

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

24850 Issaquah-Fall City Rd Issaquah, WA 98029

www.shephillschurch.org



OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday
9:00AM to 2:00PM
425.391.8431

office@shephillschurch.org

Ministers - Members of SHLC

STAFF

Interim Pastor Dick Christensen
425-749-0848 Cell:

dickchristensen@shephillschurch.org

Youth Director Kari Thach
425-391-8431

youth@shephillschurch.org

Office Administrator

Martina Randall 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 Open

Secretary Sharon Solsvik
425-391-1120

Treasurer Steve Akre
425-313-0541

Worship & Music Spencer Wise
425-657-0172

Education & Youth Tom Lindsley
253-820-3003

Community & World Outreach
Mark McDowell
425-643-0980

Support & Shepherding
Sally Slippert
425-392-7237

Stewardship & Resources
Ron Loos
425-417-0793

Financial Secretary
Debbie Seeley
425-557-0809

Sunday, December 4th

Second Sunday in Advent

8:30 AM Pre-Service Prayer

9:00AM Sunday School for all ages

10:00 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 11th

Third Sunday in Advent

8:30 AM Pre-Service Prayer

9:00 AM Sunday School for all ages

10:00 AM Celebrate Worship Service with Holy Communion

Sunday, December 18th

Fourth Sunday in Advent

8:30 AM Pre-Service Prayer

9:00 AM Sunday School for all ages

10:00 AM Christmas Pageant

Saturday, December 24th

Christmas Eve

6:00 PM Family Service

11:00 PM Traditional Service

Sunday, December 25th

Christmas Day

8:30 AM Pre-Service Prayer

10:00 AM Worship Service with Holy Communion



2011

Pastor Pages

From the Pastor's Heart -

The world's winter is well on its way. Stores are full to overflowing with holiday decorations. Gift catalogs arrive in each day's mail. Soon there will be warnings about "the number of shopping days until Christmas." Ads will remind you to hurry, hurry, hurry.

The Church's Advent is of a different sort. And holds more promise for the health and wholeness of all the people.

Advent is a time of preparation for the celebration of the coming of the Child into the whole world and the heart of each of us. Slow down. Create space for welcoming the Child.

Given the reality that the culture has a huge effect in the lives of most of us, I am inclined to make modest suggestions about the preparation time. Starting small holds the hope of growth into the fullness of the season.

A simple suggestion: set aside 15 minutes between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening for quiet, reading, and reflection. The Christmas Gospel is St. Luke 2: 1-20. Read it aloud without stopping. Read it aloud and stop each time there is a new way the Gospel touches you. Read it silently a third time and wait on God. Joining with your sisters and brothers in the parish will help the whole family grow and develop.

Another simple suggestion: set aside time each day to pray. There are Advent devotional booklets available on the Narthex table. Use the parish directory to pray for each member of the family. Your Christmas card list represents another opportunity to name in prayer people you know and love. Ask God to come as near to each of those persons as God comes near in the Birth of the Child.

A third simple suggestion: set aside gift money for the poor. There are more opportunities to enhance the lives of the poor than you can shake a candy cane at. Pick a giving project that you can handle. If there are children in your home allow them to participate in the marvels of giving. Giving trumps getting every time.

A fourth simple suggestion: gather with the parish family each Sunday at worship. The Advent texts are at odds with the "holly, jolly" notions of the culture, but they are wonderful reminders that the first coming of the Child was the beginning of God's unfolding plan to bring all the people back to God. The second coming of the Child will be less subtle, but satisfy our hopes and dreams for the life of all the people.

A fifth simple suggestion: make time to rest. A nap is a way of praying – turning life over to God for those brief moments. Go to bed earlier than usual. "On demand" will allow you to recover a favorite late evening TV program. An extra hour of sleep will allow you to recover your energy for the demands that are made on you. Listen to music and allow that gift of God to renew you for the days of your life. Music lets you rest in God.

The last simple suggestion is to keep the Advent prayer on your lips and in your hearts. "Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come."

God's peace,

R. L. Christensen



Music & Worship

MUSICIANS NEEDED FOR SPECIAL MUSIC

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



HANDBELL CHOIR



HANDBELL RINGER NEEDED! With one of our ringers due to have a baby early in 2012, we need another ringer! No experience necessary—come and find out how much fun it is to ring the bells. We practice after worship on most Sundays and play during worship on the fourth Sunday. Please contact Janet Benson at 425-391-8447 or email janet.benson@comcast.net if you are interested.



CHOIR UPDATE

Rehearsals are on Thursdays at 7:30 in the sanctuary to prepare music for December. Be assured that no experience is necessary to sing with us. We would love to have any newcomers try out a couple of rehearsals to see what it is like. Talk to Jeff or Marilyn Jewell to answer questions you might have.



