

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
 11204 SOUTH 204TH ST., PO BOX 39
 GRETNA, NE 68028

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 Preschool Office: 332-3267
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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

11204 South 204th Street P. O. Box 39
 Gretna, Nebraska 68028
 May 2018

Church Office

Phone.....402 332 3345
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E-mail

gslc@gslcgretna.org

Web page

gslcgretna.org

Preschool Office

Phone.....402 332 3267

Staff

Senior Pastor
 Rev. Gary Werling.....ext. 206
Associate Pastor
 Rev. Sam Pitschext. 204
Director of Children & Family Ministries
 Mrs. Tara Hess..... ext. 205
Director of Youth Ministry
 Mr. Bob Broekemeier.. ext. 201
Director of Organ & Choral Music
 Mrs. Jodi Korth..... ext. 207
Director of Praise Band
 Andy Hardiesext. 207
Administrative Assistants
 Mrs. Robin Kincadeext. 201
 Ms. Joyce Wittrock.....ext. 201
Business Manager
 Mrs. Jan Kounkel.....ext. 201

Wee Lambs Preschool Staff

Director/Teacher
 Lisa Stirtz.....ext. 203
Teacher
 Katie Skorcz.....ext. 213
Teacher
 Angie Richling.....ext. 213
Teacher
 Deb Knihal.....ext. 214
Teacher
 Susan Josoff.....ext. 214
Teacher
 Carol Theall.....ext. 215
Teacher
 Kelly Jansen.....ext. 215

Worship

Sunday Mornings
 8:00 AM Liturgical
 9:30 AM Traditional
 10:45 AM Contemporary

Wednesday Evenings
 7:00 PM Sanctuary

**Sunday Christian
 Education Hour**
 9:15 AM

My Dear Christian Friends,

I have enjoyed the discussions that have taken place in both the Men's Bible Breakfast and the Sunday Morning Bible Class on the topic of heaven. It is a topic that we probably don't spend enough time to consider. Maybe that's because we are so busy with matters and concerns of this life that the topic of a future life after this one seems so distant—maybe a bit so mysterious—that we just don't bother with it much. Perhaps it is because we have come to believe that most discussions about heaven are pure speculation—just a bunch of wishful thinking.

But the Bible gives us some amazing and quite truthful statements of what our future home in heaven will be like! There will be no more death in heaven (Isaiah 25:8, 1 Corinthians 15:26). There will be no crying or tears in heaven (Revelation 21:4). We will have resurrected, glorified bodies in heaven. Bodies buried here in weakness, dishonor, and imperfection will be raised in glory, honor, and power (1 Corinthians 15:42,43). We will know one another in heaven (Matthew 17:1-8). We will have a clear and unhindered understanding of God, ourselves, and others in heaven (1 Corinthians 13:12). We will have work to do for the Lord in heaven (Revelation 7:15). And, most importantly, we will be in the very presence of our Lord whose glory will unceasingly fill us with every joy and blessing imaginable (Psalm 16:11).

Of course, these descriptions still leave lots of room for speculation—and that is fine! St. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 2:9: "Eye has not seen, nor has ear heard, neither has entered into the mind of man the things that God has prepared for them that love Him." In other words, we have never experienced in this life the full impact and ultimate reality of what heaven will be like. For sure, the best is yet to come! But dream BIG about heaven!

Heaven is made possible because of what our Lord Jesus did for us. He died to bridge the gap that left us hopelessly unable to get to heaven because of our sins. On the cross our unworthiness was taken away forever. Believers in Jesus are made righteous in His sight. On that dramatic Easter morning, Jesus defeated death and opened heaven's gates for us. He plans to bring us to His special home someday (John 14:1-6) and longs to show us what true heavenly glory is all about (John 17:24). Because Jesus did all of this for us, we Christian believers are at this very moment "citizens of heaven" (Philippians 3:20). Our future is safe and secure in Jesus.

Preacher / hymn writer Charles Wesley wrote:

Finish then Thy new creation
 Pure and spotless let us be;
 Let us see Thy great salvation
 Perfectly restored in Thee;
 Changed from glory into glory
 Till in heav'n we take our place;
 Till we cast our crowns before Thee
 Lost in wonder, love and praise!

