

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

APRIL 2006

Mid-month Newsletter

Church phone # 388-4336
e-mail: goodshepherd57@juno.com
web: www.goodshepherdmandato.org

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

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

J O H N 2 0 : 2 0



Pew Workers are Needed

A committee is in the process of deciding on fabric to recover our pews for our new sanctuary. Once the fabric comes in we will be in need of lots of help. We are doing the recovering ourselves. Bob Staley of Staley Upholstering will help us get started. We will have a night to get instructions on what we need to do. Then there will be many nights where we will be recovering pews. We need lots of help in all areas; such as moving pews, unscrewing seats, taking off existing fabric, laying out and measuring of new fabric, cutting fabric,

stretching fabric over padding, and finally stapling new fabric to pews. As you can see there are no special skills required. We just need your help. If you can and would like to help us, please sign up on the list in the narthex. Your help is greatly appreciated. Dates are to be determined and will be announced. If you have any questions call Marla Kontak at 385-1230.

LWML Zone Rally

The LWML Evening Guild of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Mankato, invites you to attend the Mankato Zone Spring Rally, Sat., Apr. 22. This year's theme is "In Service

For God and Country" The speaker is Pastor Meyer from Trimont, who will speak about his experiences while serving as a chaplain overseas.

The cost is \$6 per person. Registration starts at 8:30 AM and the event closes with a noon luncheon.

Cans Built Houses

The Habitat for Humanity aluminum can shed is at the north end of our parking lot until the end of April. Help build houses by recycling.

SIGN UP to help with **lawn care** on the table by the office

Bandage Makers Wrap Up

Bandage crocheters and knitters will have a “wrap up” meeting Mon., Apr. 24, 6:30 PM. Bring your extra yarn to use up.

Save the Scoops

Scoops for powdered Laundry detergent are being used by the preschoolers for a craft project. If you have any to donate, leave them by the preschool door or in the church office.

American Legion Collects Clothes

Used clothing in good condition is being collected by the American Legion. You can bring it to the church and place it in the boxes under the coat rack on the north side of the narthex.

FUNDRAISERS for our preschool and kindergarten include mail in inkjet recycling and collecting HyVee receipts, “Milk Moola” coupons, Boxtops for Education and Campbells soup labels. See the cart by the church office.

Scrip order blanks are on the table by the mailboxes. Return them to the mailbox of Sue Schwarz.

SAGACITY, the newsletter of the Minnesota South older adults group is in the rack by the mailboxes.

Directory Update

Address Changes:

Jason & Tanya Junker
20172 U.S. Hiway 169
Lake Crystal, MN 56055
Dan Neff
1000 Devonshire Lane #305
Bloomington, MN 55423

Order Your Own Lutheran Witness

Lutheran Witness is our LCMS monthly family magazine, full of news and articles about faith and Christian living. One copy of the latest issue is in the rack by the mailboxes. To order your own subscription, write a check for \$15.50 to Good Shepherd, note that it is for Lutheran Witness and put it in the offering plate or the mailbox of Lauri Lewis.

All Around the Neighborhood

College Fairs for High School Students

High School students and parents are invited to attend a Lutheran College Fair in our area. Workshops are offered on financial aid and other topics and you can meet with college representatives. The events are free and there’s no need to pre-register. Some colleges offer application fee waivers for those who attend.

Fairs in our area include:

Sun., Apr. 30,
Minneapolis Airport Marriot,
2020 East American
Boulevard, Bloomington.
workshops 4 to 5:30 PM
College Fair & Reception 5 to
7:30 PM, 952-851-4766.

Mon., May 1, Radisson
Plaza Hotel, 150 South
Broadway, Rochester. 6:30
Financial Aid Seminar, 7 –
8:30 PM College Fair &
Reception, 507- 281-8000.

Biblical Creation Seminar

Brian Young of the
Creation Instruction
Association will speak at
Martin Luther High School,
Northrup, on Wed., May 3, 7
PM. A free will offering will
be taken to cover expenses.

Brian Young is a
nationally known speaker and
author of books such as
*Doubts about Creation? Not
After This and Genesis:
Yesterday’s Answers and
Today’s Problems.* Visit his
website at [www.creation
instruction.org/index.php](http://www.creationinstruction.org/index.php).

Be-A-Link

Be-A-Link Gatekeeper
Training is offered Wed., Apr.
26, 9-11 AM at the Fire Hall,
1825 Howard Drive, North
Mankato. It will help
participants identify
symptoms of depression and
warning signs of suicide;
learn best practices in suicide
prevention and protocol to
respond; and network with
local resources to build a
safety net. Seating is limited.
Call 387-5020 or e-mail
yr.Rachel@chartermi.net

Bulletins from the Boards

The Boards and Voters met Tues., Apr. 11.

THE BOARD OF ELDERS reviewed organist compensation and plans for holy week services. Summer outdoor services are planned for June 18 and July 16 at 8 AM and Aug. 20 at 10:30 AM, followed by a pot-luck. The elders looked at a study of worship participation by age groups and will survey young adult members about influences on worship frequency.

THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM is updating the greeter list and approved costs for parade float materials and CDs about the LC-MS for guests and new members.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION is working on VBS plans. The Sunday School Superintendent is working on a year-end program for Sun., May 21, including skits, etc. The youth have been active in service projects, including Kids Against Hunger, serving the Salvation Army noon meal, and helping at Lenten suppers. They will serve the Easter Breakfast and help with the Fellowship Club Mystery Dinner. They are planning to finish painting a classroom wall picture and do a summer camp-out.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES has updated the

fire extinguishers. The boys who did some vandalism to the building project have done work shoveling snow and made payments to the building fund.

THE BUILDING COMMITTEE met Sun., Apr. 9 and approved small ceiling modifications. Fabric is being purchased for volunteers to recover the pews. Pat Lease is checking on a maker for the stained glass window behind the cross.

THE SCHOOL BOARD met Thurs., Apr. 6. Nine families attended the open house. School board members and staff will follow up with about 25 others who had expressed interest. The board discussed the idea of offering day care and or extended care for school age children at Good Shepherd. The idea will be studied more. We are registering to be able to apply for government grants for non-profit schools. A Spaghetti dinner and silent auction fund-raiser is scheduled for Sept. 17.

THE VOTERS approved Kathy Taylor as youth counselor.

The Financial Secretary submitted a report showing that for weekly contributions so far in 2006, as compared to the first three months of 2005:

- 7 more families (56) have no record of contributions
- 5 less (19) gave \$.01 - \$5.
- 2 more (42) gave \$5 - \$25
- 2 less (30) gave \$25 - 50
- 1 more (21) gave \$50 - 200.

The Treasurer gave a report showing that, while we were in the black for the first

few months of 2006, we have slipped behind again.

The Pastor reported on results of the Feedback Forums. Members see themselves as strong in Communion attendance, Christian behavior and faith. They want to improve in personal devotions, prayer and group Bible study. Members see the church as strong in communication, fellowship and education. They want improvement in finances, outreach and worship.

The Voters approved (26 to 5) building temporary walls to create two classrooms using the west 20 feet of the fellowship hall, and approved (22 to 5) adding teachers and classes to the school according to enrollment.

The voters approved 35 changes to the bylaws. These included moving the voters' meeting to the third Tuesday; changing Board terms from three to two years and allowing for reelection to a second term; adding a School Board and a Board of Fellowship; further describing the role of some boards; and changing some descriptions to bring them in line with actual current practice.

Building Update

The concrete for the floor has been poured and the front of the chancel area is framed in. Bill Snelson welded the beam for the front of the balcony in place and the balcony is being framed.