



Shepherd
OF THE PRAIRIE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Caring For All God's Children

**Congregational
Newsletter
December 2020**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

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

Christmas Eve Services

- **3:00 pm
Children's Service**
- **5:00 pm Candlelight
Carol Service**
- **11:00 pm
Candlelight
Traditional
Communion Service**

A Note From Pastor Mark

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.” John 1

As believers we understand this statement, our spiritual eyes have been opened to know it is true. We experience the joy of a saving faith and are reminded each Christmas of the birth of Jesus.

We sing carols, share gifts, decorate our homes and savor the season. We rejoice as we watch our children and grandchildren dress in costumes and act out the familiar Christmas story.

We renew old acquaintances, and send out Christmas cards.

We celebrate the season with lutefisk, lefse, rice pudding, krumkake, and fruit cake.

But, have you ever thought what the world would be like if the Light of the world had not arrived that evening so long ago?

There would be total darkness of heart and mind.

Revenge would rule, kindness would only be offered if there was something given in return. Bitterness would fill our hearts; evil would reign without any limits. We would live in fear without safety, compassion, forgiveness, and hope.

But God did send God’s only Son to bring light into the world. The Bible teaches us that John came to testify concerning this light. So that through him – Jesus – all men might believe.

To those who believe in his name, he gives the right to become children of God. And at the moment we receive, believe, and trust in God’s grace through Jesus, we inherit the very life of Jesus.

He takes fractured lives and heals them. He takes those walking on the road to destruction and places their feet on the right path, takes their hand and walks with them.

God gives each believer gifts and talents especially suited to them to use to further God’s kingdom. Even though this Christmas will be like no other we have ever experienced. The story will still be the same. “God with us.” The carols will still be the same. “Joy to the world.”

Our hope will be once again restored. “For unto you is born this day, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. “For those who have walked in darkness, have seen a great light.”

Please join us during Advent, a season of expectation, and Christmas, a season of hope restored, to marvel at what great lengths God has gone to say “I love you.”

Pastor’s
Corner

**GOD
WITH
US**

Adult Education



Typically, we've taken a holiday break from our adult education classes between Thanksgiving and Christmas. And this year is no exception--even with all the other changes we're experiencing. So take the time during these next several weeks to focus on the promise of God to always be Emmanuel--God with us. Advent, especially, gives us the time to prepare--not just for Christmas gift buying, but to prepare our hearts for the One who has promised to come again, the One who came in Bethlehem so long ago, the One who continually comes to be with us in Word and Sacrament. And it gives me time to prepare for our next Bible study, beginning in January! Advent/Christmas blessings.

Pastor Bill

Ministry Musings

It's Advent, the time when we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus. Advent is a season of expectation and hope.

The world around us is busy preparing for Christmas. Christmas movies and music have been knocking on our door since even before the Halloween trick or treaters did. I noticed last weekend that some of the houses around me had their outdoor Christmas lights



up and lit. Christmas trees are beginning to peek out of the windows across the street as people, tired of dealing with the Corona virus and all that entails, are seeking the comfort and peace that the Christmas season is supposed to bring. I must admit, I have watched a few Christmas movies already, listened to some carols and have put up the lights in my windows. (I'm writing this the week before Thanksgiving).

Each year the Christmas season beckons us to come to the festival of joy and hope. We strive for the perfect Christmas and seek, sometimes desperately, for the Christmas "spirit". We shop for the perfect gifts and wrap and give gifts to those we love. Many have shared with me that they are decorating, baking and listening to Christmas music earlier than usual this year; that they are seeking comfort and peace in the Christmas rituals. Right now, so many of us are feeling out of sorts, uncomfortable with where we are and very unsure about the future.

Ministry Musings (Cont.)

(Continued from page 3)

I used to be adamant about making sure there was no trace of Christmas before Thanksgiving, as if Thanksgiving was going to be jealous if Christmas infringed on its time. But what if, like the Grinch, we discover that Christmas is more than presents and trees and lights and special cookies? What if it really doesn't matter if the tree goes up before Thanksgiving? Of if we listen to Christmas carols in early November, or in September or in July? What if we instead carry the joy and peace of Christmas in our hearts all year long? What if we celebrate the fact that God, the great I AM, came to his creation as a baby as we celebrate Easter, and celebrate the resurrection of that God as we celebrate Christmas?

