

Newsletter

November 2023



SEE Week

Pg 8

Gratitude Lunch

Pg 11

Step of Faith

Pg 6

Craft & Bake Sale

Pg 21

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

Huntley, IL sotp.org 847/669-9448

Photo: Kids Academy—October 2023

A Note

From Pastor Mark



We are hopeful you are able to join us on Sunday, November 19 for worship. This weekend will serve as the culmination of Building a Culture of Generosity, by taking a Step of Faith Stewardship emphasis. Our special guest will be Bishop Stacie Fidler. Bishop Stacie serve as Bishop of the Northern IL Synod. She will also be our guest for lunch following the 10:45 am service. Please join us and register to let us know you are coming to the “Gratitude Lunch” following worship. We are thankful to our members and friends of SOTP who serve to make Christ known!

I’d like for you to take a moment to close and open your hand. Which position is it easier for you to receive something? Do you find yourself more in the position of clutching and holding on to something, or do you find yourself more open handed, eager to let and ready to receive what is offered?

Recently, I reacquainted myself with a favorite author, C.S. Lewis and read his book the “The Joyful Christian.” In the book Lewis gives a good definition of what being open handed means.

He writes, “I do not believe one can settle on how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc. is up to the standard common to those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small.

There ought to be things we would like to do but cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them” (pg. 144).

In 2 Corinthians 8:1-7, Paul sheds an even greater light on giving. The very act of giving generously is a gift from God. Paul cites the example of the Macedonians who insisted on the privilege of giving even from their poverty. He goes on to encourage the Corinthians to follow in their stead.

It is interesting to note that these Christians had wealth, but had not yet considered generous giving as an outlet of their faith. Not only does Paul give them the example of the Macedonians but reminds them of the gift Jesus gave us— leaving his heavenly home to live as a human in our world.

What is our response to giving to those in need? Do we give openhandedly, or do we find excuses for not giving? When given examples of others who are giving generously, do we respond in kind, or find reasons why we cannot? When reminded of all that Jesus gave on our behalf, can we do otherwise than give ourselves and all that we have to him in return?

If you’re like me, sometimes I need help with words for prayer. When those times come, I often find myself reading hymns. In the realm seek wisdom with what God has entrusted to me favorite of

(Continued on page 3)

A Note From Pastor Mark

(Continued from page 2)

mine is “We Give Thee but Thine Own.” (ELW 686)

May our prayerful response be—

We give Thee but Thine own,
whate’er the gift may be;
all that we have is Thine alone, a
trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we thy bounties thus as
stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessed us, to
thee our first fruits give.

The captive

to release, to God the

lost to bring,

to teach the way of life and peace

-it is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe thy word, though

dim our faith may be;

what-e’er we do for thine, O Lord,

we do it unto thee.

I’ll look forward to being with you in
worship!

Pastor Mark



A Note From Pastor Ryan

This month, the 2024 edition of what has long been called our stewardship campaign.

Pastors and other church leaders always struggle with the idea of a “stewardship campaign” for a couple of reasons. The first is that these campaigns always give the impression that stewardship is all about money, when stewardship, in fact, is about all the ways we contribute to God’s mission through the church. The second reason is that such a campaign implies that “stewardship” is confined

to a particular time of year rather than the year around opportunity it represents. In that spirit, each year we try to emphasize a few of the myriad ways stewardship can be lived out in the church.

The official title of his year’s campaign is “Taking a Step of Faith,” but we also have an underlying theme of “Gratitude.” You likely have noticed the new banner hanging in the sanctuary as a reminder of the spirit of this season in SOTP’s life. Hopefully you’ve heard about the gratitude luncheon planned for Sunday,

(Continued on page 4)

A Note

From Pastor Ryan

(Continued from page 3)

November 19 at noon. Luncheon is a way of saying thank you to all of you for your faithful service to our worshiping community. (Registration for the event can be found on our website under the Grow or Serve tabs and on the Church Center app.)

