



Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church



Worship with us!

Sundays at 9 am

Office Hours Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 - 3:30

Pastor Tim Stadem

October 2022

A Sense of Adventure

I was asked to write about 'me' (uh oh). As Nancy prepares this October newsletter, she invited me to tell a bit more of who I am—"Would you be willing to share some more about our new pastor". So I am stepping into the challenge. I will briefly touch on two categories of my life: my outward and my inward adventures.

THE OUTWARD ADVENTURE

For as long as I recall, I have a sense of adventure running through my veins. There are many stories of a delightful childhood. Then I grew. Some define some young men as 'adrenaline junkies', but I am way beyond the youthful explanation. All the while I recall adventures as my longing to explore more of this world—kayak another stream, quietly watching the wildlife and maneuvering the currents, or pitch my tent after hauling my backpack another day deeper into pristine wilderness. These adventures are filled with challenge, thresholds, setbacks, lessons, joy.



Serving as your pastor...is new adventure. As I tap into my gifts, experiences, and sense of call to shepherd and nurture and befriend a community, I also accept the invitation to enter into completely new ground for me - **A Transitional Call** is the name given (more about that soon). And being with you is as much a spiritual and community adventure as when I was a senior pastor in a very large church years ago. I am sharing with you a level of trust that God is right here guiding us through. Oh, and we will come to thresholds both challenging and delightful. I see 'my being here' as exciting because I am maneuvering in God's handiwork and beauty within the lives of individuals and interrelationships and systems.

I understand this drive within me as an innate curiosity—to seek more beauty and raw life in God's good world; and more keeps showing up. My curiosity includes a fascination with the magnificent flavors of people, cultures, histories, and traditions -STORIES. (I have plenty of room for another documentary, another science discovery, another great book, another uncovering of truth, another affirmation of our solid foundation.

And as we may know, curiosities open us to all kinds of vulnerabilities—to the various layers and shadows within humanity. So my curiosities reach from the most whole dimensions in life to the most harmful – I am curious, listening, and often brought to deep feelings and tears over the many highs and lows of people in this world.

THE INWARD ADVENTURE

And more briefly now I bring you to the topic of my inner life; this will take more time - other times. So here's a snapshot: I am learning, exploring, reading, practicing something that is oftentimes named **the inner landscape**.

I think that I have always been aware that there is plenty 'inside'—we all experience it—this inner universe of thought and memory and dreams and prayers and fears and joys and conversation/meditation with God. Yet I want you to know that I been intentionally exploring my inner life in the past 12 years.

In the Nebraska Synod is a teaching program named *Seeking the Spirit Within*. Our bishop discovered that there were few Spiritual Directors; and most of them were Roman Catholics. What began several cohorts/classes ago was a teaching ministry that equipped people to become Spiritual Directors; many of them are pastors too. I took this 2 year class, was certified as a Spiritual Director, and have been diving into my spiritual landscape ever since.

For me, the language of a 'castle with many rooms' has been helpful. I suppose I could say, "I didn't even know there was a castle there. But as I began to pay attention through listening and prayer, scripture and conversation, teaching, reading, and practicing quiet, I began to discover 'there are many and different rooms. And I began to notice thresholds and challenges and healing and calm and spirit, even setback, ever near in all kinds of circumstance."

And I name this An Adventure because of the similar tone in curiosity and discovery to the outward life, with God's fingerprint in all of it. I have well; and I will always retain a spirit of newness and curiosity because I am dealing with the everlasting, after all. And there is always be more; and will always be good.

And I am so thankful for you; for your sense of adventure too. We are now in this together. And we will be challenged; and we will grow.

Thanks be to God for all our curiosities and thresholds to new life!

