

# Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod



## SEPTEMBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

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

### A Joyful Heart

Sometimes Christians lose their way. They sulk when trial and tribulation come their way. They mope and grumble, pout and complain. Their faces are gloomy and downcast. Their words are negative and pessimistic. And their attitude is damaging and destructive. Do not get me wrong. There is a time and a place for sadness and grief, for tears and concern. **"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ... a time to weep ... a time to mourn ... a time to cast stones ... a time to cast away"** (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8). But all too often Christians mope and grumble pout and complain simply because they fail to look to God for every good and cling to Christ at all times.

The truth be told, our Lord wants us to live joyful lives. He knows there are good days and bad days. He knows we face trial and tribulation. He knows we live in a sinful world. Yet, He has won for us the deepest of all joys on the cross—the joy of His forgiveness, salvation, and redemption. **"These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full"** (John 15:11). This joy—if properly understood and believed—cannot help but work its way outward into our thoughts, words, and deeds. Joy is, after all, one of the fruits of the spirit (Galatians 5:22). It is also listed as one of the characteristics of God's reign in our lives: **"For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit"** (Romans 14:17).

So ask yourself: Am I a joyful person? Where do I find joy? Is it in the things of this world? Is it in the things of God? Both are important, you know. God wants us to find joy in His creation. But even more importantly, He wants us to find joy in Christ, in His forgiveness, in His Word, in His sacraments, in His house, in His people, in His promises. **"In Your presence there is fullness of joy; at Your right hand there are pleasures forevermore"** (Psalm 16:11). **"Restore to me the joy of Your salvation"** (Psalm 51:12). **"Your testimonies ... are the joy of my heart"** (Psalm 119:11). **"Your words become to me a joy and the delight of my heart"** (Jeremiah 15:16).

Do you view God's house that way? God's Word? God's salvation in Christ? Sadly, too many Christians dread church, Bible study, and personal devotion. Others take part in these things, but mostly just go through the motions. The problem, of course, is that we believe we can find joy—true, lasting joy—in the material things of this world. The reason why joy so often escapes us is that our priorities are mixed up. Jesus hits the nail on the head when He says: **"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you"** (Matthew 6:33).

The Christian faces life—all its ups and downs—with the joy that Christ has redeemed him, the Father has promised to provide for him, and the Spirit has made His temple within him. This is true when things are going well—your job is secure, your bills are being paid, your family is not fighting, and your health is good. It is also true when things are not going well—you are unemployed, your bills are piling up, your family is squabbling, or your health is waning. James reminds us: **"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds"** (James 1:2). Joy? Yes, joy! Because Christ has redeemed you. The Father will provide for you. And the Spirit is templed within you.

The icing on the cake is this: Not only is joy a fruit of the Spirit, it brings peace of mind and aids your body in all sorts of ways. **"A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones"** (Proverbs 17:22). So, having been redeemed by Christ, find joy in Him. Find joy in your family. Find joy in your neighbor. Live. Laugh. Smile. Rejoice. You are a beloved child of God, clothed in Christ's righteousness, and privileged to bear the fruit of the Spirit. That's cause for a joyful heart!

**"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope"** (Romans 15:13).

Pastor Mumme

# SEPTEMBER

## September Birthdays

### Week of Pentecost 12

Sun, Sep 4, 9:00 am - Divine Service  
Sun, Sep 4, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School  
Sun, Sep 4, 11:30 am - Elders Meeting  
Mon, Sep 5 - Labor Day  
Wed, Sep 7, 4:30 pm - Youth Catechesis  
Sat, Sep 10, 8:00 am - PATHways  
Sat, Sep 10, 3:00 pm - Float Decorating

### Week of Pentecost 13

Sun, Sep 11, 9:00 am - Divine Service  
Sun, Sep 11, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School  
Sun, Sep 11, 1:00 pm - Council Meeting  
Sun, Sep 11, 2:00 pm - Pathways Parade  
Sat, Sep 17, 8:30 am - Men's Bible Breakfast  
Sat, Sep 17, 10:00 am - Altar Guild Meeting  
Sat, Sep 17, 11:00 am - Ladies Aid Meeting

