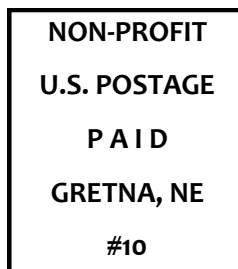


GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH  
11204 SOUTH 204TH ST., PO BOX 39  
GRETNA, NE 68028

Church Phone: 332-3345  
Preschool Office: 332-3267  
E-mail: gslc@gslcgretna.org  
Web page: gslcgretna.org

If you no longer wish to receive this mailing, please contact  
the church office at 402-332-3345 or e-mail at  
gslc@gslcgretna.org



Return Service Requested



### Church Office

Phone..... 402 332 3345  
Fax..... 402 332 4821

### E-mail

gslc@gslcgretna.org

### Web page

gslcgretna.org

### Preschool Office

Phone..... 402 332 3267

### Staff

#### Senior Pastor

Rev. Gary Werling..... ext. 206

#### Vicar

Eric Larson..... ext.204

#### Director of Children

#### & Family Ministries

Mrs. Tara Hess..... ext. 205

#### Director of Youth

Mr. Bob Broekemeier.. ext. 201

#### Director of Organ

Sonja Lundgren..... ext. 207

#### Director of Praise Band

Andy Hardies .....ext. 207

#### Director of Outreach

Vern Nemitz .....ext. 201

#### DCE of Specialized Ministry

Warren Viehl .....ext. 201

#### Administrative Assistant

Cathy Kilawee.....ext. 201

#### Business Manager

Mrs. Jan Kounkel.....ext. 201

### Wee Lambs

#### Preschool Staff

Director/Teacher.....ext. 203

Lisa Stirtz

Teachers .....ext. 213

Katie Skorc & Angie Richling

Teachers.....ext. 214

Deb Knihal & Susan Josoff

Teachers .....ext. 215

Carol Theall, Andrea Cole,

Kristie Ramsey, Kelly Jansen,

& Danielle Waters

### Worship

#### Sunday Mornings

8:00 AM Traditional  
9:30 AM Traditional  
10:45AM Contemporary/MAC

#### Wednesday Evenings

7:00 PM Traditional

### Sunday Christian

#### Education Hour

9:15 AM

## 2021— A Year to Grow in Prayer

### IN OUR PRAYERS

**Health and Strength:** Catherine Anderson, Mary Antholz, Kerri Black, Eli Brown, Gregg Caldwell, Daniel Cate, Bill Kiesling, Amy LaFontaine, Barb Margolis, Barb Nordmeyer, Jarrod Ockander, Michael Phan, Maverick Roland, Les Schweigart, Lynda Teeters, Gabriel Tegeder, Sue Tomanek, Cathy Werling, & Bob Wood. **Prayers and Comfort:** To Butch Mumm and family on the passing of Mary Ann Mumm.

#### BAPTISMS in July:

**Kendall Ruth Pietig**—daughter of Craig & Lisa Pietig on July 4th

**Brody Lane Loontjer**— son of Brett & Ashley Loontjer on July 11th

**Luke Wyatt Easter**—son of Joanie & Michael Easter on July 18th

**Serving Our Country:** Kayla Andrews, Trent Boyer, Valkyrie Cailkison, Jamie Durance, Jeffrey Durance, Jessica Durance, Daniel Ellis, Colton Fickler, Christian Hadden, Brayden Hardies, Samuel Kutz, Joe LeMaster, Corbin Michael, Shay Pippitt, Alex Ryan,

Matthew Schuetz, Ryan Schuetz, Jon Spahn, Jason Vierra, Alan Wineinger.

**Overseas Servants of the Gospel:** The Ahlman family, Alyssa Anders, The Ashor family, The Baker family, The Cima family, The Clausing family, Nichelle Dykema, 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, Sandra Rhein, The Rickman family, Steven & Cynthia Schumacher, The Sharp family, Douglas & Angela Thompson, The Wildauer family, The Wood family, and The Yang family.

