



1436 21st Ave N
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

The Shepherd's Staff

Phone: 515-573-3174
Email: office@goodshepfortdodge.org

LCMS Stewardship

Table of Duties: The Forgotten Stewardship Tool

Luther's Small Catechism is a magnificent tool. Joined with a well-used copy of the Holy Scriptures and an orthodox hymnal, and the Christian is well equipped to live a life of faithfulness to the Lord and service to the neighbor. First in German and now in English and just about any language known to man, this handy masterpiece has introduced generations of people to the central doctrine of justification by grace, through faith, on account of Jesus Christ. The Six Chief Parts have proven to be a faithful framework for a clear confession of the truth of the Gospel for nearly five hundred years!

But more than a textbook, the Small Catechism also serves well as a handbook for Christian living. As a part of its treasure, there is an element that teaches an extraordinarily strong message of stewardship. That hidden treasure that needs to be rediscovered is called the Table of Duties.

The Table of Duties is really nothing more than a categorized gathering of Bible verses. These verses are set apart for "various holy orders and positions, admonishing them about their duties and responsibilities." Addressing pastors and people, government and citizens, husbands, wives, children, youth, workers and so many more, it very clearly lays out what faithful stewardship looks like. Even better, these assembled passages teach one important truth: we are stewards of one another!

The Table is much more than a "how-to" tool; it also lays out the interconnectedness that exists within the body of Christ. Pastors are described by what they are to be as stewards of the Word. 1 Timothy 3 highlights the characteristics of a faithful pastor. Even more, Titus 1 highlights the need for the pastor to be faithful for the sake of those under his care.

Those who hear the faithful preaching of the pastor are stewards of the pastor as well. 1 Corinthians 9 talks about the need for the people to support the livelihood of the pastor. Galatians 6 talks about how the hearers share in the good things that the pastor teaches. 1 Timothy 6 talks about the honor that is owed to the pastor, not because of WHO he is, but rather WHAT he is teaching! Hebrews 13 shows the impact of this stewardship on the pastor, that they perform their duties with joy. Joyful pastors and people are always going to be better stewards of the Gospel!

Outside the church this interdependent stewardship is on display as well. Romans 13 highlights the respect necessary for the governing authorities. As citizens, the faithful steward is called to pay taxes (Matthew 22), pray for their leaders (1 Timothy 2) and that they should be ready to serve in the civil realm (Titus 3), because they are in these positions by God's direction (1 Peter 2).

These steward duties are in the home too! 1 Peter 3 and Colossians 3 shape the husband steward. Ephesians 5 and 1 Peter 3 shape the wife steward. Ephesians 6 form parental stewards and child stewards.

The Table of Duties is a wonderful place for the individual steward to learn how much our stewardship is more than just a "me and Jesus thing!" In fact, it ends with these words: "Let each his lesson learn with care, and all the household well share fare." This is interdependent stewardship on clear display. As each learns stewardship in this way, the more faithful we will be as a family, congregations, communities and the church at large.

In this issue

GSLC News 2

LWML Notes 2

Other News 2

Calendar 3

**DECEMBER ATTENDANCE
AND OFFICIAL ACTS**

	5 pm	9 am	Total
December 6-7	0	62	62
December 13-14	27	82	109
December 20-21	40	156	196
December 27-28	32	84	116
Communion			159

Transfers/Releases:

None

Official Acts:

Burials: Patricia Patterson and Pauline Doyen

Baptism: None

Newsorthy Notes



Beacon of Hope Meal will be on Thursday, February 5th at 5 pm. We will be cooking the meal here in the kitchen starting at 1:30 pm. If you would like to help, we would love to have you.



JOY Group

Please join us on February 17th for a Potluck. Bring a dish to pass and fellowship to share.

Door locking/unlocking during services

Starting on February 18th (Ash Wed.), all backdoors will lock 10 minutes after all services start. If you are more than 10 minutes late for a service, you must enter through the front doors. The front doors will remain unlocked during all services.

On Sundays, the back doors will lock at 9:10 AM and remain locked. Sunday School students and parents will need to enter through the front doors.

Please make a note of these changes.

-Thank you The Health & Safety Committee

LWML NOTES

LWML Board meeting will be Tuesday, February 3rd at 6:30 pm.



Mary's Circle will meet Thursday, February 5 at 10am

Hannah's Circle will meet Tuesday, February 10 at 6:45pm

Dorca's Circle will meet Thursday, February 12 at 3:00pm

Mark your Calendar! The annual Endowment Committee Chili Feed and Talent Show will be held on **Sunday, February 15th**. Food will be served from 4:00 to 6:00 pm and the Talent Show will follow. There is a sign-up sheet at the table by the nursery for the Talent Show. You do not have to sign up to eat. There will be plenty. A free will offering will be taken at the event. The Endowment Committee appreciates your support.



CIA

Meeting Sunday, February 1st at Twin Lakes Bible Camp
Will leave GSLC at 3:00pm
Will return to GSLC at appx 7:45pm
Contact Tina K. with any questions at 515-227-2272

Don't forget to direct your Choice Dollars through Thrivent Financial. Simply go to www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 1-800-847-4836 **before March 31** and say "Thrivent Choice." They will ask for your phone number and date of birth. They can be directed to Good Shepherd or other Lutheran non-profit organizations.

