



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

"We care for God's children of all ages by growing disciples who make disciples."

**DRIVE THROUGH FOOD DRIVE
THANK YOU!**

Our Friday morning Life Group recently felt the call to service and worked to set up a drive through food gathering to benefit the Grafton Food Pantry. Many



parts of our ministry here at SOTP were invited to help out and responded with great enthusiasm. With our Life Group leading the way, the Mission, Community Outreach, Property, and many individuals put together an in-gathering on June 6th that was a rousing success. The entire community of Huntley and other communities that are served by Grafton were invited to participate.

In four short hours a truck and trailer were filled with paper goods, toiletries, and food. People also made monetary donations in the amount of \$4050 and SOTP added a check for \$1500 out of the Good Samaritan Fund. We also gave a check in the amount of \$450 that was received for Grafton through other donation made to SOTP in the month of May. That's a total of \$6000 given to Grafton.

A huge thanks to the Friday Morning Life Group for leading this day of service and to all those who came out to help. That is truly sharing the love of God with his people.

A Note From Pastor Mark

Pastor's
Corner

Members and Friends,

What does it mean to believe in the Holy Spirit in today's world? Let's get right to the root of our belief by remembering what many of us learned during Confirmation in the explanation to the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed: "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Ghost has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith; in which Christian Church He forgives daily and richly all sins to me and all believers, and at the last day will raise up me and all the dead, and will give to me and to all believers in Christ everlasting life. This is most certainly true." [Martin Luther's Small Catechism].

Do these words rekindle memories of yourself at the altar, in a white dress or a white shirt and pants, facing the pastor as you recited the "memory work" assigned to you before you received your confirmation certificate? Or was it at a Sunday night (like it was for me) when you tried your best to be invisible as the pastor asked the twenty or so questions before the congregation who gathered that evening?

Have these words reoccurred to you during those times in your life when you've known you were being led by the Holy Spirit: The first time you gave witness to your faith, when you knew that you didn't have either the confidence or the words to express what you so deeply believed; the time when you were tempted to just enlarge the truth when it meant a job or promotion and you didn't; when a child is brought for Baptism and the pastor says, "My child, you have been marked with the cross of Christ and sealed with the Holy Spirit forever."

Powerful words that have sustained our faith and grown our faith through the years. In Acts 4:32-35 we hear about the activity of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the first Christian communities. Note that it doesn't say these were actions that were directed by the leaders; rather they were spontaneous from the hearts of the believers.

Do we see such Spirit-filled actions in Christian communities today? A few weeks ago SOTP received food offerings and monetary gifts for the Grafton Food Pantry. A truck load of food and \$6,000 was the result of faithful effort? Does the present economic plight of our neighbors move us to action on their behalf? Do those who are alone stir you to make a phone call or write a card to relieve the pain of separation.

(Continued on page 3)

A Note From Pastor Mark (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2)

Aren't these positive responses to the work of the Holy Spirit enlightening us with his gifts? Read John 20:19-31. The disciples received the Holy Spirit when Jesus breathed on them just as Adam and Eve received life from the breath of God. The Holy Spirit gave them new life through faith in Christ's resurrection.

Let's name and claim the work of the Spirit in our lives. Even during this pandemic we are living through, let's praise God for bringing us together by the power of the Spirit!

Peace,

Pastor Mark

Adult Education

"Summertime and the livin' is easy..." Well, the summer of 2020 may not be easy but it's certainly different! Different from anything we've ever experienced. How do we adjust? How do we live through the turmoil, confusion, frustration; the disappointment in plans cancelled, in one another's failures, in our own brokenness? In uncertain and



turbulent times, God's people have a history. We're not left to wander in the wilderness by ourselves. Even though we're apart in so many ways, we're still connected to one another as a baptized community of faith. We're still able to worship with one another, even though not physically together. (Imagine what living through the coronavirus would have been like 10 years ago. Even 5 years ago!) God still beckons us through the gift of his written Word. And the opportunity for prayer is now more vital than ever. After all, there's so much to pray for; and so many people who need our prayers. So this is our life right now. And it may be our life for months to come. So we listen to Jesus' words: "Come to me, all that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Amen and amen.

Pastor Bill

Ministry Musings

In a recent conversation with one of our members, I discovered that she, her sister in another state, her niece that lives in Chicago, and another niece that lives in Colorado are all worshipping together on Sunday Mornings at 9am via our Live Stream of worship. They not only worship together, when it comes time to Pass the Peace, they text each other, “The peace of the Lord be with you”, and respond “And also with you”. They text each other as they take communion together. They really feel each other’s blessing and peace.



