



### RESOLVE TO GROW YOUR FAITH IN 2024!

There's nothing wrong with resolving to get in shape, getting more sleep or cleaning up your finances. But what if you added some faith building resolutions to that list?

Here are some suggestions:

**Read Your Bible 20 Minutes a Day—**

Though it might sound daunting, it really does make a difference.

**Attend Church Weekly w/out Fail—**

We may not feel motivated to do so, but God commands it in Hebrews 10:24-25.

**Pray 15 Minutes a Day—** God is waiting to hear from you

**Ask a Friend to Church—**The new year is a great time to step outside your comfort zone. **To learn how, consider attending the Evangelism workshop on January 20.**

**Volunteer—**Let God's light shine through you in service to others. The list is endless.

**Forgive Past Grudges—**As Christians we are expected forgive—and the peace it brings is worth it. *Note: forgiveness doesn't mean those who have hurt you are not accountable. For further discussion and clarification, please consult a trusted clergy.*

*The above was borrowed and edited from equippinggodlywomen.com*

### JANUARY MEMORY VERSE

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17*

### W-ENTO WORSHIP

**SATURDAY EVENING—**6:00 pm

**SUNDAY MORNING—**8:00 am | 10:30 am

**HOLY COMMUNION—**January 6 and 7; 20 and 21

### W-ENTO STUDY

**EDUCATION HOUR FOR ALL AGES—**Sunday following the 8:00 am service

**LADIES MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY—**January 8 at 6:30 pm. We'll discuss chapter 8 from "The Case for Miracles" by Lee Strobel. Question? Contact Mindy Braun at 608-792-9238.

**TEN COMMANDMENTS BIBLE STUDY—** Beginning Tuesday, January 16 at 6:00 pm. Led by Pastor Kolander.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY—**Wednesday at 9:30 am

**CONFIRMATION—**Wednesday 6:00 pm

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY—**Thursday at 9:30 am

### ONGOING MINISTRY MEETING SCHEDULE

**TRUSTEES—**TBD

**FELLOWSHIP—** Monday, January 8 at 11:30 am at Perkin's

**ELDERS —** Monday, January 8 at 6:00 pm

**EDUCATION—** Tuesday, January 9 at 6:30 pm

**COUNCIL —** Tuesday, January 16 at 6:30 pm

*Schedules subject to change. Check the church bulletin, Facebook, Website or Weekly Update for updates.*

### BECOME INFORMED

**BUDGET INFORMATIONAL MEETING—**Sunday, January 14, following the second service. The new budget will be presented to the congregation for discussion. There will be time for questions and answers, however there will not be any voting at this meeting. All who wish to be informed are encouraged to attend. There will also be an **ANNUAL VOTER'S MEETING** - Sunday, January 21, following the second service. All matters ready to be voted upon will be taken care of at this meeting.



**IS GOD CALLING YOU TO SERVE?  
HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Look no further! Your help is needed here—right now

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED**

Wednesday, January 10 11:00 am to take down the Christmas decorations in the Sanctuary.

**GREETERS**

Say "Hello" to people—who are joining us for worship

Greet people prior to the service. Following the service invite visitors to fill out a Connect Card and to pick up a "Goodie Bag". To volunteer, just show up!

**PROJECTOR**

Advance the projector slides during the church service

To volunteer contact an Elder

**COUNT OFFERING**

Record the offering or help assist, organize and count funds.

To volunteer contact Betsy Jessie at betsy13@hotmail.com

**SUNDAY REFRESHMENTS**

Provide treats, coffee and fellowship

Sign up sheet at The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

**USHERS**

Help people get to where they are going

To volunteer contact an Elder

*Sign up for all events at The Welcome and Opportunity Center*

**FELLOWSHIP MNSTRY**

CONNECTS PEOPLE THROUGH FUN, FOOD and FELLOWSHIP

**ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT RECAP**

On Saturday, December 2, approximately 100 members and friends from SOTH, Faith, Gift of Grace, Prince of Peace came together for the 3rd annual Advent by Candlelight to share in fellowship and song and learn about "Chrismons" - the symbols of Christmas. Thank you to those who cross-stitched four beautiful sets of "Chrismons" (which were presented to each church), to those who provided music and entertainment, to those who waited on the tables, to those who hosted - and decorated - tables, to those who cleaned up afterwards and to everyone who helped organize this special event. As we prepared our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' birth, we were reminded to be joyful in the knowledge that Jesus is with us here and now!

