

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

Church Phone: 332-3345
Preschool Office: 332-3267
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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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

February 2019

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 & Small Group Ministry
Mr. Bob Broekemeier.. ext. 201
Director of Organ
Sonja Lundgren..... ext. 207
Director of Choir
Sara Lorenzext. 207
Director of Praise Band
Andy Hardiesext. 207
Director of Outreach
Vern Nemitzext. 201
DCE of Specialized Ministry
Warren Viehl ext. 201
Administrative Assistants
Mrs. Robin Kincadeext. 201
Mrs. Joyce Witrock.... 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

Dear Christian Friends,

I made a phone call to Mel and Shirley Carstens this week. These are dear “long-distance-members” of GSLC having moved away several years ago to Washington, MO to be nearer their daughter and son-in-law. The move was due largely to health issues that Mel and Shirley are experiencing in their advanced (veteran!) years of life.

In speaking with Shirley, we spent quite a bit of time reminiscing about Good Shepherd’s 40 years. One memory of Shirley’s particularly stood out: she, along with a former member Jim Magnuson were the *first adult confirmations* of the church. She spoke with great pride of that fact, and rightly so! I checked that date and sure enough, it was April 22, 1979 and took place in the basement of the town hall where the first services were held. I told Shirley that it’s inspiring that she has kept her faith in Jesus all these 40 years. She admitted that it wasn’t always easy, though. But with the help of God, Shirley and Mel continue to trust His love and His leading.

I asked Shirley about the “mouse event” that, as I was informed, happened during one of these first services in the new, yet still unfinished, sanctuary. (Other former members told me about this great, historical event!) Initially, worship was held on the sanctuary’s bare concrete floor with folding chairs set up. There was little, or no heat for a time in there so the faithful few came all bundled up. Shirley told me that there was a noted lady of the church (now in heavenly glory) who, along with her noted husband (also now by her side in heavenly glory), would worship God together—she, elegantly dressed in her full-length “mink coat” (Shirley was pretty sure it was genuine mink). Proper in every way this lady was, but also quite kind, Shirley admitted, too. Well, as other folks told me, and there are various versions of this story, right during the solemn Divine service a mouse must have decided that this Lutheran crowd was way too doggone serious and needed to be brought down to earth a bit. So it scurried here and there amongst the petrified faithful with all their eyes transfixed; and wouldn’t you know it, that mouse, as if on a mission, made a beeline for the lady in the fur coat. What happened after that, I don’t know. The stories vary. But what I do know is that when it comes to worshipping God, God will get His way accomplished despite every shriek and distraction imaginable.

And speaking of worship services, Shirley and Mel miss most of all the opportunity to worship their Lord with their GSLC friends in our 10:45 MAC service. They always loved that service, its music, its singers, and all the children who would come up for the children’s message. They felt at home there with the Lord and with their friends, and they miss it dearly.

My friends, the life of the church is the interweaving of the story of God’s love in Jesus with the individual stories of God’s people. The moments of our life together serve as lasting memories of the lives we share in Christ until we all come to heavenly glory. We have 40 years of stories together. Thank God for them! Onward and upward!

----- 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

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IN OUR PRAYERS

Health and Strength:

Amy Adamson, Cathy Ahrens, Catherine Anderson, Mike Avery, Carolyn Behney, Gerhard Broekemeier, Karen Cooper, Christy Currie, Don Dickmeyer, Bryan Drebes, John Gregory, Eileen Harrell, Rebecca Haussman, Jackie Hays, Violetta Hinkell, Ed Kauss, Steven Kayara, Bill Kiesling, Linda Killion, Amy LaFontaine, Scott Marr, Jessica Melvin, Mert Nielsen, Patrick & Dawna Nikiema, Riley Penny, Greg Poynter, Stephanie Rehbein, Elle Samples, Micah Settle, Larry Staley, Lynda Teeters, Gabriel Tegeeder, Karla Von Seggern, Warren Von Seggern, Kenneth Walters, Tammy Welker, Shane Werner, Rick Witcher, Bob Wood

Peace and Comfort:

To Stacey Henkel and family on the passing of her mother Nelda Simonson.

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BAPTISM IN JANUARY

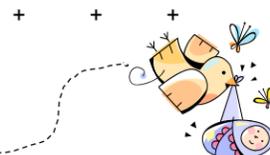
January 20

Railynn Dawn Boyd

Daughter of Clayton & Tiffani

STEWARDSHIP NOTES

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------|
| JAN 6 SUNDAY WORSHIP | 464 |
| (8:00-107 9:30-170 10:45-187) | |
| General Offering | \$7,799 |
| Wee Lambs Preschool | \$30 |
| JAN 9 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP | 24 |
| General Offering | \$98 |
| JAN 13 SUNDAY WORSHIP | 416 |
| (8:00-73 9:30-159 10:45-184) | |
| General Offering | \$6,908 |
| JAN 16 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP | 36 |
| General Offering | \$127 |
| JAN 20 SUNDAY WORSHIP | 480 |
| (8:00-130 9:30-133 10:45-217) | |
| General Offering | \$5,048 |
| JAN 23 WEDNESDAY WORSHIP | 12 |
| General Offering | \$131 |
| JAN 27 SUNDAY WORSHIP | 463 |
| (8:00-127 9:30-154 10:45-182) | |
| General Offering | \$16,789 |
| Wee Lambs | \$20 |
| Missions | \$250 |



YOUTH NEWS

UP ALL NIGHT Friday, February 15 in the MAC starting at 6:00 pm. ALL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS INVITED! Just like a cell phone needs to be connected to the power source on a regular basis to fulfill its purpose, we also need to get connected with each other and with God to achieve our purpose in life. Our night will begin with dinner, followed by guest speakers Ron Brown and Mick Stoltenberg. Ron is a former Husker coach who returned to the Husker program in a player development role and will give a powerful message on faith and football. Mick is a Husker Senior Defensive Lineman from Gretna who will speak on leadership in difficult times. Middle schoolers will be dismissed at 10 pm and the high schoolers will spend the night at the church. Overnight activities: Escape room, movies, basketball, and frisbee golf. On Saturday morning, we'll serve breakfast at 6 am and the youth will head home at 7 am. Invite your friends! **RSVP to youthgroup@gslcgretna.org by Feb. 10.** Parents: If you'd like to help out, please contact Jt or Bob at youthgroup@gslcgretna.org.

