



November 2011

In this Issue:

Financial Report	2
Global Market	3
Thanksgiving Eve Service ...	3
Freezing Nights	4
Giving Tree	4
Worship	5
Birthdays	5
Hanging of the Greens	6
Food Bank	6
In the Life of the Church	7
Sunday School	8
Youth Ministries	9

Daylight Saving Time
Ends Sunday,
November 6th
Don't forget to
"fall" back!

SAINTS ALIVE - LIVING GENEROUSLY

"Now about the collection for the Lord's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do. On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with your income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made. Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem. If it seems advisable for me to go also, they will accompany me." - I Corinthians 16:1-4

The Talmud includes a wonderful tale titled *Honi and the Carob Tree*. Honi was a small boy when he saw an old man planting a carob tree. "How long will it take for this tree to bear fruit?" asked Honi. "Seventy years," said the old man. "Will you live long enough to eat the fruit from the tree?" inquired Honi. "Probably not," said the old man. "Why bother then?" asked Honi. "When I was young," said the old man, "I enjoyed many trees that were planted by my father and my grandfather. Just as they planted trees for me, I am planting trees for my children and others who will follow me."

It is true that we live on the generosity of others that have gone before us. We model it and teach it to our children as we show them how important it is to give to others in our life - family, friends and (most importantly?) strangers. Being generous with others around us provides health and vitality to our relationships, because with the bounty of fruit which we enjoy, there comes with the fruit of life the seeds and an invitation to give back. Honi learned a wonderful lesson the day he saw an old man planting a tree.

Shepherd of the Hill stands on the generosity of people that have gone before us. We are a product - whether we knew them or not - of a generous people.

The theme of generosity runs throughout scripture. God gave blessings to the first humans in the Genesis garden. God gave manna to the Hebrew people as they crossed the desert while escaping the slavery of Egypt. *(Continued...)*

God gave the Israelites a king to lead them as a chosen people of God. God gave the prophets to call each of us back to the place of faithfulness. God gave us life in Jesus Christ that we might have abundant life. But, we cannot fully appreciate the many gifts of God and the abundance of life offered by Christ (John 10:10) unless and until we embrace generous living.

Each year at this time we talk about stewardship. Maybe we should talk about stewardship more often. However, this is a unique opportunity for you to reflect on the many ways God has been generous to you. It is a time to approach God in the same generous manner in which God approaches you.

Be fully alive. Live generously. Not for the sake of a pledge. But for the sake of the gospel of God's generosity in Jesus Christ.

Good and gracious God, your generous ways have given us life and life together. When our anxious distractions are calmed, we come again to an awe of your way of loving in the world. Through our offerings you have joined our momentary labors to your eternal witness. You have gathered our common gifts into your extraordinary loving. May we be alive to you, saints in your service through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Blessings - *Gary*

Financial Report

Here is a recap of the September Financial Report from the Administration Committee:

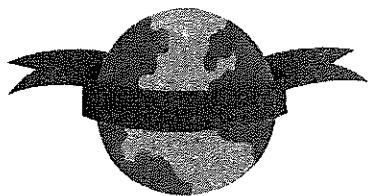
	Month	YTD
Income	\$27,431 (110% of budget)	\$225,698 (74% of budget)
Expenses	\$23,139 (94% of budget)	\$229,307 (75% of budget)

There was a 10% increase in giving for September and a 1% decrease for the year to date while expenses decreased 6% for the month the year-to-date continued at budgeted levels. This was a nice recovery from August's below budget income. Thank you!

This month, November, has been and is the Church's traditional time for our Fall Stewardship Campaign. This year the Session has chosen the theme: "**Saints Alive! - Living Generously**" from 1 Corinthians 16:1-4. It has been said, "Stewardship is everything you do after you say I believe." At the very least stewardship is our grateful response to God's grace and goodness. It requires a consideration of how our choices affect us and others, of how we can be good caretakers of the created world and of how we can best serve God as disciples of Christ. We hope this is a place where we can share resources which help us individually and corporately to make the choices that make us the best stewards we can be.