What if we could actually find what we are really seeking? I think what many of us are really seeking is the hope that seems to surround us during the holidays. We long for contentment and a sense of balance in our lives; serenity and completeness. For me that sense of security comes from knowing that God loves me and holds me close. It doesn't come from the tree, and the lights and the music, but those things serve to remind me of God's love in Jesus. So, hang up the lights, turn on the music, bake the cookies, and rejoice that, "God so loved the world that he gave..."

Merry Christmas

Donna Kelly

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM SOTP TO THE FOLLOWING CHARITIES!

- MC HENRY COUNTY PADS (Public Action to Deliver Shelter)
- TURNING POINT (Abused women and children)
- HOME OF THE SPARROW (Abused women and children)
- LSSI ADDICTION CENTER (Lutheran Social Services of IL Elgin center for alcohol – chemical abuse)



Our Christmas offerings this year will be split among the above.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ONLINE



A promotional graphic for Sunday School. It features a central white banner with a colorful border of geometric shapes. The banner text reads: "SUNDAY SCHOOL" in large black letters, followed by "The path to LEARNING, GROWING & SERVING" in smaller text, and "Let Us Bring Sunday School to You – Join Us Online!" in a large, bold font. To the right of the banner, there is a blue box with the text "Email Tessa To Receive Weekly Emails" and "WHO'S READY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL?" above an image of several hands with colorful paint on them. Below the banner, there is another blue box with the text "Contact Tessa DeLong Tessa@sotpmail.com". The background of the graphic shows a collage of children's faces.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
The path to **LEARNING, GROWING & SERVING**
Let Us Bring Sunday School to You – Join Us Online!

Email Tessa
To Receive
Weekly Emails

WHO'S READY FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL?

Contact
Tessa DeLong
Tessa@sotpmail.com

GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree envelopes have all been given out and many are asking how to get more. You can buy a gift card, put it in an envelope and drop it off at church. There is a box on the table for this. You can also send a

check, made out to Barbara Hoppensteadt, and she will buy a gift card for you. The check must be made out to Barb and she will send you a copy of the check and gift card.

Here are gift card ideas: Walmart, Jewel, Culver's, Ace Hardware,

Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks

This year, due to Covid, **ONLY GIFT CARDS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE CHARITIES; NOT TO EXCEED \$25 IN VALUE.**

All envelopes are to be returned by **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH** as distribution will begin on Monday, December 7th.

A drop off box will be on the table for returning your envelope. Any questions,

please contact Barb Hoppensteadt, hoppen@sbcglobal.net. Barb will be at the table Sunday to help you.

Contact: Barb Hoppensteadt hoppen@sbcglobal.net



HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

HEY MISTER CAN YOU SPARE A CHRISTMAS CARD?

NO envelope or stamp needed.

The Mission Team will have a drop box just inside the church doors Mon.-Fri 9AM 2PM and Sunday Mornings, **November 22nd thru Monday December 7th**. You can also give card(s) to any team member (see bottom or article).

These Cards are for Immigrants. Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services informs us that RIGHT NOW there are HUNDREDS OF FAMILIES being held in three different detention centers. We send the cards to LIRS and they see that cards are evenly distributed.

DIRECTIONS

- 1) * Write messages of hope and encouragement in English and Spanish on Holiday Cards. (see Spanish messages below for inspiration.)
 * Draw a picture, or share your favorite poem quote or Bible verse to personalize the card.
 * Or make your own card(s). NO sequins or glitter please!
- 2) Sign the card, First name only add City and State.
- 3) Place Cards (No envelopes) in box provided*



SAMPLE GREETINGS IN SPANISH

Spanish words ending in "@":
 @ - Gender Nuetral * a - Female * o - Male

Dear friend,	Querido amig@,
Greetings from [city/state].	Saludos desde [city/state] Me llamo [first name].
Merry Christmas	Feliz Navidad
Please know that you are not alone or forgotten.	Por favor, sepa que no está sol@, ni olvidado.
I am praying for you and your family. I am also fighting for justice for you and your family, and for all our brothers and sisters who leave their countries in search of a better life.	Estoy orando por usted y su familia. Continuo luchando por usted y su familia y por todo nuestro hermanos y hermanas que dejan su país en busca de una vida mejor.
Please know that thousands of people are working to keep you and your family safe. You are not forgotten.	Miles de personas están trabajando para cuidar a usted y su familia.
Never forget that we are praying and fighting for you and your family.	Nunca olvides, estamos orando y luchando por usted y su familia.
God's blessings and peace at Christmas and for the New Year.	Las bendiciones de Dios y la paz en Navidad y para el Año Nuevo.
May God bless you!	¡Que Dios se bendiga!

