

*The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd*  
2101 Lor Ray Drive  
North Mankato, MN 56003

# *The Good Shepherd's Voice*

## **Grow in God's Truth, Show Jesus' Love**

### **MARCH 2007**

Mid-month Newsletter

Church phone # 388-4336  
e-mail: goodshepherd57@juno.com  
web: goodshepherdmankato.org

**Our Shepherd's Staff:** Pastor Vance Becker  
Preschool: Tracy Mielke, Kindergarten: Alice Brase  
Elementary: Linda Becker, Carolyn Garman

Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:30 AM  
Sunday Bible Classes 9:15 AM



## **Lutheran Family Luau**

The Lutheran Family League is celebrating the beginning of Spring with a Luau at Good Shepherd, Thurs., March 29, 6:30 – 8 PM. Kids from church, Sunday school, pre-school and elementary school are all invited to come and bring friends and neighbors. Parents are encouraged to stay. “Hawaiian” shirts, etc. will be in fashion but no bikinis please!

Help is needed to plan party activities, supervise, and provide snacks (chips, cookies, carrots and other finger food). If you can help,

please see Beth Holtmeier (389-9830) or Lynn Lease (345-3108).

## **Help Serve Easter Dinner**

Good Shepherd is scheduled to serve the noon meal at Salvation Army on Easter Sunday. If you can help serve or help with the cost of serving the nearly 100 guests, please contact Lynn or Sue Schwarz. Donations of money and supplies are needed. Thanks to everyone who can help! The menu will be: scalloped potatoes, ham, kernel corn, rolls with butter, apple sauce, hard boiled eggs, bars or cake, milk.

## **“Connecting” Meeting**

Good Shepherd members are invited to a District “Connecting with Congregations” meeting at Immanuel Lutheran School, Courtland, Tues., March 27, 7 – 9 PM. Participants will learn about district missions and ministries, the upcoming circuit realignment, and a choice of breakout topics: Planned giving & endowments; District fiscal issues; LCEF loans and services; District mission campaign; Healthy church profile; and Christian education update. Please speak to Pastor Becker if you would like to go.

## Sign up for Preschool and Elementary

Little Lambs Preschool registration forms are on the table by the office, the hall bulletin board or the rack by the preschool door. Register soon to be sure you get a spot. Return them to Tracy Mielke, the office, or the rack by the preschool door.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School registration packets are on the table by the office. Registration is open for kindergarten through grade 7.

## Help Us Share

A box to collect food for the Mankato area food shelf is in the narthex near the water fountain. A volunteer is needed to take donations to the food shelf. If you can do this, please speak to Pastor Becker.

## New CTCR Document

The Synod's Commission on Theology and Church Relations has just released a report responding to expressions of dissent regarding recent Synod convention decisions about four areas: Clergy participation in civic events; Ecclesiastical supervision and dispute resolution; Service of women in congregational and synodical offices; and Laymen performing the

functions of the pastoral office. A copy of the report is available in the church library or from Pastor Becker.

## Jesus' Tomb?

Rev. Paul L. Maier, history professor and Lutheran scholar, responds to a recent news release claiming to have discovered the bones of Jesus. A reprint of his comments is in the periodical rack by the mailboxes.

### *Bulletins from the Boards*

THE BOARD OF ELDERS met Tues., March 13. The usher schedule was finalized and Pastor's personal leave and vacation time was approved. Stripping the altar on Maundy Thursday and a Tennebrae service on Good Friday are planned.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES met Tues., March 13. A fire extinguisher will be added in the sanctuary area. The trustees are considering changing companies for fire alarm service. A bookshelf is being donated for the balcony. Some office computer components are being upgraded to solve connection problems. A member is planning to donate cabinets for the sacristy so that it can be used for communion preparation. A new outlet is being added by the kitchen serving counter.

THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM met Tues.,

March 13. The leadership team for the Harvesters for Christ program is being developed. A newspaper Easter ad was approved. Advertising in St. Peter may be considered. Palms will be purchased for Palm Sunday. A proposal for outreach mailings was put on hold.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION met Tues., March 13. Children will watch a video for Palm Sunday. A Year end program is being planned for May 20. VBS is planned for August 5-9.

YOUTH are planning to do the Easter Breakfast and a boundary waters canoe trip is being considered. The March 3 Circuit lock-in was postponed to March 23.

THE SCHOOL BOARD met Wed., March 7 to coordinate events of Lutheran Schools Week. The school year calendar for '07/'08 was approved along with a registration information packet. It was agreed that for families with multiple children, the \$3000 per year tuition would be reduced by \$1000 for each additional child. As part of Lutheran Schools week, the teachers were treated to lunch while Board members supervised the students. Recruitment of students for '07/'08 is in progress, with the goal of adding 20 new students.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL met Tues., March 13. Use of our facilities for district church meetings was approved.

## Directory Update

### Address Change:

Denny & Mary Beerman  
609 Nelson Ct.,  
Janesville, MN 56048  
phone 507-234-6113

### Transferred Out:

Beverly Kopischke to  
Hosanna, Mankato

## Invest in LCEF

Too make money is difficult, to keep money is more difficult, to spend it wisely is most difficult of all. So why not invest in the Lutheran Church Extension Fund? See the display in the narthex for the latest rates and what LCEF funds are doing in our district.

