



Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran
Church

1950 125th Street NW

Rice, MN 56367

Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com

Church Website: sotpministries.com

2020

“In Those Days” Advent and Christmas Worship Series

Some of the earliest memories I have are learning Bible stories in preschool Sunday School with flannelgraphs. These are treasured memories as our class was immersed into the stories that showed God’s power and involvement in history. While these stories of the Bible were captivating, I have to admit these stories seemed so far away from our world today.

We learned stories about someone like Abraham, who lived in Mesopotamia 4,000 years ago, and spoke Akkadian. It seems as if the world of Abraham’s life is so different than ours that we might lose touch of the historicity and realness of the story. Yet the same God who called Abraham is the same God who has called you and has always been intimately involved in the lives of God’s people.

Christmas gives us an opportunity to immerse ourselves in the story of the Nativity. We get to jump into a world that might seem alien to us, but the best part is that it’s the same world you and I live in.

This Advent and Christmas Eve we are jumping into the pages of Matthew 1 and Luke 2 to relive and celebrate the events “in those days,” when our Savior was born. As we light the candles on the Advent wreath, we remember an emperor’s decree, a journey to Bethlehem, the search for a home, the birth of a firstborn son, news for shepherds and a sign from God.

Week 1: A Decree Went Out

In our worship for the first week in Advent we will remember the decree of the Roman emperor that sent Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, which long before had been decreed as the birthplace of the Savior.

Week 2: To the City of David

In our worship for the second week of Advent, the journey of Mary and Joseph will remind us that God’s people have always been on the move. Still today, we walk by faith and not by sight.

Week 3: No Place For Them

In the third week of Advent we will see that our Savior, for whom no place was found, has gone ahead to prepare an eternal place for us in heaven.

Week 4: Her Firstborn Son

For the fourth week of Advent our worship will focus on firstborn sons: Cain, remembered for his sin, Isaac, the son of promise and sacrifice, and Jesus, God’s only Son, who came to be our Savior.

I look forward to worshipping with you this Advent!

Grace and Peace,
Pastor David Edge

Board of Lay Ministry Meeting

Pending Approval Minutes – November 19, 2020

BOLM members present: Sarah Anderson, Kyle Hackett, Bev Gerads, Pastor David Edge, Janet Maleska, Deb Erdman, Dave Perleberg, Curt Kvamme, guest Ron McKeever Absent: Keith Peterson

Meeting was called to order by at 7:11 pm and opened with prayer. The mission statement was read by Kyle.

Bible Study of 1 Corinthians 5 was reviewed as a group study and discussion.

Treasurer's Report – October reports were reviewed. Curt reported that he expects the PPP load to be forgiven in November. Income for October was \$15,506.93, expenses were \$18,677.12. Deb made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Bev seconded. Motion carried.

Properties – No report.

Secretary's Report – Deb made a motion to accept the Secretary's report, seconded by Janet. Motion carried.

Pastoral Activity Report – Pastor David reported on his activities in the month of October including baptism, On-line and in person worship, On-line Children's messages and Trunk or Treat. Pastor David is active in the Sunday School program and planning for Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas.

Old Business

COVID update – A reminder that our church is operating under the executive order for people to wear masks unless a medical condition prevents them.

Policy Review – This topic was tabled to next month.

Wedding Coordinator – COVID-19 has delayed the process since last month. Pastor David will set up meetings for the sub-committee to meet.

Bridge Church – They started using our building in October. Pastor David was in attendance at their first services and witnessed that they are respectful of our property. There will be no changes in their plans due to the recent executive order.

Congregational meeting – The BOLM reviewed the agenda, proposed budget and plans for the meeting including setting up a Zoom meeting for members who aren't attending in person.

Financial Audit – Janet shared the results of the audit conducted by Ron and Barb McKeever and herself.

New Business

The next BOLM meeting will be on December 17th at 7pm with praise and prayer at 6:30pm God willing. The worship shepherd schedule was reviewed through December 16th.

Christmas Gifts – The BOLM discussed gift ideas for Pastor David and Julie.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Sarah, seconded by Deb. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:58 pm. Pastor David closed the meeting with the benediction.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Anderson, BOLM Secretary



Education / Small Group Team

Happy December and may God bless your Christmas!

