

*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**

### SEPTEMBER 2007

Pre-month Newsletter

Church phone # 388-4336  
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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  
Spanish Worship 2:00 PM



1958 Good Shepherd Groundbreaking

*Worship Time  
Returns to 2 Sunday  
services 8:00 & 10:30  
AM Starting Sept. 9*

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jubilee Worship

**The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of Good Shepherd's first service of worship will be celebrated Sun., Sept. 9. There will be a special celebration service at 2 PM, with Rev. Tom Olson, a son of our congregation, preaching. Former pastors will be in attendance.

**The theme** for our anniversary celebration is "Jubilee, Sharing Jesus from

Generation to Generation", based on Psalm 79:13, "But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise."

**A timeline** of Good Shepherd's history will be on display in the Fellowship hall, along with other things to see.

**A turkey dinner** will be served at 4 PM. A free will offering will be received. Offerings over \$6 per person go toward our building fund.

**Christmas ornaments**, picturing our first and new buildings are for sale for \$10 each or two for \$15. To purchase some for yourself, family and friends, see Sue Schwarz.

**Charter members** or early members (1958 – 1959) of Good Shepherd who have not been contacted, please give your name to Pastor Becker, Sherry Sack or Sue Schwarz, so you can be recognized.

**Bars or Cookies** are needed for the anniversary celebration dinner. If you can donate, please sign up on the table by the nursery.

## Midweek Classes Begin

Wednesday evening Bible history and catechism classes for grades 5-8 begin Sept. 12. A catechism class for adults will also begin soon. If you know a non member who would like to participate, please see Pastor Becker.

## Back to Sunday Class Sept. 9

Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> is “**Education Celebration Sunday**”, celebrating the resumption of Sunday and midweek Bible classes, Little Lambs Preschool and Good Shepherd Lutheran School.

**Induction of teachers** will be included in the 8:00 and 10:30 AM services. In each service, the teachers present will be recognized and commissioned.

**Nursery Help** is needed for children of teachers and others during the Sunday Bible class time. Classroom helpers are also needed. To take a turn, please see Wanda Schwartz.

**In Sunday classes**, Children will begin the fall studying the story of Israel, from Jacob to the Exodus. In December they will shift to the New Testament to learn about the coming of Jesus and his ministry.

Teachers include:  
High School: Kathy Taylor  
Grades 7-8: Jim Dimock  
Grades 5-6: Elizabeth VanGrootheest  
Grades 3-4 Kristen Dauk & Peggy Dimock  
Grades 1-2 Beth Holtmeier & Paul & Elizabeth Gansen  
Kindergarten: Cindy Wintheiser  
Preschool: Becky Schendel & Julie Evans

**Adults** will conclude a study of “Getting Involved in God’s Global Mission” and then be led by our volunteers from “the 72”.

## Ladies Get Together

LWML will be meeting for a potluck on Tuesday, September 4th beginning at 6pm. Please bring a dish to pass, all paper products will be provided. Pastor will lead us in a short devotion followed by our meeting. We will also be making plans for the Fall Conference Rally here at Good Shepherd in October. Since we are hosting this event, we could use plenty of help. All women of the congregation are invited to come join us.

## School Help is Needed

**Volunteers** who spend a few hours a week helping out at our church and school make a huge difference. We would not be able to get along without them. Some are not able to come back this fall for various reasons. New volunteers are needed one morning per week to help in the office, pick up lunches, and do daily cleaning. After lunch and after school cleaning help is also needed. These are jobs just about anyone can do. Please see Pastor if you can help out.

If you are interested in helping to tutor a child or supervise children before school or during recess, please speak to one of the teachers, Linda Becker, Carolyn Garman or Alice Brase.

Remember that “**Giving Plus**” from Thrivent can add

50% to gifts you make to Good Shepherd Lutheran School. Forms are on the table by the church office.

**The Giving Tree** bulletin board in the narthex by the water fountain has envelopes for items the school can use and other suggestions for support.

## Sign Up to Meet with “The 72”

Bruce Manzey, John and Caroline Boll, volunteers with “The 72, Partners on the Road”, will be at Good Shepherd Sat., Sept. 22 through Thurs., Oct. 11, to help us learn how to be more effective in personal and congregational outreach with the gospel. Everyone in the congregation is urged to participate in activities as we learn from them and host them during their stay.

Sign up on the display in the narthex for **training experiences**, which are also described in your Mid-August newsletter.

Sign up on the table in the narthex by the nursery to **provide an evening meal** for our team. This is a great opportunity to get to know them and get special insights.

**Housing** is still needed for Bruce Manzey. He does not need meals or a place to prepare them but prefers solitude for the evening. If you have a private room, vacant apartment or cabin, or R.V. he can use, please see Pastor Becker.

## New Scrip Retailer

Subway gift cards are now available as scrip. We receive 3% of the total.

