

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

# *The Good Shepherd's Voice*

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

# SEPTEMBER 2006

Pre-month Newsletter

Church phone # 388-4336  
e-mail: goodshepherd57@juno.com  
web: www.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 9:00 AM

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

## **Back to Sunday Class Sept. 10**

Sept. 10 is "**Education Celebration Sunday**", celebrating the resumption of Sunday and midweek Bible classes, and Little Lambs Preschool and celebrating the opening of elementary classes at

Good Shepherd Lutheran School.

**Installation of teachers,** Mrs. Carolyn Garman and Mrs. Linda Becker will in the 10:30 AM service as our teachers at Good Shepherd Lutheran School. In each service, other teachers present will be recognized and commissioned. Students in grades 5 will be invited forward to receive Bibles they will use in the midweek class.

**Nursery Help** is needed for children of teachers and others during the Sunday Bible class time. To take a turn, please sign up on the table by the water fountain.

**In Sunday classes,** Children will begin the fall studying the book of Genesis.

In December they will shift to the New Testament to learn about the coming of Jesus and his ministry.

Teachers include:  
Grades 7-8: Kathy Taylor  
Grades 5-6: Elizabeth Vangrootheest  
Grades 3-4 Bethany Holtmeier  
Grades 1-2 Bernadette Schendel & Peggy Dimock  
Kindergarten: Cindy Wintheiser & Christa Warner  
Preschool: Becky Schendel & ?  
(A second preschool teacher is needed)

**Adults** will conclude a study of "Mark: The Serving Christ".

Special classes for High School Youth and for College age young adults are being planned.

## Building Dedication Sun. Oct. 1?

Dedication of the new sanctuary and classrooms is tentatively set for Sun., Oct. 1, 4 PM. Be alert for updates or check with the church office to confirm.

Rev. Gregory Coop has been invited to preach for the special service.

## Choir Practices Thursdays, 7:15 PM

Choir rehearsals resume Thurs. Sept. 14, 7:15 PM. New singers are welcome. Just come or talk to Peggy Pomranke.

## School Starts at Good Shepherd

**Good Shepherd Lutheran School** begins with opening chapel Thurs., Sept. 7, 8:20 AM. The class day is 8:10 AM to 2:20 PM. At this writing, 27 students are enrolled for Kindergarten through Grade 6. There is still room for about 6 more students per classroom.

**School chapel** will regularly be held each Wed. at 9:20 AM. Guests are welcome.

**Little Lambs Preschool** begins Mon., Sept. 11. Morning sessions, are 9 AM to 11:30 PM, MWF afternoon sessions, new this year, are 12:30 to 3 PM. The three sessions are full, with 7 more students at this time than last year. There is a waiting list since some pre-registered may not come, and a Tues./Thurs. afternoon session can be added.

## Spaghetti Supper & Silent Auction

The Lutheran School Boosters and Fellowship Club are jointly hosting a Spaghetti Supper Sun., Sept. 17, 5:30 to 7:30 PM. (The date might be changed to Oct. 1, to coincide with Building dedication) A free will offering will be received. All are welcome. Profits are being supplemented by Thrivent and will be used to help fund Good Shepherd Lutheran School. A Culver's frozen custard stand is also being planned with proceeds to go toward expanding the playground.

Silent auction items will be on display in the conference room, lounge and school classrooms until 7:30 PM. (You need not be present at the end.) If you or your business have quality merchandise or services to donate, please speak to Lynn Lease

## A Good Time to Give for the Sanctuary

If you have been considering a special gift to the sanctuary building project, sooner is better. The amount of interest on our mortgage will be based on the debt remaining when construction is completed.

**COLLEGE STUDENTS** or parents, if you have a school address, e-mail, etc., please call or leave a message with the church office so we can keep track of where members are. Information will be shared with our campus ministry providers.

## Donations Make a Difference

**"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. Blake Hahn will be available after worship on Sept. 10, to answer any questions about this.

**Paper supplies** can be used by our school and church. Do you work at a place where free paper is available? See Linda Becker about what can be used.

**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.

**Time and Help** is needed in many ways. If you can come for a morning in the office, help serve lunch at noon, supervise children before school, or come to clean classrooms, please call the church office or speak to Pastor Becker.

## Ladies Get Together

All ladies of Good Shepherd are invited to the LWML meeting Tues., Sept. 5 at 7:00 PM. The program will be a speaker from the DeLayne Resch, a Community Education Volunteer, followed by a short business meeting with refreshments. Please visit and enjoy fellowship with other Good Shepherd women!

## Bless You

Special Thanks to Roger Mielke and his crew who resealed the parking lot, including Kevin Briggs, John Rush, Larry Salzwedel, Lynn Schwarz, Loren Storjohann, Jamie Tordsen and Mark Wilkowske.

