



Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

April 2024 Newsletter

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." [Saint John 10:27]

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. **John 10:27-28**

Dear Sheep of the Divine Shepherd:

I would guess that most, if not all, of you know anything about a German pastor whom the Lutheran Church commemorates on April 20th. The man I am speaking of is Johannes Bugenhagen. He is an important figure in the Lutheran Church, and his most noteworthy parishioner was Martin Luther. Bugenhagen was born on June 24th, 1485, not quite two years after Luther. He was given the name of "John" because his birth falls on the Feast Day, "The Nativity of John the Baptist". He was the typical servant with the two talents of the Savior's parable. An earnest, serious, uninspired, and unoriginal personality, he yet possessed two gifts. One of them was the gift of loyalty to what he conceived to be the truth; the other was the gift of order. His loyalty was given wholeheartedly to the Reformation and to the author of it, whose friendship and confidence he enjoyed. His gift of order amounted to a genius for setting things in orderly way. It was his task to take the principles which Luther taught him and work them out in terms of organization. In this work, he had to create his own precedents, and the influence of those precedents has never departed from the institutions and the worship of the Lutheran churches. (1)

Bugenhagen was a prophet in his day, and although he did not stand in the very first rank of the great men of his time he came not far behind. To say that his heart was fundamentally incapable of such deep-seated emotion and conviction as was Luther's, or that his mind was neither keen nor deft enough to chisel such perfect, sparkling gems of thought as Melancthon's, detracts not at all from the regard that is due him. On the contrary, it indicates the unique distinction by virtue of which he ranked third among the Wittenberg reformers, --- he was par excellence the organizer and consolidator of the Lutheran Church. (2)

Bugenhagen had the honor of preaching at Luther's funeral, and the words that he spoke brought the reality of the death of a Christian into perspective for his hearers and for us. He preached:

"This is enough said about our rightful mourning, for we mourn justly that such a dear man, a proper bishop and shepherd of souls, has departed from us. But in this sorrow we should also rightly recognize God's grace and mercy to us and thank God that he has awakened for us through his Spirit this dear Dr. Martin Luther against the antichristian doctrines of the abominable, satanic pope and against the devil's doctrines... Our dear father Dr. Martin Luther has now attained what he often desired. And if he were to return to us again now, he would reprimand our mourning and faint-heartedness with the word of Christ from John 16: "If you loved me you would rejoice because I go to the Father, and you would not begrudge me this eternal rest and joy." Christ has conquered death for us. Why, then, are we afraid? The death of the body is for us a beginning of life eternal through Jesus Christ our Lord, who has become for us a noble, precious sacrifice."

Most important is that he was a baptized Christian who put his total trust in his Savior Jesus Christ. His life's motto would be one that perhaps we should imprint on hearts as well.

"If you know Christ well, it is enough, even if you know nothing else; if you do not know Christ, life is nothing, even if you learn all else." (3)

Bugenhagen entered into his eternal rest on April 20th, 1558.

Listen to Jesus,
Pastor Zimmer

1 Charles M. Jacobs

2 Ibid

3 Lutheran Cyclopedia p.149

Christian Stewardship



Whose Is It Anyway?

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a "title search." Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you'll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, "That's mine: I had it first."

You can't understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor's possessions are *his*: you don't have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership *to you*? Paul says, "Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price" (1 Cor. 6:19-20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God's leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since *you* belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

–LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

New Members

New members welcomed to the DSLC family:

Jonathan & Jasmine Fritsch (confirmation)
213 Hudson Ct, Unit D, Bolingbrook, IL 60440
Jon – 630-747-8515, Jasmine – 260-205-1894
Pao.jasmine@gmail.com

R. Alex Otto (confirmation)
3112 Shelley Ct Woodridge, IL 60517
630-408-7888
Alexotto642000@gmail.com

Out of Town

Pastor Zimmer will be out of town from April 30 to May 10th. Contact Ed Cruz or an elder if you have questions or need some information. There will be communion and fellowship on May 5, but no bible study.



Week of April 7-13

Sun, April 7, 8:30 am Divine Service
 Sun, April 7, 9:40 am Fellowship
 Sun, April 7, 10:00 am Bible Study
 Mon, April 8, 12:00 pm Women's Bible Study
 Mon, April 8, 7:00 pm Elders Meeting

Week of April 14-20

Sun, April 14, 8:30 am Divine Service
 Sun, April 14, 9:40 am Fellowship
 Sun, April 14, 10:00 am Bible Study
 Mon, April 15, 6:00 pm Council Meeting
 Wed, April 17, 10:00 am March for Life
 Sat, April 20, 10:00 am Ladies Aid Meeting

Week of April 21-27

Sun, April 21, 8:30 am Divine Service
 Sun, April 21, 9:40 am Fellowship
 Sun, April 21, 10:00 am Bible Study

Week of April 28-30

Sun, April 28, 8:30 am Divine Service
 Sun, April 28, 9:40 am Fellowship
 Sun, April 28, 10:00 am Bible Study

April Birthdays

02 Christine Stocker
 03 Caitlin Collins
 08 Clarisse Rose
 10 Laverne Stephens
 12 Robin Wise
 13 Nathan Geschke
 17 Tom Staffeldt
 25 Jesse Pape

April Baptismal Anniversaries

01 Julie Zimmer
 01 Diane Weaver
 02 Dawn Rouser
 08 Jasmine Fritsch
 08 Bradley Learnahan
 12 Haley Quinn
 15 David Zimmer
 30 Lisa Cruz

April Wedding Anniversaries

04 James & Laurie Bingenheimer
 28 Michael & Jolene Delaney

Please start collecting kitchen items, office materials, clothing, crafts, bedding, and linen items for the rummage sale. Also please save your grocery bags. Your friends and relatives will also have items to dispose of, so do not forget to spread the word that the sale is coming.



