



Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



March 2020 Newsletter

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

Dear Fellow, Redeemed by the Divine Shepherd,

While Ash Wednesday that begins the season of Lent has probably already been observed as you read this letter it is the holy season of Lent that is the focus of my words to you.

Historically the 40 days of Lent, in which many churches conduct Lenten services on Wednesday evenings, have offered more opportunities to be in the divine service in which God serves His People. It will be so again for us at Divine Shepherd as we gather for worship on Wednesday evenings.

In the six Lenten services to be held here we will hear the entire account of the passion of our Lord as it is given to us by the four Gospel writers. We will there see the places of the passion and hear the Words of our Lord at those places. It is my prayer that in seeing and hearing Him in those places that you will know more fully the joy for you to be in Christ and even more for Christ in you.

We will see Christ in the Upper Room and hear Him as He says, "This is my body, this cup is the new testament in my blood."

We will cross the Kedron with Him and enter Gethsemane where we will hear Him pray, "Watch and pray with me." There we will see Him captured and led away to the palace of the high priest. There we will hear Him respond to the question, "Art thou the Christ, the Son of the blessed?" with the words, "I am." From there He is taken to the court of Governor Pilate, where, after He has just said, "Everyone that is of the truth, heareth my voice," Pilate asks the ultimate question, "What is truth?" We travel the Via Dolorosa with Him to Calvary where we hear Him first pray, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

He is silent at the final place of our Lenten journey, a new tomb, hewn out of rock in which there was an opening in front of which there was a great stone. Before they placed His wrapped body in that tomb, we will hear Him say, "Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit."

I invite all of you on the Wednesdays of Lent to come with us to these places of the passion and there hear the words of Him Who here at this place and though His words makes you one with our Creator. There is no greater blessing.

Pastor Otten

MARCH

Week of Lent 1 (March 1-7)

Sun, Mar 1, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Mar 1, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School
Wed, Mar 4, 7:00 pm Lenten Vespers
Wed, Mar 4, 8:00 pm Choir Practice
Sat, Mar 7, 11:00 am Potempa Memorial Service
Sat, Mar 7, 12:15 pm Potempa Luncheon

Week of Lent 2 (March 8-14)

Sun, Mar 8, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Mar 8, 10:05 am Thrivent Meeting
Sun, Mar 8, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School
Mon, Mar 9, 7:00 am Elders Meeting
Wed, Mar 11, 7:00 pm Lenten Evening Prayer
Wed, Mar 11, 8:00 pm Choir Practice
Thu, Mar 12, 7:00 pm Council Meeting

Week of Lent 3, (March 15-21)

Sun, Mar 15, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Mar 15, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School
Wed, Mar 18, 7:00 pm Lenten Vespers
Wed, Mar 18, 8:00 pm Choir Practice
Sat, Mar 21, 10:30 am Altar Guild Meeting
Sat, Mar 21, 11:00 am Ladies Aid Meeting

Week of Lent 4 (March 22-28)

Sun, Mar 22, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Mar 22, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School
Wed, Mar 25, 7:00 pm Lenten Evening Prayer
Wed, Mar 25, 8:00 pm Choir Practice

Week of Lent 5 (March 29-31)

Sun, Mar 29, 9:00 am Divine Service
Sun, Mar 29, 10:30 am Bible Study/Sunday School

Daylight Savings

Remember to "spring forward" by setting your clocks one hour forward on **Saturday night, March 7.**



March Birthdays

03 Terry Donaldson
07 Mike Dobbs
10 Leila Martinez
20 Jenny Bingenheimer
20 Denise Collins
25 Michelle Schilling
26 Parker Schilling
26 Braydan Walter
28 Gail Novy
28 Tim Parmenter
29 Talma Krause
29 Phyllis Novy
31 Michael Shurhay



March Baptismal Anniversaries

13 Rebekah Dobbs
16 Kaylie Cruz
16 Kerry Cruz
16 Meredith Robertson
27 Hector Martinez
29 Micky Woods
30 Conner Schilling
30 Karen Moritz



Lent Midweek



This Lenten season we will hear the entire account of the passion of our Lord as given by the four Gospel writers. The five midweek Evening Prayer services/Vespers will focus on these themes:

Gethsemane (3/4 Vespers)

The Court of the High Priest (3/11 Evening Prayers)

The Court of Pilate (3/18 Vespers)

Golgotha (3/25 Evening Prayers)

The tomb (4/1 Vespers)

These services are held each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. and run approximately 45 minutes. Come and join us.

Ladies Aid

Hopefully we have passed the "dead of winter" so we can put our efforts into planning the annual RUMMAGE SALE. The first of June will come faster than we expect. It always does. Start putting aside those things you don't use and those clothes that have hung in the closet all year without being worn.

There will be an extra emphasis on clothes this year. We have an opportunity to take the extra clothes and soft goods (sheets, towels, blankets, etc.) to Savers. This company will pay us per pound for these items.

There are many things that need doing around the church and every penny earned will help us with those projects.

Thanks to those who came to the WINE AND CHOCOLATE social. A good time was had by all. We were especially happy to welcome Pastor Mumme, Pastor & Mrs. Otten as well as all the other attendees.

