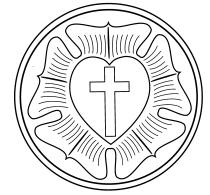


Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



OCTOBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

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

Scriptural Duties of a Congregation

Why does Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church exist? Why are we here? What are we to be doing? The temptation is to think of our congregation primarily in terms of a place to network with fellow Christians, a place to enjoy activities and potlucks, a place to find good Christian books and resources, a place to put one's talents and abilities to work.

As good, useful, and enjoyable as those things might be, none of them is at the heart and center of why we exist. C.F.W. Walther, our Synod's first president, describes the following Scriptural duties of a congregation in his treatise *The Proper Form of an Evangelical Lutheran Congregation*:

- Duty #1: To see to it that the Word of God may richly dwell and have full and free scope in its midst.
- Duty #2: To care for the purity of doctrine and life in its midst and to exercise church discipline in these matters.
- Duty #3: To concern itself also with the temporal welfare of all its members that they may not suffer want of the necessities of life nor be forsaken in any need.
- Duty #4: To see that in its midst “all things be done decently and in order” and to “provide for honest things, not only in the sight of the Lord but also in the sight of men.”
- Duty #5: To be diligent “to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace” also with all parts of the orthodox Church.
- Duty #6: To do its part in building up and promoting the welfare of the Church at large.

Note the importance of God's Word and the purity of doctrine and life. These supersede everything else. Without these, the temporal welfare of members, the administrative tasks, the walking together as synod, and the evangelization of unbelievers are nothing more than a sham.

Sadly, many self-professing Christians want nothing to do with the totality of God's Word or with pure doctrine. They are quick to say: “Deeds, not creeds!” (The irony is that such a statement is a creed—a statement of what one believes!) What they mean is this: What you *do* is more important than what you *believe* and *confess*. No! What you *believe* and *confess* comes *first*. Only then comes the *deeds*.

“He who believes and is baptized will be saved” (Mark 16:16). **“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved”** (Romans 10:9-10). Only after we are saved by *grace alone* through *faith alone* in *Christ alone* do we confess that faith and produce the fruit of good works (i.e. deeds). **“We are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them”** (Ephesians 2:10).

Do you see why Divine Shepherd is so adamant about preaching and teaching everything in accordance with God's holy and inerrant Word? Why purity of doctrine and life is of the utmost importance? Tolerance of false doctrine is never the way of God's people. The Good Shepherd's sheep need to be given new life in Holy Baptism, scrubbed clean in Holy Absolution, fed and nourished with God's Word, and forgiven and strengthened in Holy Communion. That is the Good Shepherd's command for His Church. May it always be our driving principle as well!

Pastor Mumme

October Calendar

Week of Pentecost 16

Sun, Oct 2, 9:00 am - Divine Service
Sun, Oct 2, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School
Sun, Oct 2, 11:30 am - 3:fifteen Youth Study
Wed, Oct 5, 4:30 pm - Youth Catechesis
Sat, Oct 8, 8:00 am - PATHways
Sat, Oct 8, 8:30 am - Altar Guild Conference

Week of Pentecost 17

Sun, Oct 9, 9:00 am - Divine Service
Sun, Oct 9, 10:00 am - Thrivent Meeting
Sun, Oct 9, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School
Sun, Oct 9, 11:30 am - Elders Meeting
Sun, Oct 9, 1:00 pm - Council Meeting
Tues, Oct 11, 1:00 pm - Women's Bible Study
Tues, Oct 11, 2:00 pm - Directory Photos
Wed, Oct 12, 2:00 pm - Directory Photos
Wed, Oct 12, 4:30 pm - Youth Catechesis
Thur, Oct 13, 2:00 pm - Directory Photos
Sat, Oct 15, 8:30 am - Lutheranism Conference
Sat, Oct 15, 10:00 am - Altar Guild Meeting
Sat, Oct 15, 11:00 am - Ladies Aid Meeting

Week of Pentecost 18

Sun, Oct 16, 9:00 am - Divine Service
Sun, Oct 16, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School
Tues, Oct 18, 7:00 pm - Book of Concord Study
Wed, Oct 19, 4:30 pm - Youth Catechesis
Sat, Oct 22, 8:00 am - PATHways
Sat, Oct 22, 8:30 am - Men's Bible Breakfast

Week of Pentecost 19

Sun, Oct 23, 9:00 am - Divine Service
Sun, Oct 23, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School
Sun, Oct 23, 11:30 am - Oktoberfest
Wed, Oct 26, 11:00 am - Pastor @ NICL Study
Wed, Oct 26, 4:30 pm - Youth Catechesis
Sat, Oct 29, 8:00 am - PATHways
Sat, Oct 29, 6:30 pm - Family Game Night

