

Newsletter

October 2024



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Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church

Huntley, IL sotp.org 847/669-9448

Photo: Wednesday Night Dinners at SOTP

A Note From Pastor Mark

*See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.*

Isaiah 43:19

Dear Church,

The future, like always, is uncertain. That does not mean everything is, however. The one certainty in all times is the presence and grace of God. In times of worry people are prone to focus on scarcity. As people of faith we know this holy truth: God remains abundantly present.

Together this is a time to celebrate the faithful ministry here at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church. God is at work and it is exciting.

During the month of October, we are going to celebrate who we are as Lutherans. It is a good thing to know one's heritage and for us as Lutherans that heritage is rich. We hope you will join with us in our celebration!

The congregation is invited to read a book together entitled *The Book of Harmony, Spirit and Service in the Lutheran Confessions*, by Martin Lohrmann. The book is an excellent introduction (or reminder) of our Lutheran theology with justification by

faith in Christ at the center.

- **October 5**
–



Lutheranism 101 with Pastor Bill (10-2 pm)

- **October 13** – Pop Corn and a Movie – The Luther Movie
- **October 26** – Celebration Dinner with special guest Dr. Martin Lohrmann (Professor of Lutheran Confession and heritage at Wartburg Seminary) Following the dinner, the celebration will continue at Sew Hop'd Brewery in Huntley with the Guttenberg German Band playing (sponsored by the Artist Series of SOTP). Bring your books to be signed by Dr. Lohrmann.

- **October 27** – Reformation Sunday (Dr. Lohrmann, guest preacher)

- **November 2-3** – All Saints' Weekend, we invite to bring estimate of giving cards for 2025 this weekend.

In Isaiah 43:19 the prophet reminds us that God is about to do a new thing. Our reforming tradition as a Lutheran church reminds us that God is about to

(Continued on page 3)



A Note From Pastor Mark

(Continued from page 2)

do something new, and that in God's realm "the best is yet to come."

We are looking forward. God is calling us to great new adventures and your generosity will help us accomplish so much. What a privilege it is for us to be part of the ongoing story being written by God through us at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church.

As we enter into our stewardship drive this year, hold fast to all the ways we see generosity and abundance. Grow in your understanding of where we have been as a church and come alongside to see where Jesus is leading. The best is yet to come!!!

In Christ,

Pastor Mark

A Note From Pastor Ryan



SOTP: We not only know how to worship together, we know how to play together too!

person.

I have received several questions about the dinners and thought I would take a moment to fill you all in. This renewed ministry is for everyone. We host it on Wednesday

You've likely heard by now that Wednesday Night Dinners are back at Shepherd of the Prairie! As of the writing of this, we have had our first dinner and we are off to a great start! More than 40-45 people of all ages came together around tables with salad and pasta. We had fantastic conversation, laughter, and excitement. The dinners run from 5:45-6:45pm. To support the ministry and help the volunteers who are preparing the food, we are asking for a suggested donation of \$4 per



A Note

From Pastor Ryan

(Continued from page 3)

nights because that is the night that we have so many other ministries going on, Adventure Club, Confirmation, Youth Group, choir rehearsal, and more. We know that schedules are busy, and we thought we'd help everyone by taking care of dinner as well. It has been a goal of mine to beef up our Wednesday night offerings and provide something for the whole family. (I am also looking for some ways to incorporate some adult ministries into those nights.)

We currently have meal preparers lined up for the next five weeks but will be looking for interested volunteers after that. We have meals planned out for those of you who are pressed for time but are also interested in experiencing your treasured family recipes or your specialties, if you'd like to share them. Just let me know if you'd be interested in joining our lineup of meal preparers.

We are also looking for kitchen support teams. We have established four slots for each Wednesday night. These four people will help be the hands and feet of the meal preparers. We are asking kitchen support volunteers to arrive at 5:15pm for setup and plan to stay until about 7pm for cleanup. You can sign up to be a kitchen support volunteer on the Church Center app or through our website. Slots are listed by date.

All our meals are intended to be very family friendly. We try to choose things that appeal to a wide variety of children and adults. Our first night featured pasta with sauce and meatballs. Our list of future meals will include sub sandwiches, chicken patties, mac and cheese, taco bar, and pulled pork sandwiches. We also have plans for breakfast for supper and cookout options.

Registration is open for these meals to help us better prepare for the number of people who plan to join us. I invite you to check out the signup on our app or website and let us know how many you plan to bring on a given night. This ministry is simply a fun way for us to have some fellowship, feed some hungry people, and help alleviate some of the burden of our families' already full schedules.

I want to thank Amy and Chris Brittain and Megan Shaw for helping to get this ministry going. I also want to thank all who have already helped so much in the kitchen. On behalf of all of us, we hope to see you all soon at one of our super fun Wednesday dinners.

Peace,

Pastor Ryan

Ministry Musings

With Donna



I love fall, my favorite time of year. The heat of summer passes away, but the

bitter cold of winter hasn't descended yet. The trees are on fire with gold, oranges and reds! The smell of harvesting corn, burning leaves and cinnamon spice fills the air. It's sweater weather and picking apples and raking leaves are all part of the fun. And of course, pumpkin spice everything surrounds us.

Even though we think of fall as coming towards the end of the year, many new things begin. The new school year starts, fall sports begin, and here at SOTP our programs pick up after a summer hiatus. Now is a good time to start anew. Time to get involved in a new way to serve, either here at SOTP or in our local communities.

At our September Ministry Night, I was very excited to see many of our most recent members there to join in with our teams as we care for the people of SOTP and the world. It's always exciting to hear new ideas and different ways of seeing things, finding how we can better serve God and God's people. But there is always room for more! Our teams have no limit on participants.

