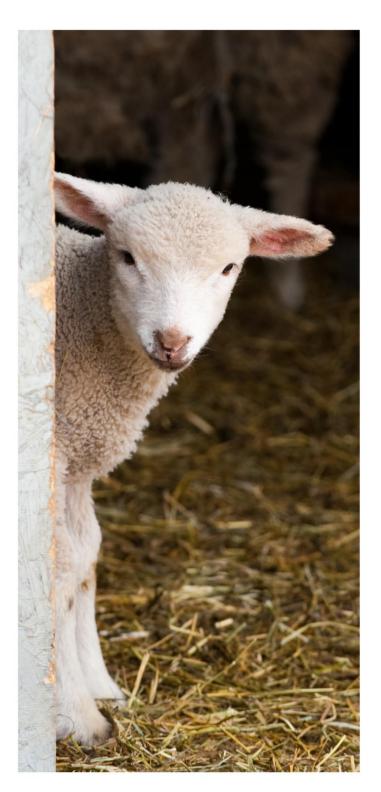
The sheep follow him because they know his voice.

John 10:4, NRSV



April 21, 2024 ~ 9:30 a.m. Fourth Sunday of Easter



Welcome to everyone worshipping with us today!

All are welcome at Shepherd of the Hills. We are a place where all people can receive wholeness and share God's blessings, so we echo Jesus' welcome to all persons – **every one** –

to the devout, the seeker and the skeptic;
to single, married, widowed and divorced;
to young and old, child and parent;
to persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities;
to people of all lands, cultures and colors;
to people with disabilities, those ill and well;
to poor, middling and wealthy;
to all who seek hope, peace, comfort, strength, love, forgiveness and grace.

We invite everyone to worship, learn, serve and care with us

Our Mission:

To love God and love neighbor in the spirit of Jesus.

Who we are becoming:

A connected family of faith inspired by God to positively impact our community and our world.



GATHERING

PRELUDE "10,000 Reasons" (Bless the Lord)

Redman/Myer

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW page 94

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

***GATHERING HYMN** "All Are Welcome"

Refrain: All are welcome, friend and stranger, at the banquet of the Savior.

All are welcome, All are welcome here.

From the woman who comes crying, leaving tears at Jesus' feet, to the man who knows the right way but cannot see. (Refrain)

From the ones who feel forgotten, those who sense their place is gone, to the ones who live in hunger, here you belong. (Refrain)

Go into the streets and cities, to the farms and families, tell about the splendid table, God's mercy. (Refrain)

★GREETING ELW page 184

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit

be with you all.

People: And also with you.

★KYRIE ELW page 184

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

*CANCTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW page 187

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,

whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,

and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,

and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory and might

be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of vict'ry for our God,

for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

★PRAYER OF THE DAY

ELW page 188

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN

FIRST READING Psalm 23

Lector: The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

People: The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures

and leads me beside still waters.

Lector: You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

People: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Lector: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

People: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

★GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Alleluia"

ELW page 188

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

★GOSPEL John 10:11-18

Pastor: The holy gospel according to John.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹¹"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

Pastor: The gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Pastor Sherri Otto

★HYMN OF THE DAY "Have No Fear, Little Flock"

ELW 764 (v. 1, 2 & 4)

Have no fear, little flock; have no fear, little flock, for the Father has chosen to give you the kingdom; have no fear, little flock!

- 2 Have good cheer, little flock; have good cheer, little flock, for the Father will keep you in his love forever; have good cheer, little flock!
- Thankful hearts raise to God; thankful hearts raise to God, for he stays close beside you, in all things works with you; thankful hearts raise to God!

★THE NICENE CREED

ELW page 189

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news. (A brief silence)

(After each petition, the following is said.)

Pastor: God of grace, People: hear our prayer.

★PEACE ELW page 189

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you always.

People: And also with you.

MEAL

MISSION MOMENT Bruce Nelson, Calvary SOTH Team

OFFERING & SPECIAL MUSIC "You Are My All In All"

D. Jernigan One Voice Chair

One Voice Choir

★OFFERING PRAYER ELW page 190

Pastor: Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

People: Amen.

★GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy ELW page 190

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Communion Music: "Lamb of God"

ELW page 191

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

"Shepherd Me, O God"

ELW 780

Choir sings verses; congregation sings refrain

Refrain: Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,

beyond my fears, from death into life.

