

the VISITOR

God's purpose for Shepherd of the Valley is to receive, embody, and proclaim God's living Word with all.

**Break out your BEST Fudge Recipe
For a BEST HOMEMADE FUDGE CONTEST!!!
Sunday, December 10th @ 12:30 p.m.
Bring It! Taste It!
(Judges will be announced that day.)**



Advent Worship and Mid-Week Soup Supper

Plan to attend Advent services as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. The Advent services continue on successive Wednesdays thru December 20th with:

**6:00 p.m. Soup Supper followed by
6:45 p.m. Worship**

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24

10:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship (*Beethoven Sonata*)

5:00 p.m. Worship (*Youth Pageant*)

7:00 p.m. Worship (*Festive Worship with Praise Team*)

11:00 p.m. Worship (*Festive Worship with Hand Bells, Chancel Choir and Organ*)

Monday, December 25

10:00 a.m. Worship (*Service of Lessons and Carols*)

Sunday, December 31

10:00 a.m. Worship (*Note: One morning service today*)



Please pray for and remember...

the following members and their caregivers this month with a card (c), phone call (p), or visit (v). Especially, remember these members during their birthday month (noted). When applicable, call ahead to confirm that the member is up for a caring action (phone call or visit). If you know of a member who isn't included on this list, but should be, contact Elvia Strauch, 208-322-0622, or the church office. *Also, please remember the caregivers/spouses of those listed below.*

<u>Members</u>	<u>Birth Month</u>	<u>Location</u>
Assisted Living/Convalescent/Nursing Homes:		
Marie Bucher (c)(p)(v)	(January)	Valley View Independent Living, 1130 N. Allumbaugh St., #309, Boise
Mary Lou Isbell (c)(p)(v)	(December)	The Cottages, 208-378-7602 / 6352 N. Roe Street, Boise
Mark McLagan (c)(p)(v)	(April)	Life Care Treasure Valley, Rm. #140
Grace Meisner (c)	(August)	Overland Crt Transitional Care, Boise
Homebound Members:		
Tonja Dahlheim (c)(p)(v)	(November)	5004 Sir James Ave., Caldwell 83607
Jean Eaton (c)	(October)	2050 S. Whisper Cove, Boise 83709
Marie Voth (c)(p)(v)	(March)	11828 W. Victory Rd., Boise 83709
Those with Health Challenges:		
Donna Spencer (c)(p)(v)	(October)	2816 N. Cloverdale, Boise 83713
Connie Wold (c)(p)(v)	(January)	Overland Court, Boise

WELCA ADVENT TEA— You're Invited!

Sunday, December 3rd
@ 2:00 p.m.

Honoring the Season.

Scandinavian dancing,
English tea presentation,
carol singing,
aebelskivers

(Danish Tea cakes), and a craft activity table.



COME, bring friends and enjoy a fun afternoon of preparing our hearts and minds for the holidays.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, IS FOOD BANK SUNDAY AT SOV

Please remember to bring non-perishable food the FIRST Sunday of each month, designated at SOV as Food Bank Sunday, for the *Meridian Food Bank*.

Food Donation List

Fruit
Vegetables
Cereal
Chili
Tuna Helper
Soup
Mac n Cheese
Pasta Noodles
Rice
Peanut Butter
Tuna
Pork-n-Beans
Stew
Spaghetti-O's
Top Ramen
Pasta Sides
Tomato Products
Spaghetti Sauce
Beans (dry and canned)
Hamburger Helper
Instant mashed potatoes

Pray Fast Act

On December 21, ELCA Advocacy and Presiding Bishop of ELCA encourage you to Pray Fast Act. **PRAY** for our nation's elected leaders to invest in sustainable recovery and preparedness infrastructure designed for an uncertain and dangerous future. **FAST** to remember the damage wrought for so many around the world by environmental degradation and natural disasters. **ACT** by urging our elected leaders to support strong policy solutions that address the increasingly urgent preparation and reconstruction needs of communities threatened by extreme and unpredictable weather.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Sunday, December 3rd

- 2:00 p.m. Youth D&D
- 4:00 p.m. Youth Board Games
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Improv

