



Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

August 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**

Dear Sheep of the Divine Shepherd:

As we continue to observe the great theologians of Christianity, let us now delve into the life and contributions of St. Augustine of Hippo, one of the most influential Church Fathers whom the Church celebrates on August 28th. St. Augustine of Hippo was a towering figure whose influence continues to shape our understanding, especially of God's grace, original sin, and the nature of our faith. While St. Augustine predates the Reformation, his writings and theological insights have profoundly impacted Lutheranism and Christianity as a whole.

St. Augustine, born in 354 AD in Thagaste (modern-day Algeria) was a man deeply familiar with the struggles of the human heart. His early years were marked by spiritual wandering and intellectual pursuits, searching for truth in all the wrong places. Yet, through the fervent prayers of his mother Monica and the preaching of Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, he was brought to faith by the Holy Spirit as he was baptized in 386 AD.

Although, he wrote many theological treatises, the main doctrines that he is known for are the primacy of grace, original sin, and faith and its superiority to human wisdom and intellect.

Augustine taught that it is not by our merits but by God's grace that we are saved. This doctrine of grace, which Martin Luther vigorously defended and proclaimed, resonates deeply within our Lutheran confession. Augustine's writings are clear and uphold the teaching of Scripture in that we are utterly dependent on God's unmerited favor for our salvation—*sola gratia!*

Augustine's profound understanding of original sin—our inherited corruption and inclination towards evil—is foundational in our understanding of Scripture. He focused on the complete depravity of man so that we see the depth of our need for redemption. By recognizing our sinful nature, we are driven to seek God's grace found only in Jesus Christ.

Augustine famously declared, "I believe in order to understand." This principle underscores the relationship between faith and reason. Faith, a gift from God, leads us to true understanding and wisdom. This aligns perfectly with our Lutheran emphasis on the primacy of faith in apprehending divine truths.

For us Lutherans, Augustine's life is a powerful reminder of the transformative power of God's grace. His Confessions is a timeless narrative of conversion, a testament to God's relentless pursuit of the lost. Augustine's life and writings encourage us to remain steadfast in our faith, always returning to the source of our salvation: Christ alone.

Let the teachings of St. Augustine inspire us to a deeper faith and a richer understanding of God's grace in our lives.

Listen to Jesus,

Pastor Zimmer

Christian Stewardship

Mercy and Grace Lead to Generosity



“Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift” (2 Cor. 9:15)! This is St. Paul’s exclamation upon hearing the Corinthian church’s response to the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his request for support for the church in Jerusalem. The Christians in Corinth heard and received God’s mercy in Christ, and they responded to St. Paul’s call to support Christians in Jerusalem with a collection. The Corinthians’ joy filled Jerusalem’s need.

This is the reality of stewardship. Because of God’s generosity in the giving of His Son to die on the cross for us, we are to be generous with all that we receive from Him. What do we receive? Everything. All that we are and all that we have is the Lord’s. He is the creator and the giver. We are His creatures and those who receive what He gives.

It sounds easy. And it is. But then again it isn’t. Stewardship is easy because it is God’s work. Through what God gives, we give to others. Through what God gives, we support the work of the church for the life of the world. He gives; we receive. And like our generous Father in Heaven, we, as His children, use what He gives to us to love and serve others.

But stewardship is also difficult. That is because it goes against our natural inclination to think that what I have is mine to do what I want with. This is our sinful nature. It is our selfishness and our greed. How can we who have been given everything — life, food, clothing, house, home, forgiveness, divine sonship, an eternal inheritance — be so stingy with what we give to the church, the place where we hear about and receive all that God gives us and does for us? We are all guilty of this kind of thinking. And the only godly response is to repent and trust in the Gospel.

For if God has given you His own Son, will He not give you all things? Yes. He will. This is His sure and certain promise. God provides for His people. He provides everything we need for this body and life and for the life that is to come.

The church is a mercy place. It’s a place where God’s mercy in the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ, is given and received. For us who believe it means forgiveness, life and salvation in the face of sin, death and the power of the devil. Here in the church, we inhale God’s mercy in Word and Sacrament, and exhale this same mercy in love and service to our neighbor. And that is an enduring, joyful thing to do. Our joy fills our neighbor’s need because His joy filled ours (Heb. 12:2). Thanks be to God for His inexpressible gift!

