

October 2011

In this Issue:

Faith in Action	2
Freezing Nights	3
Financial Report	3
Fall Festival	4
Global Market	4
Worship	5
Peacemaking Offering	6
Food Bank	6
Life of the Church	7
Book Club	7
Birthdays	8
Sunday School	8
Youth Ministries	9



A RICH HERITAGE

"Listen to your father who gave you life ..." Proverbs 23:22

On Saturday, September 3rd, I joined my brother-in-law in giving a eulogy at my father's memorial service.

As a pastor, I have certainly participated in my "fair share" of memorial services ... some of which include giving the eulogy.

This memorial service was different ... for obvious reasons. For starters, I was talking about a person whom I loved and with whom I had shared my life. My emotions were deeply connected to the shared memories of my father and the characteristics of my father's personality. But also as important in this eulogy, I had to be careful with the details of what I said! I knew my cousins, niece, nephews, brother-in-law, wife, sisters and mother might correct my misconceptions and inaccuracies (I did hear a couple comments after the memorial service, such as, "I do not remember it that way!").

For the most part, I did pretty good. It was hard to stand in front of a bunch of people and talk about my father while I was still dealing with my own grief. But as hard as it was to give a eulogy in those circumstances, it was a strangely comforting experience to give a testimony of thanks for my father's life.

In retrospect, I give thanks to God for the gift of family. I consider myself fortunate to have the heritage of wonderful people like my father. It is hard to "let go" of someone I love, but I do so with the full confidence that God's presence is there to embrace my father in the fullness of God's love.

I trust you have been blessed by family. And you, like me, may have the extra blessing of a family member who is/was a strong person of faith.

I wish you - as my church family - could have been there for my father's memorial service (and judging from the many cards I received, you were there in prayer!). But failing that, I would like to share my closing remarks from the eulogy of my father:

There is so much more that I wish I could say about my father ... so I will finish with these simple words that do not do justice to the man my father truly was. As a rule, my father was not an emotional man. He certainly displayed his emotions, but he was not emotional ... did not wear his emotions on his sleeve. However, my father was a deeply sentimental man. By that I mean he felt things deeply about his family, friends and faith in God. He was absolutely devoted to my mother. He loved her as much as life itself. He was a caring father. He was a proud grandpa. He was a wonderful uncle. He was a faithful and trustworthy friend. And underneath it all, my father was a man of a deep, somewhat quiet, strong and abiding faith in God.

[I am thankful] for all that my dad did, which I am sure goes beyond anything I could have deserved, earned or known about.

Take time to give thanks for the people in your life. You are part of a long and rich heritage.

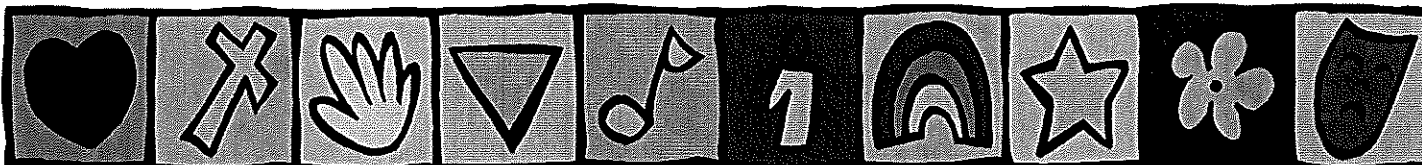
Blessings - *Gary*



FAITH IN ACTION

Projects on
Saturday, October 8th
& Sunday, October 9th

Celebration Dinner
Sunday, October 9th at 5:00 p.m. @ SOTH



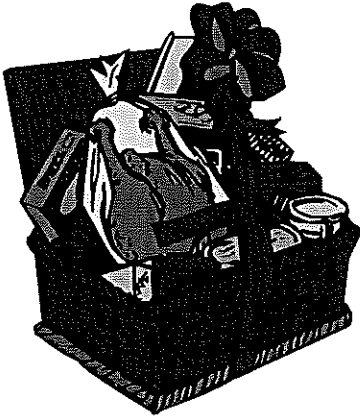
Freezing Nights Ministry

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. You can be a very special part of this ministry to our community by watching for the “turkey” to arrive in our Fellowship Hall, and pulling his feathers and purchasing and returning the item found written on his feather.

Once we have collected these items, we will be gathering them up and distributing them to those in our community who are in need this Thanksgiving. So watch 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.

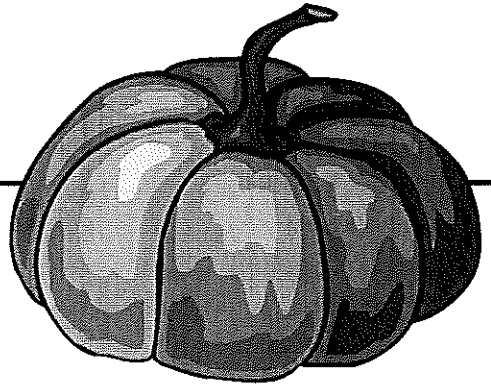
Monthly Financial Report

Here is a recap of the August financial report from the Administration Committee:

	Month	YTD
Income	\$17,293 (69% of budget)	\$198,367 (65% of budget)
Expenses	\$24,926 (100% of budget)	\$206,168 (67% of budget)

There was a 31% decrease in giving for August and a 35% decrease for the year to date while expenses continued at budgeted levels. This was the first summer month to see such a dramatic drop in giving. SOTH has been blessed to have a generous congregation committed to support the staff and programs of this church. Thank you! However, to continue our fall program, please consider bring your pledge up to date.

Fall Festival - Saturday, October 22nd



Here are three reasons YOU should be at the Fall Festival:

1. **Community Outreach:** We invite children from the community and children who attended VBS to come on out and have some fun at SOTH. We have fun games with candy and toy prizes. The kids can go trick-or-treating, knocking on various doors in our church, and in the process they learn that church has a place in their lives, and that Shepherd of the Hill welcomes all children.
2. **SOTH Fellowship:** Everyone shows up to the Fall Festival in the mood to have fun! How can you not have fun when you are wearing ridiculous outfits and all the people around you are in the mood for some silliness? Not all volunteers wear costumes, but everyone is ready for fun!
3. **What's more adorable than a fellowship hall filled with children?** The answer: a fellowship hall filled with miniature ninjas, brides, princesses, and super-heroes all having an evening of fun and games!

So, here's what you need to know: admission, games and dinner are all free, though we ask kids to bring an item to be donated to the FISH Food Bank. Kids up to 6th grade should come dressed in their costumes and they should bring a bucket to hold candy. All kids should invite their friends. A not-so gourmet dinner of hot dogs and chips will be served. All this fun will be had on **Saturday, October 22nd from 6:00 -8:00pm.**

I welcome **donations of food, candy and your time.** Come see me during coffee fellowship, call me on the phone, send me an e-mail, or just sign up at the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. My phone number is 253-262-1844 and my e-mail address is susan.boyles@gmail.com . Thanks! Susan Boyles

Global Market at Shepherd of the Hill

SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE!

GLOBAL MARKET

Saturday, November 5th

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

It's a great way to shop!

Get gift items AND support economic justice in the global marketplace!
Make your spending dollars count!

Looking Ahead at Worship

October 2, 2011

8:00/10:30 a.m.

World Communion Sunday

Peacemaking Offering

“Faith in Action: Making a Big Splash”

Rev. Gary E. Mathiesen

(Third in a series of Three)

The Parable of the Mustard Seed and Yeast

Luke 13:18-21

We seem to believe the “bigger is better.” But is bigger better? Not always when it comes to spiritual things.

Jesus taught us in Luke 13:18-21 that “God uses small things to do big stuff.”

We are challenged to join together for the impact of small things for big results.

October 9, 2011

NO SERVICES HELD SUNDAY MORNING

Faith in Action Sunday

Dinner/Dessert Celebration

5:00 p.m.

October 16, 2011

8:00/10:30 a.m.

“Baptism: My Connection”

Rev. Gary E. Mathiesen

(First in a series of Three on Baptism)

Jesus is Baptized at the Jordan River

Mark 1:1-13

There is a real connection between the water of the baptism and the walk of faith.

Jesus went to John the Baptist - who was baptizing people in the Jordan River -

and accepted baptism as a declaration of following the will of God. Baptism is our vow of being connected to God.

October 23, 2011

8:00/10:30 a.m.

“Baptism: My Identity”

Rev. Gary E. Mathiesen

(Second in a series of Three on Baptism)

Philip and the Ethiopian

Acts 8:26-40

Baptism is the source of our identity as Christians. Who are we? We are the baptized!

There are other ways to answer the question: we are people called by God, we are people who believe in Jesus Christ, but each of these has a baptismal connection. In the water of the font we are given our identity, we are named, and we find ourselves connected to Christ, grafted into Christ.

In a postmodern world that sees identity as a problem, or as an option that one may change on a whim, having a clear identity is helpful for faith, giving faith a direction and a compass in a changing landscape.

