

*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 2006

Mid-month Newsletter

Church phone # 388-4336  
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web: www.goodshepherdmankato.org

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

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

**Ministry Month**

## **Get Tickets for LLL Rally**

The Mankato Zone LLL Rally is Fri., March 1, 7:00 PM at Salem Lutheran Church, Madelia. It will include a nice meal, speaker and entertainment. The speaker is Mrs. Mary Kay Mages of New Ulm who will share her experiences as a volunteer Lutheran High School teacher in Slovakia. Tickets are available for \$8.00 from Bud Nase until Tues., March 28.

### **Do You Have the Time?**

A ladies wrist watch was found near the church parking lot. Speak to Judy Backstrom to identify it if it is yours.

## **Bandages Abound**

Bandages are being knit or crocheted for Global Health Ministries by members of Good Shepherd and others. Completed bandages are being hung on a rack by the coat rack in the narthex. If you would like to help or learn to knit, talk to Doris Schumacher or Sue Schwarz.

## **Feedback Forum**

Have you participated in a Ministry Month Feedback Forum yet? Over 60 of your friends have, but the goal is to get input from the entire congregation. These sessions are helping to assess the spiritual life of our members

and our congregation as a whole. The discussion centers on the special purpose and goals of our congregation.

More feedback forums have been scheduled after Wednesday Lent worship on March 15, 22 and 29. Sign up on the table on the south side of the narthex.

**Thank You** from Duane Erdman to friends from Good Shepherd who sent him greetings on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## **Building Update**

Shingling is finished and the windows are in. Duct-work and plumbing are being installed. Siding and Electrical work begin soon.

## Directory Update

### Address Change:

Tim Jones  
108 Judson Fort Road East  
Lake Crystal, MN 56055

## Hurricane Ministry News

Hurricane Memo #6, from our District is full of information about what those from our area are doing to help with relief from Hurricane Katrina in Alabama and Wilma in Florida. Copies are in the periodical rack by the mailboxes.

### LCEF – “Ablaze”

The LCMS *Ablaze!* initiative and the ministry of the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) go hand-in-hand. By investing some of your financial blessings from the Lord with LCEF, you are actively giving thanks and giving back. While your funds earn a competitive interest rate, they also help churches and schools provide ‘space and place’ as they reach out to 100 million people. Earn 5.095% APY for 18 months. See the information on the LCEF display in the narthex, call 1-800-THE LCEF or go on line to [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org).

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

## All Around the Neighborhood

### Maier Speaks on Outreach Legacy

Dr. Paul Maier will speak on the theme “A Legacy of Christian Outreach” at 7:30 PM, April 7 at Concordia University, St. Paul as part of a day of remembrance honoring the late Dr. Oswald Hoffmann. The event is free. More information is available by calling (651) 641-8701 or going on line to [www.csp.edu/ohsco](http://www.csp.edu/ohsco).

### Bethany Presents Everyman

“Everyman,” a medieval morality play, is presented at Bethany Lutheran College March 31, April 1, 7 & 8 at 7:30 PM and April 2 & 8 at 2 PM. An open forum discussion follows each show.

Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students, children and seniors. For tickets, call the box office 1 - 5 PM weekdays, 344-7374.

### Enjoy music at Bethany College

Bethany Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble homecoming concert is Thurs, March 16, 7 PM. A free will offering will be received.

Bethany Band Invitational is Sat., March 18. Anyone who has played in a band is welcome to join in the fun, fellowship and fabulous music. Registration is at 1

PM, rehearsal at 2 PM, performance with the Bethany Band at 4 PM and a social gathering at 5 PM. For information, music and registration, call Elayne at 344-7314.

Marko Petricic performs in the Bethany Chamber Music Series Tues., March 21, 7 PM in Trinity Chapel. The program includes music for organ and for bayan, an instrument similar to an accordion. Tickets at the door are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors.

The Rebel Baroque Ensemble performs music of Bach, Handel, Telemann, etc., in the Bethany Chamber Music Series, Sun., March 26, 7 PM in Trinity Chapel. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors.

### Outreach Leadership Institute in July

The sixth annual Outreach Leadership Institute will draw presenters and participants from around the country to Concordia University, noon, Thurs., July 13 to noon, Sat., July 15. Presenters will include Rev. Scott Snow, LCMS Director of Outreach, Rev. Mork Joeckel, Director of Lutheran Inner-City Network Coalition, and daily devotions by Rev. Dean Nadasdy. For details and to register for special topic presentations, call the Oswald Hoffman School of Christian Outreach at (651) 641-8701 or go on line to [www.lea.org/oli2006.htm](http://www.lea.org/oli2006.htm).

## **Minnesota Valley Handbell Festival**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Minnesota Valley Handbell Festival will be March 26, 3 PM at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Mankato. Eleven handbell choirs from 5 area churches and the River Bend Bells will participate with individual and massed handbell numbers. A selection will be played on the new pipe organ. A freewill offering will be accepted.

## **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 25 – July 23. 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).

## **Cantati Evangelica sings in Mankato**

The 47 voice choral ensemble, "Cantati Evangelica" presents a concert of classic choral music including great oratorio choruses, inspirational anthems, familiar hymns and gospel songs and spirituals, Sun., March 12, 4:30 PM at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Mankato. The singers come from Minnesota

and Wisconsin. Appearing with them will be outstanding organist Desiderius Klempay. A free will offering will be received.

## **Learn to Witness to Strangers**

Jacob Gillard, Pastor to the Missions of Trinity First Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, invites you to participate in a witnessing to participate in a witnessing training event in the Twin Cities, April 21-22. Training is individualized and open to the first 50 participants. \$30 gets you witnessing naturally and with confidence and covers all materials. Students are free.

Pre-on-the-job training is typically 15 minutes. Trainees observe the mentor witness in real-life situations such as malls, bus stops, etc. Prayer and processing take place between witnessing contacts. Many trainees successfully apply this method their first time out. Most are ready to witness confidently on their own after observing the witnessing method just twice. And many are ready to train others after applying this particular witness method just a few times themselves!

Amazingly, strangers are interested in conversations regarding sin, death, hell, Jesus, forgiveness and eternity when approached in a winsome way. These spiritual conversations are rooted in Law-Gospel and typically last 5 to 10 minutes. Particularly inquisitive people will talk

longer. Less than one in ten people express a lack of interest in talking.

Visit the website <http://www.crosspollinationministries.com> for more details or call (612) 870-9487 office or (763) 443-9054 mobile.

## **Learn to Witness to Neighbors**

"Witnessing of Christ to Non-Christian Neighbors" is a workshop led by Dr. Robert Kolb at Christ Lutheran Church, Rochester, MN, Sat., Apr. 22, 9 AM to 3 PM.

Noted college and seminar professor, author and Reformation scholar, Dr. Robert Kolb has thought much about how Christians faithfully witness to God's law and Gospel through the unique circumstances in which God places them. During this day-long workshop, Dr. Kolb will help us learn how to listen to people outside the faith for clues as to how the law is working in their lives and generate different ways to begin the witness of the Gospel.

Through lecture, case-studies, and small group discussion, Dr. Kolb's presentation will provide the tools to assist you in sharing God's Word with the unchurched.

The cost, including lunch, is \$20. Space is limited. Please call today to register: 507-289-0271, or see Pastor Becker for a mail-in registration form.