



# Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

## July 2018 Newsletter

*"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." [Saint John 10:27]*



## A Much-Needed Renovation

Last month the renovation of our church kitchen began. The first two days were perhaps the most fun. After all of our supplies were removed, the destruction began. And it went quickly. Cabinet doors. Drawers. Countertops. Then the cabinets themselves. Cut into pieces. Completely removed. Trashed.

Now the really hard work begins. For constructing is necessarily more time-consuming, more detailed, more deliberate than destroying. There are walls to patch and paint. Measurements to take and double check. A floor to lay. Electric, gas, and plumbing to move or adapt. New cabinets and countertops to install. And then the finishing touches. When everything is done, our renovated kitchen will be very functional and beautiful and will serve us well for decades to come.



But kitchens aren't the only things that need renovation.

People do too. And I'm not just talking about the surface stuff, for which there are countless self-help books at the library and shows on television. Sinners need daily renovation. Daily renewal. Daily reformation. Thankfully, we have a God who loves to renovate. And He does it by re-creating us.

Merriam-Webster defines the word *renovate* as follows:

verb | ren·o·vate | \ 're-nə-, vāt \

: to restore to a former better state (as by cleaning, repairing, or rebuilding)

The only "former better state" we've had is the perfection of our first parents before the fall into sin. Unfortunately, there's no amount of cleaning or repairing or rebuilding that can restore that state. So God sent forth His only-begotten Son as the second Adam, to die in our place, to rise from the dead, and to grant us newness of life in Him. To accomplish that in our individual lives, God first destroys by means of the Law. Then He re-creates by means of the Gospel.

Holy Scripture reveals to us the God who wounds and heals, the God who kills and makes alive, the God who brings down to the grave and then raises up to newness of life. Here is a sampling:

- "See now that I, even I, am He, and there is no god beside Me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; and there is none that can deliver out of My hand" (Deut 32:39).
- "The LORD kills and brings to life; He brings down to Sheol and raises up" (1 Sam 2:6).
- "He wounds, but He binds up; He shatters, but His hands heal" (Job 5:18).
- "Come, let us return to the LORD; for He has torn us, that He may heal us; He has struck us down, and He will bind us up" (Hos 6:1).

Notice the order of things. First He wounds, then He heals. First He kills, then He makes alive. First He brings down to the grave, then He raises up from the grave. That is God's Law and Gospel at work. The Law puts to death our Old Adam and kills our self-righteousness. The Gospel freely grants us newness of life and gives us the righteousness of Christ.

*(continued...)*

When most people think of God and His work, they think only of the Gospel. Only of His grace and mercy and forgiveness. That is the main thing, but not the only thing. For before the Gospel can do its work, first the Law must do its work. This wounding, this killing, this bringing down to the grave is what Martin Luther referred to as God’s alien work. Luther got this phrase from the prophet Isaiah: “The LORD will rise up ... to do His deed—strange is His deed! and to work His work—alien is His work!” (Is 28:21).

So rejoice when God does His alien work in you. When He calls you to repentance. When He chastises and disciplines you. For that is the only way for true renovation to take place. The Old Adam in you must die (and it must die daily), so that the New Man (Christ in you) can emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity. Saint Paul says it this way: “Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and ... put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness” (Eph 4:22-24). It’s why we pray King David’s prayer: “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me” (Ps 51:10).

Church kitchens take time to construct properly. So does Christian piety. Thankfully, God is a patient builder — putting everything in its proper place at the proper time. He is also a patient farmer — planting, watering, cultivating, weeding. He is also a patient potter — slowing shaping and molding you into a vessel to fulfill His purposes.

Friends, you are a work in progress. So am I. It began in Holy Baptism and it will end only when our Lord Jesus leads us through the valley of the shadow of death to Himself in heaven. In the meantime, remember that renovation is hard and painful work. But such is God’s will as He wounds and then heals you. As He kills your sinful flesh and then enlivens your faith in Jesus Christ. You don’t see the finished product yet, for your eyes can only see what the Law reveals: a flawed sinner with thoughts, desires, words, and deeds that fall short of God’s will. But faith clings to what God’s Word declares: that you are perfectly holy and righteous in Jesus Christ.

