yahoo.com

Music Academy

For 4th—12th Grade



Introducing
SOTP's New

MUSIC ACADEMY

GUITAR & UKULELE LESSONS
4TH GRADE - HIGH SCHOOL

- Group lessons on Mondays
- Ukulele 5:00 pm for \$15/ea
- Guitar 6:00 pm for \$25/ea



We're excited to introduce the SOTP Music Academy! Designed with the beginner in mind, the first session of lessons will introduce players to either the ukulele (4th – 6th grade) or guitar (6th – 12th grade).

- The first session of lessons will start Monday, October 30th, and will be held each Monday through January 29th (with a break for Christmas and New Years)
- Ukulele lessons will be from 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm in the Music Education Room
 - Lessons cost is \$15 for each lesson (payable to the instructor)
- Guitar lessons will be from 6:00 pm -7:00 pm in the Music Education Room
 - Lessons cost is \$25 for

each lesson (payable to the instructor)

- An equipment list will be provided upon registration with recommended instruments and accessories
- All lessons will be held in a “group lesson” setting, with a goal of having each student learn the basics of chords, rhythm, & strumming so they can begin to play their favorite songs. Students would be set up to learn more advanced methods and techniques such as fingerpicking, lead guitar, solos / improvisation, & playing by ear down the line.

Our guest teacher for these sessions is regional performing artist, Brian Castillo. Brian has over 18 years of

(Continued on page 12)

Music Academy

For 4th—12th Grade

(Continued from page 11)

playing experience and over 12 years of teaching experience. Brian has taught lessons privately and through local schools with a demonstrated record of success.

Registration is required. If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Moore.

*Contact: Jeff Moore
jeff@sotpmail.com*

New Member Gathering

Coming in November



**NEW
MEMBER
GATHERING**
FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT OUR CHURCH
**SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 5
3:00 PM**

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 offering the gathering on Sunday, November 5, 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 here.

*Contact Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com*

Game Day

October 15th



Sunday
Game Day
October 15 at Noon

FOOTBALL
On the Big Screen

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

CHILI COOKOFF
Bring a pot of chili or come, enjoy & vote

KIDS ACTIVITIES
Fall Games
Cookie Decorating & More

Sign Up: www.bit.ly/SOTPg1023



Next Step Fellowship

For Single Seniors



Trunk or Treat: October 28, 1:30 pm

NEXT STEP FELLOWSHIP
Fellowship Group for Single Seniors



Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1023



Adventure Club

Register 4th & 5th Graders

4TH & 5TH
GRADERS

Wednesdays
Starting
**September
20th**
5pm

Adventure
CLUB



Info & Registration:
www.bit.ly/SOTPadv2324

Kids Connect

6th Grade—Adult Help Wanted

KIDS
CONNECT
HELP
WANTED

SUNDAYS
BOTH
SERVICES



Info & Registration:
www.bit.ly/SOTPKChelp23

High School Youth

Now Wednesday Nights



High School **YOUTH GROUP**

2023 - 2024

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
6:30 - 8:00 PM

Register: www.bit.ly/SOTPHS2324



Little Lambs Preschool

LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL

AGES 2-5

Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPLittleLambs23

Food Drive

October 1st

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE HOSTS



GRAFTON PANTRY FOOD DRIVE



10805 MAIN ST. HUNTLEY



MONTHLY
1ST SUNDAY
8:30 - 11AM

Collecting in Car Outside Main Office Entrance

Packing Day

Help Needed

PACKING DAY

"LORD WHEN WERE YOU IN PRISON AND I VISITED YOU?"
(Mathew 25:39)

Drop in the Willow Room

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Pack 1 bag - or more!



Toothpaste



Shaving Cream



Soap



Shampoo



Toothbrush



Razor

Thank you to all
who donated to the
prison ministry!

Still Needed:

- 5 Shaving Cream
- 15 Shampoo



Children's Christmas Program Rehearsals



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REGISTRATION

- Sunday, October 1, 2-3 pm
Parent/Student Read Through
- Sunday, October 8, 2-4 pm
Weekly Rehearsals Begin

More Info & Registration:
www.bit.ly/SOTPKIDSxmas23

Huntley Fall Fest Help Cover the SOTP Booth

Huntley

**FALL
FEST**

SEPT 30 & OCT 1

Info & Register Now:

www.bit.ly/SOTPfest23



Bake Sale—Bakers Needed

Mark Your Calendars!