When my friend shared this with me, I was struck with how much we are still a community even if we worship in different houses rather than in one house. The feeling of community overcame me and I suddenly felt a connection with other believers in other places that I hadn’t been aware of in a very long time. I realized that the SOTP building and our congregation, while important, isn’t all there is. I had the sense of being part of the Church, the body of Christ that transcends place and time. The Church that knows no building, no color, no gender, No sexual orientation, no age, no political party, no country, no economic status, no health status, no power struggles, no meanness, no gossip, no hurt. Some day that Church will come into completeness. Some day that Church will be all in all.

But until then, we live here and now. We live in a world of which SOTP is a part and we experience all those things listed above that mark out the world. Jesus has called us to be different from the world; to be a people whose only mission and agenda is to follow Jesus and to tell his story. We are called to be a people apart; a people who are known by the world as Jesus disciples only by our love. We are called to turn the world upside down with Jesus’ love.

Answering that call may mean we have to give up our life (our status, our anger, our hurt, our desires, our will, our way, our long-held non-loving beliefs) for another. It may mean offering forgiveness and reconciliation when we don’t feel like it. As Pastor Mark often reminds us, love often (maybe always) means wanting better for another than for ourselves; that everything we do is for those who have yet to walk through our doors. We can’t do it perfectly, but we can strive to be the people the Father created us to be, the Son died and rose for us to be, and the Spirit calls us to be.

Grace & Peace.

Donna Kelly

A/V VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

I hope this newsletter finds you well. We are all dealing with this challenging pandemic but we have seen a huge following for our streamed services. We need more help to make our broadcasts run smoothly. Although we are doing our best to support our services with as few



people as possible we have created a way to increase our A/V support with social distancing. We have created an graphics support station outside of the A/V featuring ProPresenter support. So, I am writing to all of you, to ask you to help with running visuals. In order to keep traffic down each week it is our preference to have the same person serve at both services. If you feel comfortable giving this a try please reach out to Jane and I and we will work out a schedule that works for everyone. Thanks for you support. All the Best, Mike Yndestad

Contact: Mike Yndestad mike@sotpmail.com

NEW MEMBER GATHERING

“Come and see!” John 2:46. If you have been worshipping with us for a while here at SOTP 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, July 26 from 3:00-4:30 pm**. This will be an opportunity for you to learn more about the life and ministry of SOTP and for you to consider prayerfully whether or not you want to formally become a member of the SOTP family.

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

Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com or 214-676-1788.



FROM YOUR STEWARDSHIP TEAM

Your Stewardship Committee is beginning preparations for our CY 2021 financial program. We want to ensure our message is received by all members of our congregation during our September 25/26 through October 17/18 presentations. Should we not be in unrestricted worship mode at that time, we will present in video format much like Pastor Mark and Pastor Bill are now communicating during the week.

It is essential that we have updated email, address, and phone numbers so that all communication options are available. **So please communicate all updates and changes to Michelle Rankin at michelle@sotpmail.com . If you haven't been receiving emails from Shepherd of the Prairie and would like to, please send an email to Michelle Rankin at michelle@sotpmail.com and she will look into it for you.**

We're grateful for your continued financial support which has kept us on solid financial footing during the COVID 19 pandemic. Please continue with your faithful donations. We know you are anxious to return to regular community worship, and we will get there, but we want to safeguard everyone's health before doing so.

Challenges lie ahead for our Mission and Ministry growth at Shepherd of the Prairie as new goals and objectives to meet our needs and the community in which we live are being considered. It's a way forward in making disciples of all ages who make disciples of others!

Stewardship Contact: Rick Miller rlmiller3k@gmail.com



*Remember: your offerings are a blessing.
And blessings keep on giving.
Online Giving Available at:*

<https://bit.ly/SOTPgiving>

Questions? Contact: Michelle Rankin Michelle@sotpmail.com

FOOD PANTRY

PANTRY STILL NEEDS HELP

Open for distribution: Mon 4-7 / Wed & Fri 1-4
Both Food items and monetary donations
are welcome.

There are Drop Boxes in the Front and Back of
the Food Pantry at 11481 Allison Ct, Huntley.

Would appreciate the following:

Canned Chicken * Dry Soup (Ramin & other) * Syrup
Satline Crackers * Skillet Melals like Hamburger Helper
Canned Corn * Personal Care Items (Hair Conditioner & Other)

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED.

Call Harriet Ford at the Grafton Food Pantry at 847-254-8351.



SOTP YOUTH / REFRESH

SAVERS FUNDRAISER -
Final Collection date is
Sunday Aug. 2, with
collections accepted
starting July 19.