The Endowment Committee has a total of \$25,000 to award this year to any individual or group with special needs or projects (should not be for ordinary operating expenses for the church). Application forms can be picked up at the church office and must be submitted by **April 20, 2026** to be considered. The balance in the Endowment fund at the end of 2025 was \$829,871.13.

Swaddling Clothes Ministry Meetings

February 11th at 6:00 PM
February 25th at 5:00 PM



Pizza and Game Night

Friday, February 20th
5:30 pm



(Third Friday this month)

The 2026 Lutheran Witness subscription cost is \$31.10. Please make checks payable to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Put "Lutheran Witness" in the memo.



Lenten Mid-Week Services Wednesdays

2/25, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, & 3/25
12:30pm and 7:00pm





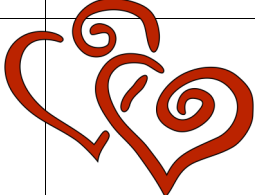
Ash Wednesday Services Feb 18th

12:30pm &
7:00pm w/Holy Communion



February 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Times and dates are subject to change						
	 Happy Groundhog Day					
1 9 am-Divine worship/HC 10:30 am-SS/Adult Bible Study 3:00pm-CIA Winter Youth Gathering	2 12 pm-LL Preschool	3 8:15 am-LL Preschool 9:00 am-Sewing; 12 pm-LL Preschool 6:30 pm-LWML Board	4 12 pm-LL Preschool 5:15 pm-CC Classes 6pm-Board of Ed 6 pm-Family Singers 7:00 pm-Shep. Ringers	5 7 am-Men's Bible Study 8:15 am-LL Preschool 10:00 am-Mary's Circle 12 pm-LL Preschool 5 pm-Beacon of Hope Meal	6 8:15am-LL Preschool 9am-Bible Study at Ardy's Mae 12 pm-LL Preschool	7 5 pm-Divine Worship/HC
8 9 am-Divine worship/HC 10:30 am-SS/Adult Bible Study	9 12 pm-LL Preschool	10 8:15 am-LL Preschool 9 am-Sewing 12 pm-LL Preschool 1:30 pm-Fr. Haven Comm. 6:30 pm-Kingsmen 6:45 pm-Hannah Circle	11 12 pm-LL Preschool 5:00 pm-Chr Outreach 5:15 pm-CC Classes 6:00 pm-Swaddling Clothes 6 pm-Family Singers 7:00 pm-Shep. Ringers	12 7 am-Men's Bible Study 8:15 am-LL Preschool 12 pm-LL Preschool 3:00 pm-Dorcas Circle	13 8:15 am-LL Preschool 12 pm-LL Preschool	14 5 pm-Divine Worship/HC 
15 9 am-Divine worship/HC 10:30 am-SS/Adult Bible Study 4-6 pm Endowment Chili Feed and talent Show	16 12 pm-LL Preschool	17 8:15 am-LL Preschool 9 am-Sewing 11:30 am-JOY Group 12 pm-LL Preschool 6:30-Trustees 7:00-Council	18 10:30 am-Lamplighters 12 pm-LL Preschool 12:30pm-Ash Wed service 5:00-Singers 5:15 pm-CC Classes 6:00-Ringers 7:00pm Ash Wed service	19 7 am-Men's Bible Study 8:15 am-LL Preschool 12 pm-LL Preschool	20 8:15 am-LL Preschool 9am- Bible Study at Ardy's Mae 12 pm-LL Preschool 5:30 pm-Pizza & Game Night	21 5 pm-Divine Worship
22 9 am-Divine worship 10:30 am-SS/Adult Bible Study	23 12 pm-LL Preschool	24 8:15 am-LL Preschool 9 am-Sewing 12 pm-LL Preschool 6:30 pm-Elders	25 12 pm-LL Preschool 12:30pm-Lenten Service 5:00pm-Swaddling Clothes 5:00pm-Singers 5:15 pm-CC Classes 6:00pm-Ringers 7:00 pm-Lenten Service	26 7 am-Men's Bible Study 8:15 am-LL Preschool 12 pm-LL Preschool	27 8:15 am-LL Preschool 12 pm-LL Preschool	28
						

Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church

1436 21st Ave N
Fort Dodge IA 50501

Phone: 515-573-3174

Email: office@goodshepfortdodge.org

Pastor Nicholas Thackery

Pastor Email:

pastor@goodshepfortdodge.org



We're on the web
www.goodshepfortdodge.org
Check us out on Facebook
Good Shepherd Fort Dodge



GOOD SHEPHERD LC-MS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ash Wednesday Services

Afternoon service
12:30 pm

Evening Service
w/Holy Communion
7:00 pm

February 18, 2026

If you have your Palm branch from last year, please bring them to the church office so we can prepare the ashes for each service.



Lenten Services

Wednesdays
12:30pm & 7:00pm

Feb 25
March 04
March 11
March 18
March 25

GOOD SHEPHERD LC-MS
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1436 21st Ave N. Fort Dodge, IA 50501