



WEEKLY NEWS for the

Flock

January 7 & 8, 2012

Welcome! Whether you're a visitor or a member, we are joyful you are with us today to Gather, Grow and Give in Christ!



The Scott Family participated in the Christmas Eve Family Service drama. From left: Abigail, Baby Evelyn as Jesus, Tamara as Mary, Emma, Zack as Joseph, and Owen.

Wonderful Christmas Worship Thanks to You!

Thank you to everyone who made over two weeks of special Christmas worship so extraordinary, including our Children's Christmas Program, Sounds of the Season Concert, Longest Night Service, Traveler's and Christmas Eve and Day Worship.

Video recordings of the GodZone Children's Program Services and the Christmas Eve Family Service are available at www.sotv.org/godzone.

Other worship videos and sermon audio are available from the "Audio and Video" tab on our homepage. Order forms for Worship DVDs and CDs are available at the Welcome Center.

Interim Pastor Announcement

Beginning February 23, 2012, Peter Hanson will join the pastoral staff of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church (SOTV) as an Interim Associate Pastor.

Pastor Peter Hanson has spent the past ten years as a missionary in Senegal with the ELCA Global Mission. Previously, Peter served as pastor to a New England congregation, as well as other Lutheran congregations and institutions.

Peter was selected from a pool of candidates through the SOTV interview process for employment. This interim role serves as an opportunity for Peter to transition back to church ministry in the United States and is an opportunity for SOTV to benefit from Peter's global perspectives.

Pastor Peter's work with SOTV will primarily focus on the areas of Worship, including leadership and preaching, Pastoral Care, and programmatic areas of Adult Ministries, GodZone, and Confirmation.

We look forward to this partnership continuing through the remainder of 2012 or until the call and implementation of an Associate Pastor, whichever occurs first. SOTV Council and Leadership will continue to evaluate this process and keep the congregation informed.

Welcome Pastor Peter Hanson!

Support Travelers to Haiti

You may not be traveling to Haiti this summer, but you can support Shepherd's youth and adults who are! Here are two ways:

Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction Saturday, January 14, 6:00 PM

Festivities include a sampling of Haitian cuisine, music, and culture, and a silent auction. Register at www.sotv.org/events. Adults: \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Children (12 and under): \$7. \$30 max/family.

Purchase SOTV Merchandise January 14 - February 1

Wear your church with pride! SOTV hooded sweatshirts, "Deeply Rooted" long and short-sleeved shirts, water bottles, and mugs will be available for purchase soon.

It's not too late to turn in your 2012 Pledge Card

Hundreds of our church families have submitted their intention to financially support our mission and ministries at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church. If you have not already done so, we encourage you to please make a pledge for 2012. Pledge cards are available at either church entrance. We are so very grateful for your stewardship!

2011 Contribution Statements

Charitable tax statements will be mailed out in January 2012 to those who contributed monetarily to SOTV in the 2011 calendar year. We encourage you to wait to file your personal tax return until you have received your donation statement.

First Communion Class Tuesday, January 31, 2012

Children in PK - Grade 5 interested in joining their parents at the altar for Holy Communion must take a First Communion class. A class is also scheduled for Tuesday, April 3 for children to take Communion on Maundy Thursday.

To sign up, visit the Welcome Center or www.sotv.org/events. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Mary Lund at (952) 985-7303 or Mary.Lund@sotv.org.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, ELCA | Christopher Smith, Senior Pastor
12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Road | Apple Valley, MN 55124 | www.sotv.org
Main office: (952) 432-6351 | Children, Youth & Family office: (952) 432-6385
Working *bega kwa bega* in partnership with Tungamalenga Parish, Tanzania

Study & Enrichment

Sunday Adult Forum

Sundays at 9:45 AM in the Chapel // Resumes this week with Walter Sundberg, Professor at Luther Seminary

The Divine Drama: "Our Narrative"

Monday evenings, 6:30 - 8:00 PM // January 9 - April 9
No class March 26 or April 9 // Cost: \$20 for the half year
KidCare: \$42 // Led by Mark & Carrie Gamm

Bible Basics

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 PM // Jan. 17 - Feb 28 (No class Feb. 14)
Led by Mark Gilligan // Cost: \$10 // KidCare: \$18/child

Mark Gilligan was a stranger to the Bible until a powerful faith experience encouraged him to dive deep into scripture. Mark's six-week tour of both testaments will be enlightening to all, regardless of their Bible knowledge.

The Gospel of Mark

Thursday evenings, 7:00 - 8:30 PM // Jan. 26 - Mar. 15
Led by Pastor Duane Paetznick // Cost: \$12

The Gospel of Mark reveals, sometimes in surprising and scandalous ways, how Jesus is God's good news to us. This study takes eight big questions based on the text and challenges participants to explore them thoughtfully together.

