



# WEEKLY NEWS for the

# Flock

Weekend of December 3 & 4



## Christmas Gift Giving

Share God's abundance this Christmas. Many families and individuals **still need** sponsors and **time is running out!**

Sign up at this weekend's spotlight table, the Welcome Center or contact Lisa Hegerman ASAP!

- **Armful of Love:** 24 families need sponsors! Gifts need to be delivered to the Burnsville Armful of Love site between Dec. 5-12.
- **Southeast Asian Ministries:** 5 families need sponsors. Drop off at SOTV no later than Dec. 18. If delivering to the family, the date may be later.
- **Wingspan Life Resources:** 30 individuals need sponsors. Drop off at SOTV no later than Dec. 18.
- **Dakota Woodlands:** Drop off at SOTV no later than Dec. 15.
- **Southside Family Nurturing Center:** Drop off at SOTV no later than Dec. 18.

**Monetary donations** are being collected throughout December for the above programs and many others. Pick up a flier in the narthex for more information.

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### 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.

### 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.

### 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

#### Shepherd of the Valley

Lutheran Church, ELCA

Christopher Smith, Senior Pastor

12650 Johnny Cake Ridge Road  
Apple Valley, MN 55124

[www.sotv.org](http://www.sotv.org)

Main Line: (952) 432-6351

Children, Youth & Family office:  
(952) 432-6385

#### This Weekend in the Narthex:

Christmas Gift Giving

Men's Ministry

Camp Wapo

Letters from Tanzania Students

# Study & Enrichment

## Sunday Adult Forum

**Sundays at 9:45 AM** in the Chapel // Resumes January 8, 2012

## Parenting Partnership Nights

**Wednesday, December 7, 7:00-8:00 PM in the Sanctuary**  
**Topic: "Alcohol and Teen Depression"**

Students involved in the "Step-up" program at Augsburg college will share about their journey of chemical abuse/dependency and recovery. Conversation and resources available.

## Bible Basics

**Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8:00 PM** // Starts January 17  
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** // Starts January 26  
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

**Preview days:** Saturday, Dec 10, 6:00 PM  
Sunday, Dec 11, 10:45 AM and 12 Noon

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.

# Fellowship

## Baked Lutefisk Dinner

**Friday, December 16** // Seatings at 1:00 & 6:00 PM // Adult plate: \$15 // 12 & under plate: \$7

UFFDA! The annual favorite is back with Chef Leiton Larson at the helm. Come enjoy tasty Norwegian treats including Scandinavian meatballs, lefse, lingonberries, herring, and more!

## 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.

## 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 talented musicians.

## 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

Gather with Pastor Steubing for fellowship and conversations about faith and spirituality. December 20's topic is "A Virgin Birth, Really?" Questions? Contact Pastor Chris Steubing.

## Artist's Corner: Social Get Together

**Saturday December 10, 9:30 - 11:00 am** // Rooms 12-13

All aspiring painters, photographers, crafters, other artists, and their families are welcome to join us for coffee and goodies — whether you've attended our outings before or not. Bring your artwork; tables will be available to create displays. This is a chance to show your work and connect with other artists. RSVP to [dick@atomba.com](mailto:dick@atomba.com).

## Shepherd Quilters

**Mondays, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM** // Meeting Dec. 5 & 12, not meeting Dec. 19 & 26.

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 [larobeson@frontiernet.net](mailto:larobeson@frontiernet.net).

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

**Gloryland Band **  
Sat. December 10,  
12 noon luncheon  
Cost: \$10  
**Please sign up!**

## WINK (Women in New Konnections)

For women who attend church alone and would like to connect with others. Join us each Sunday, 10:45 - 11:00 AM at the round table near the Welcome Center.

**More ongoing groups in rightmost sidebar.**

## Care & Support

### DivorceCare

**Thursdays, 6:30 – 8:30 PM** // Sep. 8 - Dec. 22  
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 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

### ADHD, Autism, & Other Disabilities on the Spectrum

**Monday, December 5, 2011, 6:45 - 9:00 PM**  
"Success Strategies for Living with ADHD in Young Adults" Robin Nordmeyer, Strategic Life Coach specializing in ADHD

No cost for this presentation. Pre-registration and payment is required for KidCare only — \$5 per 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:** Diapers (size 4 & 5), beef stew, canned chili and saltines.  
**Please no stuffing or pasta.** Thank you!

During the month of November, turkeys and full baskets with all the trimmings were provided to about 240 local families. This "Turkey Project" was a collaborative effort between Our Daily Bread and the Rosemount Resource Center.

Over 450 pounds of food was donated during the Thanksgiving Eve service here at SOTV, helping to fill the food shelf back up. Once again, thank you for your continued support.

### Fair-Trade Coffee Cart

**The coffee cart will be open December 10 & 11 instead of its usual 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend of the month.**

Give a gift that gives twice! The coffees and related products that are sold by the church do just that. The farmers who grow the beans get a fair price, and you have a holiday gift that anyone will love!

### Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed

**Saturday, December 10**, Cub Foods at Diffley and Lexington Roads in Eagan

SOTV must fill nine, one-hour shifts from 10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. You can sign up for a shift as an individual, a family or a group of friends (maximum of 3-4). Please call Lisa Hegerman at SOTV to choose a shift. Your generous donation of time will make a difference in the lives of Twin Cities' residents in need!