Sunday, December 10th

- 12:30 p.m. "J" AND "K" Teams Xmas Party
- 12:30 p.m. Fudge Competition
- 2:00 p.m. Youth D&D
- 4:00 p.m. Pageant Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Improv

Sunday, December 17th

- 2:00 p.m. Youth D&D
- 4:00 p.m. Caroling @ Overland Court
- 5:00 p.m. Pageant Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 20th

- 6:00 p.m. Jr/Sr Hi Christmas Caroling & Party

Saturday, December 23rd

- 12:00 p.m. Pizza / Dress Rehearsal

"J" and "K" TEAMS (Grades 3-6)

Calling ALL students in 3rd-6th Grades—
Come (with friends too) for games,
God time, and more!
(Lunch provided)

3rd & 4th Grade "J"-Teamers:
2nd Sunday of the month
at 12:30 p.m.

5th & 6th Grade "K"-Teamers:
4th Sunday of the month
at 12:30 p.m.

Like us on Facebook:



CONFIRMATION grades 7 & 8 HIGH SCHOOL GRADES 9 to 12



WEDNESDAYS @ SOV
Family Night (for ALL ages)
from 6:00 — 8:00 p.m.

ALL CHILDREN INVITED!!! REHEARSALS FOR CHRISTMAS PAGEANT HAVE BEGUN

Rehearsals for our Christmas Eve play are happening
each Sunday between services. **All** children ages pre-
school and up are invited to learn parts and songs!



CHRISTMAS

REHEARSALS



Servant Team Schedule

December: Charity
(2018 Servant Team Rotation announced on p. 11)

ADVENT SOUP SUPPERS

- Wed., Dec. 6: Love
- Wed., Dec. 13: Charity
- Wed., Dec. 20: Grace

Sign Up Sheets can be found
in the Narthex

Ongoing Prayers For:

Thomas and family,
brother of John Lawson

And, our homebound:

Marie Bucher
Tonja Dahlheim
Marie Voth

And, those in the military:

Andy, son of Marlys
Erickson, stationed at
the Marine Corps Base
in VA

Thomas, grandson of
Barbara Barlow, serv-
ing in Watertown, NY
Andrew, son of Karen
Clarke; grandson of
Eleanor Foster, Nation-
al Guard

Ryan, son of Bill &
Karen Woods, in the
Air Force at Fort
Meade, Baltimore

Register your
3-4-5 year old for
2017/2018 Preschool.
For more info.,
call Dena @
208-362-5919.

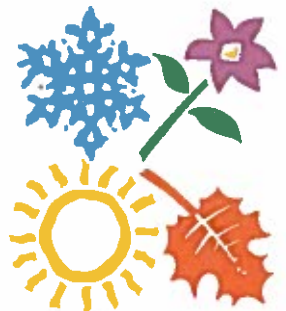
SAVE THE DATE!
ALL
**Congregation
New Member
Welcome
Banquet—
Sunday, January
7th @ at
12:30 p.m.**

Interfaith Sanctuary- -Can You Help in December?

Can you provide one (or several) of the following items in December?

Top Needs: Gloves/Hats/ Scarfs, Emergen-C (Vitamin C packets), Hot cider & Hot chocolate (packets), Tea bags, Peanut butter & Jelly and Deodorant and Foot powder.
Please put in blue bucket in narthex, and we will deliver.

Questions? Vivian Parrish 208-362-9579 or Pat Stewart 208-869-6260.



Semi-ANNUAL
MEETING

SAVE THE DATE!
**Semi-Annual
Congregational Meeting -
Sunday, January 28,
@ 12:30 p.m.**

SMALL GROUPS AND CIRCLES:

The Wednesday Quilters gather weekly on **Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m.** to make quilts that are given locally and globally.

Men's Wednesday Morning Gospel Conversation gathers weekly on **Wednesday mornings at 6:30 a.m.** at Awakenings Coffee Shop (Five Mile and Overland). This time is taken for conversation about the Gospel assigned for the coming Sunday and prayer.

Men's Topic Discussion/Prayer Breakfast gathers the **second Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m. (Location TBD)**. All are welcome for good food and lively discussion.