Thank you to Pat Lease and Mark Wilkowske who helped our teachers haul donated classroom furnishings from SCC. Thanks also to Pat for the use of his trailer.

## VBS Volunteers are a Treasure

Fifty children had fun and grew in faith at Vacation Bible School in August, with the theme "Treasure Cove, discover the riches of Christ." Over half were non-member guests.

This year VBS was coordinated by the Board of Education, Cindy Wintheiser, Becky Schendel and Vanessa Drill. Cindy made the beach scene in the narthex, used in the opening devotions.

Many thanks to the volunteer teachers, including: Becky Schendel: preschool; Beth Holtmeier and Julie Evans: Kindergarten; Kristen Dauk: grades 1-2; Elizabeth Retz and Paul Gansen: grades 3-4; Vanessa Drill: grades 5-6; Linda Becker: music; Christa Warner: crafts. Karen Johnson and Ginger Kipp served snacks. Childcare was provided by Sue Schwarz and Kathy, Stephanie and Scott Taylor. Thanks also to all the others who helped and contributed.

## All Around the Neighborhood

### St. Peter Picnic

St. Peter's Lutheran, Vernon Center, invites you to a picnic in the parking lot, Sun., Sept. 10, 4-7 PM. Cost is \$2 for under age 6, \$6 for older, for pork sandwiches, sweet corn, potato salad, etc. Funds will be supplemented by Thrivent.

### Thrivent Builds in Our Neighborhood

"Thrivent Builds" provides a generous grant for a Habitat for Humanity home when 50% of the volunteers are Lutheran and 25% are Thrivent members. Right now a Thrivent/Habitat house is being built at 2215 Fairbanks Dr., just north of our church. It needs to be completed by Nov. 30. To get involved, call 388-2081.

### "Gimmie a B"

Our Neighbor, North Point senior assisted living, would like a volunteer Bingo leader one Sunday afternoon each month. If you would like to help, call the activities director at 344-1676.

### Rock for Life

Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention & Awareness Week is Sept. 17-23. Sat., Sept. 16 1:30 – 5 PM is Rock for Life, a day of free live music from the band IGB, with games, activities and food in MN Square Park, St. Peter.

## Equipping to Share

A Workshop for Everyday Evangelism from Lutheran Hour Ministries will be presented Sat., Sept. 30, 9 AM to 2 PM, at Redeemer Lutheran Church and School, 115 Wayzata Blvd. West, Wayzata, MN 55391.

The cost is only \$15, including materials and lunch. See Pastor Becker for a registration form or call Pastor Bill Mueller at 1-952-473-1281 or email [bmueeller@redeemerwayzata.org](mailto:bmueeller@redeemerwayzata.org).

## Apply for Bartsch Scholarship

Students studying for church work vocations at an LCMS Colleges or Seminaries are invited to apply for the Edwin H. Bartsch Scholarship available through St. John, Rapidan. For more information, contact Pastor Becker or call Jackie Bergemann at 546-3896.

## Help Salvation Army Welcome Home

The Salvation Army in Mankato is requesting donations to provide assistance to homeless persons with disabilities, who will be served through a permanent supportive housing program opening at 324 Maxfield Place this month. Items are needed to create baskets of supplies for the kitchen, bedroom and bathroom. See the list of items on the bulletin board. Contact Diana Karau at 345-7840 or [diana\\_karau@usc.salvationarmy.org](mailto:diana_karau@usc.salvationarmy.org) if you are interested in helping.

# Pray, Praise and Give Thanks

*This is the fourth in a series of articles, based on Pastor Becker's personal prayers, noting how the Lord's Prayer can be used as a basis for praying for all our concerns.*

When we pray "Give us this day our daily bread," we have the opportunity for much praise and thanksgiving, for God does indeed give daily bread without our prayer. Luther, in his explanation of "What is daily bread", gives us a long list of things for which we can give specific thanks, such as good meals and nice homes, a good job, peace and safety, more importantly, health and strength for our selves and those we love, etc. I often thank God first for the beautiful day. Even if it is not what one would call beautiful weather, I can still thank God for the good day, since rain, wind, snow and heat are all good things we need in turn.

We have opportunity to confess, when we pray this petition, that not only do we take many of these things for granted but we may love or trust them more than we do God himself. We also very easily misuse our great resources in greedy or selfish ways, without concern for the welfare of others in our world.

This reminds us that we can pray for those who lack some of these things, first of all for those who are struggling to recover from disasters which make life

miserable, such as death, destruction, disease, drought, divorce, fire, flood, storms, earthquakes, war, etc. Each week the news brings reports of specific places or people who suffer from one or more of these and need our prayers. For example, I write this the day after many nearby lost their homes in multiple tornados. We can pray that God would give them endurance, strength, hope, recovery, good weather and good government, and also that he would show us how he would have us help them.