- God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want, I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love, I walk by the quiet waters of peace. Refrain
- 2 Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul, you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth, my spirit shall sing the music of your name. Refrain
- Though I should wander the valley of death,
 I fear no evil, for you are at my side,
 your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope. Refrain

- 4 You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred, crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold. Refrain
- Surely your kindness and mercy follow me
 all the days of my life;
 I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore. Refrain

★Prayer after communion:

ELW page 191

Pastor: Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

People: Amen.

SENDING

***BLESSING**

Pastor: Now may the God of peace, who brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, as God works among us that which is pleasing in God's sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever.

People: Amen.

★SENDING HYMN "Every Move I Make"

Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na

Every move I make, I make in you
You make me move, (Jesus)
Every breath I take I breath in you (Whoo hoo)
Every step I take, I take in you
You are my way (Jesus)
Every breath I take I breath in you

Waves of mercy Waves of grace Everywhere I look I see your face Your love has captured me
Oh my God, this love, how can it be?
(how can it be, how can it be, how can it be?)

Na, Na Na Na Na Na Na Na Na Na, Na Na Na Na

★DISMISSAL ELW page 192

Pastor: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

People: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Every Move I Make"

reprise

SHEPHERD HAPPENINGS

For more information on all these events, go to our website sothchurch.com

HOLY COMMUNION Like a family gathering for Sunday dinner, all are welcome at this table where God is our holy parent and host. Taking simple bread and simple wine we remember that all of life comes as a gift from God, and we remember that just as we are nourished by food, we are also nourished by God's love. (Grape juice is available in the center of the serving tray and a rice alternative is available for those with wheat allergies.)

<u>ARE YOU NEW HERE?</u> To our first-time visitors welcome! Please join us immediately after church for coffee hour in the fellowship lounge. Your children and their noise are always welcome. There are two gender neutral and single stall restrooms across from - and just beyond - the church nursery, as well as two more upstairs as well! If you have questions, please ask any of our members. We are here to help.

<u>Name Tags Help Build Community</u>: All who regularly participate at Shepherd are encouraged to wear a name tag as we strive to be a welcoming community of disciples!

<u>CHILDREN ARE WELCOME</u> in worship every Sunday but, should you need it, the nursery is located on the north side of the building. Ask an usher if you need help finding it.

HOLDEN VILLAGE INTEREST MEETING: Sunday, April 21st after worship

Join us as we discuss plans for a trip to Holden Village in 2025. Hear from those who have been and start planning for this amazing getaway of beauty and God's creation!! Talk with Pr. Sherri if you have any questions.

COTTAGEVILLE PARK: Earth Day Spring Cleanup Sunday, April 21

Join us Sunday, April 21, immediately after church (10:45 a.m.) for a trash cleanup of SOTH's 'adopted' park. Treats provided - all ages welcome. Bring gloves if you have them. Cottageville Park is at 415 Blake Road North, just up the street from church. There is limited parking.

<u>ALLELUIA SINGERS</u> Calling all singers in grades 3-8 to join us to sing for Mothers' Day, May 12. It's a special Sunday as we will be celebrating Mothers, Quilters and High School Graduates. The Alleluia Singers will be rehearsing at 10:40 am on Sunday Mornings, April 21, 28 and May 5. Grab a treat and join us to get ready to sign for Mothers' Day!

WORD ON WEDNESDAY - Spring 2024 "Creation Care in the Bible"

To wrap up WoW for Spring 2024 our plan will be to read and study some of the ways Scripture speaks to us about creation and its care. Genesis tells us that we humans are to "have dominion" – what should we understand "dominion" to mean? When God speaks to Job about the "foundations of the earth" how does that inform how we related to creation? What do the Psalms say about how the earth is to be cared for? What connections might there be between our faithfulness to God and how creation will be affected by our actions? Is the earth resilient? Resilient enough to withstand human actions? Resilient enough to wait on the Lord?

Join us at 6:30 pm Wednesdays from April 10 to May 15 and let's see what we can learn together!

No Evening WoW on April 24 - Sign up for Dinner / Speaker event on April 24! WoW will resume May 1.

