

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

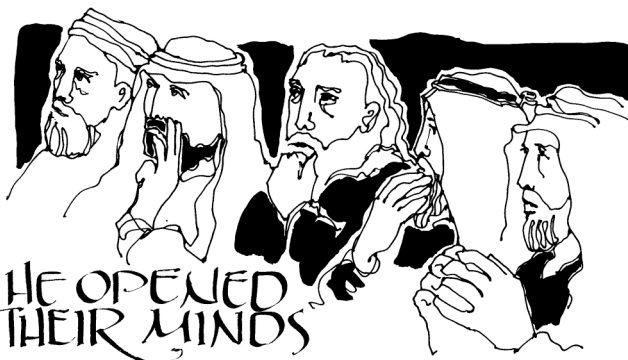
The Good Shepherd's Voice Grow in God's Truth, Show Jesus' Love

MARCH 2007

Pre-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

Lent 200 "Difficult Lessons of Discipleship"

Wednesday Lent worship is at 7 PM each week, beginning Ash Wednesday, March 1. Services include a series of messages about Difficult Lessons of Discipleship.

The passion history is being presented by a group of readers portraying the various individuals. If you would like to be a reader, please speak to Pastor Becker.

Pick up an invitation, by the mailboxes, with details about Lent worship to share with friends and neighbors.

Browse the Book Table

A display of Christian children's books for sale will be in the fellowship hall before and after services for a few weeks. You can purchase quality books from Concordia Publishing House on the spot or order them for Easter or Confirmation gifts and support our church library. See Wanda Schwarz if you have questions.

Lent Devotions

"Time for Renwal" is the theme of the Lent devotion booklet from Lutheran Hour Ministries, available on the tables by the mailboxes.

Fellowship Club Meets at Home

The March meeting of the fellowship club is Sun., March 25, at the home of Roger & Kris Asleson, 50678 Hebron Drive, North Mankato. We will enjoy a Bible study and games. All are welcome.

To get to Asleson's, go west on Highway 14 about 4 miles from North Mankato to County Road 25/ 402nd St.. Go about 3 miles west and where the road curves right (north), turn left on Hebron Dr., which is gravel. Go about 1/2 mile to the Asleson driveway, on the right just before the road goes down the bluff.

Savor the Soup

Soup and sandwich suppers are served Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, before Lent worship. There are still open spots on the sign up sheets in the narthex for youth and adults who can help serve or provide sandwiches, soup or bars. No meals are planned before the Holy Week services. Donations support LWML mission projects.

Make Bandages With Needles

A group has begun knitting or crocheting bandages for Global Health Ministries. All are welcome to help. If you don't know how to knit, they will teach you. If you have questions, talk to Doris Schumacher or Sue Schwarz.



"Transforming Lives" 2 Cor. 3:18

Lutheran Schools—A Great Place To Grow

National Lutheran Schools Week 2007 Students Celebrate Lutheran Schools Week

Good Shepherd Lutheran School students are sharing and caring during Lutheran Schools Week.

Sun., March 4, the school choir sings in worship at Our Savior Lutheran, Mankato and St. John Lutheran, Good Thunder.

Tues., March 6, students will pack food for Kids Against Hunger. Donations will be received to help cover the cost of the food.

Wed., March 7, 8:15 AM is the Lutheran Schools Week Chapel. Guests are welcome. The school choir sings for the Lent worship at 7 PM.

Come and See: School Open House

Good Shepherd Lutheran School open house is Thurs., March 8, 5-7 PM, with Kindergarten roundup meeting at 6:30 PM, and again Sun., March 11, 1-3 PM, with Kindergarten roundup meeting at 2:30 PM.

Families considering Christian education for their children are invited to see what Good Shepherd has to offer. There will be information for parents and activities for children. The School Nurse will be available to answer questions at the Kindergarten Round-up meeting.

Please share this information with all whom you think may be interested.

The March-May issue of **"My Devotions"** for families with children is on the tables by the mailboxes.

Church/School Pot-Luck

All are invited to a noon pot-luck dinner on Sun., March 11, as part of the Lutheran Schools Week celebration. School open house, for those considering enrollment, follows at 1 PM.

Sign Up Students

Registration forms for Little Lambs Preschool and registration packets for grades 1-7 at Good Shepherd Lutheran School will be on the table by the church office. Sign up soon to reserve your choice of spots. Share them with others whom you think may be interested.