Team members, Sandy Hupert, Donna Stricken, Annette Petersen, Carl Hupert, Steve Legel, Vik Bekeris, Mark Bidinger, Nancy Otter, Sharon Stangle, Becky Wright.

Ministry Lead: Sandy Hupert sandyhupert@gmail.com

ONLINE CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church Artist Series Presents:

Christmas Reflections of Hope, Comfort, and Joy:
A livestream concert of sacred and secular music
celebrating the season, from J.S. Bach to Irving Berlin!

Hosted by WGN Radio Personality Orion Samuelson

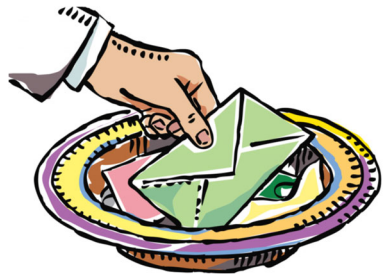
Saturday, December 12th, 2020
7:00 pm

Access the concert via the church website, or via Facebook:

www.shepherdoftheprairie.com
facebook.com/ShepherdofthePrairie

SOTP FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION SECRETARY REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

After more than 15 years as Shepherd of the Prairie's Financial Contribution Secretary, I am sad to announce that Sue Wehnes will be hanging up her recording pencil and spreadsheet in January. Sue has been a constant in recording and tracking our members and visitors' contributions and memorial gifts. She has done an exemplary job of maintaining all the details of this congregation and will be missed by the finance team. Please reach out to Sue and thank her for her dedication and years of service.



The Finance Committee is now looking to recruit a volunteer to fill the Financial Contribution Secretary position. Sue will help train the new person on the procedures for recording and tracking all contributions to SOTP. This is about a two-hour commitment per week and computer skills are required.

Please consider sharing your time and talents with the Finance team. If you are interested and would like to find out more information, please contact Bob Mollis.

Contact Bob Mollis bobmollis@outlook.com

POINSETTIA THANK YOU



Thank you to everyone who ordered Poinsettias to grace the altar for Christmas Eve. The Worship committee appreciates your support and dedication to making the church beautiful this Christmas. After the services, please feel free to pick up your plant and take it home to make your home beautiful as well.

Cheryl Adams (1) in memory of Martin Adams
Jim & Barb Auwerda (2) in memory of our mothers, Betty Schule
and Nina Auwerda
Dottie, Bobzin, (1) in memory of her sister, Caroline
Lynn Broederdorf & Bonnie Vanalia (1) in memory of Lenny Johnson,
Bob, Marge, Gerry & Dan Broederdorf
Shirley Cotton (1) In memory of her husband, Jerry
Ed & Carolyn Cuttle (2) dedicated to children & grandchildren, and
in memory of our parents & Carolyn's brother
Jerry & Pam Darow (2)
Carol Engstrom (2) in memory of loved ones
Elaine Gillam (1) in memory of Bob, Mom & Dad
Mary Holbrook (4) dedicated to all God's people
Barb Hoppensteadt (1) in memory of Don, Alex, Ron & Dee
Martha Jacobson (1) in memory of her husband, Jim
Sue & Bill, Kamphausen, 1, in memory of loved ones
Mike & Judy Luecht (3) in memory of our family in heaven
Susan Mattiucci & Richard Brush (2)
George & Louise, Sebastian (2) in memory of our parents
Ralph & Susie Wehnes (1) in memory of Ralph, Sr., Louise, and
Ed & Marguerite
Becky Wright (3) in honor of all affected by COVID 19

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

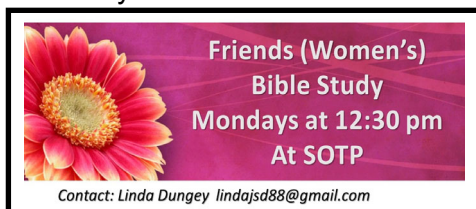
FRIENDS BIBLE STUDY

Have you ever wondered where the story of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat started?