BAKERS NEEDED

FOR

BAKE SALE

NOVEMBER

11 & 12

More Info & Sign Up:
www.bit.ly/SOTPbake23



Trunk or Treat

Sign Up Your Trunk Now!



Community Event

Join the Fun

Trunk

OR

Treat

Saturday

October 28

3:00 - 4:30 pm

Register Your Trunk:
www.bit.ly/SOTPtrunk23



SOTP Logowear

Order Online Now



**SHEPHERD
OF THE PRAIRIE**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Online
Apparel Store**

www.bit.ly/SOTPlogowear

ORDER BEFORE OCTOBER 31 TO BE GUARANTEED PICK UP AT SOTP FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Shepherd of the Prairie has an online apparel store!

Our online store is available all the time moving forward so feel free to browse here as well:

www.bit.ly/SOTPlogowear

While on the site, you may see that in some places, it asks about "players." The company we are using provides services to a lot of sports teams so that is why that

word is there. Please skip any request to enter "player" info.

SHIPPING OPTIONS:

- Flat Rate (\$11.00) Shipped to your house (3 weeks time)
- In Store Pickup (Schaumburg, IL) (\$0.00) Schaumburg,
- You can wait for the church to make a bulk pickup monthly

All purchases help SOTP provide our outreach t-shirts for events like parades and events in the community.

ion.

*Contact: Matt Morrison
matt@sotpmail.com*

Adult Choir

Sing With Us!

ADULT CHOIR

REHEARSALS



WEDNESDAYS
7:00 - 8:30 PM
SEPTEMBER 6

Info:
www.bit.ly/SOTPchoir2324



Youth & Adult Bells

Ring With Us!

YOUTH & ADULT

BELL CHOIR

REHEARSAL

TUESDAYS 7:00 PM
STARTING SEPTEMBER 12TH

Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPbells2324



Book Club

For Those Who Enjoy Reading



Book Club

Special Date for First Meeting

October 12th 1:00 pm

After That, First Thursday Monthly 1pm

More Info:

www.bit.ly/SOTPbook23



Do you enjoy reading? Looking for a way to connect with others? Then you just might enjoy our new 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. Our first meeting will be Thursday, October 12th at 1pm. This will be a chance to talk about what genre we like to read and to pick our first book. 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.

So, come and join us on October 12th and bring a list of books you think would be great for us to read together.

Registration recommended but not required.

