



The Shepherd's Corner

A weekly publication of Shepherd of the Valley Church
West Des Moines, Iowa
September 13, 2020

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

3900 Ashworth Road; West Des Moines IA 50265

Church Office Hours & Contact Info

Due to the recent COVID-19 virus outbreak, we ask you for your understanding of the challenges your staff and members are facing. Please keep up prayers for all.

For the safety of our staff, we have disposable masks and sign in when coming into the church building.

Hours: Mon.—Thurs. 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.; closed Fridays

Phone: (515) 225-1623; Fax: (515) 225-0871;
Staff is also available by cell phone

www.shepherd-valley.org

(make sure to "like" SOTV's Facebook page so you can receive updates on your feed)

Follow Us on Facebook

Make sure you "like" our official church Facebook page as we continue to post information. Search for Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in the Facebook search bar, then click on the thumbs up picture to "like" our page. Contact Jessica Wardenburg or Angie Spann with any questions.

Church Staff:

Senior Pastor: John David Mull JohnDavid@sotv-wdm.org

Associate Pastor: Eugene R. Krueger Eugene@sotv-wdm.org

Hispanic Ministry Pastor: Lincon Guerra Lincon@sotv-wdm.org

Director of Family Ministry: Marilyn Shults
Marilyn@sotv-wdm.org

Director of Music, HS Youth & Administration: Angie Spann
Angie@sotv-wdm.org

Director of Shepherd's Flock Early Learning Center:
Diane Hensley Diane@sotv-wdm.org

Director of Finance: Sharon Bauer Sharon@sotv-wdm.org

Communications Coordinator: Diane Green
DianeGreen@sotv-wdm.org

Director of Maintenance: Roberto Regalado
Roberto@sotv-wdm.org

Christ-Based Leadership Board:

Please feel free to contact any of the Board members listed below with any questions or concerns you may have.

You may also email them at:

ChristBasedLeadership@sotv-wdm.org

These are the members for 2020:

Andy Pugh—Chair Person;

Mark Belden—Vice Chair Person;

Brian Rickert—Secretary;

Jill Best; Janice McCullough;

Brian Melco; Phil Parrott.

Announcements...

We wanted to thank each of you for your prayers and understanding as we have been faced with challenges due to the COVID-19. Please know that our mission to share the Gospel will never change until Jesus returns to take us all home.

As always, the health and safety of our members, guests and staff are always a priority. We still intend to limit people in the church building. If you do come into the building, we kindly ask you to:

- A. Sign up on the clipboard in the foyer as you come in;
- B. Masks are necessary (disposable masks are available if you forget yours);
- C. Use the hand sanitizer provided;
- D. Or call us from your car and we'll come out to pick up your paperwork, contributions, etc.

Worship Services—A reminder that with the startup of worship in the sanctuary, we must limit the attendance at each service—reservations are necessary. We will be doing an email reservation each week that includes a link for each service.

- When entering the sanctuary, please wait for the ushers to seat you—leaving 3 spaces between families is required. Ushers will also dismiss at the end of the service, just like at weddings.
- Your contributions may be left in a basket at the back of the sanctuary.
- Masks are necessary.
- Nursery — The nursery is NOT staffed at present; you may bring from home items to quietly occupy your children during worship. See note below on possible start-up date.

The Hispanic ministries service will now be held in the sanctuary; their time has changed to 12:30 p.m. to allow time to clean between the end of the 10:30 service and the start of the Hispanic service. Everyone is welcome. Or use the Facebook link here:

<https://www.facebook.com/nuestrosalvadoresmoines/?ref=bookmarks>

Education Classes and Midweek Classes (refer to your recent email and letter sent to all members on our Fall activities.) Midweek activities start in September; Sunday activities start in October.