In the spirit of this gratitude and as an example of how stewardship is lived out all through the year, I would like to share a story with you. In previous newsletters, I have shared with you how invaluable Jess Panella has been to our confirmation program, but this month, I want to lift up how we got to this point.

All the way back in February of this year, Jess asked if we could get lunch together. We met for lunch and ended up talking for well over 2.5 hours. She began by telling me how passionate she was for our youth ministry and how she had served our youth in the past. She was clear that her gifts and wishes for helping out in the future were not in teaching or leading small groups, but in the behind-the-scenes work of scheduling, record keeping, and the administrative tasks that come with youth ministry.

I had quietly been searching for someone to fit this exact role, and Jess was the answer to my prayers. Not only that, but by the time summer rolled around, Jill and Jess had connected and developed a role for Jess behind the scenes of VBS. Matt Morrison, our Operations

Manager, saw what was unfolding and suggested offer her a larger, more regular role as an administrator of all of our children, youth, and family ministry, freeing up Jill and I for big picture planning and ministry over record keeping and other administrative paperwork. Jess' presence and skills in all of this has taken our ministry to the next level.

The reason I share this is, on one hand, to share my absolute gratitude for Jess and her willingness to serve, but on the other, to share with you an example of how individual skills and passions can align with the needs and dreams of SOTP.

The staff and ministry leaders of SOTP are always looking for people to fulfill various roles. We often ask for volunteers either broadly in worship or by personal invitation, but what works even better is when people come to us to let us know what they love to do, what they are good at, and how they feel God is calling them to serve.

My invitation for you is to reflect on your gifts and passions and listen for God's call in your life. Reflect on how you might find new ways to add to the amazing ministries of God's church. Then reach out to the staff and ministry leaders at SOTP to see how your gifts and passions could make a difference in our worshipping community.

Peace,

Pastor Ryan

Ministry Musings

With Donna



I can hardly believe that it is already November! It seems like we just celebrated Easter,

and here it is, time for Thanksgiving. And that is where our minds turn, to Thanksgiving. We tend to linger there for a moment and quickly move on to “The Holidays”. The moment Thanksgiving Day is over, our tree goes up, we shop with an unrivaled fervor, and thoughts of gratitude fly out the window as we get caught up in the holiday busies;...or is it just me?

I find that I get so wrapped up in the Christmas wrappings, that all thoughts of thanksgiving and thankfulness rush out of my head as I make my shopping, baking, and TO DO lists my number one priority. Much of the time I’m so busy doing that I even miss the opportunity to enjoy the season with friends and family. I miss the ability to stop, inhale the scents, take in the beauty and drink in the love and joy that can be Christmas.

But most of all, I find it easy to miss the wonder of the incarnation of God, the absolutely astounding love of God in coming and living with their creation as one of that creation. Even here at church we can become too caught up in planning worship and other activities, decorating, celebrating, making sure everything is “just right”, that we miss the miraculous love of God wrapped up in a manger.

For all of us, our business can muffle the sounds of the angel chorus and stifle the sheer joy of the shepherds. It can cloud over the star and filter out Mary’s song. So, I encourage you to take a few moments to do as Mary did and ponder on the meaning of all of this; how this action of God’s love impacts your life and then how you can influence the lives of others as you share this amazing story of God’s love. Happy Thanksgiving and may you find true joy in God’s love this Advent and Christmas season. Er

Donna Kelly



Thanksgiving Offering

This year's Thanksgiving offering will be going to:

- Feed my Starving Children
- Grafton Food Pantry
- Hampshire Food Pantry
- Northern Illinois Food Bank

This is including:

- Thanksgiving Eve Loose Offering
- Offerings in Thanksgiving Envelopes
- Offerings made online under Thanksgiving Offering at: www.bit.ly/SOTPGIVING

Take a Step in Faith With Us

“Sunday, November 19 will be Building a Culture of Generosity by Taking a Step of Faith Weekend at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church. We urge you to plan now to be in church that day. We are looking forward to welcoming Bishop Stacie Fidler as our special guest that day. She will also be joining us for a “Gratitude” luncheon following worship to thank all who love and serve through SOTP. Please register to let us know you will be joining us that day.