As we close the end of this year I can say whew... "don't want to repeat that one!" May His peace be filling your hearts as you prepare for our Saviors birth! We will be attempting to do a children Christmas morning on the 13th. Pastor David and I do not know what this will look like because things have been changing so frequently. Our first thought is to have a children's themed service and then follow up with a kids party in the sanctuary after. Wanting to do a 5.00 gift exchange, cookie and craft. However... with all the Covid outbreak EVERYTHING will be on the "to be determined" list. Plan to do an exchange and if things turn out to the worst, at least you are not out an arm and leg. We will only have class IF we have church! We will NOT have class the last two Sundays for sure and then shoot from the hip for the rest of the year. This is the best I can offer and keep in connection with the church office if you have questions.

In case you were not participating in the annual meeting, I want to also share with you all that I will be stepping down from leadership at the end of this school year. I have been in leadership for a long time and have been blessed. I wish someone who has children and a love for children's ministry would come talk to me. Through Sunday School, VBS, Bible Studies, Easter Breakfast, Youth Group, Teaching and leading I have had the opportunity in 20 years to add many wonderful memories of children to my heart. I thank you for letting me be part of a great outreach. To my team... Roxanne, Peg, Jennifer, Colleen, Peggy, and numerous teachers and volunteers... My hat goes off because you all were amazing and ALWAYS were ready to give 120%. May God bless the "What and Who is next" for SOTP!!

Merry Blessed Christmas Dear Family
Brenda Hackett
Small Group/Edu Ministry Team Leader



Worship Team **Worship Help Schedule**

December	SERVICE	GREETERS	PROJECTIONISTS	READERS	WORSHIP LEADERS
12/06/20	9:00am	Shelley Pintok	Levi Brenny	Pastor David	Pastor David
12/13/20	9:00am	Travis & Marlys Lenarz	Ian Cairns	Lois Perleberg	Jerry Nelson
12/20/20	9:00am	Bruce & Sandie Resch	Sarah Anderson	Ruth Brucher	Steve Ree
12/27/20	9:00am	Keith & Kathy Craft	Isabelle Cairns	Dennis Arntson	Dennis Arntson

Greetings and Blessings to you
Please contact me at 320-267-6213 or the Church office, if you are able to help in any 2021 volunteer roles.
Keith Hackett
Worship Team Leader

ANNOUNCING Prayer and Praise

All are welcome to join the Board of Lay Ministry Members and Pastor David at **6:30pm on BOLM Thursday December 17th** for a time of prayer and worship songs where we will lift up our church and community! This prayer and worship time will continue each month the half hour prior to our BOLM Meeting!!

October's Church Income Statement

	October	Year-to-Date
Contributions	\$15,507	\$178,876
Expenses	(\$18,677)	(\$190,953)
Excess/(Shortfall)	(\$3,170)	(\$12,077)

Holiday Worship Schedule

Advent Services – December 2nd, 9th, and 16th at 6:30pm

Children's Sunday Service- December 13th 9:00am

Christmas Eve Services – December 24th at 3:00pm and 5:00pm

There will be no Christmas Day Service but Pastor David is preparing a devotional for the day that will be on our Website and on Facebook!!!



Interested in preplanning your funeral?

We have Funeral Preplanning forms available in the church office or online through Breeze.



December NOISY OFFERING!

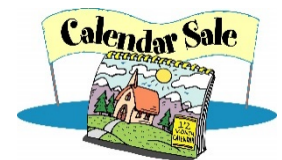
We will be taking up our noisy offering on **Sunday, December 20th**, for the **Rice Area Kids in Need**. Thank you for your support and your generous donations!

Rice Area Food Shelf

December Distribution is Thursday, December 10th from 3:00-5:30pm

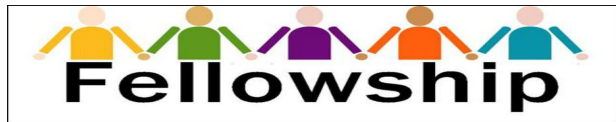


The SOTP Church Office will be closed on December 24th and 25th (Christmas)




2021 God's Creation Calendars will be for sale this year and proceeds will be going to the VBS fund. Calendars cost only \$7 each and we have limited supplies. These calendars will make great Christmas gifts! Thank you for your support!







