

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

JUNE 2007

Pre-month Newsletter

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

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Sunday Bible Classes 8:00 AM



Outdoor Worship on Father's Day

Good Shepherd will have worship outdoors, at Sibley Park, Sun., June 17, 8 PM. There is no Bible class and the service at church will begin at 9:15 AM that Sunday.

To get there, enter the park on Mound Ave., park by the ball diamonds, and go toward the river across from where the two rivers join.

Bring a lawn chair or something to sit on. In case of a storm we will worship at the church instead.

The next outdoor worship is Sunday, July 15, 8 AM, at Sibley Park.

Not Tooting Your Own Horn?

Do you have a band instrument you no longer play? Donations are being sought for the new Good Shepherd Lutheran School band, starting next year. Students in grades 4-7 will have the opportunity to take lessons and play in a joint Mankato Lutheran School band as well as playing for school chapel, etc.

Donated instruments may allow students to play who may not otherwise be able to participate. If you have an instrument to donate or loan, bring it to the church balcony or speak to School Board chairman, Joe Holtmeier.

Sunday Class Continues

Remember that there is one service of worship at 9 AM.

The Sunday adult class meets during the Summer at 8 AM, before worship, except when there is 8 AM outdoor worship as on June 17.

The class is currently studying "Maturing in Faith, Love and Hope. The next study, to begin June 24 will be "God's Grace, Our Response – Getting involved in global mission". It will include video segments and discussion.

Wed. June 27, 7 PM
Pre-holiday Weekend
Worship & Communion

VBS is Coming

Vacation Bible School at Good Shepherd will be Sun. Aug. 5 through Thurs., Aug. 9, 6:30 to 8 PM, with the theme, "Quest for Truth", which will help children discover how Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. If you could help with teaching, crafts, refreshments, etc., please talk to Becky Schendel or Cindy Wintheiser.

To help Greensburg, KS, where the LCMS church is destroyed and several members are homeless and hospitalized, you can donate to LCMS World Relief on line at <http://worldrelief.lcms.org> or by mail to LCMS World Relief/Human Care, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, 1333 S. Kirkwood Rd., St. Louis, MO 63122-7295, or call 1-800-248-1930.

Get Email News

Would you like to get your church newsletter as an e-mail attachment instead of in printed form? It may be more convenient for you and also save printing costs. If so, just send an e-mail requesting it to goodshepherd57@juno.com from the address to receive the newsletter.

Matching Gifts

A donor is matching up to \$5,000 of special gifts to the sanctuary building fund, given in addition to regular and previously planned gifts. On the table by the sanctuary are four baskets of envelopes with dollar amounts written on them. Take as many envelopes as you wish, put your donation in it, and write your offering envelope # on the front. Then return it to the offering plate. This special matched gift opportunity will continue through June or until the \$5,000 cap has been reached.

Disaster Relief

Bible Tour

This is the sixth in a series of articles about the books of the Bible.

Like the Old Testament historical highway books of Kings and Chronicles, which pass through neighborhoods where they are intersected by the streets of major and minor prophets, the New Testament historical highway in the book of Acts, is intersected by two neighborhoods of epistles, written during this time period.

Also, like the Old Testament prophets, the New Testament epistles (which means “letters”) are divided into two groups, first the Pauline epistles, written by Paul to certain churches, then general epistles, written by various apostles to all Christians in general.

If you were to put Paul’s letters in order, how would you do it? ...by date of writing or alphabetical? Would you believe they are arranged in order of longest to shortest? No wonder the ones toward the end are so hard to find!

Paul’s letters are all named for whom they were written to (rather than 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th...Paul!). They are like streets leading off to various places in the Roman Empire or to people Paul worked with.

Romans was written near the end of Paul’s 3rd mission trip to people he had never met. He hoped to go to Rome and get support from Christians there for further work, so he lays out in orderly detail his teachings

about salvation by grace through faith, especially the relationship between Jews and Gentiles in the one faith.

1 and 2 Corinthians were written during Paul’s 3rd trip, to address various problems and questions that came up in Corinth during his absence, encouraging them to always put Christ first.

Galatians, one of Paul’s first letters, was written to churches in the region of Galatia (central Turkey) established on his 1st trip. It refutes the claims of some that all Christians need to observe Jewish rituals.

Ephesians was written to encourage and instruct the new believers at Ephesus (in northern Greece), a church Paul established the church on his 2nd mission trip but was forced to leave by persecution. It explains how the church is formed and works. Paul may have written it while Paul in Prison in Rome.

Philippians was written late in Paul’s ministry, when he was in prison in Rome. It thanks the church at Philippi for their support and encourages them also to remain joyfully confident in the face of persecution.

Colossians may also have been written from prison in Rome. The church at Colossae was started by a co-worker of Paul, but he writes to discourage false teachings and remind them Christ is all we need for spiritual life.

