

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

24850 Issaquah-Fall City Rd Issaquah, WA 98029



OFFICE HOURS

Monday 8:30-1:00

Tuesday—Thursday

9:00 -12:00 1:30-4:30

425-391-8431

www.shephillschurch.org

office@shephillschurch.org

Ministers

Members of SHLC

STAFF

Pastor

Drahus Oslík

Cell: 425-495-2804

pastord@shephillschurch.org

Youth Director

Karen Stillwell

425-270-3259

jstill7678@aol.com

Office Manager

Kathy Fix

425-391-8431

office@shephillschurch.org

Choir Director

Jeff Jewell-425-868-1579

Bell Choir Director

Janet Benson-425-391-8447

Celebrate Worship Team Leader & Sunday School Coordinator

Lisa Whatley-425-391-5070

Nursery Coordinator

Terry Akre-425-313-0541

CHURCH COUNCIL

President

Holly Nordal-425-313-1035

Vice President

Chris Anderson-425-369-0550

Secretary

Mary Ardissono-425-557-0263

Treasurer

Steve Akre-425-313-0541

Worship & Music

Spencer Wise-425-657-0172

Education & Youth

Tom Lindsley-253-820-3003

Community & World Outreach

Denice Cronin-Hanson-425-392-3448

Support & Shepherding

Open

Stewardship & Resources

Jay Kutzke-425-333-4897

Financial Secretary

Debbie Seeley-425-557-0809

Sunday December 5

Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM Sunday School for all ages

10:00 AM Holy Communion

Sunday December 12

Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM Sunday School for all ages

10:00 AM Celebrate Service

Sunday December 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM Sunday School for all ages

10:00 AM Christmas Pageant

Friday December 24

Christmas Eve

6:00 PM Family Services

11:00 PM Traditional Services

Sunday December 26

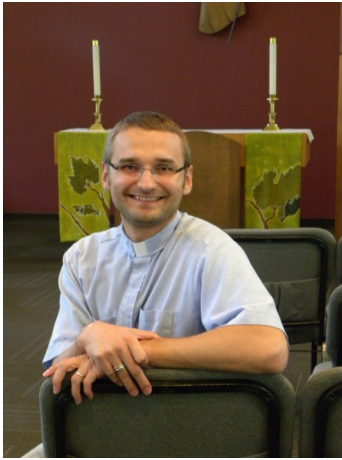
First Sunday of Christmas

9:00 AM Sunday School for all ages

10:00 AM Holy Communion

 **2010**

Pastor's Page



Dear Friends,
The past month was quite an adventure for me and my family. As we brought baby George home from the hospital we looked at each

other and asked ourselves, “Are we ready for this?” I’m still asking myself this question as I’m painfully waking up after a sleepless night, “Am I ready for this day?”

As we approach the Advent and Christmas Seasons, we are getting ready and preparing for the coming of the Messiah. On one hand we remember his coming in the babe of Bethlehem on the other hand we anticipate his second coming as the Savior who’ll restore his kingdom on earth. The question is what does it mean to be ready and prepared? What does the Apostle Matthew mean when he says in the 24th chapter of his gospel, “*Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.*”?

As I read these words, I’m reminded that to be truly ready means to be able to love in the most stressful and

unexpected situations. To be ready means to treat others with respect and patience in the moments when we are tired and exhausted. To be ready means to respond in generosity to those who are in need even when our budget is tight, and to stand up for those who are being attacked, spoken down to, or pushed around. It means to shine and witness in the moments when it’s not most convenient for us.

In Romans 13 we read: “*Love does no wrong to a neighbor, therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep.*” Let us this Advent and Christmas season be awake. Let us stand up and look around and let us be prepared to embrace those around us with the love of Christ. For that’s what Christ calls us to do, be ready to love.

Dear Lord, we thank you for sending your Son Jesus Christ, the babe of Bethlehem. We know that our salvation rests in him. Help us to be ready for him this season, let us open our hearts and welcome him through loving our neighbor. Amen

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Drahus

Worship

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

Please note that we will be again offering two services on Christmas Eve:

6:00 pm – Family services geared to families with children. There will be communion and candle-lighting and choir.

11:00 pm – Traditional services with the bell choir, communion and candle-lighting.