The GIVING TREE helped thirty people and sixteen people were recipients of boxes of food (at least three each) plus gift cards totaling \$250-350. Your spirit of giving helped us help others far more than you would expect. Thank you to all that helped.

The Ladies Aid will be hosting the dinner after the Memorial Service for Bob Potempa. If you would like to help provide food for this meal, please see Karen Moritz.

All women are encouraged to attend the next meeting on March 21 at 11:00 am.

Treasurer's Report

As of January 31, 2020

Expenses	\$ 3,960
Income	\$ 64,950

Treasure Awaits For You!

Yes! You can receive the treasure of filling a child's heart with the knowledge of Bible stories. Sunday School is an important step towards Confirmation, and we are looking for a few caring, energetic and willing people who would be interested in teaching Sunday School classes. We have openings available in all age groups and teaching experience is not required. We can provide the curriculum, or you can choose to work on your own lessons. Please contact Terri Kreier at 630-248-6708 or tkreier@gmail.com if you would like to learn more.

Want even more treasure! We are also looking for a Sunday School superintendent! The superintendent would be responsible for openings, recruiting teachers and students, providing a curriculum, and making sure our Sunday School has everything they need. If you would like to learn more, please contact an elder.

Altar Flowers

The 2020 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. 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



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®

Thrivent members are encouraged to donate their Choice Dollars to Divine Shepherd before the end of March. These dollars are used to support various church/member's needs. One last reminder that all 2019 Choice Dollars will have to be donated by **March 31** or they will be lost.

The next meeting will be held in Luther Hall on **Sunday, March 8 at 10:05 a.m.** All members are encouraged to attend.

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**.



Shop with Scrip (Manna) cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion. Next order dates are **March 8, 29** and **April 19**. Pre-purchased cards are available after Sunday services and forms are on the cabinet by Luther Hall's 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. Script 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 • dslcmanna@yahoo.com

shopwithscrip.com

Your Enrollment Code:

B2LD2C7A55973

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.

Manna Rebates

You may elect to receive 50% of your profit percentage back as a cash rebate. These rebates will be paid directly to you in the form of a quarterly check. The more you purchase using physical cards, reload, reload now and scrip ecards the more you will earn.

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.



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 and click on the 'listen' tab for specific options).

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](https://twitter.com/dslc60440)

Sunday Treats

Please consider signing up to bring treats on any given Sunday(s). **Empty slots mean no treats.** The signup sheet is posted on the Luther Hall bulletin board. Consider bringing fruit, crackers, or cheese for our diabetic members. Monetary donations are accepted to defray the cost of drinks/paper products, which are supplied by Ladies Aid.



Church Library

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

Stewardship

For decades Christians contributed their tithes and offerings via check or cash. Nowadays, many Christians are following cultural trends and moving away from checks and turning to options such as automatic bill pay, online giving, and/or mobile payments (Apple Pay, Android Pay, Samsung Pay, PayPal, etc.). We currently have a few members utilize their bank's free "bill pay" feature to submit their offerings on a weekly, biweekly, or monthly basis (their bank mails a check directly to Divine Shepherd on their behalf).

What is your preference for supporting Divine Shepherd with your tithes and offerings? What can we as a congregation do to facilitate your joyful generosity?

God loves a cheerful giver.

Planning Worksheet

You may not think about it very often, but there are certain things for which you should do some planning. Your funeral is one of them. What are the important dates in your life? Who are your loved ones? What is your confirmation verse? What are some of your favorite Scripture verses and hymns? Whether you are young or old, please pick up a "Funeral Planning Worksheet" from Luther Hall,

complete it and return it to **Karen**. You are always free to make updates to this worksheet as often as you want. These cold winter months are a great time to complete this worksheet. Thanks in advance for beginning the planning process.

Important Phone Numbers

Church office: 630-759-5300
Prayer Chain: 630-251-7860 (Bobbie Light)
Newsletter info: 630-759-3188 (Karen Moritz)
(items are due March 30)

Help Wanted

Do you have an hour once a month to help clean the church? If so, please contact Karen. Thank You.



Lord Jesus Christ, during this time of Lenten preparation and reflection, keep our thoughts on You and Your sacrifice. As we confess our sins, let us remember our part in Your suffering and death. As we are granted forgiveness, may we be continually assured that our sins are covered by Your robe of righteousness. Prepare us for service and worship as we as we await the coming joy of Easter.

Lord Jesus Christ, bless Your Church with Your presence. Fill our hearts with Your Spirit, and bring a new sense of zeal to the work You have set before us. Help us always to be mindful of Your love and grace. Keep us in Your Word. Let us live a life that shows how we are able to share Your love with others, because you loved us first.

Good Shepherd, provide us with a faithful servant who will be diligent to preach the fullness of Your Word, administer Your Sacraments, and serve Your people in his daily life. Receive our thanks for those who serve in the Office of the Holy Ministry, protect them from pride and selfish ambition grant them joy in serving, and provide care for their families.

We pray this in Your name. Amen

(Portals of Prayer)

