

# HEARTBEAT

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

[dsomaha.org](http://dsomaha.org) (402) 895-1500

Love God | Share Jesus | Serve People

## *For the Week of November 27, 2022*

### **SENIOR PASTOR CALL TO BE CONSIDERED ASSEMBLY DATE MOVED TO DECEMBER 18**

The Senior Pastor Call Committee anticipates being able to make a recommendation at the upcoming Congregational Assembly, which has been moved to Sunday, Dec 18 at 12:30 pm in the Sanctuary. The committee has narrowed its list to two finalists, Pastor Jeff Skopak and Pastor Brent Smith. Following in-person visits, the call committee will take time for discussion, prayers and deliberation before bringing its recommendation to the voting members at the Dec. 18 meeting. The meeting also will include elections of officers and approval of the 2023 operating budgets for Divine Shepherd and Little Lamb Preschool & Childcare.

The slate for the election is on page two of the Heartbeat.

### **MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES**

In our Advent series, "Be Born in Us Today", we are reminded that Christ is born in us spiritually today and every day. He enters into us daily to strengthen and support us, save us and renew us. We are changed by his presence within us as we become more and more like him in the living of our lives.

Wednesdays, 7:30pm  
November 30, December 7 and 14  
Week 1: Be Born in Us Today Bringing Blessing

### **MIDWEEK SCHEDULE DURING ADVENT**

5:15 - 6:05pm Midweek Meal  
6:15 - 7:15pm Midweek Classes  
7:30pm - Advent Service  
*No Midweek opening Assembly in the Sanctuary*

### **PARENTS' TIME OUT**

Drop your kiddos off with us while you go Christmas shopping, go out to dinner or have some time to yourself. Thursday, December 8 from 4pm to 7:30pm. Divine Shepherd Youth (as well as Spencer and Trish) will watch your kids, feed them dinner, and have some fun activities for them to do - at no

charge to you. Sign up on our website at [dsomaha.org/events](http://dsomaha.org/events).

### **POINSETTIAS**

Help us beautify our church for Christmas by ordering a poinsettia for \$15. Order forms are available now through December 11 in the Atrium. Please return your form to the church office or place in the offering plate. You can also pay for the flowers online at [dsomaha.org/give](http://dsomaha.org/give).

### **WE NEED BOXES**

We will be wrapping over a hundred Angel Tree gifts for children whose parents are incarcerated and we need boxes! If you have small to medium sized boxes to donate, please bring them to the church and put them in marked bin in the Atrium. Thank you!

### **ANGEL TREE UPDATE**

Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree provides an opportunity to extend the hope of the Gospel to families of incarcerated individuals by purchasing Christmas gifts for their children on their behalf. Here are four ways we invite you to participate:

1. **GIFTS FOR CHILDREN:** If you took an angel, please return gifts by Sunday, December 4th at the Angel Tree table. Please do not wrap the gifts.
2. **CAREGIVER GIFT CARDS:** We would love to bless the caregivers of Angel Tree children with a gift card to show appreciation for what they do. Please consider donating \$5 or \$10 gift cards where they could purchase a treat for themselves. You may drop the gift cards off at the church office or on at the Angel Tree table until Dec. 4.
3. **WRAPPING PARTY:** Come help us wrap all the presents for our kids on Thursday, December 8 1pm-4pm in the Trinity Center.
4. **GIFT DELIVERY:** December 11, 2-4pm  
If you would like to help deliver these gifts of

love to some very excited kids, please sign-up at the Angel Tree table in the narthex or contact [jennydarr@dsomaha.org](mailto:jennydarr@dsomaha.org).

### **CALLING ALL CHRISTMAS CAROLERS**

Please join in combining our voices on Sunday, December 11 from 3pm to 5pm as we sing to our Divine Shepherd shut-ins. We will meet in the church parking lot at 2:45pm and carpool to our destinations from there. All ages are welcome so bring the entire family and/or friends and make this a Christmas tradition! Dress for the weather, as we are outdoors as we sing. We will only cancel for ice or measurable snow. If you have questions, please contact Melanie Doeschot (402) 210-5083. What a great way to celebrate Jesus' birth, by lifting our voices and singing praises to Him! We hope that you can join us.

### **MIDWEEK MEALS**

Connect for fellowship and a fresh-cooked meal in the gym served from 5:15pm to 6:05pm on Wednesdays before Midweek classes. Meals will be \$5 for adults and free for kids 10 and under. You do not need to sign up in advance for the meal. November 30 Menu: Breakfast for Dinner

### **SAVE THE DATE: CHRISTMAS MUSICAL**

The kids of Divine Shepherd will be presenting the Christmas Musical called "Straight Outta Bethlehem" on Sunday, December 18 at 10:45am. This is a great opportunity for all of us to invite our unchurched friends and family to church. Everyone will enjoy the music, the acting, and most importantly, the Gospel message will be shared by our children. We hope you can join us for this very special event!