Invite your friends to GLSC!

IF: GRETNA A WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

IF: Gathering will be coming to GSLC February 8 and 9! This is a FREE two day event for women to gather for worship, prayer, biblical teaching, and community building. There will be 3 sessions: Friday, February 8 from 6 – 9 p.m.; Saturday, February 9 from 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; and Saturday, February 9 from 2-5 p.m. You may come to any or all of the sessions. Please join us and be sure to invite friends! For more details and to register, please visit <https://gretna.iflocal.com/> All questions may be directed to Chelsea Sernett at chelseakpetersen@gmail.com

PRIME TIMERS EVENTS (All retirement age folks)

Valentine Luncheon:

Meet at the church on Monday, February 11, at 11:30 a.m., to carpool to Brother Sebastian's (1350 South 119th Street) for our Valentine luncheon. At Brother Sebastian's, we will have lunch, order from the menu and then we will have time after lunch to enjoy each other's company. Sign up at the table at the back of the church/MAC entry if you need a ride.

Mission Central:

Meet at the church on Monday, March 25, at 7:30 a.m., to carpool to Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Omaha where we will join our fellow Christian friends for a trip to Mission Central in Mapleton, Iowa. Mission Central is a meeting and renewal place for missionaries of the LCMS. LCMS Missionary Jana Inglehart will be there to talk about her work in Latin America. We will tour Mission Central and then see and hear the real story of the Creation from Genesis 1:1 at the new Creation Theater. A free lunch is included. Motorcoach transportation will be provide for the first 56 people from both congregations who pay the cost of \$10 per person to Ron Dickmeyer. You may also drive yourself to Mission Central. The sign up will be available in February at the back of the sanctuary/MAC entry. We'll need a count by Monday, February 25. Also, indicate if you intend to ride in the bus or drive yourself. It promises to be a very inspirational and moving experience and we hope to see you there!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Sunday will be held on April 7 at all services. 8th Grade parents may sign up for a service (15 student limit per service) beginning at 8 am on Feb. 4. Call the office or go to our website's sidebar, www.gslcgretna.org, to sign up.

Wednesday, March 27, 5:30 p.m. – FINAL CONFIRMATION TEST

Wednesday, April 3, 5:30 p.m. – STOLE PROJECT & PIZZA PARTY

8th Graders will work on their confirmation stoles in the education wing then proceed down to the MAC for a pizza party. Our Director of Youth, Bob Broekemeier, will share some important information with our 8th Graders

Friday, April 4, 5:15 p.m. – PICTURE NIGHT IN THE SANCTUARY. Please have your 8th Grader to the sanctuary at 5:15 p.m. A professional photographer will take group and individual pictures of our robed confirmands. Picture orders will be taken this night, so remember your credit cards/checkbooks!

NOVEMBER 3 SELECTED FOR OUR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, November 3 will be the date for our 40th Anniversary Celebration. Be sure to mark your calendars! It was on November 4, 1979 that Charter Sunday was held in which Good Shepherd became an "official" congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.



Wee Lambs Preschool will be starting ONLINE registration from the Preschool tab on our website, www.gslcgretna.org.

Good Shepherd Families and current Wee Lambs Families may begin registering at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 7.

Registration for the public will start at 6:00 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 14.

The registration fee is \$50. Wee Lambs Preschool has classes on TTH a.m. or p.m. for three year olds (turning three by Aug. 31), MWF a.m. or p.m. or MTWTH a.m. for four year olds (turning four by Aug. 31), and MTWTH p.m. class for five year olds (turning five by Oct. 31). Tuition is 2 day for \$110, 3 day for \$135 and 4 day for \$160. If you have questions or would like a tour please call Lisa Stirtz, Wee Lambs Preschool director at 402-332-3267.

SAVE THE DATE: Our Scholastic Book Fair begins March 3rd thru the 10th and the Pancake Man will be here from 5-7 pm on Tuesday, March 5.

FORMER VICARS SCHEDULED TO PREACH IN 2019

As part of our 40th Anniversary celebration, we have asked former vicars and pastors to select a Sunday to be with us to preach. So far, the following former vicars, now pastors, have been scheduled:

- Rev. Paul Muther - June 2nd
- Rev. Richard Lally - July 28th
- Rev. Mike Feldmann - Aug 4th
- Rev. Joshua Traxel - Sept 15th

Those yet remaining are Rev. Ryan Duerr, Rev. Matt Conrad, and Rev. Martin Stahl.

SCHEDULE YOURSELF & SERVE!

If you or a family member would like to serve the Lord by volunteering your time as a Greeter, Acolyte, Usher, for Communion Set-Up, or for Youth Sunday, please go to our website www.gslcgretna.org and schedule yourself! This is a good way to select a Sunday that will work best for you and will also help our office as we put together our monthly schedules. Thanks so much for your willingness to serve our Lord and His people!