CELEBRATE REHEARSAL FOR NOVEMBER

Join us for Celebrate Worship Team rehearsal on Thursday, December 8th at 7:00pm.



PRAYER TIME FOR WORSHIP – SUNDAYS 8:30 AM



It says in the Parish Mission Statement that we're a: "Christ – centered, prayerful community. We pray intentionally for our worship services, for the pastor, for all members that come to worship, for all the guests that come to visit. In the bulletin it says: "It is no accident that you are here. We've been praying for you." Come together as a congregation to pray, to lift up our time of worship and all who attend. Time and place: Sunday mornings at 8:30 AM in the Prayer Chapel.



PARISH DIRECTORY UPDATE

We would like to print a new a Parish Directory. Please verify that your address, phone number and email are correct in the current pictorial directory. Please notify the office if you have any changes.



WHITE SOCK DRIVE UPDATE



The white sock drive is now officially over. Thank you to those that contributed, the church collected an amazing amount of socks this year. Total from Shepherd of the Hills was **359 pairs** and the total number of socks collected for 2011 was **3,006 pairs**.

All socks will be taken to Operation Night Watch in Seattle, where they are passed out nightly. Bless you all for your support and your love for others. Terry Akre

Music & Worship

UPDATE FROM YOUR CALL COMMITTEE:

Your call committee met with Rev. Jan Nesse, Assistant to the Bishop, on Monday Nov. 14th. We have received candidate names and have begun to share information. We will be conducting Skype interviews the week of Nov. 28th and Dec. 5th. Currently the candidates are completing a questionnaire prior to the interviews.

Your Call Committee has taken a vow of confidentiality, so please don't ask us for candidate information. Please do keep us, the candidates, and the congregation in your prayers throughout the Call process. Thank you for your continued patience.

Chris Anderson, Laura Radek, Trent Whatley, Don Benson, Linda Engert and Karen Stillwell

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MORE MOCHA MOSQUITO

The ELCA drive to raise funds to combat mosquitoes and malaria continues. The bowl on the narthex table is for contributions.

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 pm worship service on Christmas Eve.



Orders due by December 11th

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:

Youth & Education

NURSERY AND CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES



At this point we've decided to discontinue the Youth room activities for the older children during the sermon and prayer time.

Please find activity sheets, pens and markers that are at the Ark right as you enter the Sanctuary, these are wonderful work sheets, puzzles, and word games that can help entertain the older kids during the sermon and prayer time.

We will have an Adult and a youth available each Sunday welcoming children from birth to six years old into the Nursery room.



LOOKING FOR NURSERY HELPERS



Please see Terry Akre or Nursery door sign-up for available dates to serve. We need a helper and one Youth to sit at 10:00 AM worship time. The kids are really fantastic and allot of fun, come and join us for a Sunday, you will fall in love with them too!!



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL



We welcome everyone to join the adult class meeting every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. in the library. We will be studying the Gospel of St. John in December.



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY



You are invited to Wednesday morning Bible Study led by Marlice Gilmore. We will meet for Bible study on December 14 at 10 AM at the Gilmore home in Providence Point. Couples and singles are welcome. For directions, please call 391-6614 or email jomagilmore@mac.com.



Youth & Education

Shepherd of the Hills Sunday School Christmas Pageant

PRAISE NOELS

By Don Marsh



We've got something to sing about!

Adapted and Directed by Lisa Whatley

Accompanied by Marilyn Jewell

Pageant Choir Rehearsals

Sundays, beginning at 2pm
November 27th
December 4th
and possibly December 11th

Sunday School Rehearsals

Sundays, beginning at 9am
December 4th
December 11th

All Rehearsals in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 18th

8:30am Pageantry Costumes
and Breakfast for Children
8:30am Choir Sound Check
9am Dress Rehearsal
10am Worship – **PRAISE NOELS**
11am Meatballs 😊

Youth & Education

FROM KARI-YOUTH DIRECTOR

DECEMBER

****Something Nice:**

On Dec 4th after church we will be setting up and decorating the church Christmas tree. It will be fun!!! So be there, and bring some friends to help. There will be food to nourish your bodies.

***Something Extremely Ridiculously Crazy:**



On December 18th, we will be crazy and do 3 fun things in one day! We will be meeting/leaving SOH after church at about 12:30. We will head up to Snoqualamie pass and go TUBING in the mountains!!! Then we will head back to the church, hoping to arrive around 5 ish. We will eat our delicious Feed Your Faith dinner provided by the Snook family, and have an awesome Christmas party complete with gift exchange. Please bring \$20 for your tubing ticket, warm clothes, and a ridiculously strange white elephant gift for the gift exchange. See you there!!!

