



Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

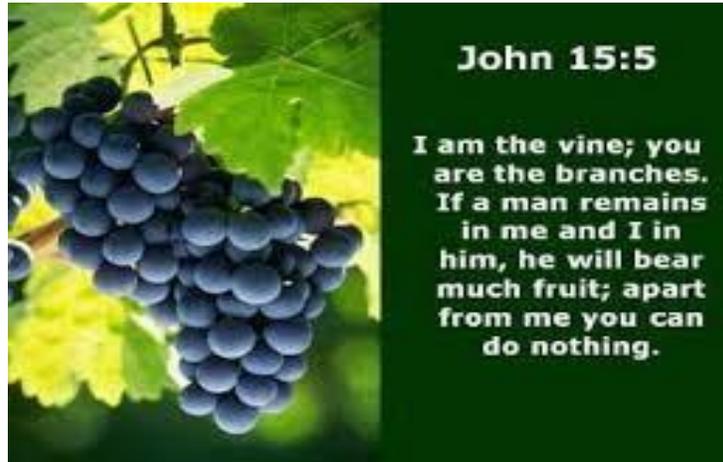
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



January 2022 Newsletter

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

Dear Sheep of the Divine Shepherd:



Perhaps you made some new year's resolutions. If I could make a suggestion, I would like to give a couple eternally worthy resolutions that you might consider.

For one, I would encourage you strongly to begin attending a Bible class, on Sunday morning. As Christians we need to be studying the Word, and rarely does this happen at home. After all, it only lasts for about an hour on Sunday. It isn't that much of a commitment to attend and learn while having fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ. Do not fear that you will have to read. I won't ask you to read if you don't feel comfortable in doing so. I will never put you on the spot with a question or something else that might make you uneasy. Everyone, including your pastor, doesn't fully understand the Word and so we need to be studying as often as we can, especially in this day and age of uncertainty.

Another resolution that I would like us all to make is to keep in our prayers and minds all our brothers and sisters who are ill or homebound. As the body of Christ, we are to comfort those who need to be comforted and rejoice with those who are joyful. Please keep everyone that is on the church's prayer list on your prayer list and perhaps you can even send a card or visit, now and then, our homebound and sick.

Lastly, let us all consider how to stir up one another in love and good works and make the resolution to keep growing in our faith by the hearing of the Word and the receiving of the Sacraments during our Sunday Morning Divine Services. Let us put away all works of the flesh and be what God made us to be, repentant Christians who have been saved by the blood of Christ. May God bless all of you this new year as you draw closer to Him.

Listen to Jesus:
Pastor Zimmer

A Happy- Blessed 2022

Please visit: <https://marchforlifechicago.org> for information on the Pro-Life Rally in Chicago



We are so excited to announce a first round of speakers for the March for Life Chicago!

What a gift it is to learn from these pro-life leaders' experiences and then march together in downtown Chicago on January 8!

Stay tuned for even more speakers as we get closer to the March for Life Chicago. Less than 8 weeks until our weekend together begins.

Representative Avery Bourne, IL State Representative (District 95)
Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, President of the LCMS
Dante Bucci, weDignify student leader, senior at University of Illinois
Sr. Alicia Torres, Franciscans of the Eucharist in Chicago,

Sign up to join us for March, Rally, and Convention!

<https://wedignify.ticketspice.com/mflc-c>



Week of January 2-8

Sun, Jan 2, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Jan 2, 10:15 am Fellowship
Sun, Jan 2, 10:30 am Bible Study
Sat, Jan 8, 9:30 am Undecorating
Sat, Jan 8, 1:00 pm March for Life

Week of January 9-15

Sun, Jan 9, 9:00 am Festive Divine Service
Sun, Jan 9, 10:15 am Fellowship
Sun, Jan 9, 10:30 am Bible Study
Mon, Jan 10 7:00 pm Elders Meeting
Tue, Jan 11, noon Altar Guild Meeting
Tue, Jan 11, 1:00 pm Women's Bible Study
Sat, Jan 15, 10:00 am Ladies Aid Meeting

Week of January 16-22

Sun, Jan 16, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Jan 16 10:15 am Fellowship
Sun, Jan 16, 10:30 am Bible Study
Mon, Jan 17, 7:00 pm Council meeting

Week of January 23-29

Sun, Jan 23, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Jan 23, 10:15 am Fellowship
Sun, Jan 23, 10:30 am Bible Study

Week of January 30-31

Sun, Jan 30, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Jan 30, 10:15 am Fellowship
Sun, Jan 30, 10:30 am Bible Study

The Epiphany Season



As the Christmas season draws to a close, we enter the Epiphany season.