*Contact: Candace Beck
candybeck48@gmail.com*

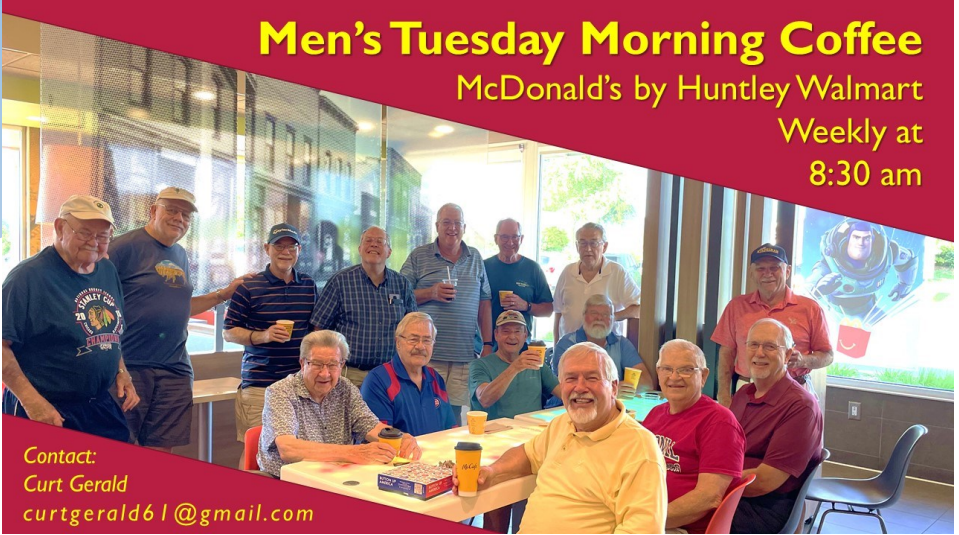
Men's Coffee

Weekly Fellowship

Men's Tuesday Morning Coffee

McDonald's by Huntley Walmart

Weekly at
8:30 am



Contact:
Curt Gerald
curtgerald61@gmail.com

Women's Coffee

Weekly Fellowship



Women's Coffee Gathering

Fridays 10am



MCDONALD'S BY HUNTLEY WALMART

Prairie Pointe Quilters

All Are Welcome

Prairie Pointe Quilters

Monthly on 1st &
3rd Tuesdays
9:00 am

No Experience Necessary



Friends Bible Study

Women's Bible Study



FRIENDS' (Women's) BIBLE STUDY



Mondays at 12:30 pm

More info: www.bit.ly/SOTPfriends

Currently the study focuses on the book of Exodus . Our study guide is **Be Delivered: Finding Freedom by**

Following God by Warren Wiersbe.

Contact: Linda Dungey
lindajsd88@gmail.com

Altar Flowers

A promotional graphic for Altar Flowers. It features a background of pink and white roses. In the top left, there is a logo with a stylized 'f' and 'b' in blue and yellow. In the center, a white circular area contains the text: 'ALTAR FLOWERS' in large red letters, 'DONATE FLOWERS TO BRIGHTEN UP THE SANCTUARY' in smaller black letters, and '\$52/EACH' in black letters. Below this, a QR code is shown with a small 'b' in a circle. At the bottom, a dark red banner contains the text 'SIGN UP: www.bit.ly/SOTPflower' in white.

ALTAR
FLOWERS
DONATE FLOWERS
TO BRIGHTEN UP
THE SANCTUARY
\$52/EACH

SIGN UP: www.bit.ly/SOTPflower

Please consider signing up to donate flowers to brighten up the sanctuary. Each arrangement will be \$52.

The bouquets are delivered from the florist for the weekend worship services. The flowers are yours to keep after the Sunday services or you can pick them up on the Monday following. The church is open from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

There are several ways to place an order for altar flowers. You can do so online here, you can also order the flowers on the church website or you can contact Diane on dem910@outlook.com. Payment s can be made by credit/debit card

or check/cash.

When you order the flowers, you will need to provide your name, the date you would like them, your phone number, and for whom the flowers are dedicated to or in memory of. You will receive a special offering envelope for the payment in the mail if you choose to pay by check or cash. If you have any questions, please call Diane Mollis 224-654-6677.

Thank you for contributing to beautify the altar during our services at Shepherd of the Prairie.

*Contact: Diane Mollis
dem910@outlook.com*

Giving Tree Coming Soon

A graphic for Giving Tree Gift Cards. It features a green Christmas tree on the left with a star on top. In the center, a white ribbon banner contains the text 'GIVING TREE' in large green letters. Below the banner, the text 'GIFT CARDS' is written in white. On the right side, the text 'Coming 11/4/23' is written in white.

Coming
11/4/23

GIVING TREE

GIFT CARDS

Grief Journey *A Safe Place to Heal*

TUESDAY MORNINGS AT 10AM

Grief Journey Group

Meet in SOTP Library

Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

Prairie Crafters *Crafting Event*



Prairie Crafters

**9:00am
Thursday
October 19**

**Bring \$5 to
cover supplies**

Crafting & Fellowship



**Register & Info:
www.bit.ly/SOTPcraft1023**



Prairie Crafters are hosting a make it take it day at church. Come make two angels - one to take home, the other to donate to SOTP's Craft Sale.

Please bring \$5 to the event to cover costs.

Contact: Lori Paeth
lpauth@gmail.com

Artist Series Concert



Shepherd of the Prairie Artist Series presents "The Cat's Pajamas Vocal Band" on October 7

The Cat's Pajamas Vocal Band presents "Feel the Music" during a free concert of their unique, high energy brand of a capella at 7:00pm on Saturday, October 7, 2023 at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church, 10805 Main Street in Huntley.

No tickets are required for this performance and freewill donations are gratefully accepted. The public is invited to hear this entertaining performance.

Sponsored by the SOTP Artist Series, The Cat's Pajamas Vocal Band is a five person a capella group that has been touring around the world since 2005.