Preschool Makes Milk Jug Igloo

Milk jugs (empty, clean ones) are being collected by Little Lambs Preschool to make an igloo. It will take a lot! Place them at the end of the hall by the preschool room.

Don't Touch That Dial

The TV in the parents room and in the balcony are only connected to the church video system and do not receive any TV channels. Please do not change channels or adjust the P.A. system controls if you are not trained to do so. Parents, please let your children know this and supervise them in this regard. Thank you.

Happy Anniversary to Us

The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd was started in 1957. 2007 is our 50th anniversary. A special celebration service is being planned for Sun., Sept. 9. Members of Good Shepherd who have become pastors will be invited to be guest preachers through the year. If you have pictures or artifacts from Good Shepherd's past to share for a display, please speak with Joe Holtmeier, chair of the anniversary committee.

Thank You from Pat and Lynn Lease and their family for the cards, memorials and kind words following the death of Lynn's father, Rollin Koosman.

LCEF Supports the LCMS

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund offers many investment opportunities which help LCMS members, congregations and organizations meet their savings and investment goals, while supporting the overall mission and ministry of the Church through loans and related services. Currently, Steward Account rates are 4%. See the display in the narthex for applications.

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

All Around the Neighborhood

Cannon Valley Lutheran High Activities

Cannon Valley Lutheran High School, Morristown, is accepting registrations for the 07-08 school year.

The public is invited to fine arts programs at CVLH. "Here Comes the Cows" or "Don't Moon Mesa", an all male cast play, is March 2 & 3 at 7 PM and March 4 at 2 PM.

Admission is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and for those under 18 "\$.25 for every year the youngen has eaten yur grub."

Help the Food Shelf Share

March is Food Shelf Month. The amount of donations to the emergency food shelf in March determines the amount of commodities and other resources they receive.

Collection boxes are under the table in the narthex by the water fountain. All sorts of food and home supplies are needed except cereal and macaroni and cheese. (They get special donations of these.) A volunteer is needed to regularly take food collected at Good Shepherd to the local food shelf. If you would like to help in this way, please speak with Pastor Becker.

56% of food shelf users are families with children, 15% are seniors, and more than \$50 percent of adult recipients work

but do not make enough to cover basic needs.

Instrumental Music from Bethany

The Bethany Concert Band and the Brass Choir along with the Jazz Ensemble will perform their spring tour homecoming concert Sat., March 17, 4 PM in trinity chapel. The concert is free and the public is invited.

Tim Frank, Bethany senior music major, will perform his senior organ recital Sun., March 25, 2 PM on the historic Opus 499 Johnson Organ at Good Counsel Academy, 170 Good Counsel Dr. The recital is free and open to the public.

Enjoy Fun & Faith at Camp Omega

Registration has opened for summer programs at our district's Camp Omega, near Waterville. 70 different week and weekend programs are offered for children and families, focusing on providing a vibrant and fun Christian community where campers learn, grow and apply the Christian faith. Participants enjoy Bible study and devotions along with age appropriate activities led by college age counselors, including swimming, games, canoeing, biking, archery and more. Housing options include bunkhouse cabins, tree houses, log-cabins, covered wagons and tepees. Pick up a camp brochure from the table by the church office, call 507-685-4266, or go on line to www.campomega.org.

New Women's Radio Program

The first broadcast of Lutheran Hour Ministries' new women's radio program, "Life ... revised", was Sunday, Feb. 11, on more than 160 stations throughout North America. It is also on XM satellite radio channel 170 Targeted to women ages 35-54, the program's topics also appeal to men and women of all ages. The show engages the unchurched listener with topics of interest to them while presenting them with a Christian worldview.

Life ... revised shares healthy ways to combat life's challenges. Co-hosts "Dr. Mark" Hannemann and Michelle Bauer provide wise and lively discussions about family, health, financial, and other issues with Christian integrity, street smarts, and compassion. Dr. Mark is a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod pastor, a professional mental health practitioner, and director of a Christian counseling center. Michelle, a talented media professional and mother of three, provides a fresh female perspective to the discussions.

Visit www.liferevised.com to learn more about how to hear this program.

Bible Tour

This is the third in a series of articles about the Books of the Bible

The second group of books in the Old Testament is the Poetic books. Like some modern poetry, Hebrew poetry does not rhyme, even before it is translated into English. Instead, what is poetic about it is that thoughts are expressed in parallel. The second line repeats the thought of the first in a different way or may take the idea to the next step. For example: Psalm 23:1-2
"The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not want.
He makes me lie down
in green pastures.
He leads me beside
still waters."

