

# One in a Million

## Meet Jim Goblirsch

By **Travis Gulbrandson**  
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Vermillion's Parks & Recreation department has a new director, and he wants area citizens to know he is ready to work.

"We're open to input from the community, and I've tried to express that to the user groups that I've gone to," said Jim Goblirsch. "Don't be afraid to ask for something. You can't get it if you don't ask for it."

Goblirsch, who takes over for longtime parks and rec director David Nelson, comes to Vermillion from Casper, WY, where he was recreation supervisor.

"I mainly dealt with pools and special events, and some sports leagues. So, this is really kind of what I've been gearing myself toward throughout my professional career," he said.

Along with the major projects already in development, such as the soccer complex and aquatic center, Goblirsch said he is looking forward to taking on a variety of smaller projects, as well.

Some of these involve various forms of maintenance – "just revitalizing the existing parks" – he said.

"I think some of those projects were put on hold, per se, and I think Mr. Nelson did that just because he wanted to have the new individual put their footprint on it," Goblirsch said.

"Many of the parks here aren't irrigated, and we'd like to have some form of irrigation in them, as well, so that they have lush, green grass

when you go to them, as opposed to the dry, crusty grass that you had last year. It isn't as inviting," he said.

Ultimately, projects like these will attract new users to the parks, Goblirsch said.

"I've met a lot of people, and I've seen a lot of facilities," he said.

"This isn't a major metropolitan area, but there is more than 130 acres of park land that they take care of. They just need a little bit of renovation.

"We want to keep the historic value if we can ... but we also want to update it and get the modern, safe amenities, from making it handicapped-accessible to quality lighting," he said.

Goblirsch first began working in the parks system as a college student in 1989.

"I went to school to become an ag teacher. The time I was in school was kind of when the farm crisis hit pretty hard," he said. "They were cutting ag jobs everywhere, at least in the schools."

After he transferred to South Dakota State University, Goblirsch began working for the parks department in Brookings.

"I liked working with kids, I liked organizing things, so I moved into the program up there," he said. "It just kind of blossomed out of necessity."

Upon graduating in 1992, Goblirsch worked for about six years at the Human Services Center as a recreational therapist. This was followed by another six-year stint as a recreation



program coordinator in Sioux Falls.

He then worked as community education director for the Canton School District, and served as recreation supervisor for the City of Caspar since 2007.

Goblirsch was offered his new in January after a lengthy interview process. He began work on Feb. 25.

"I thought (Vermillion) would be a good fit," he said.

Goblirsch comes to Vermillion with his wife Karen, a chart utilization nurse, and their three children, all of whom he said are ready to take part in the recreational activities the community has to offer.

"We're looking forward to that aspect of it, and just becoming a part of the USD culture in that regard," he said.

He said he is most looking forward to implementing new programs from their inception to their completion.

"We want to build quality facilities in quality locations for the people of Vermillion and the surrounding communities," he said.

Goblirsch also wanted to be sure members of the community know they can approach him with their ideas and concerns.

"I'm out in the community," he said. "I'm not just sitting at a desk here. I have three kids – 8, 10 and 13 – and we use the swimming pool. They do play soccer, they do play baseball and softball. It's not just someone who's administrating, we're also users of it."

### 1101 Announcements - Events

**GOSPEL CHAPEL** Church, 708 Jessie St./Highway 12, Newcastle, NE. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday worship 10:30 a.m.; AWANA Wednesday at 7 p.m., 402-355-2305. Pastor Chuck Myers, 402-355-1335.

**HILLSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH** (C&MA) 1800 Constance Dr. West on Cherry just before you go down the hill. Worship Sept.-May 10:30a.m., May-August 10a.m., AWANA Sunday School small groups. 6 0 5 - 6 2 4 - 4 8 6 2 , www.hillside-cc.com

**IMMANUAL** Lutheran Church, Elk Point, SD: Worship Service 9:00 a.m., Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

**KOMSTAD COVENANT** Church, Rural Beresford and Centerville, SD: Matt Styles, Pastor. 18 miles north on University Road. Phone 563-2402. Sunday School 10 a.m., Worship Service 11 a.m.

**PLEASANT VALLEY** Lutheran Church, Rural Vermillion: Sunday School 9:45 a.m., Worship Service 10:30 a.m., Holy Communion First Sunday of every month. All welcome.

**PROVIDENCE REFORMED** Church, 830 Madison: Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. "We Welcome You To Historic Protestant Worship And Fellowship."

**ST. AGNES** Church, 416 Walker St., Fr. John Fischer: St. Agnes Church and Parish Office, tele. 624-4478. St. Agnes Rectory, 505 Catalina, tele. 624-1995. Mass schedule: 5 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. and 10:30a.m. Sunday, Week-day Masses – consult weekly bulletin; Sacrament of Penance, Saturday 4-4:45p.m.

**ST. PAUL'S** Episcopal Church, corner of Main and Linden. Sunday: nursery available. 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist. 11:00 a.m. coffee hour. Call 624-3379 for more info. The Rev. Rita Powell, priest.

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### 1101 Announcements - Events

**Sunday evening Experience** at ONE HOUR is comprised of two primary elements: powerful worship and a life-changing message. Worship at ONE HOUR is led by a talented live band in a style that is consistent with today's culture and a relevant teaching message from LifeChurch.tv's senior pastor, Craig Groeschel, via video broadcast. The worship is intense and the teaching is challenging but the environment will be relaxed and casual. ONE HOUR on the USD Campus at the MUC, 6:30pm Sundays! www.one-hour.org

**The Luther Center at USD:** Life at the corner of campus and faith. Located at Cherry & Plum Streets, Vermillion. We worship weekly on Wednesday evenings at 8:30pm and host service and fellowship events throughout the year. Visit us online at www.luthercenter.org or find us on facebook!

**The Vermillion First** United Methodist Church, a welcome place reaching out to all God's people. Located at 16 N. Dakota St. Adult Sunday School 9am; Sunday Worship 10:25am; Children's Church after Children's Sermon (PreK-5). Welcome Table-serving free meal Mondays 5:30-7pm. Youth Group with Meal (Gr. 6-8) Wednesdays 5:30-7pm. High School Youth Group 7pm. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7pm. Praise Band rehearsal 8pm. Friday Morning Book Study and Breakfast 6:45am. Call (605)624-2179 for more info. Pastor Rick Pit-tenger.

**Trinity Lutheran Church 816 E Clark St** Worship Schedule: Saturday evening: 5:30 PM and Sunday morning: 10:00 AM

Radio broadcast: Sunday morning at 10 AM on KVTK Radio, AM 1570. Holy Communion celebrated each Saturday evening and the 1st and 3rd and 5th Sundays each month. Pastor Trisha Boese Facebook: Trinity Lutheran - Vermillion, SD

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL**, 226 E. Main St., Pastor Steve Miller. 10:30a.m. Worship Service. *No Longer Strangers* www.uccvermillion.org

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**2-Day Farm Toy & John Deere Memorabilia Auction**  
Saturday April 13th, 10:00 a.m. & Sunday April 14th, 11:00 a.m.  
Located: **Wakonda Legion Hall, Wakonda, SD**  
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**Sunday's Auction:** World Class Collection of John Deere Memorabilia—The Dale Johnson Collection of Austin, MN! Unbelievable collection of truly rare & unusual pieces of John Deere History! Super Calendar Collection back to 1909! Also Signs, Clocks, Displays, Thermometers, Watch Fobs, Stickpins & Pinbacks, Pocket ledgers, lots of quality Dealer Advertising Premiums & more! The John Deere Auction of a lifetime!  
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