

*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**

### **JUNE 2005**

Pre-month Newsletter

Church phone # 388-4336  
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web: [www.goodshepherdmankato.org](http://www.goodshepherdmankato.org)

**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



### **Special Guest for Pentecost Worship**

Rev. Arthur Weidner will be our guest pastor on Pentecost, Sun., June 4. He works with the Lutheran Heritage Foundation, an LCMS auxiliary which provides translations of Lutheran theological books for use in African, Eastern European and other eastern countries.

During the 8 AM Bible class, he will share information and show samples of material meeting the needs of Christians in Thai, Kenyan, Ethiopian, Russian, Latvian, Ukrainian and other languages.

Rev. Weidner recently retired from congregational ministry at Grace Lutheran,

Fargo, ND. A door offering will be received to support the work of the LHF.

### **Outdoor Worship**

Sun., June 19, Fathers' Day, Good Shepherd's will have an 8 AM service of worship at Sibley Park, in addition to the 9 AM service at the church. To get there, enter the park on Mound Ave., park by the ball diamonds, and go toward the river across from where the two rivers join.

Bring a lawn chair or something to sit on. In case of a storm we will worship at the church instead.

The next outdoor worship is Sunday, July 16, 8 PM, at Sibley Park.

### **Get Your Kicks with LFL Fun**

The Lutheran Family League meets at the church Sunday, June 11, 3:30 PM for a game of kickball. All ages are welcome. We will enjoy a meal together afterward.

### **School Boosters Sell Brats**

Our Lutheran School Boosters will operate the brat stand at Cub Foods West Sat., June 9 through Sun., June 11, 10:30 AM to 6 PM. If you can help with a shift, sign up on the blue sheet on the bulletin board by the church office.

## Pedal with the Pastors

Pastor Becker and Pastor Wayne Bernau of Immanuel, Courtland will lead a bicycle ride for youth and families on Sat., July 1. This joint event is especially for youth and adults grade 7 and up. Friends from other churches are welcome also.

The ride will begin at 9 AM at the Sakatah Trail trail head, on the left side of Old Hiway 22 (Riverfront Dr. / Lime Valley Rd.) about ½ mile north of Hiway 14, Mankato. We will ride the Sakatah trail 10 miles to Madison Lake, stop for a bite to eat, and return between 12 and 1 PM.

There is no cost for the ride. Bring a sack lunch or money for food. Riders should make sure their bicycles are in good repair and must wear a helmet. In case of bad weather, the ride will be postponed.

## Gift Ideas

Items given as special gifts to Good Shepherd are received by approval of the Board of Trustees. As we develop our new sanctuary and our school program, the Trustees have pre-approved this list of items which those who want to give special gifts or memorials may consider. They are not included in current budgets.

- P.A. equipment & speakers for the new sanctuary
- communion rail for the new sanctuary
- hymn boards for the new sanctuary

- cabinets, etc. for the unfinished sacristy
- flower refrigerator for the sacristy
- candelabra for use in the new sanctuary
- patio pavement for the area north of the fellowship hall and west of the new sanctuary
- picnic table or patio furniture
- furnishings for new classrooms
- bicycle rack
- basketball hoop, swing set, tether ball, climbing bars, soccer goals, baseball backstop
- religious art for classrooms

## Your Church is on Vacation

Good Shepherd will continue to have worship and other activities during the summer, but if you are out of town on vacation, other congregations of our church may well be in the place where you are going. Contact Pastor Becker and he can look up information for you about locations and worship time. Or you can find it yourself on line at [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org). Click on directories and use the congregation finder. Hint: take down the phone # and call first because sometimes service times change, especially in the summer.

To listen to the Lutheran Hour on the go, you can get information on line at [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org). Click on broadcast guide.

Be sure to pack "Portals of Prayer", "My Devotions", or your favorite daily devotion.

*Sign up for lawnmowing on the list by the church office.*

## District Convention

The Minnesota South District Convention is Thurs., June 8 through Sat., June 10, at Concordia University, St. Paul. The convention theme is "It's Time to Fish: Catch, Equip, Release". The Convention will include Bible study led by Dr. Robert Holst, President of Concordia University, and a message by Rev. Gerald Kieschnick, LCMS president.

Pastor Becker and Gary Urban are Good Shepherd's delegates to the convention. Roger Mielke is the alternate lay delegate. Our kindergarten teacher, Alice Brase is an advisory delegate and is serving this year on the floor committee for Doctrine & Administration.

A main issue at this convention is realignment of circuits within the district, which needs to be done every few decades as congregations grow or decline. Several proposed resolutions call on the Synod to reverse decisions made at the 2004 Synod convention, including changes making ecclesiastical supervision and dispute resolution more hierarchical and various actions related to Commission on Constitutional Matters' excusing of President Kieschnick's excusing of District President Benke's participation in the "Prayer for America" service at Yankee Stadium.

