

# THE SHEPHERD GAZETTE - January, 2017 Edition

## VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE (Thank you!)

### Liturgists

- Jan. 01 Anna Vosicky
- 08 Lori Jones
- 15 Anna Hanselmann
- 22 Doug Obermeier
- 29 Dave Hilligoss

### Acolytes

- Jan. 01 Mia Rikli
- 08 Alayna Bailey
- 15 Serina White
- 22 Carson Mousel
- 29 Kaleyah Keller

### Children's Sermon

- Jan. 01 Julie Havener
- 08 Tad Hunt
- 15 Anna Hanselmann
- 22 Ellen Calkins
- 29 Pastor Jeff

### Activity Time

- Jan. 01 T.B.A.
- 08 T.B.A.
- 15 T.B.A.
- 22 T.B.A.
- 29 T.B.A.

### Ushers

- Jan. 01 Doug Obermeier & Luan Pitsch  
Daniel & Ruth Gajardo
- 08 Adam Martinez & Ed Hartley  
Mark Langrud & T.B.A.
- 15 Bill Baker & Jim Brendle  
Brad Rikli & Franklin Reis
- 22 Gary Heusel & Myles Dymacek  
Kevin Weiss & T.B.A.
- 29 Youth

### Greeters

- 01
- 08 Rita Maggert &  
Jeanne Ripley
- 15 Gary & Janet Latimer
- 22 The Mousel Family
- 29 Myles & Rose Dymacek

### Offering Counters

- Jan. 01 Myles & Rose Dymacek
- 08 Andy & Dawn Bonness
- 15 Doug Obermeier & T.B.A.
- 22 Lyle Bender & Franklin Reis
- 29 T.B.A.

### Deacons on Call

- Jan. 1-14 Beth Languis
- Jan. 15-28 Dorothy Megrue

### Cookie Sunday

- Jan. 08 Cong. Outreach Team
- Feb. 12 Session

*Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church:  
"Welcomes you into a place of worship and  
friendship, where all generations grow  
together spiritually and strive to be more  
Christ-like."*

## GREETINGS FROM PASTOR JEFF!

**Isaiah 9:6** “*For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*” Greetings, wishing you all a very merry Christmas and the best of new years! I pray that you enjoy the Twelve Days of Christmas which end January 6th, on Epiphany.

Well, we had joyful Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship services, a special thank you to all our volunteers who helped with the services in many ways, thank you to all who were in town and able to come out and share in the fellowship of worshipping together, and also a special thank you to all who were able to bring food. We collected much food for the Eastridge Food Pantry to help the hungry as we honored the birth of our Lord Jesus.

As we say goodbye to 2016, I thought it might be good and meaningful to take a quick look back. 2016 had a lot in store for us as a faith community. Sadly, we said goodbye to several of our wonderful saints. Each were special in their own unique way and are greatly missed, but we do have a deep joy in our hearts as well because we do not “*grieve as others do who have no hope.*” **1 Thessalonians 4:13.** We have a heavenly hope, made all the stronger at Christmastime when we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Of course, God calling to His heavenly home our wonderful saints means opportunities for others to step up as spiritual mentors and leaders.

In other areas of the life of our faith community we saw many wonderful things happen, including several weddings and baptisms. I was honored to be asked by Presbyterian Women to give an overview of the curriculum “Who Is Jesus?” at the April Spring Gathering. I enjoyed serving as a camp director for a week at Calvin Crest. I also served as the Homestead Presbytery Commissioner to the General Assembly in Portland this summer. The Seekers and Friendship Groups hosted many interesting speakers and programs over the course of the year and I appreciate be invited to join in the fun. I learned a lot as I listened to speakers such Rosalie Lippincott, speaking about the North Platte Canteen Organization during WWII. As a church, we enjoyed the time-honored traditions as well such as a fantastic Easter breakfast and tried some things we hadn’t done in a while like the worship in the park in June.

Also 2016 saw the church receive a new roof, gutters & downspouts, and many windows throughout the building. This was covered by our insurance as a result of hail damage. New maple trees were planted to help establish new trees in the event that our mature ash trees eventually succumb to the Emerald Ash Borer entering the area. We also welcomed a beautiful new bench in the entryway in honor of Ruth Rena. I have seen many people enjoying and resting on the bench awaiting rides. The church also has received the first two of the new stained glass windows for the sanctuary, and they are stunning. Safety of the building was improved with a drain installed at a spot in the front entryway walk where water used to run across the cement and freeze.