Thursday Morning Bible Study gathers each **Thursday @ 10:00 a.m.**, in the Library.

Anna Circle meets the **2nd Tuesday of each month @ 10:00 a.m.**, in the Library. Our topic: the Bible study in *Gather Magazine*, p. 22, (The Apostle's Creed). ALL are welcome.

Downtown Bible Study meets the **2nd & 4th Thursdays @ 12:00 p.m.** (Girvan home).

Ruth Circle will meet at **Gino's Ristorante (Ten Mile Road) at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, December 8th**. We will be discussing *The Rosie Project* and *Rosie Effect* both by Graeme Simsion.

Naomi Circle will meet **December 19th at 11:30 a.m. at Applebees (Eagle Road), followed by a cookie exchange at Marty Lindley's home (11313 Highlander Road)**. To assure we have adequate seating space at the restaurant, please RSVP by Dec. 17th (Vickie Swanson 208-570-4365).

Theology On Tap will resume in January.

NEW Sunday Altar Flower Chart!

The 2018 altar flower sign-up chart has been posted in the hallway outside of the Library. Many thanks to Jean Rahr for once again creating an eye catching and easy to use poster. If you haven't already done so, please consider adding Sunday altar flowers to your household budget.

Janice White, Altar Flower Coordinator

"WWW" (Wash, Wipe, Wrap) an ONGOING Ministry

Hosted by our sister congregation, Redeemer Lutheran Church, the WWW (wash, wipe, wrap) ministry began in 2008 to provide diapers, toilet paper, and laundry detergent (items which are not approved purchases with food stamps) to folks living in Ada County that need a little extra help. The following items are needed: Diapers (any variety, sizes 1-6); Laundry detergent (any variety, 64 oz. bottles); Toilet paper (any variety). Donated items can be left in the bin located in the narthex marked "WWW Ministry."

Theology on Tap Resumes in January

Once a month or so we meet at the home of one of our members to discuss theological topics with a few snacks and (optional) beverages in hand. It's a great time and the discussion usually goes deep. It's not a "teaching" kind of thing, except in the sense that we all learn from each other. It's a chance to gather around important and interesting questions, learning more about each other and our views of God in the process.

The next opportunity to participate in a Theology on Tap discussion will happen in January. Sign up in the narthex if you are willing to host! You don't have to provide all the snacks and beverages...we bring those along!

December 2017

Weekly Worship/Christian Education Schedule

Sundays Worship @ 9:00 a.m. (Choir) and 11:15 a.m. (Praise Team)
 Sunday Adult Education @ 10:15 a.m. (Varied Topics)
 Wednesdays from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. - Family Night @ SOV (all ages)

