



# Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



## October 2024 Newsletter

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

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. **John 10:27-28**

As you are aware, October is an important month for Lutherans, as it was on October 31st, 1517, that Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses on the door of the Wittenberg church. It is also vital to recognize the faithful theologians who came before Luther to understand his thought and how he gained such a rich understanding of Holy Scripture.

And so, we turn our attention to one of those brilliant theologians: Ignatius of Antioch. He was an early Church Father whose life, writings, and martyrdom continue to inspire Christians across the centuries. Though Ignatius lived long before the Reformation, his steadfast faith and devotion to the Gospel offer profound lessons for us as Christians today.

### Who Was Ignatius of Antioch?

Who was known as "Theophorus" (meaning "God-bearer"), was born around 35 AD and became the Bishop of Antioch, a city that played a crucial role in early Christianity. Tradition holds that he was a disciple of the Apostle John, placing him at the heart of the first generation of Christian leaders after the apostles.

Around 107 AD, during a time of persecution under Roman rule, Ignatius was arrested for his faith in Christ and sent to Rome to face execution. On his journey, he wrote a series of letters to early Christian communities, which remain valuable resources for understanding the beliefs and practices of the early Church.

### Ignatius' Contributions to the Christian Faith

**Christ-Centered Life and Martyrdom:** One of the central themes of Ignatius' life was his unwavering commitment to Jesus Christ, even to the point of death. His letters reveal a deep desire to imitate Christ, particularly in suffering. One of the most important teachings in the church is the "theology of the cross." We hold fast to the idea of taking up our crosses and following Christ (Matthew 16:24), knowing that suffering comes before glory. Ignatius' martyrdom reminds us that true discipleship often involves sacrifice and perseverance in the face of trials.

**Unity in the Church:** Ignatius emphasized the importance of unity within the Christian community, especially through the leadership of bishops. The unity of the Church is found not in a human institution but in steadfast faith in the Word of God and the proper administration of the sacraments. Ignatius' emphasis on unity aligns with our desire for the Church to be united by the truth of the Gospel.

**The Real Presence of Christ:** In his letters, Ignatius spoke of the Eucharist as "the medicine of immortality," a tangible way in which believers partake in Christ's body and blood. His writings affirm the real presence of Christ in the Lord's Supper. In his letter to the church in Smyrna (modern-day Turkey), Ignatius warns against those who deny that the Eucharist is "the flesh of our Savior Jesus Christ." This resonates with Luther's teachings on the sacrament, where we confess Christ's true body and blood "in, with, and under" the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins.

**Faith in Christ Alone:** Though Ignatius did not use the Reformation language of *sola fide* (faith alone), his writings continually point to Christ as the sole source of salvation. In his letter to the Ephesians, he refers to "our Lord, Jesus Christ, who is our hope" (Ephesians 1:1). His understanding—and ours—is that salvation is found through faith in Christ alone, apart from works.

Ignatius' letters give us a glimpse into the early Christian Church, revealing timeless truths that still shape our faith today. His courageous witness in the face of martyrdom reminds us of the strength that comes from trusting in Christ. His emphasis on the Eucharist, Christian unity, and the centrality of Christ in all things provides valuable lessons for living out our faith.

While the circumstances of our lives may be far removed from those of Ignatius, his passion for the Gospel and his willingness to stand firm in his faith—even unto death—remain relevant. As Christians, we are called to the same bold proclamation of Christ and to embrace the means of grace He has given us through Word and Sacrament.

*O Lord, grant us the courage and faith of your servant Ignatius, who stood firm in the face of persecution and death, bearing witness to the truth of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Strengthen us to live boldly in faith, united in the truth of Your Word, and nourished by the body and blood of Christ in the Eucharist. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Listen to Jesus,  
Pastor Zimmer

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## Christian Stewardship

### *“The Singing Church”*



Lutherans have historically been called “the singing church.” There is no doubt that music has been a major component in the theology and practice of the Lutheran church. Luther once remarked about music, “We can mention only one point, namely, that next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise.” Music has a power and purpose that cannot be understated in our worship and the life of the congregation. But music does more than touch the emotions. Music is a vehicle that carries both the musician and the hearer deeper into connection with the truth of the Scriptures. This is true of the most complex Bach chorale and even the simplest of songs like “Jesus Loves Me, This I Know.” Each musical selection within the church shapes the thoughts, minds and faith of the people who experience them.

This is also true of stewardship hymns. We are currently considering the verses of “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness” (LSB 788) as it shapes our understanding and practice of stewardship. This month we take a deeper dive into verse two:

Teach us to thank you, Lord, for love and grace  
For life and vision, for a purpose clear,  
For Christ Your Son, and for each human face  
that shows Your message ever new and near.