--Pastor Gary Werling

IN OUR PRAYERS

Health and Strength:

Amy Adamson, Catherine Anderson, Carolyn Behney, Lisa Cheney, April Claussner, Joshua Cochran, Karen Cooper, Don Dickmeyer, Rebecca Hausman, Violetta Hinkell, Dale Hoffart, Ron Johns, Ed Kauss, Stephen Kayara, Bill Kiesling, Linda Killion, Emily Koesters, Brynn Kounovsky, Katie Kros, Amy LaFontaine, Vicky Lamprecht, Allen Marsh, Jessica Melvin, Sue O'dell, Jeff Owen, Riley Penny, Greg Poynter, Colton Prince, Dale Schelpepper, Micah Settle, Bob Smith, Larry Staley, Lynda Teeters, Warren Von Seggern, Shane Werner, Rick Witcher, Bob Wood, Peggy Zellner

Serving Our Country:

Jamie Durance, Jeffrey Durance, Jessica Durance, Daniel Ellis, Joe LeMaster, Corbin Michael, Matthew Schuetz, Ryan Schuetz, Jon Spahn, Jason Vierra, Alan Wineinger

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Overseas Servants:

Ahlman family, Alyssa Anders, The Ashor family, Baker family, the Cima family, the Clausung family, the Eisold family, the Fay family, Rev. Stuart & Debra Freese, Gail Grieser, the Hosch family, the Kuddes family, the Lehman family, the Lo family, Kendra McNatt, James & Christel Neuendorf, Judy Newhouse, Sharon Owen, the Paul family, the Rickman family, Steven & Cynthia Schumacher, the Sharp family, the Wildauer family, and the Yang family.

BAPTISMS IN APRIL

April 8

Austin Wayne Hoffman
 Son of Logan & Andrea

April 22

Lindy Parks Froehlich
 Daughter of Max & Cara

April 29

Jordan Wesley Estep
 Son of Steve & Victoria

Lakely Grace Ehlers

Daughter of Jonathan & Krista

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

APRIL 1 EASTER SUNDAY 1,251

(6:30-54 8:00-248 9:30 Sanc-335
 9:30 MAC-394 11:00-220)
 General Offering \$15,281

APRIL 8 SUNDAY WORSHIP 423

(8:00-85 9:30-185 10:45-224)
 General Offering \$10,672

APRIL 11 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 15

General Offering \$15

APRIL 15 SUNDAY WORSHIP 360

(8:00-70 9:30-140 10:45-150)
 General Offering \$3,987

APRIL 18 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 18

General Offering \$95

APRIL 22 SUNDAY WORSHIP 429

(8:00-92 9:30-181 10:45-156)
 General Offering \$8,681

APRIL 25 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 18

General Offering \$275

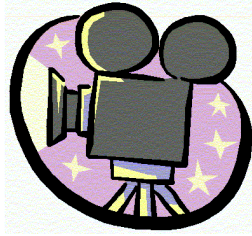
APRIL 29 SUNDAY WORSHIP 459

(8:00-98 9:30-185 10:45-176)
 General Offering \$8,766

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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

HIS KIDS CAMP (June 4 – 8th) The mission trip to “His Kids Camp” at Camp Luther in Schuyler, Nebraska is just around the corner. The Sr. High Youth will be attending His Kids Camp, June 4 through June 8, to serve as camp “buddies”. To see more information about “His Kids” you can visit www.hiskidscamp.org. We would meet at the church Monday, June 4 at 4:30 pm, and returning Friday evening June 8. Please prayerfully consider attending “His Kids Camp” as buddy, this a true servant event, last year’s Sr. High Youth members grew in their faith and understanding after experiencing the pure joy of working with “His Kids”. We do need to fill out Volunteer Registration forms, we would like to have them completed by May 20 copies will be available in the youth lounge or you can print them off the website.



HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SLIDE PRESENTATION will be held in all 3 worship services this Sunday, May 6. We pray God’s guiding grace and blessings to all of GSLC’s high school seniors!



VBS is coming!

What: Splash Canyon Vacation Bible School
When: June 10-14- 6:00-8:30pm
Where: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Why? : To learn about God's Promises on Life's Wild Ride.

Students will participate in crafts, music, Bible stories, games and even enjoy snacks that will help teach them more about God's amazing promises! Please sign up on the church website.

VBS Volunteers Needed

Many volunteers are needed to pull off a great week of VBS. If you love Jesus, and kids, think about signing up to make this week of VBS a fun filled adventure for our children and friends in the community! The VBS sign up board can be found in the back of the sanctuary and the hallway outside of the MAC. If you have any questions please talk to Tara Hess.

NEW SUNDAY MORNING PARENTING BIBLE CLASS Many people in our congregation have expressed the need for this type of class as we are a church with many young families. We want to encourage our congregation’s parents to take seriously their vocational responsibility of making disciples of their children, and we want to equip them with a plan to nurture faith in their homes. [Note: This class will not replace our current Sunday morning adult class.] This will be a 5 week class with a curriculum based on Dr. Richard Melheim’s book “Holding Your Family Together: 5 Simple Steps to help Bring your Family Closer to God and Each Other”. After reviewing various Christian parenting resources and consulting with fellow Pastors, this seemed like a good initial study for the class. **The class will begin this Sunday, April 29 at 9:30 am and will continue through Sunday, May 27.** The class will be held in the Hannah and Esther rooms in the education wing. We hope you consider attending this class. We feel that it will be beneficial to the Christian parents here at Good Shepherd.