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1	2
3 Food Bank Sunday							
10:15a Pageant Rehearsal							
12:30p New Member Orientation							
2p Advent Tea							
2p Youth D&D/ 4p Youth Board Games							
6p Youth Bible Study/7p Youth Improv							
10							
10:15a Pageant Rehearsal							
12:30p New Member Orientation							
12:30p J & K Teams Christmas Party							
12:30p Fudge Competition							
2p Youth D&D/ 4p Pageant Rehearsal							
6p Youth Bible Study/7p Youth Improv							
17							
10:15a Pageant Rehearsal							
12:30p SOV @ Feeding God's Children							
12:45p Council Meeting (Gieseke home)							
2p Youth D&D							
4p Caroling @ Overland Court							
5p Pageant Rehearsal							
24							
10a Worship (<i>1 morning worship this day</i>)							
5p Worship							
7p Worship							
11p Worship							
31							
10a Worship (<i>1 morning worship this day</i>)							
4							
11:30a Staff Mtng (L)							
5							
5:30p Aspiri GS Troop (FH)							
6:30p Bell Choir Rehearsal							
6							
6:30a Men's Bible Study							
9a Wednesday Quilters							
6p Soup Supper							
6:45p Advent Worship							
7							
10a Thursday Bible Study (L)							
6p Praise Team Rehearsal							
6:30p Procsal GS Troop (FH)							
7:10p Choir Rehearsal							
8							
11:30a Ruth Circle (Gino's on Ten Mile)							
9							
9a Men's Breakfast (FH)							
10:15a Choir Rehearsal							
2p Johnstone GS Troop (FH)							
11							
11:30a Staff Mtng (L)							
12							
10a Anna Circle (L)							
5:30p Aspiri GS Troop (FH)							
6:30p Bell Choir Rehearsal							
13							
6:30a Men's Bible Study							
9a Wednesday Quilters							
6p Soup Supper							
6:45p Advent Worship							
14							
10a Thursday Bible Study (L)							
12p Dwtwn Bible Study							
5:30p Interfaith Sanctuary							
6p Praise Team Rehearsal							
7:10p Choir Rehearsal							
15							
7p Scandi Dancers (FH)							
16							
9a Johnstone GS Troop (FH)							
21							
6p Praise Team Rehearsal							
6:30p Procsal GS Troop (FH)							
7:10p Choir Rehearsal							
22							
10:15a Choir Rehearsal							
12p Pizza/Pageant Rehearsal							
23							
10a Worship (<i>1 morning worship this day</i>)							
5p Worship							
7p Worship							
11p Worship							
25							
10a Worship							
26							
5:30p Aspiri GS Troop (FH)							
6:30p Bell Choir Rehearsal							
27							
6:30a Men's Bible Study							
5:30p Interfaith Sanctuary							
6p Praise Team Rehearsal							
7:10p Choir Rehearsal							
28							
12p Dwtwn Bible Study							
5:30p Interfaith Sanctuary							
6p Praise Team Rehearsal							
7:10p Choir Rehearsal							
29							
10a Worship (<i>1 morning worship this day</i>)							
5p Worship							
7p Worship							
11p Worship							
30							
10a Worship (<i>1 morning worship this day</i>)							
5p Worship							
7p Worship							
11p Worship							
31							
10a Worship (<i>1 morning worship this day</i>)							
5p Worship							
7p Worship							
11p Worship							

Upcoming:

Sunday, January 7 @ 12:30 p.m. – New Member Welcome Banquet
 Sunday, January 28 @ 12:30 p. m.– Congregational Semi-Annual Meeting (*light lunch provided*)

December Worship Minister Assignments

DEC. 3	9:00 A.M. WORSHIP		11:15 A.M. WORSHIP	
<i>Assisting Minister</i> <i>Lector</i> <i>Children's Message</i> <i>Ushers</i> <i>Altar Guild / Bread</i> <i>Children's Church</i> <i>Acolytes</i>	Celia Maynard Lisa-DeRosier-Jim Girvan Pastor Dave Dick Strauch, Jim Girvan Dena Ferlic (AG) / Vicki Swanson (Bread) Pat Sands and Kira Grant Amara & Reed Jeide	Mia-Crosthwaite-Andy Giacomazzi Jan Philp Pastor Dave Don Beaudoin, Don Moris, Andy Giacomazzi Careen Deckard (AG) / Liz Ridgway (Bread) Linda & Connor Anderson Derek & Ali Deckard		
DEC. 10				
<i>Assisting Minister</i> <i>Lector</i> <i>Children's Message</i> <i>Ushers</i> <i>Altar Guild / Bread</i> <i>Children's Church</i> <i>Acolytes</i>	Steve Gieseke Jim-Girvan-Lisa DeRosier Pastor-Dave-Pat Gieseke Eric Lowe, Steve Gempler, Pat Stewart, Larry Hansen Ronda Tolan (AG) / Dorothy Koci (Bread) Raigan & Sydney Hetz Hattie Brechwald and Riley Beck	Andy-Giacomazzi-Mia Crosthwaite Ivy Denen Georgia-Girvan-Logan Denen Betty Stokes, Brian and Tawnia Liquin Becky Strauch (AG) / Linda Worden (Bread) Sonia & Aidan Daley Brian Daley and Liam Denen		
DEC. 17				
<i>Assisting Minister</i> <i>Lector</i> <i>Children's Message</i> <i>Ushers</i> <i>Altar Guild / Bread</i> <i>Children's Church</i> <i>Acolytes</i>	Sylvia Moris Roxann Hansen Georgia Girvan Bob Rahr, Paul Zelus, Jerry Radek, Paul Stewart Tom Stewart (AG) / Judi Radek (Bread) Bob Pedersen and Shelby Grant Emilee Calkins and July Morse	Dale Neuman Janice White Rachel Brendefur Jack & Carol Liese-Rodriguez, Larry & Naoma Lindstrom Terrelyn Roark (AG) / Laura Brandt (Bread) Heidi & Jacob Nice Camryn Nations and Aurora Wood		
DEC. 24	10AM	5PM	7PM	11PM
<i>Assisting Minister</i> <i>Lector</i> <i>Children's Message</i> <i>Ushers</i> <i>Altar Guild / Bread</i> <i>Children's Church</i> <i>Acolytes</i>	Judi Radek n/a ??? Pastor Dave TBA Sandy Davis (AG) / Susie Dietz (Bread) n/a Ava & Alex Budner	Pat Gieseke Ed Hanson Pastor Dave TBA Celia Maynard, Pat Stewart, Heidi Nice (AG) Keith Hammer (Bread) n/a Jacob Nice	Paul Stewart Max Van Den Berg Pastor Dave TBA Careen Deckard (AG) / Keith Hammer (Bread) n/a Derek & Ali Deckard	Sylvia Moris Jo-Ann Kachigian Pastor Dave TBA Shirley Hensley (AG) / Keith Hammer (Bread) n/a TBA
Monday 10AM				
DEC. 25				
<i>Assisting Minister</i> <i>Lector</i> <i>Children's Message</i> <i>Ushers</i> <i>Altar Guild / Bread</i> <i>Children's Church</i> <i>Acolytes</i>	Dennis Philp Jan Philp Dennis Phip TBA			
DEC. 31 10AM (ONE WORSHIP SERVICE THIS DAY)				
<i>Assisting Minister</i> <i>Lector</i> <i>Children's Message</i> <i>Ushers</i> <i>Altar Guild / Bread</i> <i>Acolytes</i>	Todd Garlick Keith Hammer Keith Hammer TBA Celia Maynard (AG) / Celia Maynard (Bread) Susannah Biggs and Anna Budner			

