



# Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



## June 2025 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

*Dear Sheep of the Divine Shepherd:*

**St. Boniface of Mainz: A Faithful Witness in the Mission of Christ** (*Commemorated June 5*): As we remember St. Boniface of Mainz, often called the "Apostle to the Germans," we do well to consider what his life and work teach us about faithfulness to the Gospel, the mission of the Church, and the dangers of compromise with the world. Boniface is a compelling figure in Church history, not because he was perfect, but because his life—marked by courage, reform, and suffering—points us to the one perfect missionary, our Lord Jesus Christ.

**A Missionary with a Pastor's Heart:** Born around A.D. 675 in England, Boniface was a Benedictine monk named Winfrid who had a strong foundation in Scripture and theology. But he desired to bring the Gospel to the Germanic peoples, many of whom lived in spiritual confusion. Though Christianity had touched those lands centuries earlier, it was often mixed with pagan superstition and unfaithful teaching. Boniface saw the need not just for conversion, but for clarity and reform. In A.D. 718, after receiving the Pope's blessing, he began his missionary work. He preached the Gospel, baptized thousands, and organized churches under faithful doctrine. Yet Boniface's mission was not simply one of zeal; it was pastoral. He desired that people not only hear the Word of God but be firmly rooted in it. He established schools, trained clergy, and worked to ensure that congregations had educated, faithful shepherds. In this, Boniface exemplified the office of the holy ministry—not as one of power, but as one of service to Christ's flock through Word and Sacrament.

**A Reformer, Not a Revolutionary:** Boniface's context was complex. Many so-called Christian leaders in his time were deeply compromised—seeking power, neglecting doctrine, or leading immoral lives. Boniface called for reform, not to create a new Church, but to return the Church to her true foundation: the teaching of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone (Eph. 2:20). In this, Lutherans can find much to emulate. Boniface understood that Christ builds His Church not on human innovation but on His Word. He worked within the Church of his time but insisted on fidelity to the Gospel. He resisted heresy and syncretism, not for the sake of control, but for the sake of souls. Like the Lutheran Reformers centuries later, Boniface knew that a corrupted Church cannot nurture saving faith. The truth must be taught purely, and the Sacraments administered rightly, for Christ to dwell richly among His people.

**A Martyr for Christ:** In A.D. 754, Boniface was preparing to confirm new converts in Frisia when a group of armed raiders approached. His companions wanted to fight, but Boniface forbade it. "Cease fighting," he said, "lay down your arms, for Scripture teaches us not to render evil for evil but to overcome evil with good." Boniface was martyred—struck down with the very book of the Gospels he carried. His death bears witness to a Lutheran understanding of the cross. Boniface did not seek martyrdom, but he bore it faithfully, knowing that we do not follow Christ for worldly success or safety. As the Lord says, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me" (Matt. 16:24). In life and in death, Boniface clung to the promises of Christ, knowing that the risen Lord remains with His Church until the end of the age.

**Lessons for Today:** In our own time, the Church faces similar challenges—false teaching, moral confusion, and a culture increasingly resistant to the Gospel. Like Boniface, we are called to hold fast to the truth, to reform where needed, and to proclaim the unchanging Word of Christ to a world in need. But we also remember: it is not our zeal or skill that builds the Church. It is Christ Himself who does the work, through His Spirit, by the means He has appointed—Word and Sacrament. Boniface was faithful because he trusted not in himself, but in Christ who sends laborers into His harvest (Matt. 9:38). So we give thanks for Boniface—not as a hero to be worshiped, but as a fellow servant of Christ. His life reminds us that the mission of the Church is not new. It has always been to proclaim repentance and the forgiveness of sins in Christ’s name, to baptize and teach, and to shepherd God’s people with His Word.

May we, like Boniface, be faithful to that mission until the day Christ comes again.