Our Bible study is focused on the book of Genesis and all of its early patriarchs. Join us as we discuss and learn from each other utilizing the Be Authentic study guide written by Warren Wiersbe. Joseph and his brothers are center stage! We will finish the study at the end of December.

The Friends Bible Study group continues to meet on **Mondays from 12:30-2:00** in the Willow Room. We wear masks and the seating is arranged so everyone is socially distanced.

Bible study resumes on **Monday, November 30th through Monday, December 21st**. We will take a short break for Christmas and the New Year holidays and begin again on Monday, January 11, 2021.



Contact Linda Dungey lindaajs88@gmail.com

KEEP COATS WITH YOU FOR WORSHIP

**KEEP YOUR
COATS
WITH YOU**



*For your health
and safety, please
don't hang coats
& keep them with
you in church.*

*Thank you,
Worship Committee*

Keep your coat with you when attending live church services!!! To maintain safe social distancing, your worship committee is asking you to keep your coats with you during the services. It is TOO difficult to maintain social distance when retrieving your coat from the coat rack. Thank you for helping us each other safe and healthy.

DECORATING FOR CHRISTMAS

Are you in the mood to decorate for Advent/Christmas? Your worship committee members will decorate the church for



Advent on **Friday, December 4th starting at 930am.** If you can help, the committee would appreciate your help. Please remember to wear your mask. We will do our best to keep social distancing.

Decorate for Christmas at SOTP on Friday, December 4 at 930am.

Contact: Carolyn Cuttle ednca@comcast.net

SUPPER CLUB



CALLING ONE AND ALL to join the Winter Supper Club beginning in January, 2021. This club provides the opportunity for meeting other church members and getting to know your SOTP family in a different setting.

There is a slight change in the logistics of the supper group. During the Fall session, we made a change to how the club is handled. Instead of suppers, we changed it to dessert so each couple or

single ate their meal at home leaving room for dessert, which the host provides. This change provides for social distancing and mask wearing since there is no need for all to sit at a dining table with everyone close together.

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/SOTPsupperclub We meet in groups of 5-7 people 3-4 times during the session depending on the number of couples and singles in your group. Any questions? Contact Marilyn Sauerberg or Sharon Stangle.

Sign up online or on the Yellow sign up sheet on the bulletin board in front of the office. **The deadline for sign-up is tentatively December 31, 2020**, with the intent of starting the next round of desserts in January through March or April, depending on the number of participants in your group and what the status of the pandemic is.

Contact: Marilyn Sauerberg at gmar35@gmail.com

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH PADS?

PADS has a new permanent home!
1809 IL Rt. 31, Mc Henry IL

What can SOTP do to help?

For this season, they are not wanting help.
Mostly serving homeless families at this time.

If YOU would like to help they of course need cash.

Checks can be given made out to SOTP but must be marked on envelope and in memo:

"FOR PADS SHELTER".

Also keep the homeless in your prayers.

Contact: Vik Bekeris vikb1706@gmail.com



GIFTS FOR THE LUTHERAN HOME

We need your help making 330 each of.....

- ⇒ Tea bag pouch
- ⇒ Plastic Canvas Bookmarks
- ⇒ Plastic Canvas Cross in a pocket
- ⇒ Special doilies
- ⇒ Special cards



We are also collecting small individual plastic cups (**empty**) from things like fruit. Please drop off in Alice's bin in the supply closet across the hall from the offices.

Contact: Alice Hallett agrndmom3@gmail.com

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

We will be conducting a Blue Christmas Service on **Wednesday, December 16th at 6:30 pm**. This is a simple service of readings and carols in remembrance of our loved ones that have died. If you have lost someone and would like a special remembrance of them this Christmas, please plan to attend.