Beth Moore's "Mercy Triumphs"

TWO CLASS OPTIONS:

- **Tuesdays evenings, 6:30 - 8:30 PM** // Eight weeks, Jan. 10 - Mar. 6, no class Feb. 14 // Cost: \$20 // KidCare: \$32/child
- **Tuesday Mornings, 9:30 - 11:30 AM** // 15 weeks, Jan. 10 - Apr. 24, no class Mar. 27 // Cost: \$20 // KidCare: \$60/child

Books That Matter

The Cross Under the Acacia Tree

January 21 at 9:30 AM // Facilitated by Pastor Diane Sponheim
Books available for \$12 at Welcome Center

Financial Peace University

Mondays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM // January 9 - April 9 // Cost: \$113
KidCare: \$52 per child

Free Financial Workshop for Couples

"From Me to We"

Thursday, January 19, 6:30 - 8:30 PM // Led by Chris Sipe

Friday Morning Bible Study:

A Study of Galatians and James

Fridays, 9:30 - 11:30 AM // February 3 - March 16
Led by Pastor Mary Lund // Cost: Free

 = Register at the Welcome Center
or www.sotv.org/events

Fellowship

Women's January Breakfast

Saturday, January 28, 2012
9:00 - 11:00 AM // Cost: \$10/person.
KidCare: \$4/child

The breakfast theme is "Don't Miss Your Boat: Living Your Life with Purpose in the Real World." Stories, humor and lessons learned will remind us we were created for a divine purpose and our lives matter. Bring a donation to support "Birthday Bag" outreach.

Men's February Breakfast

Saturday, February 4 // 8:00 - 10:00 AM
\$5 suggested donation

Charlie Ruud, former St. Paul Saints player and current associate pastor reflects upon the experience of playing professional baseball while attending seminary.

Annual Coffee House

Saturday, January 21, 2012 // 6:00 - 8:30 PM
Cost: \$10/individual or \$20/couple // KidCare: \$5/child

Once again, the Great Hall will be transformed into a relaxing coffee house setting. Join us for an evening of mingling, appetizers, dessert and a variety of beverages while listening to the music of Tom Strohmyer, Brian Bremer, and Rachel Kurtz.

Bring a donation for Our Daily Bread Food Shelf and receive an SOTV Coffee House T-shirt in return.

Men's "Theology on Tap"

3rd Tuesday of each month // Next date: January 17
Discussion with Pastor Randy Brandt: 7:00 PM // Fellowship: 8:00 PM
Old Chicago Restaurant, Apple Valley
Topic: "Jesus and Skeptics"

Men's Chili Cook-Off and Movie Night

Tuesday, February 7 // 6:00 - 9:30 PM // Freewill donation

Movie: *Courageous* from the creators of *Fireproof*. When registering, indicate if you are bringing chili to share. Prizes will be awarded for the best chili.

Manifold Greatness

The Creation and Afterlife of the King James Bible
Saturday, February 4 // 9:00 AM - Noon // Meet at SOTV, carpool to The Wilson Library, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Join Pastors Duane Paetznick and Mary Lund on an outing to view the traveling exhibit of the King James Bible, celebrating its 400th anniversary. Please indicate if you are willing to drive and how many people you can take in your vehicle when you register.

Love and Laughter Valentine's Event

A Couples' Evening Featuring Comedian Bob Stromberg
Saturday, February 11 // 7:00 - 9:00 PM // Cost: \$25 per couple
KidCare: \$4 per child

Skip the flowers and chocolates and join us for a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship with other couples, and enjoy lots of laughs with the love of your life! Delicious desserts will be served to top off the evening.

O.K.'s (Older Kids)

Dr. Chuck Lutz
Monday, January 16
12 noon luncheon
Cost: \$5

Dr. Lutz will address Middle-East issues in his talk: "Faiths and a Land Called Holy: Too Much Fundamentalism, Not Enough Faithfulness"

WINK (Women in New Konnections)

For women who attend church alone to connect with others. Join us each Sunday at 10:45 near the Welcome Center.

Care & Support*

GriefShare

Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM // Jan. 24 - Mar. 20
Video session and support group discussion time.
Optional workbook is \$15.

DivorceCare

Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:30 PM // Feb. 7 - May 15
Cost: \$15, includes new workbook
Video session and support group discussion time.
Scholarships are available.

NAMI Parent Resource Groups

Every second and fourth Thursday of the month // 6:00 - 8:00 PM // at SOTV

NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, presents an opportunity for parents and caregivers of children with challenging behaviors to get together to share similar experiences, discover resources and learn coping skills. Pizza and childcare is available. Contact NAMI Minnesota at (651) 645-2948 for more information.