### Week of Pentecost 14

Sun, Sep 18, 9:00 am - Divine Service  
Sun, Sep 18, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School  
Tues, Sep 20, 1:00 pm - Women's Bible Study  
Tues, Sep 20, 7:00 pm - Book of Concord Study  
Wed, Sep 21, 11:00 am - Pastor @ NICL Study  
Wed, Sep 21, 4:30 pm - Youth Catechesis  
Sat, Sep 24, 8:00 am - PATHways

### Week of Pentecost 15

Sun, Sep 25, 9:00 am - Divine Service  
Sun, Sep 25, 10:30 am - Bible Class & Sunday School  
Mon, Sep 26 - Pastor @ Pastoral Conference  
Tues, Sep 27 - Pastor @ Pastoral Conference  
Wed, Sep 28 - Pastor @ Pastoral Conference

## September Anniversaries

04 Dan & Linda Data  
18 Greg & Val DeWitt  
18 Don & Renata Fiolka  
21 Tim & Nadine Parmenter

01 Melissa Buoncore  
09 Eric Page  
11 Ginny Page  
11 Bryan Schilling  
13 Dan Data  
13 Earline Davis  
13 Bobbie Meyer  
14 Jim Kranich  
15 Alan Grelck  
16 David Dobbs  
17 Doris Gohr  
18 Elizabeth Parmenter  
19 Spenser Fox  
20 Linda Shurhay  
21 Sophia Buoncore  
22 James Cruz  
23 Judy Yuenger  
24 Levi Fox  
24 John Muller  
25 Cindy Garcia  
27 Dale Thornton  
29 Mary Polerecky  
30 Billy Peters



## September Baptismal Anniversaries

01 Bill Tilker  
05 Alicia Kreier  
06 Karlene Grelck  
08 David Grelck  
11 Elaine Bambule  
11 Jessica Gay  
11 Matthew Wise  
13 Charlotte Weberling  
16 Terri Kreier  
16 Ruth Martinez  
17 Kevin Olifirowicz  
18 Otilie Stroh  
22 Alex Lenart  
22 Sophie Sychowski  
23 Courtney Nurczyk  
23 Emily Nurczyk  
25 Mary Braasch  
25 Taylor Jordan  
27 David Dobbs  
31 Lynn Henricks



## Bible & Lutheranism Studies

### Sunday Bible Class

Topic: Ten Commandments

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

Where: Luther Hall

### Men's Bible Breakfast

Topic: Job 22-31

When: Saturday, September 17 @ 8:30 a.m.

Where: Golden Corral

### Women's Bible Study

Topic: to be determined

When: Tuesday, September 20 @ 1:00 p.m.

Where: Luther Hall

### Book of Concord Study

Topic: Formula of Concord, Article II

When: Tuesday, September 20 @ 7:00 p.m.

Where: Luther Hall

## Pathways Parade

This year's Bolingbrook Pathways parade will be Saluting America's Heroes! Divine Shepherd unanimously felt that our Armed Forces personnel were our heroes. We are looking for current Armed Forces personnel, family member of someone in the Armed Forces, or Veterans who will be willing to ride on our float. The parade is Sunday, September 11, beginning at 2:00 p.m. and runs for approximately two hours. You would have to be on the float by 1:00 p.m. If you are interested in being part of this, please contact **Terri Kreier** ASAP at 630-759-6415 or tkreier@comcast.net.



## Preschool News

I would like to thank the ladies who gave many hours of their time to help get preschool ready for another year of learning about Jesus.

During the month of September, we will be busy getting to know each other. The children will hear the story of creation and how important it is that they take care of the world God made.