Founder Brian Skinner is joined by Dale Powell, Peter Yang, Donovan

Germain, and Michael Samsky for a high-octane performance that creates all the sounds of a band - guitar, drums, bass, and trumpets - with only their talented voices. They don't need instruments as they create thousands of sounds by harnessing the power of the human voice.

The Cat's Pajamas Vocal Band has recently been featured on Next Great American Band, America's Got Talent and season 3 of NBC's The Sing-Off. For many years, they performed on a variety of cruise ships as guest entertainers and have performed over 200 shows a year at the Andy Williams Moon River Theatre and Music City Centre Theatre in Branson, Missouri. They perform at other corporate shows, fairs, festivals, and more and have raised over \$120,000

(Continued on page 27)

Artist Series Concert

(Continued from page 26)

for music education programs across the country.

Visit the church website at www.bit.ly/SOTPARTIST for further information or email - artistseries@sotpmail.com.

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran

Church, located at 10805 Main Street, under the leadership of Senior Pastor Mark Boster and Pastor Ryan Mackey, has served the Huntley community for over 20 years.

Contact: Jane McMullen
jane@sotpmail.com

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 logo. The navigation bar includes 'Me', 'Check-In', 'Signups', 'Groups', and 'More'. A user profile picture is visible in the top right. The main content area features several event cards: 'ADULT EDUCATION Faith & Mental Health Shame, Guilt & Forgiveness Sundays 10:20 am Jan 15 - Feb 26', 'ALTAR FLOWERS', 'SOTP KIDS NEED YOU! Ways You Can Help Sundays', 'NEWSLETTER PREP', and 'Soup Supper Worship MARCH 5:45 PM'. A large blue overlay in the center contains the text 'EASILY VIEW CURRENT EVENTS & REGISTRATIONS' and the URL 'www.bit.ly/SOTPsignup'. A QR code is also present in the bottom right of the overlay.

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

Contact: Michelle Rankin michelle@sotpmail.com

Regularly Scheduled



SUNDAYS

Before & After Services AARRK Garden Vegetable Stand in Parking Lot at SOTP
9:00 am Traditional Worship
9:00 am Kids Connect
10:15 am Adult Education with Pastor Roy Olson
10:45 am Contemporary Worship
10:45 am Kids Connect
1:00 pm FBW
2:00 pm Children's Christmas Program Rehearsals

MONDAYS

9:00 am (3rd Mon) Gazebo Valor Quilts
10:30 am FBW
12:30 Friends (Womens) Bible Study
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
8:00 am (2nd Tues) Gazebo Quilt Guild
8:30 am Staff Meeting
9:00 am Little Lambs Preschool
9:00 am (1st & 3rd Tues), Prairie Pointe Quilters
9:15 am AL-ANON Meeting
10:00 am Grief Journey Meeting
10:00 am (4th Tues), Barnabas
6:30 pm Adult & Youth Bells Rehearsal
6:30 pm (1st Tues), Scout Troop 200 Committee
6:30 pm (1st Tues), Boy Scouts Patrol Leader's Council
7:00 pm Adult & Youth Bells Rehearsal
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 (Del Webb Group)
10:30 am Women's FBW
11:00 am Adult Bible Study with Pastor Mark
12:30 pm Women's FBW
5:00 pm Adventure Club
6:30 pm High School Youth Group
6:30 pm Confirmation(Resuming 9/20)
7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAYS

9:00 am Little Lambs Preschool
9:00 am (2nd Thurs), Prayer Shawl Ministry
10:00 am (2nd Thurs), Baranbas Meeting
6:30 pm (2nd Thurs), Lions Club
6:30 pm (4th Thurs), Habitat Partnership Board Meeting
7:00 pm Cub Scouts
Times Vary Volunteers at Habitat for Humanity ReStore

FRIDAYS

9:30 am Sunshine Boys (Del Webb Group)
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



WEEKEND OF SEPT 30 & OCT 1

SOTP Booth at Fall Fest

www.bit.ly/SOTPFest23

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

SMALL GROUPS KICK OFF

www.bit.ly/SOTPgroups23

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

Food Drive, 8:30—11 am

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1 Children's

Christmas Program Parent/
Student First Meeting, 2pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPKIDSxmas23

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 The

Artist Series Event—The Cat's
Pajamas Vocal Group, 7:30 pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 Packing

Day for Prison Ministry Bags,
9:30 am—12:30 pm (stop by)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