SHEPHERD / CALVARY NEW MINISTRIES: The Shepherd – Calvary Team has continued to meet and discuss the ideas put forward by all the contributors in response to our requests and outreach back in March. We have narrowed the focus to three (3) principal areas: 1) Building a Collaborative, Engaging Youth Ministry; 2) Exploring a Family & Community Centered Alternative Faith Building Gathering (something like the "Dinner Church" gatherings held during Lent) and 3) Updating our Communications and Technology tools for a better, more flexible and impactful Sunday (and other) experience in and from our sanctuary. We'd love to hear more from you and will continue to listen for what God may be calling us to in these three areas. Please reach out (phone, in person, email or whatever) to Pastors Yolanda, Sherri or Wade, or any of the committee members (Becky Rorke, Bruce Nelson, Cindy Morris, Julia Buteyn, Steve Manacek, Adam Driscoll and Alyson Purdy) or leave a note in the basket on the Welcome Desk. Thank you and please keep this work in your prayers!

THE DIVINE SPARK Wednesday, April 24th, 2024 6:00pm - Dinner /6:30pm - Program

"When you (or your loved one) hear a lawmaker speak against you, experience a classmate's rude joke, feel parental or church disapproval, you might feel afraid and alone. The writers in this book want you to find emotional, social and spiritual health and wholeness.

You are not alone. We believe in you."

Please join us on April 24th as we hear from Rev. Nancy Hanson about her new book, The Divine SPARK, Personal Stories of LGBTQ Discover, 2nd Edition.

We thank both Brian Henning and Pastor Yolanda for contributing their stories to this book.

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: Sunday, April 28 at 10:30 am

Make a plan to attend our upcoming Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 28 in person or by Zoom. During that time, we will reflect on 2023, hear exciting updates on various ministries, elect new leaders for our congregational council, and recognize outgoing leaders. It is an important date on our shared calendar together, and I hope to see you there.

If you are interested in serving in a leadership role on our congregational council, it's not too late! We are looking for a Communications liaison and positions are open on the SOTH Foundation. Please contact Pastors Yolanda or Sherri, or Chris Polston, Council President, and we can add you to the ballot. We can also take nominations from the floor.

SOTH BOOK CLUB: will meet on Sunday, May 19 at 11:00 am.

Book: "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See

VBS 2024 CAMP FIRELIGHT JUNE 10—13 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

A Summer Camp Adventure with God!

Join first-time camp counselor Sam and Lu (short for Lumen), the lightning bug, and learn to face your fears while trusting in God. Kids will learn ways they can connect with and put their trust in God whenever they are afraid, challenged, or called to do God's work in the world and share the Good News of God's love through Jesus Christ. Registrations available online (www.sothchurch.com/

SERVE TEAM: Spring Cleaning - Donate Now!

Do you have some gently worn shoes that you no longer wear? Participate in our shoe drive and help us donate to Soles4Souls! Until the end of May, we will be collecting all styles of gently worn shoes that can be put to good use. You can even donate single shoes!

Soles4Souls has 3 basic programs. "4Relief" helps get shoes to people in disaster relief areas. "4Opportunity"

works with developing countries to help people start and grow business that sell donated shoes. "4EveryKid" partners with schools across the U.S. to get new athletic shoes to children who are experiencing homelessness. Repurposed shoes extend their life and keep them out of landfills. 98% of shoes are reused and if shoes are determined to be beyond use, Soles4Souls works with third-party partners to turn this waste into energy. Please place your shoes in the donation center and enjoy a cleaner closet this summer.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES: Twin Cities Benefit for Youth at Quincy Hall

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.

Hosted each spring by Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS), the Benefit for Youth event series supports the work of LSS Youth & Family Services. Together, we will ensure children and families have safe, stable homes and the opportunity to thrive in community. As a trusted statewide leader, LSS is continually reaching out to understand the unique needs of our young neighbors; reaching beyond the status quo to offer innovative services; and reaching across communities to help more Minnesotans thrive. For more information or to register, go to https://events.lssmn.org/page/63541/data/1

MENTAL HEALTH CONNECT: Celebrating 10 years!

You're invited to the 5th Annual Stories of Hope Breakfast! Come to the breakfast. Feel the support in the room. Listen to impactful stories. Meet someone new. Learn about the Collaborative work. Support the mission. Speak to a Navigator. Gain knowledge, resources and support.

When: Thursday, May 9, 2024

8-9 am, breakfast / 7:30 am, doors open

Where: Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, 5025 Knox Ave S, Minneapolis, MN

Go to mhconnect.org to register and for more information!