In addition to those with new troubles, there are many who are chronically poor. We can pray for those we know by name that God would help them to have all they need for life. Often this includes those who need a job. We can ask that God not only give them a means of income but that he would provide jobs that are good ways of serving him while serving others.

There are those that are especially dear to us who may not be in poverty but still need our prayers that God would help them to provide well for their families. Even our loved ones who are well off still need our prayers that God would cause all of their work to prosper.

We may also pray for ourselves, as the Psalmist does, that we may have neither too much and forget God or too little and doubt his care. Let us pray that we have just enough to enable us to be joyful and generous in our giving.

Since God provides for his church through his gifts to his people, we can also pray that all

God's people would be joyful and generous in their giving. This happens when God gives the monetary means along with the right motivation, an understanding of our mission, and a zeal for the message.

## Lutheran Ed. Makes a Difference

Did you know? Lutheran students who attended a Lutheran college or university were more likely than their counterparts at public universities to:

- Actively volunteer in church or religious activities
- have personal interaction with professors
- claim a professor as a mentor
- have experienced professors who challenged but helped them meet challenges
- experience an emphasis on values and ethics in the classroom
- graduate in four years.

For more information about Lutheran Colleges, Universities and Seminaries, see Pastor Becker

## Remember K.I.D.S.

K.I.D.S. (Kids Into Discipleship and Stewardship) is a fun, educational program where children buy 25 cent and \$10 savings stamps just before Sunday Bible Classes from Krista Warner in the narthex.

Completed stamp books are sent to LCEF, creating savings accounts in each child's name. K.I.D.S. teaches the importance of saving while furthering the Lord's work.

## Bible Bites

for eat and run Bible reading

**September 2006** (series B1, A2)

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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## 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 Prov. 23:1-35; Isa. 13:1-22
- 2 Psal. 34:1-22

### 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

## 3 13th Sunday after

**Pentecost** Prov. 9:1-6; Eph. 5:15-20;  
John 6:51-58  
4 Prov. 24:1-34; Isa. 14:1 - 32  
6 Prov. 25:1-38; Isa. 15:1 - 16:14  
7 Jas. 1:1-27; Isa. 17:1 - 18:7  
8 Jas. 2:1 - 3:18; Isa. 19:1-25  
9 Psal. 33:1-22

### 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 Sunday Bible Classes

## 10 14th Sunday after

**Pentecost** Josh 24:1-2a, 14-18;  
Eph. 5:21-31; John 6:60-69  
11 Jas. 4:1 - 5:20; Prov. 3:1-35  
12 Josh. 1:1-18; Prov. 4:1-27  
13 Josh. 2:1-24  
Prov. 2:1-22; 9:1-18  
14 Holy Cross Day: Isa. 45:21-25; 1 Cor. 1:18-24; John 12:20-33  
15 Josh. 3:1-4:14; Isa. 20:1 - 21:17  
16 Psal. 26:1-12

### The 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment

#### **Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.**

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

### Pray for Midweek classes

## 17 15th Sunday after

**Pentecost** Deut. 4:1-2, 6-8; Eph. 6:10-20  
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23  
18 Josh. 4:15 - 5:15; Isa. 22:1-25  
19 Josh. 6:1 - 27; Isa. 23: -18

20 Josh. 7:1-26; Isa. 24:1-23  
21 St. Matthew, Apostle:  
Ezek. 2:8 - 3:11;

Eph. 2:4-10; Matt. 9:9-13  
22 Josh. 8:1-29; Isa. 25:1-12  
23 Psal. 37:1-22

### 10th Commandment

**You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.**

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not entice or force away our neighbor's wife, workers, or animals, or turn them against him, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

### Pray for Men's Ministry

## 24 16th Sunday after

**Pentecost** Isaiah 35:4-7a; James 1:17-27  
Mark 7:31-37  
25 Josh. 8:30 - 9:27; Isa. 26:1-21  
26 Josh. 10:1-27; Isa. 27:1 - 28:8  
27 Josh. 10:28-11:15; Isa. 28:9-29  
28 Josh. 11:16-12:24; Isa. 29:1-24  
29 Michael and All Angels Day  
Dan. 10:1-14; 12:1-3  
Rev. 12:7-12; Luke 10:17-20  
30 Psal. 37:23-40

### The 5th Petition

**And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

What does this mean? We pray in this petition that our Father in heaven would not look at our sins, or deny our prayer because of them. We are neither worthy of the things for which we pray, nor have we deserved them, but we ask that He would give them all to us by grace, for we daily sin much and surely deserve nothing but punishment. So we too will sincerely forgive and gladly do good to those who sin against us.

### Pray for the Ladies Guild/LWML