



HEARTBEAT

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

dsomaha.org (402) 895-1500

Love God | Share Jesus | Serve People

For the Week of August 28, 2022

SIGN-UP SUNDAY

It's Sign-Up Sunday! You are invited to participate in the life of Divine Shepherd. The church is so much more than a building or something we do on Sunday mornings. It's a community, a family in Christ. There is something for everyone!

Please fill out one card for each member in your household, including children. Turn in the form today in the baskets as you leave or bring it back next Sunday.

We're happy to answer any questions you may have about ways you can connect with God and others here at Divine Shepherd! You can find church staff in the Atrium on August 28 and September 4 between services to learn more.

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

Divine Shepherd is partnering with the Pheasant Run homeowners association to host a Neighborhood Block Party on **Sunday, September 11 from 11am to 1pm** at the green space immediately west of Divine Shepherd near the Pheasant Run signs at Blackwell Drive and Q Street. This outreach event is an opportunity to connect with the community around us. Join us for some food, along with bounce houses, bingo with prizes, and games for the kids and more! Hamburger and hot dog meals will be served. A free-will offering will help us offset costs. Flyers are available in the Atrium for you to invite friends and neighbors. **Note: To allow everyone to attend, there will not be a 10:45am service that day.**

BLOCK PARTY VOLUNTEERS

We need help setting up for the event, running Bingo, face painting, serving food, and cleaning up. **All volunteers for this event will get a free, newly-designed Divine Shepherd t-shirt!** Go to our website at dsomaha.org and

look for the sign-up page to help with a shift. Contact jennydarr@dsomaha.org with any questions or to sign up to help.

MIDWEEK - SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Our Wednesday night Midweek Connection program is about to start up again! Please mark your calendar for Wednesday, September 7 from 6:15 to 7:30pm and plan on joining us for fellowship and education.

MIDWEEK SCHEDULE

5:15 - 6:05pm Meal in the gym

6:15 - 6:25pm Opening in the Sanctuary
(all ages)

6:30 - 7:30pm Midweek Connection Classes and Bible Studies

MIDWEEK CLASS OFFERINGS

- Midweek Connections Bible Classes for Kids (3yrs - Fifth Grade)
- Midweek Connections Middle School Confirmation Class (Sixth - Eighth Grade)
- Midweek Connections High School Youth Group & Bible Study
- Adult Bible Study – *Growing Deep Into the Real Jesus, "A Study of the Gospel of John"* with Pastor Doug
- Parenting Bible Study – *Sexuality Mentality: Creating a Culture of Biblical Integrity* with Sally Vandenberghe
- Women's Bible Study – *Joy, A Study of Philippians* with Jenny Darr
- Men's Bible Study – *A Biblical Take on Current Events* with Ken Mar & Alan Eschmann
- The Nursery will be available for children who can sit up by themselves, about 6 months through 2 years old.

To sign your child(ren) up for Midweek classes or Confirmation classes visit www.dsomaha.org/events.

MIDWEEK MEALS

Connect for fellowship and a great meal before Midweek. A homecooked meal will be served from 5:15 to 6:05pm. Meals will be \$5 for adults and kids 10 and under are free. You do not need to sign-up in advance for the meal. Watch for more details before the first meal on September 7.

Can you help with Midweek Meals? Help is needed to serve, collect money, donate desserts, and clean up. Contact jennydarr@dsomaha.org if interested.

MIDWEEK VOLUNTEER

OPPORTUNITIES! Volunteers are needed to help with Midweek lessons for kids from 3 years old through 8th grade. For more information, contact Spencer (helping with 6th through 8th grader) or Trish (helping with kids preschool through 5th grade). For the safety of our kids, background checks will be done on all volunteers.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

A class leading to membership at Divine Shepherd will start on Sunday, Sept. 18. The class is for those who do not have a background in our church body, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. It will cover the key teachings of the Bible and the Lutheran Church. This class will meet for seven one-hour sessions at 9:30am Sunday mornings in the Trinity Center on the lower level. The final session on Oct. 30 will be an orientation to the many opportunities to get involved at Divine Shepherd. That session will also include those members who have recently transferred to Divine Shepherd from other Lutheran congregations.