Rummage sale items may be dropped off:

- **Sunday, June 16, 11:00 am-2pm**
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 4-7 pm
Please do not drop off large items in Luther Hall until the week of the sale. We appreciate receiving all the items by Wednesday. It is very difficult to sort any items after the sale begins.

Sale dates are:

- **Thursday, June 20, 3:00 - 7:00 pm**
- **Friday, June 21, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm**
- **Saturday, June 22, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Helpers are needed on "drop-off" days, sale days, and on Saturday after 1:00 pm to help pack up the things that do not sell. The unsold items will be given to a charity.

Large items, coats and certain clothing will be priced individually. Smaller items that can fit into a grocery bag will be \$5.00 per bag or priced individually if you only want a couple of small items. We will be doing the \$5 bag again this year. You would be surprised to know just how much these sales have brought to provide for the necessary repairs and new items needed for the church.

Being a volunteer is a great way to get to know other members of the congregation. Join us, members or not, for some great fun and a way to help the congregation and various church projects.

Ladies Aid will be baking and delivering cookies to Bolingbrook's First Responders on April 15/16. If you would like to bake/donate cookies for this community outreach project, please contact Karen. LA has some grant money to help you purchase the ingredients. Please bring all the cookies to church on April 14 Thank you.

Please join us for the meeting on Saturday, April 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Altar Flowers



The 2024 flower charts are posted. This is a wonderful way to help beautify God's house, celebrate a birthday or anniversary, or remember a departed loved one. If you would like to contribute flowers to help beautify the sanctuary on a Lord's Day, please add your name to any open Sunday on the flower charts. Ruth Ogden will do two altar bouquets for **\$30**. If you sign up, **Karen** will contact you to get your flower request, and a brief note to place in the worship bulletin. When the worship service is over, you are welcome to take your bouquets home.

Sunday Treats

Do you enjoy treats and fellowship after Sunday services? If so, please consider signing up on any given Sunday(s). Why not sign up with a friend? *Empty slots mean no treats.* To enable our diabetic members to enjoy these treats, please consider supplementing some of the "sugary goodies" with crackers and cheese and/or fruit.



Directing Choice Dollars is a great way for eligible Thrivent members to show support for what matters most to them. Thank you to everyone who donated their choice dollars.

Illinois March for Life

The 2024 Illinois March for Life will be in Springfield, IL on Wednesday, April 17. Timothy Schar will preach at a Matins service at Trinity Lutheran Church (220 South Second St., Springfield, 62701) at 10am; a light lunch will be available at the State House Inn ballroom (101 East Adams St.) at 11am (recommended donation \$5). Speaker/Rally commences at Noon on the State Capitol front lawn; March steps off at 1pm. Free parking for those attending Matins and the following activities is available in State House Inn's parking lot, in the block west of the hotel building, across First Street. Please carpool.

Registration and Information may be found at <https://marchforlife.org/illinois>

Follow Us on Social Media

Follow us on social media to keep up to date with church happenings and events, find a variety of new and old congregational photos, and read inspirational posts and quotes from Holy Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, and various Christians throughout the centuries.

Facebook: fb.me/DSLCCbolingbrook

Twitter: @dslc60440



Amazon no longer offers Amazon Smile.
RaiseRight still offers Amazon gift cards

Shop with Scrip cards are available throughout the year for everyday expenses and gifts for any special occasion. Next order date is **April 16**. Pre-purchased cards are available after Sunday services and forms are on the bookcase in Luther Hall. These cards make many of the Ladies Aid projects possible, and best of all they do not cost members anything beyond the face-value amount. Scrip pays us to use their service. What is more, many of these cards can be reloaded so you do not have to continually buy new cards.

Your Organization:

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church – Manna

Your Coordinator: **Lisa Cruz** 630-636-6359

• dslcmanna@yahoo.com shopwithscrip.com

Your Enrollment Code: 2BLD2C7AA55973

Prayer Chain

Several members are part of a church prayer chain. If you (men or women) would like to join them in praying for our congregation's special needs, please contact Bobbie Light at **630-251-7860**



Important Phone Numbers

Church office: 630-759-5300

Pastor Zimmer: 563-880-9532

Prayer Chain: 630-251-7860 (Bobbie Light)

Head Elder: 630-360-5573 (Scott Collins)

Newsletter info: 630-759-3188 (Karen Moritz)
(due April 29)