Pastor Tim

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, ELCA

750 Seneca Lane, PO Box 3257, Jackson, WY 83001

307-733-4382

office@sotmlc.org

www.shepherdofthemountainsjh.org

Pastor Tim Stadem

970-219-2277

pastor.tim@sotmlc.org

Events in October

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|-----------|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 Pentecost 17 Worship at 9am with Pastor Tim Stadem | 3 | 4 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom Blessing of the Animals & Festival of St. Francis 8:00 am - 6:00 pm AA 6:30pm  | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Pentecost 18 Worship at 9am with Pastor Tim Stadem | 10 Columbus Day | 11 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom AA 6:30pm | 12 | 13 | 14 Evening Prayer & Potluck Meal - Meal, Pray & Play at 5:30 pm  | 15 |
| 16 Pentecost 19 Worship at 9am with Pastor Tim Stadem | 17 AA 6:30pm | 18 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom Potluck Luncheon 12:30 pm AA 6:30pm  | 19 Blood Drive 11:30 am  | 20 Blood Drive 7:30 am  | 21 | 22 |
| 23 Pentecost 20 Worship at 9am with Pastor Eric Moehring | 24 AA 6:30pm Bishop's Convocation | 25 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom AA 6:30pm Bishop's Convocation | 26 Bishop's Convocation | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 Pentecost 21 Worship at 9am with Pastor Tim Stadem  Reformation Sunday | 31 Halloween AA 6:30pm  | | | | | |

Blessing of the Animals

Tuesday, October 4th

Any time from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm

Just show up for a blessing for your beloved family pet

Blessings will take place in front of the church

Dogs, cats, horses, spiders, they are all welcome!

Invite your friends and neighbors



Evening Prayer - Meal, Pray & Play



Our first monthly evening gathering with food, singing, friendship, and prayer will be Friday, October 14th from 5:30 to 6:45pm.

All are invited to bring a food item to share (potluck) and feel free to invite a friend – we will take good care of all our guests of every age. Come for an informal and light time to listen for God and have some fun, then be out the door at a good time; and some may want to remain for a bit longer.

Potluck Luncheon

Beginning on

Tuesday, October 18th

We will be hosting Potluck Luncheons for all.

The luncheons will take place on the
3rd Tuesday of each month at 12:30 pm

Bring a dish to share or just bring yourself



Worship Time Survey



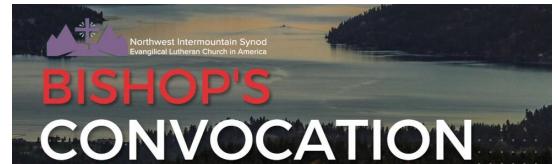
Many thanks to all who were able to respond to the Worship Committee's recent email survey about our 'worship time options' (email survey deadline is Sept 29th). Your council leaders will receive a recommendation from the worship committee for their meeting on Sunday, October 2nd after worship.

In addition to considering a change in worship time from 9 to 10:00am is the possibility of adding a second worship at 8:00am (of course, 'two worships' was our schedule before Covid19 struck). And we are pondering how classes may fit into a new schedule. Primary in all of our listening is a sensitivity to various schedules, changing seasons, and distances people are driving. Alongside is consideration of the lives and schedules of our neighbors/guests who are 'not with us yet'—becoming an inviting congregation is a great topic for us to explore. Overall, please lift up all our deliberations in your prayers.

PS: Feel free to call Pastor Tim (970)219-2277, Rose Jeske 690-6194, or Pam Zernis 690-5077

The Bishop's Convocation

Pastor Tim will attend this training with colleagues and synod leaders at in Coeur d'Alene on October 24-26th. And 'what a pleasant surprise' about a main speaker—Rev Dr Dave Daubert is leading two sessions: 1) **the inward dimension** of our faith community, with topics like belonging and deepening and equipping, then 2) **the outward dimension** that engages our neighbor and world, sent with purpose and mission. Pastor Tim has been learning much from Daubert previously; raves about his teaching and coaching.



Here's the thing: in August SOTM leaders decided to use Daubert's book on nurturing our gifts of community and mission—Renewing Your Congregation. We are now beginning. Also, our whole congregation will become involved in all of our new steps. The main point: these are very productive resources for our unfolding life together. Thanks be to God for our next adventures in faith!

Bega Kwa Bega - We Walk Together



Grace and Peace! Now that Autumn has arrived and our churches and families are very busy again, the NWIM synod activities are right there with you! For example, we have begun the process to find candidates for a number of synod positions, including Bishop and Vice-President of Synod Council. Although Bishop Kristen Kuempel has indicated that she will stand for re-election, there are always candidates who would be on the ballot with her.