A welcome ceremony for new members will be held on Oct. 30 at the 10:45am service. To enroll in or inquire about the class, contact Pastor Jim at jim@dsomaha.org or 402-895-1500, ext. 217.

HANDBELL CHOIR

Handbell Choir will be starting Wednesday September 14 from 7:45 to 8:45pm. Anyone interested should be high school age or older. No experience is necessary! (Being able to read music is helpful but not required.) Please fill out this Google Form to sign up! <https://forms.gle/wp1AKpeq6RFR2PAV9>

Any questions, contact Angie Miller at sahm.miller2@gmail.com or 402-206-3071.

TUESDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Doug Morton will be teaching "Faithfulness in an Unfaithful World," A Study of Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians on Tuesday mornings from 10am to 11:15am in Luther Chapel. This class will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 13. Please join us and grow in your faith through the Word of God!

CANASTA CLUB

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

Board of Directors (BoD) 8-16-22 Meeting Recap

- Trish Reinbold, Director of Children's Ministry, provided a report on the various ministry activities for building the faith formation of the children. ~175 children attended the Vacation Bible School.
- The BoD approved the 2023 Concordia Plan Services medical/vision/dental plans for the staff and ministry team.
- The BoD approved the CPA (Freeman & Bonnema CPA's) prepared Financial Review Statements for the 2021 fiscal year.
- Pastor Rasmussen provided a Director of Ministry report and Jennie Smith provided a Director of Finance report.
- Directors serving on the Senior Pastor Call Committee reported that the Pastor names, submitted by congregation, have been forwarded to District President Snow for his review and formation of an eligible candidate list.
- Giles property update-- the Gretna Public Schools (adjacent property owner) and Sage Capital (buyer) will formulate sub-division cost-sharing agreements to address the infrastructure costs and other costs relating to the inter-local requirements of the City of Gretna and Sarpy County.
- The BoD discussed forward looking strategies (post-closing of the Giles Property sale) to retire the remaining outstanding debt and address capital/operating reserve requirements.
- The Key Performance Indicators were reviewed. Membership growth reflects a modest increase. Attendance is materially ahead of last year. The YTD net operating income is well ahead of budget. General

fund giving is better than budget and expenses have been controlled. The net operating income of Little Lamb is also exceeding budgeted expectations. Little Lamb is operating near capacity from a census standpoint, staffing remains a challenge.

- The BoD expressed their appreciation to Pastor Jim and Pastor Doug for their pastoral leadership during this vacancy period.

Praise the Lord for our Blessings!

Stuart Bartruff, Congregational President

DIVINE SHEPHERD IS HIRING

Nursery Worker - Divine Shepherd is hiring one or more part-time Nursery workers. Workers are needed on Sunday mornings during the 9:30am and 10:45am services and perhaps on Wednesday evenings for Midweek. Applicants must be 16 years old and be able to care for babies and young children.

Custodian - Divine Shepherd is hiring a part-time custodian. Applicants need to be available three afternoons/early evenings a week for a total of 10-15 hours. Duties include general cleaning in bathrooms, classroom and hallways.

Little Lamb Infant & Toddler Teachers & Assistants - Little Lamb is hiring part-time and full-time infant and toddler teachers and assistants. We're at capacity and hoping to provide care for more families! If you know of someone who loves kids and is looking for a job, please pass along our info to them.

For more information on any open positions, please contact Jennie Smith at 402-630-3344 or via email jennie@dsomaha.org

GOURMET GROUP SEPTEMBER OUTING

Divine Shepherd's Gourmet group, aka Divine Tasters will begin meeting again in September. The first outing will be to Primo's Modern Mexican, 5914 Center St at 6pm on September 18th. Reservations need to be made, so please contact

julieaschenk@gmail.com or 402-669-7662. We welcome new faces, so please join us.

CHANCEL CHOIR UPDATE

The Chancel Choir will begin weekly rehearsals on September 7 and will continue to meet in the choir room downstairs each Wednesday from 6:15 to 7:30pm. The Chancel Choir sings nearly

every Sunday at the 8:00am service. Join the chancel choir at their "Get Acquainted Potluck" on Wednesday, August 31 from 6:15 to 7:30pm in the Trinity Center. They invite those who have been part of the choir before and people who are interested in joining. Bring a dish or two to share. Tableware will be furnished. They are looking forward to another year of praising our God with music! Contact Betty Buller at jimandbettybuller@gmail.com or 402-490-3668 with questions.

