

DIVINE SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Over ten years ago, Pastor Sutton and Sarah, Vonda and I, and a few others, sat down and talked about ways to reach out into the community. We came up with this crazy idea of having a thanksgiving meal for the community at no cost to them. Having a community meal is not the crazy part. Many churches have a fall festival and reach out into the community. Some ask for donations or even charge to raise money for a mission or cause. The crazy part of this idea was simply to give back to the community. A totally free meal. No free will donation, no expectation, no strings. We simply want to give so people can see Christ.

We are past the 10-year mark for the Harvest dinner. This meal has truly become a part of Divine Shepherd. Initially there was concern about who was going to supply the food. Who will do the cooking? Who will serve and clean up? As with every mission, God always supplies. The first year we fried 10 donated turkeys and served about 100 people. Over the last few years, you all have cooked about 22 turkeys per year. You all bake the pies and make the stuffing. You all donate the plates and the drinks.



This wonderful mission outreach into the community is almost totally unbudgeted from the church budget.

The reason a free dinner is so radical is because we have been trained to believe there is no free lunch. Many times, people have asked, where can I donate. When I tell them God has so richly blessed us and we are just returning the favor they don't know how to act.

We are suspicious of any totally free gift. We say "that's too good to be true". That attitude even works its way into salvation. Completely and totally free from sin and guilt and damnation? That's too good to be true"! I have to do something to cooperate with Jesus or earn my salvation by my good works. No dear Saints your salvation is totally free and is an eternal gift to you.

St. Paul writes, “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them”. Ephesians 2:8-10.

Forgiveness of all your sins, eternal salvation, and peace with God is all yours and it comes from Jesus alone. It is a free gift because of the Holy Trinity’s love for you. A free gift like that changes us. Now we respond to God’s wonderful love and forgiveness not out of duty or obligation, not driven by the law, but guided by the Gospel. As God has so completely loved us, we love our neighbors. We serve. We give. We pray and point them to Jesus.

As the Harvest dinner draws near there are things you can do to help others see the free gift of forgiveness and peace that comes from Jesus’ death in the place of all sinners.



- Please pray for the Harvest dinner, the volunteers, the weather, and of course all those who will join us.
- Please volunteer to help or donate food items. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board across from my office.
- Please invite your friends, your neighbors, even your family to come and eat and visit and experience the wonderful community of faith at Divine Shepherd that centers around the full and free forgiveness given to us by Jesus.
- Please come and join us. There are countless blessings when we sit and eat and visit with one another.

Looking forward to visiting with you all!

Pastor Randy.



A Message from the ECC

Dear friends,

We are
HIRING

Thank you for your support of the ECC and the kids! Please help us pass the word- we are looking for anyone that wants to play with kids all day... We have the perfect job for you. We are hiring full and part time positions! Give us a call for more details 605-791-1131.

Save the Date

Coming soon will be more information on the Legacy Banquet in 2024- mark your calendars for April 13, 2024 to support the Early Childhood Center and the Academy!

Thanks for your time and have a wonderful month!

Dana Reiprich- ECC Chair

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st	Jacob Rohrbauck Doris Senger
2nd	Gary Price Mahrie Butler
3rd	Carter Ringwald
8th	Nathan Bittner Melissa Peck
9th	Connie Burg Kimberly Johnson Liam Weber
10th	Ashleigh Wenzel
11th	Dean Halvorson
13th	Travis Karr
15th	Kaleb Sueflow
16th	Melissa Seifert

18th	Greg Roling
19th	Tim Sueflow
20th	Kyra Ringwald
21st	Chad Vermundson
22nd	Doug Petersen Judy Uecker
25th	Jodi Lawrence Walt Ricker
27th	Laura Vermundson
28th	Jennifer Koepp Susan Venohr
29th	Brad Halvorson
30th	Samantha Dobbs Kathy Swan

*Is your birthday or anniversary not listed? Please let the church secretary know and she will add it to the list!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1st	Connie Rathert	16th	Carlie Andelt	30th	Shawn Towey
3rd	Erika Ristau	17th	Jazmine Halvorson Dylan Juso		Seamus Eliason
4th	Jay McKinstry	18th	Jensyn Burg David Lundin	31st	Cody Uran
5th	Donna Kendall	22nd	Skyler Eisenbraun Raquel Fegueroa		
6th	Cora Petersen	23rd	Ethan Eliason		
8th	Wesley Miller	24th	Wayne Marks Tom Schroeder		
9th	Irelynn Delaney	25th	Janell McKinstry		
10th	Ken Jankord Tosha Wilburn	26th	Evelynn Cleland Scott Norman		
12th	Cindy Fredrich	27th	Darrell Koepp Jason Watzel		
13th	Bob Audette Kennadee Delaney	29th	Christine Roberts Christopher Burg Chloe Felkey Leota Quam		
14th	Bill Thompson				
15th	Diann Dobbs				

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NOVEMBER & DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

NOVEMBER

3rd	Alvin & Doris Senger
9th	Herman & Darlene Wahl
16th	Byron & Karen Pistora
28th	Jeremy & Melissa Seifert
30th	Dale & Mary Heidelberger

DECEMBER

22nd	Tom & Lou Schroeder
27th	Charles & Lois Wilburn
29th	Doug & Cora Petersen

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Important Church Information

Announcements will now be read 5 minutes before church every Sunday.
Announcements can be sent to the church secretary by noon every Thursday.
Please email her at **dslcsecretary@divineshep.org** or call **605-787-6438**.

Any information about church events and services can be found in the announcements that are handed out at each service as well as on our website: divineshep.org.

8:00 am services are livestreamed. You can find current and past services and daily devotions on our website, Facebook page, and YouTube.



Church Secretary Office Hours: **Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am-3:45 pm**

Church Phone: **605-787-6438**

Church Email: **dslcsecretary@divineshep.org**



Give today! Use this QR code or go to divineshep.org and click "Give Now" to start Online Giving.

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS

NOVEMBER

11th	SD District Mission and Ministries Conference
18th	Annual Harvest Dinner 4:30 pm
22nd	Thanksgiving Service (No classes No dinner)

DECEMBER

9th	ECC Christmas Program 10:00 am
17th	Sunday School Christmas Program 9:30 am
24th	Christmas Eve Service 5:00 pm
25th	Christmas Day Service 9:00 am
31st	New Year's Eve Service 5:00 pm

Advent Services:
Dec. 6th, Dec.
13th, Dec. 20th
7:15 pm

Katie, the church secretary, will be out of the office November 27th-December 3rd. If you have any important information that you would like to have shared with Katie or the congregation during those dates, please make sure to email dslcsecretary@divineshep.org before November 27th. Thank you!