Please contact Bob
McDuffee
(Youth@sotpmail.com)
to schedule an
appointment for dropping
off your donations.

NEW DATES

FUNDrive™
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Your Donations = \$

- CLOTHING
- SHOES
- BEDDING/TOWELS
- ACCESSORIES
- CDS, DVDS
- ELECTRICAL ITEMS
- TOYS & GAMES
- KITCHEN ITEMS
- KNICK-KNACKS
- SPORTING GOODS

As you're cleaning closets:
Final collection August 2
Youth are collecting for Mission Trip.
Contact: Bob McDuffee
Youth@sotpmail.com

Items accepted include: Clothing, Shoes, Bedding / Towels,
Accessories, CD's / DVD's, Electrical Items, Toys & Games,
Sporting Goods, Kitchen Items and Knick-Knacks

2020 MISSION TRIP - Cancelled due to ongoing concerns related to
COVID-19 pandemic.

RE:FRESH YOUTH GROUPS

- Alumni Group (Recent H.S. Graduates through young adults) meet **Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM** via Zoom
- High School Group meets **Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM** via Zoom

Please reach out to the Youth team (Youth@sotpmail.com)
for meeting ID and Password information.

If there are any questions about youth events or happenings, please reach out to the Youth team via email or reach out to Bob McDuffee directly and we'll be happy to assist.

Contact: Bob McDuffee Youth@sotpmail.com

PRAYER CHAIN

HOW TO SEND A PRAYER REQUEST TO THE PRAYER CHAIN

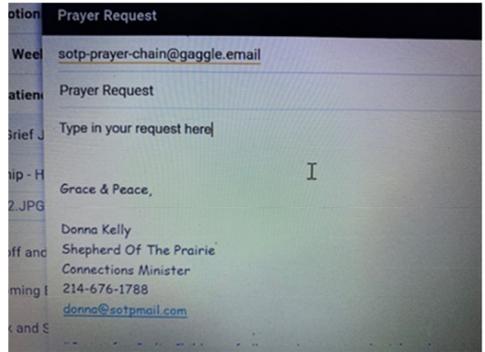
We have contracted with a service that automatically forwards your prayer request to the members of our prayer chain. We did this so that requests would go out immediately and there is no need to wait for someone to see your request before it goes out.

You need no special equipment or program to do this. It is just like sending any other email.

All you need to do is:

- ⇒ address the email to **sotp-prayer-chain@gaggle.email** (you can even create a contact in your email address book for Prayer Chain with this email address to make it easier)
- ⇒ in the subject write prayer request
- ⇒ in the body write your prayer request
- ⇒ add your name at the bottom
- ⇒ hit send like you would with any other email you would send
- ⇒ just as when you send any other email, you won't get a copy of it

Contact Donna Kelly. donna@sotpmail.com



LIFE GROUPS



Our Life Groups are continuing to meet and growing. They are a wonderful way to keep in touch, especially during this time, to draw closer to each other and to grow in our walk as disciples of Jesus. We have several groups that are meeting via ZOOM. There is a group that meets on Monday night, two that meet on Tuesday nights (one is a women's group and the other is for all), one on Thursday nights (post high-school young adults) and one that meets on

Friday mornings (for all). We also have a Life Group for youth and one for those journeying through grief. If you are interested in finding out more about Life Groups, would like to join an existing group, or start a new one, please contact Donna Kelly.

Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com or 214-676-1788.

LET THERE BE FLOWERS



With live streaming the worship services at SOTP, your Worship Committee would like to brighten up the sanctuary with flowers for the sanctuary. We would place the bouquet on the pedestal behind the Pastor. As normal each arrangement is \$50.

We would pick up the bouquet from the florist for the Sunday worship services and then we

would deliver the flowers to your home on Sunday or Monday after the service (practicing social distancing of course).

If you are interested in donating flowers, please contact Diane Mollis at dem910@outlook.com. 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. We would only need one bouquet per week. If you have any questions, who may call Diane at 224-654-6677.

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO DONATED FLOWERS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

- June 7th Bill and Joy Nesta in celebration of their anniversary
- June 14th Ed and Carolyn Cuttle in celebration of their anniversary
- June 21st Mike and Lori Malczewski in memory of those who died from Covid-19
- June 21st Donna Sorensen in memory of Sid's, her husband, birthday
- June 28th Paul and Sandra Lemke in honor of their grandson's, Kyle, graduation from Jacobs High School

Contact: Dianne Mollis dem910@outlook.com



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Shepherd of the
Prairie Lutheran
Church
[@ShepherdofthePrairie](https://www.instagram.com/ShepherdofthePrairie)

OFFERING ENVELOPE INFORMATION



Thank you for being diligent using offering envelopes. Here are some things the counting committee would like you to know.