Sometimes, we have measured too much of our success on whether or not we could underwrite a particular budget. For this year, we will measure success by how much the people of Shepherd of the Prairie are willing to take the next step in their giving. Instead of strictly emphasizing commitments to the budget, we are asking each person to consider a

personal, proportional commitment to the ministries of our church. This biblical approach to stewardship is an effective means of making progress in our spiritual journeys. We are asking not for equal giving, but equal sacrifice in response to God’s many blessings in our lives.

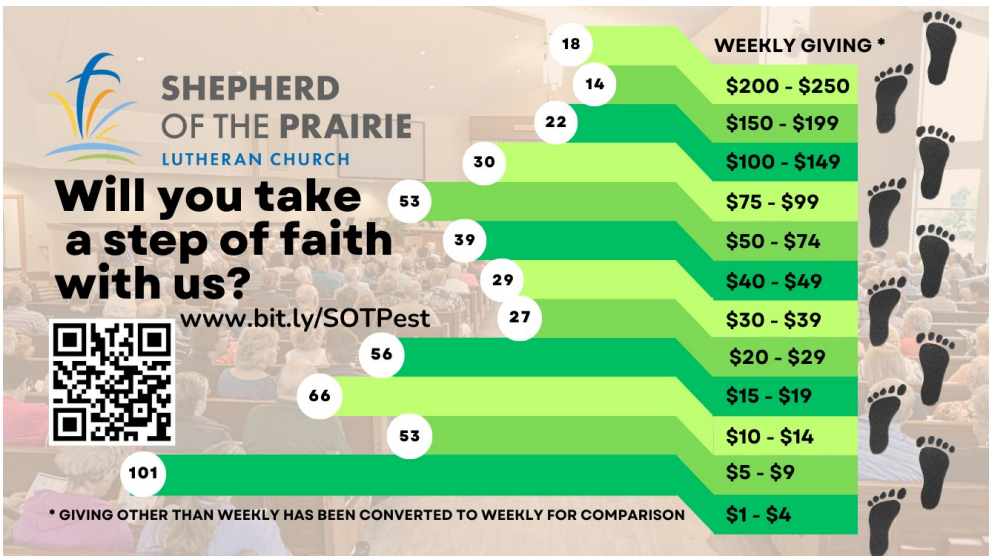
We believe that you, as part of the SOTP Family, are concerned enough to make every effort to come to church on Take a Step of Faith Weekend to make your response.

It will be a special time together!

We look forward to seeing you there.

Grace and peace,

Mike McCann
Stewardship Team Leader
michealmccann71@gmail.com



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 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 a giving # assigned.

If you would like us to track your giving, contact the Church office.

2024 Giving #s and/or envelopes will be coming soon. If you give electronically, please watch for an email from Michelle Rankin in the beginning of November.

Contact: *Michelle Rankin*
michelle@sotpmail.com

SEE Week

Ministry Engagement



Get Engaged

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

NOVEMBER 13 - 17

WWW.BIT.LY/SOTPSEE1123

SERVANT ENGAGEMENT & EQUIPPING

An opportunity to engage in the ministry life at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church. Come & See!



PASTOR
RYAN MACKAY



PASTOR
MARK BOSTER



SEE
Week



During SEE Week we invite anyone who would like to participate in the ministry life of the church to come and see.

It's an invitation to members of Shepherd of the Prairie to be engaged in the church.

On Monday night our ministry teams meet beginning at 7:00 pm. Come and see how you might get plugged into helping on one of these teams.

During the week other ministry teams will hold SEE gatherings for those currently serving as well as those who might wish to serve.

We are hopeful this becomes a part of the culture of our church and continue SEE Week following all of our four new member gatherings

each year.

SEE what is offered and register at www.bit.ly/SOTPSEE1123

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



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.

- 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

Gratitude Lunch

Time, Talents & Treasures

YOU ARE INVITED...