- **Wednesday Midweek Ministry** starts Wednesday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m. This includes: JAM (grades 5 & 6), Confirmation and ACT (Senior Youth).
- **Children's Sunday School** - After Labor Day, families will receive an email with an "at home" Sunday School lesson (thanks to Tina Ridgely.) In-person classes start on **Sunday, October 11** at 9:15 a.m. for 4th grade and younger. Third Grade Bible Classes will also start on October 11 for our third graders and parent(s).
- **Third Grade Bible Classes** (Milestone Ministry) will be October 11, 18 & 25.
- **Girls-Only Bible Study (7th - 12th grades):** For Fall, a special Bible study for girls in 7th to 12th grades is being offered on Sunday evenings at 5 p.m. The 7-8 week study is called "Seamless" and helps connect the people, places and promises of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Contact Angie Spann at Angie@sotv-wdm.org or by cell (515) 556-6608.
- **High School Youth** are meeting Wednesdays: outside if the weather is nice, or virtually on Zoom at 8 p.m. Invitations were emailed to your youth's email. For help, contact Angie at Angie@sotv-wdm.org or (515) 556-6508 (cell/text).

Continuing with the normal schedule on Zoom:

Pastor John David's devotion (Time change—now 7:30 a.m., Mondays through Fridays)

Tues. 7:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study Community with Leslie Napier; Wed. 9:00 a.m. Pastor Krueger's "Our Time";

Wed. 9:00 a.m. Wed. Women with Marilyn Shults; Ladies

Thurs. 9:15 a.m. Bible Study

Coming Soon:

- **Adult Bible Class** on Wed., Sept. 16, at 6:30-7:30 p.m.—Whether you are working or retired or somewhere in between... life seems to get "busy"! Jesus and building His Kingdom unfortunately sometimes gets pushed to the back seat for many rea-

Birthdays This Week:

Sept. 13 Marlene Platz
Susan Williams

Sept. 14 Nicole Bales
Bruce Keehn
Lori Mozena

Sept. 15 Alec Wilcox

Sept. 17 Phil Parrott

Sept. 18 Lance Carlson
Jeff Dawson
Monte Mckercher

Sept. 19 Joel Bates
Doug Scieszinski
Robert Zortman

Anniversaries This Week:

Sept. 16 Cindy & Oliver Willham
Patti & Brent Lenz

sons! Building relationships takes time! Ann Bass will lead the lessons. The first lesson will be "Rest to Work." How do we REST and re-energize ourselves physically and spiritually so that we are able to WORK with less stress and more efficiency This will be on Zoom. Email Ann for the link and password: abass3923@gmail.com

• **New Red Letter Challenge: BEING**—starts Sept. 17. The Being Challenge is a 40 day life-changing journey to BE like Jesus. Adults will learn Christ's 5 main habits and be challenged with practical daily challenges based on those habits. Are you ready? Contact Kaylene Crouch if you are interested in joining this group on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. (in-person and outside weather permitting).

Nursery Coordinator is hired! Meet Kaelynne when our nursery resumes on Sunday, September 27 for the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Families, check your email for COVID procedures related to nursery use.

Do You Make Masks?: Do you have some extra fabric masks that you would be willing to donate to our Eritrean worship family? We are looking for some reusable masks that we can gift to our friends who worship with us on Sundays. If you know anyone who makes them, please encourage them to

donate them to SOTV. Contact the church office to arrange a drop off time.

Would You Help With Some Encouragement?: SOTV has 43 youth who are either in college, out in the workplace or serving in the military, and they could really use some encouragement! If you would be willing to send a card or note to one (or all) of them, please contact Angie Spann at Angie@sotv-wdm.org. The church would be happy to help in covering the cost of postage! We just really want these youth to know they are loved and being prayed for, especially in this crazy time of Covid-19. Thank you in advance for being a "light" to them in this uneasy time!

Y.A.R.D. (Young Adults Reproducing Disciples; 21-35 years old.) Mark your calendars—we have some great events coming up!! All of these will be outside, and we will have the ability to social distance. Hope to see you!

When: Tuesday, September 15, at 6-9 p.m. Where: Katie and Michael's House; 2404 River Ridge Drive, West Des Moines, IA 50265. **What:** We plan to have a bonfire (weather permitting) and play yard games. Food will be provided, so feel free to bring a drink of choice and your lawn chair! Please let us know if you plan to attend so we can plan accordingly.