For now, believe what God says about you. For He sees you through the cross of His Son, through the blood of His Son, through the perfect atonement of His Son. Thus, He sees you as a baptized, beloved child with whom He is well pleased. “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come” (2 Cor 5:17).

**Pastor Mumme**



**Week of Proper 8 (July 1-7)**

Sun, Jul 1, 9:00 am     Divine Service  
 Sun, Jul 1, 10:30 am     Bible Class  
 Wed, Jul 4             Independence Day

**Week of Proper 9 (July 8-14)**

Sun, Jul 8, 9:00 am     Divine Service  
 Sun, Jul 8, 10:05 am     Thrivent Meeting  
 Sun, Jul 8, 10:30 am     Bible Class  
 Tue, Jul 10             Higher Things Conference  
 Wed, Jul 11             Higher Things Conference  
 Thu, Jul 12             Higher Things Conference  
 Thu, Jul 12, 7:00 pm     Council Meeting  
 Fri, Jul 13             Higher Things Conference

**Week of Proper 10 (July 15-21)**

Sun, Jul 15, 9:00 am     Divine Service  
 Sun, Jul 15, 10:30 am     Bible Class  
 Mon, Jul 16, 6:30 pm     VBS  
 Tue, Jul 17, 6:30 pm     VBS  
 Wed, Jul 18, 6:30 pm     VBS  
 Sat, Jul 21, 10:00 am     Altar Guild Meeting  
 Sat, Jul 21, 11:00 am     Ladies Aid Meeting

**Week of Proper 11 (July 22-28)**

Sun, Jul 22, 9:00 am     Divine Service  
 Sun, Jul 22, 10:30 am     Bible Class

**Week of Proper 12 (July 29-31)**

Sun, Jul 29, 9:00 am     Divine Service  
 Sun, Jul 29, 10:30 am     Bible Class

**Little Lambs Preschool**

We have an incredible preschool and would love to have you come and visit.

Miss Terri is happy to show you the classroom, answer your questions, talk to you about tuition, and help you sign up for the new academic year which starts in September. Call 630-759-5200 x2 to set up an appointment. Bring your children and let them explore too.



## July Birthdays

- 05 Ruth Ogden
- 06 Dan Richerson
- 07 Ann Gernenz
- 11 Miles Mueller
- 11 Michael Weaver
- 12 Bill Robertson
- 13 Andrew Fox
- 16 Patricia Lewis
- 17 Kevin Olifirowicz
- 21 Kelly Stewart
- 23 Meredith Robertson
- 23 Carey Zeller
- 25 Gail Fiolka
- 27 Cyndi Pallek
- 29 Isabella (Bella) Cruz
- 30 Steve Stroh
- 31 Kerry Walter



## Baptized into Christ



**Aaron Daniel Castro**, son of Ruben and Lauren, was baptized into Christ on **June 23**. We pray that Aaron will continue to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ all the days of his life.

*"As many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."  
[Galatians 3:27]*

## Baptismal Anniversaries

- 01 Mike Dobbs
- 02 Colleen Donaldson
- 02 Amelia Johnson
- 06 Adam Dobbs
- 06 Bobbie Light
- 07 Ruth Ogden
- 10 Zachary Walter
- 15 Moira Delaney
- 16 Leah Pape
- 22 Justin Kreier
- 31 Isaak Johnson



## Bible & Lutheranism Studies

### Sunday Bible Class

Topic: Proverbs

When: Sunday mornings @ 10:45 a.m.

Where: Luther Hall

*The following studies resume in fall:*

- Women's Bible Study
- Book of Concord Study
- Men's Bible Breakfast

## Wedding Anniversaries

- 12 Dan & Nicole Richerson
- 14 Paul & Joan Sturm
- 17 Jim & Carol Kuroski
- 27 Kevin & Teresa Pape



## Prayer Chain



Several members of our congregation are part of a church prayer chain. If you would like to join them in praying for our congregation's special needs, please contact

**Bobbie Light at 630-251-7860** or Pastor Mumme.

## Six to Attend Youth Conference

Later this month six of our youth will be attending the Higher Things Youth Conference at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Illinois. This year's theme is *Sanctified*. Thank you for supporting their fundraisers throughout the year and keeping them in your prayers. Sometime next month they will share their experience with you. God's blessings and safe travel as you join 1000+ other Lutheran youth in growing in the grace and knowledge of our Savior.



