

**Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church**

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

**July 2020 Newsletter**

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

Dear Flock of the Divine Shepherd:

As I just completed my first full month here at Divine Shepherd, I cannot help but wonder, with all of you, when, if ever, things will be back to normal. Yet, even if we are unsure about the future, we are confident and place our hope in the One who never changes. (Mal. 3:6, Heb. 13:8)

 I have been thinking about what I, as your pastor, first want to convey as we find ourselves in the heat of summer. I am tired of talking about Covid-19 and it certainly does not deserve any more attention. So, the first thing that I want to relate seems simple but is especially important. Now that we are back in somewhat a normal routine of having church on Sunday mornings, I pray that all of our members will attend very frequently.

For most of you that is a foregone conclusion, and you need no reminder. You look forward to receiving the gifts that Christ gives you here. For those not in the habit of regular church attendance, I strongly encourage you not to pass up the most important hour in your week. Going to church is seldom seen as a life or death choice, but in reality, it absolutely is. When one of God’s sheep leaves the pen, he begins to lose sight of the Good Shepherd and eventually cannot hear Him. All Christians know that Jesus is everywhere, but God has chosen to give His gifts at a particular place and at a particular time, specifically on Sunday at 9:00a.m. For those of you who cannot make it to church because of sickness or poor health, God has chosen to visit you through your pastor.

There is nothing more important than the studying of God’s Word to arm you against the attacks of Satan. With this in mind, I would also like to encourage all of you to begin attending Bible Classes whenever they begin. I am hoping that we can begin our Sunday morning Bible classes in September.

Also, as your pastor I would like to get to know all of you better and am willing to come to your home for a visit. Please keep in mind that it does not have to be an elaborate affair, and you do not need to provide a meal. Also, the visit does not have to be long. If you are willing, please invite me to your home and then we can set up a time. I look forward to getting to know you and to minister to you.

LTJ (Listen to Jesus),

Pastor Zimmer

****

**Week of July 5-11**

Sun, Jul 5, 9:00 am Divine Service

Mon, Jul 6, 7:00 pm Elders Meeting

Wed, Jul 8, 6:30 am Africa Mission

 Presentation

**Week of July 12-18**

Sun, Jul 12, 9:00 am Divine Service

Sun, Jul 12, 10:05 am Thrivent Meeting

**Week of July 19-25**

Sun, Jul 19, 9:00 am Divine Service

Sat, Jul 25, 10:30 am Altar Guild Meeting

Sat, Jul 25, 11:00 am Ladies Aid Meeting

**Week of July 26-31)**

Sun, Jul 26, 9:00 am Divine Service

**Confirmation Classes**

For those of you who have children that have not yet been confirmed, I want to inform you of my requirements for entering your child in confirmation. There are exceptions to the rule, but generally, the child must recite for me the 10 Commandments, The Lord’s Prayer, and the Apostle’s Creed before they can begin classes. Also, I typically begin children at the 3rd grade, as long as they are reading at that level. Again, as I said before, there are exceptions to the rule.

 In the past, I had three years of catechism and confirmation classes, but I have decided that I can condense it to two years.  I would like to begin the classes in September, and it will be decided later on what day of the week will work best.

 Please let me know if you have a child that wishes to begin catechism classes or if you have any other questions. We will talk in more detail later about what is expected of the child and parents as they begin these important classes.

Pastor Zimmer

**July Birthdays**

04 Marianne Hodonsky

05 Danielle Asche

05 Ruth Ogden

06 Dan Richerson

07 Ann Gernenz

11 Michael Weaver

![C:\Users\JPMoritz\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\VA6LD483\big-cake689[1].jpg]()12 Bill Robertson

13 Andrew Fox

16 Patricia Lewis

17 Paul Dobbs

17 Katie Zimmer

21 Kelly Stewart

23 Maredith Robertson

23 Carey Zeller

25 Gail Fiolka

27 Cyndi Pallek

29 Isabella (Bella) Cruz

30 Steve Stroh

31 Kerry Walter

**July Baptismal Anniversaries**

01 Mike Dobbs

02 Colleen Donaldson

06 Adam Dobbs

![C:\Users\JPMoritz\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\ZN4C2P7J\3046672072_1dc7b9b385_z[1].jpg]()06 Bobbie Light

07 Ruth Ogden

10 Zachary Walter

14 Corinne Wuthenow

15 Moira Delaney

16 Leah Pape

22 Paul Dobbs

30 Catlin Collins

July Wedding Anniversaries

![C:\Users\JPMoritz\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\MVBSZRFA\ha_yellowanniversary[1].jpg]()12 Dan & Nicole Richerson

14 Paul & Joan Sturm

15 Rev. David & Julie Zimmer

27 Kevin & Teresa Pape

**Women’s Bible Study**

Women’s Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, **September 15** at **1:00 pm** in Luther Hall. The topic is “*Waiting*”, a bible study on Patience, Hope & Trust. Please let Karen know if you are attending, so we can order sufficient books

**Magness in Africa Mission Presentation**

Phillip Magness, Cantor at Bethany-Naperville from 2000-12 and longtime friend of Divine Shepherd, now serves as a called missionary to francophone Africa. Through the ministry of psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, he teaches the song of the church and equips church leaders there in nurturing the Lord's song so that the Word of Christ may dwell in them richly. Phillip will be here at Divine Shepherd on **Wednesday, July 8th**, from **6:30-8 pm** for a special presentation on his missionary work, followed by a reception. Come and share the joy of getting people to sing about Jesus in West and Central Africa - and be inspired in your faith as well!

