

Community Giving Tree for D91

SOTH is providing Xmas gifts for several Milne Grove families.

Want to help?
See Yellow Pages for more information.

Gifts due by December 13, 2026

We are partnering with the Milne Grove School social worker to support families in need, plus one family from Oak Prairie. Please take an envelope from the giving tree and fill it with one or more $25 gift cards from a local store (Berkots, Walmart, Target, Jewel, Amazon, Aldi, or Meijer). Return the envelope to the box near the tree by Sunday, December 13, so the cards reach families before Christmas.

We Need Your Help

Please help us put up our Christmas decorations after the Sunday, November 29th 10:00 a.m. worship service.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Sponsor a poinsettia ($20 per plant) for our Christmas altar (we have 30 available) and take it home after the last Christmas Eve service. Pick up a red envelope in the narthex, mark your check "poinsettia," and return it by 12/22.



Sunday, Dec. 6th at the 10:00 worship service, we will be installing Deacon Dave as our new deacon.

Join us as we celebrate our new partner in mission and ministry with a potluck. Sign up in the narthex.

GIVE THE GIFT OF BLOOD THIS WINTER

versiti Blood Center of Illinois

SHEPHERD OF THE HILL

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED/WALK INS WELCOME

Sunday
December 6
9:00 – 1:00

Please use QR code to set appointment

ELCA GOOD GIVING TREE

The ELCA Good Giving Tree is up! ELCA Good Gifts offers more than 50 gift options that grow the church, fight hunger, and transform lives, starting at just $10. Take an ornament from the tree. If you'd like to honor someone, take a card to tell them about the gift. Return your check (payable to ELCA) to SOTH by Sunday, January 3. Learn more at ELCA.org/GoodGifts.





See the Xmas tree in the narthex or see bulletin to find out more information.

Do you know someone who needs help with:

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

- financial assistance
- finding food
- finding low-cost medical services
- substance abuse
- coping with mental illness
- escaping domestic violence

Check out:
lockportresource.org/community-resources

GIVE THROUGH ZELLE!

How to Use Zelle:

Enroll: Simply register your email or U.S. mobile number through your banking app.

1. **Send Money**: Enter the recipient's email: ***soth.finsec@shepherdofthehill.com.***
2. choose the amount, and hit send!

There is NO COST to using Zelle!

- **Speed**: Usually completed in minutes.

NAMI Will-Grundy
National Alliance on Mental Illness

Mental Health Support Groups
Free & Confidential

CONNECTION SUPPORT
FOR ANY ONE EXPERIENCING SYMPTOMS OF A MENTAL ILLNESS

FAMILY SUPPORT
FOR ANYONE WHO WANTSTO LEARN MORE ABOUT SUPPORTING A LOVED ONE WITH A MENTAL ILLNESS

3rd Thursday of every month, 6-7:30pm at Shepherd of the Hill. Next meeting 12/17.

Trusts allow you to make a gift to your church in the future. You may set up the trust now and keep the income for yourself or other beneficiaries as long as you choose, or for life. The church will receive the property after that. There are special tax benefits for these kinds of trusts.

Like to swing a hammer? Like to make a difference? There are two Habitat homes in Fairmont trying to get under roof before Winter. Join us. Talk to Pastor Jon if you would like to be included on the information email.



Will County Habitat for Humanity





Starting Nov. 15, we will be collecting winter coats, gloves, hats, mittens, scarves for MorningStar Mission.



A **2:30pm** show has been added to the lineup! Go to the ***Lumos*** website for addt'l info.

2027 CALENDARS ARE OUT

Pick up your new 2027 calendar, available in the Narthex.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The office is normally open **Tuesday thru Friday 8:30am-2:30pm**. Call the office to be sure the person you need is working that day.



Thank you, SOTH, for your support. We made $618 from our pie sale.

Thank you for your generosity. Through your love, 38 children will receive gifts through Operation Christmas Child.

LOOKING FOR CLOTH BAGS

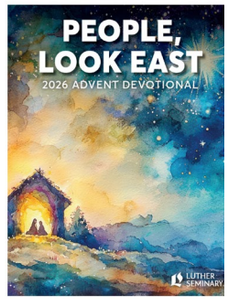
Do you have cloth bags or sacks (not plastic recyclable bags) you no longer need? The FISH Pantry could use them to help guests carry heavy canned goods home. Please place your donated bags in the collection bin in the narthex. Thank you for your generosity!

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

To update your address, phone number, or email, please call the church office or email Dawn: ***soth.office@shepherdofthehill.com.*** Please also share an emergency contact name and phone number.