## Vacation Bible School (VBS)

We invite all children in the congregation, preschool, and community to join us for Vacation Bible School **July 16-18** (Monday–Wednesday).

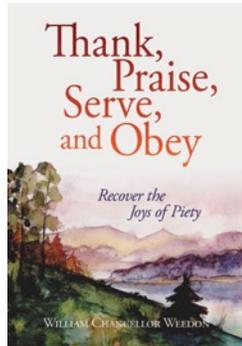
We will explore the Triune God, who He is, and what He does. So get ready for time in God’s Word as we talk about Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. There will also be crafts, games, music, and snacks. Our VBS is free and for children ages 3-10. All are welcome. Join us for 1, 2, or all 3 nights. For planning purposes, please RSVP via Facebook or leave a message at 630-759-5300 x1.



## Church Library

Our “book of the month” for July is *Thank, Praise, Serve, and Obey: Recover the Joys of Piety* by William Weedon.

Piety has fallen on hard times. Some associate it with its evil twin, pietism, and reject piety based on the incorrect assumption that the two are one and the same. Pietism is inwardly focused, obsessed with carefully following spiritual to-do lists and rules. Piety fights against that inward focus, turning our attention out toward God and His promises and toward our neighbor in love and care. Piety is simply the cultivation of godly habits—habits that befit the household of God, the family of our heavenly Father. In *Thank, Praise, Serve, and Obey*, we explore how to properly hear in the Scriptures our heavenly Father summoning us to the joy and freedom of living and growing as His beloved children through Jesus Christ.



You can browse the selection of books in our library by visiting [librarything.com/catalog/DivineShepherd](http://librarything.com/catalog/DivineShepherd). Books may be checked out at any time by members.

## Thrivent

Our local Thrivent group meets on the second Sunday each month after the Divine Service. Come join us. Please let the office know if you have a policy or account with Thrivent Financial. Thrivent offers action team grants for various projects and events and we would love to utilize every opportunity we can (only members can apply).

## Ladies Aid

The renovation of the kitchen has started in earnest. All the cabinets have been removed. That is the first step. Now the kitchen will be painted in preparation for the arrival of the new cabinets. The stove will be moved to the other side of the room and a dishwasher will be installed next to the sink. New flooring will also be laid. Plans are to have the work completed before preschool prepares for the new school year.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to the kitchen project. It is not too late to help, either with your contribution of cash or physical help. Contact **Ron Ruisz** if you are able to help with any part of the renovation. A huge thank you to **Ron** for all of his organizing skills and labor.

The Rummage Sale was a big success. It is amazing the amount of “used items” Divine Shepherd gathers each year. A thank you to those who contributed clothing and household items and to those who worked setting up and selling. Thanks also to those who drove the “leftovers” to Super Savers. They give us a small amount for the things we bring them. Ladies Aid could not succeed each year without all of your help.

## Shop with Scrip (Manna)

Shop with Scrip (Manna) cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion. Upcoming order dates are July 15 and August 19. The forms are on the cabinet by the Luther Hall outside door. These cards make many of the Ladies Aid projects possible, and best of all they do not cost members anything beyond the face value amount. Manna pays us to use their service. What’s more, many of these cards can be reloaded so you do not have to continually buy new cards.

*Your Organization:*

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church - Manna

*Your Coordinator:*

**Lisa Cruz**

630-636-6359 • [dslemanna@yahoo.com](mailto:dslemanna@yahoo.com)

*Your Enrollment Code:*

B2LD2C7A55973



*Funny Name. Easy Fundraising.*

## Bolingbrook Village Picnic

We had a tent/booth at the village picnic on Sunday, June 24, giving us an opportunity to tell our neighbors about the church, VBS, and our Little Lambs Preschool. A special thank you to those who set up, volunteered their time during the picnic, and helped take down.

## Sunday Treats

Do you enjoy treats and fellowship after Sunday services? If so, please consider signing up on any given Sunday(s). Why not sign up with a friend? *Empty slots means no treats.* To enable our diabetic members to enjoy these treats, please consider supplementing some of the “sugary goodies” with crackers and cheese and/or fruit. The signup sheet is posted on the Luther Hall bulletin board. Monetary donations are accepted to defray the cost of drinks and paper products, which are supplied by Ladies Aid.

