



The Shepherd's Staff Newsletter

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in
America*
Corner of Tribal Trail Road & Seneca
Ln.
750 Seneca Lane, Indian Trails
Addition
P.O. Box 3257
Jackson, Wyoming 83001-3257



Reverend Alan Schoonover – Pastor

Church office 307.733.4382
email: sotmlcjackson@gmail.com
website: <http://www.sotmlc.org>

Worship

**Sundays 8:00 am
and 10:30 am**

**Sunday School for
all ages begins
at 9:15 am**

Directions to the Church:

On Highway 89 south, take the first right after K-Mart onto South Park Loop Road at the Maverick gas station. At the third intersection take a right onto Tribal Trail Road, head north and look for a steeple on the right!

Contact Information

Pastor Alan Schoonover

home - 307-883-3159

cell - 307-713-6179

office email: pastor.schoonie@gmail.com

home email: schoonie@silverstar.com

Office Hours

Tuesdays 10:00 am -4:00 pm

Wednesdays 10:00 am -5:00 pm

Thursdays 10:00 am -4:00 pm

(Other times by appointment)

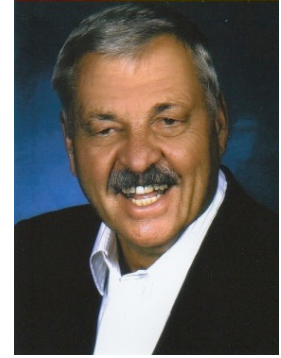
Church Council

Dan Schou, President.....	733-8498
	danschou@q.com
Kim Hunt, Vice President.....	733-3164
	khunt@tcsd.org
Nikki Thompson, Secretary.....	413-4997
	nl184@bresnan.net
Brenda Ostendorf.....	730-0100
	bostendo@wyoming.com
Nyles Ellefson.....	733-9676
	nellefson@q.com
Tracie Welch.....	734-6569/730-9119
	btrjs@msn.com
Steffan Freeman.....	699-1941
	steffanfreeman@gmail.com
Mike Eden.....	734-5599
	meden@edencapitalllc.com
Shari Meeks.....	733-4774
	sagesoilresources@live.com

Love's Real Companion: "Obedience"

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments... They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

John 14:15,21



In order to understand how John unites love and obedience, we must think of love as something other than a feeling. Feelings are not commanded, but love can be. For to love is to be there for another person, to act for another's good, to do that which brings benefit to the other. For love is much more than liking a person or having a particular set of feelings.

To love obediently is to enter into God's transforming power - the love given in Jesus' death for the whole world - not only to enter into it, but to participate in it, even if the loving costs us dearly, as God's love did. So we enter into a whole new world order because of Jesus' death and resurrection, where love is a joyful, meaningful command.

And we can't help but want to follow because of the way God has loved us.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I love you."

John 15:12

Pastor Allan J. Schoonover

Anniversary Celebration Photos

**Check out the photos at the
SOTMLC website (sotmlc.org)
and click on the Gallery tab!**



	January - August 2011			2011
	Actual	Budget	\$ Over Budget	Budget
Offering & Income	108,910.20	125,553.36	-16,643.16	188,330.00
Expense				
Administrative Support	6,726.31	7,616.64	-890.33	11,425.00
Benevolence	6,166.64	6,666.64	-500.00	10,000.00
Facility	25,963.25	30,013.28	-4,050.03	45,020.00
Personnel	64,828.70	68,073.36	-3,244.66	102,110.00
Program Support	10,752.50	13,183.44	-2,430.94	19,775.00
Total Expense	114,437.40	125,553.36	-11,115.96	188,330.00
	-5,527.20	0.00	-5,527.20	0.00

The Schedule of Ministers Serving During the Sunday Morning Worship Services

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, PLEASE CONTACT SOMEONE IN THAT CATEGORY AND MAKE A TRADE; THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY. Thank you!

Date	Sunday October 2	Sunday October 9	Sunday October 16	Sunday October 23	Sunday October 30	
Altar Minister	Colleen Thompson	Melanie Sands	Betsy Grande	Diana Eden	Jo Schmillen	
Lectors	8:00 AM	Mike Eden	Bob Krause	Bob Rutford	Bill Welch	Tracie Welch
	10:30 AM	Sherry Kinsella	Marion Hudnall	Jolene Moulder	Karen Priebe	Jo Schmillen



WHY I GIVE

Hello everyone! I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you why I have been giving blood for the past 28 years. My father was diagnosed with colon cancer that spread to his liver in April of 1992, the year he retired. My father had a huge battle ahead of him. Unfortunately the cancer won, and he passed away in December of 1994. During those two and a half years, my father urged all of his children to donate blood when we could to give back all of the blood products that he had received all of the months that he had gone through chemotherapy. My father had a wonderful quality of life during those last two years, and for that I continue to be grateful.