**Serving treats
this month:
Charity Servant Team
Under the leadership of
Clare Giesler**

- Ames, Cheryl
- Asumendi, Sara
- Beck, Darcy & Terry
- Evans, Sara
- Giacomazzi, Andy
- Giesler, Clare & Conrad
- Gjersing, David & Lorrie
- Grant, James & Megan
- Gregory, Doug & Mary
- Hill, Margaret
- Hirai, Melba
- Holen, Jean
- Housh, Phil & Tracy
- Hower, Linn & Ridgway, Liz
- Jeide, Arah & Scott
- Johnston, Kairi & Lynn
- Krone, Ben & Esther
- Krone, Harold & Mary
- LaVoie, Nancy
- Libengood, Bob & JoAnne
- Martin, Bill & Edie
- Matthews, Jeannie & Richard
- Maynard, Celia & Steve
- McNeel, Mary
- Meusch, Jeanette & Johnny
- Moldenhauer, Samantha
- Nate, Jean & Reed
- Parrish, Bob & Vivian
- Passalacqua, Joe & Roz
- Pressley, Shellie
- Rieb, Sharon
- Rodriguez, Lois
- Sargent, Carl & Linda
- Selland, Jan
- Siegel, Rosalie
- Street, Diane & Garry
- Stubberud, Jean
- Swanson, Paul & Vickie
- Woods, Jason & Melissa
- Wyatt, Bruce
- Young, Lorain & Richard

Baptisms

- 12/1 Bull, Marlene
- 12/1 Clarke, Mike
- 12/1 Grunenwald, Sandi
- 12/1 Homer, Leann
- 12/1 Schofer, Beverly
- 12/1 Stack, Karen
- 12/6 Bibb, Ingeborg
- 12/7 Montero, Susan
- 12/7 Stevenson, Kay
- 12/9 Spencer, Donna
- 12/9 Starr, Tom
- 12/18 Anderson, Charlyn
- 12/18 Anderson, Corey
- 12/18 Anderson, Linda
- 12/20 Leslie, Nancy
- 12/20 Leslie, Rod
- 12/21 Saldin, Craig
- 12/22 Jeide, Amara
- 12/25 Robinson, Red
- 12/26 Krone, Nora
- 12/26 Wisdom, Karen
- 12/27 Gregory, Mary
- 12/27 Krone, Henry
- 12/27 Stewart, Pat
- 12/30 Neuman, Dale
- 12/30 Owen, Jean
- 12/30 Rehn, Lorraine
- 12/30 Street, Diane
- 12/30 Street, Garry