This October we are celebrating our Lutheran Heritage. One of the ways is through an all-congregation book read of, "The Book of Harmony", which

explores the main statements of our Lutheran faith, "The Book of Concord". I encourage you to take part in this study and find out just how it is we look at life and faith through the lens of Lutheranism. You may discover interesting things about Luther and our faith along the way.

There are also other ways to celebrate our Lutheran Heritage. On October 5th, Pastor Bill will be teaching Lutheranism 101. He is an expert teacher, and we will be talking about Luther and what our faith expression means. Then, on October 13, we will gather to watch the movie, "Luther". All of this will culminate with a celebration dinner on October 26, followed by fun at Sew Hop'd including a German band. The author of "The Book of Harmony", Dr. Martin Lohrmann, will speak at the dinner on Saturday and will preach on Sunday.

All in all, a busy and exciting month here at SOTP. We hope that you will join in the fun and learning! You can find details in this newsletter. Come join the fun, and then join in ministry!

Donna Kelly

A Note from Our Bishop

Walking Together



Northern Illinois Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

A Word from Bishop Stacie Fidler

I turned 21 in Arusha, Tanzania. I had been selected to be one of the team that represented the Northern Illinois Synod on our initial visit to our companions in (at that time) the Arusha Diocese. It was an eye-opening, mind and heart expanding journey, taken between my college graduation and my first year of seminary.

That relationship, now with the North Central Diocese (NCD) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT), has continued and had ebbs and flows over the last 33 years (yes, yes, do the math). Post-covid, we are looking to once again deepen that relationship and build up our congregational and synod relationships.

Every synod in the ELCA has at least one companion. These relationships are rooted in “accompaniment,” which promotes the values of mutuality, inclusivity, vulnerability, empowerment, and sustainability. Through the program, companion churches and ELCA synods nurture and strengthen one another for life and ministry through prayer, study, communication, exchange of visitors, and sharing of resources.

Outside of our companion relationship with the North Central Diocese in Tanzania, we also have a relationship with Arcot Lutheran Church in India. This past August, along with Vice President Minnette Willard, I traveled for the consecration of Bishop Peter Paul Thomas. It was a trip that focused on

building relationships, of showing up to celebrate with Bishop Peter Paul Thomas and the Arcot Lutheran

Church.

As we live out being the body of Christ, it is important to show up for the important things, the celebrations and the painful things. To support one another and be reminded of the love that fills us as children of God.

It’s the same reason why our Northern Illinois synod staff are so eager to worship with your congregations on a regular basis. It is why I go to as many congregations as I can. We are in this journey together, following God-made-flesh in Jesus and living that same embodied faith for and with each other.

God’s work. Our hands.

On September 8th, congregations around the Northern Illinois Synod participated in “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Many churches packed school kits for Lutheran World Relief, like First Lutheran Church in DeKalb who packed 652 kits after worship. First had spent the previous months collecting supplies, sorting them, and recruiting many hands to make the packing happen as quick as possible.

For Grace Lutheran Church in Wilmington, “God’s work. Our hands.”

(Continued on page 7)

A Note from Our Bishop Continued

(Continued from page 6)

Sunday was more than just a day of service but rather created new connections in their community. A planning team led the congregation in gathering items for gift bags for the local nursing home. On a Sunday morning, their members created an assembly line for filling the bags, which included hygiene items, snacks, a Bible verse card, and a personal card with the church's information. A root beer float station was set up at the nursing home. Nursing home residents enjoyed their treat bags and root beer floats. In the month prior, members

of Grace joined with members of United in Gardner to work the Food Share fest held at the Wilmington High School.

Congregation members from both churches helped load food into cars for over 300 families on a hot summer day. Members at Grace are excited about connections they can make with other churches and outreach provided to their community.

As we open God's story, as we live as the body of Christ, we know we are called out in love to serve our neighbor. Do you have a story to share of how God is at work in your community? Send them to niscommunications@nisynod.org

Congregational Resourcing Event

Saturday, March 22, 2025
Sauk Valley Community College

www.nisynod.org



P.O. Box 443
Moline, IL 61266

Synod Assembly

June 13-14, 2025
Augustana College, Rock Island

 &  @nisynod

Reformation Sunday



REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 27, 2024

9:00 am traditional service
10:45 am contemporary service

DR MARTIN LOHRMANN
Guest Preacher



Small Groups Fall Kickoff

Find a Small Group for You

We have an exciting celebration awaiting us this October as we honor our Lutheran heritage with several fun and educational activities.

We begin our month-long celebration with an all-congregation book read of “The Book of Harmony”, written by Dr. Martin J. Lohrmann. This book is a great commentary on “The Book of Concord” which is the basis of our Lutheran Confessions. All are invited to join in this book read and books will be available through SOTP for a donation. This four-week study will kick off our Small Group Ministry for this fall. Our 7’s Discipleship groups are encouraged to use this study, and other small groups will be formed to discuss the book and what it means to us as Lutherans.

We also have some small groups forming to discuss “The Book of Harmony”:

- Dan & Jan Spees
Mondays at 7:00 pm **GROUP IS FULL**
- Sandra Johnson
Mondays at 9:30 am
SOTP
- Donna Kelly
Thursdays 5:30pm
bring your dinner, eat as we learn
SOTP

The graphic features the text "Small Groups" in large red letters, with "FALL 2024" in the top right. Below the title is a line drawing of five stylized figures in a group, with one pointing upwards. To the left of the figures is the text "The heartbeat of SOTP" and to the right is "There's a group for you". A QR code is located in the bottom left corner, and a red banner at the bottom contains the text "More Info & Sign Up: www.bit.ly/SOTPgrou24".

