

THIS WEEK AT GOOD SHEPHERD

DECEMBER 2-DECEMBER 9

TODAY

8:00 am Liturgical Worship
9:15 am Christian Ed. Hour
9:30 am Traditional Worship
10:45 am Contemporary Worship

6:20 pm Advent Supper
7:00 pm Advent Service
7:00 pm Youth Bible Study
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

MONDAY

1:30 pm Staff Meeting
6:30 pm Men's Basketball
6:30 pm Ladies Bible Study
7:00 pm Relationships Bible Study

FRIDAY

6:00 pm Christmas Trivia Night
7:00 pm Kauss Bible Sunday

TUESDAY

9:30 am Women's Bible Study

NEXT SUNDAY

8:00 am Liturgical Worship w/HC
9:15 am Christian Ed. Hour
9:30 am Traditional Worship w/HC
10:45 am Contemporary Worship w/HC

WEDNESDAY

6:30 am Men's Bible Breakfast
5:30-6:20 pm Midweek Classes

FACTS AND FIGURES

NOVEMBER 25 WORSHIP	223
(8:00-30 9:30-84 10:45-100)	
GENERAL OFFERING	\$2,468
NOVEMBER 28 — WEDNESDAY SERVICE	52
GENERAL OFFERING	\$1,625
MISSIONS	\$200
BUILDING PRINCIPLE	\$250
WEE LAMBS	\$10
SIMPLY GIVING FOR OCTOBER	\$26,806

SIMPLY GIVING Please contact the church office at 402-332-3345 or make a note on your worship card/folder if you would like information about the "Simply Giving" automatic bank offering program. It is very convenient and helpful to our congregation's monthly stewardship needs.

Senior Pastor
Rev. Gary Werling

Associate Pastor
Director of Adult Ministry
Rev. Sam Pitsch

Director of Children and
Family Ministry
Tara Hess

Director of Youth and
Small Group Ministry
Bob Broekemeier

Director of Preschool
Lisa Stirtz

Director of Praise Band
Andy Hardies

Director of Outreach
Vern Nemitz

DCE-Specialized Ministry
Warren Viehl

Head Organist
Sonja Lundgren

Choir Director
Sara Fandrey Lorenz

Parish Nurse
Brenda Elson

Business Manager
Jan Kounkel

Sunday Morning Worship:

8:00 (Liturgical in Sanctuary)
9:30 (Traditional in Sanctuary)
10:45 (Contemporary in MAC)

Wednesday Evening Worship

7:00 pm (Traditional in Sanctuary)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

First Sunday in Advent

December 2, 2018

11204 South 204th Street * PO Box 39 * Gretna, NE 68028
(402) 332-3345 * gslc@gslcgretna.org * www.gslcgretna.org

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

- **Thank you** for joining us today! We pray that your time in worship will encourage and strengthen you. We share the greatest hope through the One who loves us the most - Jesus Christ!
- **Children's Sunday School, Youth Bible Studies, and Adult Education classes** meet in the educational wing and Ministry Activities Center today at 9:15 a.m.
- **Altar Flowers** are displayed in the Sanctuary and MAC and can be donated by signing up in the Altar Flower book located on the table in the back of the Sanctuary/MAC entry. The cost is \$25.00 per bouquet. Please make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and place in Altar Flowers mailbox directly in front of the church entry doors.

FOR THE 8:00 A.M. AND 9:30 A.M. SANCTUARY SERVICES

- **Attendance Cards** Please record your attendance with us in our attendance cards located in each pew. Pass these to the center aisle for the ushers to collect. Please do not place them in the offering bags.
- **Nursery** is available for our 8:00 service and staffed during our 9:30 service and is located next to the library in the educational wing for children 12 months up to 3 years. Parents are encouraged to use the nursery when your children become fussy during worship as a courtesy to fellow worshippers.
- **Hearing assistance receivers** are available for use and are located on a table in the back of the sanctuary.
- **Prayer Requests** Please note your prayer requests on the worship card. A prayer journal is located on a lectern in the front hallway.
- **Restrooms** are located in the hallway on the north side of the sanctuary and at the southwest end of the educational wing.
- **Coffee and rolls fellowship** is enjoyed between our 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services in the hallway near the kitchen on the north side of the sanctuary. Please join us!

FOR THE 10:45 A.M. CONTEMPORARY SERVICE IN THE MAC

- **Attendance** Please record your attendance in the Welcome Folder as it is passed down your row. You may leave the Folder on the last chair near the outside walls.
- **Nursery** is unstaffed and located next to the library in the educational wing for children 12 months up to 3 years. Parents are encouraged to use the nursery when your children become fussy during worship as a courtesy to fellow worshippers.
- **Restrooms** are located on either side of the kitchen and in the hallway.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

"In Those Days" Our 2018 Midweek Advent Theme

Advent Suppers and Services

Join us for a series of services and suppers on the Wednesday Advent-evenings in December. Our theme is *"In Those Days" as we explore the events leading up to the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we light the Advent wreath, we remember the decree of an emperor who became an unknowing instrument in God's plan; we remember the young virgin Mary who shows ultimate trust in God; and we remember Joseph who was much more than a husband. Join us each Wednesday in our Advent journey of faith, 2018.*

Wednesday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.