Remember that scrip is ordered *year-round*. Orders with payment can be put in Lynn Schwarz's mailbox. Scrip certificates arrive within one week. The only exception is during Christmas season – in December it could take longer. All proceeds benefit Good Shepherd Lutheran School. If you have any questions, call Sue at 388-3442.

## Theological Convocation at Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd will be the host site for a District Theological Convocation, Sat., Sept. 29. The topic for this conference, the fourth since 2003, is "Holy Communion Theology and Practice". The purpose of such conferences is to "guard and strengthen the spirit of unity and the bond of peace in our District by a) exposing areas of agreement in doctrine and practice, and b) working to resolve areas of disagreement". All clergy and lay members are invited to participate. Registration begins at 8:30 AM and closing devotions conclude at 3:45 PM.

The main presenter is Dr. Joel Biermann of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. The two reactors are Rev. Roger Gallup of Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

River Grove, IL, and Rev. Vernon Gundermann of Concordia Lutheran Church, Kirkwood, MO.

Registration is \$35 before Sept. 8, and includes lunch. Registration the day of the conference is \$45 but does not include lunch. If you are interested in participating, please let Pastor Becker know by Sept. 5 so that registration can be sent in as a group.

## Give with Joyful Response

Lutheran Church Extension Fund provides online opportunities for investments and consistent giving. How should we give back to God? "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7.) "Joyful Response" is a free automatic offering program available for your church offering or school tuition. (similar to Thrivent's "Simply Giving") "MyAccount" provides safe, secure online access 24/7. To enroll or find out more, call 1-800 THE LCEF or go online to [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org).

## Bless You

Special Thanks to the Aslesons who donated and set up a swing set on our playground.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped to wax the church floors and clean carpets in August.

## All Around the Neighborhood

## Beware of Puppy Scam

LCMS World Mission alerts all LCMS members to beware of an e-mail and Web-based scam concerning puppies to be shipped from Africa to the US.

The scam mentions LCMS Missionaries David Erber, Nathaniel Watt, Jerry Loewe and Brent Friedrich and their supposed e-mail addresses in an offer to ship the puppies for fees ranging from \$150 to \$3,000. The e-mails included Bible verses and descriptions of mission work in Africa.

This is a fraud, according to LCMS World Mission. No LCMS missionaries are charging for shipping pets or other items from Africa to the United States. However, secure donations may be made to support all LCMS missionaries through the LCMS online giving catalog. To support a specific missionary or project, you can give directly to that account. For more information, contact LCMS World Mission at (800) 433-3954 or [mission.info@lcms.org](mailto:mission.info@lcms.org). Or visit its Web site.

## Scott Speaks at East

Darrell Scott, father of a student killed by shootings at Columbine High School in Denver, will speak at East High School, Mankato, Mon., Sept. 17, 7 PM. All are invited.

# Sharing Jesus From Generation to Generation

*As Good Shepherd celebrates its anniversary, this is the 2nd in a series of articles on church history.*

## **A History of the Church in the Medieval Period**

Pressured by the Huns, invading from eastern Asia, tribes on the European borders of the Roman Empire grew violent and began to invade it. The year 410 marked the beginning of the end as the Visigoths looted Rome. Some of these tribes had become Christian, but their faith included the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ. It was Pope Leo I, bishop of Rome, who persuaded Attila the Hun not to attack Rome, as the remnants of the Roman empire struggled to reorganize in the East at Constantinople.

About 620 AD, the religion of Islam was begun in Arabia by Mohammed. As the Moslems, began their rapid spread throughout Asia, India, North Africa, and even into Spain, they wiped out Jewish and Christian culture, establishing a Moslem Empire. The Moslems were stopped in the East at Constantinople and halted in the West in France by the Franks who were Athanasian (not Arian) Christians.

The Franks also became protectors and allies of the Roman Church. Constantinople was left with only an eastern realm, the Byzantine Empire. A Frankish leader, Charlemagne,

established a “Holy Roman Empire,” including most of Europe. Here, church and state were so closely allied that most church leaders were appointed by the Emperor and eventually performed much of the civil administration.

As political empires declined, the church experienced great missionary expansion led by such daring men as Patrick in Ireland, Augustine in Britain, Boniface in Germany, and Vladmire in Russia, where Moscow eventually surpassed Constantinople as a center of Christian power. When the Holy Roman Empire broke down into loosely allied feudal states of the “Dark Ages,” the church was the unifying power which kept the light of culture burning. Monasteries were centers of learning, welfare, and public works.

The political divisions between east and west were matched in the church. The East argued about whether using statues and pictures in worship was idolatry, finally allowing only pictures. In the West, new teachings developed: that the Lord’s Supper resacrifices Jesus, that this provides more forgiveness for the dead suffering in Purgatory, that angels and saints in heaven can be prayed to for help, and that adoring relics of saints brings spiritual benefits. Worship was refined using the Latin language and choral chanting.

