



THE MESSENGER
Monday, October 28, 2024
Sierra Evangelical Lutheran Church

There is an insert at the end of the document, be sure to read it too!



NEEDED!!! YOU + TRUNK + FUN for
TRUNK-OR-TREATING
WITH SHEPHERD’S FOLD CHILD CARE CENTER
Thursday, October 31 from 3:00 – 5:00 pm
in the North parking lot and playground areas



Share in the fun with our Shepherd’s Fold families, passing out candy to the kids as they trick or treat from your vehicles “trunk.” (Candy will be provided that day by Shepherd’s Fold.) Have fun by decorating your trunk dressing. It doesn’t need to be extravagant, just fun. There will also be some “mini fair like activities/games,” if you would like to volunteer to do that. **To sign up or for more information contact Shepherd’s Fold 459-0444.**

CANDY DONATION FOR TRUNK OR TREAT
We need sugar, lots of sugar... to hand out to the S.F. kids at their Trunk or Treat. Donation baskets are in the Narthex and church office. Please donate by Oct 27th. (Otherwise, the Cindy’s and Sandy will have to eat it, and you know how bad that is! Didn’t we just talk about that in church on Sunday?)

GIVING INTENT CARDS

Be sure to bring your giving intent card to worship this Sunday, November 3.



HANDBELL MALLETS

Has anybody seen a box that holds our bell mallets? Some are hard plastic, some wrapped in yarn, and we have looked everywhere we can think of. Please notify Paul Gregory if you know where they are.

STOCKING STUFFERS

Our youth are collecting offerings for “Stocking Stuffers”. This is a program where we purchase new clothing for children in our community. We have always purchased clothing for 10 children and hope to do so again this year. We spend about \$100 per child. There is a donation container in the Narthex, or you can give online at selcaz.org but be sure to direct your donation to “Stocking Stuffers”. The youth will be shopping near the end of November.

October 29-November 3, 2024 Calendar

| | | |
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| TUE 10/29 | 9:00 AM | Shepherd's Fold Chapel - Sanctuary |
| | 6:00 PM | Fellowship Hall Reserved |
| | 6:30 PM | Confirmation– Youth Room |
| WED 10/30 | 10:00 AM | Bible Study |
| | 5:30 PM | Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall |
| | 6:30 PM | Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary |
| THURS 10/31 | 9:00 AM | Stitch In Time Quilters – Fellowship Hall |
| | 10:00 AM | Sierra Ringers Rehearsal – Music Room |
|  | 3:00 PM | Shepherd's Fold Trunk or Treat |
| | 6:30 PM | Plus Square Dancing – Fellowship Hall |
| | 6:30 PM | Enneagram Study – Music Room |
| FRI 11/1 | | Church Office Closed Fridays |
| SAT 11/2 | 7:00 AM | Men's Breakfast Fellowship Hall |
| | 9:30 AM | Fellowship Hall Reserved |
| SUN 11/3 | 9:00 AM | Worship Service |
| | 10:30 AM | Faith Formation all ages |
| | 11:15 AM | Youth Choir Rehearsal |
| | 11:15 AM | Stewardship Meeting |
| MON 11/4 | 10:00 AM | Choir optional note rehearsal |

MAKE AN IMPACT GIVE GENEROUSLY



As we prepare to return our Statements of Intent for our generosity for next year in worship this coming Sunday, many of our Council members have shared their excitement about our ministry moving forward that might be summed up in the following comments:

I'm excited about new outreach opportunities to serve our community. Our new commercial kitchen will not only enable Shepherd's Fold to continue to provide meals to children, some of whom face daily food insecurity, it will also allow us to develop food packaging programs, enabling us to reach out to those who are vulnerable in our community such as the elderly and homeless. I could even envision us developing a program where we could open our doors one evening a week to provide food and fellowship to those who deal with not only hunger, but also loneliness and a need for human connection. **Leslie McCourt**

I am excited with SELC embracing and showing our commitment in being an RIC Church. **Patricia Shaner**

I am happy to have our services live streamed as a way to get our messages out to people! I enjoy the fellowship our church community has and shows it. That was what stood out to me when we picked this church. **Monte Brandes**

I am excited to see all of the new faces both visiting and joining, bringing new ideas and new ways to reach out to the community we all share. **Lynn Light**

I am excited about SELC's future as we continue to focus on our congregation's needs as well as building relationships across the wider community. Our congregation is exceptional in its willingness to care for each other in addition to our good reputation as a community-connected church demonstrated by our participation in community programs. **Jane Strain**

Keeping our ministry strong will enable us to dream about an ever-growing ministry into the future. Take time this week to reflect on the ways in which connection to our ministry has impacted you and those you know and love in the past year and start dreaming about what God may be up to here moving forward.

MAKE AN IMPACT GIVE GENEROUSLY

DECIDE TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY

Little has ever been accomplished without sacrifice. This is true in our homes, our work, our church, our country. Sacrifice is a necessary component of successful living.

And so it is with the Christian life and faith. Our salvation cost God the cross. Bonhoeffer rightly said there is no cheap grace.

Much of church giving is only token giving, averaging about two percent of income. No wonder there is so little joy or satisfaction in it! It requires no sacrifice! We have given only what we could easily afford, what we would not really miss.

Experience has shown that giving, to be meaningful and joyful, has to be sacrificial! Each will have to determine what amount or percentage is sacrificial for his or her circumstances. But experience again suggests that for most people sacrificial giving begins at five percent of income with proportions under five percent falling into the token giving category.

Church interest is often low, studies have shown, because investment is low. There is no sacrifice. It doesn't really cost anything. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will be your heart also." (*Luke 12:34*) Where is my treasure? That is where you will find your heart.