"Caesar: An Instrument in God's Plan"

Supper in the MAC from 6:20 – 7:00 p. m.

(Chili, Chicken Noodle, and Cinnamon Rolls served by our Youth)

Wednesday, December 12, 7:00 p.m.

"Mary: The Ultimate Trust"

Supper in the MAC from 6:20 – 7:00 p.m.

(Sloppy Joes by our Preschool Board)

Wednesday, December 19, 7:00 p.m.

"Joseph: Integrity, Love, and Faith"

Supper in the MAC from 6:20 – 7:00 p.m.

Christmas at Good Shepherd 2018

Christmas Eve Services– Monday, December 24

10:00 am–Christmas Eve Family Service in the Sanctuary

5:00 pm– Contemporary Christmas in the MAC

5:00 pm– Christmas Eve in the Sanctuary

6:30 pm– Candlelight Christmas in the Sanctuary

11:00 pm- Midnight Candlelight in the Sanctuary

Christmas Day Worship– Tuesday, December 25

9:30 am– Service in the Sanctuary

EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR THANKS to those who decorated the church for this Advent/Christmas season: Shelley Barber, Mike and Sheri Jensen, Melanie Ernst, Shelly Schmidt, Robin, Bob, and Nick Kincade, Brianna and Nora Jordheim, Sue Schnack, and Lisa Stirtz. Everything is beautiful for this holy season! Thank you all!

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA NIGHT December 7 the Board of Family ministry is hosting a Christmas Trivia Night. We hope you will come and join us in the fun! Dinner will start at 6:00pm with trivia following. Please RSVP to tara.hess@gslcgretna.org or sign up on the tables outside of the MAC/sanctuary. Prizes will be given to the two most successful families!

PRIME TIMERS ACTIVITY IN DECEMBER SIGN UP sheets in both the Sanctuary and in the MAC. Our last activity for this year, 2018, will be on Tuesday, December 11. We will travel to Joslyn Museum to view their displays and then have lunch in their café. We will leave church at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 11th.

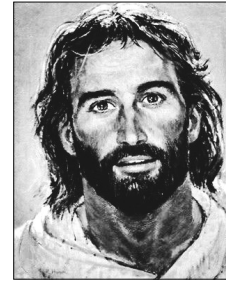
KEEPSAKE CHRISTMAS- Join us December 14th at 6:30pm for a Keepsake Christmas as we experience a dramatic retelling of the Christmas story and create our own keepsake nativity scenes. This will be a wonderful opportunity for families to create another meaningful Christmas memory together. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served. Please sign up by December 5th so we can make sure we have enough product for all participants- sign ups can be found on the tables in the MAC entryway/sanctuary or you can email tara.hess@gslcgretna.org.

BLOOD DRIVE AT GOOD SHEPHERD Friday, January 4 from 11 to 5 pm in the educational wing. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org and enter: LSLSydney to schedule an appointment. Free long sleeve Red Cross T-shirts while supplies last! Questions? Contact Sydney Kimmach at 402-521-4491.

ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE THIS WEDNESDAY All adults who would like to sing in our adult choir are invited to attend our choir practice on WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING THE 7:00 P.M. WORSHIP SERVICE (around 7:35 p.m.). If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact our choir director Sara at choir@gslcgretna.org. Please join us!

A CAMP LUTHER CHRISTMAS: Saturday, December 8 from 10:00 am-5:00 pm. Join us for an open house Christmas festival! Cookie Decorating (and eating), Caroling, Christmas Games, Family Devotion, Crafts, Christmas Tree Decorating Contest, Lunch, and more! \$10/person at the door, Age 3 and under free. Contact us (campluther@campluther.org; 402-352-5655) with any questions or if you'd like to enter the Christmas Tree Decorating Contest!

PRAISE BAND The Praise Band is looking for vocalists and volunteers to play guitar, bass, keyboard, and drums. The time commitment is minimal. They practice an hour and a half before the 10:45 service, and volunteers can choose how often they participate. Please contact Andy Hardies at praiseband@gslcgretna.org if interested.



"2018: A Year to Know Him Better" What a great challenge for all of us! Writing to Christians during the final months of his life (ca. 68 A.D.), the apostle Peter had an urgent message. He realized that most 1st Century Christians were naïve about who Jesus really was and how relevant He could be in their daily lives. The spread of unchallenged, false teachings coupled with intense state persecution threatened the life of the church. Peter's solution? **"...Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ"** (2 Peter 3:18). His words are equally urgent to our generation as well. Let us make **"2018: A Year to Know Him Better"**!