Week of Pentecost 20

Sun, Oct 30, 9:00 am - Divine Service
Sun, Oct 30, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School
Mon, Oct 31 - Reformation

October Birthdays

01 Paula Weberling
03 Linda Data
03 Katie Olifirowicz
03 Kyle Olifirowicz
04 Bobby Thornton
09 Aubrey Thornton
12 Rose Clark
13 Mike Peters
14 Greg McClain
14 Quentin Parmenter
17 Kristy Mueller
17 Michelle Skowron
17 Paul Sturm
18 Michael Mumme
18 Nicholas Sychowski
20 Carol Kuroski
21 Juli Thornton
27 Pat Brieschke
30 Louise Anderson
31 Joan Sturm



October Baptismal Anniversaries

03 Nicholas Henricks
13 Steve Stroh
14 Louise Anderson
14 Alan Grelck
17 Valarie McClain
19 Connor Delaney
21 Jenny Bingenheimer
21 Jeff Bingenheimer
28 Michael Mumme
29 Paul Sturm



October Wedding Anniversaries

03 Bob & Barb Potempa
04 Daniel & Dorothy Marrera
10 John & Kristy Mueller
11 Larry & Terri Kreier
16 Edward & Lisa Cruz
18 Dan & Robin Wise
24 Mickey & Jenny Woods
26 Levi & Joan Fox



Bible Study

Sunday Bible Class

Topic: Ten Commandments

When: Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.

Where: Luther Hall

3:15 Youth Study

Topic: Lutheranism 101

When: Sunday, October 2 @ 11:30 a.m.

Where: Pastor's Study

Women's Bible Study

Topic: to be determined

When: Tuesday, October 11 @ 1:00 p.m.

Where: Luther Hall



Book of Concord Study

Topic: Formula of Concord, Article III

When: Tuesday, October 18 @ 7:00 p.m.

Where: Luther Hall

Men's Bible Breakfast

Topic: Job 22-31

When: Saturday, October 22 @ 8:30 a.m.

Where: Mimi's Cafe

3:15 Youth Study

Youth, we will kick off the new academic year with our first 3:15 Youth Study of the fall on **Sunday, October 2**, following Bible Class and Sunday School. Our topic: **Lutheranism 101!**

There is much to learn about the name we bear, the faith we believe, and the doctrine we confess. What is the relationship of Lutheranism to Christianity? Who was Luther? What is the LCMS? Is our faith only 500 years old? How many Lutherans are there in the world? Why do Lutherans like potlucks so much? Come and learn more about your church heritage and why being Lutheran is to enjoy the fullness of Biblical Christianity! Oh yeah, lunch will also be served!!!

Membership Update

On September 11, we welcomed **Melanie Witzke** into membership via transfer from Saint Paul Ev. Lutheran Church in Lockport, Illinois. Welcome to our church family.

On September 11 the Board of Elders released **Paul & Edna Cordero, Cindy Garcia, and Bryan & Michelle Schilling family** from membership because of their own self-exclusion. It is our fervent prayer they will again join us in regularly receiving our Lord's Word and Sacrament in our midst.

Alms Fund

Divine Shepherd's Alms Fund assists members in need with gift cards to local grocery stores, gas stations, and pharmacies. Gift cards of any amount are welcome and can be purchased through the Ladies Aid Manna program to assist our congregation in additional ways. See **Pastor Mumme** or any of the *elders* if you have questions or would like to make a donation.

Pietism Study

Calvary Lutheran Church in Elgin invites any and all to join them for a fall conference on theology. The topic is "pietism" and the danger it poses to Christians and today's Church. The presenter is Dr. Larry Rast, newly installed president of Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, and a lively and engaging speaker. This presentation is geared toward laypeople and will enrich your understanding concerning the truth of God's Word and the dangers of twisting and turning it to fit one's own needs, feelings, etc. The date is **Saturday, October 15**. The schedule begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends about 12:30 p.m. Please contact Pastor if you plan to attend, and he will forward your name to Calvary to reserve a seat. Let Pastor know if you have any questions.

Christian Education

Christian Education department will be sponsoring an All Hallows Eve Family Night, on **October 29 at 6:30 p.m.** Preschool students will be invited. There will be games and a costume contest for youth and adults.



We ask that families bring a treat to share, drinks will be provided. All ages are welcome. Please join us.

