



# WEEKLY NEWS for the

# Flock

**Weekend of December 17 & 18**

**Welcome!** Whether you're a visitor or a member, there are many opportunities in the next couple weeks to Gather, Grow and Give in Christ!

### New Member Classes

**Tuesdays, January 3, 10, and 17**  
**7:00 - 8:00 PM**

Would you like to become a member of our church or simply investigate it further? Join us for information about our mission and opportunities for involvement.

No registration is necessary and childcare is provided. Questions? Please e-mail [Lori.Bullock@sotv.org](mailto:Lori.Bullock@sotv.org).

### All-Church ServeTogether

**Saturday, January 14, 9-11 AM**

After the rush of the holiday season, join together with others to make a positive impact in our community.

- Make sandwiches for the homeless
- Tie fleece blankets for military personnel
- Sort donations at Arc's Value Village (Age 8+)
- Housework at LSS My House (Age 13+)
- Activities & games at Martin Luther Care Center or Trinity Care Center
- Serve brunch, help with chores and child care at Lewis House (Age 13+)

Signup online at [SOTV.org](http://SOTV.org) or at the Welcome Center. Contact [Lori.Bullock@sotv.org](mailto:Lori.Bullock@sotv.org) for more information.

### Celebrating Children Preschool Accepting Registrations

Register for the 2012-13 school year beginning January 3, 2012. Classes for 3 & 4 year olds, 4 & 5 year olds and a High Five class. Registration information at [www.sotv.org/preschool](http://www.sotv.org/preschool).

### Volunteers Needed!

**Ushers needed at all Christmas Eve Services:** 11:00 AM, 1:00, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:15, 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 PM. Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Greg Camp at (952) 412-0648 or [campgr@hotmail.com](mailto:campgr@hotmail.com).

**Communion assistants needed** on Christmas Eve at the 9:30 and 11:00 PM services. Contact Merilu Narum at (952) 985-7326 or [Merilu.Narum@sotv.org](mailto:Merilu.Narum@sotv.org).

### Year-End Giving

We will be **closing at 6:30 PM** on **Saturday, December 31, 2011** following our regular Saturday worship service.

Please keep this in mind when planning year-end donations to Shepherd of the Valley. All gifts must be received by the church or postmarked **on or before** December 31, 2011. Any gifts received/postmarked after that date will be considered a 2012 donation.

Charitable contribution **tax statements** will be mailed in January 2012 to those who contributed monetarily to SOTV in 2011. If you would like to receive current giving information, please contact Dawn Della Paolera at (952) 985-7315, or email [Dawn.Dellapaolera@sotv.org](mailto:Dawn.Dellapaolera@sotv.org).

### Pledge Reminder

Thank you to the many generous individuals who have made a 2012 financial pledge to our shared mission and ministry. If you have not already done so, please return your completed pledge cards by December 31, if possible. Pledge cards are available at the Welcome Center. Your gifts enable us to do many wonders and every gift matters. Thank you!



### Children's Christmas Program

Weekend of December 17 & 18  
in the Sanctuary: Saturday 5:00 PM,  
Sunday 8:30, 9:45 & 11:00 AM

Shuttle service from Falcon Ridge M.S. on Sunday 7:30 AM - 12:30 PM

### Sounds of the Season Concert

Sunday, December 18, 6:00 PM

### The Longest Night Service

Tuesday, December 20, 7:00 PM

### Travelers' Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 21, 7:00 PM

### Christmas Eve Worship

Saturday, December 24

Family Services: 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM

Candlelight: 2:30, 3:45, 5:00,  
6:15 & 8:00 PM

Candlelight (with Communion):  
9:30 & 11:00 PM

Shuttle service from Falcon Ridge M.S. from 2:00 - 7:30 PM

### Christmas Day Worship

Sunday, December 25, 10:00 AM

### December 31 & January 1

Regular weekend schedule resumes:

### Celebration Worship (Sanctuary)

Saturday: 5:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30, 9:45, & 11:00 AM

### The Table (Great Hall)

Sunday: 9:45 & 11:00 AM

## Study & Enrichment

### 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

A thoughtfully collected six-week tour of both testaments that will be enlightening for people with little-to-no Bible knowledge or those just looking for a refresher. Led by Mark Gilligan, who delights in revealing to newcomers all that the Bible has to offer.