If you would like to host a group or be part of one of these groups, contact Donna AT donna@sotpmail.com.

Please contact Pastor Mark to obtain a book; we are asking for a \$20 donation for the book; scholarships are possible.

Continuing Groups:

- Annette Petersen
Mondays at 1pm
SOTP library
7s Group using “The Chosen”
- Jim & Kim Stancl—
Wednesday Evenings
7s Group—**GROUP IS FULL**
- Friends Bible Study
Woman’s Group
SOTP Willow Room
Monday afternoons at 12:30

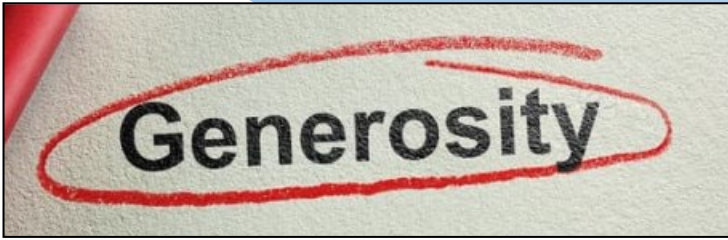
Watch your email and the Friday Flourish for more information.

Questions? Please ask!

*Contact: Donna Kelly
Director of Connection Ministry
donna@sotpmail.com*

A Note

From Our Stewardship Team



hearing more about generosity and thankfulness along with celebrating our rich heritage as

Dear Partner in Ministry:

Generosity is all around us, but sometimes we have to look for it. In the feeding of the 5,000 story in the Bible, significant generosity happened once the child shared (John 6:9). That is how it is here. Once we begin to share, we will see God has blessed us with plenty.

“507 – (Re)Forming our Faith, (Re) Membering Who We Are, (Re)Acting to God’s Call is the theme of our fall stewardship appeal. This theme points us to the generosity we have witnessed around our church over the last year, but also reminds us of our rich heritage and our responsibility to continue to make Christ known.

There are always reasons to worry there might not be enough. As people of faith we plan, prepare, and trust in the abundance of God in all things.

Our grateful response in generosity helps to demonstrate to us and to the world around us God has provided us everything. We have enough, even enough to share.

In the weeks ahead, you will be

Lutherans. Newsletter articles, mission moments, emails and more will be used to share this story and our hopes for an even more robust ministry next year. In Christ, we believe the best is yet to come!

In the coming weeks, please engage the materials. Pray about how you can become more generous. Then, on All Saint’s Weekend, November 2-3, please bring your intent card with you to declare the generosity you intend to share with this congregation.

Thanks be to God, you are part of this exciting congregation. Pray for our common work together as we continue to reach out with the Gospel.

Sincerely in Christ,

Mike McCann

Stewardship Team Chair

Contact: *Mike McCann*
michealmccann71@gmail.com

Lutheranism 101

With Pastor Bill

October: Reformation Heritage Month here at SOTP! And to begin the month, we're going to take a look at what it means to be Lutheran. Does it matter? If it does, why does it matter? Is there anything about being Lutheran that makes us unique? And does that matter? And what do we really believe as Lutherans beyond the basics, even beyond the Apostles' Creed? How do we understand and then live out the faith of the Reformation? Well, come and find out!

Sign up at www.bit.ly/SOTPLuth101-24 to join us for **Lutheranism 101** on **Saturday, October 5, 10:00-2:00**, in Fellowship Hall (*the old sanctuary*).



CHILDCARE PROVIDED WITH REGISTRATION.

Already 55 folks will be joining us, so add your name to the list! We'd love to have you!

Questions?

Contact Pastor Bill Waxenberg
bwaxenberg@gmail.com

Luther Movie

Showing at SOTP



Bring your own snacks and/or beverage.
More info: www.bit.ly/SOTPLuther24

Contact: Pastor Ryan Mackey
pastorryan@sotpmail.com

Celebration Dinner



Celebration
DINNER
with special guest speaker
Dr. Martin Lohrmann

October 26th | 5PM
Sign Up Now:
www.bit.ly/SOTPcel24

QR code: 

Photo of Dr. Martin Lohrmann: 

Celebration Dinner with German food and special guest speaker Dr. Martin Lohrmann (Professor of Lutheran Confession and heritage at Wartburg Seminary).

Limited to 240 guests—register now at www.bit.ly/SOTPcel24

Contact Pastor Ryan Mackey
pastorryan@sotpmail.com

Guttenberg German Band At Sew Hop'd—Artist Series Event




SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ARTIST SERIES
PROUDLY PRESENTS

Guttenberg
GERMAN BAND

AT 

SEW HOP'D
BREWERY TAPROOM
HUNTLEY'S HOMETOWN BREWERY

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 26, 2024
7:00-9:30 PM
AT SEW HOP'D IN HUNTLEY

QR code: 

October Excitement & Small Groups Fall Kickoff

We have an exciting celebration awaiting us this October as we honor our Lutheran heritage with several fun and educational activities.

⇒ We begin our **month-long celebration** with an all-congregation book read of “The Book of Harmony”, written by Dr. Martin J. Lohrmann. This book is a great commentary on “The Book of Concord” which is the basis of our Lutheran Confessions. All are invited to join in this book read and books will be available through SOTP for a donation. This four-week study will kickoff our Small Group Ministry for this fall. Our 7’s Discipleship groups are encouraged to use this study, and other small groups will be formed to discuss the book and what it means to us as Lutherans. Please contact Pastor Mark, Pastor Ryan, or Donna Kelly to obtain a book.