LCMS STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY



Week of August 4-10

Sun, Aug 4, 8:30 am Divine Service
Sun, Aug 4, 9:45 am Fellowship

Week of August 18-24

Sun, Aug 20, 8:30 am Divine Service
Sun, Aug 20, 9:45 am Fellowship

Week of August 11-17

Sun, Aug 11, 8:30 am Divine Service
Sun, Aug 11, 9:45 am Fellowship
Sat, Aug 17, 10:00 am Ladies Aid Meeting

Week of August 25-31

Sun, Aug 25, 8:30 am Divine Service
Sun, Aug 25, 9:45 am Fellowship

August Birthdays

13 Diane Bronson
14 Benjamin Nazario
19 Mary Braasch
20 Bobbie Koritzke (H)
21 Linda Asche
23 Matthew Wise
28 Kathy Wilson



August Baptismal Anniversaries

07 Ruth Ogden
11 Andrew Fox
11 Lelia Martinez
14 Anne Gernenz



August Wedding Anniversaries

14 Doug & Shellie Quinn
20 Howard & Christine Stocker



Caret Baby Bottles

We received an email from Kevin Applegate, Church Partnership Director. He thanked our church for our prayerfully & financially helping Carenet for another Year. By participating in our Coins for Caring network Baby Bottles Drive, Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church raised \$771.85 toward the work of Caring Network, enabling our client interacting team to serve women by sharing the gospel, helping to remove obstacles that cause women to consider aborting their child and minister those who need

Thank You

Christ the King Lutheran Church in Iowa suffered severe flood damage and thanks Divine Shepherd for their generous monetary gift. They feel blessed that people would help them in their time of need .

Bible Studies

All Bible Studies will resume in September. There will be fellowship after the divine service during the summer.

A Note of Thanks and Praise

A note of thanks and praise to our LORD for bringing all of you into our lives. We are so grateful to have shared the blessings that He brings to us each week with you. We have developed friendships that will last a lifetime. We will continue to pray for you, although from a little further away. We will continue to worship with you, also from a little further away. Matt will be moving to Clarksville, Tennessee with his mom. Grace Lutheran Church is located there. Bobbie, Robin and Dan will be moving to McMinnville, Tennessee. Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church is located there.

We are all in the hands of Christ. So how far apart will we really be?

In Christ,
Bobbie, Dan, Robin and Matt

Ladies Aid

WINE AND CHOCOLATE SOCIAL

is coming back – date and 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 August 17. 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?
- How to make the best use of the garage sale proceeds?
- Any new ideas?

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

Altar Flowers



The 2024 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 on. 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, and a brief note to place in the worship bulletin. When the worship service is over, you are welcome to take your bouquets home.

Trustee's Corner

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

Can you spare an hour or two to help maintain the church flower beds (weeding/trimming/etc)?

Kelly Stewart, Trustee

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 August 26)



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.

The first ever cordless phone was created by God.
He named it prayer
It never loses its signal, and you never have to
recharge it.
Use it anywhere. AMEN!



Shop with Scrip cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion **Next order date is August 13.** 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. 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

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/DSLCCbolingbrook
Twitter: @dslc60440

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 signup sheet is posted on the Luther Hall bulletin board.

Oktoberfest

Ladies Aid will be sponsoring the annual Oktoberfest on Sunday, October 29 after the Divine Service. Funds will be requested from Thrivent to purchase the brats/buns/beer/etc. A sign-up sheet will be posted in Luther Hall in early October and 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.

A Prayer

Lord, no matter the time of day, You hear us when we call upon You. I lift up this prayer of thanksgiving to You for all the blessings You have given me out of your love today, knowing that You will answer my prayer. I pray that You will continue to bless me this day while also giving me opportunities to share Your love with others. Thank you, Lord for Your kindness to me and for the gift of salvation through Christ, Your Son. Bless me, my family, and those who worship You. Send us the comfort found in Your Word and our baptismal grace. May I continue to walk in Your ways this day. In Jesus's name. Amen

Portals of Prayer

The first ever cordless phone was created by God.
He named it prayer
It never loses its signal, and you never have to
recharge it.
Use it anywhere AMEN!!

Words To Live By

1. **Wake Up!!** Decide to have a good day. "Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalms 118:24)
2. **Dress Up !!** The best way to dress up is to put on a smile. A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks. "The Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at outward appearance: but the Lord looks at the heart." (I Samuel 16:7)
3. **Shut Up!!** Say nice things and learn to listen. God gave us two ears and one mouth, so He must have meant for us to do twice as much listening as talking. "He who guards his lips guards his soul." (Proverbs 13:3)
4. **Stand Up!!** For what you believe in. Stand for something or you will fall for anything. "Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good. " (Galatians 6:9-10)
5. **Look Up !!** To the Lord. "I can do everything through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)
6. **Reach Up !!** For something higher. "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him, And He will direct your path." (Proverbs 3:5-6)
7. **Lift Up !!** Your Prayers. "Do not worry about anything; Instead, PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING." (Philippians 4:6)