***Something To Look Forward To:**

Mark your calendars for the High School Ski/Snowboard retreat January 13th-16th!

***Something Else To Look Forward To:**

Mark your calendars for the Jr. High All-nighter January 20th-21st!

***Did You Know:**

IT'S ALMOST CHRISTMAS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Ministry & Fellowship



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 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

Women in Mission will not meet in December. We will resume making quilts on January 24. Mark your calendars for the last Tuesday of each month—we would love to have you join us in the new year! No sewing experience needed—honest!



DO NOTHINGS 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. This month the Do Nothings will be meeting on December 5th, at the home of Sue Loos. You are welcome to invite a friend. Please bring your own lunch; coffee, tea and dessert will be served. If you have any questions, please contact Sue Loos at 425-417-0793. See you there!



HOPE in a Blanket 'monthly update'

We are moving up our next delivery date – hoping to bring a good bunch of blankets to the hospital during Christmas Break. It would be nice for the kids who have to be in the hospital during Christmas. We have 6 blankets made so far and might get some help from Issaquah High School's craft night coming up in a few weeks! We have lots of fleece purchased – thanks to all of you! We will show off the blankets during church before we make our delivery. Again, there are about 40 Sarcoma cases at Seattle Children's each year. Our goal is for every kid to have one. We'd love to share with kids battling leukemia as well – thinking of our amazing youth group leader Kari. Donations are always appreciated for our blanket project that puts a smile on a sick child's face and is a blessing to the staff that works with them.

Thanks! Peace! Annika, Sara and Mikenna

Community & World Outreach

HOLIDAY MUSIC CONCERTS AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

(please see the bulletin board in the narthex for more information)

Fri, Dec 2	7:00 PM	Trinity Lutheran College Choral Music Ensembles 800-843-5659	First Presbyterian Church, Everett	2936 Rockefeller Ave Everett	Unexpected & Mysterious A musical celebration of the Christmas story	free
Sat, Dec 3	7:30 PM	Master Chorus Eastside 425-392-8446	Eastlake Performing Arts Center Eastlake High School	400 228th Ave, NE Sammamish	The Many Worlds of Christmas	Adult \$20 Senior & Youth \$15 Children 9 & under—free
Sun, Dec 4	3:00 PM	Trinity Lutheran College Choral Music Ensembles 800-843-5659	Trinity Lutheran Church, Lynnwood	6215 196th St, SW Lynnwood	Unexpected & Mysterious A musical celebration of the Christmas story	free
Sun, Dec 11	3:00 PM	Master Chorus Eastside 425-392-8446	Kirkland Performance Center	350 Kirkland Ave Kirkland	The Many Worlds of Christmas	Adult \$20 Senior & Youth \$15
Sat, Dec 17	7:30 PM	Northwest Boychoir	Trinity Lutheran Church	6215 196th St, SW Lynnwood	A Festival of Lessons and Carols	Adult \$24 Senior \$19 Student \$14
Wed, Dec 21	7:30 PM	Seattle Symphony featuring the Northwest Sinfonia 206-215-4747	Benaroya Hall, S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium	200 University St, Seattle	The Northwest Choirs	Tickets start at \$20



Men's Ministry



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
Lutheran Church of Issaquah

Men's B.S. & More Annual Retreat

Save the Date
Jan. 28-29, 2012

Guest Speaker: Dr. Bruce Grigsby

We are going to examine the first expansion of the Church from a Jewish context to a Gentile one. Our focus passages will be Acts 8 (Philip the Evangelist), Acts 10 (Peter and Cornelius), and Acts 16 (Paul takes the gospel to Europe; i.e. Lydia at Philippi).

DR. Grigsby brings an incredible depth of knowledge and passion to these discussions and you will gain an incredible, new understanding of these verses and discover what they mean in YOUR life.



Weekend Overview:

• Saturday the 28nd

- Depart SHLC at 7:00 AM (Carpool) - Stop for Breakfast (Patty's Eggnest)
Directions from I-5: Exit #186 for WA-96/128th Street. Head left (towards WA-96)
Located next to the Great American Casino and KFC.
- Drive to Warm Beach and begin our workshop (lunch and dinner breaks)
- Evening free time, movie time and or volleyball!

• Sunday the 29rd

- Meditation/quiet prayer time - Breakfast
- Sunday worship service in the spectacular Warm Beach Chapel
- Continued Discussions/Wrap-up
- Lunch
- Return home (usually home by about 3:00 PM)

- It's just one night away from home (you are away for about 32 hours).