**“Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”**

—Revelation 2:10

Listen to Jesus,  
Pastor Zimmer

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## Christian Stewardship

### Stewardship in the Body of Christ



Baseball season is upon us. The southern images of spring training give way to the pageantry of Opening Day. On that day, the hopes and dreams of every major league team, player and fan focus on doing whatever it takes to get to the Fall Classic, the World Series. Baseball is a secular way that so many of us confess that hope “springs” eternal.

With all of this in mind, baseball can also teach us a new perspective about stewardship. Think about the game itself. Baseball is a team sport. The home team faces off against the visitors. Yet while it is a team game, there are repetitive, individual confrontations that take place within the game. The baseball game cannot start without the individual pitcher against the hitter. Once the batted ball is in play, the battle is between the ability of the fielder against the speed of the baserunner. Once there is a runner on base, an attempt to steal a base pits the runner against the catcher. A base hit into the outfield pits the outfielder against a runner trying to score. Baseball is a team game with many smaller units at play. Without all those smaller units working together and achieving their tasks, the team will lose.

Romans 12 puts our stewardship of the Gospel in a similar setting. The church is certainly described as a team, if you will. Verse 3: “For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.” This is where the Body of Christ is really seen as a team. No one member of the baseball team can win the game by themselves. In the same way, no one part of the Body of Christ can accomplish stewardship of the Gospel alone. The pastor cannot. The congregational chair cannot. The lead soprano in the choir cannot. But each of these individuals have been added to the local congregation to be built into a team that can win the victory with Jesus.

Verses 4–5: “For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.” In baseball, the pitcher pitches. The catcher catches. The hitter hits. When a pitcher attempts to hit, the result is usually not very pretty. Catchers often do not excel at running the bases. The hitter usually does not do well when they are sent to the mound to pitch. Every member of the Body of Christ has a unique set of abilities and functions. Not everyone preaches. Not everyone leads. Not everyone sings well. Yet when the congregation assembles together as a team, it can succeed in ways unattainable by the individual.

Verses 6–8: “Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.” Each member

of the team has a role to play. Abilities and opportunities are entrusted to the individual members of the Body of Christ to be used for the ultimate purpose of stewarding the Gospel for the glory of God and the benefit of the neighbor. The one preaching is no more or less important than the others. The one serving or the one teaching, the leader or the merciful one — all are equally important in the faithful stewardship of all that the Lord has entrusted to the Body of Christ. All this stewardship is for the sake of the other!

A baseball team can have five All-Star pitchers but cannot win if the hitters do not hit. The best lineup in the league will struggle if the pitchers cannot get anyone on the other team out. Pitchers need the defense behind them to play well. Coaches need to lead well. When they all work together, you have a winning baseball team. When the Body of Christ has all its members faithfully stewarding the unique individual talents that have been entrusted to them, the victory goes to Jesus! This is the goal of faithful stewardship! It is all about Jesus!

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

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### Week of June 1-7

Sun, June 1, 8:30 am Divine Service  
Sun, June 1, 9:40 am Fellowship  
Sun, June 1, 10:00 am Bible Study

### Week of June 8-14

Sun June 8, 8:30 am Divine Service  
Sun, June 8, 9:40 am Fellowship  
Sun, June 8, 10:00 am Bible Study  
Mon, June 9, 6:00 pm Elders Meeting

### Week of June 15-21

Sun, June 16, 8:30 am Divine Service  
Sun, June 16, 9:40 am Fellowship  
Sun, June 16, 10:00 am Bible Study  
Mon, June 17, 6:00 pm Council Meeting  
Sat, June 21, 10:00 am Ladies Aid Meeting

### Week of June 22-28

Sun, June 22, 8:30 am Divine Service  
Sun, June 22, 9:40 am Fellowship  
Sun, June 22, 10:00 am Bible Study

### Week of June 29-30

Sun, June 29, 8:30 am Divine Service  
Sun, June 29, 9:40 am Fellowship  
Sun, June 29, 10:00 am Bible Study