### The Gospel of Mark

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

The Gospel of Mark is not just good news about Jesus. It reveals, sometimes in surprising and scandalous ways, how Jesus is God's good news to us. This study takes 8 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

James, Jesus' own brother, started out as a skeptic. See how one glimpse of the resurrected Savior turned an unbeliever into a disciple. Topics in this study include: joy, hardship, faith, wisdom, the dangers of the tongue, humility, and prayer. Please join us!

### Financial Peace University

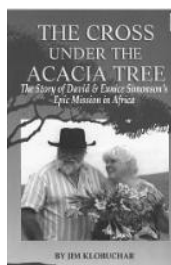
**Mondays, 7:00 - 9:00 PM** // January 9 - April 9 // Cost: \$100 (through Dec 20); \$113 (after Dec 20) // KidCare: \$52 per child

Created by Dave Ramsey, a personal money management expert, this 13-week video-based small group teaches families how to beat debt, get control of your money, build wealth, and learn new behaviors around money that are based on commitment, stewardship, and accountability.

### Free Financial Workshop for Couples "From Me to We"

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

Are you engaged or newly married? Find common ground with money management and work together to reach your goals.



### Books That Matter: The Cross Under the Acacia Tree

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

The Cross Under the Acacia Tree is a moving missionary story, describing what God has done through the exceptional ministries of David and Eunice Simonson. Written by beloved former Star Tribune columnist Jim Klobuchar, this story takes place in Tanzania, telling how that continent and its people captured the love of two Americans and their family. This book provides a great background for understanding the context of our partnership with Tungamalenga.

## Fellowship

### Women's January Breakfast With Gaye Lindfors

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

The breakfast's 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. Needed items, in packs of 8 when possible: paper plates, napkins, invitations, cups, party favors and candles.

### 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 Brad Food Shelf and receive an SOTV Coffee House T-shirt in return.

### Men's "Theology on Tap"

**3rd Tuesday of each month** // Next date: December 20  
Discussion: 7:00 PM // Fellowship: 8:00 PM  
Old Chicago Restaurant, Apple Valley

Join us on December 20th for the last "Tap" with Pastor Chris Steubing. The topic is "A Virgin Birth, Really?"

### Men's February Breakfast

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


Speaker: Charlie Ruud, "Pitching & Preaching"

### Shepherd Quilters

**Mondays, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM** // Meetings resume Jan. 9, 2012.

All skill levels are welcome to help quilt, cut, iron, and stitch. Quilts are donated to Target House and other organizations. For more information contact Lorraine Robeson at (952) 423-3681 or [lrobeson@frontiernet.net](mailto:lrobeson@frontiernet.net).

### O.K.'s (Older Kids)

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

### WINK (Women in New Connections)

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

Combines a video session (featuring the nation's foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery) with grief support group discussion time. Led by Pastor Diane Sponheim and Pat Drake, Parish Nurse. The cost of an optional workbook is \$15.

### DivorceCare

**Tuesdays, 6:30 – 8:30 PM** // Feb. 7 - May. 15  
Cost: \$15, includes new workbook

Video series featuring experts on divorce and recovery, with a new topic each week. Each session includes support group time to share real life experiences. Scholarships are available.

### Depression Support Weekly Meetings

Prince of Peace, 13901 Fairview Drive, Burnsville  
Christian Life Center, Room 110

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

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

### Depression Support Monthly Speakers

**Monday, February 6, 7:00 – 8:30 PM**  
"The Whole-Person Approach to Treating Depression/Anxiety" Kim Bushman, PhD, LP,  
Water's Edge Counseling & Healing Center  
Location: SOTV. Contact: Julie Opheim, (952) 432-6351

### 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.

This is a support group for those who are surviving the loss of a loved one who died by suicide. For information, call Toni at (952) 890-0122.

**See the rightmost sidebar for more support groups.**

## Giving Opportunities



### Our Daily Bread Food Shelf

**Most needed items:** Mac and cheese, mandarin oranges, refried beans, baby wipes, kidney beans, canned peaches, stew. **Please no stuffing.** Thank you!