The West also had controversies: about the idea that Jesus is God’s son by adoption; why some come to faith, but not others; etc. Differences between East and

West came to a head in a disagreement about whether the Holy Spirit proceeds only from the Father or also from the Son. In 1054, there was a final and total split as the Eastern Orthodox Church refused to recognize the Pope in Rome as a superior authority.

Freeing the “Holy Land” from the Moslems was the original goal of military “Crusades” from the West between 1096 and 1270. While various leaders increased their power, some made financial profits, lives were disastrously wasted, and Christian cities themselves were plundered – Moslems continued to control Palestine and threaten Europe.

In the West, an inevitable struggle for power developed between church and state. In Germany, church leaders denied the authority of civil rulers to appoint them. The Popes grew in power and eventually claimed to be the highest authority in both religion and politics. When one Pope moved his official residence to France, a rival was elected in Rome and their successors battled for decades. Church councils, called to reform the church in the early 1400s, ended the split in the Papacy, but failed to reform abuses which financially benefited the church. While Papal power declined, various reformers, such as John Huss in Czechoslovakia and John Wycliff in England, met with popular support but official resistance and finally death.

*Next month: A History of the Lutheran Church*

## Bible Bites

for eat and run Bible reading

**September 2006** (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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.*

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1 Psal. 75:1-10; 117:1-2

### *Duties of workers*

...obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but like slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. (Eph. 6:5-6)

### *Pray for Public Schools*

## 2 14th Sunday after

**Pentecost** Prov. 25:2-10;

Heb. 13:1-17;

Luke 14:1-14

3 2 Sm. 18:1-32; Jer. 52:1-34

4 2 Sm. 18:33-19:23; Lam. 1:1-22

5 2 Sm. 19:24-43; Lam. 2:1-22

6 2 Sm. 20:1-26; Lam. 3:1-66

7 2 Sm. 21:1-22; Lam. 4:1-22

8 Psal. 85:1-13; 87:1-7

### *1<sup>st</sup> Article & meaning "a"*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

### *Pray for Sunday School Teachers*

## 9 15th Sun. after Pent.

Deut. 30:15-20; Philem. 1-21

Luke 14:24-35

10 2 Sm. 22:1-37; Lam. 5:1-22

11 2 Sm. 22:38-23:27; Pr. 10:1-32

12 2 Sm. 23:8-39; Prov. 11:1-31

13 2 Sm. 24:1-25; Prov. 12:1-28

14 Holy Cross Day: Isa 45:21-25

1 Cor. 1:18-24; John 12:20-33

15 Psal. 52:1-9; 53:1-6

### *1<sup>st</sup> Article & meaning "b"*

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

### *Pray for former Pastors & teachers*

## 16 16th Sun. after Pent.

Ezek. 34:11-24; 1 Tim. 1:5-17;

Luke 15:1-10

17 Philemon 1-25; Prov. 13:1-25

18 1 Tim. 1:1 - 2:15; Prov. 14:1-35

19 1 Tim. 3:1 - 4:16; Prov. 15:1-33

20 1 Tim. 5:1-25; Prov. 16:1-33

21 St. Matthew: Ezek. 2:8 - 3:11

Eph. 2:4-10; Matt. 9:9-13

22 Psal. 78:1-16

### *1<sup>st</sup> Article & meaning "c"*

All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him. This is most certainly true.

### *Pray for Volunteer Mission workers*

## 23 17th Sun. after Pent.

Amos 8:4-7; 1 Tim. 2:1-15;

Luke 16:1-15

24 1 Tim. 6:1-21, Prov. 17:1-28

25 1 Ch. 1:1-54; Prov. 18:1-24

26 1 Ch. 2:1-55; Jas. 1:1-27

27 1 Ch. 3:1 - 4:23; Jas. 2:1 - 3:18

28 Psal. 34:1-22

29 St. Michael & All Angels

Dn. 10:1-14; 12:1-3;

Rev. 12:7-12; Luke 10:17-20

### *The 4th Petition*

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

*What does this mean?* God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers, even to all evil people, but we pray in this petition that God would lead us to realize this and to receive our daily bread with thanksgiving.

### *Pray for Men's Ministry*

## 30 18th Sun. after Pent.

Amos 6:1-7; 1 Tim. 3:1-13 or

1 Tim 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

OCTOBER

1 1 Ch. 4:24 - 5:22; Jas. 4:1-5:20

2 Prov. 23:1-35; Isa. 13:1-22

3 1 Ch. 5:23 - 6:48; Prov. 19:1-29

4 1 Ch. 6:49-81; Heb. 1:1 - 2:9

5 1 Ch. 7:1-29; Heb. 2:10 - 3:19

6 Psal. 78:17-39

### *Pray for the Ladies' Aid*

## 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