- 1) Please don't tape the envelope shut.
- 2) If you get behind and want to catch up, only use one envelope.
- 3) Referring to #2, you only need to write one check.
- 4) If you are applying funds to more than the General Fund, note it on the envelope and/or check. If left blank, all will go to General Fund.
- 5) If you put a loose check in offering instead of using your envelope, it takes the counter at least 5 times longer to process it to your envelope number.
- 6) The bank will not accept 3rd party checks.

Contact: Ralph Wehnes, ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net

FINANCIAL RECORDS

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church only keeps financial records on members and non-members that have envelopes assigned. If you are not a member and want envelopes, contact Michelle Rankin at michelle@sotpmail.com

GRIEF JOURNEY CONTINUES



If you have lost a loved one and would like to be part of a group that can provide support, comfort and ideas for journeying through this season of grief, we here at Shepherd of the Prairie would like to provide that kind of opportunity for you. There are no requirements, or need to commit to a specific length of time to attend, nor that you must attend every session; you don't even need to speak except to introduce yourself and tell us who you have lost. There is no charge for participation in this group.

This group is for all who have lost a loved one whether it is a spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandchild, friend or any other relational loss. Currently we are meeting via ZOOM every **Tuesday evening at 6.**

If you have any questions or to sign up to receive the meeting invitation, please contact Donna Kelly at donna@sotpmail.com.

Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

COLUMBARIUM INFORMATION

The Memory Garden Committee thought you might like more information on our planned first columbarium for the Memory Garden. Ed Cuttle was kind enough to build the model for us pictured here. The model will be on display once we get back to meeting inside the church. The Columbarium will contain 72 niches that will each hold two urns. It's a little over 6' 11" high and 6' 6" wide. As you can see each niche will have last name, first names, date of birth, and date of death. The final cost for each niche will be determined after approvals from council, Village of Huntley, and congregation.

*Contact: Ralph Wehnes,
Chairman
ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net*



BUTTON BRIGADE



Thank you to all of you who have donated yarn and especially buttons! A special thanks to our Bitty Button Brigade who have the task of sorting the buttons by size. And an even bigger thanks to all of you who are crocheting extenders and/or sewing on buttons for extenders to help make more comfortable the masks those in the health care arena must wear for extend periods. So far over 5000 extenders have been created and delivered to over health care agencies, nursing homes, care facilities and hospitals in Huntley, Algonquin, Crystal Lake, Woodstock, Rockford, Schaumburg, Arlington Heights and several other suburbs. Yarn is still needed, but it must be worsted weight acrylic as it needs to be washable. We also welcome buttons 1" to 1.75".

Contact: Donna Kelly, donna@sotpmail.com.

EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS



Do You Receive All Our email communications?

- ⇒ Daily Devotionals (Food for the soul)
- ⇒ Weekly Friday Flourish (Church info)
- ⇒ Monthly Newsletter (More detailed information)

*To start receiving any 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.

SUPPER CLUB

CALLING ONE AND ALL to Join the Summer/Fall Supper Club once church services resume. It's time for us to gather in supper groups to share food and fellowship with other Shepherd of the Prairie members. The fun part is that the group members can choose to entertain in their home, or go out for the meal, or order in. It is up to the



group members to decide which way they would prefer their group to work. The host rotates among the participants in the group. Once all have had the opportunity to host, then it's time for another session of Supper Groups and Sharon and I will assign you to a different group. The **YELLOW Supper Club SIGN UP SHEETS** will be on the bulletin board in front of the office or you can sign up online at www.bit.ly/SOTPsuper2020

We meet in groups of 6-8 people 3-4 times during the session depending on the number of people in your group. Singles are welcome. Any questions? Contact Marilyn Sauerberg at ggmar35@gmail.com or call 847-544-6454 or Sharon Stangle at stangle.ds@gmail.com or call 224-628-2107. Sign up online or on the Yellow sign up sheet on the bulletin board in front of the office.

If your current Supper Group has a few dinner(s) to complete, plan on scheduling and look forward to being a part of a new group starting in August.

The **deadline for sign-up is tentatively July 31, 2020** provided the stay-at-home order is lifted. When that occurs, we're planning that the groups can start in August ending in November/December.

Contact: Marilyn Sauerberg ggmar35@gmail.com

LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

We are now accepting registration for the 2020-2021 school year. Our preschool has programs for children ages 2-4 (by September 1, 2020).



Children do not need to be potty trained.

