

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

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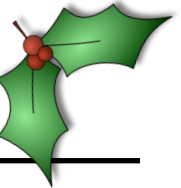
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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



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

Associate Pastor

Rev. Sam Pitschext. 204

Director of Children & Family Ministries

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

Director of Youth & Small Group Ministry

Mr. Bob Broekemeier.. ext. 201

Director of Organ

Sonja Lundgren..... ext. 207

Director of Praise Band

Andy Hardiesext. 207

Director of Outreach

Vern Nemitzext. 201

DCE of Specialized Ministry

Warren Viehlext. 201

Administrative Assistants

Mrs. Robin Kincadeext. 201

Mrs. Joyce Wittrock.....ext. 201

Business Manager

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

Wee Lambs Preschool Staff

Director/Teacher.....ext. 203

Lisa Stirtz

Teachersext. 213

Katie Skorcz & Angie Richling

Teachers.....ext. 214

Deb Knihal & Susan Josoff

Teachersext. 215

Carol Theall, Andrea Cole,

Rachel Doorenbos,

Kelly Jansen

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

Olivia and I are proud to announce that our sons Leland Mathew Pitsch (5lb 15oz) and Frederick Farrar Pitsch (5lb 11oz) were born Wednesday, November 7 at 11:17a.m. and 11:25a.m., respectively.



Although they were born at 36 weeks, they only had to spend four days in the NICU. It has been a great joy to have them at home. They eat a lot, sleep a lot, and are packing on the weight.

This past week, we had family from all over come to town to celebrate Thanksgiving and witness the boys' Baptisms. It was a very joyful and special time.

We would like to express once again our gratitude to this congregation for all their gifts and support.

Olivia and I are both overwhelmed by the generosity that you have shown to us. Hopefully you can meet the boys soon!

Dear Christian Friends,

Our Men's Bible Breakfast Group had a happy surprise this morning (November 28). As the ten of us were eating our breakfast, Charlie, a well-known fellow in the community came over to our tables and wished us all a "Merry Christmas". His words were few but sincere. We thanked him and wished him also a "Merry Christmas" before he quietly walked away. I thought to myself, "Wow, Charlie, a devout Roman Catholic, took time to tell all of us Lutheran guys, 'Merry Christmas' - he didn't have to do that, but what a neat thing that he did!"

As we were finishing our Bible discussion and getting ready to leave, how surprised we were when our waitress came over to tell us that Charlie had paid the tab for our breakfasts! All of them! What kindness and generosity! Truly, this was a demonstration of the Christmas spirit!

What is Christmas but an *eternal Surprise* for all of us and for the whole world! God didn't just tell us that He loves us; He demonstrated His love for us by sending Jesus to pay for our sins, forever, and in full. We didn't deserve it. He just did it. Jesus will always be the Surprise of all Surprises!

What else can we do but happily receive His gift....and live in gratitude for the Gift....and invite others to receive the Gift....and also, maybe (or surely!) offer gifts of many, happy surprises to others in His name.

Pam and I and all of our family wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

--Pastor Gary Werling

IN OUR PRAYERS

Overseas Servants:

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.

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

Peace and Comfort

Family of Jeanette Theall; Family of Gary Yelken; Family of Sandra Leroy; Family of Darrell Hinrichs; Family of James Abraham, Wanda Gay and family on the passing of Wanda's father Harry.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Health and Strength:

Amy Adamson, Cathy Ahrens, Catherine Anderson, Mike Avery, Carolyn Behney, Gerhard Broekemeier, Don Dickmeyer, Jeanette Fleeer, Rebecca Haussman, Ed Kauss, Steven Kayara, Bill Kiesling, Linda Killion, Amy LaFontaine, Mert Nielsen, 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,

+ + +

BAPTISMS IN NOVEMBER

November 4

Nora Marie Starr

Daughter of Joel & Valerie

November 11

Charles Arthur Marquiss

Son of Matthew & Jenna

November 18

Eviana Mae Slayton

Daughter of Stefan & Tiffany

November 25

Leland Mathew & Frederick Farrar

Sons of Sam & Olivia Pitsch

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

NOV 4 SUNDAY WORSHIP 496

(8:00-130 9:30-176 10:45-190)

General Offering \$6,560

NOV 7 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 50

General Offering \$530

NOV 11 SUNDAY WORSHIP 470

(8:00-111 9:30-178 10:45-181)

General Offering \$8,540

Wee Lambs Preschool \$105

NOV 14 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 49

General Offering \$345

NOV 18 SUNDAY WORSHIP 430

(8:00-75 9:30-157 10:45-198)

General Offering \$10,173

Wee Lambs \$25

NOV 21 THANKSGIVING EVE 128

General Offering \$1,986

NOV 25 SUNDAY WORSHIP 223

(8:00-39 9:30-84 10:45-100)

General Offering \$2,468

NOV 28 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP 52

General Offering \$1,675

Building Principle \$250

Missions \$200

Wee Lambs \$10

“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



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!

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS TO GSLC Advent and Christmas is a wonderful time to invite your friends to church. 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!



SILENT NIGHT BABYSITTING What would you do with a silent night without the kids? The Youth group is offering you a great opportunity to have just that. **On Saturday, December 1 from 4 pm – 10 pm in the MAC,** (we’ll feed them dinner). Bring your children (1yr thru 10yrs) to the church and our youth group members will babysit for the evening. This is a fundraiser for youth group members going to National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis so we ask that you make a donation for the evening. To sign up, contact Jt at youthgroup@gslcgretna.org.

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA NIGHT December 7 The Board of Family ministry is hosting a Christmas Trivia Night. We hope you will come and join us for 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 Our last activity for 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. SIGN UP sheets in both the Sanctuary and in the MAC.

KEEPSAKE CHRISTMAS- Join us December 14th at 6:30pm in the educational wing 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.



NEW HATS, GLOVES, SCARVES, MITTENS Wee Lambs Preschool is collecting for the Gretna Food Pantry and Lutheran Family Services. Please bring new hats, gloves, scarves, or mittens to the tree located in the MAC entry (NOT the Angel Tree).

DEACONESS 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.