### **WE'RE GOING TO FLORIDA!**

This past week it was announced that Divine Shepherd High School Youth are going to South Florida for our Summer Mission Trip - July 8-16th! Youth currently in the 8th grade and older are welcome to join us. We'll be partnering with a congregation to host Vacation Bible School, do some work projects in the community, and other community outreach projects. The anticipated out-of-pocket cost is \$400/person. Register online at [dsomaha.org/events](http://dsomaha.org/events). There will be an informational meeting for those interested in learning more on Wed., Nov. 30 at 5:15pm in the Youth Room.

## **ELECTION SLATE**

### **2023 Officers**

President- Dan Dittman (1st officer term)  
Vice President- Stuart Bartruff (1st officer term)  
Head Elder- Ken Mar (3rd officer term ends 12-31-23)  
Treasurer- Blake Warneke (1st officer term)  
Secretary- Barb Meier (3rd officer term ends 12-31-24)

### **2023 Board of Directors**

#### **For election to a two-year term**

Dan Dittman (2nd term)  
Barb Meier (3rd term)  
Jessica Thurman (4th term)  
Jeff Ray (1st term)

#### **Remaining term Directors**

Stuart Bartruff  
Blake Warneke  
Brad Kingsbury  
Gina Williams  
Ken Mar

### **2023 Board of Elders**

#### **For election to a two-year term**

Tim Vandenberghe (3rd term)  
Doug Berry (4th term)  
Alan Eschmann (3rd term)  
John Brandquist (2nd term)  
Jerrod Stinnett (1st term)  
Brett Ramsey (1st term)

#### **Remaining term Elders**

Dave Wacker  
Spencer Volzke  
Jason Snell  
Andy Holdt  
Tim Nordquist  
Ken Mar

### **Nominating Committee**

Per the bylaws, the Nominating Committee (appointed by the President) shall include 2 BoD members, 2 BoE members and 2 at-large members.

### **Committee members**

Dan Dittman (BoD)  
Gina Williams (BoD)  
Ken Mar (BoE)  
Jason Snell (BoE)  
Kevin Lammers (at-large)  
John Hill (at-large)

### **SENIORS FOR THE LORD CHRISTMAS**

**CELEBRATION** Our Seniors for the Lord Christmas Celebration will be held on December 7, at 10:00am in the Trinity room. The program will feature songs by the Little Lambs, Mission Belle Singers, and John Withhart. Please bring side dishes and/or desserts. Fried chicken will be provided. Please call Clarice Howard at 402-934-7237 with your intent to come so that we order enough chicken.

### **CANASTA CARD CLUB**

Canasta Card Club will meet Tuesday, November 29, at 1:00pm in the Chapel.

### **NOVEMBER MINISTRY: BOOKS FOR AFRICA**

Our November Ministry of the Month will benefit the Lutheran Church of South Sudan (LCSS), a refugee church body that has persevered during unfathomable hardships. Thousands of books have been collected by Pastor Doug and others and are stored in Omaha and other Midwest locations. The North American Board of Directors for the LCSS (of which both Pastor Jim and Pastor Doug are members) is working with an organization called Books for Africa to ship these books so both schools can have a decent library for their students. A special offering was taken at all services Nov. 12-13 to help fund the shipping of these books. You can give online at dsomaha.org under Ministry of the Month.

### **GIFT OF STOCK DONATIONS 2022**

Federal tax laws allow a charitable deduction through stock transfers. Please keep in mind the stock must first be transferred to Divine Shepherd via the Church's brokerage firm before being liquidated. This process can take up to two weeks before it arrives in the church account. If you are planning to make a donation for 2022 via a gift of stock please contact Jennie Smith, Director of Finance and Operations at 402-895-1500 or email [jennie@dsomaha.org](mailto:jennie@dsomaha.org).

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Altar flowers are given by Chuck and Bonnie Clark in thanksgiving to God for the blessings of home, family, and friends.

### **ADULT BIBLE STUDIES**

Please see the website, [dsomaha.org](http://dsomaha.org), and calendar for our Adult Bible Study offerings.

### **E-NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP AVAILABLE AT DSOMAHA.ORG**

### **CHURCH STAFF**

#### **Rev. Jim Rasmussen**

[jim@dsomaha.org](mailto:jim@dsomaha.org)

Associate Pastor/Director of Discipleship

#### **Rev. Doug Morton**

[doug@dsomaha.org](mailto:doug@dsomaha.org)

Pastoral Care Assistant

#### **Jennie Smith**

[jennie@dsomaha.org](mailto:jennie@dsomaha.org)

Director of Finance and Operations

#### **Trish Reinbold**

[trish@dsomaha](mailto:trish@dsomaha)

Director of Children's Ministry

#### **Spencer Owen**

[spencer@dsomaha.org](mailto:spencer@dsomaha.org)