*Love in Jesus, Sue Kuhnert, Director*

## New All-Church Directory

It has been five years since we had a church photo directory printed and there have been many changes in our church family. We will start making scheduled appointments on **Sunday, September 11, and the following three Sundays, until October 2.** Olan Mills will be taking pictures on **Tuesday-Thursday, October 11, 12 & 13** from **2:00-9:00 pm** at church. If you are unable to make any of these dates, please contact **Barb Potempa** by **Wednesday, September 7.** We have an alternate location in Romeoville on **September 12-16** for evening appointments.

Olan Mills pledges to provide the highest quality products possible while creating lifetime memories for our members. If you are not satisfied with your portraits, they will retake them, retouch or refund your money. They pledge an environment that avoids any high sales pressure. Each church family receives \$25.00 portrait certificate and no other purchase is necessary. There are five different selections, a 3x4, 5x7, 8x10, 12 wallets or a memory set for \$20.00. Any questions or concerns, please contact **Marge Jahnsen** or **Barb Potempa.**

### Schedule for group pictures

**Altar Guild & Ladies Aid – Saturday, September 17**  
**Choir – Sunday, September 25, after church**  
**Council – Sunday, September 11**  
**Elders – Sunday, September 4**  
**Sunday School – Sunday, September 18**

## Membership Update

On August 28 we transferred **Lois Baumann's** membership to Faith Lutheran Church in Sebring, Florida. We wish her God's richest blessings on this new chapter in her life.

## Thank You

A big thank you to **Jim & Carol Kuroski** for maintaining the beautiful church flower beds again this year. Carol would like to thank those who watered while she was on vacation and those who made monetary donations for additional plants/etc.

## Work! Work! Work!

As the summer ends, I cannot help, but think of the work ahead of us. We are about to kick-off the Sunday school and preschool year. We need more help on the preschool board, council positions, cleaning, church repairs, moving the preschool walls after bible study, etc. The work is plentiful and we are always looking for new workers. I want to personally thank all the members who have stepped-up over the past year. There are just too many volunteers doing too many things to list names. Divine Shepherd has been busy! We finished-up another year of Christ centered cross-focused Sunday school and have begun another year. My belt is still struggling from the tasty treats after the services. The bathrooms appeared to clean themselves weekly. The wheels on the preschool walls are showing wear after the countless Sundays where volunteers moved them back and forth. Bulletins and newsletters have been prepared and printed over and over. Money has been counted. The altar has been meticulously prepared. The grounds have been beautified. Money was raised for missions in Africa and Philadelphia. Scholarship funds were raised and dispersed to fund students in LCMS schools. Building repairs were made. We had another great VBS where children were immersed in the word of God. The work is always plentiful, but we have managed to somehow find eager volunteers. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way. We are truly a blessed congregation!

*Mike Dobbs, Council President*

## Thrivent Financial

The VBS kids put their pennies, nickels and dimes together to generate \$109.96. In addition, the Greater Naperville Chapter of Thrivent matched the funds and a check for \$219.96 was forwarded to the Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries to support a solid confessional Lutheran ministry for the unchurched in the city of brotherly love.

The Thrivent Chapter will be presenting a seminar on **September 30** at the Celebration Community Center, 919 S. Washington St. Naperville. The topic will be **IDENTITY THIEF**. Learn how to avoid being ripped off and how to protect yourself from the thief. Everyone is invited.

A Care in Community request has been sent to the Chapter requesting funds for hands-on service to provide funds for the Christmas Gift Boxes to the military. Diane Weaver will take on the responsibility. A box will be in the narthex to accumulate items needed by the military. Check with her for the best items needed, financial help is good too.

The annual election of officers will be from September 1 thru November 30. As soon as the necessary forms are available, **Marge Jahnsen** will be asking the Thrivent members to add their signature and make their choice for 2012 officers.

**Oktoberfest** is **October 23**. For those wishing to attend please sign your name and sign up for a dish or dessert to share on the list in Luther Hall.