GRATITUDE LUNCH

With
Special Guest:
Bishop Stacie Fidler

Sunday
November 19, 2023
Noon



Register & Info:
www.bit.ly/SOTPgrat23

**grateful,
thankful
& blessed**

**time,
talents &
treasures**

At the conclusion of this year's Taking a Step of Faith Stewardship Campaign, we wish to thank everyone at Shepherd of the Prairie for many ways people give of themselves through the church. We celebrate time, talents and treasure that are so generously shared.

Bishop Stacie Fidler, of the Northern IL Synod will be our special guest on this day.

Please sign up and join us for lunch at 12 noon on Sunday, November 19th.

Contact: Michelle Rankin
michelle@sotpmail.com

Food Drive

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

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

Registration Table Need Help Signing Up?

Event Registration

Have you seen our Event Registration desk?

Located near the Welcome Center, it's where you can come and sign up for all events at SOTP. It takes just a minute to sign up! Or, you can sign up

on the SOTP Website or with the QR code to the left.



Contact Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com

Deck the Halls

For Advent & Christmas



**Decorate
the Church**

**MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 27**
9:00AM

Info & Register:

www.bit.ly/SOTPdec23

Next Step Fellowship

For Single Seniors



Cards: Saturday, November 18, 10am

**NEXT STEP
FELLOWSHIP**

Fellowship Group for Single Seniors

Registration Appreciated



Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1123

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

A colorful illustration for a preschool advertisement. It features a large rainbow arching over a green hill. In the center, a group of six diverse children are smiling and waving. The text 'LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL' is written in a large, blue, bubbly font across the middle. In the top left corner, there is a small white logo of a plant. In the top right corner, there is a yellow circle with a red border containing the text 'AGES 2-5'. In the bottom left corner, there is a QR code with a small circular logo in the center containing a lowercase letter 'b'. At the bottom center, the text 'Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPLittleLambs23' is displayed.

**AGES
2-5**

LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL

Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPLittleLambs23

Welcome to America

Pack



Mission Team is collecting NEW items to help furnish an apartment for a new refugee family.

Please see list of needs at www.bit.ly/SOTPpack23

and sign up for what you will be bringing into church for the

Welcome Pack. There will be collection boxes on blue tables by the office windows.

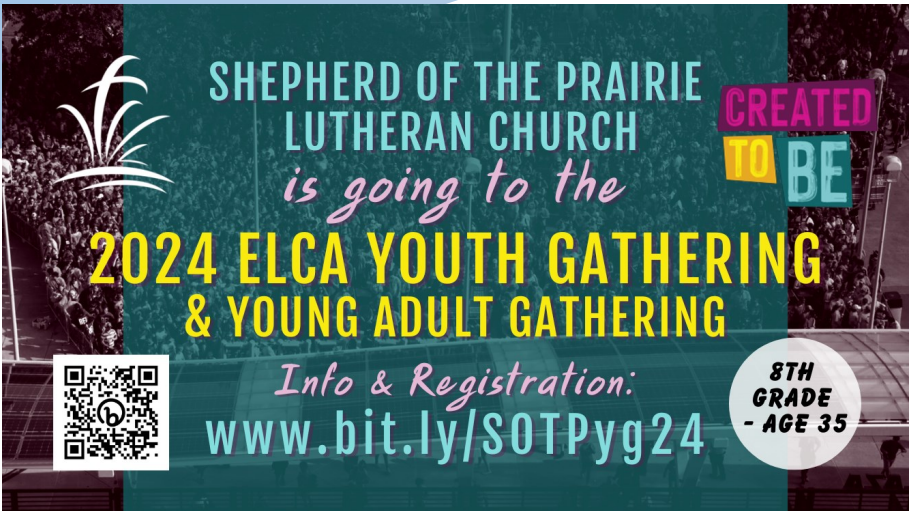
Contact:

Sandy Hupert

at sandyhupert@gmail.com

ELCA Youth Gathering

2024



Blue Christmas Service

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Worship service for those who have lost someone

Tuesday
December 12
7:00 pm



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', 'More', and a user profile icon. A large blue banner across the middle reads 'EASILY VIEW CURRENT EVENTS & REGISTRATIONS' with the URL 'www.bit.ly/SOTPsSignup'. Below the banner are 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!', 'NEWSLETTER PREP', 'SOUP SUPPER WORSHIP MARCH 5:45 PM', and a confirmation card for a youth event. A QR code is visible in the bottom right corner of the screenshot.