Birthdays

- 12/1 Dickson, Ethan
- 12/1 Domeier, Vern
- 12/1 Robinson, Red
- 12/2 Adams, Laura
- 12/2 Krone, Esther
- 12/2 Lewis, Todd
- 12/3 Raper, Jessica
- 12/4 Anderson, Linda
- 12/4 Bibb, Ingeborg
- 12/4 Stewart, Pat
- 12/6 Ehorn, Kim
- 12/6 Rehn, Lorraine
- 12/8 Grant, Shawna
- 12/8 Mata, Allison
- 12/8 Van Stone, Jon
- 12/8 Van Stone, Natalie
- 12/9 Danielson, Lynda
- 12/10 Isbell, Mary Lou
- 12/10 Stewart, Paul
- 12/13 Maynard, Stephanie
- 12/14 Jackson, Justin
- 12/14 Van Stone, Heidi
- 12/15 Ehorn, Tyler
- 12/15 Whitmore, Elaine
- 12/16 Liese-Rodriguez, Carol
- 12/17 Isaacs, Annabelle
- 12/17 Jeide, Arah
- 12/17 Strauch, Dick
- 12/19 Hammer, Keith
- 12/20 Crosthwaite, Natasha
- 12/21 Forgy, Michael
- 12/21 Swanson, Vickie
- 12/23 Lawson, Meg
- 12/23 Vakili, William
- 12/25 Landon, Bill
- 12/25 Michalski, Steve
- 12/25 Owen, Greg
- 12/27 Daley, Aidan
- 12/27 Gregory, Mary
- 12/27 Johnson, Kevin
- 12/27 Oppie, Brooklyn
- 12/27 Steward, Kara
- 12/28 Biggs, Chad
- 12/28 Neuman, Dale
- 12/29 Wisdom, Karen
- 12/30 Davis, Sandy
- 12/30 Landon, Paula
- 12/30 Matthews, Clinton
- 12/31 Anderson, Connor
- 12/31 Worthen, Sharla



Anniversaries

Date		Years
6-Dec	Bob & JoAnne Libengood	49
8-Dec	Dick & Elvia Strauch	55
23-Dec	Conrad & Clare Giesler	59
23-Dec	Jim & Georgia Girvan	49
24-Dec	David & Amy Lorenzo	13
27-Dec	Barry & Terri Ononaiye	30
28-Dec	Dennis & Jan Philp	51
29-Dec	Brian & Robin Schmidt	38

Shepherd of the Valley Leadership and Staff Directory

Congregational Council

President:	Jim Girvan	830-9762
Vice President:	Sonia Daley	371-9056
Treasurer:	Paul Steward	895-9866
Secretary:	Lisa DeRosier	362-6719
Member at large:	Dena Ferlic	206-979-0865
Member at large:	Mark McLagan	887-7685
Member at large:	Steve Gieseke	949-3843
Pastor:	Dave Deckard	362-1112

Ministry Teams (Broad Based))

Bldng & Grounds:	Steve Strauch	350-1425
Community Inv.:	Megan Grant	703-2696
Education:	Todd Garlick	340-7616
Music & Worship:	Dick Strauch	322-0622
Stewardship:	Andy Giacomazzi	871-0560
Youth, Family, Ed.:	Lori Hagen	869-0694
Evangelism:	Open	

Ministry Teams (Program Based)

Archives:	Betty Stokes	891-4876
Endowment:	Jerry Radek	629-0717
Fellowship:	Lois Rodriguez	888-1584
Men's Ministry:	Mike Hyde	922-1761
Preschool:	Georgia Girvan	830-9763
Safety/Security:	Joe DeRosier	362-6719
Visitation (Co):	Margot Cone	488-8699
Visitation (Co):	Elvia Strauch	322-0622
Web Site:	Scott Jeide	855-0907
WELCA:	Pat Stewart	869-6260