NOTES FOR TODAY'S SERVICES

SERVING TODAY Pastors: Gary Werling, Sam Pitsch **Elders:** 8:00 & 9:30-Marcus Goldenstein, 10:45 -Dan Theall **Ushers:** 8:00- Ron Johns. Jerry Kenney, Drew Von Seggern, Rick Zorko 9:30-John Oetting, Tim Schnack, Trevor Scholting, Scott Sneller 10:45-TJ Robertson, Kevin Stange, Larry Wendlandt, Bruce Wrona **Readers:** 8:00-Jennifer Given 9:30- Roger Barber 10:45- Jean Stoley **Acolytes:** 9:30-Hallie Elgan 10:45-Max Simonsen **Greeters:** 8:00- Lu Gibb 9:30- Bridget Goldenstein 10:45-Shandy Loberg **Pew Custodian:** Sharon Kauss **Counter:** Adam & Keeley Lammers **Organist:** 8:00, 9:30-Sonja Lundgren **Soloist-** Linda Hermes **Singers:** 10:45-Lauren Madsen, Stacie Moore, Addison Moore, Amanda Kranjc, Andy Hardies **Keyboard:** Holly Dorathy **Guitars:** Rollie Hardies, Warren Ueckert, Keith Niemann **Drums:** Brandon Stange **Sound:** Loretta Hardies **Powerpoint:** Helen Niemann

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Birthdays: 12/2- Christopher Barton, Sadie Bronson, Cameron Ellis, Anne Harris, Kristine Koch, Ann Nelson 12/3- Dan Dudley, Keith Hentzen, Noah Humlicek, Zayden Richey 12/4- Lou Butler, Gary Kelley, Rogan Kudlacek, Leila Rehbein, Frank Ullman 12/5- Kelsey Eitzmann, Elizabeth Frazer, Blair Hailey, Breanna LaFontaine, Brock LaFontaine, Maesyn Loontjer, Sara Lorenz, Barbara Scultze 12/6- Craig Barnhart 12/7- Wanda Gay, Terah Hansen, Allison Kessler, Charlotte Kiper, Gabriel Lange 12/8-Roxanne Hurst, Adam Lammers, Jessica Rehbein, Lori Suhr **Anniversaries:** 12/3- Renee & Mark Boyer, Bradley & Sarah Goetsch **Health and Strength:** Amy Adamson, Cathy Ahrens, Catherine Anderson, Mike Avery, Carolyn Behney, Gerhard Broekemeier, Karen Cooper, Don Dickmeyer, Bryan Drebes, Jeanette Fleeer, Rebecca Haussman, Violetta Hinkell, Ed Kauss, Steven Kayara, Bill Kiesling, Linda Killion, Amy LaFontaine, Jessica Melvin, Mert Nielsen, Patrick & Dawna Nikiema, Riley Penny, Greg Poynter, Elle Samples, Micah Settle, Larry Staley, Lynda Teeters, Gabriel Tegeder, Karla Von Seggern, Warren Von Seggern, James Edward Wagner, Kenneth Walters, Shane Werner, Rick Witcher, Bob Wood **Comfort & Peace:** Jeanette Kelley & family at the passing of her uncle Darrell Hinrichs; Bob Broekemeier & family on the passing of his brother-in-law James Abraham. **Serving Our Country:** Trent Boyer, Jamie Durance, Jeffrey Durance, Jessica Durance, Daniel Ellis, Colton Fickler, Brayden Hardies, Samuel Kutz, Joe LeMaster, Corbin Michael, Shay Pippitt, Matthew Schuetz, Ryan Schuetz, Jon Spahn, Jason Vierra, Alan Wineinger **Overseas Servants of the Gospel:** Ahlman family, Alyssa Anders, The Ashor family, 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, the Rickman family, Steven & Cynthia Schumacher, the Sharp family, Douglas & Angela Thompson, the Wildauer family, the Wood family, and the Yang family.

TODAY AT GOOD SHEPHERD

ANGEL TREE Tags are available on the Angel Trees if you'd like to purchase and wrap a gift for a Gretna Community Living Center resident or a child of a prisoner. If you would like to participate, please take a Nursing Home tag or an Angel Tree tag from the tree located in the back of the sanctuary or MAC entry. Make sure and provide your name and phone number on the sign-up sheets (located on tables by the trees). The tag will provide details on the child's age or nursing home resident's name and their specific gift request. Recommended spending for each gift is \$25. **Wrapped gifts are due back to the church no later than Sunday, Dec. 9.** Make sure the tag is attached to your gift. If you would like to help with the gift delivery on Saturday, Dec. 16, please sign up on the table by the Angel Tree. Any Angel Tree questions can be directed to Holly Dorathy; questions about the nursing home residents can be directed to Alane Johns at 402-980-5347. Thank you for your help in making this year's Angel Tree Christmas a success!