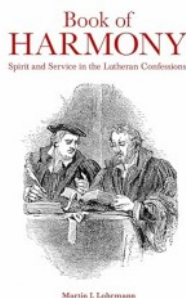
⇒ Our celebrations will continue on **Saturday October 5**, with Pastor Bill leading Lutheranism 101. This is an excellent way to find out more about Martin Luther, the Protestant Reformation and our Lutheran Heritage.

⇒ On **Sunday, October 13 from 3-5pm** we will have the opportunity to come together and watch the

most recent Luther Movie, “Luther”, which was critically acclaimed.

⇒ Our Month-long celebration will culminate on Reformation weekend, Saturday and Sunday **October 26 & 27**. On Saturday the 26th, we are all invited to be part of the Celebration Dinner with Dr. Martin J. Lohrmann (author of our book) as our guest speaker. A great chance to get your book signed by the author!

⇒ The celebration dinner will be followed by a gathering at Sew Hop’d Brewery here in Huntley where we will enjoy fellowship and listen to The Guttenberg



German Band.

⇒ Then on **Sunday the 27th**, Dr. Lohrmann will be preaching at both services and there will be special music including a brass quartet and the great hymns of the Lutheran Church.

Watch your email and the Friday Flourish for more information.

Donna Kelly
Director of Connection Ministries
donna@sotpmail.com

October Excitement

Something for Everyone

LUTHERAN HERITAGE MONTH

(re)Forming (re)Membering (re)Acting

Our Faith
Revelation 21:5

Who We Are
Ephesians 5:1-2

To God's Call
Matthew 28:19-20

October 5 at 10am
Lutheranism 101
with Pastor Bill

October 26 at 5pm
German Dinner
Dr. Martin Lohrmann, Speaker

October 13 at 3pm
Luther Movie
Martin Luther's Story

October 26 at 7pm
Celebration with German Band
At Sew Hop'd Brewery

October 27 at 9am & 10:45am
Reformation Sunday
Dr. Martin Lohrmann at Both Services



Prayer Chain

 **SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE**
LUTHERAN CHURCH

PRAYER CHAIN

To submit a request, go to:
www.bit.ly/SOTPpray



Submit prayers to:
www.bit.ly/SOTPpray

Join our prayer chain by emailing
Donna at donna@sotpmail.com

Trunk or Treat

Join the Fun!

Community Event

Join the Fun

Trunk or Treat

Saturday
October 26

3:00 - 4:30 pm

Register Your Trunk:
www.bit.ly/SOTPtrunk24



Volunteers Needed



SOTP Logowear

Online Apparel Store



SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Online Apparel Store

www.bit.ly/SOTPlogowear



Christmas Musical

Rehearsals Start Sept 29



choir, act, as well as help with mentoring, set and props.

Here are some important dates to add to your calendar:

⇒ Rehearsals will take place **every Sunday 9/29-12/8 (except 10/20 and 12/1) from 2:00-4:00pm**

⇒ **December 14-** Dress

Rehearsal **10:00am-11:30am** followed by a pizza party!

⇒ **December 14-5:00pm** Worship Musical

⇒ **December 15-10:45am** Worship Musical

Contact: Annette Boster
zsjg@comcast.net

This year's Christmas musical, "A Quizzical Christmas" will be presented on Saturday, December 14 at the 5:00pm worship service and Sunday, December 15 at the 10:45am worship service.

Children and youth, kindergarten through 12th grade, are invited to participate. There will be opportunities to sing in the

Adventure Club

4th & 5th Graders



7:30 pm with the exception of these dates that we WILL NOT be meeting:

- Nov 27
- Dec 2
- Jan 1
- March 5 & 26
- April 16

Register now at
www.bit.ly/SOTPadv2425

All 4th & 5th Graders are invited to join us weekly on Wednesdays September 18, 2024 through May 7, 2025 from 6:30 -

Contact: Jill Gillming
jill@sotpmail.com

Connect With Us

Receive Only the Emails You Want



SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

STAY CONNECTED & PERSONALIZE YOUR

Email Selections

www.bit.ly/SOTPEmails

Daily Devotionals

Friday Flourish

Newsletter



Memory Garden Brick Orders

We are now taking orders for memory bricks for the Memory Garden walkway. We now have 3 orders and need at least 5 of each size to order and get "free freight" from Florida.

- ⇒ 4"x8" brick with 3 lines is \$80.00
- ⇒ 8"x8" brick with 6 lines is \$150.



Memory Bricks

Lining the walkway to the Memory Garden

Taking orders now

- 4x8 \$80
- 8x8 \$150

Order forms in church office



More Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPmembricks



Order forms are in the Church office.

Contact: *Ralph Wehnes*
ralphwehnes@sbcglobal.net

Adult Education



ADULT EDUCATION
WITH PASTOR ROY OLSON

FACTFULNESS

Sundays at 10:20 am
Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPadultED0924



Is your view of the future distorted? When you contemplate the future are you hopeful?

Beginning on Sunday, September 8, 2024, these questions and other related issues will be answered during the adult education series on the “factfulness way of life.”

We will test our basic knowledge of our world and its projected future for accuracy. Using the book Factfulness by Hans Rosling, we will identify 10 instincts for the dramatic that we all have and that unknowingly can lead us astray as we view God’s world and its future.

Coupling our Christian faith with these 10 fact-finding tools will help us to counter the fear of the future that has taken over much of our discourse. Join us at 10: 20 on Sunday mornings beginning on September 8th to learn

the factfulness way of life. Please register so we know how many handouts to provide and bring a folder to store them in.

[October 6:](#) The Straight-Line Instinct

[October 13:](#) The Fear Instinct

[October 20:](#) The Size Instinct

[October 27:](#) The Generalization Instinct

[November 3:](#) The Destiny Instinct

[November 10:](#) The Single Perspective Instinct

[November 17:](#) The Blame Instinct

[November 24:](#) The Urgency Instinct and Conclusion

Contact: Pastor Roy Olson
olson612sr@sbcglobal.net

SOTP Kids Need YOU

One Hour... or More

KIDS CONNECT HELP NEEDED

WE NEED YOU!