Volunteer Positions

Financial Secretary:
Joann Steward 895-9866

Membership Secretaries:
Jeannie Matthews 388-2556
Karen Gempfer 888-3563

Tech Support:
Scott Jeide 855-0907
Rob Calkins 859-1443

Children's Church Coordinator:
Linda Anderson 855-5007

Altar Guild Coordinators:
Susan Johnstone 327-0515
Celia Maynard 841-4998

Sound Tech Coordinator:
Troy Oppie 406-399-0018

Usher Coordinator:
Don Beaudoin 362-5662

Acolyte Coordinator:
Sylvia Moris 377-5364

Staff Directory:

Pastor Dave Deckard
362-1112; 340-9612
pastor@sov-id.org

Parish Admin. & Bookkeeper
Jackie McMurrin, 362-1112; 863-8025
books@sov-id.org

Administrative Assistant
Janelle Serio, 362-1112
admin@sov-id.org

Director of Music Ministries
Paul Wagner, 362-1112
music@sov-id.org

Director of Youth, Family & Education Ministries
Open

Nursery Liaison:
Linda Anderson, 855-5007

Custodian:
Susan Lamon, 362-1112

Preschool Director:
Dena Miranda, 362-5919
preschool@sov-id.org

Opportunities to Serve:

Interfaith Sanctuary Homeless Shelter - The 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month

The 2nd and 4th Thursdays are SOV's nights to serve at Interfaith Sanctuary homeless shelter. Call Vivian Parish or Pat Stewart with questions or sign-up in the narthex to help.

"Feeding God's Children" - The 3rd Sunday of the Month @ 12:30 p.m.

The 3rd Sunday of each month is SOV's day to serve at Feeding God's Children, a ministry to serve food and make friends among people who live in homelessness at Julia Davis Park. Teens are welcome with or without their families. Parents of younger children, please come with your kids.

Sign up in the narthex to help.

Christmas Tree of Sharing and AGAPE Fund Appeal Two Ways To Help

CHRISTMAS TREE OF SHARING

For several years, the Community Involvement Ministry Team has partnered with Lake Hazel Elementary School to identify families who are in financial need. We set up a Christmas Tree outside of the Sanctuary with tags identifying the age, gender, and gift wishes of participating children. Each child has 3 tags (clothing, toy, and miscellaneous), and each adult has one tag.

This year the tree will be available on Sundays: December 3rd, and December 10th, with a deadline of all wrapped gifts received by Sunday, December 17th.

- **Select a tag** from the tree and use the SIGNUP SHEET to record your name and phone number on the line for that particular tag number.
- **Purchase the gift**, and wrap it with the RECEIPT ENCLOSED.
- **Bring the wrapped gift** to SOV by Sunday, Dec. 17th.

ANNUAL AGAPE FUND APPEAL

The AGAPE FUND is available to our Pastor for use throughout the year when congregation members and visitors to our door seek short term and emergency assistance. At Christmas time our Pastor reaches out to families in our congregation known by him to be experiencing extraordinary need, and provides a department store gift card to them in the name of the congregation. So if you are not able to shop and wrap a gift from our Christmas Tree of Sharing, please consider making a donation to the Agape Fund. Use one of your designated offering envelopes or one of the yellow pew envelopes. Write "Agape Fund" on both the envelope and your check to insure proper recording of your designated gift.

If you have questions, please contact Paul Zelus at (208) 440-4047 or pzelus@yahoo.com.

Family Night Facilitators Needed!

Beginning in January, we'll need another round of facilitators for Family Night. Openings range from young students through adult small groups. Each week you get updates on the story and curriculum for the night, then on Wednesday nights you get to eat and lead a small group. Passion for working with others is the main ingredient. We can give you everything else you'll need. Please sign up in the narthex or talk to Pastor Dave if you can help!

P.S. We don't need new people because the old people don't like it or are burned out. We promised them that they could do it for a couple months, then come and enjoy Family Night as participants, not just leaders. We're promising you the same thing too!

