

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

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Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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2019 GOOD SHEPHERD'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR !

On November 4, 1979, a small group of Lutheran Christians met together for worship in the basement of the Gretna Town Hall. That was a very special worship service because on that day, many prayers had been answered. For you see, on that day—Charter Sunday—that small congregation became “official”—it was given the name *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Gretna, Nebraska* and was formally included as a member congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Now, 40 years later, by God's grace and blessing, Good Shepherd is a congregation of 1,700 men, women, and children located in a large and beautiful campus at 204th Street and Highway 370 in Gretna. For 40 years, God the Holy Spirit has been touching hundreds of lives through preaching, teaching, baptisms, communions, weddings, and funerals. The saving, eternal love of Jesus Christ continues to be the focus of this church, and God-willing, will continue to be the heart of our mission and message in the future. This year, our 40th Anniversary year, will be a year to celebrate all that God has done and continues to do among His faithful people.

As part of our year-long celebration, we have invited all our former vicars and pastors to pick a Sunday to come and preach in our worship services. Those will include Pastor Martin Stahl and Pastor Matt Conrad; and former vicars who are now pastors: Mike Feldmann, Paul Muther, Joshua Traxel, Richard Lally, and Ryan Duerr. It will be great to have them back to share God's Word with us and also to have the opportunity to hear how the Lord has guided and blessed their lives.

In addition, our boards and committees will be planning special projects and events throughout the year. Many volunteers will be needed. I hope that you will get involved in this year of celebration. What a great year it will be!

Finally, I would like to draw your attention to Loyalty Sunday which is scheduled for January 20 in all services. Each year we set a day like this aside to intentionally and prayerfully consider making a loyalty commitment to the Lord in the areas of time, talents, and offerings. You will receive a special mailing with instructions next week. Loyalty Sunday keeps us mindful of how we can serve and support the mission of the Lord through Good Shepherd. Thank you for your participation!

May the Lord grant us all a great New Year as we continue to trust Christ, grow in Him, and serve Him with faithful and thankful hearts. To God be all the glory!

----- Pastor Gary Werling

January 2019

Church Office

Phone..... 402 332 3345
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gslc@gslcgretna.org

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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 Kincade ...ext. 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

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, Rebecca Hausman, 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, James Edward Wagner, Kenneth Walters, Tammy Welker, Shane Werner, Rick Witcher, Bob Wood

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BAPTISMS IN DECEMBER

December 3

Leo Greyson Hernandez

Son of Justin & Britt



STEWARDSHIP NOTES

| | |
|---|--------------|
| DEC 2 SUNDAY WORSHIP (8:00-57 9:30-93 10:45-120) | 270 |
| General Offering | \$9,347 |
| Wee Lambs Preschool | \$35 |
| DEC 5 ADVENT WORSHIP | 187 |
| General Offering | \$2,211 |
| DEC 9 SUNDAY WORSHIP (8:00-103 9:30-207 10:45-196) | 510 |
| General Offering | \$10,192 |
| Wee Lambs Preschool | \$75 |
| DEC 12 ADVENT WORSHIP | 172 |
| General Offering | \$1,859 |
| DEC 16 SUNDAY WORSHIP (8:00-125 9:30-208 10:45-173) | 506 |
| General Offering | \$15,476 |
| Wee Lambs | \$10 |
| DEC 19 ADVENT WORSHIP | 181 |
| General Offering | \$1,699 |
| DEC 23 SUNDAY WORSHIP (8:00-90 9:30-227) | 317 |
| DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP (10:00-173 5:00 sanct-233 5:00 MAC-434 6:30-280 11:00-126) | 1,246 |
| DEC 24 CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP | 70 |
| Total Christmas Offering | \$16,761 |
| DEC 30 SUNDAY WORSHIP | 397 |

YOUTH NEWS

THANK YOU The Sr. High Youth would like to thank all of congregational members, family and friends, who have been supporting the youth in all their activities the past few months. We are planning to attend the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN from July 11 – July 15, 2019. During the trip the youth will join over 20,000 other youth digging deeper into God’s Word, through Bible Study, Worship and breakout sessions. The theme for the 2019 LCMS Youth Gathering, *Real.Present.God. “Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! The Lord of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our fortress.”* Psalm 46:10-11. Again, we really appreciate all the prayers and support from our church family.

CASSEROLES – January 21 – 28th Sunday, January 20 and 27th the Sr. High Youth will be hosting a casserole and chili sale. This is a homemade casseroles that will be made by the youth group and available to freeze. Exact recipes will be available in the back of the church. Sign up for your favorite casserole(s) and they will be available for pickup during services on Feb 3th.

Invite your friends to GLSC!

PRIME TIMERS PLANNING MEETING

All retirement age folks are invited to meet at the church on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 1:00 P.M. to plan our 2019 activities for our group. Please bring any cookies or candies left over from your Christmas festivities to share with the group. We will have coffee available. Bring all your ideas and suggestions so that we can consider them for our plans for 2019. We hope to see you there!