<u>Hennepin County District 6 Commissioner Candidate Forum</u> - Please join ISAIAH as we hear six candidates' positions on affordable housing, climate action, and youth programming. The forum will be Sunday, April 21, at 2:30 PM—4:00 PM at St. David's Episcopal Church, 13000 St David's Rd, Minnetonka, MN 55305.

There is an April 30 Primary and the May 14 Special Election. Hennepin County District 6 includes Edina, Hopkins, Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, and the cities around Lake Minnetonka.

This forum is sponsored by ISAIAH, a multi-faith, multi-racial, inter-generational and statewide non-partisan organization striving for racial and economic justice in Minnesota.

For information contact Joan Dillon 952.457.4037



GIVING: Thank you for your generosity to SOTH! There are many ways to give:

TEXT "GIVE" to 844-503-1571

MAIL: 500 Blake Road South, Edina, MN 55343 Place your gift in the offering plate at church.

SCAN the QR Code

Sunday, April 21

9:30 am Worship – Youth led service

10:40 am Alleluia Singers

10:40 am Holden Interest Meeting10:40 am Cottageville Park Clean up

1:00 pm Eagle Board of Review6:30 pm Apollo Chorus Rehearsal

Monday, April 22

6:30 pm SMART Recovery7:00 pm Troop Meetings

Tuesday, April 23

8:30 am Men's Coffee

9:00 am Quilting

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, April 24

10:00 am WoW

4:30 pm Worship Team Mtg.

5:30-6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

6:00 p m Dinner / Speaker event

7:30 pm Sr. High meets

Thursday, April 25

4:30 pm Personnel Committee

5:00 pm TOPS Mtg.

6:30 pm SMART Recovery

Friday, April 26

12:00 noon Church office closes at noon

Saturday, April 27

2:00 pm Funeral: Mimi Drangeid

Sunday, April 28

9:30 am Worship

Shepherds of Light (Sun School)

10:40 am Annual Congregational Meeting

2:00 pm Eagle Court of Honor

6:30 pm Apollo Chorus rehearsal

Monday, April 29

6:30 pm Learn Team

6:30 pm SMART Recovery 7:00 pm Troop Meetings

Tuesday, April 30

Edina Election here

8:30 am Men's Coffee

9:00 am Quilting

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Wednesday, May 1

10:00 am WoW

5:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

6:30 pm Confirmation

6:30 pm WoW

7:30 pm Sr. High meets

Thursday, May 2

4:30 pm Personnel Committee

5:00 pm TOPS Meeting

5:00 pm Synod Assembly begins

6:30 pm SMART Recovery

Friday, May 3

8:00 am-7:00 pm Synod Assembly

12:00 noon Church Office closed

Saturday, May 4

8:30 am Synod Assembly

Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing assistance system. Ask an usher for assistance. Large print bulletins are also available. You can request one from an usher.

Persons unfamiliar with our Service may find the following explanation of abbreviations helpful.

* indicates "Stand as able."

refers to the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN WORSHIP with the cranberry cover.

Hymn selections are listed as "ELW ###."

Liturgy selections are listed as **ELW page ###.**

GATHER refers to the **GATHER** hymnbook with the **teal blue cover**.

Hymn selections are listed as "Gather ###."

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church 500 Blake Road South • Edina, MN 55343 Phone: (952) 935-3457

Web Site: www.sothchurch.com

SENIOR PASTOR: Rev. Dr. Yolanda Denson-Byers

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: Rev. Sherri Otto
CALVARY PASTOR: Rev. Wade Wacholz

MINISTERS: The Congregation MUSIC DIRECTOR: Patti Arntz

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Shawn Wacholz

CUSTODIAN: Blair Prax **LECTOR:** Fred Jensen

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Virgil & Sharon Peterson

MISSION PARTNERSHIP: Tapestry Ministries, Minneapolis, MN 55423

Rev. Melissa Melnick Gonzalez

OFFICE HOURS: Office hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm: Fridays 9:00-12:00 pm

Pastor Yolanda: Monday 9:30-5:30 (home office); Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30-5:30 (SOTH);

Friday in Sabbath.

Pastor Sherri: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am -5:00 pm (SOTH); Friday in Sabbath Pastor Wade: Tuesdays 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm; Wednesdays 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

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