#### Worship Attendance:

**JULY 4** 328

(8:00-70/9:30-124/10:45-123 & WED/11)

General Offering \$8,073

**JULY 11** 355

(8:00-76/9:30-127/10:45-139 & WED/13)

General Offering \$7,791

**JULY 18** 333

(8:00-76/9:30-101/10:45-139 & Wed/17)

General Offering \$6,336

**JULY 25** 300

(8:00-86/9:30-96/10:45-106 & WED/- 12)

General Offering \$5,926

#### Scripture Readings

##### August 1

Exodus 16:2-15

Ephesians 4:1-16

John 6:22-35

##### August 8

1 Kings 19:1-8

Ephesians 4:17-5:2

John 6:35-51

##### August 15

Proverbs 9:1-10

Ephesians 5:6-21

John 6:41-51

##### August 22

Isaiah 29:11-19

Ephesians 5:22-33

Mark 7:1-13

##### August 29

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Ephesians 6:10-20

Mark 7:14-23

# Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

11204 S. 204th Street \* P.O. Box 39 \* Gretna, NE 68028

August 2021

## A Different Goal and Prize

*Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:12-14*

Have you been watching the Olympics, watching athletes struggle and strain to go faster and to push through adversity? It is always interesting to watch these competitors as they try to maintain their composure with the eyes of judges, referees, and the media critiquing their every move. And now, in the age of social media, there are unending judges and juries who instantly declare their verdicts about who is the greatest of all time and who are the greatest losers.

The apostle Paul frequently used athletic terms to describe His ministry, because, like an athlete, he needed to maintain His focus on his goal and prize. By the standards of this world, Paul was a loser. He was constantly being beaten up, mocked, and thrown in prison, but worldly praise was not His prize. Paul was a courageous missionary, apostle, and proclaimer of the Gospel; but he knew he had nothing on the greatest of all time. He was simply walking in the footsteps of His Lord, Jesus, who endured pain and scorn yet one the decisive victory through His death and resurrection

Like Paul, we do not need to get caught up in the status games of this world. We have already been declared righteous by the greatest of all time. And because of that, we have a different goal. We strive to show others the love of the one who gave us grace and status as His children, a gracious prize that we did not deserve.

In Christ,

Vicar Eric Larson

*And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6*

Friends in Christ,

We have a big shade tree in our backyard. It has provided cool relief on those miserably hot summer days we have had. Sitting under its branches, that shade tree offers a nice place for some good things: a place to relax, a place to reflect, a place to read, and especially, a place to pray.

I hope you don't think of prayer in a complicated way. It's not a "one size fits all" thing. Each individual expression upward to our Heavenly Father, however we say it or do it, is like sweet incense to Him. Endless blessings provide prayer opportunities of thankfulness and praise to God. Prayers for family members, friends, acquaintances, or people whose needs we have been made aware are ways to touch the lives of others with God's gracious help. And the burdens we ourselves have—whatever they might be—we can be sure that our Lord promises faithful and loving help. A wonderful hymn reminds us:

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge—Take it to the Lord in prayer.

In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a solace there.

Wherever and however, we do it, prayer is truly a special gift and privilege from our loving God.

Pastor Gary Werling

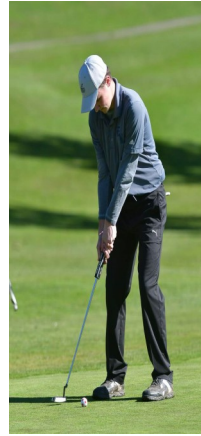




## WEE LAMBS PRESCHOOL

Summer is almost over, the teachers are starting to prep their classrooms and Wee Lambs will be back in session in early September!

Lisa Stirtz, Director



### Wee Lambs Preschool—Annual Golf Tournament

August 29th, at Tara Hills Golf Course, Papillion

Registration at 12:30PM with Shotgun start at 1:30PM

Price: \$80 per golfer or \$320 per team of four

If you would like to be a sponsor for the golf tournament, please contact Lisa Stirtz at 402-657-0797. All proceeds go to Wee Lambs Preschool and registration form will be on the church website!



*Join us Sundays in person!*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** Join us then at 9:15 a.m. for Sunday School where we will learn how we are “Simply Loved”. During our “Simply Loved!” Sunday School, we will experience God’s love and how to share it! Offered for 3 year old that are potty trained to 5th Grade.

**MS CONNECT GROUP (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades)** Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:30 in the Middle School classroom. Join us and bring a friend as we dig deeper into the Word.

**BIBLE STUDY ON SUNDAY MORNINGS** Join us from 9:15 – 10:15 a.m. in the education wing. Everyone is invited – drop ins too! DCE Warren Viehl will lead this on Sundays.

