

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

OCTOBER 2006

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

LWML Sunday



New Building Dedication:
Sun., Oct. 1, 4 PM
Spaghetti Supper &
Silent Auction following

LWML Shares Light

"Let there be Light" is this year's theme for Lutheran Women's Missionary League Sunday, celebrated Oct. 1. We will recognize and celebrate the ministry of the LWML in congregations, districts and around the world. Our LWML is providing a special printed order of service for our worship this Sunday.

New Women's Study

You are invited to join in a new women's Bible study, beginning Wed., Oct. 4, 7 PM at

the church. The group will begin with a study from the LWML quarterly. If you have questions, contact Sherry Sack (387-6235) or Wanda Schwartz (387-1660).

School Choice Seminar and Candidate Forum

On Thurs., Oct. 12, Good Shepherd will host two events of interest to voters and parents, one at 6 PM, the next at 7 PM.

At 6 PM, the Partnership for Choice in Education (PCE) in St. Paul will present a School Choice Education Seminar about options and rights parents currently have regarding non-public education. The PCE is a non-artisan, non-profit organization.

At 7 PM candidates for state legislative offices (House and Senate) in District 23 will be present to discuss and answer questions about school choice related issues. The event will be informal in structure and both non-partisan and non-confrontational in tone.

This is an opportunity to encourage legislators not to allow the funding system to bias the decision of parents against religiously grounded education for their children. This event is coordinated by Rev. Frederic Hinz of Immanuel Lutheran Church and School (LCMS), Gaylord. Invitations are being shared through all of the non-public schools in our legislative district.

Come Enjoy Spuds & Splits

Spuds and Splits will be served by the Fellowship club Sun., Oct. 22, 5-7 PM. Enjoy a baked potato with your choice of toppings and then have a make-your-own ice cream sundae or split for desert. Bring your friends.

There will be a free will offering. Proceeds are used for Fellowship Club projects. Watch for a sign up sheet to help serve and donate items.

Voters' Meet

Plan to attend the Good Shepherd quarterly voters' meeting, Tues., Oct. 10, 8:00 PM. All confirmed members, age 18 or older are voting members.

The agenda includes the 2005 budget.

School Work for Adults

If you can volunteer for an hour or two once a week or once a month, your help would be greatly appreciated at Good Shepherd Lutheran School. Help is needed Friday mornings for office work and school errands. Help is needed most days between 11 AM and 12:30 PM to serve and clean up after lunch. Help is needed any afternoon for cleaning the classrooms. If you can help, call the church or sign up on the volunteer calendar on the door of the church office.

Sing Along

Do you like to sing? You are welcome to join our church choir, which rehearses Thursdays at 7:15 PM (except as announced). Meet new people and enjoy singing to the Lord.

Share Indoor Activities

Indoor activities are needed which our school children can do in the fellowship hall for recess and gym when they can't go outside. Do you have jump ropes, hoola hoops, nerf balls, bean-bag horseshoes, shuffle board, floor hockey or other equipment which you could give or loan to the school? Bring it to the fellowship hall storage room or talk to Linda Becker.

Bandages Go a Long Way

Members and friends of Good Shepherd made 616 yards of bandages for Global Health Ministries, part of over 8 ½ miles of bandages collected and delivered by our District LWML in the past year. If you are interested in making more bandages, see Doris Schumacher.

Welcome to Edna

Edna Rannow has recently moved to Mankato and joined our congregation. After a job transfer to St. Peter, she transferred her membership from Redeemer Lutheran in

Willmar, MN. A pastor from there told her about Good Shepherd. Edna likes the worship services at Good Shepherd, especially the inclusion of parts from the catechism. She is interested in participating in Bible study and continually growing in faith.

K.I.D.S. Stamps Teach Saving

We in the U. S. have a 0% savings rate. That is alarming news for all, especially our children.

Reverse the credit debt trend and help your child learn to save with K.I.D.S. stamps, available for purchase each Sunday in the narthex after the first service from Christa Warner.

Now stamp deposits start earning .75%. To find out more, visit www.lcef.org.

All Around the Neighborhood

Rake the Town

Rake the Town is Sat., Oct. 28. Join volunteers in raking leaves for older adults, those with disabilities, etc.. Then enjoy lunch and prizes at St. Joseph Catholic Church. Call 387-1666 to sign up or watch for the sign up sheet on the youth bulletin board.

Do you need your lawn raked for you? There is no charge but donations to VINE are gladly accepted. Call 387-1666 or contact Pastor Becker for a registration form.

Take the Chief's Challenge

St. John's Lutheran Church, Good Thunder, invites you to the Chief's Challenge 10 K run and 2 mile run/walk, Sat., Oct. 14, 4 PM.

Registration begins at 3 PM. The cost is \$10 per runner. Participants receive a shirt. Pre register to assure a shirt in your size. Pick up a form from the table by the church office. Proceeds support St. John's Sunday school.

There are awards for the top finishers in each age group. A spaghetti supper with a free will offering will follow.

If you have questions, pick up a registration form or contact Mark DeVitz at 507-340-7041.