The stanza begins by touching on the truth of the Law. Thankfulness is not a natural posture for fallen humanity. For sinners curved in upon themselves, thankfulness for love and grace is something that must be taught. We are those who hoard and clutch. Our confession of our shallow thankfulness highlights the need for us to learn thankfulness to God.

Thankfulness also points to what we are stewards of: love and grace! All the things we have traditionally called stewardship aren't actual stewardship. Rather, what matters is how we steward the one, true and only treasure: the love and grace of God revealed to us in the Gospel of Jesus Christ. So, all stewardship is stewardship of the Gospel! How can we gaze at the cross and empty tomb and not be thankful?

The LCMS defines stewardship as “the free and joyous activity of God's family — the church — in managing life's resources for His purposes.” God's love and mercy give us a clear purpose as we live out our Baptism and practice this joyous stewardship. All we are, all we have entrusted to us, and all we are called to do is to connect others with the love and mercy of God revealed in Jesus!

The faithful steward sings with lips and life of this love and mercy that is ever new and near. In the Scriptures. In the Lord's House. At the Lord's Table. This is where our stewardship song starts and ends. Our family, our co-workers and classmates, and our world need to hear this song!

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship)



### Week of October 6-12

- Sun, Oct 6, 8:30 a.m. Divine Service
- Sun, Oct 6, 9:40 a.m. Fellowship
- Sun, Oct 6, 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Wed, Oct 9, 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

### Week of October 13-19

- Sun, Oct 13, 8:30 a.m. Divine Service
- Sun, Oct 13, 9:40 a.m. Fellowship
- Sun, Oct 13, 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Sun, Oct 13, Clothing Drive Begins
- Mon, Oct 14, noon Women's Bible Study
- Mon, Oct 14, 6:00 p.m. Elders Meeting
- Wed, Oct 16, 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

### Week of October 20 - 26

- Sun, Oct 20, 8:30 a.m. Divine Service
- Sun, Oct 20, 9:40 a.m. Fellowship
- Sun, Oct 20, 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Mon, Oct 21, 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting
- Wed, Oct 23, 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice
- Sat, Oct 26, 10:00 a.m. Ladies Aid Meeting

### Week of October 27-31

- Sun, Oct 27, 8:30 a.m. Festive Divine Service
- Sun, Oct 27, 10:00 a.m. Bible Study
- Sun, Oct 27, 11:00 a.m. Oktoberfest
- Wed, Oct 30, 6:30 p.m. Choir Practice

### **October Birthdays**

- 03 Jack Castro
- 05 Kamden Pruitt
- 12 Rose Clark (H)
- 24 Lauren Collins
- 31 Joan Sturm



### **October Baptismal Anniversaries**

- 13 Steve Stroh
- 20 Kamden Pruett
- 21 Jenny Martinez
- 29 Emily Pruett
- 30 Lauren Collins
- ?? Rose Clark



### **October Wedding Anniversaries**

- 16 Ed & Lisa Cruz
- 31 Scott & Denise Collins



## **Outreach Clothing Drive**

Ladies Aid is sponsoring a clothing drive to support a local mission that helps homeless families and veterans. Clean/in good condition clothing (all sizes) including coats/other winter apparel/boots/for men, women and children may be dropped off at church between October 13 – November 10. Contact Karen with any questions.

## **Oktoberfest**

Ladies Aid will be sponsoring the annual Oktoberfest on Sunday, **October 27** after the Divine Service. Funds were received from Thrivent to purchase the brats/buns/beer/etc. A sign-up sheet is posted in Luther Hall. Please sign up if you are attending, how many are attending and for a dish to pass. Dishes do not have to be German. Coffee/ tea/soft drinks, and juice will be provided. You may bring your own wine/beer, or other drinks, however DSLC assumes no responsibility for the consumption of alcohol .

## **Ladies Aid**

In early November you will see the Giving Tree for members and their families. Most of the time these families request gift cards from their favorite stores. You can purchase cards at the retail outlets, but even more convenient, order the cards from MANNA, or RaiseRight (as it is now called). Choose an envelope from the tree, see what the recipient is requesting, and order cards, purchase at stores, and bring items to church by December 15. See **Lisa Cruz** with any questions.

At the same time as fulfilling those Giving Tree wishes, will be the annual Food Drive and the Advent Food drive. First, we like to provide the members on this list with items that can be used for a festive holiday dinner, and then provide staples to save those amounts so that they can be used by the family for the Merry CHRISTmas season. Each time you go to the grocery store until Christmas, try to purchase an item for the Food Drive. In the past years, we have given each family an amazing amount of food and other staples (paper towels, toilet paper, napkins, etc.). We would like to do that again this year.