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

Contact: Michelle Rankin michelle@sotpmail.com

Giving Tree Gift Cards Needed



Bringing Christmas to Grafton Food Pantry and Turning Point in Woodstock.

The Christmas Giving Tree will be set up as of Nov. 4.

Only gift cards, not to exceed \$25.

If you decide to just drop in a check, please make the check either "Grafton Food Pantry" or "Turning Point". Turning Point is a shelter for abused women, children and men. Yes, men are abused too.

Envelopes are clipped to the tree or laying on the table. Please do not take an envelope if you don't plan to use it. Place the gift card inside the envelope, seal it and

drop into the box on the table.

All envelopes must be returned by Sunday, December 10th and will be delivered on Monday, December 11.

Any questions contact Bev Pinelli or Alice Miller.

Contact: *Bev Pinnelli*
at imbev@hotmail.com

SOTP Logowear

**SHEPHERD
OF THE PRAIRIE**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Online
Apparel Store**

www.bit.ly/SOTPlogowear

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

Contact: Matt Morrison
matt@sotpmail.com

Bible Study

**BIBLE STUDY
WITH PASTOR MARK**

WEDS AT 11:00 A.M.

Info:
www.bit.ly/SOTPaded23

Resuming
Sept. 6

Adult Choir

Sing With Us!

A photograph of an adult choir rehearsing in a room. The choir members are of various ages and are holding black songbooks. The background is slightly blurred, focusing on the choir members in the foreground.

 **ADULT CHOIR**
REHEARSALS
WEDNESDAYS
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Info:
www.bit.ly/SOTPchoir2324



Youth & Adult Bells

Ring With Us!

A photograph of a bell choir rehearsing. The focus is on the hands of the members as they ring large, golden bells. The background is dark, and the lighting highlights the bells and the hands.

YOUTH & ADULT
BELL CHOIR
REHEARSAL
TUESDAYS 7:00 PM
STARTING SEPTEMBER 12TH

Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPbells2324



Craft Fair & Bake Sale

Holiday Shopping



**BAKERS
NEEDED**

FOR

**BAKE SALE
NOVEMBER
11 & 12**

More Info & Sign Up:

www.bit.ly/SOTPbake23



Bakers Needed

For Bake Sale



**SOTP CRAFTERS
CRAFT FAIR**

BAKE SALE

**NOV 11 9AM-2PM &
BEFORE & AFTER SERVICE**

NOV 12 BEFORE & AFTER SERVICES

Delicious bakery goods. Crafts for everyone.

