

# HEARTBEAT

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

dsomaha.org (402) 895-1500

Love God | Share Jesus | Serve People

## *For the Week of December 4, 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 candidates, 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  
December 7 and 14  
Week 2: Bringing Renewal

### **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](https://dsomaha.org/events).

### **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!

### **CHILDREN'S 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 an excellent 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!

### **ANGEL TREE WRAPPING PARTY & GIFT**

**DELIVERY** Come help us wrap all the presents for the kids on Thursday, December 8 from 1pm to 4pm in the Trinity Center. Even 30 minutes of your time would be helpful! We need a few more people to help deliver gifts on December 11 from 2pm to 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).

### **NEW PORTALS OF PRAYER**

The January - March 2023 "Portals of Prayer" daily devotional booklets are now available. Pick one up on your way out of worship today!

## **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 Vandeberghe (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)

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING RECAP 11-29-22**

- Board(s)/Officer Nominations--The BoD approved the Board of Directors slate, Board of Elders slate and Officer slate as recommended by the Nominating Committee. The slates will be presented at the Congregational Meeting on December 18 for approval.
- The BoD approved the 2023 Housing Allowances for the called staff. The IRS regulations require approval by the employer.
- The BoD voted to recommend approval of the 2023 budgets for DSLC and LLPC. Both budgets will be submitted at the Congregational Meeting for approval.
- The BoD approved (ratification) the amended Sage Capital purchase agreement. The amended agreement was originally approved by the BoD via email.
- The BoD approved the full payoff of the First Westroads Bank loan from the Giles Property sale proceeds, and from utilization of the Seeds of Hope/previous campaign account balances. At this point in time, the sale of the property is expected to be consummated in December.
- Pastor Rasmussen provided a Director of Ministry report and Jennie Smith provided a Director of Finance and Operations report.
- The Key Performance Indicators were reviewed. The combined net operating income remains well ahead of budget.
- Directors serving on the Senior Pastor Call Committee provided an update.

Praise the Lord for our Blessings!  
Stuart Bartruff, Congregational President

### **LOST AND FOUND**

Keys? Stuffed animals? Glasses? Purses? Blankets? Come and gather what's lost so it can be found. A table in the atrium near the exit will have these lost belongings this weekend. The remaining items will be donated or thrown away.

### **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 cost \$5 for adults and are free for kids 10 and under. You do not need to sign up in advance for the meal. December 7 Menu: Spaghetti, salad and breadsticks. Kids: hotdog, chips, mac & cheese.

## **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).

## **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 Center. 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.

## **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 congregation'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 in thankfulness for the blessings of church, 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.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

### **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, December 5

---

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

## Tuesday, December 6

---

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, December 7

---

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 8

---

1:00pm **Angel Tree Wrapping Party** (Trinity Center)  
7:30pm **Al-Anon** (Commons & Cave)

## Friday, December 9

---

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

## Saturday, December 10

---

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

## Sunday, December 11

---

8:00am **Traditional Worship** 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)  
2:00pm **Angel Tree Gift Delivery** (Trinity Center)  
3:00pm **Christmas Caroling** to Shut-ins



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.

#### 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
- **Sherwin Terrill**, for healing
- **Gary Toelle**, for healing
- **Milan Reick**, for continued recovery
- **Justin Ryman**, for relief from painful headaches
- **Kristin Jimerson**, for an upcoming procedure
- **Evelyn Favre**, aunt of Dan Ring, who is in hospice
- **Paula Kresl**, for healing
- **Ginny Meyer**, hospitalized after a fall
- **Karen Lundquist**, for successful upcoming eye surgery

#### 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, the candidates, and the congregation, that God's will be done.
- **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.