



dsomaha.org (402) 895-1500

Love God | Share Jesus | Serve People

For the Week of August 21, 2022

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-1pm** at the green space immediately west of Divine Shepherd near the Pheasant Run signs at Blackwell Dr. 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! We'll offer a \$3 Hot Dog Meal and a \$5 Hamburger Meal, both with chips and a cookie. This event is open to the public and YOU are invited! **Note: To allow everyone to attend, there will not be a 10:45am service that day.**

Can you help with our Block Party?

This event provides a great way to be missional to our neighbors and get to know other Divine Shepherd members! We need help setting up for the event, running Bingo, face painting, serving food, and cleaning up. Go to our website at dsomaha.org and look for the sign-up page to help with a shift. Contact Jenny Darr jennydarr@dsomaha.org with any questions or to sign up to help.

PASTOR GIERKE'S FUNERAL

Pastor Charles Gierke's funeral will be this Wednesday, August 24 at 10am here at Divine Shepherd. Visitation will be from 9am-10am in the atrium. A luncheon will follow in the gym.

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 6:15-7:30pm and plan on joining us for fellowship and education. We will have a place for everyone from 6 months old through adults. The Nursery will be available for young children from 6 months through 2 years old. We

will have Bible education classes for kids from 3 years old through 5th grade, Confirmation classes for Middle Schoolers in 6th-8th grades, High School Youth Group for high school students as well as several adult Bible study options. More details about specific Bible study topics are coming! If you or someone you know would like to head up preparing a meal to be served from 5:00-6:00pm, please let us know. To sign your child(ren) up for Midweek classes or Confirmation classes, visit www.dsomaha.org/events.

MIDWEEK MEALS

Join us for fellowship and a great meal before Midweek. We will be serving a homecooked meal 5:15-6:05pm. 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 our first meal on September 7.

Can you help? We'll need help serving, collecting money, and cleaning up. Contact jennydarr@dsomaha.org if you're interested in helping with our Midweek Meals.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES! Spencer and Trish are looking for volunteers to help with Midweek this fall. Volunteers are needed to help with Midweek lessons for kids from 3 years old through 8th grade. Can you help with the faith formation of the kids in our church? For more information, contact Spencer (if you are interested in helping out with 6th-8th graders) or Trish (if you are interested in helping with kids in preschool through 5th grades). For the safety of our kids, background checks will be done on all volunteers.

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

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.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

From the Pastoral Call Committee:

Finalized Call documents are being submitted to the district office which includes the congregational self-study results, pastoral job description, and a list of the nominated pastors with the required Master of Divinity Degree. After district review and approval, we'll begin reviewing pastor biographies, reaching out to find those that are open to a Divine Call, and to schedule interviews. As always, your continued prayers are needed and appreciated greatly!

Your Servant, Jason Snell, Committee Chair

DIVINE SHEPHERD IS HIRING

Office Coordinator - Divine Shepherd is seeking candidates for a full-time position that will assist the Director of Finance and Operations and Ministry Staff in daily church office coordination duties. Hours will be Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:30pm and Friday 8:00am-1:00pm.

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 3 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

Our Gourmet group, aka Divine Tasters will begin meeting again in September. Our 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 6:15-7:30pm. The Chancel Choir sings nearly every Sunday at the 8:00am service. Join us at our "Get Acquainted Potluck" on Wednesday, July 31 at 6:15-7:30pm in the Trinity Center. We invite those who have been part of the choir before and for people who are interested in joining. Bring a dish or two to share. Tableware will be furnished. We 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 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.



Altar flowers are given in thankfulness for 62 years of marriage on August 20 by Bill and Sandy Womack and by Lynette Hupman in honor of Amanda Gnirk's 19th birthday.

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

Church Staff

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Tonya Isaac

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Director of Little Lamb Preschool & Childcare

Rhonda DeVries

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Assistant Director/Registrar

This Week's Calendar

Monday, August 22

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

Tuesday, August 23

Wednesday, August 24

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

Thursday, August 25

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

Friday, August 26

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

Saturday, August 27

9:00am **Pickleball** (Gym)

5:00pm **Evening Praise Worship** (Sanctuary)

Sunday, August 28

8:00am **Traditional Service** with Holy Communion

8:45-11:00 **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

10:45am **Modern Worship** (Sanctuary) with Holy Communion



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

- **Luke and Amanda Harson**, celebrated 17 years of marriage on August 13
- **Bill and Sandy Womack**, celebrating 62 years of marriage on August 20
- **Michael and Stacy Gibbons**, celebrating 20 years of marriage on August 24

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: 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 Roger**, uncle of Steve and Gayle Jipp, as Roger went home to the Lord
- **For the family of Ron**, brother of Sharon Herzberg, as Ron went home to the Lord

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