HELP ONCE TWICE OR MORE!

Volunteers Needed

More Info & Sign Up:
www.bit.ly/SOTPKChelp24

Kids Connect Sundays

Join the Fun!

KIDS CONNECT

Preschool through 5th Grade

Register Now:
www.bit.ly/SOTPKIDS

Wednesday Night Dinners

You Are Invited!



The poster features a light blue and white striped background. At the top left is the logo for Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church, which includes a stylized 'f' and the text 'SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH'. The main text reads 'OCTOBER Wednesday Night Dinners 5:45 - 6:45 pm' in large, colorful letters. Below this, it says 'JOIN US FOR DINNER ALL ARE WELCOME'. A QR code is on the left, and a yellow arrow points to the registration information: 'More Information & Sign Up: www.bit.ly/SOTPwed1024 Registration Appreciated'. A yellow banner in the top right corner says 'Volunteers Needed'. There are also illustrations of a plate, fork, and spoon.

the tables, and enjoy! Kitchen support is needed to arrive at 5:15pm, serve and clean - we should be done around 7pm. Suggested donation of

SOTP has got dinner covered on Wednesday nights! These meals are open to all, especially those of you who have children in Adventure Club, Confirmation, or Youth Group. Volunteers will prepare the meals, so all you need to do is come hungry, gather at

\$4 per plate will be encouraged to help support this ministry. Please register ahead of time if possible so we know approximately how many we are cooking for each week.

Contact: Pastor Ryan Mackey
pastorryan@sotpmail.com

Food Drive—October 6



The poster has a dark blue background with white and light blue text. At the top, it says 'SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE HOSTS'. Below that is 'GRAFTON PANTRY FOOD DRIVE' in large white letters. To the right is a circular logo for 'GRAFTON FOOD SAFETY'. The address '10805 MAIN ST. HUNTLEY' is listed. The date and time are 'MONTHLY 1ST SUNDAY 8:30 - 11AM'. At the bottom, it says 'Collecting in Car Outside Main Office Entrance'. There is a QR code on the left and an image of hands holding a cardboard box filled with food items.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Praying, Knitting & Crocheting



Prairie Quilters

Over 100 Quilts!

We did it! We not only had 100 quilts, but we had 107!! The ladies really worked hard to reach the goal!!! Here's a picture of the ladies and the quilts. We can always use more people to help tie or

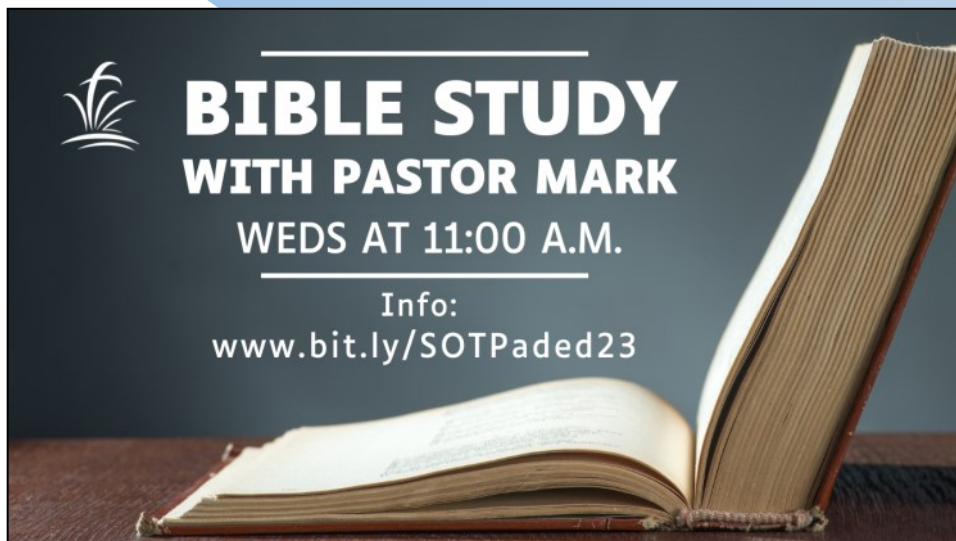


sandwich. Both are easy and you really don't need to know how to sew. We meet the first and third Tuesday at

9:00am.

Contact: *Bev Kenny*
krkbjk@comcast.net

Bible Study With Pastor Mark

A graphic for Bible Study with Pastor Mark. It features a stylized white logo of a plant on the left. The text is centered: "BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR MARK" in large white letters, "WEDS AT 11:00 A.M." below it, and "Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPaded23" at the bottom. The background is a dark blue gradient with an image of an open book on a wooden surface.

Next Step for All Seniors October News

A banner for Next Step Fellowship. It has a dark blue background with a light blue top section. The top section says "Trunk or Treat: October 28, 3:00 pm". Below that is the "NEXT STEP FELLOWSHIP" logo and name, with "Fellowship Group for All Seniors" underneath. There is a circular image of a decorated car trunk. A QR code is on the left, and the info link "www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1024" is on the right.

have some fun together. Sign up at www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1024

NOVEMBER 23:

HOLIDAY POTLUCK LUNCHEON: please join the Next Step group as we have a holiday potluck lunch from **12:00-2:00** in the coffee area outside of

the sanctuary. Please register for this event and add what you can bring so we don't have too many of just one thing! Hope to see you there. We can also talk about spring plans for Next Step. Happy Holidays!

*Contact: Phyllis Thomson
phyllisthompson@aol.com*

OCTOBER 26:

PARTICIPATE IN TRUNK AND TREAT AT **3:00-5:00**: come, and dress up if you like, and hand out candy to the trick and treaters in the parking lot. We need one car and lots of decorations as there is a prize for the best car trunk! Join the Next Step group to socialize and

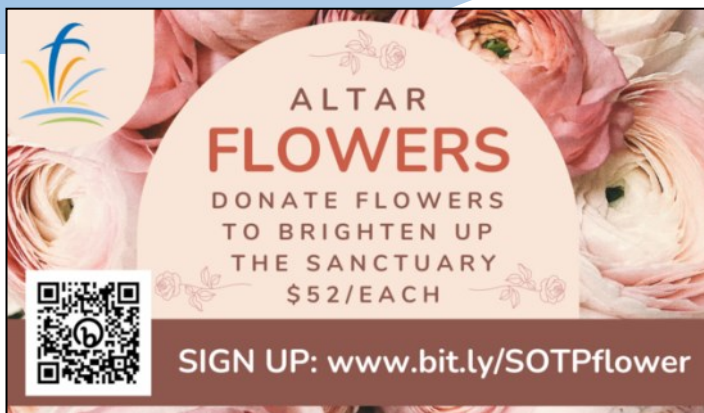
Altar Flowers

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*

T-coil Hearing Aid? Use our Loop System

Ask your hearing care professional how. Some hearing aids are set up where they might have an app on your cellphone that says "telecoil mode", and you'll activate that. You might have the ability to adjust the volume up and turn down for the microphone level. But again, talk to your hearing care professional, they

should be able to show you all those options, and then play around with it, when you're in church.

Contact: your hearing aid professional



Grief Journey *Journey Through Loss*

A poster for the Grief Journey Group. It features a background image of a mountain range with snow. In the top left corner, there is a logo consisting of a stylized 'f' above a plant-like shape. The text is centered in a semi-transparent grey box. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the poster.

**GRIEF JOURNEY
GROUP**

**TUESDAY MORNINGS
10AM**

Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPgrief

Transitions *Journey Through Loss*

A poster for Transitions. It features a background image of a sunset over a body of water. In the top left corner, there is a logo consisting of a stylized 'f' above a plant-like shape. The text is centered in a semi-transparent white circle. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the poster.

TRANSITIONS

**A JOURNEY
THROUGH LOSS**

TUESDAYS

7:00 PM

More Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPtrans

Are you going through a deep loss: death of a loved one; job loss; loss of a relationship; empty nesting; divorce; loss of health; loss of purpose?

We have begun a new loss support group meeting in the church Library from 7 to 8 pm. If you would like more

information please contact Donna Kelly, donna@sotpmail.com or through the church office, 847-669-9448.

Contact: *Donna Kelly*
donna@sotpmail.com

Morning Movement

Walk With Us



Morning Movement

Walk the halls at SOTP

Come Alone or With Friends



www.bit.ly/SOTPwalk

Weekdays 7:30-8:30 am

Friends Bible Study

For Women

The group meets every Monday from 12:30 -2:30 in the Willow Room at Shepherd of the Prairie. Join us as you are able; no sign-up is necessary.



FRIENDS BIBLE STUDY

ALL WOMEN ARE INVITED

MONDAYS 12:30 PM



More Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPfriends

Contact: Linda Dungey
lindajsd88@gmail.com

Ministry Night

You Are Invited!



SECOND MONDAY MONTHLY
7:00 pm



MINISTRY NIGHT

Little Lambs Preschool

Now Enrolling

LITTLE LAMBS PRESCHOOL

**Now Enrolling
2024-2025
School Year**

**AGES
2-5**

Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPLLambs

Collecting Plastic Bags

Building a Bench

Recycling
PLASTIC BAGS
Creating a
BENCH

With **NexTrex**

MORE INFO:
www.bit.ly/SOTPbench

Donations Needed

A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the graphic. The background features a white park bench, a recycling symbol, and plastic bags.

Huntley Lions Club is now collecting at SOTP to build another bench.

Contact: Tara Mackey
rtmackey10@yahoo.com

Thank You!

From Barb Hoppensteadt

From a hospital stay, surgery and cast, I was at Alden's, for seven weeks. I am home and will continue with P.T and C.T. at home. I have so many people to thank for cards, gifts, flowers, and prayers.

Thank you for the visits, bringing me communion, making that great vegetable soup and other goodies.

To all who came to visit me at Alden's, thank you. To all my Saturday night ushers and communion stewards, thank you so much for helping Ed Cuttle put the schedules together, thank you.

It has been a rough road but with



prayers, I will get through this.

I am unable to drive yet, but one day I will see you at church.

Blessings and thanks to all.

Contact: Barb Hoppensteadt
hoppen@sbcglobal.net

Men's Coffee

Tuesdays



MEN'S COFFEE
McDonald's by Huntley Walmart



Tuesdays at 7:30 am
INFO: www.bit.ly/SOTPMen

Women's Coffee

Fridays



Women's Coffee Gathering
Fridays 10am



MCDONALD'S BY HUNTLEY WALMART

Friendsgiving—Dinner Church

Come, Celebrate Church Family

A promotional poster for Friendsgiving Dinner Church. The background features a wooden table with various dishes like roasted squash, corn, and a salad. A white logo of a stylized plant is in the upper center. A dark green circular area on the right contains the event details. A yellow banner in the top right corner says 'Bring a Dish for Potluck'. A QR code is in the bottom left, and a registration link is in a dark green bar at the bottom.