Additionally, new handicap parking spots were added. The church also retired one of the two outstanding mortgages in 2016, so only one remains!

The Christian Education (CE) team rolled out implementation of a new Safe Church Policy which among other things covers the requirements for background checks for those who work with children in the church. We received a confirmation class in the spring and CE surfed into a great wave of excitement this summer with the VBS “Surf Shack.” CE also gathered many gifts and much food for the Sunday school adopted family. The family was overjoyed when the gifts of the church were presented to them commenting that they had not received so much kindness by anyone before. And of course, the youth mission fundraising auction was a record-breaker, topping the \$10,000 dollar mark with the blessing of the ad-on Hummel gifts from Jackie Meister, before her passing.

Faith in Action hosted a Clean Sweep and Upkeep Event in 2016, that had a great turnout and really helped people out. Additionally, the Spiritual Retreat in Nebraska City was a wonderful getaway and time to recharge. I hope we do something like it again soon. One Hundred and Fifty-One (I believe was the final number) boxes were filled with gifts and collected for Operation Christmas Child which will bless children in need with the love of Christ. Additionally, Faith in Action hosted a Bible Reading Marathon Event which concluded with a fellowship dinner in May on the National Day of Prayer.

Of course, there was so much more, these are just a few items that come to mind and scratch the surface. It would take a book to cover it all, oh wait, one will be coming out, the Annual report for 2016, in which you can, as they say, “read all about it!” And 2017 will hold many opportunities to get involved. Stay on the lookout for ways you can serve the Lord, and bring our good Lord the honor so richly deserved for all His kindnesses to us (including sending us His own Son).

## TAD'S TIDBITS.....

Last month Jeff and I went to Culvers and Jeff and I both ordered burgers. I put everything on my burger, you know, the classics like Ketchup, mustard, pickles...and of course onions! I love onions! Jeff however did not get onions on his burger. I asked him why he didn't want onions on his burger, and he said, "Ya know, I just don't like onions, even a little bit of onion ruins the sandwich for me." I was so shocked! I love onions, and here is my pastor telling me he doesn't like onions? I guess some people are right, and some people don't enjoy food. In all honesty though I understand why he doesn't like onions, but it did get me thinking about sin.

When God created Adam, he was without sin and had a perfect relationship with God. God gave one instruction to Adam; God told Adam not to eat the watermelon from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. I'm not sure if it was actually a watermelon, but we do know it was a fruit that Adam ate. So Adam did the one thing God told him not to do and he sinned against God. That one sin broke that relationship Adam had with God and ruined it. Just like that one onion ruined the sandwich for Jeff.

We all are like that onion, we all have sinned and ruined God's sandwich. Romans 3:23 says "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." We all have sinned against God and have broken that relationship with him. The bad news is there is nothing we can do to restore that sandwich, and our relationship with God can't be fixed by anything we do. The good news though, is that God knew there was nothing we could do to fix our relationship with him, so he sent his son Jesus to take on our sins; Christ died and rose again from the dead conquering death so that our relationship with God could be restored. All we have to do is accept Christ as our Lord and Savior and repent of our sin and our relationship with God will be restored; a restored relationship with God means we will spend eternity in Heaven with Him.

### Upcoming Events

**MC:** The Summer Mission Trip for 2017 will be June 19-24 2017 in Estes Park, Colorado. If you are interested in going please secure your spot by paying a deposit of \$50

**Youth Lock-in:** We are sharing a youth lock-in with Old Cheney Alliance church on Friday-Saturday, January 6-7, from 7:00 p.m.-7:00 a.m. We will meet at Old Cheney Alliance Church, 5201 Old Cheney Rd, Lincoln.

**Wave/Ripple Christmas Party:** Due to the weather, the Wave and Ripple Christmas parties had to be postponed to Sunday, January 8, from 4:00-5:00 p.m. for Ripple and from 5:30-7:30 p.m. for Wave.



**The GSPC Sunday School** is supporting a family in need for the 2016/17 Sunday School year. The family we are supporting consists of a single mother, 7th, 5th, 3rd, & 1st grader plus a kindergartner. We provided a food basket for Thanksgiving and gave them a Christmas they will remember with gifts and a food basket plus we will be providing them with a meal and basket for Easter.