I gave blood the first time in high school because everyone was doing it. I gave the second time for my father, and every time since I lost my dad, I give for those who will receive my blood products. When I sit in the chair waiting for the process to be over, I think of, and pray for those who will receive my blood. Perhaps it will be a cancer patient or an accident victim. Perhaps my blood will be used in valuable research. Perhaps it will be used to strengthen a premature baby, or by a surgery patient. I learned early on that my Type O negative blood was the universal donor, and with that knowledge came a responsibility for me.

One of my donations about 20 years ago was rejected. I received a letter in the mail that my liver enzymes were too high, and so they could not use my blood. The letter recommended a visit to my own doctor. It turned out that I had to have my gall bladder out. It was not functioning. If I had not made a donation, I probably would have had excruciating gall bladder attacks before I would have been diagnosed.

Over the years I have given when I have been able to, and I know that there are many who cannot give due to medications being taken or health issues, however, even if you can't give blood, there is a great need for volunteers to support the program.

I am not yet eligible to give blood during this next blood drive, but I will be glad to give out cookies, drinks, and answer any questions. Most importantly, I want to thank those who come to donate, for I know that maybe someday someone I love will be in need of blood products, and I hope and pray the blood will be available.

Sincerely,
Annie Sampson

A decorative border of stylized flowers and leaves surrounds the text. The border is composed of repeating floral motifs, including five-petaled flowers and scrolling vines, creating a frame around the central content.

notable quotes

"The primary mode of being human is not individual but rather relationship; we are who we are in relating."

David Buttrick

"The ultimate test of whether or not a collection of individuals is a community is whether the members are seriously concerned about one another's well-being."

Peter Berger

"Pain and suffering are not only unavoidable aspects of life, but also potential sources of life's meaning as well...Our culture has managed to empty suffering from meaning. About all we are taught to feel--when it comes our turn to be in pain or to suffer--is resentment.

The Search for Meaning

Naylor & Willimon

"We all belong one to another. That's the way God made us. Christ died to keep us that way. Our sin is only and always that we put asunder what God has joined together."

William Sloane Coffin

YOUTH NEWS

- 1) The National Youth Gathering will be in July 2012 in New Orleans! Open to youth in 9th-12th grades. If you are interested or want more information please contact Shari Meeks at 307-413-7645. Registration opens on October 9th and you must be signed up with me no later than October 2nd!
- 2) Our After School program is taking place on Wednesdays from 3:45-5:30pm followed by dinner and worship. If you have any youth grades K-5 interested in attending, please let Shari Meeks or Pastor Al know. Also please contact Pastor Al or Shari if you are interested in volunteering!
- 3) The Education Ministry Board Meeting is on October 20th at 5:30pm. Any interested folks are encouraged to attend!

It's Time For Fun!

What: Annual Reformation Sunday Cakewalk

When: Sunday, October 30th

Where: SOTM Narthex



Get out your aprons and your dancing shoes. The annual Cake Walk is fast approaching. We need your cakes and your participation in the walk. Too shy to walk, on a diet?—buy tickets for a friend or just donate. Tickets will be available soon. There will be prizes for the bakers as well—categories to be announced soon.

The annual Cake Walk is a family-friendly, youth-sponsored event. All proceeds are donated to a global mission determined by the youth. Past recipients have included Lutheran World Hunger Appeal/ Disaster Response, Partners in Health, and Habitat for Humanity.

Please support this youth outreach effort. Thank you.

Food Bank Donations “Red Ticket Items”



Thank you so much for helping to meet a continuing need in our community of Jackson. The Jackson Hole Food Cupboard is most appreciative of the efforts SOTM Lutheran Church has put forth to help fill the pantries of those less fortunate.

The “Red Ticket Items” for the month of October are **PEANUT BUTTER, CEREAL, and CANNED MEAT.** Please note, however, that any item on our Food Bank Flyer is acceptable and appreciated.

Please remember **PEANUT BUTTER, CEREAL, and CANNED MEAT** when you shop for groceries in the month of October.

For more information contact Betty Garrison - 739-1496 or Jo Schmillen - 733-7443

Bakers Needed!

We will be delivering Cookies and Treats to St. John's Hospital, the Living Center and River Rock on Sunday, November 6th to share the love of God with our community.

Please bring your items to church and make sure they are labeled. Any goodies arriving early can be placed in our freezer at the church.

If you can help with putting the trays together or delivery, please just stay after church on that day. If you have any questions, you may contact Kim Hunt at 690-8783.



