



Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church



Worship with us!
Sundays at 9 am

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

Pastor Tim Stadem

September 2022

ON BEGINNING WELL, by Pastor Tim

Celebrations

What a joy for me to ultimately begin with the people of Shepherd of the Mountains! My call to ministry with you is an adventure in faith. And we've hit the ground with good wheels turning, where celebration is a central part of our beginning—much like our worship celebrations are the heart of our congregation's identity.

Your hospitality is delightful—inviting me into your communal life with open arms. You arranged for improvements to the parsonage, by tireless workers and generous donors of materials. This house is feeling like a sanctuary – a warm place to live and rest and welcome guests (also see the invitation to the Home Warming event Sept 8th)

August 14th was my first Sunday with you, followed by a celebratory brunch. And soon we will gather for another: the Celebration of Installation, inviting the wider community and clergy of our synod and ecumenical friends to our commissioning ceremony.



Being Nurtured Along the Way

My professional and spiritual concerns include wanting *be well and strong in this call with you—a partnership that invites all of us to share what we've been given...so the gifts of God will grow. But how will we do this in a world of continuous stress and change?*

The experience of 'change' is not the same for everyone—some of us feel volumes of overwhelm; others welcome change, embrace it. Of course, some changes ask of us incredible compassion and healing. Primarily though, do you imagine that we might find new strengths for going forward? "I'm depending on it."

Michael Binder of Luther Seminary encourages us, in the context of perennial change, to nurture a creative, adaptive way of seeing. He identifies it as a Mindset Shift—from "*change as event*" to "*change as continual process*." (*Leading Sustainable Change*, by Michael Binder, Luther Seminary, faith+lead) The unrealistic mindset may suggest, "simply get over it as soon as possible", or "pretend as if it's not happening." Yet a hopeful and less frightening approach looks for new ways of responding, knowing changes are a part of everyday life.

When Jesus teaches with a parable in Luke 19, we are encouraged: 1) to assess what God has given (and is giving); 2) to discern how to "share it with others so the gift can grow"—the language in the parable is: invest the gift. Here Jesus teaches "*to not simply try and protect what they have until he returns, but invest what they have been given in ways that grow.*"

Listen, Act, Share

The Innovative Team at Luther Seminary outlines an adaptive process they name "Listen, Act, Share". Shall we at Shepherd of the Mountains also nurture this perspective: 1) **Listening for God**, including hearing one another and our neighbors; 2) **Acting** on what we are hearing, oftentimes to discover new ways of doing things (Because we try things, we learn things); 3) **Sharing** what we have learned—stories inspire people into new ways of living.

This rhythm of life is able to provide a new kind of stability, knowing and trusting that God is leading us through and forward together.

Partners in Christ, 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 September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 AA 6:30pm	2	3
4 Pentecost 13 Worship at 9am with Pastor Tim Stadem	5 Labor Day 	6 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom AA 6:30pm	7	8 Parsonage House Warming at 5:00 pm  AA 6:30pm	9	10
11 Pentecost 14 Worship at 9am with Pastor Tim Stadem Blessing of the Backpacks 	12	13 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom AA 6:30pm	14	15 AA 6:30pm	16	17
18 Pentecost 15 Worship at 9am with Pastor Tim Stadem	19 AA 6:30pm	20 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom AA 6:30pm	21	22 AA 6:30pm	23	24
25 Pentecost 16 Worship at 9am with Pastor Tim Stadem	26 AA 6:30pm	27 Bible & Breakfast 8am on Zoom AA 6:30pm	28	29	30	

Parsonage House Warming

You Are Invited

To the parsonage House Warming Party on

Thursday, September 8th

Begins at 5:00 pm (come when you can)

Taco Bar, Lawn Games, Fire Pit & Singing

Invite Your Friends to Come and Join the Fun!

Taco toppings and desserts are welcome. Please see the sign up sheet at church.

Bring your own alcoholic refreshment



Our Bulletins Have a New Look



Beginning in September, our service bulletins will have a new and updated look to them. This new look will provide our guests with a more user friendly bulletin so they can easily follow our worship service.

Your thoughts and comments are always welcome.