October 30, 2011

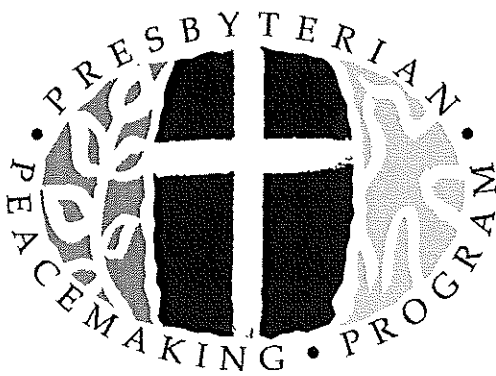
20th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00/10:30 a.m.

Dr. Joyce Mlenga - Professor of Education, University of Livingstonia

We have the special privilege to welcome Joyce Mlenga to our worship and adult education hour. Joyce will preach at both worship services and be available during the adult education hour to speak about her work as a professor of education in the University of Livingstonia located in Livingstonia, Malawi.

Our congregation and the Olympia Presbytery enjoy the privilege of having a special relationship with the Presbyterian congregations of Malawi and the University of Livingstonia. It will be exciting to hear how our support of the ministry of Malawian congregations and the education of students at the university have changed and impacted lives for Christ. Please mark your calendars and come welcome Joyce Mlenga and her husband, Moses, to Shepherd of the Hill.



Peacemaking Offering

The Peacemaking Offering was created in 1980 to support the efforts of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to live out a deeper commitment to peacemaking as part of our faithfulness to God. It is one of four special offerings designated by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s General Assembly.

We will be participating in this offering on October 2nd, World Communion Sunday.

Each congregation is encouraged to retain 25 percent of the Offering it receives to use for local ministries of

peacemaking within the church and its community. Twenty-five percent is used by presbyteries and synods, and 50 percent is used by the General Assembly ministries through the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program.

Christmas Program

Mark your calendars now for this year's Christmas Program and Dessert Potluck!

The program will be **Saturday, December 10th at 6:30 pm**. We invite all children to participate.

For the 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 20th and Sunday, December 4th.

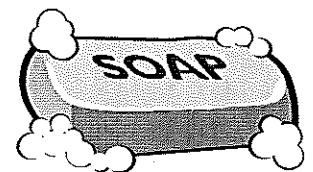
For kids who are interested in speaking parts, the angel choir, or music solos, rehearsals will take place most Sundays in October and November. If you would like one of these roles and were not able to make it to the interest meeting on September 25th, please see Susan Boyles to get information on how you can be a part of the production. (253) 262-1844 or susan.boyles@gmail.com.

Puyallup Food Bank Emphasis for October:

Toilet Paper ~ Laundry Soap

Hygiene Products ~ Soap & Shampoo

The donation box is located in the narthex.



In the Life of the Church . . .

Women's Retreat

The Sisters of Shepherd will be escaping to the seaside (or Camp Lakeview in Graham as it is also known) for our annual fall retreat! The retreat will be on **Saturday, October 15th** from 8:00am-6:30pm, with the option of spending the night on Friday night for some fellowship time. **Last chance for sign-ups is on October 2nd** in the fellowship hall! The cost is \$45. Food will be provided by Valerie Emy. For further information, contact Susan Boyles at (253) 262-1844 or susan.boyles@gmail.com.

PHD's Luncheon

We're back to our regularly scheduled meeting day and time, **Friday, October 14, at 12:00 pm** in the church fellowship hall. Please bring your favorite hot dish, salad or dessert. If you can, bring a baby or school picture of yourself with your name on the back to share at the luncheon.

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!**

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Book:</u>
Oct. 18	<i>Tipping Point</i> , by Malcolm Gladwell
Nov. 15	<i>Loving Frank</i> , by Nancy Horan
Dec. 20	<i>Border Songs</i> , by Jim Lynch

At the home of:
Fran Miller (848-4679)
Jane VonHeeder (531-1682)
Anne Bennett (848-8804)

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline to submit items to the **November newsletter is Monday, October 24th 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

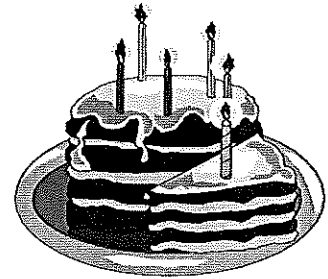
Dinners for Eight

Fellowship Committee will be starting up again a SOTH tradition for fellowship around the dinner table. The first dinners will be held on **Saturday, October 29th**. We will start signing up volunteer hosts on Sunday, October 2nd. Once we have hosts, the committee will put together guests and hosts to make up dinner parties of eight. It's a great way to meet and/or get to know better fellow SOTH members. Please look for the sign up information in the Fellowship Hall on October 2nd. And if the evening of Oct. 29th is already "booked" on your calendar, don't worry. There will be more opportunities in the months to come!