## Sunday Class Continues

The Sunday adult class meets during the Summer at 8 AM, before worship, except when there is 8 AM outdoor worship as on June 18. The class is continuing the study of the Gospel of Mark.

**Wed. June 28, 7 PM  
Worship & Communion**

## Bless You

Thank you and “God Bless” to the volunteers who helped with office and school duties during the past school year, including Juanita Boldt, Ellen Matzke, Roger Mielke, Shirley Olson, Larry Salzwedel and Vi Kern. Volunteers will be needed again next fall when we have classes for preschool through grade 6.

Thank to you Kia Adams who donated to the school a selection of children’s books which she helped develop when she worked at Capstone Press. Kia and her husband Andree are moving to South Dakota where Andree is now working full time as a fishing guide. Kia will work at the university in Aberdeen.

## Spread the Message

“Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop – thirty, sixty or even a hundred times what was sown.” Mark 4:20

Investing in the Lutheran Church Extension Fund is an opportunity to increase the financial blessings you have receive, but more importantly, it is also a way to help fund our LCMS churches and schools where the Good News can be heard. Call 1-800-THE LCEF or go on line to [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org) for current rates and more information.

## Welcome Virginia Pool

Virginia Pool has joined Good Shepherd by transfer from Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Greenville, WI. Virginia lives at Willow Point, next door to the church. Pastor Becker has been visiting her there monthly for a couple of years. Because of her health Virginia is not able to come to the church, but she is happy to be part of a local church family which she can support with her offerings and prayers.

## June Confirmands

Confirmation of faith is scheduled for Sun., June 11 for three confirmation students. Alex Vollmer, son of Jim and Peggy Dimock is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader who has completed the 2 year catechism program. Samantha Larson, granddaughter of Arlen and Peggy Lade, is graduating from High School. She and Paul Gansen, a student at Bethany College, are completing the accelerated course for adults.

## Pastor Out of Town

Pastor Becker will be on vacation Mon, May 29 through Wed., June 7. He will be at the District Convention June 3-10. If emergency pastoral care is needed during his vacation, call Pastor Martin Teigen, 344-8087, Pastor Wayne Bernau (Courtland) at 507-359-2428 or Pastor Paul Lauer (Our Savior) at 385-2184.

## Sanctuary Progress

The new sanctuary is looking more complete now that the sheet rock is installed. Heating and air conditioning return ducts are yet to be installed. Taping and painting will happen soon. Meanwhile the wood for the ceiling will be stained. Installing light fixtures, trim and flooring will take time.

A goal is to have the sanctuary complete by the end of July. No date for dedication has been set.

## *All Around the Neighborhood*

## Michael Card Sings with MAYSO

Michael Card, internationally known Christian composer, author and musician, will be in concert with the Mankato Area Youth Symphony Orchestra Sat., June 17, 8 PM at the Midwest Wireless Civic Center. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. For more information call 344-7372 or go online to [mayso.net](http://mayso.net)

## Follow in Luther's Steps

An 11 day tour of Germany in the steps of Martin Luther will be offered Nov. 11-21, 2006 by Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne, led by Professor and Mrs. Larry Rast.

The cost is \$2099 from Chicago, which includes round trip air fare, first class/select hotels, continental breakfast daily plus seven evening dinners, sightseeing by motor coach, and all admission fees.

For more information, call 1-877-287-4338, ext. 2204, e-mail [ctstours@ctsfw.edu](mailto:ctstours@ctsfw.edu) or go on line to [www.ctsfw.edu/luther](http://www.ctsfw.edu/luther)

## Volunteer at Theresa House

Theresa House Shelter is in need of volunteers to help with child care Tues. and Fri. afternoons, 3-5 PM and with office work Mon., Wed., and Fri., 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. If you can help, call Molly at 388-1664 for more information.

## Learn about Foster Parenting

Are you looking for a way to put God's love into action? Why not consider being a foster parent? There are children in your community whose families are struggling to meet their children's needs for a variety of reasons. This sometimes means their children cannot remain with them. The children need a safe, loving foster family until they are able to return home or locate another permanent family. Blue Earth County is

conducting foster care orientation on June 5 and 12 at 6 PM. Please call Joanna Petersen at 304-4167 for more information.

## Kindercamp at Camp Omega

4-6 year olds and an accompanying adult are invited to a weekend of fun, relaxation and Christian growth at Camp Omega, near Waterville. Dates are June 16-18, July 21-23 and Aug. 11-13. Games, campfires, swimming, arts and crafts, and much more make for many fun memories. Kindercamp is half the cost of a usual weekend program, \$57 per person. Save \$5 by registering online at [www.campomega.org](http://www.campomega.org) or get a printed form from Pastor Becker.