Help Rebuild Burned Church

Sun., Oct. 8, 11 AM to 2 PM, there will be a benefit to help rebuild St. John's Lutheran Church, near Claremont, which was struck by lightning and burned down June 6.

The event will be at the American Legion, 112 NE 5th St, Faribault, sponsored by Peace and Trinity Lutheran churches, Faribault, with supplemental funds from Thrivent.

The benefit includes a "build your own" hamburger/hot dog buffet with potato salad, etc, plus a "build you own" sundae or pie for desert. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children under 12 and free for preschool. There will also be a bake sale.

All are also invited to provide baked items, help the day of the benefit or just make a donation. Write checks to THRIVENT Financial South Rice Chapter 31206 (memo: St. John's benefit) and mail it to Peace Lutheran Church, 213 SW 6th Ave., Faribault, MN 55021. Thanks for your participation!

Participate in a Lutheran Survey

Fellow Lutherans are asked for help.

In 1972 the last major study of Lutherans was completed. Merton Strommen's *Study of Generations* surveyed 5,000 Lutheran pastors and lay members on religious, political and social attitudes.

Last year, with generous grants from The Luther Institute and Concordia University Wisconsin, an ambitious project was launched to again survey thousands of Lutherans – in part, to see how much those attitudes have changed since 1972. We have already surveyed 2,000 pastors have already been surveyed and the study second phase has been launched – a survey of 3,000 lay members.

Your Help is needed The web-based survey of lay members takes about 25 minutes to complete and can be taken from your home computer.

Simply send an e-mail to LutheranSurvey@cuw.edu. Within a few weeks, you will receive an e-mail invitation with a link to the survey.

Your e-mail address will be kept confidential and used ONLY for the survey. *And no connection will be made between your e-mail address and the responses you give.*

Please consider participating in this important study. Just a few minutes of your time will be of great service to your church and to the church at large. Thank you!

James Burkee, Ph.D. & Jeff Walz, Ph.D., Concordia University Wisconsin

Mankato Lutheran Home 1 Day Sale

Mankato Lutheran Homes annual rummage sale is Sat., Oct. 21, 8 AM to 1 PM at St. Joseph the Worker Church auditorium, on the corner of Blue Earth & W. 7th Streets.

Donated sale items may be dropped off Thurs., Oct. 19, noon – 8 PM or Fri., Oct. 20, 8 AM – noon. Call 388-5639 for pick-up of large items. Hard to sell items that are not accepted include any clothing, electronic equipment, window coverings, exercise equipment and pianos.

Support Lutheran Ministries

Cannon Valley Lutheran Ministries provides financial aid Cannon Valley Lutheran High and Camp Omega. The 2006 benefit auction is Sun., Nov. 5. Donations of services or new and hand-crafted items are being sought, along with table sponsors and reservations for the free supper. Contact Curt at (507) 685-4266 or curt@campomega.org.

Reformation Music at Bethany College

“A Reformation Prelude” will be presented Wed., Oct. 25, 7 PM at the Ylvisaker Fine Arts Center. David Fienen will speak about Jan Bender: “Lutheran Church Musician in a Century of Tumult”

A Reformation Vespers will be held Thurs., Oct. 26, 4:30 PM at Trinity Chapel, featuring music by the Bethany Lutheran College Concert Choir and Mary Martha Singers.

Lutheran Free Conference

The 19th Annual Lutheran Free Conference is Sat., Oct. 28, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM, at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 2719 Third Street North, St. Cloud, MN. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. The cost is \$25 per person, which covers registration, refreshments and lunch and a copy of the book “How to Live a Christian Life”. There is no pre-registration but if you do plan to attend, those preparing the lunch would appreciate a call at 1-320-252-8171. The event is sponsored by Minnesota North Confessional Lutherans. Both lay and clergy are welcome.

This year’s theme is “Living the Christian Life”. The popular book “Purpose Driven Life” will be contrasted with Luther’s classic, “Freedom of the Christian”. The questions “What is a Christian?”, “How do Christians live with God?”, “How do Christians live with themselves?”, and “How do Christians live with each

other?” will be addressed by pastors Rev. Paul Strawn of Spring Lake Park, MN; Rev. Dr. Holger Sonntag of Carver, MN; Rev. Rolf Preus of Mayville, ND; and Rev. Steve Briel of Maple Grove, MN.

Redeemer Lutheran Church is north of Hiway 23 in St. Cloud, west of Hiway 10 and east of Hiway 15, on 3rd St. North, between 25th Ave. and 33rd Ave.

Pray, Praise and Give Thanks

This is the fifth 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 “Forgive us our Trespases, as we forgive those who trespass against us”, we can begin by thanking and praising God for his forgiveness, which is the most precious of all his gifts and the gift which he is most eager to give us, even though it is the gift for which we are the most needy, and for which we are most reluctant to ask.

This petition, especially, gives an opportunity for confession. We can examine our hearts and lives and confess any fault or failure to God with the confidence that he will fully forgive us. We can eagerly ask God’s forgiveness for sins into which we regularly fall, if we are ready to let go of those sins and leave them behind. We can also ask for God to give assurance of forgiveness for

sins which may continue to burden our conscience. It is through continued forgiveness that God changes our lives.