## Bulletin Covers & Altar Flowers

The July–September 2018 bulletin charts are posted in the narthex. Sign up for any open Sunday(s) to celebrate a special occasion or to honor/remember someone. Cost of bulletins is \$10.

The 2018 flower charts are posted. If you would like to contribute flowers to help beautify the sanctuary on a Lord’s Day, please add your name to any open Sunday on the flower charts. Prices are \$40, \$45, or \$50 for two bouquets, (subject to change). If you sign up, **Karen Moritz** will contact you to get your price range, flower request, and a brief note to place in the worship bulletin.



## Important Phone Numbers

Church Office: 630-759-5300 ext. 1  
Preschool: 630-759-5300 ext. 2 (Terri Kreier)  
Pastor Mumme: 815-676-4444  
Prayer Chain: 630-251-7860 (Bobbie Light)  
Newsletter: 630-759-3188 (Karen Moritz)

*(items are due July 30)*

## Treasurer’s Report

<u>As of May 31</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Expenses	\$83,030	\$88,424
Income	\$89,162	\$77,300

## A Guide for Christian Giving

*First in a Three-Part Series*

As Christians we sincerely desire to live God-pleasing lives in every area of life, including the giving of offerings. But what does God desire from me in this area? How should I give? When should I give? How much should I give? These are questions which every sincere Christian considers. Thankfully, God’s Word gives us clear direction in this area of life as it does in every other area.

### Principles in Giving

**“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”**

*2 Corinthians 9:6-7*

Here we find the answer to the question, “How should I give?” The answer? Cheerfully!

You see, God is not primarily concerned with the amount of the gift, but with the motive that lies behind it. All the money in the world belongs to God. My gift to Him does not make Him any richer; it makes me richer spiritually because of the realization that everything I have is His and that I am giving because I love Him and want to give.

## Vacations

Although most people take at least one vacation a year, God never does. He is always available to speak to you in His Word and to listen to your prayers. When you go on vacation, your monthly bills still need to be paid; the same is true with our church’s obligations. Do not forget Divine Shepherd even as you visit and relax. Blessings on your summer activities.

If you need help locating an LCMS congregation near you when you are visiting family or on vacation, ask **Pastor Mumme**. He is happy to help you.

## Coins for CareNet

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Coins for CareNet drive here at Divine Shepherd. Your donation will help local moms in unplanned pregnancies with counseling, resources, and parenting support, and will help save lives right here in our neighborhood.

## Toner Cartridges

The youth group continues to accept used *toner* cartridges as a fundraiser (the company we work with is currently only accepting original Brother, Canon, and HP *toner* cartridges). Please drop them off in the container in the shelves near the entrance/exit in Luther Hall. We are no longer able to accept *ink* cartridges. Toner cartridges not listed above, as well as ink cartridges, may be recycled at Cartridge World. Thanks!

## Amazon Smile

Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), select Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bolingbrook as your charitable organization, begin each of your purchases at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), and Amazon will do the rest. Our congregation will receive 0.5% of every Amazon Smile purchase made. Thanks for supporting us!

## Issues, Etc.



You are invited to listen to Issues, Etc. — the radio voice of the Lutheran faith for the 21st century. Issues, Etc. is Lutheran talk radio hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Listen live (3:00-5:00pm CST) or at your leisure via the following options (go to [issuesetc.org](https://issuesetc.org) and click on the 'listen' tab for specific options):

- [issuesetc.org](https://issuesetc.org) (via a web browser)
- Sirius XM
- Amazon app
- Android via Google Play
- Apple via iTunes
- Windows Phone
- tunein
- stitcher

## Happy Birthday, America!

This Independence Day pause and take a few moments to thank God for ALL of our freedoms. The freedom to share His hope – read His Word – worship together – pray aloud – spread the Good News – teach His truth – sing His praise – follow Him – vote – help the needy.

Ask God for His guidance for all who serve and protect this great nation.

God has poured His richest blessings on our great nation. May His light continue to guide our path.

