

# November 2024 Update

Great Plains Lutheran High School  
1200 Luther Lane NE  
Watertown, SD 57201  
605-886-0672  
[www.gplhs.org](http://www.gplhs.org)



## Prayer for GPLHS

Lord of the church and Life of your people, bless our Christian education efforts – the training carried out in our homes, in our congregations, and through the ministry of Great Plains Lutheran High School. Give zeal and energy to parents and teachers, and health and eagerness to children and students as they grow in the knowledge and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for those who support the mission of Great Plains Lutheran so that this ministry of nurturing students as lifelong disciples of Christ may continue – building on the foundation of true wisdom revealed in your word. Amen.

## Fall Activities Update

The GPL student body was well represented in the many fall activities that are offered here at school. The marching band and color guard were 83 strong as they performed in 2 competitions this fall. The oral interp team staged 15 participants with much success. 30 young women made up the C, JV and Varsity volleyball teams plus 5 managers for a total 35 participants. The Panther cross country runners consisted of 22 boys and girls and 2 managers for a total of 24 participants. This was the first year we had 11 football cheerleaders leading the cheer at the football games. Football rounded out the activities for the season fielding a team of 29 with 3 managers for a total of 32 participating. While some of these are students who participate in multiple activities, these numbers represent an active student body using their talents to God's glory.

## Call News

On October 15, Mr. Matt Bauer received a call to serve as Athletic Director and instructor at California Lutheran High School in Wildomar, CA.

Please keep Matt in your prayers as he considers where he can best serve the Lord. We will keep you posted as he reaches a decision.

## Thrivent Member Request

If you are a Thrivent member, you are eligible to apply for Thrivent Action grants. If you have never done this or

haven't applied recently, please consider applying on behalf of a GPL event. It is a relatively simple process that can greatly benefit our students and programs. (Grants can be up to \$250, in many cases twice a year.) Simply let pastor Maertz know that you would like to serve and support GPL in this way: email [dmaertz@gplhs.org](mailto:dmaertz@gplhs.org). He will provide everything you need to apply for a grant. Each grant we receive will mean more resources for our classes, students, and activities – up to \$500 per member per year!

## GPLHS Honor Society Blood Drive

The Great Plains Honor Society will host a Blood Drive on Wednesday, November 6, from 8:30 to 2:30pm. You can schedule a time to donate blood by calling the school at 605-886-0672 ext. 127 or by signing up online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org): enter sponsor code GPLHS.

## Turkey Dash

GPLHS is hosting the Annual Turkey Dash 5K/Walk in conjunction with the Watertown police department. This event will take place on Thanksgiving Day. The deadline to register and receive a t-shirt is November 14. Registration and more detailed information can be found at <https://codingtonconnects.com/events/turkey-dash-5k-and-walk/> or register online at [Itsyourrace.com](http://Itsyourrace.com). Please note you will not be able to register the day of the event.

## Lorie Line Concert

Lorie Line is coming to GPLHS! She plans to play all your favorites, tell stories off-the-cuff and share the true meaning of Christmas. She'll be performing both new and traditional holiday music from her years and years of previous recordings.

If you saw the show last year, you will recognize the special featured vocalist. Baritone opera singer Jimmy Finch is returning, and she promises . . . he is going to once again "wow" all of you!

The concert will be on Sunday, December 15 at 3:00pm. You will need to go to [Lorieline.com](http://Lorieline.com) to purchase your \$60 ticket for this concert. Hurry, the tickets are selling quickly!

## Shopping for Presents or Decorations?

Are you in the process of shopping for Christmas presents or decorations? Remember GSI on 102 W Kemp Ave, in Watertown will have an abundance of reasonably priced items. Visit the GSI Christmas store on 7 N Broadway, Watertown, SD for all of your Christmas decorations and accessories.

If you do not know what present to give to someone, you can always purchase a gift card through Scrip. Contact Sarah Roloff either by email at: [sroloff@gplhs.org](mailto:sroloff@gplhs.org) or call 605-886-0672 and she will help you with the order.

### Mission Advancement Thoughts

I recently had the amazing privilege and blessing to watch one of our former students confess her faith and love for Christ as she was baptized and confirmed. Praise God for this wonderful blessing. While she was here, she was surrounded by the one wisdom that lasts not for just a lifetime but lasts for eternity. That is the “Wisdom” that makes Great Plains Lutheran such an incredible blessing and so amazing.

We are hoping to be in the new classrooms by mid-November. Thank you to our Lord for blessing the construction with good weather and faithful workers. Construction will then focus on the office improvements and expansions. The GPLHS family and I are so thankful and feel so blessed that so many of you stepped forward with gifts and pledges to make these classrooms a reality. I am so excited to watch us move into the new classrooms. I know that with all of us working together to finish strong we will raise the remaining \$600,000. This blessing would meet our goal of \$1.8 million for the “*Praises Continued*” campaign.

Your mission advancement team and I would love to share methods available to you to share gifts, volunteer and support the ministry of GPLHS. I pray we all strive to share the wisdom that will last for all eternity with our students. Please feel free to contact any of your mission advancement team with questions or ideas. Your mission advancement team is President Maertz, Sarah Roloff and me.

Jeff Roloff: [jroloff@gplhs.org](mailto:jroloff@gplhs.org) or 605-254-6023

### Wish List Item

Our next project is to purchase teacher’s desk chairs in the new addition. With the addition being constructed rapidly, furniture is being purchased quickly for the new classrooms. Teacher’s chairs are next on the list to purchase. Designate your gift to “Wish List – Teacher Chairs” or call Angie at 605-886-0672.

### Dates to Note

Nov. 2	Delegate and Auxiliary Meetings–10:00am
Nov. 6	GPL Honor Society Blood Drive 8:30-2:30
Nov. 15-17	Choral Fest at St. Croix Lutheran Academy
Nov. 21	Booster Meeting 7:00pm
Nov. 27-29	Thanksgiving Break – NO SCHOOL
Nov. 28	Turkey Dash 5K/Walk
Dec. 8	Christmas Concert and Fall Awards Ceremony starting at 3:00pm