The word Epiphany means "revelation"—God reveals how Jesus

Christ is His Son, our Savior. The season begins with the Epiphany of Our Lord, a celebration of the visit of the Gentile wise men to the baby Jesus, who was born for all people. The season continues with Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River and culminates with Jesus' transfiguration before three disciples. Come and be a part of this joyous season as God reveals to us His Son, His plan and purpose, and His salvation.

The Baptism of Our Lord



We will celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord in January. Though He had no sin of His own, Jesus undergoes baptism for us. He does this to fulfill all righteousness and to fill the water of Holy Baptism with Himself, His forgiveness, and His righteousness. So, rejoice in your baptism. For through that water combined with God's Word, you are a child of God, clothed in Christ's perfect righteousness, and a temple of the Holy Spirit!

God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!
[LSB 594, stanza 1]

Christmas Un-Decorating

Come and help us pack away the Christmas decorations on **Saturday, January 8** beginning at **9:30 a.m.** Many hands make light work.



January Birthdays

- 02 Hayden Quinn
- 06 Joan Fox (H)
- 13 Karen Moritz
- 15 Melanie Witzke
- 16 Corinne Wuthenow
- 18 Dawn Rousar
- 20 Pat Gray
- 20 Christa McClain
- 31 Emily Zimmer



January Baptismal Anniversaries

- 05 Teresa Pape
- 20 Pat Gray
- 29 Joan Fox



Altar Flowers



Thank you to everyone who donated flowers to decorate the altar and sanctuary in 2021. A special thank you to **Ruth** for arranging the beautiful bouquets.

The 2022 flower charts are posted. This is a wonderful way to help beautify God's house, celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or remember a departed loved one. Traditionally flowers are not used during the penitential seasons of Lent and Advent. We typically have special floral arrangements for certain festivals: palms on Palm Sunday, spring flowers on Easter Sunday, red bouquets on Confirmation, and poinsettias on Christmas. 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.

Ruth Ogden will do two altar bouquets for \$25-\$30. If you sign up, **Karen** will contact you to get your flower request, and a brief note to place in the worship bulletin. When the worship service is over, you are welcome to take your bouquets home

Altar Guild Members

Those serving on the Altar Guild for 2022

- Denise Collins**
- Anne Drevlow**
- Karen Moritz**
- Ruth Ogden**
- Joan Sturm**
- Judy Yuenger**
- Julie Zimmer**

2022 Offering Envelopes

Members, please check your mail slots if you are getting 2022 envelopes. Your annual tax letter will be in your mail slot later this month. See Barb Potempa at church if you have any questions.

Altar Guild Fund

Several items were purchased with memorial donations for use in God's house in 2021. If you are planning a future memorial donation, please consider giving it to Altar Guild to purchase additional frontals, banners, candles, altar cloths, etc. to beautiful the sanctuary.

Ladies Aid



We send all of you our wishes for a happy and healthy new year. Our Lord has kept Divine Shepherd in His care thus far and we trust that He will continue to do so.

Once again thank you for your Giving Tree and Food Drive contributions. These, along with funds from the Ladies Aid treasury and Thrivent, were met with extreme gratitude. One recipient had not eaten for several days, another about to be evicted, another now had food for a Christmas dinner. This is more evidence that God is taking care of His children.

We helped 6 families (8 adults, 5 children) 6 seniors 3 adults and the vicar
A total of 22 people for the Giving Tree.

The food drive helped 5 families(11 people total) 3 seniors, family of 3. A total of 16 for the Food Drive.

A special thank you to Lisa Cruz/family for once again heading up the 'giving tree' and to Joan Sturm for spear-heading the food drive.

Diane Weaver received a gift card of their choice for completing the 'Reverse Advent Calendar'.

All females are automatically members of the Ladies Aid. Please feel welcome to join in the January 15th meeting, at 10:00 a.m. We will be planning activities for the coming months of the year, including our annual Rummage Sale. Suggestions for projects around our church building are welcome. Perhaps you have a suggestion for a social activity.

The officers for 2022 are:

President: Judy Yuenger
Vice President: Lisa Cruz
Secretary: Joan Sturm
Treasurer: Karen Moritz

Ladies Aid Money at Work



Listed below are a just a few of the projects Ladies Aid has contributed to in 2021

- monthly stipend to a seminarian
- pastor appreciation
- the Giving Tree/food drive
- cleaning supplies
- paper goods/drinks for Sunday treats
- Alms Fund

These projects are made possible by your generous support of our rummage sale and Script (Manna) program. Thank you.