Bible Study
Fellowship,
Fresh Air, Food,
Laughs & Fun!

❖ Please submit your \$90 check made payable to "SHLC" ("Men's Retreat" in check's MEMO area) with the entry form below to Jim Ardissono.

❖ Questions: Call Jim (425) 503-2556 or Rick (206) 612-4522



Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Warm Beach
Christian Camps
&
Conference Center

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Include \$90 Fee - Checks payable to SHLC "Men's Retreat" on the memo line _____ I am willing to drive

Men's Ministry

OPERATION NIGHTWATCH

We will be meeting every 1st Wednesday of the month at the church. Ideally on those nights we need between 6 to 8 volunteers who are ready for the challenge!

2011 Operation NightWatch Meal Schedule Depart SHLC at 7:30 PM			
12/7/2011	GROUP MEAL DEPART SHLC AT 6:30 pm Lead by Chef Darin		
1/4/2012	Eric Torrison	425-333-6999	ectorrison@btpi.com
	Paul Engert	425-427-1486	plengert@msn.com
NOTE: It is up to you to team up with your partner to provide enough food to serve about 150 people. You can bring something as simple as soup and sandwich fixings or any other hearty meal that want to share. If you have any questions, or need help getting ready—please call Rick Aue at 206-612-4522.			



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

On the 3rd Wednesday the Men's Group meets at 7:00pm for a Bible Study. Our Bible Study will be from the Master Builders Bible for Men—topic yet to be determined. Bible Study will be Wednesday, December, 21st.

Church Family



Sarah Ravindranathan	12/13
Stuart Ardissono	12/14
Johann Ravindranathan	12/17
Linda Hines	12/20
Ian Hillman	12/21
Olivia McDowell	12/26
Kim Olsen	12/27
Matthew Snook	12/29