Director of Youth Ministry

#### **Jenny Darr**

[jennydarr@dsomaha.org](mailto:jennydarr@dsomaha.org)

Director of Community Life

#### **Misty Kudrna**

[misty@dsomaha.org](mailto:misty@dsomaha.org)

Director of Media & Technology

#### **Kevin Reinbold**

[kevin@dsomaha.org](mailto:kevin@dsomaha.org)

Facilities Manager

#### **Pat Boozikee**

[pat@dsomaha.org](mailto:pat@dsomaha.org)

Office Assistant

#### **April Gregory**

[april@dsomaha.org](mailto:april@dsomaha.org)

Office Assistant

#### **Emily Hart**

[emily@dsomaha.org](mailto:emily@dsomaha.org)

Office Coordinator

### **LITTLE LAMB LEADERSHIP**

#### **Tonya Isaac**

[tonya@dsomaha.org](mailto:tonya@dsomaha.org)

Director of Little Lamb Preschool & Childcare

#### **Rhonda DeVries**

[rhonda@dsomaha.org](mailto:rhonda@dsomaha.org)

Assistant Director/Registrar

# This Week's Calendar

## Monday, November 28

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10:00am **Women's Bible Study** - "Esther" (Trinity Center)  
1:00pm **Prayer Shawl** (Shepherd's Room)

## Tuesday, November 29

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10:00am **Adult Bible Study** "Growing Deep Into the Real Jesus," A Study of the Gospel of John (Chapel)  
1:00pm **Quilting Group** "Divine Piecers" (Chapel)  
1:00pm **Canasta Card Club** (Chapel)

## Wednesday, November 30

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5:15pm **Youth Group Florida Mission Trip Meeting** (Youth Room)  
5:15-6:05pm **Midweek Meal** (Gym)  
6:15-7:15pm **Midweek Classes**  
6:15pm **Chancel Choir Practice** (Choir Room)  
7:30pm **Advent Service** (Sanctuary)

## Thursday, December 1

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7:30pm **AI-Anon** (Commons & Cave)

## Friday, December 2

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6:15am **Men's Bible Study** - "Philippians" (Shepherd's Room)

## Saturday, December 3

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9:00am **Pickleball** (Gym)  
5:00pm **Evening Praise Worship** with Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

## Sunday, December 4

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8:00am **Traditional Worship** (Sanctuary)  
8:45-11:00am **Fellowship Time with Coffee & Donuts** (Chapel)  
9:30am **Kids Church** (Chapel)  
9:30am **Modern Worship** with Holy Communion (Sanctuary)  
9:30am **Women's Bible Study** - "Jude: Contending for the Faith in Today's Culture" (Shepherd's Room)  
10:45am **Modern Worship** (Sanctuary)

## Prayers November 23, 26 and 27

### WITH JOY AND THANKSGIVING

- **Chuck and Bonnie Clark** in thanksgiving to God for the blessings of home, family, and friends.

### FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

- **Kathy Stinnett**, for healing
- **Lois Koehler**, for healing
- **Steve Jipp**, for healing
- **Bill Seim**, for healing
- **Corlyn Klug**, for recovery in rehab from an infection
- **Les Bockman**, brother of Cindy Campbell, for healing
- **Sherwin Terrill**, for healing
- **Gary Toelle**, for healing
- **Milan Reick**, for continued recovery
- **David Dierking**, who is hospitalized
- **Justin Ryman**, for relief from painful headaches
- **Tammy**, cousin of Bette Bilau, for treatment of serious illness
- **Paul Steege**, for upcoming eye surgery November 29
- **Kristin Jimerson**, for an upcoming procedure
- **Evelyn Favre**, aunt of Dan Ring, who is in hospice

### FOR COMFORT AND PEACE

- **Pray for comfort for the family of Lonna LeGrande**, daughter-in-law of Marilyn LeGrande, who passed away November 20.

### FOR OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, NATION, AND WORLD

- **That hostilities would cease in Ukraine**
- **Protection for those serving in the military**, especially those deployed including Dan Lazinek, Sean Stone, Michael Hanson, Calvin Kruse, and Skyler Bergelt
- **For those who serve in government:** for wisdom, guidance, and a seeking after God
- **For Christians around the world** who are persecuted for their faith in Jesus
- **For moisture to relieve the drought**

### FOR THE LORD'S BLESSING AND GUIDANCE

- **Prayers for our Church as we go through the senior pastor call process.** For wisdom and discernment for the Call Committee as they follow the process, that God's will be done for our congregation.
- **Little Lamb Preschool & Childcare** — thankfulness for our staff, parents & children
- **Concordia Schools of Omaha** — our partners in Christian education
- **Stephen Ministers** providing care in Jesus' name and their care receivers
- **Rebecca Bartelt**, daughter of Rev. Bartelt, preparing to serve on the mission field in Taiwan as a music educator.