Book Club Kickoff, 1pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPbook23

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Game Day, Noon

www.bit.ly/SOTPgdn1023

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 Prairie

Crafters Crafting Event, 9am

www.bit.ly/SOTPcraft1023

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19 Kids'

Academy—Fall Craft

Halloween Blocks, 4pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPkidsAC

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26 Kids'

Academy—Art with Julie, 5pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPkidsAC

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

Next Step Fellowship at

Trunk or Treat, 1:30pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

TRUNK OR TREAT, 3pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPtrunk23

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30 MUSIC

ACADEMY SESSION STARTS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Giving Tree Is Up

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

New Member Gathering, 3pm

WEEKEND OF NOV 11 & 12

Bake Sale & Craft Sale

www.bit.ly/SOTPbake23

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16 Kids'

Academy—Art with Julie, 5pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPkidsAC

WEEKEND OF NOV 17 & 18

LOMC Confirmation Retreat

www.bit.ly/SOTPLOMC23

Birthdays

October



1-Oct	Dan Crespo Roger Emery Viveka Forsythe Karen Klein Craig Mudge	13-Oct	Gary Bender Tammy Bitzenhofer Jeanne Henley Diana Murphy Tom Polzin	22-Oct	Judy Blaige David Caddoo Steve Legel Mark Mathiesen Louise Sebastian		
2-Oct	Elizabeth Harding John Throckmorton	14-Oct	Peggy Nicholas Kyle Papka Ken Raines Kyle Wolf	23-Oct	Melissa Bala	24-Oct	Chole Bozza Terrance Hoeft Ryan Michalak Harrison Shaw
3-Oct	Caden Mathiesen	15-Oct	Dave Dirks Hannah Mudge	25-Oct	Brian Eric Harvat		
4-Oct	Olivia Burg Karen Raistrick Chris Trodahl	16-Oct	Tessa Lehmann Carolyn Morris Bonnie Vanaria	26-Oct	Samantha Crase Nancy Stopka Madison Szekely Tyler Szekely		
5-Oct	Michelle Clifford	17-Oct	Ann Lehman	27-Oct	Donna Allen Carol Minutillo Sandra Schuessler Janet Walker		
6-Oct	Katie Hoving	18-Oct	Myra Lawrence Joy Nesta	28-Oct	Bob Uhlman		
7-Oct	Tracy Allison Lynn Broederdorf Colton Hess Logan Nagel Casey Rhode Arlene Wille	19-Oct	Scott Browne Greg Carr Omayra Stangle	29-Oct	Jessica Buesing Robert Malm Chuck Zunker		
8-Oct	Patricia Hufmeyer Sandra Richardson Mike Stenson Lisa Wondriska	20-Oct	Mary Conti Therese Cox Julia Dunfrund Ginny Manley Jim McGuine Dalton Stallbaum	30-Oct	Jenni Browne Henry Martin Joseph Perrott		
9-Oct	George Attaway Larry Enders Peggy Lynn Loiselle	21-Oct	Zoe Harvat Joan Iden Ray Iden Matthew Koegel Sarah Koegel Andrew Kowalski Jordan Trevino	31-Oct	Kim Domenz Cliff Dungey Betty Hansen Rebecca Wright Tiffanie Young		
10-Oct	Mark Alpert Gerald Ernst						
11-Oct	Kara Burg						
12-Oct	Janet Larrison Bill Nesta Carol Spiller						

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:

- AARRK Garden – Ronda Shoemaker
rondapatton313@gmail.com
- Adult Choir—Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Adventure Club—Jill Gillming
jill@soapmail.com
- Annual Church Picnic – Sharon Little
skl55little@mac.com
- Assisting Minister (9am) – Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Artist Series – Jane McMullen
jane@sotpmail.com
- 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
- Communion Set Up & Take Down—
Judie Symbol, judie.symbol@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
- Habitat for Humanity – Sandy Hupert sandyhupert@gmail.com
- Mission Team – Sandy Hupert sandyhupert@gmail.com
- Newsletter Mailing Prep—Michelle Rankin, michelle@sotpmail.com Sign up at: www.bit.ly/SOTPfolders
- Next Step Fellowship (Single Seniors Fellowship) – Dave Stangle, dstangle.ds@gmail.com or Phyllis Thomson, phyllisthompson@aol.com
- Prairie Crafters – Lori Paeth
- 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
- 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