### Winter Outerwear Collections

Bring **gently used** winter coats, snow pants, boots, mittens/gloves, hats and scarves for needy children and families in Dakota County, the Twin Cities, and as far away as Pine Ridge Reservation, SD. It is very expensive to ship clothing to North Dakota, so we ask that you be selective in what you plan to donate.

Bring **new** mittens, hats, scarves or socks for our Mitten Tree by the Welcome Center. These items will keep local adults and children warm and cozy during the new year.

Thank you so much for helping these families in need! Questions? Contact Lisa Loher at (651) 683-9127.

### Christmas Gift Giving

Thank you to everyone who has generously given to individuals and families in need through our Christmas Gift Giving program.

**All of the shopping programs are over at this time.** You can still give monetary donations for the following programs: Dakota Woodlands, Heifer International, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, Tungamalenga Partnership, Military Families, Our Daily Bread Food Shelf and SOTV's choice depending on where it is needed the most. Please go to the Welcome Center for more information. Blessings to you this Christmas!

### Thanks for Supporting the Military

Thank you to everyone for their generous donations again this year to Military Family Support Ministry.

We were able to ship over 50 boxes of goodies to our Troops serving overseas this Christmas season!

Thank you for helping make the holidays a happy time for those far from home at this time of year.

### "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!

## Ongoing...

### Knitters & Crocheters

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

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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

**Resume Review Evening**  
Tuesday, December 20, 6:30 - 8:15 PM  
Prince of Peace, Burnsville, MN  
More info: (952) 898-9388  
[www.princeofpeaceonline.org/jcg](http://www.princeofpeaceonline.org/jcg)

 = Register at the Welcome Center or [www.sotv.org/events](http://www.sotv.org/events)



# Children, Youth and Family (CYF)

News & Events | December 17-18, 2011 CYF Office: (952) 432-6385

**No GodZone or Confirmation** between December 21 and January 1. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 4 and Sunday, January 8, 2012.  
**Blessings for memorable and meaningful family time.**

## GodZone (PK - Grade 5)

### 2011 Christmas Program THIS Weekend: December 17 & 18

GodZone is leading the first half of worship in the sanctuary this weekend as they present their Christmas program during the 5:00 PM, 8:30, 9:45 and 11:00 AM services. PK-K -Grade 3 will return to GodZone to prepare gifts for local hospitals and nursery homes. Grade 4-5 Parents are urged to pick up their children in Room 20-22 immediately following each service.

### GodZone Goes to Worship

Grades 1-3 Sunday Crews will go to worship on Sunday, January 8 to 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.

### Characters Needed for Family Christmas Eve Service

**Saturday, December 24, 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM (Including lunch in between)**

All ages are invited to portray speaking and non-speaking parts in a special Christmas play that includes angels, shepherds, wise men and more! Please contact Mim Campbell (952) 985-7350. A special rehearsal will be required on Friday, December 23 at 10:00 AM for costume fitting and to rehearse roles.

## All Youth (Grades 1-12)

### Boy Scout & Girl Scout "God & Country Program"

**Starting Jan 22, 2012**

The following classes will be offered:

- Grades 1-3: God and Me
- Grades 4-5: God and Family
- Grades 6-8: God and Church
- Grades 9-12: God and Life

For a registration form and dates, please visit [www.sotv.org/scouts](http://www.sotv.org/scouts).

## 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)

### High School Jam Session

**Wednesday, December 28, 10:00 - 11:30 AM**

Get the guitar out of the closet and come play familiar songs and maybe try some new ones. This is open to all levels of ability!

### 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](http://www.sotv.org/events).

## Post High School/College

### College/Young Adult Brunch

**Tuesday, December 27, 10:30 AM - 12 PM, Great Hall**

Home from college for Winter Break or just want to connect with friends and your faith community? Come join us—brunch provided!

### Family Snow Tubing

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

All ages are invited to participate! Cost varies (\$5-\$15) based on age and height; see the registration form (available at the Welcome Center and CYF Office) for details. Register as a family and indicate number of tickets needed in each category.

## 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](http://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**

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