We are putting a hold on Fellowship until
January 10th for sure.
Please stay tune for any possible changes.

Worship Shepherds

December 6	Deb Erdmann	
December 13	Sarah Anderson	
December 20	Deb Erdmann	
December 27	Deb Erdmann	

December 6	9:00am	Pastor David	
December 13	9:00am	Lois Perleberg	
December 20	9:00am	Ruth Brutcher	
December 27	9:00am	Dennis Arntson	

December 6	9:00am	Shelly Pintok	
December 13	9:00am	Travis & Marlys Lenarz	
December 20	9:00am	Bruce & Sandie Resch	
December 27	9:00am	Keith & Kathy Craft	



We have been praying for our church families each week as we go through our church directory from A to Z. As you go about your daily tasks lift a prayer for the family of the week as the Lord brings them to mind. **In December we will be praying for:**

December 6– Suzanne Monnier
Child: Jean & Grandchild Garret

December 13 – Robert & Vickie Moon

December 20 – Ted & Emily Morgan
Children: Dane & Nolan

December 27 – Jerry & Jane Nelson

December 6 –
Isaiah 35:8-10
Romans 6:1-4
Mark 11:1-10

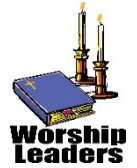



December 13–
Genesis 12:1-5
Hebrews 11:8-10, 13-16
John 14:1-6

December 20–
Genesis 22:1-2, 9-14
Colossians 1:15-20
John 3:14-17

December 27 –
Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Galatians 4:4-7
Luke 2:22-40

December 6 -	Pastor David
December 13 -	Jerry Nelson
December 20 -	Steve Ree
December 27 -	Dennis Arntson



		<u>Musicians</u>	
December	6	Heather Statz	
December	13	Bethany Mears	
December	20	Praise Team	
December	27	Volunteer Needed	



December


Roxanne Peterson, Juli Popp
& Joan Ramey

DECEMBER COUNTERS

Ron McKeever, Wayne Anderson,
& Juli Popp



PROJECTIONISTS

December 6	9:00am	Levi Brenny	
December 13	9:00am	Ian Cairns	
December 20	9:00am	Sarah Anderson	
December 27	9:00am	Isabelle Cairns	

Advent December 2–
Joshua 1:7-9
Colossians 3:15-17
Luke 1:26-38

Advent December 9–
Genesis 28:10-17
1 Timothy 2:1-6
Luke 1:5-25

Advent December 16 –
Exodus 15:1-3
Philippians 4:4-8
Luke 1:39-45

December Birthdays		
Bill	Paradeis	December 02
Blake	Taylor	December 02
Dennis	Arntson	December 03
Kathy	Craft	December 03
Bonnie	Gottwalt	December 04
Linda	Dirks	December 05
Nolan	Kreifels	December 05
Gary	Kapsner	December 06
Karie	Giese	December 08
Margaret	Manea	December 10
DeAnne`	Maslonkowski	December 10
Bruce	Resch	December 10
Alexa	Newman	December 13
Lacey	Brenny	December 14
Luke	Brenny	December 14
Keith	Hackett	December 15
David	Koep	December 15
Aspen	Cole	December 16
Maci	Radika	December 18
Alice	Ellefson	December 19
Keith	Huhne	December 19
Hunter	Brannen	December 20
Carson	Dumonceaux	December 20
Peggy	Feia	December 20
Craig	Maslonkowski	Decmeber 20
Cory	Brouns	December 21
Sandi	Koep	December 26
David	Perleberg	December 26
Hunter	Jasmer	December 27
Duane	Albrecht	December 28
Tonya	Soltis	December 29
Kiaya	Hoeft	December 30
Courtney	Petron	December 30
Quinn	Efraimson	December 31

Baby Jesus and the Shepherds Word Search

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be right to left, up and down, or diagonally.