Christmas Eve

PRAYERS OFFERED AT THE ALTAR

In our mission statement it says that we are a Christ-centered, **prayerful** community... Starting the second Sunday of Advent we'd like offer individual prayers for those in need. Right after worship service Pastor Bill Vaswig will be available at the altar to pray with individuals. Whether you need prayers for yourself or your loved ones, please use this opportunity to come before God in prayer, lifting to him your petitions, worries, joys, thanks and praises.

MUSICIANS NEEDED FOR SPECIAL MUSIC

Calling all musicians, soloist, duo's or groups. We are looking for people to perform special music during worship. Please contact Ardell Razor if you can help 425-333-6603.

CHOIR

The choir meets on Thursday at 7:30 to 8:30 in the sanctuary. We will meet EVERY Thursday so we can contribute to the worship service on a more consistent basis this year. We are committed to sing during worship on the first and third Sundays of the month. During other weeks of the month, the second and fourth Sundays are available for Celebrate service and for handbell choir. We look forward to seeing choir members from past years as well as those who are interested in joining us for the first time. Feel free to come and try us out for a few weeks if you have not done so.

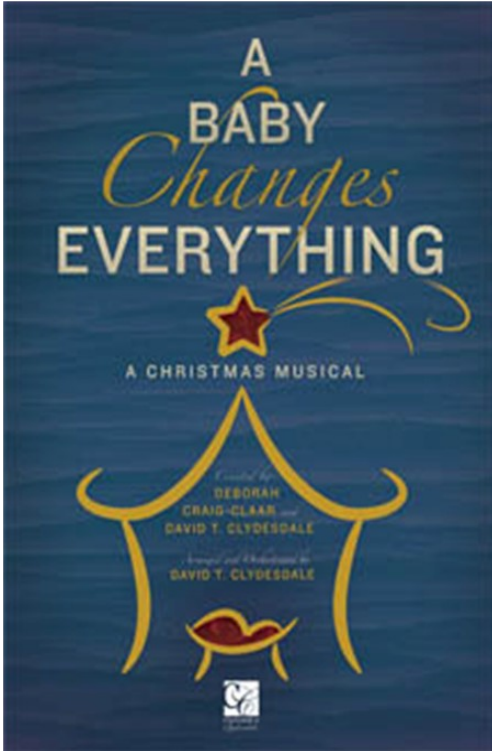
If you have questions, please contact me for more information. Jeff Jewell - (425) 868-1579.



Education

THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT WILL BE DURING 10 A.M. WORSHIP, DECEMBER 19TH.

“A Baby Changes Everything” tells the Christmas story from the perspective of the people of Bethlehem. They almost sleep through the first Christmas night – until they are alerted by the children in time to experience the life-changing miracle in a manger!



The Sunday School children will prepare for the pageant during their regular 9:00 a.m. Sunday School hour. In fact, they might be surprised by the songs they will have learned during Opening before December even rolls around! They will have fun dressing in traditional pageant attire for dress rehearsals December 12th & 19th. Middle School students will have bigger parts to play with lines to learn and will likely be invited to a rehearsal or two in early December outside of their Sunday School class time; but all rehearsals will be on Sundays.

A dedicated “Pageant Choir” of adults and teenagers will rehearse at 12:00 p.m. every Sunday, beginning October 31st.

The music is challenging and rehearsal time will be limited. If you are interested in a rich, devotional musical experience this holiday season separate regular weeknight adult choir rehearsals, please join us on October 31st for the initial read through of the music. (A little church mouse or two will provide you with lunch between worship and rehearsals.)

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

You are invited to a Wednesday morning Bible Study led by Marlice Gilmore. Bible Study is held every 2nd Wednesday, 10:00 AM through 11:30 AM. The place is the first classroom in the fellowship hall.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS

All children and parents of children in 2nd grade or older who have not had First Communion instruction should save **April 2nd from 9:00 – Noon**. You will receive a formal letter of invitation after the new year, but we simply wanted to alert you ahead of time so that the date could be held open on your family calendars. The First Communion service would be held on Maundy Thursday, April 21st, 2010 at 7:00pm.



Youth Corner



A big THANK YOU to the Woods and Akre families for hosting the Captive Free band members for their short stay last month.

