

THE FALL COLORS absolutely delight me! Though by the time you are reading this month's MSLN update many of the trees in our ND & MNN districts will have lost their leaves – I decided to mention them anyway because every fall they bring worship to my heart and lips! *“For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.” Romans 1:19-20.* I often ask how anyone can look at the beauty and design of the created world and not know there is God? The answer is found in the preceding verse which states that they intentionally *“suppress the truth”*. But we continue to proclaim it!



Come join us for “Bingo Night” on Friday, November 4th. Meal served starting at 5:30pm with chili dogs, chips, beverage and dessert. Bingo to follow. You are welcome to bring a snack to share.

Board of Stewardship.



The human care focus for the fourth quarter will be the Joint Seminary Fund. Support students attending Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO as they are formed and shaped to serve the Lord as pastors and deaconesses in Christ's Church. One percent of our offerings during the fourth quarter will go to support the Joint Seminary Fund.

The fall voter's meeting will take place on Sunday, November 13, during the education hour at 9:30 am. We will consider the 2023

Congregational Meeting



Men's Network

Messiah Lutheran Church will host the September Men's Network on Saturday, November 19th at 8:00 am. Join us for Bible Study, breakfast, and fellowship.



Thank you for your needed financial support! Checks may be sent to “Main Street Living NORTH,” 821-5th Ave S, Fargo, ND 58103, or donate by Credit Card or your PayPal account on the website. God's blessing in Christ!

-Ken Koehler / MSL North Volunteer Coordinator

“MSL North” Programs for November 2022:

November 6: **Rev. Timothy Stout**, St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Sawyer, ND, St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Anamoose, ND, and St. John's Lutheran Church, Kongsberg, ND, presents the message: **“Saints of God”** based on Luke 20:27-40. *This Is The Life* program: **“Like Father Like Son”** - *A father's example leads to his son making questionable choices at school.*

November 13: **Rev. Christopher Neuendorf**, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bottineau, ND. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Rugby, ND, and Immanuel Lutheran Church, Willow City, ND, presents the message: **“Faith Faces Fear: Our Redemption Draws Near”** based on Luke 21:28. *This Is The Life* program: **“Families Come First”** – *A man contends with the demands of his career, promotion, and his vocation as a father.*

November 20: **Rev. Philip Beyersdorf**, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Minot, ND, presents the message **“Why Be Unprepared?”** based on Matthew 25:1-13. *This Is The Life* program: **“Conspiracy of Silence”** - *A husband and wife come to grips with a terminal illness.*

November 27: **Rev. Rick Jones**, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Minot, ND, presents the message: **“Always be prepared ... for the Day of the Lord”** based on Romans 13:8-14. *This Is The Life* program: **“Big Account”** *An advertising agency art director learns the impact of his work on his family and others.*

“MAIN STREET LIVING” is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North and North Dakota Districts of our LCMS, along with a 30-minute Lutheran Hour program (normally **“This Is The Life,”** along with occasional church-season specials).

Programs are broadcast starting **at 10:00 am Central Time / 9:00 am Mountain time** on KBMY Xtra Channel 17.3 (Midco CH 594)

Please check your cable and satellite providers for the corresponding channel on your system. MSLN programs are also archived for one year and can be viewed at any time on www.mainstreetliving.com then click on **“(Fargo)”**.



Birthdays Blessings

	November	
Joy D	11/1	
Carol M	11/3	
Daniel D	11/5	
Marlinda B	11/8	
Lester W	11/8	
Lana R	11/10	
Lee R	11/11	
Darlene K	11/14	
Gloria D	11/16	
Denise W	11/16	
Bryce O	11/18	
Danny H	11/20	
Nate B	11/20	
Ann Marie C	11/21	
Jim L	11/21	
Sydney I	11/25	
Arlan K	11/25	
Rod T	11/26	
Dori F	11/27	
Ella C	11/29	
Max N	11/30	

Nov 6	Olivia D. Keaton H.	815am 1045am
Nov 13	David A. Gavin V.	815am 1045am
Nov 20	Jensen H. Daisy A.	815am 1045am
Nov 27	Jason C. Abby Z.	815am 1045am



November

Sara N	11/7
Brandy P	11/12
Grace W	11/13
Mark P	11/15
Jensen H	11/16
Molly F	11/18
Joy D	11/21
Kim R	11/23
Jeremy G	11/30



Doug & Deb B	11/6
Brad & Ronda N	11/19
Jim & Sherry H	11/24



November 2022

1-15 Rob B
16-31 Martin B



Got soup? On October 1st, a group of Shepherd members packed and sealed 120 bags of soup for distribution in the Little Free Pantry. YUM!



Several Shepherd members attended the Philippians Workshop at Messiah Lutheran Church on October 13. Rev. Heath Curtis, LCMS Stewardship Coordinator, encouraged church leaders to be bold in celebrating the wonderful gifts that the Lord has given us. He shared a new resource for stewardship entitled "Stewardship Under The Cross" that Shepherd leaders will consider to assist our congregation in our response to the Lord's undying love for us sinners.

Congratulations to Brad Christensen who was elected to serve as the lay delegate for the Southwest Circuit of the LCMS ND District to the LCMS Convention scheduled to take place in Milwaukee, WI in July, 2023. Pastor Marcis will serve as the pastoral delegate for the circuit. Please remember our national synod in your prayers as we await the 2023 convention.

The Thanksgiving Eve service will take place on Wednesday, November 23, 6:00 pm. There will be no Thanksgiving Day Service at Shepherd.



What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?

St. Paul wrote to Church of Christ in Corinth: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor. 9:7). God loves a cheerful giver. But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God's sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel's God and they His people.