A S T R U D D O L O R E M V E
N F E T F A D I T F I U A C I
G L T S A V I O R E F D R L I
S O N I M F D A L E S S Y N T
F C O F D O L N R T I S I T F
D K T F Q U A G E T F W I S I
F S L A N F I E L D S F I H C
I P H E R A T L U T F W I E F
J O S E P H N I S F A U T P T
I S F M E D O L O B O R F H U
S T R U D P E R F A M F N E L
L U T B E T H L E H E M F R L
A N D R E M F A F V E L F D O
L U M F Z Z R I L I T Q U S T
I E F M O L E S E F J E S U S

ANGEL	FIELDS	JESUS	MARY	SHEEP
BETHLEHEM	FLOCK	JOSEPH	SAVIOR	SHEPHERDS

December Anniversaries		
Don & Gail	Diehl	December 07
Jeremy & Ellissia	Manea	December 20
Brian & Heather	Statz	December 30



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December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>This Calendar is tentative and is subject to change due to COVID-19</p>		1	2	3	4	5
		6:00 Al-Anon	6:30 NO Confirmation 6:30 Advent Service	7:00 Elder's Meeting		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
<p>Music: Heather Statz 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School in the Sanctuary grades preK-5th & 6-12th in Youth Room 6:00 Bridge Church</p>	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	6:00 Al-Anon	6:30 NO Confirmation 6:30 Advent Service			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>Music: Bethany 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:15 Sunday School in the Sanctuary grades preK-5th & 6-12th in Youth Room 6:00 Bridge Church</p>	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	6:00 Al-Anon	6:30 NO Confirmation 6:30 Advent Service	6:30 Prayer and Praise 7:00 BOLM Meeting		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>NOISY OFFERING Rice Area Kids in Need Music: Praise Team 9:00 Worship NO Sunday School/ Youth Group 6:00 Bridge Church</p>	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	6:00 Al-Anon	6:30 NO Confirmation	<p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>3:00 Christmas Eve Service 5:00 Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	
27	28	29	30	31	<p>Email: office@sotpministries.com Website: sotpministries.com</p>	
<p>Music: Volunteer Needed 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion NO Sunday School/ Youth Group 6:00 Bridge Church</p>	7:30 Praise Team 7:30 Small Group	6:00 Al-Anon	6:30 NO Confirmation			

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



Shepherd of the Pines

Lutheran Church

1950 125th St. NW
Rice, MN 56367

Jesus was born for..

Church Phone: 393-4295

Email: office@sotpministries.com or david@sotpministries.com

Church Website: *sotpministries.com*

SOTP BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY/ELDERS

Sarah Anderson, Secretary 267-2628; Janet Maleska 249-4467; Deb Erdmann, 249-4804; David Perleberg, Vice President 360-5147;
Curt Kvamme Treas. 393-3353; Kyle Hackett, President 266-1700; Bev Gerads 761-1894

Keith Peterson, Church Properties 292-4007

EXECUTIVE MINISTRY TEAM

Brenda Hackett – Education & Small Group Team Leader, Keith Hackett - Worship Team Leader, Jen Ollman- Service Team Leader

*In case of church cancellation due to bad weather listen to, 98 COUNTRY 98.1, SPIRIT 92.9, KCLD 104.7, WJON 1240,
or call the church office and listen to the message.*

Shepherd of the Pines Mission Statement: Connecting People to God...To Others...and To Service

The purpose of this congregation is mandated for us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as found in the words of the Great Commission (Matthew 28), namely first of all to Go. To leave our walls of refuge, going into all the world, comprising of our families and neighbors. We plan to achieve our purpose by identifying persons with whom we are particularly well-equipped to serve and reach with the challenge of becoming Disciples of Christ.

Second, to Make Disciples or in the words of St Paul, “To equip the saints” (Ephesians 4:12). This is to be understood as helping people to live the Christian life here on earth. Preparing and encouraging young and old alike to find and to use their God given gifts and abilities for the extension of His Kingdom, and to grow in fervent love for God and for others.

Thirdly, to Baptize as commanded by Jesus Himself. As God reaches down to mankind with His means of grace, He would have us baptize His people, bringing them into His family and Kingdom, granting to them life, forgiveness of sins, and eternal salvation.

And lastly, to continue steadfast in His Word, Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. A continued zeal for the study of His Word, the Bible, is necessary for the growth of any Christian congregation. Thus, the Word of God will be taught and studied in full measure and His Word shall be the rule and norm of this congregation’s faith and life.

To that end, our every effort and energy will be used in motivating, training, and putting to use our time, and talents and treasures to Make Disciples.