**Fellowship Contact:** Jana Underkofler jounder5js@gmail.com

**HUMANCARE MNSTRY**

SERVES THE NEEDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY AND OUR COMMUNITY

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

Monday, January 22 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm. This group will offer Christian support and encouragement to those who are experiencing grief. In addition, those who have suffered loss will share insight into the grieving process. This group is open to everyone. Bring a friend! Questions? Contact Sue Mravik at suemravik@gmail.com.

**RELATIVES of TRANSGENDER CHILDREN/YOUNG ADULTS SUPPORT GROUP-**

Monday, January 29 from 6:00—7:30 pm. Are you struggling with how to compassionately love, understand and retain a relationship with a loved one who is "transing" - or is considering gender transition—without compromising your Christian values. Meet with others who are facing these challenges to share words of encouragement, support and resources. This group is open to anyone who is working through this process. Questions? Contact Sue Mravik at suemravik@gmail.com.

**PRAYER CHAIN**

To submit requests (or to join the prayer chain) please contact Sharon at sryan6731@gmail.com, 608-526-6731, or the church office.

**ONALASKA FOOD PANTRY**

**Food Pantry request for January**— Canned pork and beans. Donations may be left on the shelves located across from The Welcome and Opportunity Center.

**Human Care Contact:** Sue Mravik at suemravik@gmail.com

**MUSIC MNSTRY**

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE UNTO THE LORD!

**Beginning on Wednesday, January 3**

**CHIMES**—6:00 pm | **CHOIR**—Wednesday at 6:30 pm

**LWML and Music Ministry Contact:** Kay Conzemius at bkconz@aol.com

**YOUTH**

SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH STUDENTS THROUGH STUDY, WORKSHIP & FELLOWSHIP

**CONFIRMATION BOWLING PARTY RECAP**

On Saturday, December 9 we bowled, we ate, we had fun. 'nough said.

### **The Chief Stewards of Humanity: Mom and Dad**

St. Paul tells the Ephesians that the first commandment with a specific promise attached to it is, "Honor your father and mother so that it may go well with you, and you may live long in the land" (Eph. 6:2). This promise is one indication of the importance of this commandment. The other thing that highlights the special nature of this commandment is its placement within the Ten Commandments.

The Ten Commandments are clearly organized in two big categories. The first three commandments deal with our relationship with God. This category is called the First Table of the Law. The last seven commandments, the Second Table of the Law, tell us how we should relate to other people. These two tables correspond to what Jesus calls the two greatest commandments: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:37-39).

The order of the Second Table of the Law is also important. Murder is a greater sin than adultery, which is a greater sin than stealing, or lying, or coveting. But why is the Fourth Commandment first in the Second Table, ahead of "you shall not murder"? Is disobeying your parents really worse than murder? Or maybe we should give up on thinking these commandments are ordered?

The overall effect of this order is to get us to see our parents as a connection point between our neighbors and our God. Throughout our upbringing our father and mother stand between us and God and deliver His gifts to us: God clothes us, feeds us, protects us and teaches us His Word through our parents.

So, parents have a very high calling from God. They are called to be stewards of the greatest gift: the gift of life.

Parenting thus gives us a keen insight into all our stewardship. Parents know that they have been given a great treasure in their children, a treasure that does not belong to them, yet for which they feel a great deal of responsibility. Truth be told, every gift we have been given is like this, because everything we have — whether our own personal skills and powers or our wealth and time — is all from God. He entrusts it all to us so that we can use it all and take care of it all for His great purposes.

**EVERY  
ONE  
HIS WITNESS**  
LUTHERAN EVANGELISM



## **GO MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS**

### **EVANGELISM WORKSHOP**

Saturday, January 20 from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm at Shepherd of the Hills.

**Join members of our circuit for training in the "Every One His Witness: Lutheran Evangelism" Program.**

Registration and fee (\$15 which includes materials, lunch and snacks) are due by Saturday, January 13. (Make checks out to "Gift of Grace Lutheran Church" with "Evangelism Workshop" on the memo line.)

Mail to Gift of Grace, P.O. Box 642, Holmen, 54636 with your name, church and any dietary restrictions.

You may also email registrations to Pastor Duesenberg at [stmaximos@aol.com](mailto:stmaximos@aol.com))

We are called, **Every One of Us, to be His witness.** But how do we start to go about this? And what is an Evangelical approach?