FOUNDATIONS CLASS – Pastor Sam is leading a new Foundations class on 3 consecutive Tuesdays beginning May 1. In the class, we will discuss the basic teachings of Christianity as understood and taught by the Lutheran Church. If you are interested in becoming a member of Good Shepherd, or you just want a refresher of all the things you forgot from Confirmation class, please feel free to join us. The class will meet from 6:30pm-8:30pm in the educational wing. and we will provide snacks and babysitting.

UPCOMING VOTERS MEETINGS The Annual Voters Elections Meeting and the Annual Voters Budget Meeting to consider adoption of the 2018-2019 fiscal budget will take place in the MAC on Sunday, June 3 after the late service, around 11:45. All boards are to present their proposed budget at the Leadership Council on Tuesday, May 29 at 7:00 pm.

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Wee Lambs Preschool

We are finishing our 16th year of preschool here at Wee Lambs Preschool. It has again been a great year of learning about Jesus, making new friends, learning our ABC's and 123s, our colors and shapes. We have had some great times on our WONDERFUL playground outside, and we loved the MAC on those cold days. We have attended chapel with Pastor Werling and Pastor Sam and Tara, learned how Jesus loves us and sang some Jesus songs. We have made so many things for our parents! At Christmas time we did a program for our parents, and we'll be doing another one at the end of the year. Some of our fun field trips include Valas, Omaha Symphony, and Metro Stars Gymnastics. We had a visit from a fireman, a police officer, and a dentist. We practiced our fire drills and tornado drills too. Lots of art projects have been made, as the walls in the preschool hallway will attest. It has been a WONDERFUL year and we thank God for these activities.

Please help me in thanking our teachers for the great job they do. God has blessed us with a dedicated staff who love to serve the Lord. Our teachers are Deb Knihal, Susan Josoff, Carol Theall, Kelly Jansen, Katie Skorcz and Angie Richling.

Thanks for all your support!
 Lisa Stirtz, preschool director

Congrats GSLC 2018 HS Seniors!

<u>Chloe Caddell</u>		
<u>Nicole Cloyd</u>	Univ of Ne Lincoln	Art History
<u>Andrew Correll</u>	Univ of Undecided	Physical Therapy Cross Country/Track
<u>Kaitlyn Correll</u>	NW Missouri State Univ	Speech Pathology Ed w/ minor in Spanish
<u>Carter Doering</u>	Univ of NE Omaha	Accounting, Real Estate and Finance
<u>Justin Dyke</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Systems Engineering Biological Biomedical minor
<u>Stephanie Ellis</u>		
<u>Jake Essink</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Undecided
<u>Benjamin Foley</u>		
<u>Nathan Harmon</u>	Doane Univ	Business Cross Country/Track
<u>Nicholas Harmon</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Fine Arts Performing in Newsies in June
<u>Alex Henkel</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Psychology w/ Spanish minor
<u>Megan Hollman</u>		
<u>Kaitlyn Horst</u>	Wayne State	Criminal Justice/Chemistry
<u>Joshua Kelley</u>	Univ of NE Omaha	Cyber Security
<u>Andrea Kenney</u>	MCC	Nursing
<u>Danielle Kenney</u>	Undecided	PreLaw
<u>Samuel Kutz</u>	U.S. Marines-Air Division	Bootcamp Fall 2018
<u>Erik Lindblom</u>	MCC	Undecided
<u>Byron Moore</u>	Univ of NE Omaha	Computer Science/ IT Innovation
<u>Tyler Morgan</u>		
<u>Brendan Peterson</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Business w/ minor in marketing
<u>Reagan Rediger</u>		
<u>Brody Riecken</u>	Metro Community College	Plumber Apprenticeship Program
<u>Cally Dee Rogers</u>	Concordia Univ Seward	Business/Math Trap/Skeet
<u>Emma Rohrich</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Pre-health/Nursing
<u>Kade Skokan</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Aviation
<u>Caloway Soucek</u>	Univ of N Colorado	Undecided Football
<u>Chance Sterling</u>	Concordia Univ Seward	Undecided Basketball
<u>Tyler Sullivan</u>	Doane University	Engineering Basketball
<u>Jessica Swanson</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Actuarial Science
<u>Tristan Towey</u>	Univ of NE Kearney	K-12 Phys Ed w/ Health & Coaching Endorsement
<u>Lauren Zabka</u>	Univ of NE Lincoln	Speech-Language Pathology