

THE LUTHERAN  
CHURCH OF THE GOOD  
SHEPHERD GOOD  
SHEPHERD LUTHERAN  
SCHOOL  
2101 LOR RAY DRIVE  
NORTH MANKATO, MN  
56003

# The Shepherd's Schoolhouse



Volume 1, Issue 5

Newsletter Date May 2007

## Special points of interest:

- The children will be taking standardized tests the first week of May. They will need to be rested.
- Enroll your children for the upcoming school year to help plan for the new year
- LFL Bike ride on May 18th

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## Thank you to our Volunteers, We Couldn't do it without You!

### Thank God for Volunteers

May 15-21 is National Volunteer Week. We depend on volunteers every week at Good Shepherd Lutheran School. We wouldn't be able to operate without them!

Several come one morning a week to answer the phone, make copies, help with snacks and lunch, take out the trash, stock bathrooms, etc. Shirley comes on Mondays and Ellen on Tuesdays. Juanita came on Wednesdays most of the year but Roger, a veteran from last year is back in town and filling in for her now. Deb is here on Thursdays, replacing her husband, Larry, who came last year, and Phyllis comes on Fridays. Parents of children in the school may have heard of them, but not by name: the lady who cleans windows, the one with the crazy earrings.

Dennis comes several days each week to sweep and mop classrooms. Mike stops in a couple of times each week to scrub bathrooms. Patsy does one-on-one tutoring and helps with lunch on Tuesdays. Joe and Beth are here for lunch on Fridays. April is sometimes here in the afternoon to help with cleaning or checking papers. Vi sometimes fills in when we need her.



Others, like Dennis, Roger, Lyle and Lowell, have helped out with special projects or work days. Surely there is one or more being forgotten at the moment.

Some of them are retired, some not. A few have children in school, most don't. Most are members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, but not all.

Some have office skills, others don't, but all have a helpful attitude and are good at finding things that need doing. Why do they do it? They care about kids and enjoy being with them. They value Lutheran education. They want to share the ways God has gifted them. And they enjoy it!

We could use more volunteers, especially for next year when we will have more students. It would be

helpful to have volunteers who can come in the afternoon, especially after 12 AM for lunch clean up and after dismissal at 2:30 PM. Is this something you could do? If you might be interested, call the school. The person who answers may be a volunteer!

-By Pastor Becker

## What's New?

- **Enrollment** has begun for next school year and decisions need to be made about classrooms and teachers and their upcoming responsibilities. Please register soon, if you haven't already, so that necessary plans can be made.
- **Band:** next year we will be trying private lessons for grades 5-7 and possibly 4th grade with instructor Amy

Urness. She will be in to speak with interested students about choosing instruments and payment details. Along with private lessons, she will be doing a once a week group practice.

- **Yearbook:** A yearbook is underway and will hopefully be done by the middle of May. Copies will be around \$15 for those interested in purchasing

one. If you have photos that you could submit, please give them to a teacher soon. They will be given back to you.

- **Soccer team:** Jim Dimock will be coaching a GSLS soccer team in the fall, and will be working on a schedule with other area Lutheran schools for games. Come out to see our students play and watch for upcoming schedules.



The students at "Kid's Against Hunger" during Lutheran's Schools week.

## A message from 1st—3rd grade by Mrs. Garman

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders are anxious for the warm weather to arrive. With the arrival of warmer weather and sunshine, we think of new birth. As with Jesus and Easter, we have a new life with Him to look forward to in heaven. Thank you Jesus for rising from the dead for us! In our classroom, we are waiting for new birth and hatching from the eggs that we have in our incubator. In less than 2

weeks we hope to witness the hatching of baby chicks. Along with that, we will also be witnessing the changes being made from a caterpillar to a butterfly. Spring is here! In our science class, we are talking about water and how it gets to our faucet nice and clean. We plan a trip to the water dept. in North Mankato in May. Thank you ladies for letting us color the Easter eggs for the Easter breakfast. We had

lots of fun. May also brings the Iowa Basic Tests. Some of us do not do well in these because we might be scared of the word TEST! These tests help the teacher see where we can do a better job for the children to learn. Thank you again for all the prayers and support and help that each of you do. May God bless you all.



**"The God of love and peace shall be with you." 2 Cor.**

13:11



Some of the 4th – 6th grade girls tasting the food they prepared for "Kids against hunger".

## Kindergarten message by Mrs. Brase

The Kindergarten Class is excited to have the warmer weather and sunshine. During the last weeks of school, we will be busy talking about plants, spring, butterflies and frogs, insects, and zoo animals. We will also be talking about how we can take care of God's world by recycling. We are looking forward to planting seeds and watching them grow. Spring is an exciting time of the year as we see new life all around us. We have just talked about our "new life in Christ" in connection with the Easter story.

We continue to practice putting sounds together to read words, and we continue to work with various math concepts. We also enjoy the nicer weather because we can get outside more for PE. It's nice to have lots of room when we play our running games. Over the last few weeks we have been working hard at writing our alphabet letters correctly. Some of us are doing a really

great job!! But with all the exciting things that we are doing and learning, still our favorite thing to do is to work and play with our friends. We enjoy it both in the classroom and outside at recess.

Mother's Day will be here before the next newsletter arrives. The following story was taken from *God's Little Devotional Journal for Women*.