CONTACTS FOR OTHER CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS

Inger Schou, Treasurer.....733-8498	Cindy DeVos, Knitting Ministry..... 654-7707
Pamela Zernis, Financial Secretary.....733-2377	Betsy Grande, Altar Ministry.....690-1884
Holly Luense Sunday School.....690-4731	Nyles Ellefson, Usher Ministry.....733-9676
Sharon King, Sunday School.....734-1147	Dine Dellenback, Prayer Chain Ministry.....733-8409
Robyn Lunsford, Youth Education.....733-2534	Dale and Rose Jeske, Landscape Ministry.....733-1748
Shari Meeks, Youth Education.....733-4774	Nikki Thompson, Bulletin.....733-4382
Sharon King, Worship/Music Ministry.....734-1147	Carolyn Daily, Circle of Care Ministry.....690-1172

ANNIVERSARY OFFERING - THANKS BE TO GOD!

We have much to be thankful for and much to celebrate! 20 years as a congregation, 10 years in the building. Thanks be to God! To date, we have received over \$18,000.00 from 33 different people. Thank you for your gifts. However, we haven't reached our goal yet, so if you haven't given and wish to do so, you can still give!

LIVING IS GIVING

Who teaches us how to *GIVE*? The world teaches us how to save, how to spend and how to get ahead. So the church's task is to teach us how to give. Giving begins for us when we see the sacredness of life. For life is a gift we have received. The wonders of all the universe do not compare to the amazing gift of life. The blessings of life are to be shared. Life at its best is lived through giving, not getting; helping not hoarding. Life is for service, not survival; self-giving, not self-serving.

God made it crystal clear that giving is central to the meaning of life, by giving us life and new life, by giving us love through the life and death of his son. For God, living is really giving. We live life best as we give our strengths, gifts and talents in the service of God's mission. Our giving makes a big difference in our families, our work, our community, our world and our church. We want our lives to count. Our lives count best when we direct them to doing God's mission.

Let us imagine for a moment how much joy and fulfillment could be a part of our lives as we grow in our giving. Our prayer is that God will help us move deeper into the faith and discover that living is really giving.

PASTOR ALLAN SCHOONOVER

BLESSING OF THE HOMES



SOME HAVE ASKED IF I WOULD BE WILLING TO COME AND BLESS THEIR HOMES. I think this is a great idea. I've done it in the past and am more than willing to do it now. The blessing is not the only important thing, but we will have an opportunity to get to know each other. So, in the next few months, let's see if this can happen. Starting the first Sunday in October, there will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex for all who might be interested.

PASTOR ALLAN SCHOONOVER

**Alpha Omega Women's
Group**



Our next meeting is Saturday, October 8th, from 10 am to 12 noon at church. We are studying the book, "Leading Lessons - Insights on Leadership from Women of the Bible." We will be looking closely at both Chapters 6 and 7. Contact the church for more information.

All women are welcome! You can join the Study at anytime!

Newsletter Comments or additions?

Send to the Newsletter Editor, Annie Sampson by the 15th of the month anniesamp@bresnan.net 734-7898 home 413-5507 cell. Please try to submit electronically.

Contact


Nikki with Bulletin information leave a message for her at the

church 733-4382, or email her at nl84@bresnan.net

**Weekly
Bulletin Info**

Our congregation's Thrivent Financial for Lutherans contact person is Rose Ann Jeske. rosedale@bresnan.net

October 2011 Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, ELCA

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:00 am and 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages	3	4 5:00 pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Confirmation	5 3:45 - 5:45 pm After school program 5:45 - 6:30 light supper 6:30 - 7:05 Creative Worship & Learning Time	6 11:30 am Jr. and Sr. Lunch and Conversation With Pastor Al	7	8
9 8:00 am and 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages	10	11 5:00 pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Confirmation	12 3:45 - 5:45 pm After school program 5:45 - 6:30 light supper 6:30 - 7:05 Creative Worship & Learning Time	13 11:30 am Jr. and Sr. Lunch and Conversation With Pastor Al	14	15
16 8:00 am and 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages	17	18 5:00 pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Confirmation	19 3:45 - 5:45 pm After school program 5:45 - 6:30 light supper 6:30 - 7:05 Creative Worship & Learning Time	20 11:30 am Jr. and Sr. Lunch and Conversation With Pastor Al	21	22
23 8:00 am and 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages	24	25 5:00 pm Weight Watchers 7:00pm Confirmation	26 3:45 - 5:45 pm After school program 5:45 - 6:30 light supper 6:30 - 7:05 Creative Worship & Learning Time	27 11:30 am Jr. and Sr. Lunch and Conversation With Pastor Al	28	29
30 8:00 am and 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Reformation Cake Walk - Time TBA	31					