Depression Support Weekly Meetings

Prince of Peace, 13901 Fairview Drive, Burnsville
Christian Life Center

For family members and loved ones of those with depression: Tuesday evenings, 6:30 PM, Room 160
Contact: Randy Goeke, (952) 240-2754

For individuals with depression:
Tuesday evenings, 6:30 PM, Room 160
or Wednesday mornings, 10:00 AM, Room 110
Contact: Richard Erickson, (651) 788-0275

Depression Support Monthly Speakers

Monday, February 6, 7:00 – 8:30 PM at SOTV
"The Whole-Person Approach to Treating Depression/Anxiety" Kim Bushman, PhD, LP

ADHD, Autism, & Other Disabilities on the Spectrum

Monday, January 23, 2012
"Beyond the Label: Practical Tools & Resources"
Linda Vettrus, Special Education Teacher
Cost: \$10/individual or \$15/family. Pre-registration and payment is required for KidCare only —\$5/child.

Suicide Survivor Support Group

2nd Tuesdays and 4th Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Mary Mother of the Church, 3333 Cliff Road, Burnsville, Park in West parking lot, enter main door, look for sign.

* See the rightmost sidebar for more support groups.

Giving Opportunities



Our Daily Bread Food Shelf

Most needed items: tuna helper, cookies, variety crackers, small snacks, refried beans and cereal.

Please no stuffing, green beans or corn at this time. Thank you!

Give the Gift of Sight

Globally, one of four children and 90% of adults over 40 cannot see well enough to read without eyeglasses. But for many, a pair of glasses is both unaffordable and inaccessible. The Lions Clubs International Used Eyeglass Recycling program collects old, unwanted eyeglasses for redistribution in developing countries. If you have old eyewear sitting around or stuffed in a drawer, please consider bringing them to our collection box found in the Narthex. Questions? Please contact Sam Heiting at (952) 985-7310.

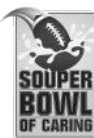
SOTV Red Cross Blood Drive Tuesday, February 7, 12:30 - 6:30 PM

You are eligible to donate if you are in good health, 16 yrs. or older and have not donated since 12/13/11. Double red appointments will be available. Online registration is available at www.redcrossblood.org, or at the Welcome Center. If you are interested in volunteering to make appointments, greet, serve snacks, or help with set up/clean up, please sign up at the Welcome Center or call Lisa Loher at (651) 683-9127. Thank you!

January Shoe Collection

Over a million people in Ethiopia and other countries are affected by diseases from contaminated soil. All that is needed is a good pair of shoes. In January, we will be collecting the following types of new or gently used shoes in the narthex: running, athletic, sandals, work boots, cleats, and flip flops. Thanks!

Souper Bowl of Caring



Bring non-perishable food donations to Confirmation or Worship the first two weeks of February for the "Souper Bowl of Caring!" Donations go to SOTV's Food Shelf. Tables will be set up in the Narthex for donations. Place your donation under the banner of the team you want to win the Super Bowl!

All-Church ServeTogether

Saturday, January 14, 9:00 - 11:00 AM

After the rush of the holiday season, join together with others to make a positive impact in our community. Activities for ages 8+ range from making sandwiches for the homeless to activities and games with seniors.

Sign up at sotv.org/events or the Welcome Center.
Contact Lori.Bullock@sotv.org for more information.

Ongoing...

Knitters & Crocheters

Want to make Prayer Shawls?
Contact: Jill.Johnson@sotv.org
or (952) 985-7381.

Shepherd Quilters

Mondays, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Meetings resume January 9.

Faith Partners: Promoting Chemical Health

If you or someone you know is affected by chemical abuse, please contact Karen (952) 201-6193 or Scott (952) 431-2566.

CBC (Challenged by Cancer)

For women living with cancer to gather and support each other.
2nd Tuesdays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM.
Contact: Cher Nelson, Parish Nurse, (612) 209-1404, cher.nelson@sotv.org

Compassionate Friends South of the River

3rd Tuesdays at 7:00 PM.
For parents grieving the loss of a child of any age from any cause.
Contact: Susan Ferber, (651) 683-9236, susan@ferbers.us.

Sarah Circle Bible Study

2nd Saturdays, 8:30 - 9:30 AM
Contact: Judy Anderson
(651) 207-8407

Shalom Circle Bible Study

3rd Thursdays, 1:30 - 3:30 PM
Next meeting: January 19

Wednesday Coffee for Men

Wednesdays at 9:00 AM in Atrium

Men's Bible Studies

Tuesday Mornings: 6:00 - 7:00 AM
Wednesday Evenings: 6:00 - 7:15 PM
Friday Mornings: 6:30 - 8:00 AM
Contact: Pastor Chris Steubing
(952) 985-7306

Job Connections Group

"Introduction to the Myers Briggs Type Indicator"
Tuesday, January 10, 6:30 - 8:15 PM
Prince of Peace, Burnsville, MN
More info: (952) 898-9388
www.princeofpeaceonline.org/jcg



Children, Youth and Family (CYF)

News & Events | January 7 & 8, 2012 CYF office: (952) 432-6385

GodZone (PK - Grade 5)

GodZone Goes to Worship

Grades 1-3, Sunday, January 8:

Children will observe a baptism and remember their own. They will return to GodZone to celebrate what it means to be a part of God's family. Wednesday sessions are invited to attend worship with their families and join Sunday Crews, on cue.