*Shirley Norling, Congregational Advocate*

## Ladies Aid

Ladies Aid will sponsor the "Giving Tree" at Christmas Time. If you know of someone in the congregation or immediate family in need, please give his/her name(s) to **Pastor Mumme** or **Lisa Cruz** by the end of October. Manna gift cards help the person in need and benefit our LA group.



If you have a relative or friend serving in the military overseas, please give **Diane Weaver** their name/ 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. Cards may be purchased individually or a box of twelve.

All women are encouraged to attend the **11:00 a.m.** meeting in Luther Hall on **September 17**.

## Youth Choir to Start



We are looking to form an all volunteer youth choir to sing throughout the year and for special occasions. Practice dates and times will be determined by the participants and will no longer be a part of Sunday School. We are looking for Youth of all ages under 18, who would be willing to sing and/or provide instrumental accompaniments. Our hope is to utilize more intricate musical pieces that may encourage musical literacy and hope to find pieces that the youth will enjoy singing. If you are interested, please look for the poster in the narthex and sign your name or email **Terri Kreier** at [tkreier@comcast.net](mailto:tkreier@comcast.net) as soon as possible.

## P.A.T.H.ways Health/Fitness

If you are interested in living healthier and/or getting into better shape, please join us the second and fourth Saturdays of each month in Luther Hall. We will be meeting on **Saturday, September 10 & 24 at 8:00 a.m.** Contact **Lori Mumme** or **Terri Kreier** for additional information.

## 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. Monetary donations are accepted to defray the cost of drinks/supplies.

## Bulletins

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

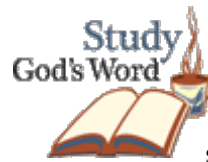
## Prayer Chain

Several of our women are part of a church prayer chain. If you (women or men) would like to join them in praying for our congregation's special needs, 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 September 29)

## Bible Study



My friend attends a weekly Bible study at her church, and has been encouraging me to attend. I am not sure if I should go – I just do not see the point of studying some ancient and outdated book with a bunch of rules. It seems so irrelevant.

I think you should absolutely, definitely, positively attend a Bible study. The Bible may be ancient, but it is by no means outdated. Nor does it merely contain a “bunch of rules”. On the contrary, the Bible is known as the Living Word of God for a reason. All through the ages, imparting wisdom and telling the eternal truth of God's never ending love for all creation. It is a collection of books of many different styles and genres, written by people and inspired by the Holy Spirit, as God's children wrote their understanding of God's interaction in the world and their own personal experiences of God's action in their lives.

The Bible not only tells the history of God's people, but more importantly, it tells HIS-story. This story of God's love has existed from the beginning of time, was experienced by the fathers and mothers of the faith, was written in law and spoken through the prophets, and finally was fully expressed in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Timothy, one of the early church leaders, wrote that “all scripture is inspired by God and useful...” You can see for yourself the list of reasons he names in 2 Timothy 3:16. I hope you will seriously consider studying the Bible and learn of its timeless lessons for people of every time and place even as you nurture your own spiritual growth and knowledge as you grow closer to our Savior Jesus Christ, the Very Living Word himself. Happy reading!  
(*The Steeple Times*) Gospella

## Through Autumn's Glow

### Follow Me

Take up your cross and follow Me  
Wherever I may lead  
Your back will ache, your feet grow tired  
And yes, your heart will bleed.  
But we shall walk together  
And I will share your lot  
For I am always with you  
And will forget you not.

Take up your cross and follow Me  
And I will fill your days  
With Joy that only I can give  
In many precious ways.  
So learn to know me better  
For there are miles to go  
And rest your head upon my Heart  
For I have loved you so.

The light grows dim, the dusk descends  
The sunlight turns to shade  
I give my angels charge of you  
So do not be afraid.  
But trust in Me and do not grieve  
For what has come and gone  
I will provide for all your needs  
Because you are My own.

My yoke is easy, My burden light  
No matter where you roam  
Remember earth will pass away  
But heaven is your home.  
How very brief a time man walks  
Upon this earthly sod,  
So love Me as I first loved you,  
And know that I am God.

(Grace Easeley)

