



The Shepherd's Corner

A weekly publication of Shepherd of the Valley Church
West Des Moines, Iowa
January 10, 2021

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
3900 Ashworth Road; West Des Moines IA 50265

Worship Services

Saturday— 5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer Service
Sunday worship—8:00 a.m. Traditional Service
Sunday Worship—10:30 a.m. Multi-Cultural Praise Service

Church Office Hours & Contact Info

*Due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak and for the safety of our staff,
we have disposable masks to wear; also sign in when coming into the 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

**(Follow Us on Facebook—make sure to “like” SOTV’s Facebook page
so you can receive updates on your feed)**

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

Directors 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 2021:

Andy Pugh—Chair Person;
Mark Belden—Vice Chair Person;
Brian Rickert—Secretary;
Karina Luna; 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. 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. Wear a Mask (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 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—putting 3 spaces between families is required. Ushers will also dismiss at the end of the service, just like at weddings.
- Masks are mandatory.
- Your contributions may be left in a basket at the back of the sanctuary.

Eritrean ministries service—this group now worships Sundays at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Gary Thies of Mission Central will be speaking at SOTV on January 16 & 17. He served first as a mission development counselor for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. In 2003, five acres and the farm buildings near Mapleton, Iowa, were purchased to serve missionaries around the world. Gary will give us updates on the work of Mission Central.

Education Classes and Midweek Classes:

- **Children's Sunday School**—In-person classes held Sundays at 9:15 a.m. for 4th grade and younger; returning Sunday, January 3.
- **Nursery** is open every Sunday morning from 9:00 until after 10:30 a.m. worship. Kaelynne has a Bible lesson prepared for each Sunday.
- **Wednesday a.m. Adult Bible Study**—This group meets at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom. The study is led by Dorman Otte.
- **Wednesdays—Spanish Bible Study:** Meets at 6:30 pm in the Higher Ground/Conference Room. Want to learn about the Latino Culture or Spanish Language and the beautiful principles of the Scriptures? Come grow in faith as we share and learn the word of God. Led by Pastor Lincon Guerra. Contact for more info: Lincon@sotv-wdm.org. *Acompáñanos cada Miércoles a las 6:30 pm a estudiar la Palabra de Dios en nuestro estudio Bíblico en Español, un lugar para crecer en la fe y el conocimiento de Dios. Te esperamos!*
- **Wednesday Midweek Ministry**—JAM (grades 5 & 6) and Confirmation youth meet on Wednesday's starting at 6:30 p.m. We follow the WDM school closures if there is bad weather. During COVID, watch for an email by late afternoon IF we are cancelling midweek.
- **Wednesdays—High School Youth** are meeting Wednesdays in the youth room. For more information, contact Angie at Angie@sotv-wdm.org or (515) 556-6508 (cell/text.)
- **Thursday Evening Men/Women's Bible Study Group** - This group meets at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. They have started a new Bible study. Contact Kaylene Crouch for details.

Splash Baptism starts January 10: Kindergarten children and their parent(s) will start the new year with our milestone called SPLASH Baptism. Tina Ridgely will lead this child and parent class on Sundays during Sunday School time. Dates: January 10 & 17; Time: 9:15-10:15 a.m. Location: Multi-purpose/ACT room (down hallway past the nursery.) *Note change—2 weeks only!*

Birthdays This Week:

Jan. 10 Tyler Carstens
Jan. 11 Marlys Wubbena
Jan. 13 Mark Rowley
Jan. 14 Lindsey Hohl
Jan. 14 Lucas Wardenburg
Jan. 16 Pat Nemitz

Anniversaries This Week:

Jan. 12 Paula & Bob Jolly

Share and Care, January 2021

- **Tie blankets for Orphan Grain Train.** Households can pick up fleece from the lobby at church, cut and tie the blankets. Blankets need to be returned by January 31 with a note attached so they can be delivered to the OGT site in Clemons, Iowa. Blankets are always a needed item locally and around the world.
- **Fill A Box - Feed A Family.** Individuals and groups are encouraged to take a box from the lobby. Inside will be a list of items to purchase to feed a family of four. These boxes of food will first be dispersed to families within our own building who find food helpful to their finances. Additional boxes will go to the Food Bank and Eddie Davis Community Center. *Return filled boxes to SOTV by January 17-20.*

Mite Boxes: Important Dates—January 23 and 24! SOTV family, please make note of these dates because LWML will again be hosting a Mites for Missions weekend. If your **MIGHTY MITES** are building up at home, this is the time to bring them to church and deposit them in the large LWML Mite Box in the Narthex. Remember, you DO NOT have to be an LWML member to participate in this wonderful mission outreach. Every single penny makes a difference! May God touch your heart and bless you as you save your mites for missions! (Further information will follow next week regarding distribution of the mission grants.)