FEED YOUR FAITH

Feed Your Faith with Christmas Tree Decorating:

Sunday the 5th is Feed Your Faith, with dinner being hosted by the Hanson family. Come one, come all 6th - 12th graders and join in on the food, fellowship, fun & bible study from 6:00 - 8:00 at church. That night we will also be decorating the Teen Room Christmas Tree!



FUNDRAISING CARDS

The Youth Group is now selling Discount Cards for \$10.00 each...they make great stocking stuffers, not to mention a terrific card to have in your own wallet. There are 12 different vendors on the card including: Dominos, Taco Bell, I Hop, Cold Stone, Denny's, Emerald City Smoothie, Boehms and Big O Tires...among others. These cards also make a wonderful outreach since the front of the card is a picture of our church home with our phone number, website address and Sunday church service hour. Buy as many as you'd like, we'll be selling them for the next 2 months.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY & CAROLING

Sunday the 19th 6:00 PM—9:00 PM is the date for our White Elephant Gift Exchange Christmas Party. Just bring a wrapped gift (\$15.00 limit) and see what you take home. There will be Caroling, eating and let's hope....a snowball fight.



December Confirmation Dates: 12/5 & 12/19

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING BABYSITTING SERVICE

Saturday the 11th from 10:00am - 4:00pm, we are offering a babysitting service for those busy parents who need some precious time to do a little Christmas shopping. All you need to do to sign-up your child/children, is to fill out the form you'll find in the envelope taped to the Teen Room door, or contact Karen Stillwell. If your child will be there longer than two hours, you will need to have them bring a snack. All completed forms will need to be returned in the "completed forms" envelope by Sunday December 5th so the correct number of babysitters can be lined up and scheduled.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday January 15, 2011 mark your calendars for a tubing, boarding, skiing extravaganza at Hyak. More details to come!

Ministry & Fellowship

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY, OPERATION NIGHTWATCH AND MORE

We will be meeting every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at the church. On the first Wednesday, we'll meet at 7:15 PM for a brief prayer time. At 7:30 PM we'll depart for Operation Nightwatch. On the 3rd Wednesday we'll meet at 7:00 PM for a bible Study. Our Bible Study will be from the Master Builders Bible for Men and the first series will be on *Accountability*.

PRAYER CHAIN

To add a prayer to the Prayer Chain, or if you are interested in joining the Prayer Chain, please contact Mary Ardissono via email at jmlpsa@comcast.net or via phone at 425-557-0263. If you would like Pastor Osluk to pray for someone during the Sunday service, please contact the church office, and the first name of the person you wish to be prayed for will be mentioned during prayer petitions.



WOMEN IN MISSION

Please join the Women in Mission for a Bible study led by Andrea Oslikova. Because Global Health Ministries has changed their requirements, we are re-visiting our mission with midwife kits. This Bible study will help us decide the direction we should go. All are invited to join us for this special meeting at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, December 28, in the fellowship hall.



BIBLE STUDY ON PRAYER LED BY PASTOR BILL VASWIG

Mark your calendars, Pastor Bill Vaswig will lead a three session Bible Study on prayer. Save the Wednesday evenings of January 19th, 26th and February 2nd. Look for more info in the bulletins and January Newsletter.

DO NOTHING'S GROUP

This group is a part of Women's ministry and gets together every first Monday of the month from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM for a wonderful time of visiting and fellowship. Please bring your own lunch, coffee and desert will be served. This month the Do Nothing's will be meeting at the home of Carolyn Firl please call for directions 425-391-7438. You're always welcome to invite a friend. If you have any questions please contact Vivian Sauerbrey at (425) 392 - 3964.

SOCIAL MINISTRY FOR DECEMBER

Look for the green wooden Christmas Giving Tree in the Narthex where you can pull a gift tag off and buy a present for a needy family for the holidays. Return the gift, unwrapped, to church and we will bring it to the Issaquah Food Bank's deposit location. We also provide gift cards from Fred Meyer where Christmas dinner can be bought or other household items. More details will be in the Sunday bulletin and announced during service.



The ELCA Good Gifts Catalog is on the table in the Narthex. This catalog makes it easy to honor loved ones with gifts that support life-changing projects and programs around the world. For example, \$18.00 buys a bundle of roof shingles to help repair a roof, \$30.00 fills a child's backpack with nutritional food in the United States, or \$50.00 buys a goat to help feed and provide income to a needy family. Pick up an ELCA Good Gifts catalog and choose from among 65 different gift-giving options. Happy gift giving!

CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL MEETING

Allllllllllll interested parties are invited to attend an initial meeting to begin planning and organizing for Shepherd of the Hills' first Chocolate Festival. The festival itself will take place on Saturday, March 5, 2011. We'll need the talents and ideas of all who are interested in getting involved. Please join us to help plan the fun on Monday, December 13, at 7 p.m. The funds raised through the Chocolate Festival will be used to sponsor a new Form 1 student at the MaeSae Girls Lutheran Secondary School in Tanzania, a ministry of the Women in Mission. See you there

NEW MEMBER'S CLASS

We will have a new member's class for all interested in joining Shepherd of the Hills on **March 6th at 1:30pm**. The class will be less than two hours in length. You will hear about the ministries of Shepherd of the Hills, what it means to be Lutheran and you'll get to know some of the other people interested in becoming part of our church family. If you would like to attend or you know someone who is interested, please call the church office. If you are in need of babysitting, this can be provided. Please report this to the office staff when replying.



COUNCIL PRESIDENT UPDATE

I love everything about the Christmas season.....the lights, decorations, the old familiar Christmas carols, children re enacting the nativity, but most of all - how people behave during the holiday season. Everyone smiles a little more as they pass you in the street, and people are more generous - food pours into the local shelters, and donations are made for those in need. I believe that is love is more evident during Christmas, families reunite with loved ones, and love is extended to our neighbors and strangers. As Christians, Christ calls on us to live our lives this way all throughout the year, to make it a way of life - be generous with our gifts, our love, our compassion, and forgiveness for all. It is a tall order, and one that I personally fall short on (but I don't give up striving for). As a community and family of the Shepherd of the Hills, I am always amazed how we come together to accomplish the task at hand. When I reflect back on what has happened throughout the year, I am left with a profound sense of gratitude for everyone here that steps in when they see a job needing done. For a relatively small congregation, we are able to produce mighty results when we work together for God's purpose. This is love.

We will be having some Council Members who have served their two year term. We have been fortunate to have a strong Council who have worked very diligently and hard for Shepherd of the Hills. I am so grateful to have served with each member of the Council. Our Nominating Committee this year is comprised of Jay Kutzke, Mary Ardissono, Amy Wise, and Ron Loos Sr. As with any position or task that you are asked to take on for our church, please pray about it and search your heart for the answer. God will provide the answer.

Holly

Poinsettias Order Form - \$9 each

Christmas is approaching quickly and that means it's time to order Christmas Poinsettias. Help us to decorate our sanctuary this Christmas. The cost is \$9 per plant. Plants may only be picked up following the 11:00 p.m. worship service on Christmas Eve.

Orders due by December 12th

Please return order form with payment to the church office or put it in the offering plate. Thank you!

I would like to order ____ # plants.

Enclosed please find \$ _____

In memory of:



In honor of:

To the Glory of God:

By: _____

VISITORS WELCOME BAGS

The Evangelism committee put together new visitors welcome bags. We're hoping to give these bags to new visitors who come through our doors, as well as make them available to members to gift to their neighbors who may be new in the community. The bags include a useful brochure of basic information about our church services, and programs—as well as some fun welcome items. Please use this wonderful resource to welcome people into our midst.



Stewardship

MAKE IT SIMPLE STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Thanks To all the people who helped on the Stewardship Sunday Brunch. Jane and Mark McDowell provided all the fresh fruit, Jan Hoeft helped with set up, cleanup and making the fruit bowls. Paul and Linda Engert washed dishes and cleaned up the kitchen. Kim Olson put all the pastries out on the table. Spencer Wise provided all the lovely pastries for the brunch. Jay Kutzke and Suzanne D'Errico cooked the eight breakfast casseroles. Kris Matson cleaned all the tablecloths after the brunch. Thanks to everyone! Copies of recipes are in fellowship hall. There will be more information about the results of this year's stewardship campaign in the January newsletter. Thank you all for your support and generosity.