Hint: When trying to find one of the preceding four books, remember “Giants Eat Peas and Corn...” (Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians) “...and then they have Tea.” The next

five books, all starting with T, happen to also have names that are increasingly shorter, like the letters themselves, and like the 5 fingers you can use to count from one to five.

1 Thessalonians, possibly Paul’s earliest letter, was written after he left the new church at Thessalonica on his 2nd mission trip. It encourages them to stay faithful to the end, waiting for Christ’s return, though under pressure. 2 Thessalonians, written soon after, corrects misunderstandings about Christ’s return and urges them to keep working.

The next three letters are sometimes called “Pastoral Epistles” because they are addressed to young pastors, rather than congregations themselves. 1 Timothy was written after Paul’s first imprisonment in Rome to this companion of Paul who was left in charge at Ephesus during Paul’s 4th mission trip. It explains how to work against false teaching there. 2 Timothy was written after Paul was again imprisoned in Rome to encourage him to remain faithful in his teaching and work.

Titus was a convert and coworker of Paul who stayed in Crete after Paul’s visit there on his 4th mission trip. Paul writes about developing leadership for that church.

Philemon was a businessman converted by Paul in Colossae. Paul sent this letter with Onesimus, a slave who had run away from Philemon but was converted by Paul in prison. Paul encourages Philemon to accept him as a brother believer.

Bible Bites

...for eat and run Bible reading

June 2007 (series C1, B2)

To read the O.T. once and the N.T. twice in 6 years, read the 1st reading each week day. Include the 2nd reading to finish in 3 years. For Sundays and special days, all three pericopes are given. *In each reading, pick a memorable verse for yourself.*

Let us Pray...

...for all people according to their needs. Each week our prayers during worship include special groups. Please also remember them in your daily prayers.

- 1 Acts 17:1-34; Jer. 12:1-17
- 2 Psal. 81:1-16

The 1st Commandment

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

Pray for young adults

3 The Holy Trinity

- Prov. 8:1-4, 22-31
Acts 2:14a, 22-36; John 8:48-59
- 4 Acts 18:1-28; Jer. 13:1-27
 - 5 Acts 19:1-41; Jer. 14:1-22
 - 6 Acts 20:1-38; Jer. 15:1-21
 - 7 Acts 21:1-36; Jer. 16:1-21
 - 8 Acts 21:37 - 22:29;
Jer. 17:1-27
 - 9 Psal. 8:1-9

The 7th Commandment

You shall not steal.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Pray for workers in the agricultural industry

102nd Sunday after

Pentecost

- 1 Kings 17:17-24; Gal. 1:11-24;
Luke 7:11-17
- 11 St. Barnabas, Apostle
Isa. 42:5-12;
Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3;
Mark 6:7-13
- 12 Acts 22:30-23:22; Mark 1:1-34
- 13 Acts 23:23 - 24:27;
Mark 1:35 - 2:17
- 14 Acts 25:1-27; Mark 2:18 - 3:20
- 15 Acts 26:1-32; Mark 3:21 - 4:20
- 16 Psal. 68:1-18

The 6th Commandment

You shall not commit adultery.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other.

Pray for fathers and parents

273rd Sunday after Pentecost

- 2 Sam. 11:26 - 12:10, 13-15;
Gal. 2:15-21; 3:10-11;
Luke 7:36 - 8:3
- 18 Acts 27:1-44; Mark 4:21 - 5:20
- 19 Acts 28:1-31; Mark 5:21 - 6:13
- 20 Gal. 1:1-24; Mark 6:14-44
- 21 Gal. 2:1 - 3:9; Mark 6:45 - 7:23
- 22 Gal. 3:10 - 4:7; Jer. 18:1-23
- 23 Psal. 68:19-35

What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: **"Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."**

[Mark 16:16]

Pray for workers in communication and finance

24 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

- Isa. 65:1-9; Gal. 3:23 - 4:7;
Luke 8:26-39
- 25 (Nativity of John the Baptist)
Isa. 40:1-5; Acts 13:13-26;
Luke 1:57-80
- 26 Gal. 4:8 - 5:6; Jer. 19:1 - 20:6
- 27 Gal. 5:7 - 6:18; Jer. 20:7 - 21:14
- 28 Luke 7:1-35; Jer. 22:1-23
- 29 St. Peter & St. Paul, Apostles
Acts 15:1-21; Gal. 2:1-10;
Matt. 16:13-19
- 30 Psal. 141:1-10

Duties of Citizens

Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience...for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. give everyone what you owe him; If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect, if honor, then honor. (Rom. 13:5-7)

Pray for officials in local, state and national government.

Family Catechism

Use a part of the Catechism each week as part of family devotions. **Bold type is for children through grade 1 to learn.** Underlined is for children through grade 4 to learn. The whole piece is for youth and adults to review