www.bit.ly/SOTPfair23



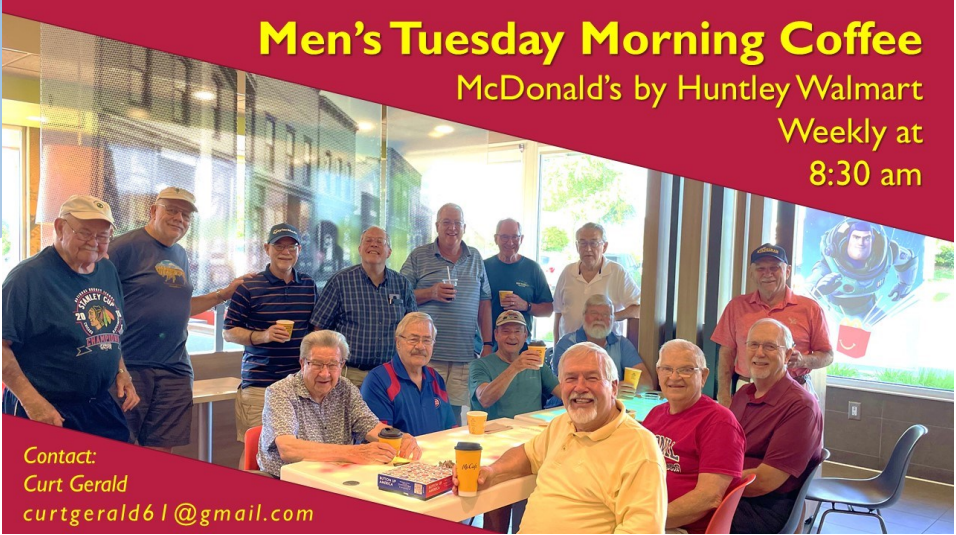
Men's Coffee

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 center, a white circular badge contains the text: "ALTAR FLOWERS DONATE FLOWERS TO BRIGHTEN UP THE SANCTUARY \$52/EACH". To the left of the badge is a QR code. Below the badge, a dark red banner contains the text: "SIGN UP: www.bit.ly/SOTPflower". In the top left corner, there is a small logo with a stylized 'f' and colorful lines.

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. Payments 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*

Thank You From Chris Solem

I want to thank all of my brothers and sisters at Shepherd of the Prairie for your visits, prayers, and cards. Sara read them to me when I couldn't even open the envelopes. They lifted not only my spirits, but Sara's as well.

Your countless prayers helped Sara and me through the lows that followed my surgery. The power of your prayers was evident in so many ways. Again, I thank you. Chris Solem



Grief Journey

A Safe Place to Heal



GRIEF JOURNEY GROUP

**TUESDAY MORNINGS
10AM**



Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPgrief

Huntley Fall Fest

Thank You

FALL FEST



THANK YOU

A HUGE thank you to all that volunteered your time at the Fall Fest booth!

The weekend was a great success

and lots of fun! We hope to see you all again next year!

Contact: *Tara Mackey*
rtmackey10@yahoo.com

Artist Series Concert



The Shepherd
of the Prairie
Artist Series
Presents

A Starry Night of *Christmas Classics*

With Lelm & Langford
& the Mark Olen Orchestra

Friday
December 1st
7:00 pm



Shepherd of the Prairie Artist Series presents “A Starry Night of Christmas Classics” on December 1

The Chicago-based piano/vocal duo of Kristin Lelm and Paul Langford, backed by the talented Mark Olen Orchestra, brings “A Starry Night of Christmas Classics” free concert at 7:00pm on Friday, December 1, 2023 at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church, 10805 Main Street in Huntley.

The public is invited to hear this entertaining holiday performance sponsored by the SOTP Artist Series. No tickets are required and freewill donations are gratefully accepted.

Lelm & Langford are a Chicago-based piano/vocal duo, specializing in jazz, pop and orchestral performances.

They will be accompanied by the popular Mark Olen Orchestra, featuring trumpeter Mark Olen, which has provided previous popular SOTP Artist Series performances at Shepherd of the Prairie.

“A Starry Night of Christmas Classics” will include favorite Christmas Standards in exciting new arrangements, such as: White Christmas, Silent Night, There’s No Place Like Home for the Holidays, O Holy Night, and more.

Soprano Lelm has been thrilling audiences for more than a decade. Lelm is a regular member of the Chicago Symphony Chorus, Chicago Acappella, and a former member of the Grant Park Chorus

(Continued on page 27)

Artist Series Concert

(Continued from page 26)

(Chicago), and has made numerous appearances at the famed Ravinia Festival in Highland Park, IL and performed at Carnegie Hall in New York on multiple occasions. She has performed as a recitalist and soloist all over the U.S., including opera roles, jazz, musical theatre, pop and ensemble singing of all kinds.

Langford, whose career has spanned over 25 years, is a Chicago-based singer, arranger, keyboardist, producer and conductor. His work includes arranging for and performing with groups such as The Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Chicagoland Pops, the Pensacola and LaCrosse Symphony Orchestras, and Walt Disney World. On the road, Paul is an in-demand music educator, clinician, guest conductor, respected band and vocal ensemble leader, and invited singer with orchestras and a

cappella groups across America and around the globe.