**TUESDAY MORNING LADIES BIBLE STUDY!** Join us on Tuesday, 9:30AM –10:30AM in the Joshua and Noah rooms of the education wing. Vicar Eric Larson is our leader. Please come and join us!

**BOARD OF HUMAN CARE** continues to meet on Wednesday mornings in the church library at 8:30 to pray. You are encouraged to join us! If you have any prayer requests or questions please contact: Renee Boyer at 402-960-7505/rboyerm10@outlook.com OR Sondra Harrold at 402-253-2280/harroldw@aol.com OR the church office.

**MEN’S THURSDAY MORNING ZOOM BIBLE BREAKFAST** meets each Thursday starting at 6:30a.m. Pastor Werling leads our discussion on the letters of the Apostle John. This is ideal for men of all ages. You may join in the online conversation if you like, or simply listen to our study. The study ends around 7:30 a.m. but you are welcome to sign-off at any time. If you would like to receive an online invitation to our ZOOM study, please contact the church office at 402-333-3345.

**KAUSS BIBLE STUDY** We are back and meeting the first Friday of each month at the Knauss's home at 7:00pm.

**JR. HIGH YOUTH NIGHT** meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month at 6:00PM till 7:00PM in the MAC for fellowship, games, and fun! Save the date for the Jr. High Youth Gathering-November 13-14 at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center in La Vista.

**SR. HIGH YOUTH BIBLE STUDY** Sr. High Youth at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings for a Bible study in the MAC for fellowship.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SCHEDULE A BAPTISM?** Baptism is a special Sacrament of God’s grace for people of all ages. Prior to the baptism, you will need to attend our Baptism Class led by Pastor Werling. The class is offered the first Thursday every other month with our next class on **September 2nd at 5:30pm.** Please contact the church office if you would like to attend.

**PROJECT HOPE BAG CHALLENGE** Our Board of Human Care set up a clothing challenge to assist Project Hope in reopening their clothing pantry. It was very overwhelming the amount of clothing that was given. Many thanks to each of you for your donations which will help MANY! A special shout out to LindaKay Hermes for hauling all of these bags to Project Hope and leading the challenge!!

**RALLY DAY SUNDAY** will be September 12. On that day, we will “kick-off” our Christian Education Program. All 3 services will focus on the blessings of growing our faith—for children, youth, and adults. That day there will be an “inside-outside picnic” following the 10:45 service here at the church. Mark your calendars!



**MIDWEEK SCHOOL TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER** Our 2021-2022 Midweek School for all children in Grades 3 – 8 will begin on Wednesday, September 15 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Our Midweek School is offered to help our children understand the Bible with particular emphasis upon God’s plan of salvation in our Savior Jesus Christ. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade combined class will focus on the chief parts of Christian doctrine from the Small Catechism. The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade class is the Confirmation Class with Confirmation to take place in early spring. Online registrations can be made in August.

**HARVEST ARTS & CRAFTS BOUTIQUE** Mark you calendars to come see this years craft fair that will be held in the Ministry Activities Center (MAC) on Saturday, October 2 from 9-3pm. Several different vendors will be selling their wares which will be a great time to get some early Christmas shopping completed!

### LOREN KATT ELECTED GRETNA’S “CITIZEN OF THE YEAR”!

Congratulations to GSLC’s Loren Katt who was elected “Citizen of the Year” during the Gretna Days celebration this past weekend. As manager of the Gretna Co-op for 44 years, Loren faithfully served its patrons with any needs they had. Though too numerous to mention, he was noted for his decades-long mentoring of kids in teaching hunter safety including bow-hunter education. He has been involved in many community events and projects. At GSLC Loren has served in most offices of leadership, cooked meals for special events, taught Sunday School for years, and always willing to lend a hand. May God continue to bless Loren, his wife Marcile, and all their family.



**GREटना DAYS PARADE** Just a quick thank you to all who participated in the Gretna Days Parade which was Saturday, July 31st! Thank you to everyone who donated candy. To Carol Theall for helping to design and construct the float. To Charles Hess and Jerry Howland who fixed the float when it fell over! And for everyone who walked in the parade. It was all a great representation of why Good Shepherd is such a special place to grow and serve. **“Get into a Groove with God”**