NEW MAC JANITOR

Sam Richling, son of Josh and Angie Richling, is our new MAC janitor. Sam replaces Jeff Dittmar who served for over 10 years in that position. We thank Jeff for his many years of faithful service, and we are very happy to have Sam helping us now!

Sunday Mornings 9:15 a.m. Education Wing Join Pastor Werling or Pastor Sam every Sunday morning in the ed. Wing for a study of the Book of Judges. Everyone is welcome!

Monday Night Ladies LWML Bible Study Group will start again January 28 at 6:30 p.m. and will meet weekly in the church library. Our current study is entitled “Sip, Savor, and Drink Deeply” as we grow in God’s Word. Lisa Stirtz is the leader.

Monday Evening Bible Study meets once a month on the first Monday from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. in the educational wing for men and women. Our current study is “Relationships” as we look at the lives of people in the book of Genesis. The study is led by Remkea Ockander, guest leader.

Women’s Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Study meets every week at 9:30 a.m. in the education wing led by Pastor Sam.

Men’s Bible Breakfast meets at 6:30 a.m. every Wednesday for about 45 minutes at Billy’s Restaurant in Gretna. We order off the menu and enjoy breakfast and Bible study (Genesis) led by Pastor Werling.

Wednesday Midweek Bible Study meets from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the church library for both men and women led by Pastor Werling. We are currently discussing the Mormon religion as it compares to Biblical Christianity.

Join One of Our Bible Studies!



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



Wee Lambs Preschool had 8 wonderful Christmas programs. The children were all so excited about singing, and telling the story of Jesus’ birth! Each class had their own program and many parents and grandparents attended. Pastor Sam and Pastor Werling gave a short devotion at the beginning of each program.

Registration for next year will begin soon! Wee Lambs Preschool families and Good Shepherd Families can register online on February 7. All other families can register online Feb. 14. Both groups can begin registering at 6:00 am.

Classes for the fall will be TTH a.m. and p.m. for three year olds, MWF a.m. and p.m. and MTWTH a.m. for four year olds, and MTWTH p.m. for 5 year olds. Watch for more details, but keep February 7 open for registration. Any questions call or email Lisa Stirtz at 332-3267 or lisa.stirtz@gslcgretna.org.

Our Church Leadership

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|-------------------------------|--|
| PRESIDENT: | Roger Ernst |
| VICE-PRESIDENT: | Chadd Hoeft |
| TREASURER: | Sara Rathjen |
| FINANCIAL SECRETARY: | Jennifer Angland |
| BOARD OF ELDERS: | Pete Eiden, Joel Elson, Kyle Johnson, Dan Theall, Steve Willey, Marcus Goldenstein, Shaun Nienhueser |
| BOARD OF ADULT MINISTRIES: | Sandy Aman, Gloria Lessmann, Drew Von Seggern |
| BOARD OF HOSPITALITY: | Mary Friehe, Loretta Hardies, Glenna Fisher |
| BOARD OF CHILDREN’S MINISTRY: | Stacy Eshbach, Valerie Starr, Andrea Salisbury (Nursery Room Coordinator: Shelly Schmidt) |
| BOARD OF FAMILY MINISTRIES: | Ariel Broekemeier, Brian Haynes, Tara Hess, Jessica Wheeler |
| BOARD OF HUMAN CARE: | Alane Johns, Sondra Harrold, Linda Hermesch |
| BOARD OF MISSIONS: | Jacque Hardies, Marcile Katt, Chelsea Sernett |
| BOARD OF OUTREACH: | Tom Ernst, Ashley Ernst, Adreinne Luedders |
| BOARD OF PROPERTIES: | Kevin Damme, Alex Hansen, Mark Kardell, Terry Wiese, Paul Wimmer |
| BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP: | Gene Mackey |
| BOARD OF YOUTH MINISTRY: | Curt Harmon, Lori Harmon, Kathy Schaefer |
| AUDIT COMMITTEE: | Tony Eitzmann, Marcus Goldenstein |

TO ATTEND NATIONAL 2019 CONVENTION

Rod Kehlenbeck of GSLC will be the lay representative from the Omaha West Circuit to attend the LCMS National Convention in Tampa, FL from July 20 – 25 this year.

Rev. James Rasmussen will be the pastor delegate. The National Convention is represented by delegates from across the USA and decides matters of church business every 3 years.

MANY THANK YOU’S

We thank everyone who donated winter coats and garments for the needy these past months. A total of 227 items were donated to the Open Door Mission including 136 coats, 90 hats, a few scarves and gloves, and one sleeping bag. A special thanks to Joel Elson of the Board of Elders for coordinating the clothing drive. Thanks also to all who purchased hundreds of gifts for the Angel Tree project this year. You made so many children and nursing home residents happy. A special thanks to Holly Dorathy for coordinating the Angel Tree event this year. And we thank Charles Hess and a number of helpers who assisted him in installing video screens and equipment in our church recently. We appreciate all your help in these great improvements!