Pick up your 2026 Advent Devotional in the Narthex.

Large print copies are available



PRAYERS

To add a prayer request for the sick, deceased, or military to the bulletin, contact the office, Pastor Jon, or Deacon Dave. Space is limited, so names are sometimes removed. Let us know if someone needs to be added back.

BRIGHTEN OUR SISTERS' DAY!

Our sister in Christ, Ginger Kelm, is currently in a skilled nursing facility and could really use cards to lift her spirits. If you would like to send Ginger a card, please send to:

Ginger Kelm
Mother Theresa Skilled Nursing
1270 Franciscan Drive.
Lemont, IL 60439

Thank you.

DECEMBER HAPPENINGS CONT'D.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17
NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness), 7pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19
Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20
Worship Service, 10am
Kid's Club Christmas Program During Service
Congregational Meeting Immediately Following Worship Service
Poinsettia $$ Due
Longest Night Christmas Service, 7pm

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
Christmas Eve Services, 5pm, 10:30pm

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25
Merry Christmas! No Services Today
Office Closed

SATURDAY, DECEMER 26
Service of Lessons and Carols, 5pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27
Service of Lessons and Carols, 10am

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1
Happy New Year's! Office Closed

WEDNESDAYS, DEC. 2, 9, 6, 23, 30
Alcoholics Anonymous, Fellowship Hall, 6:30 – 8pm

THURSDAYS, DEC. 3, 10, 17
Dominoes, 9:30am

DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY, NOV. 29
Worship Service, 10am
Set up Christmas decorations right after the 10am service

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4
Habitat Luncheon, Fellowship Hall 10 – 2pm
Girl Scouts, Narthex 6:30pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5
Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, DEC. 6
Worship Service, 10am
Deacon Dave's Installation, with a Potluck Right After Service
Blood Drive, 9am - 1pm

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9
Ruth Circle Bible Study in the Narthex, 10am

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11
Lumos Candlelight Concerts, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12
Worship Service, 5pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13
Worship Service, 10am
Youth Bake Sale
All Milne Grove Gift Cards Due

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15
Council Meeting, 6:30pm

FISH PANTRY DONATIONS
The following items are in need at our local fish pantry. Please place your donations in the red wagon.

Breakfast Items
Pancake mix
Breakfast bars
Grape & strawberry jelly (plastic)
Pasta

Mostaccioli
Spaghetti
Elbow noodles
Shells
Penne

Sides
Rice—white or brown
Pasta sauce

Canned Fruit
Pineapple
Peaches
Pears
Fruit cocktail
Mandarin oranges

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION
If you have a change of address, phone number or email, please call the church office or email Dawn at: soth.office@shepherdofthehill.com and let us know so we can update our records accordingly. It's helpful for us to have a contact person and phone number in case of an emergency.

~ THANK YOU ~
We are thankful for our Property Team for all that they do to keep our building running efficiently and looking good:

Bryan Rauworth for tirelessly maintaining our HVAC systems, especially our new boilers, and for helping out with the AV desk.

Chip Lake and Jerry Liston for always maintaining our buildings interior, exterior, and for guiding the landscaping project (and landscape lighting) on the grounds.

Dave Helfert, pitching in with various jobs, including helping with the AV desk, and most notably, mowing our huge lawn.

Phil Sleezer for maintaining our lawn mowers so efficiently.

Gary Wintersteen for coordinating our lawn care team (***Dave Helfert, Nell Pieper, and Raquel Caneva***), as well as mowing himself, and trimming branches and picking up trash on the grounds. He's always willing to jump in and help with whatever project we're working on.

Comforting God,
We are your people, but we have neglected to call on your name. We have not remembered your ways. We have forgotten your hold on us.
We are your people, but now we fade like a leaf, and our sins, like the wind, take us away.
Restore us as your people. Cleanse us from our sin, and clothe us in your righteousness. Amen.