Now is the best time to join Ladies Aid at our next meeting on **October 26** at 10:00 a.m. We will be focused on the programs for the coming year.

## 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 Julie Zimmer at 712-584-5301 or [jdzimmer@aol.com](mailto:jdzimmer@aol.com)

## Altar Flowers

Thank you to everyone who donated flowers for the altar in 2024 and to Ruth Ogden for arranging the beautiful bouquets.



Please check upcoming bulletins in late November for forms to purchase poinsettias for the Christmas Season. Payment with completed form is due **December 8.**

## Important Phone Numbers

**Church office:** 630-759-5300  
**Pastor Zimmer:** 630-759-5300  
**Prayer Chain:** 712-584-5301 (Julie Zimmer)  
**Head Elder:** 630-360-5573 (Scott Collins)  
**Newsletter info:** 630-759-3188 (Karen Moritz)  
(Due October 28)



**THRIVENT  
FINANCIAL®**

Directing Choice Dollars is a great way for eligible Thrivent members to show support for what matters most to them. Thank you to everyone who donated their choice dollars – Divine Shepherd received over \$ 1,400 since the first of the year. Remember to donate your third quarter choice dollars.

## Sunday Treats



Do you enjoy treats and fellowship after Sunday services? If so, please consider signing up on any given Sunday(s).

*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 sign-up sheet is posted on the Luther Hall bulletin board.

## Raise Right

Shop with Raise Right (new name) cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion. Next order dates are, **October 13, November 17, December 1 & 15.** 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. RaiseRight 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](mailto:dslcmanna@yahoo.com)

[shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com)

*Your Enrollment Code:*

B2LD2C7A55973

## 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](https://fb.me/DSLcbolingbrook)  
Twitter: @dslc60440



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](http://issuesetc.org) and click on the ‘listen’ tab for specific options.

## Updates

Judy Yuenger  
3051 Stonebrook Rd  
Lisle, IL 60532  
331-223- 1207

## Trustee's Corner

If you can clean the church the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of each month, please contact me.

Kelly Stewart, Trustee

### Reformation Day

Each year we celebrate the Reformation of the Church. What precisely are we celebrating? The start of a "new Church"? No. The Reformation was not the start of a new Church, but the reformation of the old Church of Christ and the apostles. What then are we celebrating? What we thank and praise God for on this day is the rediscovery of the place of Christ and His Gospel in the Church. The Good News of God's love and mercy for us in Jesus is what the Reformation is all about.



The Reformation continues. The Church is always being reformed, because God's Word of Law and Gospel continues to change hearts and lives, showing people their sins and their need for the Savior. Let us hear that Good News and take it to heart. Let us rejoice in the work of Luther and the other reformers, not in a prideful way, but by way of humble repentance and prayer for personal renewal in the grace of Christ. Indeed, let us hear the Good News of Christ and then boldly share it with others. May God keep us steadfast in His Word for the sake of Christ, our Savior.

(Portals of Prayer)

### A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God  
A trusty shield and weapon  
He helps us free from every need  
That hath us now o'er taken  
The old evil foe  
Now means deadly woe  
Deep guild and great might  
Are his dread arms in fight  
On earth is not his equal.

## I Am Your Church Budget

Through me, families are launched in marriage, persons are baptized, and the young are trained in Christian character. I provide music to enrich your worship and preaching services to help you live more nobly. I heat and cool your church and keep it in repair for your comfort and use. I reach out to your community and country, preaching, teaching, and healing in Christ's name. I help to train ministers in seminaries, and I aid those who retired after years of faithful service to God through the Church. It is through me that the sick and spiritual strength, the troubled and the discouraged are steadied. I go out into the wide world, preaching the Gospel in every language. I carry the Word to people of every race, color, and clan.

I am your BUDGET. Believe in me; support me that I may carry on in your name. With your help, I make possible all of these services. As the budget, I am

### YOU AT WORK.



However, I do need your help. I do need your support. Without you to support me, I am helpless. You are my foundation, my supporting walls. I am your money, your prayer, your concern - translated into action. **I can only do what you, through sacrifice, make it possible for me to do.**

### Jesus Loves Seniors

Jesus loves me, this I know,  
Though my hair is white as snow  
Though my sight is growing dim,  
Still He bids me trust in Him.

Though my steps are oh, so slow,  
With my hand in His I'll go  
On through life, let come what may,  
He'll be there to lead the way.

When the nights are dark and long,  
In my heart He puts a song.  
Telling me in words so clear,  
"Have no fear for I am near."

When my work on earth is done,  
And life's victories have been won.  
He will take me home above,  
Then I'll understand His love.

I love Jesus, does He know?  
Have I ever told Him so?  
Jesus loves to hear me say,  
That I love Him every day.