Olen's versatility is evidenced by performances with the American Jazz Philharmonic, Chicago Jazz Festival, Ravinia Festival Orchestra, to name a few. He has performed with a multitude of entertainers, including Michael McDonald and David Foster, plus the late Tony Bennett, Al Jarreau, Aretha Franklin, and Maynard Ferguson. As a studio artist, Olen has contributed to recordings of the Chicago Jazz Ensemble, VeggieTales, and countless television/radio commercials.

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

20 years.

*Contact: Jane McMullen
jane@sotpmail.com*

Poinsettia Orders Information Coming Soon

Along with decorating the sanctuary and gathering area, we will again this season decorate with poinsettias.

Order taking will begin in November (date TBD) online or via envelopes. Please consider a donation of poinsettias to grace our sanctuary this Christmas season.

*Contact: Diane Mollis
dem910@outlook.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
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



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Giving Tree Is Up

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

New Member Gathering, 3pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG1123

WEEKEND OF NOV 11 & 12

Bake Sale & Craft Sale

www.bit.ly/SOTPbake23

NOVEMBER 13-19 SEE Week

⇒ 11/13: Greeters Meeting 6pm

⇒ 11/13: Ministry Night 7pm

⇒ 11/16: Barnabas Meeting 6pm

⇒ 11/16: Worship Meeting 7pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPSEE1123

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Gratitude Lunch, Noon

www.bit.ly/SOTPgrat23

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Thanksgiving Eve Service

Followed by Pie Fest, 7pm

NOVEMBER 23 & 24 Church
Office Closed, Thanksgiving

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Decorate the Church, 9am

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30 Kids'

Academy—Canvas Painting,
4pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPkidsAC

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1 A STARRY
NIGHT OF CHRISTMAS

CLASSICS—ARTIST SERIES EVENT,
7:00 PM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 Blue
Christmas Service, 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

Kids' Academy—Art with Julie,
5pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPkidsAC

DECEMBER 22-25, Church Office
Closed, Christmas

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

Saturday Evening Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Services:

Family Service, 3pm

Contemporary Service, 5pm

Traditional Service, 11pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

Caroling in the Square, 8pm

Birthdays

November

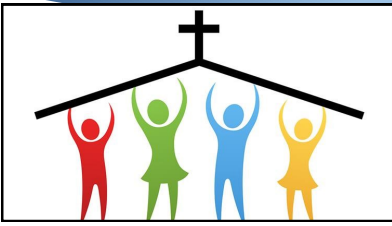


1-Nov	Faith Geller
	Lee Gollhardt
	Tracy McDuffee
	Kylie Rankin
2-Nov	Luke Brockman
	Beverly Pinnelli
3-Nov	Caden Grady
	Samantha Johnson
	Roy Olson
	Diana Reincke
	Sherry Roberts
4-Nov	Jonathan Black
	Shipra Minz
5-Nov	Emily Ernst
	Christian Larson
6-Nov	Amy Brittain
	Autumn Maraviglia
	Maggie Rojas
	Joseph Trevino
	Michael Yndestad
7-Nov	Carol Gerhardt
	Jenny Hollabaugh
	Nancy Morbeck
	Lucy Panvino
	Jonathan Perez
8-Nov	Linda Jarvis
	Fred Turner
9-Nov	Patricia Bour
	Sarah Frederickson
	Breanna Huston
	Wayne Wagner

10-Nov	Zoe Bishop
	Carrie Gronau
	David Johnson
	Mike Kasal
	Nathaniel Reincke
	Kenneth Rotter
11-Nov	Merrily Burkland
	Jeffrey Case
	Jocelyn Doden
	Carol Legel
	Laureen Penev
	Jake Scalise
	Dana Ullrich
12-Nov	Monica Dase
	Randi Dawson
	Thor Forsythe
	Paul Marx
	Dylan Miley
13-Nov	Melissa Juergensen
	Don Koerner
	Paul Lemke
	Alexander Stenson
	Rebecca Tuzik
14-Nov	Mark Boster
	Jill Brown
	Elise Dean
	Don Schneider
15-Nov	Jake Luedtke
16-Nov	Michael Lehmann
17-Nov	Gina DeBolt
	Cindy Hollow
	Rylen Jacobs
	Emory Wildermuth