Our class sizes are small (not more than 10-12 per class). 1, 2 or 3 day classes are available to both members and non-members. For more information please contact our Preschool Director, Jill Gillming or go to our website and look under FORMS for CLASS REGISTRATION.

Contact: Jill Gillming
LittleLambs@sotpmail.com

SUNDAY MORNING ONLINE WORSHIP

**We look forward to
worshiping with you**
*(although in separate locations,
together as a church)*
live on-line at
www.sotp.org or on our
Facebook page
Sundays at 9 am & 10:45 am

FINANCIAL NEWS

Treasurer's Report as of May 31, 2020

General Fund Report The General Fund Balance is \$321,013. Income for the month was \$63,730 and Expenses for the month were \$51,853.

Mortgage Service Fund Report The Mortgage Service Fund Balance is \$107,178. Income for the month was \$20,704. The monthly mortgage payment is \$19,536.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>This Month</u>		<u>Difference</u>
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Income:	\$ 63,730	\$ 63,141	\$ 589
Expenses:	\$ 51,853	\$ 62,342	\$ (10,489)

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Year-to-Date</u>		<u>Difference</u>
	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	
Income:	\$ 364,985	\$315,705	\$ 49,280
Expenses:	\$ 295,161	\$ 314,655	\$ (19,493)

Mortgage Service Fund

Income for month:	\$ 20,704
Fund Balance:	\$ 107,178

Respectfully Submitted,

Cliff Dungey
Congregation Council Treasurer

faith and
finances

DO YOU SHOP AMAZON?

Shop AmazonSmile, when you select SOTP as your nonprofit. Same Amazon you know & love, but Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible purchase to SOTP.



We have received **\$1,319.30** so far.

Contact: Michelle Rankin michelle@sotpmail.com

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Bud Hansen, President **Matt Greene, Vice President**
Cliff Dungey, Treasurer **Sarah Wolf, Secretary**
Marlene Boehler, Carla Elam, Mike Luecht,
Ellen Nissen, Christa Serpe

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Allyson Berens, Bethany Bower, Elease Chapman, Mel Long, Michele Miller, Brian Ott
- 2 Greg Dowell, Barry Farnam, Jacob Fiandalo, Kyle Lemke, Sharon Neubauer, Pamela Richard
- 3 Joseph Debolt, Cooper Krewer, Tammy Sabie
- 4 Jerry Bergman, Jennifer Nagel
- 5 Cynthia Schoenfeld, Libby Weston, Mike Zimmerman
- 6 Barbara Davis, Kristen Fleener, Nicholas Zimmerman
- 7 Harvey Feustel, Julie Wills
- 8 Mary Ann Busch, Rob Deblieck, Richard Mundt, Fred Schimmel, Kim Stegge, Karlena Zimmerman
- 9 Krista Glosson, Les Lawrence, Katie Masters
- 10 Jerome Darow, Caiden Parker, Nicole Scalise
- 11 Arthur Uteg
- 12 Jadon Conroy, Elaina Hibbeler, Howard Larson
- 13 Barb Doty, Lori Malczewski, Tricia Miller, Drew Szekely, Phil Turk
- 14 Julie Dahlin, Jason Hunt, Andy Patel, Jamie Patel, Donna Turner
- 15 Matt Greene, McKenna Hess, June Kobler, Maria Michalak, Ian Walloch
- 16 Donna Brown, Harold Doege, Kaia Huston, Jane McMullen
- 17 Jose Araoz, Karen Eckert, Sean Grady
- 18 Tom Miller, Lukas Nagel, CaSandra Reicher, Nicholas Wolf
- 19 Emily Stech
- 20 Nicholas Brown, Tom Luedtke, Roy Rankin, Ella Schoenberg
- 21 Jerry Christopherson, Deb Hansen, Sue Reid, Marina Rhode, Brian Rojas, Kim Satalino
- 22 Casey Bozza, Avery Michalak, Ralph Wehnes
- 23 Dolores Barry, Breanne DePorter, Rich Wille
- 24 Denise James, Logan McCabe, Dick Tabatt
- 25 Kathy Ary, Judy Below
- 26 Michelle Conroy, Delaney Krewer, Ava Ullrich
- 27 Ryan Flanagan, Jeneane Zeimen
- 28 Destry Arndt, Steve Brown
- 29 Mackenzie Ehmen, Megan Moretti
- 30 Adrianna Crespo, Justin DeBolt, Anthony Lorenzo, Gavin Schlachta
- 31 Robin Bishop, Rick Hess

STAFF

Pastor Mark Boster

Senior Pastor
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Pastor Bill Waxenberg

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