Contact: Donna Kelly at the church office donna@sotpmail.com

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Wednesday,
December 16
6:30 pm

Contact: Donna Kelly
Donna@sotpmail.com

2020—2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your 2021 offering envelopes will be available for pick up in the Gathering Area outside the Sanctuary sometime after November 15th. Please try to pick them up ASAP. If you are a SIMPLY GIVING participant, you will also need to pick up your envelopes, as there are special service envelopes, Easter, Lent, Christmas etc.



in all the boxes that are that are intended to be used in addition to your regular giving. Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church only keeps records of giving for members and non-members that have envelope numbers. If you don't have 2021 envelopes and want them, contact Ralph.

Contact: Ralph Wehnes ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net

DRIVE THROUGH FOOD DRIVE—NOVEMBER

SOTP held their fourth drive-through food drive for Grafton Food Pantry on Nov 14th from 9-1. Ninety-four cars drove through dropping off enough paper goods, food, baby supplies, personal care items, children's coats, bedding and food for those furry babies to completely fill 3 SUV's! Monetary donations were received in the amount of **\$2,550**. This year through our drive-through food drives **\$14,750** was raised in total for the food pantry!! Below is the thank you we received from Harriet Ford, a board member at Grafton Food Pantry:



"As many of you know, I have served on the Board at Grafton Food Pantry since 2005. Managing the outreach efforts has been a rewarding journey and I have been blessed to meet a lot of wonderful people. The past six months have been unique in every aspect. In this very challenging time, Shepherd of the Prairie has been a beacon of light for the Grafton Food Pantry. Your genuine compassion, consistent dedication and enthusiasm to help those in need is inspiring. On a personal level and on behalf of our client families....we are so very thankful. Loved the music yesterday!" Harriet Ford

Thanks to everyone who helped; what a wonderful example of "Kingdom Work."

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 **\$1,524.77** as of November 2020.

Contact: Michelle Rankin michelle@sotpmail.com

PROPERTY CONCERNS?

If you have any building related issues, problems or needs please contact our team at the e-mail below. Once received one of our team members will address your need and/or contact you.

Contact: Mark Frendreis & The Property Team
SOTPproperty@gmail.com



CLEANING CREW—SUNDAY HELP NEEDED

Help! We need some bodies!!!

Just like the Beatles, we are looking for about 6-8 people for a special Task Force (The Clean Machine).



What is this all about you ask? We need to continue to sanitize the church sanctuary immediately after the 9am church service and before the 1045am Sunday service. There is a special machine that is being used to “spray down” the pews. Work starts immediately after the dismissal of the 9am service or about 10:10am on Sunday. It takes about 20 minutes to do this job. Just in time for the 10:45am service.

We will need 6-8 workers for one Sunday a month each. Not a huge investment in time BUT it is vital to the church.

Training is provided and takes about 5-10 minutes to learn.

Thanks for helping on this Task Force!!

Contact: Tom Polzin tapolzin@aol.com

POINSETTIAS THANK YOU

We wish to Thank everyone who ordered Poinsettia plants to grace the altar for Christmas Eve.

Knowing that it has been a difficult year and having to order to early, we just wanted to say thank you for the 30 poinsettia plants that will grace the altar this Christmas Eve. Your flower ladies on the Worship committee appreciate your support and dedication to making it beautiful this Christmas. After Christmas, please feel free to come and pick up your plant and take it home to make your home beautiful as well.



Your Worship Committee

ANNUAL REPORTS

Annual Reports Due

Circle the date! Annual Ministry Reports are due to Donna **December 5, 2020.**

Watch your email for more details!

Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com



ONLINE GIVING



*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

MEMORY GARDEN

The application for a Special Use Permit was given to the Planning Commission at the Village of Huntley on November 6th. We are scheduled to meet with them on December 14th. Then we will meet with the Village Trustee's in January. In the



meantime, we received our Certificate of Exemption from the State of Illinois Comptroller's office for the Memory Garden. We have completed the rules and regulations regarding the Columbarium. The cost for each niche will be determined when we receive the permit and approval from the Congregation. We are planning to sell niche's and Memory Bricks **February 1, 2021**. **Still planning our opening in June 2021**. More information and pictures on the SOTP web site.

If you have any questions, contact one of the following committee members; Ellen Nissen, Kathy Miller, Gail Quam, Ron Knudsen, or Ralph Wehnes.