Elder Members

Scott Collins (head elder)
Ed Cruz
Nathan Geschke
Kevin Pape
Ron Ruisz
Kelly Stewart

The Sound of Music

A special *thank you* to those who musically enriched our worship services during Advent and Christmas. All your time and hard work is greatly appreciated!

Choir Practice

Choir practice is on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to lend their voices in praise to our Savior, Jesus Christ.

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 mean 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.



Prayer Chain

Several members are part of a church prayer chain. If you (men or women) would like to join them in praying for our congregation's special needs, please contact Bobbie Light at **630-251-7860**.



THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

Directing Choice Dollars is a great way for eligible Thrivent members to show support for what matters most to them. We received over \$1,800 from Choice Dollars in 2021. If you have not given your Choice Dollars to Divine Shepherd, please do so. Thrivent members and Choice Dollars are an important source of support for the work the organization does. Why not do every-thing you can to make sure that you are getting the most out of your participation. A reminder, that all 2021 Choice Dollars will have to be donated by **March 31** or they will be lost. These dollars are used to support various church/member's needs. Thanks.

Important Phone Numbers

Church office: 630-759-5300
Pastor Zimmer: 583-880-9532
Prayer Chain: 630-251-7860 (Bobbie Light)
Newsletter info: 630-759-3188 (Karen Moritz)
(items are due January 31)

Portals of Prayer

Now that 2022 is here, we are asking those who make use of the "Portals of Prayer" devotionals to pay this year's annual subscription rate of \$15.00. Simply submit this via the offering plate, earmarked Portals of Prayer. Blessings on your continued study of God's Word.

Amazon Smile

Go to smile.amazon.com, select Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bolingbrook as your charitable organization begin each of your purchases at smile.amazon.com, and Amazon will do the rest. Our congregation will receive 0.5% of every Amazon Smile purchase made.

Follow Us on Social Media

Follow us on social media to keep up to date with church happenings and events, find a variety of new and old congregational photos, and read inspirational posts and quotes from Holy Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, and various Christians throughout the centuries.

Facebook: fb.me/DSLcBolingbrook

Twitter: @dslc60440

Benefit Mobile

Sign up via benefit-mobile.com and designate Divine Shepherd as your charitable organization. Then download the app (Apple or Android). Benefit Mobile purchases qualify for our 50 % cash back rebate. Purchased gift cards are electronic instead and can be used immediately. You may also send these as a gift to an email account.



Shop with Scrip cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion. Next order date is **January 16**. Pre-purchased cards are available after Sunday services and forms are on the bookcase in Luther Hall. 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. Scrip pays us to use their service. What is 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 • dslcmanna@yahoo.com

shopwithscrip.com

Your Enrollment Code:

B2LD2C7A55973

Our Cleaning Crew



A special thank you to our church's cleaning crew for all their hard work in helping to clean our church facilities on a regular basis. This volunteer cleaning crew works diligently to vacuum, dust, scrub, mop, tidy, empty trash, and prepare our facilities each weekend.

An additional thank you to all those volunteers who have helped to take down, clean, serve, and set up on Sunday mornings and for special events. Your help and service are greatly appreciated!

God's Resolutions

We often resolve to improve the "little things" in life (time, weight, finances, etc.) that we completely forget about the "big things" that God would have us focus on! What are these big things? God has ten of them for you:

1. Fear, love, and trust in God above all things.
2. Call upon God's name in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.
3. Hold preaching and God's Word sacred and gladly hear and learn it.
4. Honor, serve and obey, love, and cherish your parents and other authorities.
5. Help and support your neighbor in every physical need.
6. Lead a sexually pure and decent life, and love and honor your spouse.
7. Help your neighbor to improve and protect his possessions and income.
8. Defend your neighbor, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.
9. Help and be of service to your neighbor in protecting his inheritance and house.
10. Urge your neighbor's spouse, workers, to be faithful to Him.

Love Is God

Love is God shining through you.
Love is giving what you'd like to receive.
Love is taking the time, even when
you do not have the time.
Love is listening with your heart.
Love is remembering.
Love is being there.
Love is believing in the good, the true,
and the beautiful.
Love is the light of the world.

May Christ's love shine thru you now and always.
The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself
through love. (Galatians 5:6) (American Greetings)