### Volunteers Needed!

**Ushers at all Christmas Services**, (see p.1) Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Greg Camp at (952) 412-0648 or [campgr@hotmail.com](mailto:campgr@hotmail.com).

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

**Church cleaners, grounds maintenance, a electrician** for a small project, and **helpers for special events** like dinners and concerts. Contact Matt Gomes at (952) 985-7340 or [matt.gomes@sotv.org](mailto:matt.gomes@sotv.org).

### Only 30% raised toward providing 150 Tanzanian Scholarships

Fewer than 15% of students can afford to attend school past a 6th grade level; your donations are badly needed! Just \$1 a day or \$360 per year provides tuition, room and board for one student.

Write checks payable to SOTV with "TZ scholarship" in the memo, or use Simply Giving to make monthly payments.

## Ongoing...

### Knitters & Crocheters

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

### Down Syndrome Parent Support Group

Every 3rd Monday, 6:30 - 8:30 PM.  
Contact Suzy Runkel at (952) 891-5082 or [suzynelson@hotmail.com](mailto:suzynelson@hotmail.com).

### 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  
**No December Meetings**  
Contact: Judy Anderson  
(651) 207-8407

### Shalom Circle Bible Study

3rd Thursdays, 1:30 - 3:30 PM  
**Next meeting: December 15**

### 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

**Setting Up Your Job Search for 2012**  
Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 - 8:15 PM

Prince of Peace, Burnsville, MN  
More info: (952) 898-9388  
[www.princeofpeaceonline.org/jcg](http://www.princeofpeaceonline.org/jcg)



### 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.

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

Questions? Contact Lisa Loher at (651) 683-9127.



# Children, Youth and Family (CYF)

News & Events | December 3-4, 2011

CYF Office: (952) 432-6385

## GodZone (PK - Grade 5)



### 2011 Christmas Program

**Weekend of December 17 & 18**

This year we will be presenting an abbreviated Christmas program during worship in the Sanctuary.

- **Sat. December 17, 5:00 PM:** Wed. 5:45 PM class
- **Sun. December 18, 8:30 AM:** Sun. 8:30 AM class
- **Sun. December 18, 9:45 AM:** Sun. 9:45 AM class
- **Sun. December 18, 11:00 AM:** Sun. 11:00 AM class and Wed. 4:30 PM class

Grades 1-3 will rehearse during GodZone. Grades 4-5 have two options for rehearsing their key leadership roles: Tuesday, December 6 at 6:30 PM or Saturday, December 10 at 8:00 AM.

Shuttle service will be provided from Falcon Ridge Middle School Sunday morning beginning at 7:30. Please plan your arrival time accordingly.

Complete information for parents is available online at [www.sotv.org/godzone](http://www.sotv.org/godzone). CDs are available at the Welcome Center and Children, Youth and Family (CYF) office.

## Resources for GodZone Home Edition

Advent calendars, plus a list of fun and creative ways to focus on the real meaning of Christmas this year - are available at the Welcome Center or the CYF office.

## GodZone Giving Project

This year GodZone is invited to participate in a "Swaddling Clothes" Drive. Just as the innkeeper made provisions for baby Jesus, families may bring supplies for babies who are born in to families who are homeless or in need. A full list of items is available at [www.sotv.org/godzone](http://www.sotv.org/godzone). All proceeds will go to Dakota Woodlands or the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery.

## "Happy Birthday, Jesus" Party

**PK-K Children & Parents // Saturday, December 10 10:00 AM // \$10.00/family**

Live stable animals and a "photo op" with Mary, Joseph and the baby! Special craft, snacks and other fun activities.

## Wednesday Night Pizza

SOTV youth sell pizza, snacks, and drinks on Wednesday nights during the school year from 4:00 - 7:00 PM as a service to people who like to eat, and a means of raising money for youth summer service trips. Stop by the Narthex!

## Confirmation (Grades 6-9)

### Confirmation Pictures

Pictures are here and ready for pickup. They can be found in the Children, Youth and Family (CYF) office during the week and the Welcome Center during the weekend.

### Parent Nights

#### Wednesday, December 7: 9th Grade Parent Night

All 9th Graders and their parents meet in the Sanctuary at 7:00 PM.

#### Wednesday, December 14: 6th-7th Grade Parent Night

ALL groups meet at 7:00 PM. 6th grade parents and youth will be meeting in Rooms 20-22. Seventh grade parents and youth will be meeting in the Sanctuary.

## Middle School (Grades 6-8)

### Movies, Munchies, and More

**Friday, December 9, 7:00 - 10:00 PM**

Games, snacks, and favorite Christmas films! Cost: \$5

### 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)

### Lutheran Social Service (LSS)

#### Holiday Store

**Saturday, December 10, 9 AM - 1:30 PM**

Help teach kids the joy of giving while helping them pick out a parent gift as a personal shopping assistant at the LSS Center for Changing Lives in Minneapolis. Bring money for lunch. Register 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!

## 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.shtm](http://www.sotv.org/children/godzone.shtm). 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**  
**Nov. 20 & 27, Dec 4 & 11**

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