## June Birthdays

04 Alex Otto  
05 James Bingenheimer  
06 Colleen Donaldson  
13 Emily Pruett  
23 Scott Collins



## June Baptismal Anniversaries

03 Ron Ruisz  
16 Jesse Pape  
27 Benjamin Nazario  
?? Keith Fox



## June Wedding Anniversaries

07 James & Ashleigh Bingenheimer  
17 Jonathan & Jasmine Fritsch  
22 Ted & Ruth Ogden

## Caring Network

We are doing an outreach project for Baby Bottles. There are 3 ways you can donate:

- Pick up a bottle in the narthex and return with your donation by June 15
- Visit the web site [CaringNetwork.com/baby](http://CaringNetwork.com/baby) bottle-drive to donate
- Mail a donation to Caring Network, 1200 Roosevelt Rd, Suite 114, Glen Ellen, IL 60137 (with a notation of baby bottles).
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Please Include your name, address, and church's name and location on all donations.

Please help in Changing Hearts and Saving Lives. See Julie Zimmer with any questions.

## 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 Julir Zimmer at 712-584-5301.

## Ladies Aid

### WINE AND CHOCOLATE SOCIAL

is coming back on **September 13** - more information will be in the weekly bulletins and September newsletter.



Now is the best time to join Ladies Aid at our next meeting on June 21. Our efforts for this meeting will be focused on the programs for the coming year.

- Do we want to sponsor social get togethers?
- Projects around the church, what needs to be done?
- Any new ideas?

## 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.

## Trustee's Corner



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. If you can clean the church on the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of each month, please contact Kelly.

Do you like to garden, have a green thumb, if so, bring your own tools and help beautify the gardens. There is always weeding, pruning/etc to be done.

Kelly Stewart, Trustee

## Altar Flowers



The 2025 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. **Ruth Ogden** will do two altar bouquets for \$30. **Karen** will contact you to get your flower request, When the worship service is over, you are welcome to take your bouquets home.



**THRIVENT**  
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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. Monies received are used for various church projects.

## RaiseRight

Shop with RaiseRight cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion **Next order date is June 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

## 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 June 27)

### Flag Day



Lord God, You display Your love for us so freely and openly that we cannot help but praise You. We are blessed that You have given us such a beautiful nation. You provide sun

have given us a country in which we are free to worship You. Through our nation, You give us rights and opportunities that people in many places have give us in this land and for the many blessings You have shown us here. Cause us to honor our nation and our nation's flag in thanksgiving for the blessing this land has been to us. As we honor her, let us always rely on You. In Jesus' name. Amen

### Father's Day Prayer



Heavenly Father, we give thanks for your provision and care. We pray for our earthly Fathers: in thanks for loving fathers who support and care for their children. For single fathers, they may find encouragement, community, and stable work. For forgiveness and healing for

those whose relationship with their father is difficult or broken. For those who mourn their fathers' death that they may comforted. Guide us to regard your sacred earth and all creation as a Loving father cares for his own. And bless all fathers everywhere, that they may be strengthened in love for their children, just as you have first loved us through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## A Father's Prayer

Lord, please hear  
A father's prayer---  
Keep my family in your care.  
Help me know what I can do  
To guard and guide them  
all life through.  
Most of all, please let me be a blessing  
To my family---  
A gentle word,  
A caring friend,  
A source of love  
That has no end.  
Amen

The best fathers not only give us life –  
they teach us how to live it.

### A Prayer for Pentecost (June 8 )

Spirit of Truth, what comfort it is to know that You dwell in our hearts. Thank You for the saving faith You created in us. Keep us steadfast in Your Word so that we cling to You always and look to You for guidance in our daily living. Embolden us, as you did the first disciples, to declare God's saving grace to all who we encounter. In Jesus, name, Amen.

### A Prayer for the Holy Trinity (June 15)

Holy Trinity, though You are unfathomable, You have given us hearts of faith. We praise You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for Your great works in the world and in us. We marvel at the beauty of Your creation. The redeeming work of Your Son brings us hearts of gratitude. The Spirit's gift of faith is our guarantee of life forever with You. We praise and magnify Your holy name. Amen