Monetary donations can be given to Krystle Anderson, Sunday School Superintendent or mailed to the church office.

The offering we collect each Sunday during Sunday School goes toward the family as well. Any donation large or small is appreciated.

Thank you so much for supporting this outreach project! ...CE Committee.

\* \* \* \* \*

As we wrap up this year we at Little Lambs want to say thanks for all your support and encouragement this past year. We have been working hard to keep our classrooms full! It's not always an easy task but having a supportive congregation helps tremendously!



We celebrated Christmas with a "birthday party" for Jesus on the 22nd! The kids and parents enjoyed snacks and fun games. The kiddos all really enjoyed having trees up in the rooms for the season.

We are looking forward to a busy and bright new year! Hoping to make this one our best year yet at Little Lambs

\* \* \* \* \*



**PW Circles** resumes their study of "Who Is Jesus?, What a Difference a Lens Makes" beginning in January, 2017. Evening Circle will meet on Monday, January 16th at 7:00 pm and Afternoon Circle will meet on Tuesday, January 17th at 1:00 pm Both groups meet in the Parlor.

\* \* \* \* \*

**ORDERED MINISTRIES TRAINING**

The work of the church should not be only "business as usual". As a church leader, your spiritual health is as important as the tasks you perform. Join us to learn about how the Holy Spirit and the special job you hold as an officer in the church work together. This event is for the new elder & deacon as well as the experienced - Come share your best ideas and learn some others at the Eastridge Presbyterian Church, 1130 Eastridge Drive, Saturday, January 14th, from 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Cost: \$10.00 which includes lunch.

**Elder/Deacon Training**





## From the Ruth Blecha Library:

Winter is the perfect time to read a good book or favorite magazine.

Bob and Jane Basoco donated four books to our library.

Three books were donated from the library of Jackie Meister.

Additions to the Children's Library include Snowmen at Work, Face to Face With Polar Bears, Journey to Olympia – The Story of the Olympic Games. Dorothy Megrue donated four books to the children's library. Myles and Rose Dymacek donated three books. Maggie Horak donated Little Apple Goat from the Heifer Project. Ivette Bender donated Mission: Planet Earth.

New DVDs are: "16 Bible Stories for the Whole Family" and "The Best of Barney" and CD: "Children's Bible Songs"

2017 is the Sesquicentennial of Nebraska. Monthly featured books will mainly be by Nebraska authors and/or about Nebraska.

This Month's Featured Book: The Ordinary Spaceman by Clayton Anderson

*"Books are the ever burning lamps of accumulated wisdom."*– George William Curtis

\* \* \* \* \*

### Wouldn't it be great if "happily ever after" really were the end of the story?

Great marriages require intentionality and investment - just like a garden that must be watered in order to grow. FamilyLife's Weekend to Remember getaway offers:

- biblically-based insights from top speakers and marriage experts;
- relaxing alone time to rediscover the reasons you fell in love, free from distractions; and
- helpful tools, projects, and resources for an immediate impact on your marriage.
- Cost is normally \$299.98 per couple but with this promo code "BaileyGSPC" save **\$100**

Hotel if desired is extra, but mention you are with Weekend to Remember to get a discount **at the hosting hotel.**

Weekend to remember is coming to Omaha and Lincoln:

#### Omaha

3/10/2017 – 3/12/2017

**Hilton Omaha**, 1001 Cass St., Omaha, NE 68102-1152

#### Lincoln

3/24/2017 – 3/26/2017

**The Cornhusker, A Marriott Hotel**

333 S 13th St

Lincoln, NE 68508-2538

There are plenty of other destination locations as well if you really want to get away! Just go to [familylife.com](http://familylife.com) and check it out.

The church will be able to offer financial help through scholarships if needed. Just let John Bailey know. If you do sign up for a Weekend to Remember and would like to connect with others please also sign up on the sheet at the back of the sanctuary so others from the church who are going can know and possibly make connections and new friends.

John will be providing more information about this event in January and will also have a special announcement.

# EASTRIDGE FOOD PANTRY



## Pantry Grocery List

(JANUARY 2017)

The Eastridge Pantry is in need of the items below.

Personal items are especially needed because they are not available from the Food Bank.

Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

God Bless You!