This year's stewardship campaign will kick-off on Sunday, November 6th and run through **November 20th, Stewardship Sunday**. You will receive a letter in the mail with more instructions and information concerning this month's Stewardship Campaign, **Saints Alive! - Living Generously** with your time, talent and resources.

GLOBAL MARKET



Saturday, November 5th

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

In the Fellowship Hall

It's a great way to shop!
Get gift items AND support economic justice
in the global marketplace!
Make your spending dollars count!



Come, Give Thanks!

**Thanksgiving Eve
Worship Service**

Wednesday, November 23

7:00-8:00 p.m.

**@ First Presbyterian Church,
412 West Pioneer Ave (downtown)**

Shepherd of the Hill Presbyterian and First Presbyterian of Puyallup are once again having a joint worship service! First Pres. downtown will be hosting this year. There will be a combined choir, hymns of thanksgiving and praise music. You are invited to bring food items to donate to the Puyallup Food Bank. The offering will also support the Puyallup Food Bank.

Freezing Nights Ministry

Our days are getting shorter and our evenings cooler – which means soon our Freezing Nights Ministry will be starting again and we would love to have you take a DETOUR with us.

We will be serving the homeless in our area two Saturdays a month from November through March.

There are many things that are involved in this ministry. You can fill in any way you are most comfortable. We will need dinner crew help, evening help, overnight help, breakfast crew help, laundry help, lunch stuff shopping, supply shopping and many, many more.

If you are interested in a DETOUR that will fill your heart with the love for the Lord, and the people in our community please contact Kim Randall at neemepoo@blarg.net, by phone 846-8406; or in person – and let's make this DETOUR the best one you have ever traveled!

Thanksgiving “Baskets of Grace”



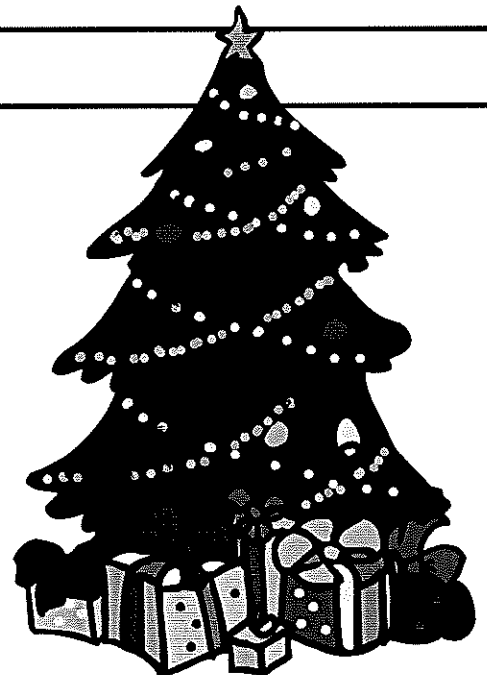
This year has been hard for some in our community, and the Deacons are responding to this need with our Thanksgiving Baskets of Grace. Once we have collected these items, we will be gathering them up and distributing them. So look for the Turkey and give with a grateful heart and loving spirit!

If you have any questions please contact Kim Randall neemepoo@blarg.net or 253-846-8406; or Louise Knowles at 253-863-2447 or louiseknowles@yahoo.com.

Deacons' Giving Tree

Christmas is coming..... And, once again, the Deacons will be sponsoring the Giving Tree, to provide gifts for those in need in our community. You will be able to select ornaments from the tree, beginning Sunday, November 27th.

Items will need to be back to SOTH by Sunday, December 11th, wrapped and tagged with the ornament attached to the front of the gift. If you know of anyone in need of the Giving Tree, please contact your Deacon.



Looking Ahead at Worship

November 6, 2011

21st Sunday after Pentecost

8:00/10:30 a.m.

Communion Sunday

"Baptism: My Comfort and Hope"

Rev. Gary E. Mathiesen

(Third in a series of Three on Baptism)

The Apostle Paul and Baptism

Romans 6:1-4 (8,11)

Baptism is a source of comfort and hope. Paul in Romans 6 declares that we have been buried with Christ in our baptism, taking the image of immersion to be burial. We are buried, and just as certainly as that has happened, so also we will certainly, surely be raised in a resurrection like his. Baptism is a hedge against the uncertainties and doubts that life poses to faith from day to day. We find the assurance that none of these will separate us from the love of God who calls us through the water. As the hymn says, "God has been this way before."

November 13, 2011

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

8:00/10:30 a.m.

Guest

November 20, 2011

Christ the King

8:00/10:30 a.m.

"The Eyes of Your Heart"

Rev. Gary E. Mathiesen

Ephesians 1:15-19a (18)

"There is a world that 'lies around us like a cloud; a world we do not see,' noted Harriet Beecher Stowe, another realm of reality, more actual, more substantial than anything we can see, hear, touch, taste, smell in this world. Faith is the means by which we gain access to this invisible world ... by which we grasp spiritual reality and bring it into the realm of our experience. Our goal, then, is to 'grow eyes,' to borrow a phrase from George MacDonald." - David Roper (Seasoned with Salt)

November Birthdays & Anniversaries

2nd - Don Johnson
 2nd - Alexandra Atkinson
 3rd - Michelle Wagner
 5th - C.J. Krippaehne
 5th - Beth Mercer
 6th - Dana Brown
 8th - Mary Mathiesen
 11th - Gwyneth Goodspeed
 14th - Phil Barttels
 18th - Barbara Kendall



19th - Ryan Brake
 19th - Chloe Sherrill
 22nd - John Stevens
 23rd - Betty Young
 24th - Ginny Trimble
 24th - Alex Quinn
 25th - Andy McClure
 28th - Cheri Golden
 30th - Jesse Baker
 30th - Tom Shafar

ANNIVERSARIES

8th - Steve & Bert Hollis
 9th - Mike & Meri Morrow
 23rd - Bruce & Helen Carpenter
 24th - Jack & Gayle Pinkard
 28th - Ed & Fran Miller



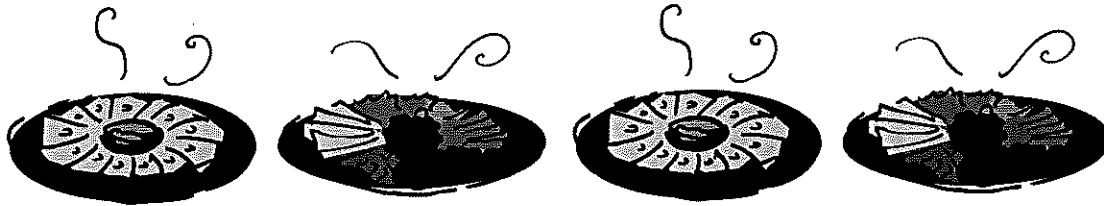
Hanging of the Greens



Decorate the Church for Advent

We will be meeting at the church on **Saturday, November 26 beginning at 9am** to decorate the church for this glorious season. Volunteers are needed to help; the more hands the merrier! All help is gratefully appreciated! Contact Tom McCrady at 445-1234 or Doug Boyles at 262-1844 for more details.

Puyallup Food Bank Emphasis for November: Canned Meat & Tuna ~ Peanut Butter ~ Soup ~ Stew



The donation box is located in the narthex.

Christmas Program Rehearsals

Mark your calendars now for this year's Christmas Program and Dessert Potluck. The program will be **Saturday, December 10th at 6:30 pm**, with a dessert potluck following the performance. We invite all children to participate.

For the Christmas Program this year, we will be staging a production called "Twas the Year Before Christmas." All kids will be practicing the music during Sunday school music time. There will be two rehearsals for kids with non-speaking parts on Sunday, November 27th (this is a change from the last newsletter) and Sunday, December 4th. Please contact Susan Boyles to get information on how you can be a part of the production, (253) 262-1844 or susan.boyles@gmail.com.

In the Life of the Church . . .

Fall Festival Thank You

The Fall Festival was a great success—we had over 50 kids celebrating the fall season at Shepherd of the Hill, making this a successful outreach event. We also filled up a large box with non-perishable food items that we collected for the Puyallup Food Bank! Thank you to all our volunteers for the evening, those who helped set-up the church for the party, and all the people who donated food, candy and prizes. The Fall Festival would have been a sad party indeed without all of your generous contributions!

Homeless Dinner at Puyallup Armory – Friday, November 4

Shepherd of the Hill sponsors this meal on the first Friday of every-other month. If you can arrive to serve the meal at 5:30 p.m., or provide chicken casserole, corn, green beans, lettuce salad w/dressing, milk, & juice – please contact Bev Cascio to volunteer. (phone: 253-862-7132 or email: bev.cascio@gmail.com)

PHD's Luncheon

The next PHD's Luncheon will be held on **Friday, November 11th at 12:00 p.m.** in the church Fellowship Hall. The Sunnyside Orchestra will be performing. Please bring extra food to feed the orchestra members! If you need more information, please contact Fran Miller at 253-848-4679.

Baby Shower

All women of the church are invited to attend a Potluck Baby Shower for Katy Green and her new daughter Tessa! The shower will be held in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, November 13th at 1:00pm.** Please bring a salad, sandwiches, etc to share. If you would like to contribute to a group gift, please contact Cindy Sexton at 253-312-2294.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline to submit items to the December Newsletter is **Monday, November 21st at 10am.** All items must be in written form (hard copy or email) and submitted to the church office.

Movie Nights

Everyone is welcome to come and see the movies on the big screen! Movies start at 7pm, popcorn and lemonade are provided. Come out for time to fellowship, have a snack, and see a great show!

November 18th: Gnomeo and Juliet, rated G

December 16th: Rio, rated PG

All-Kids Christmas Party

God's Gang is hosting a Christmas Party for kids of all ages! On **Monday, December 19th from 6:30-8:00pm,** we'll all get together for some fellowship and holiday cheer! Some of the possibilities for the evening: a Christmas ornament craft, snack, games, a Christmas movie or Christmas carols. Parents of preschoolers—please plan on staying for the party with your child. For more information, contact Susan Boyles.

Women's Retreat Thanks

A big THANK YOU! to the women's retreat planning committee. The committee organized an awesome "Seaside Escape" at Camp Lakeview a few weekends ago. We had 25 women of various ages attend this year's retreat, where we shared God's word, fellowship and worked on a mission project. Please prayerfully consider your participation in future retreat planning!

Women's Book Club

The Women's Book Club meets every third Tuesday of the month in member's homes at 7:00 p.m. Members pre-read the book, and then discuss their thoughts at the meeting.

All women are invited to attend!

November 15: *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan, @ Jane VonHeeder's (531-1682)

December 20: *Border Songs* by Jim Lynch, @ Anne Bennett's (848-8804)

Women's Christmas Potluck Lunch Party

Saturday, December 3 – 1:00 p.m.

Sister of Shepherd (SOS) is sponsoring a Women's Christmas Party! We are looking for women who would like to "host" a table. That will include providing the decorations and place settings for eight – as well as filling some of the seats at your table with guests! Why not host a table with a friend?! If you would like to host a table, please contact Gina Sharp at 253-840-4007 or gina.gns@gmail.com. Also, Gina will be sending out a Christmas questionnaire by email soon – please take some time to fill it out and return it, even if you aren't able to attend on the 3rd! If you do not have access to email, please see Gina for a printed copy of the questions.