Portals of Prayer—don't forget to pick up the newest issue of Portals of Prayer, located in the acrylic holders on the wall outside the sanctuary. Also available are a limited number of copies of the Luther Park rose calendar.

Thank You Thrivent Members—Did you notice the new church signs out in the front yard the past few weeks? Thank you to our Thrivent members who designated their Choice Dollars to Shepherd of the Valley. We were able to purchase three new signs to help in publicizing our worship events, and we can use the signs year after year. We are excited for this new way to promote to the community. Thank you!

Goodbye from the Linnevolds—Patsy and Gary haven't been coming because of COVID, but wanted the congregation to know that they will be moving. "It's been great being a member, and we will miss everyone." Their new address will be 422 N 15th Street, Chariton, IA 50049.

Missionary Prayer Request—Please pray for Rev. Dr. John and Melinda Bombaro and family who serve the Lord through the LCMS as missionaries in Latvia, based in Riga. John serves as assistant to the regional director of the Eurasia region in the area of theological education. He works to plant an English-speaking congregation in Riga and teaches Lutheran theology and mentors seminary students in a Bachelor of Divinity program at Riga Luther Academy. With Melinda's help, John also coordinates conferences around Eurasia for pastors and other church workers.

Stewardship Corner—Without the Holy Spirit, we could not acknowledge Jesus as the Lord of our lives or live our lives as God-pleasing stewards. The Apostle Paul wrote, "*Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says 'Jesus is accursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except in the Holy Spirit*" (1 Corinthians 12:3). By grace, then, as called and equipped believers, empowered by the Holy Spirit to be stewards, we can serve as Sunday school teachers, sing in the choir, serve as ushers, give generously, and spend time with the lonely and sick. By our own reason or strength, we can't be the stewards God wants us to be. In Christ, we are new creations (2 Corinthians 5:17). The Holy Spirit continually reminds us that God initiates all things. Our stewardship is a response to what God has already done for us in Jesus.

Agape—Sanctity of Life Sunday January 17. Here are some ways that you can join us:

1) Host a baby shower focusing on NEW items of Newborn-3T clothes, shoes, socks, small toys, and books. These items will stock our boutique and provide much needed support to the women and families we serve!

2) Sponsor a "Crib Drive" through the purchase of Wal-Mart gift cards in **any** increment that go toward our yearly purchase of cribs and car seats for our clients. We spend around \$5000 a year purchasing cribs and car seats for our clients and their families!

3) Put on a "Baby bottle Drive" through your church purchasing and handing out baby bottles that can be filled with loose change, dollars, or checks to be turned in on or around the 17th as a focus.

4) Have your church sign up for one of our quarterly work days! To learn more, go to the website: www.agapedsm.com

2021 Calendars: The High School youth are once again offering 2021 calendars for purchase by the SOTV congregation. There's a limited amount: \$9.00 each. Please contact Angie in the office at (515) 225-1623 or email her at Angie@sotv-wdm.org.

Live Stream Volunteers Needed: We would love to be able to offer live streaming of all our worship services, but we need MORE volunteers! Anyone in high school or older is able to be trained to run the equipment. This could be used as a silver cord/volunteer hour requirement also. If you would consider stepping out of your comfort zone and helping, we promise to help make it easy on you. Please contact Lucas Wardenburg at ljwardenburg@gmail.com or talk to Pastor John David.

Building Healthy Families: *Closed Caption for teens only:* Teens, do you realize your peers are watching the way you act and react? What an undiscovered opportunity! With God's help, you are a witness by what you say and do, and by what you don't say and don't do. You can influence those around you. Choose wisely, be brave in God's Spirit and shine on! *Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.*" (I Timothy 4:12) Lutheran Family Service is Iowa's only Recognized Service Organization for LCMS. Contact Lutheran Family Service (515) 251-4900 and/or look at their web site—<https://www.lfsiowa.org/>.