**Chairman’s Corner**

We are still in the re-opening of our state, as we are at phase 4. I have been providing weekly updates to the congregation, and I hope you find these helpful. I think it is essential, especially during this pandemic, to communicate on items occurring at the church and how we are conducting the church services. I know some of you had made it back to church for worship, and I understand if you do not feel comfortable attending church service in person. I am working with the Council and Mike Dobbs to stream on Facebook and YouTube for church services.  I am working on this plan and to increase our internet data speed. I will be bringing this up at the next council meeting to get approval to move in this direction. As for the steeple, we would like to get the roof replaced prior to steeple project. More information on the steeple project will be shared later. We are currently waiting for a break in the weather and to get on the roofer's schedule, to replace the church roof.

In case you missed some of my weekly updates we have done the following since March:

* Plumbing Issue fixed
* New Carpet in Luther Hall
* Steeple removed in one piece (located in the back of church lot)
* Cleaning is done weekly basis since re-opening and was also done before re-opening of the church
* Procedures in place before entering the church for worship
* Temperature is taken
* Questions asked
* Change in receiving communion
	+ No kneeling
	+ Individual cups
* Offering plates set on small tables in the center area in the back of the church
* All hymns are in the bulletin

If you are unable to attend services, your offering may be sent to Divine Shepherd, 985 W. Lily Cache Lane, Bolingbrook, IL 60440.

We (Council & Elders) have been extremely busy during this time. I could not do all of this by myself. It is the teamwork and communication that has gotten us through this, and we continue to communicate and fix to make a better church. I want to thank everyone who has helped, and I could name them all, yet I would be afraid I would miss someone. Without these people's help, I am not sure how we would have handled many items.

Chairman for Christian Education is vacant, and I am looking for one or maybe a few people to help fill this vacancy. If you need more information on this, please feel free to contact me.

I will continue to communicate with the congregation every week, as I have since the pandemic has started.

Thank you, congregation, for our patience and understanding during this time. If anyone in the congregation needs help, please contact Pastor Zimmer or me, Ed Cruz, Chairman.

**Manna**

Manna Order will be July 19th – Judy Yuenger has several manna cards (Oberweis, Dairy Queen, Walmart, Starbucks, and some others) available for purchase after service. If Judy does not have the manna card you are looking for, you can place a manna order. If you need help to understand how to place a manna order or information on the manna program, please talk with Judy Yuenger or Lisa Cruz.

**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.

 **Ruth Ogden** will do flowers of your choice for $25 (please give her a 2-3 weeks heads up) or the florist for $40, $45, or $50 for two bouquets, (subject to change). If you sign up, **Karen** will contact you. When the worship service is over, you are welcome to take your bouquets home or you may leave them at church for the following Sunday or for pastor to take to homebound or hospitalized members.

**Ladies Aid**

Beginnings are happening all around Divine Shepherd.  Many things have changed in the past few months.  Everything stopped for a while and now each feels like a new beginning.

That is how it is with Ladies Aid also.  If you are a female member of this church, you are already a member of Ladies Aid.  All you need to do is come to our meeting.  Since we are beginning again you will be a charter member.  The new beginning is on **July 25 at 11:00**.  Join us that morning and help us get things going again.

One piece of business is getting the postponed rummage sale planned for some time in the fall.  This is our major fundraiser and without it we will not be able to fund all our usual projects.  Aside from that, it is loads of fun, and who does not need some fun this time in 2020.

We look forward to our NEW BEGINNING!

**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** or **Pastor Zimmer.**



**The Thrivent Group meets on the second Sunday each month after divine services.  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 Thrivent members can apply for these wonderful benefits). Thanks.

**Manna/Script 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. Any questions, please contact Lisa Cruz at 630-636-6359 or email at dslcmanna@yahoo.com.



Shop with Scrip (Manna) cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion. Order date is **July 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 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

**Amazon Smile**

Go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), select Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bolingbrook as your charitable organization, begin each of your purchases at [smile.amazon.com](http://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!

**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.

 **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. Here is where you’ll find us:

Facebook: [fb.me/DSLCbolingbrook](http://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 and click on the ‘listen’ tab for specific options):

• issuesetc.org (via a web browser)

• Sirius XM

• Amazon app

• Android via Google Play

• Apple via iTunes

• Windows Phone

• tune in

• stitcher

**Pastoral Care**

Pastor Zimmer will be out of town July 10-17th. If you should need pastoral care, please call Pastor Serbus at 630-969-7987or Ed Cruz.

**Important Phone Numbers**

**Church office: 630-759-5300
Pastor Zimmer: 563-880-1532**

**Prayer Chain: 630-251-7860 (Bobbie Light)**

**Newsletter info: 630-759-3188 (Karen Moritz)**

 **(*articles due July 27)***

**Prayer**

O Lord God, this is a broken, hurting world. It is difficult to see others suffering from disease of body and spirit. Lord of healing You promise complete restoration on the Last Day. In the meantime, Lord, work through all the gifts You give for restoration now; doctors, medical professionals, medicine, counselors, and so many other means. Give relief and cure according to Your good and gracious will, and give peace and comfort that only You can give. Amen

 **(*Portals of Prayer*)**

**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.

Pray for wisdom to those in leadership/authority that they may make wise decisions for the good of all according to God’s will.

God has poured His richest blessings on our Great Nation. May His light continue to guide our path.