S.O.S. Cookie Sale –

Sunday, December 11th

The Sisters of Shepherd Board is hosting a Cookie Sale on Sunday, December 11th, following both services. We will have an array of cookies available, for you to mix & match by the dozen. There will be no set cost, just pay what you can. The proceeds of this sale will provide funds to host upcoming baby and bridal showers. If you would like provide some cookies for this sale, please contact Gina Sharp at 253-840-4007 or gina.gns@gmail.com.

What a great way to get a variety of treats to take to all of your holiday gatherings!

Sunday School

This fall during Sunday school offering, we're asking our kids to donate small toys/activities or money to go towards a Faith In Action project. We'll be putting together activity kits for children staying in hotels as part of the Open Hearth homeless shelter program, and **we will be assembling our "keeping busy kits" on Sunday, November 13th from 9am until about 9:20am.**

I am encouraging our kids to think about what they would like to have if they were living in a hotel room, knowing that the items need to be small, inexpensive and quiet. Though we are glad to have monetary offerings, I would encourage you to take your child shopping using their offering money, and let them think about what it would feel like to be in a homeless situation, and the types of toys or activities would help them through.

There will be no Sunday school on December 25th and on January 1st.

God's Gang

We're talking about you and your friends: having confidence in yourself, being a good friend, and where God is in your relationships with others. Come out to God's Gang for a fun night of games, snacks, music and discussions!

November 7th: "A" night: Ambassadors of awesomeness always assemble at God's Gang!

November 14th: "B" night: Better Believe we'll be busy!

November 21st: "C" night: Can't control the craziness!

November 28th: "D" night: Don't doubt there will be delicious delights!

December 5th: "E" night: Everyone evokes elated entertainment!

December 12th: 4th Annual Gingerbread House Smash!

December 19th: All-Kids Christmas Party!

God's Gang is a weekly youth group for 3rd-6th grade students that meets Monday nights from 6:30-8:00pm at Shepherd of the Hill. Bring yourself and bring a friend!

Youth Ministries

Youth Group Now on Facebook!

Check out the link from the church facebook page called *SOTH YOUTH GROUP!* We'll be posting events and updates more regularly as everyone friends up. Check it out! Official registrations can still be found at www.sothyouthgroup.blogspot.com.

A Look Back

October was filled with all sorts of craziness including *Angry Birds*, *Corn Maze*, *Fall Festival*, and *Quidditch*, not all in the same event, but in the same month. The fun will continue with some great November and December events. See them below!

Winter Jam Concert at the Tacoma Dome!

Saturday, November 12

5:00 p.m. - 10 p.m. at the church

Cost \$10 plus dinner money (or pack it)

Featuring Newsboys, Kutless, Matthew West, RED, Fireflight, KJ-52, plus guest speaker Tony Nolan. This is going to be some great music for a great price. Simply bring \$10 for the show, and get on the bus! Time above is meeting and expected return time at the church.



Friday Harbor Fall Retreat

November 18-20

God Time! Time to Start Fresh!

THE-TOGETHER-BUT-SEPARATE-RETREAT for JUNIOR HIGH AND SENIOR HIGH

What does "together but separate" mean?

It means we'll be traveling together, sharing our meals and parts of worship and games together, but designing our own intentional activities that allow Junior Highers and Senior Highers to do some things in their own groups that more suits their interests! It will be fantastic to be all together to learn from each other along the journey, but to be able to break out at key moments to dig a little deeper and play in smaller groups. We will be sure to have the adult leadership to be able to do this safely and effectively.

Get all the details on the BLOG page!

Junior High Youth Group Nights:

Sunday Nights in November, 5:00 - 6:37 p.m.

NO YOUTH GROUP ON Sunday, November 13 (Winter Jam the night before)

NO YOUTH GROUP ON Sunday, November 20 (Retreat Weekend)

Senior High Youth Group Nights:

Every Wednesday Night in November, 7:00-8:42 p.m.

NO YOUTH GROUP ON Wednesday, November 23 (Thanksgiving Week)

November 16 is Operation Christmas Child for Senior Highers (Junior Highers welcome to join)