17/18 Servant Team Schedule

December: Charity
 Jan: Love
 Feb: Joy
 Mar: Faith
 Apr - Hope
 May- Charity
 Jun - Grace
 Jul - Love
 Aug - WELCA/Joy
 Sep - Faith
 Oct - Hope
 Nov - Charity
 Dec - Grace

In Search of 40 Stories: An Early Solicitation for the 2018 Lenten Season

Upon recalling stories from the Bible, it seems as though the number 40 is used quite frequently. For example, in Matthew 4: 1-3 it states that **Christ fasted for forty days and nights in the wilderness until he was tempted by the Devil**; in Joshua 5:6 the people of Israel were said to have walked for forty years in the wilderness; Genesis 7:12 in the Noah story recounts that the rain fell upon the earth for forty days and nights; Exodus 34: 27-28 describes that Moses was with the Lord forty days and forty nights and fasted in the presence of the Lord; King Saul (Acts 13:21), King David (2 Samuel 5:4), and King Solomon (1 Kings 11:42) all ruled Israel for 40 years; and finally, the time between Christ's resurrection and ascension was 40 days (Acts 3:1).

There are other references to the number 40 in the Bible as well (156 to be exact—assuming Google is exact). It is said that 40 was longer than the average lifespan at that time so using it meant “a really long time”; and it was certainly long enough to serve as a true measure and test of courage and commitment to God for those fasting and/or undergoing trials and tests of faith.

In today's culture, it seems we have adopted the same number as being significant. After all, who doesn't wait with baited breath to see the titles of this weeks “top 40” be it new releases, songs, albums, videos, or books? (Do any readers of this piece remember Dick Clark or Casey Kasem?) Among other things, forty is approximately the number of weeks of a full term pregnancy, the age at which a person officially enters “middle age”, and the length of a sprint (40 yards) that supposedly measures a person's speed in football tryouts.

Of course, the sentence highlighted in bold above is the reason Christians designate the Lenten season (the 40 days before Easter not counting Sundays) as being a time of preparation for the celebration of the resurrection at Easter.

A plethora of study and devotional materials for Lent are available from a variety of sources. **However, for the 2018 Lenten season at Shepherd of the Valley, the Council and staff would like to create our own materials featuring 40 stories of faith from those in our worship community. Stories can span in length from a paragraph to no more than one page. Our plan is to bind them into a study booklet to be used by all interested persons at SOV for reflection and meditation during this season.**

We ask that each of you (all ages are encouraged and welcomed to participate) please prayerfully consider submitting a faith story from your life. **Often the best window through which we gain a glimpse of God's work in action is to read or hear about stories from persons with whom we are familiar.** The office staff will be accepting your submissions until February 7, 2018. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

For questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Jim Girvan at 208-830-9762 or by email at jimgirv@gmail.com.

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

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 Church: 208-362-1112
 Preschool: 208-362-5919

Find us at:
sovboise.weebly.com
[facebook.com/SOVBoise](https://www.facebook.com/SOVBoise)

Looking for a Church Home?

A 3-session New Member
 Orientation Class continues on
 Sundays, December 3rd & 10th
 @ 12:30 p.m.

*If interested, share your info on the sign-up sheet found on the
 narthex shelf. Questions? Call Pastor Dave, 362-1112.*

TOTAL
Income/Expense
(Thru October)

Income Received:
 \$381,065.97

Ministry Expenses:
 \$360,102.63

\$20,963.34

For Your Reading & Reflection

Members and friends of SOV are invited and encouraged to prepare for Sunday worship by reading and reflecting on the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday in their devotional life at home (or wherever it takes place). Pay special attention to the Gospel text.

Questions for your reflecting:

What is capturing my attention in this text? What questions does the text ask of me?

December 3

Isaiah 64:1-9
 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Mark 13:24-37

December 10

Isaiah 40:1-11
 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13
 2 Peter 3:8-15a
 Mark 1:1-8

December 17

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
 Psalm 126
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-28

December 24

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
 Luke 1:46b-55
 Romans 16:25-27
 Luke 1:26-38

December 31

Isaiah 61:10--62:3
 Psalm 148
 Galatians 4:4-7
 Luke 2:22-40