INVITING FRIENDS If you have unchurched friends, why not invite them to Good Shepherd? To assist you, we have available a stack of letters drafted by Vern Nemitz, our Director of Outreach. The letters are located at the back of the church and in the MAC lobby on the Welcome Table. The letter serves as a friendly invitation to Good Shepherd. Pick up one or several and hand them to friends!

THE WARMTH OF JESUS LOVE Wee Lambs Preschool is collecting NEW hats, gloves, mittens and scarves for families in the Gretna area and for Lutheran Family Services of NE. Help us to bring Jesus Love to families in Gretna and Omaha who are in dire need of these items. You can place donations on the tree in the MAC entry. Any questions, contact Lisa Stirtz at 402-657-0797.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is provided for children ages 3 yrs (potty trained) thru 5th grade. Please join us for our Sunday School hour—9:15 until the end of the 9:30 service. Our DIG IN curriculum provides creative, multisensory teaching that immerses your kids in deep Bible learning, helping them to know Jesus personally and grow in relationship with him. Look for us in the education wing - all ages will meet together for opening and closing. If you have any questions please contact Tara Hess at 402-332-3345 or tara.hess@gslcgretna.org.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF JOHN will continue today from 9:15 -10:15 a.m. in the Joshua and Noah rooms in the education wing. This study is led by the pastors each week. Enjoy a roll and a cup of coffee and join us!

SUNDAY MORNING MIDDLE SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY Jesus used parables to teach a moral lesson. Join us as we embark on a journey to explore the parables from the bible. Through these stories God's character is revealed to us. GIFT Program for middle school youth meets in the classroom right outside the MAC on Sunday mornings from 9:15 am—10:30 am.

SUNDAY MORNING HS YOUTH BIBLE STUDY Sr. High youth will meet in the Sr. High room by the MAC. Students will be addressing current media events within the context of our Christian faith and our responsibility to influence our peer culture with that faith. ALSO, once each month the high school students will be visiting other Christian worship services in the metro area to better understand our reformation heritage. Please join us.

WORD AND WORSHIP

MONDAY NIGHT LWML BIBLE STUDY GROUP We have begun a Bible Study called the Pew Sisters by Katie Schuermann. This is a Bible Study about real women, with real lives, and real stories of God's Faithfulness. Come join us on Monday night at 6:30 in the library. We are also collecting mites (money) for Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML), and doing mission work projects for the church and community. Any questions call Lisa Stirtz at 402-657-0797 or email at lisa.stirtz@gslcgretna.org.

NEW MONDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY A new Bible study on "Relationships" has begun and meets monthly. Join us Monday, December 3 from 7- 8:15 p.m. in the educational wing. Utilizing the Book of Genesis and other resources, explore how God instructs us to repair and reconcile with others. The study is led by Remy Ockander, visiting teacher from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Fremont where she serves as DCE in multiple ministry functions. Both men and women are invited to attend.

WOMEN'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY meets Tuesday mornings from 9:30-11:00 in the Noah room. Pastor Sam leads our study. Our next study will be on angels. We'd love for you to join us!

DEACONNESS CHERYL NAUMANN TO SPEAK AT LADIES BIBLE STUDY Pastor Sam's Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Study will meet Monday, December 10 at 9:30 a.m. instead of December 11. That day, Cheryl Naumann, Deaconess and missionary to the Dominican Republic along with her husband Rev. Jonathan Naumann, will be with us to share about mission work in the Dominican Republic. Cheryl has served in a number of churches and missions, as well as a free lance writer and editor. She has authored two books. Cheryl and her husband Jonathan have six adult children and 14 grandchildren.

MEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE BREAKFAST Come and join us at 6:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings at Billy's Café in Gretna. We are looking at the Book of Genesis. Pastor Werling leads us, and we have a good discussion each week. We order off the menu. The Bible study ends at 7:15 a.m. and guys can leave earlier if they need to. However long you can be with us is great. Please come!

MIDWEEK SCHOOL ON WEDNESDAYS Good Shepherd's Midweek School meets on Wednesdays for all children in Grades 3 - 8 from 5:30-6:20 pm in December. The younger classes (Grades 3 - 6) are taking up a new curriculum centering on the key events and stories in the Bible in a fun format. The 7th and 8th Grade Classes are the Confirmation Class with Confirmation for the 8th Graders in the Spring. All 3rd thru 6th graders should enter through the MAC door and go into the MAC. 7th and 8th graders should enter through the Sanctuary doors and go into the Sanctuary.

BAPTISM CLASS for those who are wishing to be baptized or have children baptized please contact Pastor Sam at sam.pitsch@gslcgretna.org for the date and time of the next class.