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 3 rd - Bob Stubbs | 15 th - Riley Quinn-Whitney |
| 5 th - Jean Garmoe | 17 th - Susan Boyles |
| 5 th - Brad Maxa | 20 th - Alyssa Quinn |
| 5 th - Betty Torgrimson | 22 nd - George Snyder |
| 8 th - Haylie Watson | 24 th - Marianne Bastin |
| 10 th - Leyna Doty | 26 th - Reka Sherrill |
| 11 th - Tad Green | 27 th - Brandon Bennett |
| 11 th - Fran Miller | 27 th - Jill Snider |
| 12 th - Becky Macke | 28 th - Bev Quinn |
| 12 th - Cindy Sexton | 28 th - Mary Kay Wilson |
| 12 th - Alaina Sherrill | 31 st - Nathan Macke |
| 14 th - Randy Brake | |



ANNIVERSARIES

- 2nd - Darren Selvage & Cheri Golden
27th - Ed & Betty Macke
30th - Steve & Susan Jankelson
31st - Doug & Susan Boyles

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. Towards the end of fall, we'll be putting together activity kits for children staying in hotels as part of the Open Hearth homeless shelter program.

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 October 9th.

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!

October 3rd: Pajama night

October 10th: Wacky Hat night

October 17th: Sports night

October 24th: Halloween Costume night

October 31st: *NO God's Gang!*

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

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

OCTOBER 2, 16, 23, 30

Sundays...

LIVING OUT LOUD (LOL)

Junior High Youth Group

5:00-6:30 pm (till 7 for a game of ODBAL)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:45-12:15 PM

FAITH IN ACTION DAY

Sign up to join the youth group in an adventure to serve on a L'arche farm in Tacoma. Everyone in the church is doing something that weekend, and THIS is our project.

*JUST DON'T GO TO CHURCH THAT SUNDAY
WHATEVER YOU DO!*

OCTOBER 9

No Youth Group
(Faith in Action Dinner)

OCTOBER 12 (Wednesday)

CORN MAZE!!!

5-9 pm, \$10

Rutledge Farm in Olympia

FRIDAY HARBOR FALL RETREAT

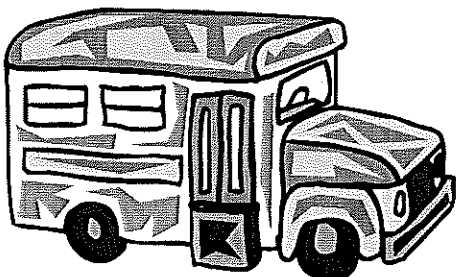
it's the together-but-separate-youth-retreat
with Senior Highers!

NOVEMBER 18-20

Join us for an amazing weekend in the
San Juan Islands.

Ride a ferry.

Reconnect with God again or for the first time.
Bring some new friends, fill up the bus!



Senior High Youth Group

Crazy Love!

Youth Group up and running! Back in the rhythm of touching base with the church fam in the middle of the week. Bring some friends. Introduce them to a crazy love, the title of the book by Francis Chan that gets us in touch with our amazing God. We'll be all about love, but we'll be all about crazy, too! See you there!

OCTOBER 5

Regular Crazy Love Youth Group
7:00 - 8:40pm

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:45-12:15 PM

FAITH IN ACTION DAY

Sign up to join the youth group in an adventure to serve on a L'arche farm in Tacoma. Everyone in the church is doing something that weekend, and THIS is our project.

*JUST DON'T GO TO CHURCH THAT SUNDAY
WHATEVER YOU DO!*

OCTOBER 12 - CORN MAZE!!!

5-9 pm, \$10

Rutledge Farm in Olympia

OCTOBER 21 - OVERNIGHTER @ SOTH!

7:30 pm till 10 am the next day!

Details coming soon!

OCTOBER 19, 26

MORE CRAZINESS, MORE LOVE

7-8:40 pm

FRIDAY HARBOR FALL RETREAT

NOVEMBER 18-20

Join us for an amazing weekend in the San Juan Islands. Ride a ferry. Reconnect with God again or for the first time. Bring some new friends, fill up the bus!

Email: SOTHPresby@aol.com

Phone: 253-848-4357

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