Celebrating a

Sarah Ravindranathan	December 13
Dylan Hemmenway	December 15
Johann Ravindranathan	December 17
Ian Hillman	December 21
Olivia McDowell	December 26



RECENT HOSPITALIZATIONS:

Velma Bak
Richard Schmidt

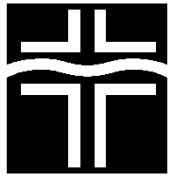
December Worship Leaders/Volunteers

Dec.	GREET/USHERS	READ	HOSTS	COUNT	ALTAR GUILD	Flowers	COMM ASSIST	CLEAN	ACO-LYTE	Nursery
5	Akre Family	Steve Akre	Jan Hoeft	Chris Anderson & Jim Ardissono	Sharon Solsvik	Jan Hoeft	Spencer & Amy Wise	Nordal & J. McDowell	Janina Loos	Lynn Woods Cindy Hertzog
12	Ron Loos, Jr. & John Gilmore/ Ron Loos, Jr. & Eric Torrison	Spencer Wise	Irene Kelly	Nancy Anderson & Velma Bak	Amy Wise	***	Eric Torrison & Jay Kutzke	Dybevik & Whatley	Hunter Mapes	Linda Engert Tori Lind-sley
19	Gary Hanson & Denice Cronin-Hanson	Denice Cronin-Hanson	Lynn Woods	Jay Kutzke & Mark McDowell	Denice Cronin-Hanson	***	Mark & Jane McDowell	Anderson & Torrison	Sabrina Loos	Amy Wise Karen Stillwell
26	Mark & Jane McDowell/ Mark McDowell & Jay Kutzke	Mark McDowell	Kim Kutzke	R. Williams & Sharon Solsvik	Amy Wise	Velma Bak	Steve & Kyle Akre	M. McDowell & Stillwell	Kadin Mapes	Terry Akre Lisa Whatley

December Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 1:45 PM Chinese School 6 PM Advent Fellowship 7:15 PM Operation Nightwatch-offsite	2 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	3	4 12-2PM Pageant Rehearsal
5 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship-Holy Communion 12 PM Pageant Choir Rehearsal 4 PM Confirmation 6 PM Feed Your Faith	6 11 AM Do Nothings-@Carolyn Firl 6-9:30 PM Master Chorus Eastside-Sanctuary	7 7 PM Worship & Music Meeting	8 10 AM Bible Study-led by Marlice Gilmore 1:45 PM Chinese School 6 PM Advent Fellowship	9 10:45 AM Marionwood Service-offsite 7 PM Celebrate Service Rehearsal 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	10 6 PM Marilyn Jewell Piano Recital	11 10 AM-4 PM Youth Babysitting Service Project
12 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship-Celebrate Service 12 PM Pageant Choir Rehearsal 4 PM Spiritwood	13 6-9:30 PM Master Chorus Eastside-Sanctuary 7 PM Chocolate Festival Planning Meeting	14 7 PM Council Meeting	15 <u>Newsletter Deadline</u> 1:45 PM Chinese School 6 PM Advent Fellowship Men's Bible Study-cancelled	16 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	17	18 4 PM Council Staff Christmas Party
19 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> 9 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship-Christmas Pageant 4 PM Confirmation 6 PM Youth Christmas Party & Caroling	20 6-9:30 PM Master Chorus Eastside-Sanctuary	21 Youth & Education Meeting-cancelled	22 1:45-5:45 PM Chinese School	23 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	24 <u>Christmas Eve</u> 6:00 PM Worship Service 11:00 PM Worship Service	25 <u>Christmas Day</u> 
26 9 AM Sunday School Christmas Party 10 AM Worship-Holy Communion	27 6-9:30 PM Master Chorus Eastside-Sanctuary	28 10 AM Women in Mission Community & Outreach Meeting-cancelled	29	30 7 PM Choir Rehearsal	31 New Years Eve	





SHEPHERD of the HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

24850 SE Issaquah - Fall City Rd. Issaquah, WA 98029 Telephone (425)391-8431

office@shephillschurch.org

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Our vision as Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church is:

- To be a dynamic and welcoming congregation (fellowship)
- To worship (worship)
- To grow in faith (discipleship)
- To share the gospel (mission)
- To reach out with Christ' love (ministry)

LOOKING AHEAD-DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan. 19, 26 and Feb 2-Pastor Bill Vaswig Bible Study on Prayer

Jan. 22-23-Men's Retreat-Warm Beach

Feb. 18-Youth Movie Night

April 2-First Communion Class

March 5th-Chocolate Festival

Newsletter Deadline is the 15th of the month