Bring a Dish for Potluck

Friendsgiving DINNER CHURCH

Wednesday, November 27
6pm

REGISTRATION REQUESTED

www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24

Blue Christmas Service

For Those

We will be hosting a Blue Christmas Service on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7pm. This is a simple service of readings and carols in remembrance of the losses in our lives. If you have suffered any kind of loss (a loved one, a relationship, a job, purpose, a sense of self...) and would like to honor that loss this Christmas, please join us. Registration is not required.

A poster for the Blue Christmas Service. The background is dark blue with several lit candles in shades of blue and white. A white logo of a stylized plant is in the top left. The text 'Blue Christmas' is written in a large, elegant script. Below it, the date and time are given. A QR code is in the bottom left, and a registration link is in a dark blue bar at the bottom.

Worship service for those living with loss.

Blue Christmas

Tuesday, December 3, 2024
7:00 pm

More Info: www.bit.ly/SOTPblue24

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

Contact: Donna Kelly
donna@sotpmail.com



Involvement Schedule

October 2024

		Oct 5 & 6	Oct 12 & 13	Oct 19 & 20	Oct 26 & 27
Acolytes	SUN 9:00	Lincoln Shaw	Hailey Anderson	----	----
	SUN 10:45	Max Wondriska	Derek Mackey	William Womac	Nicholas Womac
Communion Bread	SAT & EXTRA	Sandy Scalise & Jeanne Henley			
	SUN	Eileen Gerald	Jill Brown	Nancy Hammer	Nancy Morbeck
Counters	MON	Doug Nagel, Dottie Bobzin & Marilyn Wilhelm			
Greeters <i>Interested in Serving Here?</i> Contact: Elaine Gillam suggillam@aol.com	SUN 9:00 AM	Elaine Gillam Carol Engstrom	Eileen Gerald Terry Halpin	Dottie Bobzin Candace Beck	Laura Attaway Cyndi Munson
	SUN 10:45 AM	Carolyn & Bob Malm			
Ushers <i>Interested in Serving Here?</i> Contact: Ed Cuttle edschn28@comcast.net	SAT 5:00 PM	Karen Eckert Carol Hartman	Tom Cox Therese Cox	Carol Hartman Peggy Lynn Loiselle	NO SERVICE
	SUN 9:00 AM	WALTER LEMKE Tim Bueschel Jeff Stangle Jeff Ottens Mickey & Cathy Kappel	JACK CONTI Cheryl Rotermond John & Patti Witt Carol Engstrom	NANCY WILSON Wayne Schmidt Arja Kasper Dan Wentzlof Mike Malczewski	RALPH WEHNES Stan Crissman Jerry & Pat Darow George Attaway
	SUN 10:45 AM	BOB MCDUFFEE Annika Yndestad Mike & Patti Kargol	MARK FRENDEIS Sandy Stewart Jessica Panella	DOUG NAGEL Don Koerner Judy Petropulos	BOB MOLLIS Diane Mollis Krystal Smith

Regularly Scheduled



SUNDAYS

8:30-11am (1st Sun) **Food Drive for Grafton Food Pantry**
9:00 am **Traditional Worship**
9:00 am **Kids Connect**
10:20 am **Adult Education: Factfulness**
10:45 am **Contemporary Worship**
10:45 am **Kids Connect**
1:00 pm **FBW**
2:00 pm **Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal**

MONDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**
9:00 am (3rd Mon) **Gazebo Valor Quilts**
10:30 am **FBW**
12:30 pm **Friends (Women's) Bible Study**
6:30 pm **Boy Scouts Troop 200**
7:00 pm (2nd Mon) **Ministry Night**
7:00 pm (3rd Mon) **Council Meeting**

TUESDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**
8:00 am **Men's Coffee** at McD's by Huntley Walmart
8:30 am **Staff Meeting**
9:00 am (1st & 3rd Tues), **Prairie Pointe Quilters**
9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
9:15 am **AL-ANON Meeting**
10:00 am **Grief Journey Group**
2:30 pm (2nd Tues), **Barnabas**
6:30 pm (1st Tues), **Scout Troop 200 Committee**
6:30 pm (1st Tues), **Boy Scouts Patrol Leader's Council**

7:00 pm **Transitions Journey Through Loss**
7:00 pm **Cub Scouts, Tigers**
7:00 pm **FBW**
7:00 pm **AL-ANON Meeting**
7:00 pm **Adult Bells Rehearsal**

WEDNESDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**
9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
10:30 am **Women's FBW**
11:00 am **God's Girls (Del Webb) Bible Study**
5:45 pm **Wednesday Night Dinners**
7:00 pm **Confirmation**
7:00 pm **High School Youth**
7:00 pm **Adventure Club**
7:00 pm **Adult Choir Rehearsal**

THURSDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**
9:00 am **Little Lambs Preschool**
9:00 am (2nd Thurs), **Prayer Shawl Ministry**
1:00 pm (1st Thurs) **Book Club**
6:30 pm (2nd Thurs), **Lions Club**
7:00 pm **Cub Scouts**
Times Vary **Volunteers at Habitat for Humanity ReStore**

FRIDAYS

7:30-8:30 am **Morning Movement**
10:00 am **Women's Coffee** at McD's by Huntley Walmart
10:30 am **FBW**

SATURDAYS

5:00 pm **Worship**



Special Events

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Lutheranism 101 with Pastor Bill,
10am

www.bit.ly/SOTPLuth101-24

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

Confirmation Faith Statement
Writing for Freshmen, 5:30pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13 "Luther"

Movie Screening, 3:00pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPLuther24

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

Trunk or Treat, 3pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPtrunk24

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

Next Step for All Seniors

Participate in Trunk or Treat, 3pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1024