## Pray, Praise and Give Thanks

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

The Lord's Prayer was given by Jesus as a pattern for prayer, but we are not intended to limit ourselves to these words as if they are a magic formula. Each part can be used as a starting point for personal praise, confession and intercession.

We first address "Our Father in heaven". These words lead us to praise him for his fatherly love, his heavenly wisdom and

his heavenly power. This in turn, leads us to acknowledge that we rightfully fear, love and trust in him above all things.

Our first request is "Hallowed be thy name." This first petition indicates the Christian's first priority, that is, not our own benefit but God's glory. God's name is honored when his word is taught in all its truth and purity. We can thank him for preserving the pure gospel and for faithful pastors and teachers and faithful people.

We need to ask him to help us to be faithful and effective servants who speak the truth in love. We need to pray for our congregation, district and Synod that we always believe, teach and confess the one true faith. We need to pray for our church leaders that they acknowledge, affirm and apply right teaching and practice. We can pray by name for various leaders in our church, including our teachers, elders and musicians.

We can specifically pray that God would give us in each of our educational programs teachers prepared to teach with great wisdom and understanding and also students ready to learn with open hearts and open minds.

God's name is also honored when we, as his children, live godly lives according to his word. We can pray that all of his children honor him by living righteous and godly lives, free from perversion, pornography, profanity, hatred, greed and lust. We can ask instead that God help us all to be loving, kind and helpful to our neighbors.

## **Bible Bites**

...for eat and run Bible reading

**June 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.*

## **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 Num. 28:1-31; 1 Kg. 22:29-53
- 2 Psal. 108:1-13
- 3 Pentecost Eve  
Exod. 19:1-9 or Acts 2:1-11;  
Rom. 8:14-1, 22-27  
John 7:37-39a

3<sup>rd</sup> Article meaning "c"

**[I believe in] ... the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.

*Pray for youth.*

## **4 Day of Pentecost**

- Ezekiel 37:1-14; Acts 2:22-36  
John 7:37-39a
- 5 Num. 28:1-31; Rom. 1:1-32
  - 6 Num. 29:1-31; Rom. 1:1-32
  - 7 Num. 29:32-30:16; Rom.2:1-29
  - 8 Num. 31:1-24; Rom. 3:1-31
  - 9 Num. 31:25-54; Rom. 4:1-5:11
  - 10 Psal. 29:1-11

*The 1st Commandment*

**You shall have no other gods.**

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.

*Pray for young adults*

## **11 The Holy Trinity**

- Deut. 6:4-9; Rom. 8:14-17;  
John 3:1-17
- 12 St. Barnabas: Isa. 42:5-12;  
Acts 11:19-30;13:1-3  
Matt. 10:5-16
  - 13 Num. 32:1-42; Rom. 5:12-6:23
  - 14 Num. 33:1-49; Rom. 7:1 - 8:11
  - 15 Num. 33:50 - 34:29  
Rom. 8:12-39
  - 16 Num. 35:1-34; Rom. 9:1-33
  - 17 Psal. 48:1-14

*What does God say about all these commandments?*

He says: "**I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God,** punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but **showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me** and keep My **commandments.**" [Ex. 20:5-6]

*Pray for fathers and parents*

## **182nd Sunday after Pent.**

- Deut. 5:12-15; 2 Co. 4:5-12;  
Mark 2:23-28
- 19 Num. 36:1-13; Rom. 10:1-21
  - 20 Deut. 1:1-33; Rom. 11:1-36
  - 21 Deut. 1:34 - 2:25  
Rom. 12:1 - 13:10
  - 22 Deut. 2:26 - 3:22  
Rom. 13:11-14:23
  - 23 Psal. 57:1-11
  - 24 John the Baptist: Mal. 3:1-4;  
Acts 13:13-26; Luke 1:57-80

*What does this mean? God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But **He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments.** Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.*

*Pray for workers in communication and finance*

## **253rd Sunday after Pentecost**

- Gen. 3:9-15; 2 Cor. 4:13-18;  
Mark 3:20-35
- 26 Deut. 3:23 - 4:24; Rom. 15:1-33
  - 27 Deut. 4:25-49; Rom. 16:1-27
  - 28 Deut. 5:1-33; 2 Ch. 10:1 - 11:12
  - 29 St. Peter & St. Paul  
Ezek. 34:11-16; 1 Cor. 3:16-23;  
Mark 8:27-35
  - 30 Deut. 6:1-25; 2 Ch. 11:13-12:16

## **July**

- 1 Psal. 58:1-11

*Duties of Citizens*

Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also because of conscience...for the authorities are God's servants, who give their full time to governing. give everyone what you owe him; If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect, if honor, then honor. (Rom. 13:5-7)