OFFICE STAFF

Jon Pedersen, Pastor
pastor.jon@shepherdofthehill.com
714-335-2216
815-838-0708

Deacon Dave Luecht
david.luecht@shepherdofthehill.com
815-954-9368

Dawn Virva
Parish Office Administor
soth.office@shepherdofthehill.com
815-838-0708

Lisa McManis
Financial Secretary
soth.finsec@shepherdofthehill.com
815-838-0708

Megan Ditmore
Volunteer Coordinator
soth.vcoord@shepherdofthehill.com

ENDOWMENT BALANCE

As of 6/30/26:
$133,308.96

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Fern Kinder—President
fernk@comcast.net

Ed Grabenhofer—V.P.
edgrabenhofer@gmail.com

Jean Soderstrom—Treasurer
smiling7878@gmail.com

David Helfert—Secretary
dphelfert@comcast.net

COUNCIL AT LARGE

Linda Bunting
lindabunting01@sbcglobal.net

Mike Cole
mjcole87@yahoo.com

Keith Pintoy
keithpintoy@gmail.com

Brad Rosynek
brad.rosynek@icloud.com

Deborah Silic
debdoodie@aol.com

Deb Brubeck
Brubeckdd@gmail.com

Pastor Jon Pedersen
pastor.jon@shepherdofthehill.com

WELCOME VISITORS!

Thank you for visiting Shepherd of the Hill. We would love to remain in contact with you. Please fill out a communication card that you will find near the Bibles and hymnals in the pews. You can then give your card to Pastor, or drop it in one of the 3 mailboxes that are hanging on the back wall (east side) in the church. Thank you!

NURSERY IS OPEN!

If you have young children that would like to attend our nursery while you enjoy church services, please visit our nursery which is in the north hallway. This is a service that we provide for all families. We have pagers for emergency notification of parents, if necessary.

OUR FAITHFUL RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

November 22, 2026
Attendance—145 / Online—40

General Fund	$3,750.00
Building Usage	75.00
Weekly Offering	***$3,825.00**

**Does not include Zelle payments*

Prayer Chapel to date $41,000.00

Treasurer's Report

Fiscal 2026 Year to Date as of Aug. 31:

Income: $451,319
Expenses: $459,132
Net Income -$ 7,813

Mortgage Balance: $145,837.13

Your giving makes a difference!

Isaiah 40:1-11, pg. 581
Gospel: Mark 1:1-8, pg. 812
in your pew Bible

Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church

***WWW.SHEPHERDOFTHEHILL.COM*, 815-838-0708**

Called and Equipped by the Holy Spirit To Be Sent Out as the Heart and Hands of Christ

First Sunday of Advent ~ Hope

Nov. 28/29, 2026

Today's Altar Flowers Are Given For:

In Memory of Charlotte Paddock
By: Cindy Doty
In Memory of Alfred & Margaret Boettcher
By: Deb Brubeck
Order forms ~ on table in narthex ~ cost ~ $40 per vase ~ there are 2 vases





IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Saturday at 5pm
Sunday at 10am

JOIN US FOR OUR ONLINE SERVICE ON FACEBOOK / WEBSITE

Available starting at 10am on Sunday

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

In-person meets next December 6

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR HEALING

God, we lift up those of our community that need healing and wholeness—

Wally Lewandowski, Toni Leonard, Lillianna Pelayo, Michael Anderson, Lenny Coe, Leroy Foster, Jason Haley, Alice Pritchett, Dylan Krestan, Linda Hamilton, Rachel Tornga, Missy Lieser, Joseph Straub, Jamie Novak, Christian Downen, Hans Kishel, Francis Feely, George Rohrer, Chad Roeske, Nancy Rohde, Kevin Kreiger, Gretchen McDowell, Sandy Wilke, Debbi Callahan, Carole Garrett, Cheryl Jeans, Dale Airola, Barbara Walus, Linnea Franke, Cheryl Hand, Sue Strzyz, Jean Cronin, Cathy Didio, Marge West, Debbi Sortino, Marilyn Yudt, Roger Lodan, Marvin Pickering, Pedro Ramirez, Bruce Pratapas, JR Gillogly, Ginger Kelm, and George Martin.

WORLDWIDE PRAYERS

For all affected by war in Ukraine, Iran, Gaza, and throughout the Middle East; for those impacted by different storms, and for a safe and orderly election transition.

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Dakota Novander, Anthony Kopel, Kaitlin Reed, Melanie Rigoni, Nico Arellano, John B. Momich, Caitlyn Williams, Jack and Mike Superczynski, Seth Trent, Timea Sara, Anthony Martino, Eric John Stepek, Bradley Poerio, Nathan Snyder, Alphonso Huerta, Jr., Matt Olsen, Cobi and Anthuan Valentin, Gabe Junquera, Eric Hill, Lucas Gamble, and Ezra BoerVis.

HOMEBOUND

Lily Mazeika
Janet Villacci
Sandra Shrader
Wally Lewandowski
Marge Novander
Donna Anderson

COMFORT FOR THOSE GRIEVING THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES

Margaret Carlson