Save future dates: Sunday, October 11th @ 1:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 15th @ 5-8 p.m.

Do You Need Some Scrip Gift Cards? Are you in need of some gift cards for Hyvee, Fareway or how about Target or Walmart? We also have several gift cards for \$10 to Starbucks, Subway and Panera, which make great things to send to a college youth. Call the church office OR email Angie@sotv-wdm.org. We can put together your order so it's ready to pick up when you come to worship each weekend. Our HS Youth could really use your support in raising funds for their upcoming Summer Mission trip in 2021, and every purchase helps. There is also many more online gift cards you can order – ask Angie for a handout on how to order online.

Care and Share Summer—September Challenge— During this month we are hosting a baby shower for the Agape Pregnancy Center. The center is looking for any donation from their wish list but especially baby wipes, size 6 diapers and clothing for infants through 2 T. Any help you can offer is appreciated.

Tuesday Evening Ladies' Bible Study Community started up again September 8 at 7 p.m. This year we will study Genesis and the theme of Blessing. The study is a mix of video, discussion,

in-depth study, archaeology, and more. We also do a monthly service project and quarterly socials. If you are looking for a ladies small group to join, check us out! For information, call or text Leslie Napier at (515) 664-0909.

Worship With Us During the Week: Check out the Spotify playlist for songs used in our contemporary worship service. It's a great way to listen (for free) at home, work or in your car. Use the link below to connect: <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/3uzV6P3OkUmoypJhOqoqJd?si=wZIKaJEITRyhPIt5yOqw7Q> or search shepherdofthevalley in the search box.

Volunteers Needed at 8 a.m. Services: SOTV is looking for some volunteers to help with our traditional worship service as we return to in-person services. Below are a few roles where we are in need of help, and we greatly appreciate your willingness to serve!

Cross Process/Recess: help our Pastors at the beginning and ending of the worship service with the processing and recessing our cross. These volunteers can be of any age or even done by a family.

Live Streaming: We would like to offer live streaming of our traditional worship service on our Facebook page. Training is provided (age high school or older) and we have a manual for training.

If you would consider helping serve in any of these roles, please contact Angie@sotv-wdm.org.

Missionary Prayer Request—Please pray for Rev. Gustavo and Ruth Maita and their daughter Mikhaela, serving as LCMS alliance missionaries in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. Gustavo shares preaching and teaching responsibilities at multiple church plants and as a Disaster Relief Coordinator. His wife Ruth is a missionary teacher.

Stewardship Corner—God has called and chosen us to be His stewards. We have been given this privileged status of being stewards purely by God's grace. A steward is a person who manages the assets of the owner according to the owner's will and purpose. God has placed us in the role and has given us our identity as His stewards. It is first being a steward before it is doing stewardship. Who we are determines what we do. Everything we do, everything we say, and everywhere we go emanates from our sense of identity. Understanding whose we are and our identity as God's stewards, we seek to please Him by faithfully doing His will

Stephen's Ministers—Our Stephen's Ministers are available for phone calls or video calls if you are feeling anxious during this time. Maybe you have some specific needs you want prayed for, or you are experiencing other emotional needs and you need someone to talk with; these can be confidential—use them as they are **trained** to help you! Please contact Lisa Jimenez, our lead in Stephen's Ministers. Her email is lisajimenez322@gmail.com; her phone is (515) 473-2586.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI)—Building Healthy Families. "A man's spirit can endure sickness, but who can bear a broken spirit?" (Proverbs 18:14) It's easier for us to deal with short-term difficulties, including sickness that resolves with treatment or time. But many are suffering today from the prolonged nature of Covid-19 and its ongoing physical, financial, emotional, and relational consequences. Look out for those God has put on your path. Who has or is close to having a broken spirit? A word of hope from you, a note of encouragement, and a listening ear can be just what they need when feeling overwhelmed. LFS workers are available to help, in person or through video link, when needed. Our counselors have resources and tools to help Lutheran Family Service - www.LutheranFamilyService.org.