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 German

Dinner with Guest Speaker

Dr. Martin Lohrmann, 5pm

Reservation Required

www.bit.ly/SOTPcel24

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 German

Band, Lutheran Heritage SOTP

Celebration Continues at

Sew Hop'd, 6:30pm

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 Reformation

Sunday with Dr. Martin Lohrmann,

Both Services

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 New

Member Gathering, 3pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPNMG1124

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 Game Day,

Noon

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Next Step for All Seniors—

Holiday Luncheon, Noon

www.bit.ly/SOTPnext1124

WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 24

Prayer Shawl Weekend

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Friendsgiving Dinner Church, 6pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPthanks24

NOVEMBER 28 & 29

Thanksgiving Weekend,

Office Closed

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

Blue Christmas Service, 7pm

www.bit.ly/SOTPblue24

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8 The Artist

Series Presents "Christmas with

the Carpenters", time TBD

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14 Children's

Christmas Musical Dress Rehearsal,

9:30am

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 5pm

Children's Christmas Musical

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 10:45 am

Children's Christmas Musical

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve, Office Closed

Traditional Service, 3pm

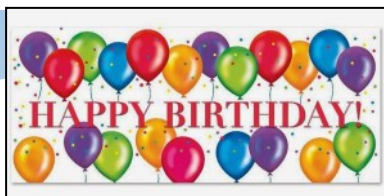
Contemporary Service, 5pm

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day, Office Closed

Birthdays

October



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





**GOD'S
WORK, OUR
HANDS**

Get Involved

Ways to Serve

Are you looking for ways to use your talents and participate in our church family?

Here are some ideas and who to contact for more information for each one:

- Adult Choir—Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Adventure Club—Jill Gillming jill@soapmail.com
- Annual Church Picnic – Donna Kelly— donna@sotpmail.com
- Assisting Minister (9am) – Sue Sroka —dssroka5@gmail.com
- Artist Series – Jane McMullen jane@sotpmail.com
- A/V Team – Josh Harding— josh@sotpmail.com
- Barnabas Ministry—Donna Kelly donna@sotpmail.com
- Bell Choir (Adult) —Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Bell Choir (Kids & Youth) – Jane McMullen, jane@sotpmail.com
- Communion Assistants—Sue Sroka— dssroka5@gmail.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
- Kids Academy—Amy Stech amc_stech@yahoo.com
- Kids Connect—Jill Gillming jill@sotpmail.com
- Mission Team – Sandy Hupert sandyhupert@gmail.com
- Newsletter Mailing Prep—Michelle Rankin, michelle@sotpmail.com
- Next Step Fellowship (Single Seniors Fellowship) – Dave Stangle, dstangle.ds@gmail.com or Phyllis Thomson, phyllisthompson@aol.com
- Property Team—Mark Frenreis, 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—Sue Sroka— dssroka5@gmail.com
- Small Groups—Donna Kelly donna@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

Treasurer's Report

SHEPHERD OF THE PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT SUMMARY FOR THE PERIOD ENDING AUGUST 31, 2024

UNRESTRICTED GENERAL FUND

	MONTHLY	MONTHLY	MONTHLY ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL	YTD PERCENT	YTD PERCENT
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. MONTHLY BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. YTD BUDGET	BUDGET	RECEIVED	EXPENDED
August 1, 2024 Beginning Balance	\$ 390,854.85								
Monthly Income	67,538.80	73,568.00	\$ (6,029.20)	629,423.54	643,856.00	\$ (14,432.46)	\$ 966,000.00	65.16%	
Monthly Expenses	74,399.52	76,273.00	\$ (1,873.48)	616,382.93	635,110.00	\$ (18,727.07)	\$ 966,000.00		65.75%
Income vs. Expenditures	(6,860.72)	(2,705.00)		13,040.61	8,746.00				
August 31, 2024 Ending Balance	\$ 383,994.13								
Average Monthly Expenses (Budgeted)	\$ 80,500.00								
Approx. Months Covered by Fund Balance	4.77								

MORTGAGE SERVICE FUND

	MONTHLY	MONTHLY	MONTHLY ACTUAL	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR TO DATE	YTD ACTUAL	ANNUAL	YTD PERCENT	YTD PERCENT
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. MONTHLY BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	VS. YTD BUDGET	BUDGET	RECEIVED	EXPENDED
August 1, 2024 Beginning Balance	\$ 39,791.67								
Monthly Income	14,570.80	18,807.00	\$ (4,236.20)	142,882.73	150,456.00	\$ (7,573.27)	\$ 225,084.00	63.31%	
Monthly Expenses	18,807.00	18,807.00	\$ -	150,456.00	150,456.00	\$ -	\$ 225,084.00		66.67%
Income vs. Expenditures	(4,236.20)			(7,573.27)					
August 31, 2024 Ending Balance	\$ 35,555.47								
Average Monthly Expenses	\$ 18,807.00								
Approx. Months Covered by Fund Balance	1.89								

Respectfully submitted,

George Attaway, Treasurer



Stay Connected emails



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 go online to:

www.bit.ly/SOTPemails



SOTP Staff

Pastor Mark Boster

Senior Pastor
pastormark@sotpmail.com

Pastor Ryan Mackey

Pastor
pastorryan@sotpmail.com

Kendra Coots

Assistant Teacher—
Little Lambs Preschool
kendra@sotpmail.com

Jill Gillming

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

Josh Harding

A/V and Office Support Staff
josh@sotpmail.com

Donna Kelly

Director of Connections Ministry
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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

Church Council

Bob Mollis, President
Kathy McGuine, Vice President
George Attaway, Treasurer
Christa Serpe, Secretary

Mike Luecht
Ellen Nissen
Jim Puls
Sara Wolf

Follow Us Social Media



@shepherdoftheprairie

@sotpmedia10805

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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