SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS Presbyterian Church

Your Neighborhood Church

November 22, 2026 9:30am



Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church (USA) is reimagining church as a vibrant hub for spiritual growth, community, partnership, and care for creation, rooted in God's love and justice.

SOTH Closed Captioning

Closed Captions are available during the service. Visit the link below or scan the QR to view captions on your phone.

https://captionkit.io/c/soth

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

***WORSHIP IN SONG**

Sing Wherever I Go

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

***WORSHIP IN SONG**

Called as Partners in Christ's Service
#343 (Blue Hymnal)

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 15:7-11

REFLECTION

But By the Grace of God, Go I

BUILDING A HOME: MYTHS & FACTS

BLESSING BAG PROJECT

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***WORSHIP IN SONG**

O God, You Give Welcome

***BLESSING**

HOMELESSNESS IS A CHOICE

MYTH: People choose to be homeless.

FACT: Homelessness can happen to anyone. Job loss, medical expenses, rising rents, poverty, family rejection, mental health challenges, and other unexpected life changes can leave people without a home. For some, it's temporary; for others, overcoming multiple challenges requires ongoing support.

THERE ARE ENOUGH SHELTER BEDS

MYTH: Denver has enough shelter beds for everyone experiencing homelessness.

FACT: In January 2022, nearly 7,000 people were experiencing homelessness in the Denver area, but only about 2,100 shelter beds were available each night. That's less than one bed for every three people.

ADDICTION CAUSES HOMELESSNESS

MYTH: Addiction and substance use are the leading causes of homelessness.

FACT: In Denver, substance use disorders account for about 27% of homelessness. The leading contributors include a lack of affordable housing, unemployment, poverty, and low wages. Even working full-time at minimum wage may not be enough to afford Denver's housing costs.

UNHOUSED PEOPLE ARE CRIMINALS

MYTH: People experiencing homelessness are usually criminals.

FACT: People without housing are no more dangerous or violent than people with housing. They may have more encounters with law enforcement, often for minor offenses related to sleeping or simply existing in public spaces.

HOUSING DOESN'T SOLVE HOMELESSNESS

MYTH: Providing housing doesn't help people long-term.

FACT: Permanent supportive housing is one of the most effective approaches to ending chronic homelessness. It combines stable housing with access to mental health care, substance use treatment, employment assistance, education, and ongoing support to help people rebuild their lives.

[Resources from WellPower - https://www.wellpower.org/blog/myth-or-fact-homelessness-in-denver/]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY

- **NURSERY CARE** is provided today.
- **KIDS CONNECTION** participating in worship today.
- **WORKSHIP SUNDAY** Today in the Sanctuary. Part of today's service will be spent assembling Blessing Bags. Please join us in Fellowship Hall after service for pie and ice cream.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **THANKSGIVING DINNER** Thursday November 26 at 1:30pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring a side dish and share a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner.
- **HANGING OF THE GREENS** Saturday November 28 at 9:00am in the Sanctuary. Help decorate for Christmas.
- **GRIEF GROUP** Tuesday December 1 at 3:30pm in the Community Room.
- **CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL** Saturday December 5 from 10am-12pm in Fellowship Hall. Celebrate the joy of the season with a day filled with music, stories, and crafts for all ages. Bring your favorite teddy bear or other stuffy and join us for a special tea party.
- **"THE BALLAD OF BETHLEHEM" CHRISTMAS CANTATA** Sunday December 6 in the Sanctuary. Instrumentalists and vocalists will join together to present a cantata during worship service. Come at 9:10am for a pre-show presented by the Original Cow Boy Band.

Christmas Gift Card Drive

November 8 - Dec 13



This year, we're collecting Target and Walmart gift cards, cash, and checks so families can choose gifts their children will love. Checks should be made payable to Shepherd of the Hills, with "Toy Drive" in the memo line.

GENEROSITY CORNER

Your generosity makes our worship, ministry and mission possible in our community!

- Update on 2026 fulfillment of pledges: $225,127 pledged, $171,882 received
- Current 2027 pledges: $196,991 towards our goal of $250,000

Thank you for your support!

Scan the QR code to pledge.

STAY CONNECTED WITH OUR VISIONING JOURNEY!

Missed the Generosity Sunday brunch last week, or want to revisit what was shared? Visit our new Visioning Updates page:

www.soth.net/visioning

Watch the Visioning Committee presentation, view the slides from the brunch, complete the survey, and keep up with the latest news and opportunities to participate. Your voice matters as we imagine the future of Shepherd of the Hills!

MUSIC • STORIES • SNACKS • CRAFTS

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

NEW THIS YEAR:
TEDDY BEAR TEA!
BRING YOUR FAVORITE STUFFY FOR A SPECIAL TEA PARTY.

DECEMBER 5 10AM - 12PM FUN FOR ALL AGES!