Contact: Ralph Wehnes ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net

GOD'S GLOBAL BARNYARD

The SOTP Mission Team, along with the Children and Family Ministry, is launching God's Global Barnyard, an ELCA sponsored program to provide animals and agricultural items for families and villages around the world. Each week, our BARN will be at the back of the worship area for the children to place their offerings. After we receive enough donations, we will choose what animal or animals we would like to purchase with the money collected. Available for purchase are cows, goats, chicks, pigs, honeybees, and even a whole barnyard of animals. Come join in the fun and provide a family with food and possibly some income.



Contact: Donna Kelly donna@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. We meet in person, socially distanced, every **Tuesday evening from 6 to 7 pm** in the Fellowship Hall.

For more information, please contact Donna Kelly at donna@sotpmail.com or 214-676-1788.

Contact: Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR



Members of Shepherd Of The Prairie, we have identified a new exciting volunteer opportunity! Our

Community Outreach ministry is in need of a Public Relations Coordinator. This person would help ministries and staff gather information about ongoing activities that could be used for press releases and advertisements in news papers and Digital advertising on the Internet. The PR Coordinator would be a member of our Community Outreach team and responsible for sending this information to our church's newly obtained publicist. If this sounds like an interesting way for you to serve your church and the kingdom of God, please contact Our Community Outreach Chairman, Mike Yndestad by email, mike@sotpmail.com

Mike looks forward to hearing from you.

Contact: Mike Yndestad mike@sotpmail.com

PRAIRIE POINT QUILTERS

The Prairie Quilters are pleased to be back at our quilting sessions. We have a small, but dedicated group that is continuing to make these quilts. We are taking a break through the end of the year but hope to resume in January.



We were very dismayed after the explosion in Beirut on August 4 when we heard that they thought 24,000 quilts had been destroyed. But then we received the good news that they were found intact! To read the statement from Lutheran World Relief please go to www.bit.ly/QuiltsFound

Contact: Nancy Morbeck, Prairie Quilters jmorbeck@sbcglobal.net

LET THERE BE FLOWERS



Joyfully, we have begun to meet in person for our worship services as well as doing our online services. We continue to ask you to please consider signing up to donate flowers to brighten up the sanctuary. As normal, each arrangement is \$50.

The bouquets are delivered from the florist for the weekend worship services. If you do not attend the church services in person and are unable to pick up your arrangement, I would be happy to deliver the flowers to your home after the Sunday services or on the Monday following.

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. If you have any questions, you may call Diane at 224-654-6677. Thank you for saying yes to flowers for the sanctuary!

Contact: *Dianne Mollis* dem910@outlook.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.



Follow us on
Instagram



FOLLOW US ON
facebook



Shepherd of the
Prairie Lutheran
Church

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

FINANCIAL NEWS

Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2020

Assets include \$95,000 from the SBA Paycheck Protection Program received on April 24, 2020. These funds are expected to be forgiven at the end of the program. This does not affect the year to date Operating Fund.

General Fund Report The General Fund Balance is \$192,881. Income for the month was \$53,567 and Expenses for the month were \$55,271.

Mortgage Service Fund Report The Mortgage Service Fund Balance is \$83,835. Income for the month was \$21,352. The monthly mortgage payment is \$19,536.

This Month

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income:	\$ 53,567	\$ 63,141	\$ (9,574)
Expenses:	\$ 55,271	\$ 63,825	\$ 8,554

Year-to-Date

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income:	\$ 620,983	\$ 631,410	\$ (10,427)
Expenses:	\$ 597,157	\$ 630,063	\$ 32,906

Mortgage Service Fund

Income for month:	\$ 21,352
Fund Balance:	\$ 83,835

Respectfully Submitted,
Cliff Dungey
Congregation Treasurer

faith and
finances

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

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you for Serving This Month

DECEMBER GREETERS

ADDITIONAL GREETER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are able to help greet 20 minutes before services, we would appreciate the help.