PK-K, Sunday, January 22:

Children will participate in a special "Good News for Kids" (Children's Time) and provide special music. All Sunday Crews will go together during their GodZone sessions and Wednesday children are invited to sit with their parents and participate as directed.

Begin 2012 with a "Heart Start!"

This week children in Grades 1-5 will bring home a *Heart Start*. It's a new family resource to help nurture their faith every day in every way. Small heart-shaped bowls along with a mini "how to" brochure will give GodZone families a creative and natural opportunity to realize the significance of baptism in their daily lives.

2011 Christmas Program

Special thanks to GodZone children for leading us in worship on December 17 and 18.

Delightful video recordings of all four programs and the Christmas Eve Family Service are available at www.sotv.org/godzone. DVD copies are also available for a suggested donation of \$5. To order, please e-mail Jeanne.Mikulski@sotv.org and specify which service time you would like. Order forms are also available at the Welcome Center.

Family Snow Tubing (All Ages!)

**Friday, February 10, 7:00-10:30 PM
Green Acres (Lake Elmo)**

Cost varies (\$5-\$15) based on age and height; see the registration form, available at the Welcome Center and CYF office, for full details.

All Youth (Grades 1-12)

God & Country Program

For Boy and Girl Scouts. Starts Jan 22, 2012

- Grades 1-3: God and Me
 - Grades 4-5: God and Family
 - Grades 6-8: God and Church
 - Grades 9-12: God and Life
- Please visit www.sotv.org/scouts for information.

Summer Camp registration is open!

There are amazing opportunities for growing in faith and experiencing the joy of Christian community for Grades 2 & 3 (weekend Seeds camp) all the way through Grade 12! Packets are in the Children's, Youth & Family (CYF) office or at the Welcome Center. Registrations are due March 15. Questions? Contact Barb Schulz at (952) 985-7351.

Summer Trips (Grades 6-12)

Youth in Grades 6-12 can still sign up for a Summer 2012 Service Trip! Space is limited, and unfilled spots will be released back to the organizations on January 15, so register today! Adult leader volunteers are also still needed. Contact Brandon Newton at (952) 985-7361.

Middle School (Grades 6-8)

Middle School Ski Retreat

Friday-Sunday, January 20-22 at Welch Village

Cost varies based on rental needs and whether you have a season pass. \$75 deposit holds your spot. Limited to 25 girls and 25 boys.

High School (Grades 9-12)

Magi(cal) Mystery Tour

Friday, January 20, 5:00 PM - 12:00 midnight

Where will this Magi(cal) Mystery Tour take you? Meet at SOTV, but don't expect to stay there! Cost is \$20. We will be done when the clock strikes 12! Register online at www.sotv.org/events.

High School Ski Retreat

Friday-Sunday, February 17-19 at Welch Village

Cost varies based on rental needs and whether you have a season pass. \$75 deposit holds your spot. Limited to 25 girls and 25 boys.

ONGOING CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRIES...

GodZone (PK - Grade 5)

**Sundays and Wednesdays
Call for available times**

GodZone is our fun and engaging Christian Education program for Preschool through Grade 5. Children can join any time throughout the year. To register, visit the Welcome Center or our website www.sotv.org/children/godzone.shtml. Call the Children, Youth and Family (CYF) office if you have any questions: (952) 432-6385

Confirmation (Grades 6-9)

**Wednesday nights
Call for available times**

Confirmation for 2010-2011 is underway, although kids can join any time throughout the year. Call Barb Schulz in the Children, Youth and Family (CYF) office if you have any questions or to register for a small group. (952) 985-7351

High School (Grades 9-12)

URL (Unwind, Recharge and Learn)

**Wednesdays 8:00 - 9:15 PM
Shepherd Room**

Informal youth gatherings to connect with friends and meet new people.

PBS (Panera Before School)

**Mondays at 6:30 AM
Apple Valley Panera,
off Cedar & County 42**

Jumpstart your week with faith friends, scripture, and prayer (not to mention a tasty breakfast!).

Sunday Night Dive-In

**5:00 - 7:00 PM
Shepherd Room
Session III: Jan 8 + 15
Session IV: Jan 22 + 29**

"Dive in" to your burning questions using the Bible, video, music, and other exciting activities.