## *All Around the Neighborhood*

## Donate a Car

You can help low-wage, hard working families that struggle to keep jobs because of unreliable transportation. Donate your car to Minnesota Valley Action Council's "Wheel Get There" initiative. Donated cars are evaluated, repaired and leased or sold to low-wage workers at an affordable price. Donors are entitled to a fair and reasonable tax deduction because the vehicles are going to low-wage workers. For more information, call Dan Jones at 345-0466 or go on line to [www.mnvac.org](http://www.mnvac.org).

## Activities at Lutheran High

The public is invited to a variety of activities at Cannon Valley Lutheran High School, Northrup, where registration is also open for the '07/'08 school year. The school, at 406 W. Franklin, Morristown, can be contacted at 507-685-2636 or at [www.cvlhs.org](http://www.cvlhs.org).

**SCHOOL PLAY:** "Check Please" & "Check Please, Take 2", two one act plays, will be performed by the CVLHS students at WEM Middle School, April 13th & 14th at 7 pm. Cost will be \$5 for adults, \$3 for students and pre-K free.

**BUILDING FUND DINNER** will be April 15. Tickets for this fund raiser are available for a \$50 donation. Gospel Express will be the main entertainment. There will be a door prize and the unveiling of the donation by Bob Byerley, world famous artist who visited the school last December.

**BRUNCH** will be served April 29, 9 AM to 1 PM, at the Morristown American Legion. The proceeds for this brunch goes to the Fine Arts department. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children 10 and under, free for pre-school.

**SPRING CONCERT** is May 6, 7 PM, at Bethlehem, Morristown, Church. This is a "As the Spirit moves you free will donation". The CVLHS Band and Choir will perform. Ceramic and graphic art by the art classes will be on display.

## Help Habitat

Habitat for Humanity of South Central Minnesota encourages volunteers to serve in the fight against poverty housing by assisting in construction of ReStore. The Habitat ReStore will contain offices, warehouse and retail space. It will sell new and gently used building materials to at a fraction of retail prices. The money will go toward building more homes. Help is needed with painting, trim work, or baking treats for other volunteers.

The ReStore is at 1751 Bassett Dr, Mankato. The current build schedule is Tues. – Thurs., 9 AM-4 PM. Some evenings will be scheduled as well. To volunteer, contact Natasha – at the office at 507-388-2081 or [habitat@hickorytech.net](mailto:habitat@hickorytech.net).

## LSM for Youth in St. Peter

Lutheran Summer Music is an experience for young musicians, hosted this year at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, June 24 – July 22. High school band, choir, orchestra and keyboard musicians are invited to develop music excellence in a caring, Christian community while making new friends from all over the country. For more information go on line to [www.lutheransummermusic.org](http://www.lutheransummermusic.org).

Hear the Lutheran Hour: Sun.,  
6:00 PM, KJLY, 107.1 FM

## Go Fish Live Concert

Popular Christian Band Go Fish presents a faith based concert Sat., Apr. 14, 7 PM at the Fairmont High School Performing Arts Center, 900 Johnson St., Fairmont. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door. call 507-399-1615 or email [wolve@chartermi.net](mailto:wolve@chartermi.net). See more at [www.gofishguys.com](http://www.gofishguys.com).

## Vine & Branches

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fairmont will host the first "Vine & The Branches: bearing fruit in your vocation" conference on Sat., Apr. 14, 8:30 AM – 4 PM. Four admired LCMS speakers will help answer questions about what it means to have a Christian life and how this plays out from day to day.

There is no charge for the conference, supported by Thrivent and other donors. A free will offering will be taken at the noon meal. Early registration is encouraged. email [Jerry946@yahoo.com](mailto:Jerry946@yahoo.com) or call 507-839-3086.

## Stories from Luke

"Stories from Luke," a dramatic presentation of significant portions from the Gospel of Luke in storytelling fashion, will be given by Pastor David Buuck on Sun., March 25, 4 PM, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Minnetonka (5701 Eden Prairie Rd., between Highway 62 and Excelsior Blvd.) A freewill offering will be received. A light lunch, free of charge will be held after for those who register for it by calling 952-934-9633.

## FaithSearch Origins

An informative 2 part seminar will be presented by Dr. Don Bierle of FaithSearch International at Cross View Lutheran Church, Edina on Tues., Marcy 20 and Tues., March 27, both 7 – 9 PM.

Dr. Bierle holds degrees in both life sciences and New Testament studies. He uses current scientific evidence to unravel questions about creation, evolution, and the meaning of life, as well as fossils, missing links, cave men, Noah's flood, Dinosaurs, etc.

There is no admission charge but a free-will donation will be received. Please RSVP to [Melanie@crossview.net](mailto:Melanie@crossview.net) or call 952-941-1094. For more information, visit [www.faithsearch.org](http://www.faithsearch.org) or [www.crossview.net](http://www.crossview.net).

## Spend Summer at Camp

College age students are invited to spend an exciting and challenging summer of service in Outdoor Ministry at one of many Lutheran Camps across the country as a cabin counselor, cook, lifeguard, program leader, maintenance worker, wrangler, craft leader, etc. Apply online or download an application from [www.nloma.org](http://www.nloma.org). Apply soon for the best chance of desired placement.

## Honor Choir Camp

High school students are invited to apply for a week of music study, performance and recreation at the ELS Summer Honor Choir Camp at Bethany Lutheran College, June 17-21. Tuition is \$195 including fees, room and board. See Pastor Becker for an application or call Lois Jaeger at 344-7465 or email [lois.jaeger@blc.edu](mailto:lois.jaeger@blc.edu).