Contact: *Elaine Gillam Suggillam@aol.com*

	Dec 6	Dec 13	Dec 20	Dec 24	Dec 27
Sunday 9am	Cheryl Adams Barb Hoppensteadt	Carol Engstrom Eileen Gerald	Cheryl Adams Sue Wehnes	3 & 5 Help Needed See above for info	Elaine Gillam Cheryl Adams
Sunday 10:45 am	Barb Hoppensteadt	Chuck & Sandy Petersen	Elaine Gillam	11pm Jim & Marlene Hunt	Jim & Marlene Hunt

DECEMBER USHERS

ADDITIONAL USHER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you are able to help usher, we would appreciate the help.

Contact *Andrew Szekely at aszekely01@outlook.com*

	Dec 6	Dec 13	Dec 20	Dec 24	Dec 27
Sunday 9am	WALTER LEMKE Warren Brody Carol Engstrom	JACK CONTI Pete Thompson Harriet Thompson	VIK BEKERIS PetE & Harriet Thompson Dave Stangle Sharon Stangle Sandy Seibel	Help Needed All Services See above for contact info	ED CUTTLE Carolyn Cuttle Jerry & Pat Darow Ralph & Sue Wehnes Dennis Houghton
Sunday 1045 am	BOB MCDUFFEE Vik Bekeris Chuck Peterson Jacob Fiandalo	MARK FRENDEIS Vik Bekeris Ron Mudge	VIK BEKERIS Don Koerner Jeff Ottens Judy Petropulos	Help Needed All Services See above for contact info	ANDREW SZEKELY Bob & Diane Mollis Vik Bekeris

DECEMBER COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

ADDITIONAL COMMUNION ASSISTANTS NEEDED

If you are able to help usher, we would appreciate the help.

Contact *Judie Symbal judie.symbal@att.net*

	Dec 6	Dec 13	Dec 20	Dec 24	Dec 27
Sunday 9am	Cheryl Adams Elaine Gillam	Cliff & Linda Dungey	Ed & Carolyn Cuttle	Tom Polzin Judie Symbal	Sandy Scalise Vik Bekeris

BETWEEN SERVICES CLEANING TASK FORCE

ADDITIONAL SANITIZING HELP NEEDED

If you are able to help between services, we would appreciate the help.

Contact *Tom Polzin tapolzin@aol.com*

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Date. Name

- 1..... Elizabeth Anderson, Aimee Jarvis
- 2..... William Chapman, Mark Frendreis, Tess Miller
- 3..... Tim McMullen, Mike Ulmer
- 4..... Brady Allegretti
- 5..... Raquel Hess, Jackson Moretti
- 6..... Lisa Berens, Diane Mollis, Amanda Stenson
- 7..... Daniel Black, Barb Douglas
- 8..... Mike Maraviglia
- 9..... Donna Schnepff, Scott Seibert
- 10..... Sophie Dowell, Cynthia Jones, Wendy Ottens
- 11..... Sherry Perkey
- 12..... Megan Juergensen
- 13..... Devin Burg, Carolyn Cuttle
- 14..... Bob Dirks
- 15..... Macy Luedtke
- 16..... Doug Sandberg
- 17..... Martha Bergman, Seth Boster, Shane McGuine, Nancy Ramirez
- 18..... Elaine Mucibabich, Ella Trudeau
- 19..... Emma Johnson, Susan Mattiucci
- 20..... Jack Bloomfield, Sandy Frank, Karen Gollhardt, Richard Heidorn, Elizabeth Liotus, Wilma Lyding, Enrique Rojas
- 21..... Tristan Mathiesen
- 22..... Chuck Little, Carrie McCabe, Andrew Raistrick
- 23..... Alexandra Adams, Susan Lewis, Lynn Meyer, Deanna Moore, Sandra Seibel, William Waxenberg, Daniel Wills, Nicholas Womac, William Womac
- 24..... Marina Reicher, Lydia Seibert, Mary Ann Wiek
- 25..... Jim Henley, Jake Satalino
- 26..... Chelsea Greene
- 27..... Jack Ary, Jeffry Delong, Amy Johnson, Shelby Kowalski, Carol Lilla, Matt Stech, Darrel Thompson
- 28..... Annette Boster, Ernie Clifford, Mike McCann, Taylor Wade
- 29..... David Holzwarth, Chuck Lamb, Angeline Stoica, Robert Weldon
- 30..... Carol Farnam, Michael Grabs, Karen Mulcay
- 31..... P.J. Knudsen, Pat Milford, Christine Schurhammer

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