As Dean, I want to make sure that our cluster congregations are preparing for all the activities that need to happen. Here is a short list of things that congregations and their councils should be thinking about and planning:

- Offer candidates for synod positions including bishop, vice-president, synod council (lay and rostered), and committees
- Prepare your 2023 budgets to include the costs associated with attending Synod Assembly
- Awareness of a full cluster meeting to be held mid-January as a hybrid option. Zoom and a regional location. This would be a business-filled meeting to select and forward candidates to the nomination committees. We might even be festive!

I will be writing this column each month, to celebrate all the future activities for our cluster and synod. If you have anything at your church that is "Cluster News" please send it my way: wshipman2020@gmail.com. God Bless You in this season as we walk alongside each other, Bega Kwa Bega, Kiswahili for Shoulder To Shoulder.

Pastor Wayne Shipman, Upper Snake River Cluster Dean

Blood Drive

This month our Blood Drive will take place on

October 19 & 20

Blood donors are always needed. If you don't have an appointment for the next blood drive and want to donate please go to the Vitalant website at <https://www.vitalant.org> to make an appointment.

Your donation can make a difference. Donating blood saves lives!



Blood Drive Dates for 2022

December 21 & 22 (other location)

Your donation matters!

Thank You

This month we will recognize a few of our church heroes for their steadfast fellowship and love to our church family.



- Lorrie Lee for volunteering to help with our Stewardship Campaign and for her work on "Health for Wealth".
- Rose Jeske and Pam Zernis for their work on the Worship Time survey.
- Jolene Moulder, Pastor Tim, and all who donated food and helped with the Parsonage House Warming.
- Sherry Kinsella and Rose Jeske for their work to prepare for our Blessing of the Animals day.
- Bob Krause for trimming all the shrubs on the church property.

Prayers

Sherry Kinsella, hip surgery

Patrick Corun (son of Dan & Kay Corun) healing prayers.

Robyn Lunsford, who is still navigating health issues.

Ann (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer.

Don Corun (brother to Dan Corun), cancer.

Chuck & Carolyn Hast (friend of Mary Lou Klene), healing from a fall and health.

C.T. (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer.

Jimmy O.M., (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer.

Ken S., (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer

E & N, (friends of Margie Aeckerle), health



For prayers or prayer updates please email
or call the church office.

Church Council

Please know that your Church Council is always here to serve you and listen to your questions and concerns.

Please feel free to contact a member of the Church Council or chat with them after church on Sundays.

Shepherd of the Mountains

**Church
Council**

President

Scott Daily
scott@hoback.org

Council Members

Sherry Kinsella
kinsellas8@msn.com

Vice President

Terry DiMatio
tnjintv@gmail.com

Brent Schaffer

schafferbg@gmail.com

Secretary

Rusty Mizelle
wyomingmizelles@gmail.com

Lorrie Lee

alliswellnow@bresnan.net

Pam Zernis

zcircus3@yahoo.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries

October Birthday

Susan Freeze – October 2nd

Please call or email the church office and tell us when your special day is. Your church family would like to wish you birthday or anniversary greetings.





Parsonage House Warming

Our love to God is measured by our everyday
Fellowship
with others and the love it displays



Top Left: Pam Zernis & Carolyn Daily enjoy the party.

Above Left: Jolene Moulder & Margie Aeckerle enjoy their win over Vivian Moulder & Nancy Parisee.

Above Right: Christopher Thompson tends the fire.

Above Middle: Chris Moulder, Steve & Beth Nelson, Nikki, Colleen & Christopher Thompson enjoy a chat with Pastor Tim.



Left: Karen Schroeder and Pastor Tim get to know each other.

Right: Margie Aeckerle pops open a bottle of champagne to celebrate the open house.

Below: Lorrie Lee, Brent Schaffer, Christopher & Nikki Thompson and Marilyn Maier enjoy the evening.

FRIENDS



Right: Nancy and Stephanie Ninnemann, along with Pam Zernis, enjoy the wine and tacos that were offered at the party.



Pastor Tim's Installation

You are invited
 The Service of Installation for
Pastor Tim Stadem
 at Shepherd of the Mountains will be on
Friday, November 4th at 5:30pm.
 A meal of celebration is planned following worship



Stewardship



Stewardship

Join us on Sunday, November 6th for the 'kick off' of our Stewardship Series: **Growing in Faith Through Generosity – with a festive reception following worship.**

Jesus teaches us that living generously is interwoven with every part of our everyday lives—with our heart and soul and strength and mind given sustenance and guidance in relationship with our Living God.

In SOTM's next chapter of faithful growth in our sense of community and mission, led by our new pastor and council and ministry leaders, let us take to heart in the story of the Widow's Offering (Mark 14:41-44)—where gratefulness takes shape in what may appear a mini gift or mini ability. We also take to heart: our most intimate and intentional giving is 'out of awareness and joy in God's Boundless Giving.'

Through this series we will hear stories in worship from our own people, pay attention to 'why' we exist in this time and place, and ground all of our commitments of our time, ability, and treasure...in the reality that all these are "signs of God's gracious love".

(You will have opportunities through November, and onward, to complete a Commitment Card of financial giving as we are mapping the reach of our ministries for 2023. Also, in January we would like to begin focusing more on 'your gifts in this world'—your vocation in daily life, as God is at work in you, and through you, 'in every season.')
 –Your Stewardship Team

Please feel free to cut out the pledge card below and mail it in to the address listed on the card.

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

2023 Commitment of Giving

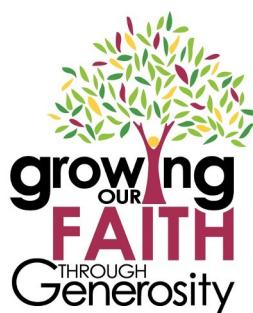
In gratitude for all of God's Blessings in our lives we respond by helping our church family's mission.

**Our/my total pledge
for 2023 is**

\$ _____

(monthly or annually)

Please mail this pledge card to SMLC
 PO Box 3257
 Jackson, WY 83001



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

**Thank you for your commitment to
Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church!**

Giving



You may sign up to give one time, weekly, monthly, or yearly .

You can give by text (307-207-3866), by credit or debit, or by online checking. Go to this link and you're on your way!

<https://sotmlcjackson.breezechms.com/give/online>

You may mail your donations to

Shepherd of the Mountains

P.O. Box 3257

Jackson, WY 83001

Your financial support is important to us!

Giving While You Shop at Smith's

Link your Smith's card to Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church.

The church will receive a check for .5% of your purchases!

It's easy:

1. Sign in to your account and choose "My Account" in the top right corner.
2. This brings up a list on the left. Choose "Inspiring Donations."
3. Look for our organization number—YJ339



Volunteering Each Week

Sunday Servants

Sign up to assist or read

As of October 1st we no longer will be using Sign-Up Genius
There is now a physical sign-up sheet in the church narthex.

You can also call the church office if you wish to sign up.

Church Office Hours

Tuesdays & Thursdays

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

September 2022

attendance & offering

| | | |
|--------------|----|-------------|
| September 4 | 21 | \$ 2,218.00 |
| September 11 | 24 | \$ 658.00 |
| September 18 | 13 | \$ 2,000.00 |
| September 25 | 24 | \$ 6,598.00 |

| | October 2 Pentecost 17 | October 9 Pentecost 18 | October 16 Pentecost 19 | October 23 Pentecost 20 | October 30 Pentecost 21 |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Preacher | Pastor Tim Stadem | Pastor Tim Stadem | Pastor Tim Stadem | Pastor Eric Moehring | Pastor Tim Stadem |
| Assistant Minister | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED |
| Reader | Rose Jeske | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED |
| Greeter/Ushers | Dale & Rose Jeske | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED |
| Counters | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED |
| Altar Minister | Pam Zernis | Pam Zernis | Rose Jeske | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED |
| Coffee Hour | Lorrie Lee | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED | HELP NEEDED |