

# HEARTBEAT

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

dsomaha.org (402) 895-1500

Love God | Share Jesus | Serve People

## *For the Week of November 20, 2022*

### **THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE**

Give thanks to the Lord with us at our Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service on Wednesday, November 23 at 7pm.

### **NO MIDWEEK CLASSES THIS WEEK, NOV. 23**

We will not have any Midweek classes or meal this week due to Thanksgiving. We will resume Midweek classes and meals on November 30. Please Note the Wednesday evening service times as we start Advent next week!

### **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*

### **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

On Tuesday, a review of the final 5 pastors was completed and after prayerful consideration from the Call Committee and the pastors involved, we have 2 pastors who have agreed to visit in person. They are Pastor Jeff Skopak and Pastor Brent Smith. Due to pastors' very busy schedules and the holidays fast approaching, scheduling will be challenging but always led by the Holy Spirit. Thank you to all who attended the assembly last Sunday and who were engaged in the Call update. We look forward to providing our next update as visits are concluded. Yours in Christ, Jason Snell - Call Committee Chair

### **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 or by calling the church office. Please return your form to the church office or place in the offering plate.

### **CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEC. 11**

A Congregational Assembly will be held on Sunday, December 11 at noon to elect members

of the Board of Directors and Board of Elders and to approve the 2023 operating budget of Divine Shepherd and Little Lamb Preschool & Childcare.

### **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. Forced to leave their country to flee a bloody civil war, members have relocated to other nearby countries. In Ethiopia, the church body operates Trinity Lutheran Seminary, which trains pastors; and Trinity Lutheran College, which trains nurses and other students. Both schools are in desperate need of books.

Thousands of books have been collected by Pastor Doug and others and are stored in Omaha and other Midwest locations. Some funds have been raised to ship them, but more are needed and the cost of shipping them has gone up. 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.

### **THANKSLIVING PROJECT**

The Little Lamb Preschool & Childcare students have been Living out their Thankfulness. Starting in mid-October, the children were working hard at home doing jobs for moms and dads to earn money for our recent field trip. This past week, we went to Stony Brook Hy-Vee to tour the grocery store and learn about healthy eating. Then each child and parent took the hard-earned money and went shopping for non-perishable food items. They returned all that food to the altar as our gifts to Jesus to help others in need. You see all the

donated food on display around the altar this weekend. This food will be donated and picked up by Millard Wee Care who support families right here in Millard. Join us in living out your thankfulness by serving others. Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

### **ANGEL TREE - GIFT TAGS & GIFT CARDS**

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. This year Divine Shepherd has the opportunity to show God's love to 60 children and over 39 incarcerated parents. Here are three ways we invite you to participate:

1. **GIFTS FOR CHILDREN:** Email Jenny Darr if you had wanted to purchase a gift for a child. We have a few tags left!  
\*Return gifts by Sunday, December 4th. **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. **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).

### **PICKLEBALL CANCELLED ON SAT. NOV 26**

Due to Thanksgiving break, Pickleball is cancelled this Saturday, November 26. We will resume play on December 3 at 9am. Anyone is welcome to join our group at anytime.

### **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 Withart. 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.

### **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 with online registrations opening Nov. 16 at [dsomaha.org/events](http://dsomaha.org/events). There will be two informational meeting options for those interested in learning more: Sunday, Nov. 20 at noon and Wed., Nov. 30 at 5:15pm. Both meetings will take place in the Youth Room.

### **ADVENT IN A BOX**

Our Advent boxes are designed to be used by families with kids and are available in the Atrium for you to take. It is our hope that using the activities included in the box will help your family prepare for Christmas by having faith conversations at home during the week. Everything you need to complete the activities is in your box including items such as balloons, battery operated candles, bubble wands and so much more! Take a box for your family and one for friends, relatives and neighbors. Grandparents, take a box for your grandkids and their family as well!

### **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 to God's glory by Bill and Marlene Seim in thankfulness and celebration of 62 years of marriage on Nov. 19.

## **ADULT BIBLE STUDIES**

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

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

**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.org](mailto:trish@dsomaha.org)

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

### **Joan Rowell**

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

Accounting 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 21

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

### Tuesday, November 22

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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)

### Wednesday, November 23

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7:00pm **Thanksgiving Eve Service** with Holy Communion (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, November 24

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*Church office is closed. Happy Thanksgiving!*

### Friday, November 25

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*Church office is closed.*

### Saturday, November 26

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5:00pm **Evening Praise Worship**

### Sunday, November 27

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



Call the Church Office (895-1500) or e-mail [prayers@dsomaha.org](mailto: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

- **Bill and Marlene Seim** in thankfulness and celebration of 62 years of marriage

#### FOR HEALING AND STRENGTH

- **Kathy Stinnett**, for healing
- **Lois Koehler**, for healing
- **Steve Jipp**, for recovering from a fall
- **Bill Seim**, for healing
- **Corlyn Klug**, for recovery in rehab from an infection
- **Shirley Aken**, healing from knee surgery
- **Les**, brother of Cindy Campbell, for healing
- **Sherwin Terrill**, for healing
- **Lynda Farris**, recovering from surgery
- **Gary Toelle**, for healing
- **Milan Reick**, for continued recovery
- **Elizabeth**, daughter of Gary Krichau, for successful treatment and pain relief
- **David Dierking**, who is hospitalized

#### FOR COMFORT AND PEACE

- **Pray for comfort for the family of Dee Dennis**, mother of Chris Dennis, who passed away November 13.
- **Pray for comfort for the family of Bob Ticken**, who passed away November 16.

#### 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.