**HAVE A QUESTION?  
SUBMIT YOUR ANSWER HERE**

**Q & A**

WHY? WHAT? HOW?

Do you have a question about your faith or how our church works? Do you want to know how your faith applies to your daily life? To submit a question, visit the church website at sothonalaska.org and click the Q & A tab. An answer to your question will be posted on the website—just because you asked.

**All submissions are anonymous.**

**JANUARY BIRTH-DAYS and ANNIVERSARIES**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Dawn Heiden<br>Isaac Fladhammer                   | 7 John Berg   | 17 Dieter Antoni  |
| 2 Duane Vetsch<br>Micah Mravik                      | 8 Polly Howe  | 18 Debbie Berg  |
| 3 Lorna Ernst<br>Bob Campbell                       | 10 Chris Robertson<br>Dawn Gilhausen<br>Shawn Mahoney | 19 Eric Heiden  |
| <b>4 Ken/Rogene Hinz's<br/>Anniversary</b>          | 11 Charles Matthew<br>Melise Baumgarn                 | 24 Tami Drill   |
| 6 Angie Torgerud<br>Carolyn Knobloch<br>Jakob Waite | 13 Heidi de la Rosa<br>Rick Paulson                   | 25 Jerry Goldblatt  |
|   | 14 Cindy Stetzer                                      | 26 Joe Underkofler  |
|   | 15 Grady Burns  | 27 Lynda Knobloch   |
|   |   | 28 Heather Eckert<br>Landon Barg<br>Nathaniel Baumgarn<br><b>Leon/Kay Wolfe Anniversary</b> |

**CONTACT US**

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**Hanni Cowley—Education Coordinator**

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hannicowley@yahoo.com

**OFFICE HOURS/COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE**

**Kira's office hours**

**Monday—Thursday**

9:00 am—2:30 pm

**Friday**

9:00 am—12:00 pm

**Martha's office hours**

**Monday—Thursday**

9:00 am—2:30 pm

***Submit ALL bulletin, Weekly Update and Narthex TV entries to Martha by noon on Tuesday of that week. Items received after the deadline will not be included. February Newsletter submissions must be received by noon on Tuesday, January 23.***

***CONNECT CARD for members, visitors and friends - Provide your current contact information to receive up-to-date information on church activities and announcements! Connect cards are located in the back of the church pews.***





# SHEPHERD'S FLOCK PRESCHOOL

January 2024 • Shepherd of the Hills Newsletter

## Monthly Update

The month of December is always an exciting time in our classroom and this year was no different. Each day we spent time retelling the story of the birth of Jesus. The children learned that Jesus is the greatest gift of all! We had special art projects, fun new centers in our classroom and ended the month with a Christmas Pajama Party. Some of their favorite new centers were decorating the Christmas tree, baking in our cookie shop and playing with the nativity sets. My favorite part was hearing our preschoolers sing their praises at their Christmas Program. Our preschoolers spent the entire month of December practicing, and it was so special to see it all come together.

## Save the Dates for Summer School!

Week 1: June 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>  
Week 2: June 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>

Open to all children ages 3, 4 & 5. Current enrollment information will be available at the preschool information center & online soon.

## Spaghetti Dinner

Our teachers and preschool board have been busy preparing for our Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser and Silent Auction. All the proceeds that we raise this night help fund our preschool program throughout the year. We are still accepting donations for our silent auction. We hope you all can join us on Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5-7pm for fun, food and fellowship!

Stay up to date with our Facebook event page to see what's available in our silent auction.



## SHEPHERD'S FLOCK PRESCHOOL SPAGHETTI DINNER & SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024 5:00-7:00PM  
SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FREE WILL DONATION



## 2024 – 2025 Enrollment

We have been so blessed this year to have another full preschool class. With enrollment time right around the corner, we wanted to share our classes that will be offered next year with the members of Shepherd of the Hills to allow you the first opportunity to enroll. Enrollment opens to church members on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Multi-age classes are available for children ages 3-, 4- and 5-years old Monday – Thursday from 8:45am – 11:30am beginning September 4, 2024.

### 3 Year Old Class

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday from 8:45am-11:30am

### 4 & 5 Year Old Classes

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 8:45am-11:30am

OR

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 8:45am-11:30am

\$60 Registration Fee is required for all classes to reserve a spot.

All children must be 3 years old by their 1st day school.

Only 4 & 5-year-old learners attend on Tuesdays, our dedicated day to provide readiness activities to practice the skills that children need to be successful in kindergarten.