Youth News

Divine Shepherd Youth is going to have a busy year!! We are kicking off fall with a Laser Tag event at Chaser's Laser Tag in Fox Valley on **Saturday, October 15 at 6:00 p.m.** All middle & high school youth are welcome to come! Our monthly Bible studies will be on the **3rd Monday** of every month at **6:30 p.m.** followed by our youth board meeting. The youth have once again decided to use the name "TRICK" as their name to designate the youth group which stands for "Teens Rejoicing in Christ Kare." Our middle school board contact is **Rebecca Parmenter** & our high school board contact is **Kristena Wise-Johnson**. They will work with **Meghan Zeller**, our college representative, on planning future outings and fundraisers. All youth are invited to the Bible Study and are welcome to stay for the board meeting.

This year we will be doing several fundraisers in order to send our youth to the Higher Things Conference "TWELVE" in Winston-Salem, North Carolina held June 26-29. Any confirmed youth 8th grade or older that is interested in attending will need to fill out a registration form no later than **October 25** (available in Luther Hall).

We will repeat our very successful spaghetti dinners and "Minute to Win It" from last year, and will be adding a "Butterbraid" fundraiser in mid to late October. More information will be in the church bulletins.

**Build your
children's lives on
the firm foundation
of the WORD.**

Our youth are deeply appreciative of the congregation's support. They are planning some events that will enable them to give back to their church as well!

Bulletin Covers / Altar Flowers

The 2011 October-December bulletin cover chart is posted in the narthex. Sign up for any open Sunday(s) to celebrate a special occasion or to honor/remember someone. Cost of bulletins is \$10. See **Karen Moritz** for details.

The 2012 Altar Flower chart will be posted within the next couple of weeks in the narthex.

The Gospel at Work in Africa

There are many reasons our gracious Lord has established Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church as a congregation. The chief one is the proclamation of Jesus Christ and the distribution of His gifts in Word and Sacrament to our members and this community. But we also have a responsibility to the Church-at-large.

There are countless people in the world who have never heard the Gospel and thus do not know or believe in Jesus Christ. Thankfully, the Gospel is at work all around the globe through a variety of faithful mission organizations. This past year we began sponsoring a missionary who is bringing the Gospel to people in numerous countries in Africa. His name is the **Rev. James May**. He and his wife Tiina have six children. Pastor May works with *Lutherans in Africa*, a mission group that does mission work in 20 African countries.

Lutherans in Africa brings the Gospel to sinners like you and me so that they too might rejoice in the forgiveness, life, and salvation Christ won for all on the cross. Pastor May preaches and teaches God's Word as confessed in our Lutheran Confessions and helps care for those in the locations where he is sent. He also trains pastors, evangelists, and church workers to continue this work in their own communities. You can read more about Pastor May and *Lutherans in Africa* by visiting their website (www.lutheransin africa.com).

Our mission support for Pastor May not only helps to provide for his and his family's well-being, it also helps to supply much needed educational resources for the people he serves. As the Lord has so blessed you, please consider making a one-time or periodic contributions to this mission project via the offering plate. Checks should be made payable to Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church and earmarked "Rev. May Mission." This is an ongoing mission project that we as a congregation are supporting.

God willing, we will have Pastor May join us sometime to tell us in person about the wonderful mission work *Lutherans in Africa* is doing. We will remember him and his family in our prayers, as well as the countless people who do not yet know or believe in Jesus Christ!

Ladies Aid

Manna Gift card order dates for the rest of 2011 are: October 9 & 23, November 6, 13 & 20, and December 4 & 11, with pickup the successive Sunday(s). Please consider purchasing one or more cards for the “giving tree”. These cards are great for everyday purchases (food/gas/etc), college students, the ALMS fund, and gift giving. It’s never too early to purchase these cards for your personal holiday gift giving.

Ladies Aid will sponsor the “Giving Tree” at Christmas Time. If you know of some-one in the congregation or immediate family in need, please give his/her name(s) to **Pastor Mumme** or **Lisa Cruz** before the end of October. Manna gift cards help the person in need and benefit the church.

If you have a relative/friend serving in the military overseas, please give **Diane Weaver** their name and address before **November 1**. As always, we accept “goodies” and monetary donations.

Ladies Aid is selling a variety of greeting cards (birthday, anniversary, get well, praying/thinking of you, baptismal, and sympathy) in Luther Hall the first Sunday of each month, before and after services.

All women are encouraged to attend the **11:00 a.m.** meeting in Luther Hall on **October 15**.

Preschool News

During the month of October, the children will learn about fire safety. The fire department will visit and talk to the children about fire safety and show them the equipment used to fight fires. For science they will go on a nature walk, look for the signs of fall, and observe the changing colors of leaves.

Monday, 10/ 3 – Picture Day

Wednesday, 10/5 – Field Trip to Johansen Pumpkin Farm 12:30 – 2:15 pm. Bring a sack lunch.

Monday, 10/10 – No School, Columbus Day

Monday, 10/31 – No School, In-service Day

Thank you to the congregational members who participated in our fundraiser. With your help, we made a profit of \$196.42.