Involvement Schedule

October 2023



		October 1	October 7 & 8	October 14 & 15	October 21 & 22	October 28 & 29
Communion Bread	Sun	Lori Paeth	Jen Powe	Nancy Ottinger	Sally Houghton	Rob Lindsey
	Mixc	Saturday: Therese Cox Extra Bread: Catherine Meyer				
Counters	Mon	Donna Turner, Ronda Shoemaker & Carl Hupert				
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	Eileen Gerald Terry Halpin	Elaine Gillam Candace Beck	Laura Attaway Carol Engstrom	Terry Halpin Elaine Gillam
	SUN 10:45 AM	Bob & Carolyn Malm	Bob & Carolyn Malm	Bob & Carolyn Malm	Elaine Gillam	Bob & Carolyn Malm
Ushers Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net	SAT 5:00 PM		Lynn Meyer Tom Cox	Jim & Diana Murphy	Carol Hartman Sue Mattiucci	Steve Murphy Ron Mudge
	SUN 9:00 AM	WALTER LEMKE Art Ryden Chris Solem Tim Bueschel Mickey & Cathy Kappel	JACK CONTI Pete Thompson Frank Cesario Carol Engstrom Cheryl Rotermund Jeff Ottens	WAYNE SCHMIDT Nancy Wilson Arja Kasper Dan Wentzlof Mike Malczewski Jeff Stangle	RALPH WEHNES Jerry & Pat Darow Ed & Carolyn Cuttle George Attaway Stan Crissman	WAYNE SCHMIDT Nancy Wilson Arja Kasper Dan Wentzlof Mike Malczewski Jeff Stangle
	SUN 10:45 AM	BOB MCDUFFEE Vik Bekeris Chuck Peterson Annika Yndestad	MARK FRENDEIS Sandi Stewart Jessica Panella	DOUG NAGEL Don Koerner Judy Petropulos	VIK BEKERIS Bob Mollis Diane Mollis	DOUG NAGEL Don Koerner Judy Petropulos

Follow Us



Follow us on
Instagram

[@shepherdoftheprairie](#)



**SHEPHERD
OF THE PRAIRIE**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

And NEW
Follow us on



SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

@sotpmedia10805 40 subscribers 107 videos

Statement of Purpose >

shepherdoftheprairie.com

[@sotpmedia10805](#)



Stay Connected

**Do you receive
our email communications?**

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

To start receiving any (or all) of the above, please e-mail your request to Michelle Rankin at michelle@SOTPmail.com

Treasurer's Report

As of July 31, 2023

General Fund Report: The Unrestricted General Fund Balance is \$366,117 Total income for the month was \$92,167 and total expenses for the month was \$66,008. Approximately 4.5 months of General Fund reserves.

General Fund reserves. Mortgage Service Fund Report: The Mortgage Service Fund Balance is \$49,553. Income for the month was \$18,986. The monthly mortgage payment is \$18,807. Approximately 2.6 months of Mortgage Service Fund reserves.

This Month

General

Fund	Actual	Budget	Difference	Percentage
Income:	\$92,167	\$71,656	\$20,511	28.6%
Expenses:	\$66,008	\$75,644	\$9,636	12.7%

Year-to-Date

General Fund	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Percentage
Income:	\$632,062	\$653,883	(\$21,821)	-3.3%
Expenses:	\$634,703	\$642,289	\$7,586	1.2%

Mortgage Service Fund

Income for Month:	\$ 18,986
Income YTD:	\$133,498
Payments YTD:	\$150,456
Ending Fund Balance:	\$ 49,553

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy McGuine
Congregation Treasurer



SOTP Staff



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

Mike Yndestad

Audio Visual Coordinator
mike@sotpmail.com

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*
jill@sotpmail.com
LittleLambs@sotpmail.com

Donna Kelly

*Director of Connections
Ministry*
donna@sotpmail.com

Church Council

Bob Mollis, President

Joyce Shotick, Vice President

Kathy McGuine, Treasurer

Cheryl Adams

Mike Luecht

Ellen Nissen

Christa Serpe

Sara Wolf

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 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



NONPROFIT
ORG
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
HUNTLEY, IL
PERMIT NO. 16



*Follow us on Instagram & Facebook
@shepherdoftheprairie*