- \_\_\_ Toothpaste
- \_\_\_ Shampoo
- \_\_\_ Deodorant
- \_\_\_ Lotion
- \_\_\_ Bar Bath Soap and Hand Soap
- \_\_\_ Laundry Soap
- \_\_\_ Juice
- \_\_\_ Sugar/Flour
- \_\_\_ Cooking Oil (small bottles)
- \_\_\_ Hot Cereal/Granola Bars/Breakfast Bars
- \_\_\_ Condiments (Ketchup/Mayo/Miracle Whip)
- \_\_\_ Quick Cooking Rice and Pasta Packets
- \_\_\_ Pudding/Jell-O

Donations of food or money to those in need, is one more way in which we can serve. Thank you for all you do!

Donations of food or money to those in need, is one more way in which we can serve. Thank you for all you do!

To the left is a convenient "Cut Out" List with Pantry needs that you can take when you go shopping. We are especially in need of **personal care items** as these are not available at the Food Bank but are very much needed by those needing our assistance.

At this time of the year, we give great thanks for the participation of your congregation with this important and vital food mission. We now are in the third month of our "Shoppers Choice" method of distribution and it is going extremely well. Those utilizing the Pantry appreciate being able to choose their own items. Those volunteering at the Pantry have appreciated the opportunity to get to know the shoppers on a more personal basis as they assist each person. If you wish to help out on Wednesdays from 3:00-6:00 please contact us. Volunteers are assigned according to the Wednesdays and open Pantry times that best fit their personal schedules.

All of the people at Eastridge Pantry wish you and yours a very blessed and happy Thanksgiving.

Blessings,  
Roger and Patty Niemann  
EPC Pantry Volunteers  
EPC Phone: (402) 488-7844

**Please place your donations in the pantry box left of the elevator. All donations of nonperishable food and checks made out to Good Shepherd with a food pantry designation are thankfully received. Special thanks go to Al Schwindt for delivering our food donations to the Pantry and for the hours he volunteers there.**

## ***Praises & Prayer Requests***

### ***. . . . For those with cancer***

Continued prayers for **Laurie Hedgecock, friend of Sally & Stan Docter**, who is dealing with Stage IV Rectal Cancer with multiple metastases to her liver. Her last two CT scans showed that she is in remission. This is a good thing, however, she's still on chemo via infusion every 3 weeks and oral chemo 7 days on /7 days off. The oral chemo makes her very sick. Please continue your prayers heavenward for **Laurie and her family**.

Continued prayers for healing and strength as my aunt, **Phyllis Meister**, battles cancer. ...**Ashley Gregory**

Please continue to pray for **Cheryl Havener, sister-in-law of Julie Havener**, as she undergoes chemo therapy treatments for breast cancer. Cheryl began chemo treatments in early August and will continue them through the end of the year.

Please continue to pray for **Grace Fry, 9 year old daughter of Jeff & Mandy Fry and granddaughter of Greg & Sharon Schnasse, friends of Alice Miller**, who has been diagnosed with Leukemia. She was sent to Children's Hospital in Omaha and placed on medication that is making her very weak. Pray that she improves and will feel better soon.

Please continue to pray for **Melissa Rogers & Family, friends of Julie Havener**, as she battles a rare and serious cancer. Melissa has chosen not to treat growth of the cancer in her vertebrae and rib bones, but continues to treat existing tumors with a milder form of chemo. Her courage and optimism inspire everyone.

### ***. . . . For those with other health concerns***

\* Prayers for a quick recovery for a little boy named **Dakota, a friend of Lonell Nellesson**, who suffered a seizure and was life-flighted to the hospital.

Continued prayers for **Capt. Mark Gaudet**, deployed to Korea, and **his wife, Lindsay, and two young sons** while he is away. Lindsey is the niece of **Lyle & Ivette Bender**.

Continued prayers for quick healing and successful rehab for **Lila Karthausser** who fell Friday, November 25th, suffering leg injuries. She is at the Madonna Rehabilitation Center, 5401 South St., Room 420A.



Continued prayers for **Cecil Moreland** who was admitted to Bryan/West Hospital, Room 601. Tests are being conducted to determine what course of action will be taken in his recovery.

Continued prayers for **Jason Heusel, son of Gary and Karen**, who is continuing ongoing kidney dialysis treatments while beginning the process to undergo a kidney transplant.

**Brin Jinright** (Freshmen in high school), (**Tammy Mousel's, Supervisor's Daughter**) is doing a little better. She is at home and getting Peritoneal Dialysis at home. On 11/14 she started her Freshman year with the rest of her classmates. At this point she is going for 1/2 the day. In the next week or two she will try going all day as she's able to tolerate it.

.... **For those who mourn**

Prayers for comfort for the family of **Ronda Dix, friend of Chris Hartley**, who passed away Saturday, December 10th, after a long battle with brain cancer.

.... **Praises**

\* Praise the Lord! Little Quinn Smriga was able to go with her parents to our Christmas Eve service! Thank you for your prayers! ...Anna Hanselmann

We so enjoyed the carolers and songs that they shared with us. ....Don & Jo Hobbs

\* Indicates new prayer or updated information since last publication.



# JANUARY

<b>Sun</b>	<b>Mon</b>	<b>Tue</b>
<b>New Year's Day</b> 1 NO Sunday School 10:30 Worship NO RIPPLE or WAVE	School on 2 NO Daycare	Christmas Break > 3 7:15 Daycare
<b>COMMUNION</b> 8 <b>COOKIE SUNDAY</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship -Installation of Elders & Deacons 11:45 Removal of the Greens 1:00 Communion to Homebound 4:00-5:00 RIPPLE 5:30-7:30 WAVE	7:15 Daycare	10 7:15 Daycare  7:00 Bldg. & Gr. Team 7:00 Personnel Team
15 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship  4:00-5:00 RIPPLE 5:30-7:30 WAVE	<b>No School</b> 16 7:15 Daycare  7:00 P.W. Evening Cir.	17 7:15 Daycare 1:00 P.W. Afternoon Cir.  7:00 Cong. Outreach Tm.
22 9:00 Sunday School 10:30 Worship  4:00-5:00 RIPPLE 5:30-7:30 WAVE	23 7:15 Daycare	24 7:15 Daycare
<b>Noisy Sunday</b> 29 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship  4:00-5:00 RIPPLE 5:30-7:30 WAVE	30 7:15 Daycare	31 7:15 Daycare  7:00 Session Meeting 7:00 Stew & Bud. Team

# 2017

<b>Wed</b>	<b>Thu</b>	<b>Fri</b>	<b>Sat</b>
<p>4</p> <p>7:15 Daycare</p> <p>6:00 Men's Book St. 6:30 DIVE Bible St. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:15 Daycare</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:15 Daycare</p> <p>7:00 WAVE Lock-in</p>	<p>7</p> <p>With Old Cheney Alliance Church</p>
<p>11</p> <p>7:15 Daycare 2:00 City Miss. Wk.</p> <p>5:45 Worship Team NO Men's Book St. 6:30 DIVE Bible St. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:15 Daycare</p> <p>7:30 Child Devel. Tm.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:15 Daycare</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00-3:00 Elder/ Deacon Training @ Eastridge Church</p>
<p>18</p> <p>7:15 Daycare</p> <p>6:00 Men's Book St. 6:30 DIVE Bible St. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:15 Daycare 11:30 Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Deacons' Meet</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:15 Daycare</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 Session Retreat 12:30 P.W Meeting</p>
<p>25</p> <p>7:15 Daycare 2:00 City Miss. Wk.</p> <p>6:00 Men's Book St. 6:30 DIVE Bible St. 7:00 Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:15 Daycare</p> <p><b>Deadline to Submit Articles for January Gazette</b></p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:15 Daycare 9:00 Men's Breakfast Fellowship</p> <p>7:00 SEEKERS</p>	<p>28</p>

## THE SHEPHERD GAZETTE

Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church  
8300 E. Pointe Road  
Lincoln, NE 68506  
[www.goodsheppc.org](http://www.goodsheppc.org)

***Return Service Requested***



*The Shepherd Gazette* is published monthly as a service to the members & friends of Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church, Lincoln, NE. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, please call or write the church office.

**The Reverend Jeff Warrick** - Pastor  
**Tad Hunt**- Student Ministries Director  
**Carole Beach** - Administrative Secretary  
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**April Barnes**- Pianist

**Mandi Haumont** - Preschool Director/Teacher  
**Sarah Schneider, Miatta George, Jessa Newby** - Asst. Teachers  
**Norma Christiansen, Tyler Newby**- Asst. Teachers  
& **Maggie Zimmerman**

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