Sue Kuhnert, Director

Thrivent Financial

Mark your calendar for **October 23** - Thrivent will be sponsoring the annual **Oktoberfest luncheon**. Please sign up on the attendance sheet in Luther Hall if you are planning on attending (so we have enough food) and/or to bring a dish to pass (optional). The Church Council has approved beer and wine for those interested; you may bring your own. **Neither Thrivent nor Divine Shepherd will supply any alcoholic beverages or take any responsibility for its use.** We hope this will not deter anyone from attending the luncheon.

The annual Christmas Carol Concert will take place at Zion Lutheran Church in Naperville on **December 3**. The combined choirs of Divine Shepherd, St. Matthew’s Lemont and Zion will participate. There will be light refreshments served after the concert. Bus service will be provided. All are invited to get a jump-start on the Blessings of the Christmas Season.

Thanks to all Thrivent members who have donated their Choice Dollars to our church. At this point, we have almost doubled the gifts from the original Care in Congregation amount.


Remember our military. A box is provided in the narthex to donate items for the Christmas Gift Boxes. Check with Diane Weaver for the various items or cash needed.

Shirley Norling, Congregational Advocate

Treasurer’s Report as of August 31, 2011

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Expenses	\$118,699	\$115,576
Income	\$112,891	\$105,537

Sunday Treats

 Do you enjoy treats and fellowship after Sunday services? If so, please consider signing up to bring treats on any given Sunday(s). The sign up sheet is posted on the Luther Hall bulletin board. Ladies Aid only provides drinks, not “goodies” when no one has signed up for a given Sunday. Monetary donations are accepted to defray the cost of drinks/supplies.

Prayer Chain

Several of our women are part of a church prayer chain. If you would like to join them in praying for our congregation's special needs, please contact **Nadine Parmenter** at 815-436-4908 or **Pastor Mumme**.

Important Phone Numbers

Church office: 630-759-5300
Preschool: 630-759-3995 (Sue Kuhnert)
Pastor Mumme: 815-676-4444
Prayer Chain: 815-436-4908 N. Parmenter
Newsletter info: 630-759-3188 (Karen Moritz)
(Due October 24)

Rising Star

Kristena Johnson-Wise has been invited to perform with the Joliet Symphony Orchestra. Please come enjoy her God-given talent as she plays her bassoon with them. *Here are all the details from the University of St. Francis website.*

The Joliet Symphony Orchestra proudly announces its December concert, "Orchestral Masterworks of Beethoven." The program will feature the Egmont Overture, the Elegischer Gesang for chorus and strings, and the popular Symphony No 7. This concert will also feature the conducting debut of new JSO conductor, James Stopher.

Date/Time: Sunday, December 11 at 3:00 pm

Location: Sexton Auditorium

Admission: Adults \$10/Seniors \$7/USF Students free. (815.740.3520). Reservations recommended.

Thank you for all of your prayers and support as she grows in her love of music – The Wise Family.

Reformation Day Prayer

O Lord, our Mighty Fortress, on this day we celebrate the gift of Your grace which freely grants salvation in Christ. We praise You for the gift of faith, through which You bring us into your family and give us the promise of eternal life. We thank You for the precious gift of Your Word, which reveals Your Love and grace to us. With joy, we pray in Jesus' name. Amen



Encouragement to HOPE

You can hold on to HOPE - no matter what happens because there is One who is holding on to YOU. He will stop at nothing and do anything to make sure you have everything you need. I am waiting in hope with you to see all God will do.

He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all - how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things? Romans 8:32

Holley Gerth



God, the World's Landlord

The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it. Psalm 24:1

God desires that we be faithful and thoughtful stewards of His creation. The earth and everything in it—air, water, flora, and fauna—are His. The whole universe belongs to God. He has made provision for its preservation by giving sunshine and rain, the power of [procreation], and other interacting forces. The divine Creator is also the supreme Artist, the painter of scenes on earth and in the sky, the sculptor of rock formations and delicate flowers.

Also belonging to God as His precious possessions are the people inhabiting the earth. Christians especially can understand and fulfill their roles as stewards. They cultivate the ground to grow food, realizing that daily bread and all blessings are God's gift, for His is the seed, the soil, the sunshine, the moisture. From Him come wisdom, strength, and good health to work.

Christians recognize God's ownership of them as His people. He has not only made them but has also redeemed them. *"You are not your own. You were bought at a price" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). That price was "the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect" (1Peter 1:19).*

God is our Landlord; we are mere renters, tenants, stewards. Our permanent home is heaven, prepared for us by Jesus Christ. *(Every Day with the Savior)*