On the other hand, it may be hard to think of sins which need forgiving. It can be helpful to consider the traditional 7 deadly sins, pride (with judgment of others), covetousness (with all greed), lust (with all impure desires), envy (with any complaining), gluttony (with all self indulgence), anger (with any negativity), and sloth (with misplaced priorities). A mental review of the Ten Commandments can also reveal sins which have been in a blind spot for us.

We can confidently ask for God’s forgiveness when we remember that we do it in the name of his Son, whose death has already paid for all of them.

Then we can ask God to continually fill our hearts instead with the fruits of the spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control, along with any virtues which we realize we especially need.

The last part of this petition, “as we forgive”, can be hard to pray sincerely. We can ask for God’s help to forgive the all faults of those closest to us and those who are most difficult for us to live with, and also ask God to help those people in turn to forgive us our own faults.

Bible Bites

for eat and run Bible reading

October 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 2nd reading to finish in 3 years. In each reading, identify a memorable verse for yourself.

1 17th Sunday after

Pentecost

- Isa. 50:4-10;
Jas. 2:1-5, 8-10, 14-18;
Mark 8:27-35
2 Prov. 28:1-28; Isa. 30:1-26
3 Heb. 1:1 - 2:9; Isa. 30:27 - 31:9
4 Heb. 2:10 - 3:19; Isa. 32:1-20
5 Heb. 4:1 - 5:14; Isa. 33:1-24
6 Heb. 6:1 - 7:11; Isa. 34:1-17
7 Psal. 54:1-7

Lord's Prayer Introduction

Our Father who art in heaven.

What does this mean? With these words God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we may ask Him as dear children ask their dear father.

Pray for Lutheran Hour

Ministries

8 18th Sunday after

Pentecost

- Jer. 11:18-20; James 3:16 - 4:6;
Mark 9:30-37
9 Heb. 7:12-8:13; Isa. 35:1-36:12
10 Heb. 9:1-28; Isa. 36:13 - 37:20
11 Heb. 10:1-39; Isa. 37:21-38
12 Heb. 11:1-40
Isa. 38:1 - 39:8
13 Heb. 12:1-29; 2 Kg. 18:1-35
14 Psal. 135:1-21

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 Social Ministry

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

15 19th Sunday after

Pentecost

- Num. 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29;
James 4:7 - 5:6; Mark 9:38-50
16 Heb. 13:1-25;
2 Kg. 18:36 - 19:19
17 Mark 7:24-8:21; 2 Kg. 19:20-37
18 St. Luke, Evangelist
Isa 43:8-13; 35:5-8;
2 Tim. 4:5-11;
Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53
19 Mark 8:22 - 9:13; 2 Kg. 20:1-21
20 Mark 9:14-50; Phlp. 1:1 - 2:11
21 Psal. 127, 128, 129

What is meant by daily bread?

Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, home, land, animals, money, goods, a devout husband or wife, devout children, devout workers, devout and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, self-control, good reputation, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like.

Pray for the Mn. South District of the LC-MS

22 20th Sunday after

Pentecost

- Gen. 2:18-24; Heb. 2:9-18;
Mark 10:2-16
23 Mark 10:1-31; Phlp. 2:12 - 3:16
24 Mark 10:32 - 11:11
Phlp. 3:17 - 4:23
25 Mark 11:12 - 12:12;
2 Ch. 27:1 - 28:15
26 Mark 12:13-44;
2 Ch. 28:16 - 29:19
27 Psal. 107:1-22
28 St. Simon & St. Jude
Jer. 26:1-16; 1 John 4:1-6;
John 14:21-27

The First Petition

Hallowed be Thy name.

What does this mean? God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

How is God's name kept holy?

God's name is kept holy when the Word of God is taught in its truth and purity, and we, as the children of God, also lead holy lives according to it.

Help us do this, dear Father in heaven! But anyone who teaches or lives contrary to God's Word profanes the name of God among us. Protect us from this heavenly Father!

Pray for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

29 21st Sunday after

Pentecost

- Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Heb. 3:1-6;
Mark 10:17-30
30 Mark 13:1-37; 2 Ch. 29:20-36
31 Reformation Day
Jer. 31:31-34; Rom. 3:19-28;
John 8:31-36
NOVEMBER
1 All Saints' Day
Isa. 26:1-4, 8-9, 12-13, 19-21;
Rev. 21:9-11, 22-27; 22:1-5;
Matt. 5:1-12
2 - Faithful Departed
Isa. 34:3-10; 2 Pet. 3:8-14;

John 5:24-29
3 Prov. 29:1-27; 2 Ch. 30:1-27
4 Psal. 107:23-43

The Third Petition

**Thy will be done on earth as
it is in heaven.**

How is God's will done?

God's will is done when He breaks
and hinders every evil plan and
purpose of the devil, the world,
and our sinful nature, which do
not want us to hallow God's name
or let His kingdom come; and
when He strengthens and keeps us
firm in His Word and faith until
we die. This is His good and
gracious will.

Pray for those Grieving