18-Nov	Tom Cox
	Kristine DeBolt
	Barbara Pagano
19-Nov	Diane Peterson
	Cassidy Serpe
	Kimberly Szekely
20-Nov	Dick Maiman
21-Nov	David Kann
	Jen Raines
	Art Ryden
22-Nov	Lesley Beallis
	William Christ
	Elizabeth Johnson
	Joyce Thompson
23-Nov	Drew Anderson
	Laura Miley
24-Nov	Michael Malczewski
25-Nov	Pamela Sandberg
	Janet Thunholm
26-Nov	Barbara Hoppensteadt
27-Nov	Ruth Mecklenburg
	Geri Lynn Schlichting
28-Nov	Beth Brockman
	Casey Coots
	Carlene Moeller
29-Nov	Terry Halpin
	Richard Juergensen
	Venessa Lorenzo
	Jim Rhode
30-Nov	Madelyn Brittain
	Lisa Caddoo
	Stefanie Kindle

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

November 2023



		November 4 & 5	November 11 & 12	November 18 & 19	November 25 & 26
Counters	Mon	Ralph Wehnes, Diana Murphy & Dottie Bobzen			
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	Dottie Bobzin Candace Beck	Laura Attaway Elaine Gillam
	SUN 10:45 AM	Bob & Carolyn Malm	Bob & Carolyn Malm	Bob & Carolyn Malm	Elaine Gillam
Ushers Interested in Serving Here? Contact: Ed Cuttle edschn28@ comcast.net	SAT 5:00 PM	Tom Cox Lynn Meyer	Jim & Diana Murphy	Carol Hartman Sue Mattiucci	Steve Murphy Peggy Lynn Loiselle
	SUN 9:00 AM	WALTER LEMKE Art Ryden Tim Bueschel Stan Crissman Mickey Kappel Cathy Kappel	JACK CONTI Pete Thompson Frank Cesario Cheryl Rotermund Jeff Ottens Carol Engstrom	WAYNE SCHMIDT Nancy Wilson Arja Kasper Dan Wentzlof Jeff Stangle Mike Malczewski	RALPH WEHNES George Attaway Ed & Carolyn Cuttle Jerry & Pat Darow Stan Crissman
	SUN 10:45 AM	BOB MCDUFFEE Chuck Peterson Annika Yndestad	MARK FRENDREIS Sandi Stewart Jessica Panella	VIK BEKERIS Don Koerner Judy Petropulos Doug Nagel	VIK BEKERIS Bob Mollis Diane Mollis

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Statement of Purpose >

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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

Treasurer Report as of September 30, 2023

General Fund Report: The Unrestricted General Fund Balance is \$361,593. Total income for the month was \$69,921 and total expenses for the month was \$74,445. Approximately 4.5 months of General Fund reserves.

General Fund reserves. Mortgage Service Fund Report: The Mortgage Service Fund Balance is \$45,096. Income for the month was \$14,340. The monthly mortgage payment is \$18,807. Approximately 2.4 months of Mortgage Service Fund reserves.

This Month

General Fund	Actual	Budget	Difference	Percentage
Income:	\$69,921	\$75,088	(\$5,167)	-6.88%
Expenses:	\$74,445	\$75,644	\$1,199	1.6%

Year-to-Date

General Fund	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference	Percentage
Income:	\$701,983	\$729,324	(\$27,341)	-3.7%
Expenses:	\$709,148	\$717,933	\$8,785	1.2%

Mortgage Service Fund

Income for Month:	\$14,340
Income YTD:	\$147,849
Payments YTD:	\$169,263
Ending Fund Balance:	\$45,096

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy McGuine
Congregation Treasurer

faith and
finances

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



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