Blessing of the Backpacks

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS (plus a new twist)

In our Sunday worship, September 11, we will include a blessing of students who are entering this new school year. Please consider inviting any friends and neighbors who may appreciate a special blessing of their children. Also, for the purpose of reaching out, Pastor Tim has drafted another possibility for blessing their kids—please clip out, or get extra copies at church, and hand this invitation to someone who may consider (THANK YOU!!):

BLESSING YOUR KIDS – AS THE SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS

“You’re Invited!” Come to Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, Sunday, Sept 11, 9:00am 750 Seneca Lane, Jackson

-or-

if you would prefer, we will bring the prayers to you.

Pastor Tim does ‘House Calls’

Simply call his cell # 970-219-2277

Pastor Tim will arrange with you a time to come by, lead a prayer and blessing, with parents help, in the front yard, home, driveway—your choice.

We would like to share with you a prayer for learning, and endurance, and strength, and protection for the journey of children, and blessing on all your family. Peace to you!!



Drink from the Well



Would you like to explore prayer more deeply, or find new ways to experience true sabbath? ‘Drink from the Well’ may be just the experience for you. Created by Seeking the Spirit Within, this popular and highly accessible experience introduces participants to spiritual direction, and to varieties of prayer and sabbath from the Christian tradition. We hope this program creates a space for individuals to have a deeper experience and understanding of spirituality.

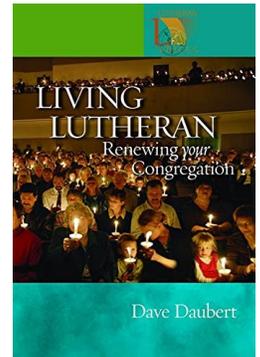
Through monthly online sessions and the fellowship of small groups, participants get to try out and reflect on a variety of spiritual practices. Spiritual practices are conscious and intentional actions that are filled with the sense of our relationship to God and others. These practices often help us gain perspective, seek solace, and connect more closely with your faith.

Several years ago Pastor Tim was certified as a Spiritual Director by Nebraska Synod, Seeking the Spirit Within (two year training; no other synod offers this). Each year they also offer a nurturing program for individuals, led by Spiritual Directors: *Drink from the Well, discovering new prayer practices—monthly webinars in October through May (first Tuesday, 6:00pm/also recorded)*, plus small group support led by Spiritual Director. Registration accepted through Sept 14th; cost is \$300. Pick up a description of this month’s class in the church Narthex.

A Good Read For Council

At our council meetings, leaders will adopt this format as we begin: opening the scriptures, lively conversations, and prayer. David Daubert’s book, *Renewing Your Congregation*, uses ‘this same model of the early church.’ And eventually, as we navigate through these chapters, we will come to some decision-making **as a whole people of God at Shepherd of the Mountains**. *Where is God leading us, with our many and various gifts, in this time and place? And what steps are needed now—for our mission & vision to continue unfolding?*

PS: Pastor Tim also wants to know if any are interested in a book group, using this same resource; we could meet once a month at the best time for you (please contact pastor if you are interested)



Stewardship and You

Christian Stewardship refers to

the responsibility that Christians have in maintaining and using wisely the gifts that God is giving.

God wishes human beings to be his collaborators in the work of creation, redemption and sanctification.

Stewardship is about being grateful, responsible stewards of the gifts we receive from God.

The tradition of giving back to God and to the church comes from the Biblical practice of “tithing,” which means to give back a tenth of our earnings to God (Numbers 18:26). The church sees stewardship as more than simply contributing money to the church; it’s also about contributing time and talents and volunteering for ministry and mission. It’s about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity.

How can you give to your church and your church family? What gifts do you have to give to help our church grow?

To find out more about how you can help Shepherd of the Mountains please talk to Pastor Tim.

The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.

Pablo Picasso

Thank You

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

Jim Wells for offering to take care of our sprinkler system. & for all his hard work.
Our Fellowship Board for the wonderful fellowship events in August.
Lorrie Lee for our Stewardship display.
All who helped with our parsonage improvements and donations.
Blood Drive donors, coordinators, and volunteers, your help does make a difference!

Prayers

Lorrie Lee and family, at the loss of her mother Irene Cervino
David Svendsen, strength as he heals from back surgery.
Robyn Lunsford, who is still navigating health issues.
Don Corun (brother to Dan Corun), hospitalized with cancer.
Patrick Corun (son of Dan & Kay Corun) healing prayers.
Ann (friend of Margie Aeckerle), diagnosed with cancer.
Chuck & Carolyn Hast (friend of Mary Lou Klene), healing from a fall and health.
Hunter (family to Colleen Thompson) surgery & healing.
The Family of Irene Sorvino (Lorrie Lee's mother).
John Klene (son of Mary Lou & Dick Klene) healing after surgery.
C..T. (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer.