SENIORS FOR THE LORD Join the Seniors for a tour of the Capital in Lincoln, Wednesday, September 7th. We will meet at church for devotions and to carpool at 8:30am. Lunch to follow at Da Vinci's. RSVP by phone or text to Shirley Asmussen 402-690-7293. ANYONE is welcome to join us.

PICKLEBALL CANCELLED ON SEPT. 3

Pickleball is cancelled on Saturday, September 3 on Labor Day Weekend. Play will resume on Saturday, Sept. 10 from 9am to 11am. Anyone is welcome to join at anytime, no experience required!



Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of: Chuck and Bonnie Clark's fifty-one-derful years on August 28, Jim and Marilyn Layman in celebration of 59 years of marriage on August 23, Paul and Ginny Meyer celebrating 59 years of marriage on August 31st AND Milan & Marie Reick's 84th and 86th birthdays on August 24th and 25th.

ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

We offer Bible Studies for men and women throughout the week. Please visit our website to learn more details about the Bible Studies: <https://www.dsomaha.org/ministry/adults>

The deadline for weekly communication submissions is Wednesday, 5pm.

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

This Week's Calendar

Monday, August 29

1:00pm **Prayer Shawl** (Shepherd's Room)

Tuesday, August 30

Wednesday, August 31

6:15pm **Women's Bible Study** (Shepherd's Room)

Thursday, September 1

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

Friday, September 2

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

Saturday, September 3

5:00pm **Evening Praise Worship** (Sanctuary) with Holy Communion

Sunday, September 4

8:00am **Traditional Service** (Sanctuary)

8:45-11:00 **Fellowship Time with Coffee & Donuts** (Chapel)

9:30am **Kids Church** (Chapel)

9:30am **Modern Worship** (Sanctuary) with Holy Communion

10:45am **Modern Worship** (Sanctuary)



Call the Church Office (895-1500) or e-mail prayers@dsomaha.org with prayer requests. Our Heartline Prayer Ministry members are notified via e-mail. In addition to our Pastors and Staff, our Elders serve as spiritual leaders for the congregation and will be happy to talk with you by phone or meet with you for prayer.

WITH JOY AND THANKSGIVING

- **Jim and Marilyn Layman**, celebrated 59 years of marriage on August 23
- **Chuck and Bonnie Clark**, celebrating 51 years of marriage on August 28
- **Paul and Ginny Meyer**, celebrating 59 years of marriage on August 31

FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

- **Tegan**, a relative of Ellen Schwartz, hospitalized after a motorcycle accident
- **Karen Wall**, for continued healing after hip surgery
- **Todd LeGrande**, for healing
- **Susan Cruz**, cousin of Dels Hein, for healing and recovery
- **Rosalie**, aunt of Steve and Gayle Jipp, for recovery from covid
- **Jason Greene**, brother of Shannon Greene, for continued healing
- **Jenny Mosher**, for healing and pain relief
- **Mitch Reick**, son of Milan and Marie Reick, for healing
- **Bill Seim**, for continued healing
- **Patricia Siedelmann**, for healing
- **Bev Major**, for healing
- **Kathy Stinnett**, for healing
- **All those battling cancer: Susan Gady, Teresa, Frauke, Terri Reed, Cheryl Evans, Deb Lamb, Paula Kresl, Doris Witecki, Gary Krichau, Victoria Rose Reed, Dale Sieber, Cynthia Petermann, Joe Niehaus** (son-in-law of Jenny Mosher), **Al Jankowski, Cyndee Earl, Gary Toelle, Bob Oberhauser, Laura Rogers, Sherri Flanagan, Donna Tatreau, Steve Jipp, Daren Kizlin and his sister Angie**

FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING

- **For the family of Donald Bouchard III**, son of JR and Brenda Woltemath, as Donnie went home to be with the Lord on August 22

FOR OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY, NATION AND WORLD

- **That hostilities would cease in Ukraine**
- **Protection for those serving in the military**, especially those deployed including Tina Byrant, Christian Reinbold, Dan Lazinek, Sean Stone, Michael Hanson & Calvin Kruse
- **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 THE LORD'S BLESSING AND GUIDANCE

- **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