When the Old Testament historical books are pictured as parts of a highway, traveling along the time line, the Poetry books are a neighborhood with five streets intersecting an early part of this highway.

The first street is an old dirt road. The oldest book in the Bible is Job, written in an archaic Hebrew dialect around the time of Abraham. This means it came long before Moses wrote down the book of Genesis.

The next street of Poetry, the book is Psalms, leads past the Temple. This is the hymn book of the Old Testament. Many were written by King David and those who led worship during his reign.

On third street in the neighborhood of poetry is a

school. Proverbs is a collection of wise sayings written or collected by David's son, King Solomon. This is the longest book of the Bible, containing the most chapters, including the chapter with the most verses, Psalm 119.

The fourth street also leads to education. Ecclesiastes (which means "The Preacher") is a poetic essay by Solomon about the meaning of life.

On the fifth street in the neighborhood of poetry is a romantic garden. Song of Solomon, also called the Song of Songs, is a love poem, which is seen as an allegory in which God's love for his chosen people is pictured in the terms of a man's relationship with his bride.

After these books, written during the time of Israel's first kings, the next stop is the neighborhood of prophecy, written during the time of the later kings.

If you are looking up a book in the Bible, remember that the book of Psalms will be right in the center. Historical books will be in the first half, and prophecy books will be after this, followed by the New Testament.

Bible Bites

...for eat and run Bible reading

March 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.

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

- 1 1 Sm. 13:1-23; Joel 2:1-17
- 2 1 Sm. 14:1-23; Joel 2:18-21
- 3 Psal. 91:1-16

What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

Pray for young children

4 2nd Sunday in Lent

- Jer. 26:8-15; Phil. 3:17 – 4:1;
Luke 13:31-35
- 5 1 Sm. 14:24-52; Joel 3:1-21
 - 6 1 Sm. 15:1-35; Nahum 1:1-2:13
 - 7 1 Sm. 16:1-23; Nahum 3:1-19
 - 8 1 Sm. 17:1-27; John 3:1-36
 - 9 1 Sm. 17:28-58; John 4:1-42
 - 10 Psal. 70:1-5

Who receives this sacrament worthily?

Fasting and bodily preparation are certainly fine outward training. **But that person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: “Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.”** But anyone who does not believe these words or doubts them is unworthy and unprepared, for the words “for you” require all hearts to believe.

Pray for Lutheran Schools

113rd Sunday in Lent

- Ezek. 33:7-20; 1 Cor. 10:1-13;
Luke 13:1-9
- 12 1 Sm. 18:1-33; John 4:43 - 5:15
 - 13 1 Sm. 19:1-24; John 5:16-47
 - 14 1 Sm. 20:1-34; John 6:1-40
 - 15 1 Sm. 20:35- 21:15
John 6:41-71
 - 16 1 Sm. 22:1-23; John 7:1-36
 - 17 Psal. 71:1-13

How can bodily eating and drinking do such great things?

Certainly not just eating and drinking do these things, but the words written here: **“Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.”** **These words, along with the bodily eating and drinking, are the main thing in the Sacrament.** Whoever believes these words has exactly what they say: “forgiveness of sins.”

Pray for midweek class students

184th Sunday in Lent

- Isa 12:1-6; 2 Cor. 5:16-21;
Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
- 19
 - 19 St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus
2 Sam. 7:4-16; Rom. 4:13-18;
Matt. 2:13-15, 19-23
 - 20 1 Sm. 23:1-29; John 7:37 - 8:20
 - 21 1 Sm. 24:1-22; John 8:21-59
 - 22 Luke 22:1-46; Habak. 1:1-17
 - 23 Luke 22:47 - 23:12
Habak. 2:1-20
 - 24 Psal. 71:14-24

Where is this written?

The holy Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke and St. Paul write: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, **He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.”**

Pray for the disabled and disadvantaged

255th Sunday in Lent

- Isa. 43:16-21; Phil. 3:4b-14;
Luke 20:9-20
- 26 (Annunciation of our Lord)
Isa. 7:10-14; Heb. 10:4-10;
Luke 1:26-38
 - 27 Luke 23:13-49; Habak. 3:1-19
 - 28 Luke 23:50-24:27; Prov. 7:1-27
 - 29 Luke 24:28-53; Prov. 8:1-36
 - 30 Acts 1:1-26; Zeph. 1:1-18
 - 31 Psal. 28:1-9

Where is this written? (continued)

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, **He gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.** This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pray for health care and service workers