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

Vice President

Terry DiMattio
 tnjintv@gmail.com

Secretary

Rusty Mizelle
 wyomingmizelles@gmail.com

Council Members

Sherry Kinsella
 kinsellas8@msn.com

Brent Schaffer
 schafferbg@gmail.com

Lorrie Lee
 alliswellnow@bresnan.net

Pam Zernis
 zcircus3@yahoo.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries

September Birthdays

- Kim Hunt – September 6
- Betsy Grande – September 6
- Christopher Thompson – September 9
- Pam Zernis – September 13
- Pastor Tim – September 30

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.



Welcome Brunch for Pastor Tim



Our Love to God is measured by our everyday fellowship with others and the love it displays.



Above: Colleen Thompson, Chris Moulder, and Vivian Moulder enjoy chatting with Pastor Tim.

On August 14th the Fellowship Committee threw our new pastor, Rev. Tim Stadem, a "welcome" brunch after the church service.

Above: Rose Jeske, along with Carolyn and David Svendsen, take some time to catch up with each other during the brunch.



Below: Tom & Nancy Ninnemann, Jo Schmillen, Pam Zernis, Julie Stayner, Robyn Lunsford, and Steffan Freeman have a fun time enjoying the fellowship.



Left: Dale Jeske, Margie Aeckerle, Brent Schaffer, Jim Wells, & Mary Lou Klene look forward to some wonderful food.



Outreach & Fellowship



Left: Colleen Thompson give blood for the first time at our August blood drive.

Right: Vivian Moulder, Carolyn Daily, Janell Weber, Rose Jeske, Julie Redwine, Edda Grove, Pastor Tim, and Dale Jeske take time to enjoy a delicious luncheon after the Shepherd's of the Cloth quilt group



Church Council Meeting

Monday, August 15, 2022

*Highlight of discussions and planning
—keeping our congregation informed.*



- 1) All agreements with the Synod are completed and signed for Pastor Tim's Call.
- 2) Moving expenses are approved; Parsonage work is completed.
- 3) Pastor's email: pastor.tim@sotmlc.org Nancy's email: office@sotmlc.org
- 4) Book Study: council will be discussing a chapter a month at each meeting: *Renewing Your Congregation*, by Dave Daubert
- 5) A future book study with leaders: *Growing Young*, Powell, Mulder, Griffin (Six Essential Strategies to help young people discover and love your church)
- 6) Water Bill and Sprinkler Leak – resolve to explore advantage of separate meter for the sprinkler system
- 7) Recording/Streaming worship services – will do some testing in November
Next Meeting: Sunday, Sept. 11th, 10:30
(If you want council to include an agenda item, please contact us a week in advance)

August Worship Board

SOTM WORSHIP BOARD has begun conversations with Pastor Tim. And they want the congregation to know our discussions have included:

- 1) Worship times – there has been some encouragement to return to two worships (8:00 & 10:00am) Discussions include: the benefits of holding our small community together at this time, offering options for our present members, and providing helpful worship times for potential newcomers to our church.
- 2) Worship Bulletin – How might we make our bulletins guest-friendly? It can be challenging, even frustrating, for newcomers to navigate their way through our worship. The board agrees to begin trying new ways of improvements, respectful of familiar worship patterns.

The Worship Board will continue to research these topics.



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



Church Office Hours
 Tuesdays & Thursdays
 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

August 2022 attendance & offering		
August 7	26	\$22,010.00
August 14	24	\$1,097.67
August 21	26	\$ 1,580.00
August 28	18	\$ 325.00

Volunteering Each Week

Sunday Servants

Sign up to assist or read via our "Sign Up Genius" volunteer system

Signing up is easy - [sign up here](#) to volunteer.

We are also adding a physical sign-up system at the church.

	September 4 Pentecost 13	September 11 Pentecost 14	September 18 Pentecost 15	September 25 Pentecost 16
Preacher	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem
Assistant Minister	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Reader	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Greeter/ Ushers	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Counters	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Altar Minister	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Coffee Hour	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED