



# Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

## February 2020 Newsletter



*Our mission is to provide a welcoming and caring environment where all people can experience the help, strength, hope, and love of Jesus Christ.*

Dear families and friends of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd,

Thank you for the past eleven years of ministry with you! I have learned greatly from you, enjoyed ministry with you, and have a sense that we have fulfilled God’s mission here at LCGS. Our family has been blessed by our time here, and we will always treasure our time with you.

Now, God is calling me to a new ministry endeavor. I have accepted the Transitional/Interim minister position at Messiah Lutheran Church in Grand Island. I am excited for this new endeavor and have given several years of education, prayer, and discernment to this new role. Transitional Ministry is a complement to what I have learned about myself in recent years as an analytical and structural person. Transitional Ministry uses specific procedures for a specific time in a congregation’s life for specific goals. The Nebraska Synod provides the tools for congregations in the transitional period to move forward in discernment and preparation for their next called leader. I am excited for this new opportunity and the challenge to continue in my personal and professional development.

At this time, Courtney still feels called to her vocation at Good Samaritan Society - Hastings Village. Andrew is excelling at Watson Elementary School here in Hastings. For the immediate future, Courtney and Andrew will reside in Hastings. I will split my time between our home in Hastings and the parsonage at Messiah in Grand Island. All three of us will be leaving LCGS.

My last day with you will be February 14th. After that date, I will no longer be the Pastor at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd. In keeping with Nebraska Synod policy, and pastoral standards, I will not be returning to LCGS in any professional or personal capacity (weddings, funerals, Confirmations, etc.). All such acts will be the responsibility of the transitional minister and the next called minister. This closure allows you and our family to move forward in our future endeavors.

I have been communicating with our Nebraska Synod staff in support of their work with the LCGS Council. Our assistant to the bishop has a candidate for transitional minister ready to interview with our church council, and will provide an orientation to the call process for the Council at my exit interview and for the congregation when he is here to lead worship on Sunday, February 23rd.

Our family is grateful for all that we have shared here. We will use the coming weeks to bring closure to our relationships with you and step forward into this new future to which God is calling us. God will continue to guide you in ministry and will go with us in our callings in life as well!

Peace be with you always,  
Rev. Steven Peeler

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### February Birthdays

- 1 Dorene Carmann
- 3 Dale Peters
- 7 Evan Struss
- 10 Trevor Augustin
- 11 Roger Smidt
- 12 Randy Witt  
Lorene Buscher  
Kory Heier
- 13 Larry Klein  
Marlene Larsen
- 14 Brent Adrian
- 17 Brooke Jasch
- 20 Kelly Kinney
- 23 Scott Struss
- 28 Betty Aadland  
Jane Cleveland

### February Anniversaries

- 6 Orlin & Pat Siemers

## Words of thanks from Pastor Peeler

From our family, please receive once again our gratitude for your care, partnership and support throughout these eleven years of ministry together. Our time together has been formative and life-giving!

We greatly appreciated the generous monetary Christmas present! We used the gift to pay for some unexpected automobile repairs at the end of 2019. We will continue to give thanks to God for LCGS!

Steven, Courtney, and Andrew Peeler

## Book Sale

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd has held an annual book sale for a number of years, and it is an important event for the entire community. This event will now be a project of the entire congregation, rather than the Health Ministry Team, due to recent changes. Dianne Mullins has volunteered to lead this event and she would welcome your help for this year's book sale. A date possibly in April or May will be set for it soon. If you would be willing to assist in some way, please call Dianne at 402-463-0343 (home) or email her at [dmullins@inebraska.com](mailto:dmullins@inebraska.com)



**Sarah Circle** meets Monday, Feb. 3rd at 6:30 pm, at church. Linda Jasch is the hostess; Group Bible Study.

**Mary/Martha Circle** meets Tuesday, Feb. 4th at 12:30 pm, at church. Kathy Petersen is hostess, and Mona Mueller leads Bible Study.

**Esther Circle** meets Monday, Feb. 10th, at church. Jane Cleveland is hostess, and Courtney Peeler leads Bible Study.

From the Financial Committee:  
Amount pledged for 2020: \$106,480  
Amount collected as of 1-31-20: \$11,392

## February Worship Schedule 9:00 am

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>February 2</b>  | Worship/Communion     |
| <b>February 9</b>  | Worship/Noisy         |
| <b>February 16</b> | Worship               |
| <b>February 23</b> | Worship/Noisy         |
| <b>February 26</b> | Ash Wednesday Worship |



# Around Our Church

## Congratulations to our newly-elected Church Council members:

**TWO-YEAR TERM:** Jan Bell, Bruce Jasch, Gary Kenyon, Bev Kenyon, Keith Heier

**ONE-YEAR TERM:** Wayne Littrell, Rob Woods

**FORMER MEMBERS, STILL ON COUNCIL FOR ONE MORE YEAR:** Jim Meers, Pam Heier

Their respective positions on the Church Council will not be finalized until after the election during the February 18th Council meeting.



On December 29th, LCGS pianist Mary Plock was joined by guest musician Deb Johnson. Deb plays the flute, piccolo and penny whistle with the Hastings Symphony Orchestra, as well as other chamber ensembles. She is a well-known adjudicator for music contests and teaches in a private studio.

**RIGHT:**

This is the cake that was served during First Communion Sunday, on January 19th, 2020.



# February 2020

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> 9:00 Worship/ Communion 10:30 Adult forum	<b>3</b> 3:15 Exercise 4:30 Yoga 6:30 Sarah Circle	<b>4</b> 10:00 Bible Study 12:30 Mary and Martha Circle	<b>5</b> 1:00 Quilting 4:30 Prayer Shawl	<b>6</b> 3:15 Exercise 4:30 Yoga	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9:00 Worship/ Noisy 10:15 Adult forum	<b>10</b> 3:15 Exercise 4:30 Yoga 7:00 Finance Committee Mtg. 7:30 Esther Circle	<b>11</b> 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Worship Team Meeting	<b>12</b> 1:00 Quilting 4:30 Prayer Shawl	<b>13</b> 1:30 Open Table 3:15 Exercise 4:30 Yoga	<b>14</b> Pastor Steven's last day at LCGS	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:00 Worship 10:30 Adult forum	<b>17</b> 3:15 Exercise 4:30 Yoga	<b>18</b> 10:00 Bible Study 7:00 Church Council Meeting	<b>19</b> 1:00 Quilting 4:30 Prayer Shawl	<b>20</b> 3:15 Exercise 4:30 Yoga	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:00 Worship/ Noisy/ 10:15 Adult forum	<b>24</b> 3:15 Exercise 4:30 Yoga	<b>25</b> 10:00 Bible Study at The Homestead (Mardi Gras) 7:00 Property Committee Meeting	<b>26</b> 1:00 Quilting 4:30 Prayer Shawl 7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship	<b>27</b> 1:30 Open Table 3:15 Exercise 4:30 Yoga	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>