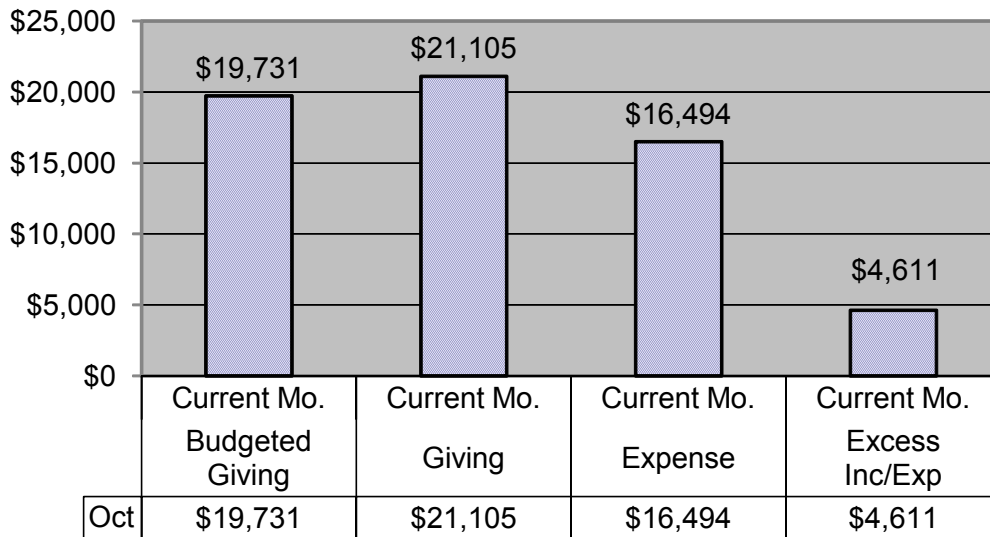


Treasurer's Report

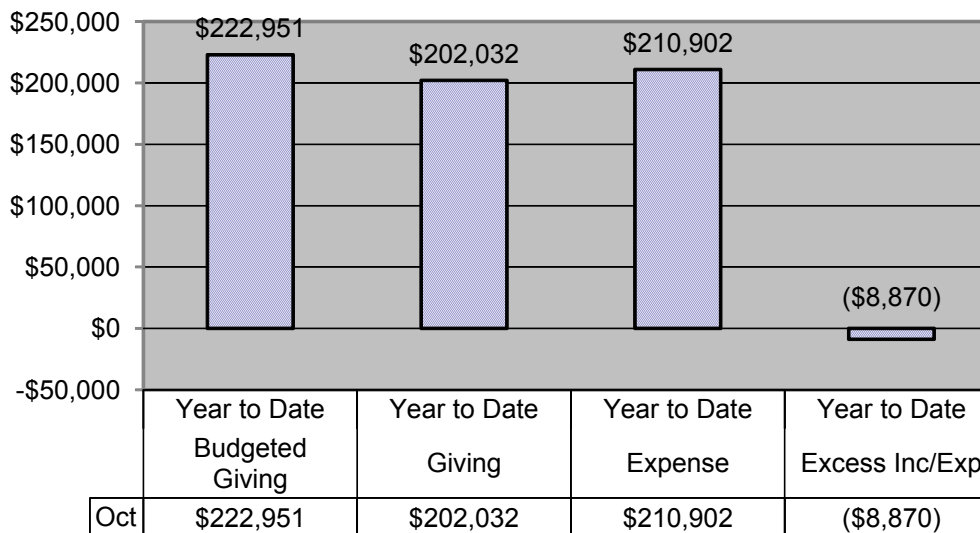
Good news! We've reduced our YTD operating shortage by 34% in the month of October. Our operating shortage stands at (\$8.9K) thru October. We expect our expenses to continue to underrun our budget by \$5K for Nov and Dec. We are well positioned to cover our 2011 operating shortage if holiday giving comes in as it has in previous years.

God Bless SHLC. Steve

Oct'11 General Fund



YTD Oct '11 General Fund



President's Report

Dear Congregation,

Your Council has been working on the 2012 budget for November with a final version expected in December. In addition, with the recent transition, our website got a little stale and neglected. A special thanks to Martina, Kari, and Steve A. for figuring out the links and updating the site, just in time for Pastoral candidates to view the website and learn more about who we are!. If you have idea's or anything else that you'd like to see on the website, please make your suggestions to the Council. As we almost draw to a close on 2011, I reflect back with thankfulness for our all of church family and what we accomplish. Being thankful is a big part of our relationship to Jesus Christ. Sometimes it can be baffling, how can we thankful in the midst of disappointment or crisis? But, we are. We are thankful for the Lord that has redeemed us, saved us, and loved us. The path is not always easy to walk (I find myself meandering at times), but we continue to walk...whether is rocky, or wandering, whether we stumble, or take a detour, even when we doubt and are faithless, He shows Himself faithful to us.

Holly Nordal

Stewardship



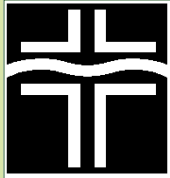
Thank you all for participating in our stewardship program entitled, "Make it Simple". The theme for "Make it Simple" provided us the opportunities for study, reflection, and discussions about the choices we make in our daily lives in these times.

We would like to thank you for filling out the commitment cards and time & abilities sheets. Materials are available in the parish office.

December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 6:30PM Call Committee Meeting 7:30PM Choir Rehearsal	2	3
4 8:30AM Pre-service Prayer 9AM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (children) 9AM Adult Sunday School 10AM Worship— Holy Communion 11:30AM Handbell Re- hearsal 2PM Pageant Choir Rehearsal (adult & teen) 4PM Confirmation Class	5 11AM Do Nothings (home of Sue Loos) 6PM Call Committee Meeting	6	7 7:30 Nightwatch Seattle	8 10 AM Marion- wood 7 PM Celebrate Rehearsal 7:30PM Choir Rehearsal	9 5-9 PM Marilyn Jewell Piano Recital	10
11 8:30AM Pre- service Prayer 9 AM Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (children) 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Worship -Celebrate 11:30AM Handbell Re- hearsal 4 PM Spiritwood	12	13 7 PM Council Meeting (Pastor's home)	14 10 AM Bible Study (Gilmore home)	15 Newsletter Deadline 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	16	17
18 8:30AM Pageantry Costume & breakfast for children 8:30AM Choir Sound Check 9 AM Dress Rehearsal 9 AM Adult Sunday School 10 AM Worship - Praise Noels 11AM Meatballs 11:30 AM Handbell Re- hearsal 4 PM Confirmation Class 6 PM Feed Your Faith	19	20	21 10:30 AM Reading of St. Luke (Youth) 7 PM Men's Bible Study	22 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	23 4:30 Hot Meals	24 <u>Christmas Eve</u> 6 PM Worship Service 11 PM Worship Service
25 <u>Christmas Day</u> 8:30AM Pre-service Prayer 10 AM Worship - Holy Communion	26 Office Closed	27 Office Closed	28	29 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	30	31 <u>New Year's Eve</u>





SHEPHERD of the HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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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)

LOOKING AHEAD—DATES TO REMEMBER

- High School Ski/Snowboard retreat January 13th-16th!
- Jr. High All-nighter January 20th-21st!
- January 28 & 29—Men's Retreat at Warm Beach

Newsletter Deadline is the 15th of the month