What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It's the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

Education Opportunities at SOTV

PreK-5th Grade	6th and 7th Graders	5th-8th Grade	Confirmation Students (starting in 7th grade)	8th-12th Grade	Adult
Sundays 9:30-10:30 Sunday School	Sundays 9:30-10:30 "100 Bible Stories"	Third Sunday of the Month 1-2:45 p.m. Youth Bible Study *SOTV/Bethel	Wednesdays 6-7 p.m. Catechism Instruction *Bethel Lutheran Church	Sundays 9:30-10:30 Bible Study	Sundays 9:30-10:30 Bible Study
				Fourth Sunday of the Month 1-2:45 p.m. HW Youth Bible Study and Fellowship *SOTV/Bethel	Tuesdays 6-7 p.m. Bible Study
					Third Saturday of the Month 4:30-6:30 p.m. Young Adult "Hangout"

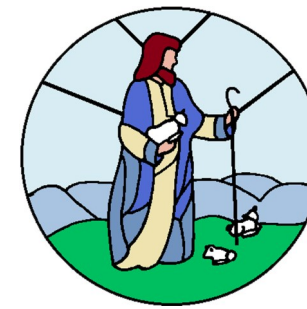


"What a great start to the school year at SOTV! We had a wonderful Rally Day enrolling students and learning about God's creation and his masterpiece: us!" We have Sunday School Music Performances scheduled, family craft activities planned, and our Christmas Program scheduled in December. We cannot wait to continue the great start we've had to the year through the semester. Please contact Michelle Dever or Samantha Henke with any questions regarding Sunday School."

Several Shepherd members attended the Love Abounds Family Convocation held at Bethel Lutheran Church on October 22nd. More than 60 individuals from across North Dakota gathered to hear from various presenters from Lutheran Family Service, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, and the LCMS Office of Missions. We also got to spend time with Comfort Dog Gideon. We were blessed to have Toni Larson, Director of Church Wellness for Lutheran Family Service share the story and ministry of LFS with our adult Bible class at Shepherd on October 23. Special thanks to Reagan Dever who provided childcare for families with little children during the convocation.



November 2022



Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
"A church family that shares, nurtures, and lives our faith in Christ"

November 2022, Newsletter

Sun M Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
		No Bible Study	6:00pm: Worship 6:00pm: Catechism Instruction @ Bethel 6:00pm: Hand Chimes 7:00pm:	7:30pm: Trustees	5:30pm: Bingo Night	
6 8:15am: Divine Service 9:30am: Education Hour 10:45am: Divine Service 6:30pm:	7	8 No Bible Study	9 6:00pm: Worship 6:00pm: Catechism Instruction @ Bethel	10	11	12 8:30am: Board of Education
13 8:15am: Divine Service 9:30am: Voter's Meeting 10:45am: Divine Service	14	15 3:00pm: Stewardship 4:00pm: Human Care Committee 6:00pm Bible Study	16 6:00pm: Worship 6:00pm: Catechism Instruction @ Bethel 6:00pm: Hand Chimes 7:00pm:	17 6:00pm: Sunday School Planning Meeting 7:30pm: Elders	18	19 8:00am: Men's Network @ Messiah
20 8:15am: Divine Service 9:30am: Education Hour 10:45am: Divine Service 12:00pm:	21	22 6:00pm Bible Study	23 6:00pm: Thanksgiving Worship 7:00pm: Choir Rehearsal	24	25 Newsletter and Calendar Information Due by	26
27 8:15am: Divine Service 9:30am: Education Hour 10:45am: Divine Service 12:00pm: Senior High Youth	28	29 6:00pm Bible Study	30 6:00pm: Worship 6:00pm: Catechism Instruction @ Bethel 6:00pm: Hand Chimes 7:00pm:			

Why I Am a Lutheran: Part 1

As many of you know, although I was raised in the church, I did not grow up attending a Lutheran Church. It wasn't until I was in my late twenties/early thirties that I made the switch. It was a watershed moment in my spiritual life, and not without some consequences. Many people did not, for example, understand why we began to baptize our babies. Why do Lutheran pastors wear robes and clerical collars? Why do they cross themselves like Catholics? Worship looks different in Lutheran churches. It is, in many ways, radically different.

I grew up in what many people would call a "big-box church." It was non-denominational. Worship and praise bands constituted the musical aspect of the service (hymns and hymnals were frowned upon.) For a time in my early twenties I was a worship leader at my church (with a guitar and everything.) My purpose in this article is not to slam contemporary worship (although it is theologically problematic and I never want to go back to it) but rather to inform you of some of the places I have been on my journey.

I will say this about my upbringing. Although some of the doctrine and practices of my evangelical background were quite bad, and even dangerous, there were many things that I was taught that were true and good. Two fundamental doctrines that I was taught very clearly are:

1. Everything we need to know about God and salvation is found in Scripture alone! Scripture is God's word and is 100% accurate in what it teaches us. The Christian needs only scripture for this Christian life (2 Tim 3:16-17).

2. Salvation comes by faith in Jesus Christ alone. It is not based on our works or good deeds, but on His death and resurrection alone! (Eph 2:8-9)

Lutherans believe that too! Yes we do! So what is the problem? The problem is that, even though my non-denominational pastors believed these two things (and would likely go their graves insisting so), nevertheless, there were many other teachings that seemed to contradict one, or both, of these beliefs (i.e. Altar Calls, the Sinner's Prayer, "accepting Christ", misunderstanding the Sacraments, moralism and legalistic tendencies, etc.)

In next month's article I will begin to examine some of these inconsistencies and show how the Lutheran Confessions and our solid Biblical doctrine is able to consistently believe in Bible alone and Jesus Alone!

Pastor Woodside