Many years ago, a famous singer was booked to perform at a Paris opera house. The event was sold out in a matter of days. The entire city was abuzz with anticipation. The night of the performance, the hall was packed with stately dressed men and women eager to hear the much-admired musician. The house manager took the stage and announced, "Ladies and gentlemen, thank you for your enthusiastic support. I am afraid that due to illness, the woman whom you've all come to hear will not be performing tonight. However, we have

found a suitable substitute we hope will provide you with comparable entertainment."

The crowd groaned so loudly in its disappointment that few heard the singer's name. The excitement fizzled into frustration. The stand-in singer gave everything she had, but when her performance was over, she was met with an uncomfortable silence rather than applause. Then, from the balcony, a child stood up and shouted, "Mommy, I think you are wonderful!" The crowd instantly responded with a thunderous ovation.

How many times haven't our Moms told us that we were wonderful? How many times haven't they been there for us? We thank God that he has given us our mothers. Mrs. Brase and all the Kindergarteners would like to say, "Mom, we think you are wonderful! Happy Mother's Day."



## 4th—6th Grade news by Mrs. Becker

Our class went to the Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul. Some of the comments heard about the trip: "I liked the 3-D movie of Mars. I tried to grab the bees as they buzzed over my head." "I had fun blasting the ping pong balls into the nets way over our heads." "It was interesting making a tornado." "I got a ball to float on moving air--and even got the ball to move up and down." "I drove a boat on the Mississippi River--on the simulator. There was a real

barge on the Mississippi while I was driving by a simulated barge." "I liked seeing the movie about how your brain is tricked with optical illusions." "I had fun jamming in the music booth." "The whole museum was my favorite." "I made a cloud with my breathe." "I laughed when the girl sneezed at me." "We had fun with the dinosaur robot cam-corder. We were able to spy on the girls while they were blasting off ping-pong balls." And to top off the



day, we stopped at a Dairy Queen on the way

home--a hit with all the students.

This weekend, our class will be represented at the Truman spelling bee by Allison Lease, Chad Lease, and Nyaboth Gatkek. We hope they do well!



"the Lord bless you and keep you: the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you." Numbers 6:24-25

## Keep Saving....& note the Campbell's soup label change!

We are still collecting the following: 20 oz. Plastic pop bottles, Hy-Vee receipts, Milk Moola, Kemps milk points, Box Tops for education, ink cartridges, and Campbell's soup labels. All of this "junk" brings in money and equipment for our school.

We are still looking for a new coordinator to take over for April Tordsen.



Please save the UPC on Campbell's Soup...we no longer save the front. If you are unsure what to save, keep it all.

April will be moving away, and will no longer be able to oversee this project. Talk with her about what is involved with this. Thank you April for your hard work in keeping this organized. Also, if you're a Thrivent member, remember to ask for a matching funds slip when making donations to school for \$0.50 on the \$.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord...plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11"



## After School Care & Website news

### After School Care Notes

Since the last newsletter we haven't had to wear our boots or snow pants...much. Before Easter break we dyed Easter eggs and everyone took home three in a small egg basket keeper. This month we are outside more and more because the weather allows it. Younger kids enjoy swatting the new tether ball and enjoy the freedom to get outside and run on the grass.

### Kid Quotes

"What do you like about After School Care?"

Claire Dimock: "I like the toys and coloring and Treasure Quest."

Dalton Fette: "I like playing with Payton."

**New Games:** Treasure Quest, a Cowboy and Indian play set  
**Thank You to:** The LFL, The Dimock Family and Wanda Schwartz for your snack donations!

### Website News

Since January 1,200 visitors have browsed the site looking at about 3,000 pages. Recently two audio links were added - Portals of Prayer and Front Porch Parenting. These links update every day. Mark Wilkowske is interested to hear feedback about the site. Your suggestions are welcome.

A new feature to this newsletter will be added. We would like your comments or your experience with Lutheran schools. Please send them to the church, or you can e-mail them to :

editorgoodshepherd@yahoo.com



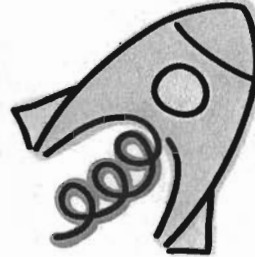
Due to popular demand the rocket club has started to meet

weekly until the end of the school year. Mark also assisted with Dylan Holtmeier's birthday party and several extra kids got to participate in the fun!

### Rocket Club

Because of popular demand we are now meeting every Monday after school. Students have shown remarkable patience during the assembly and painting process. Our models are now finished and all we

have to do is attach the parachute and head to the launch



pad. But before that a launch safety class

comes first. Mark made a 4-pad launch rack that will save us time when we want to fly a lot of rockets. Watch for pictures and video of our April 16<sup>th</sup> launch on the school website - [man-katolcmsschool.org](http://man-katolcmsschool.org).

### Schedule of Events

- **May 2:** GSLS does have afternoon classes, District #77 does not. No pm busing available.
- **May 2:** confirmation public review at 7pm.
- **May 6:** confirmation at 10:30 service
- **May 8:** field trip
- **May 18:** track and field day at Fairmont
- **May 18:** LFL bike ride
- **May 20:** school choir sings at 8 am service
- **May 22:** back up date for track & field day (in case of rain on the 18th)
- **May 28:** Memorial Day/ no school
- **May 31:** end of school year picnic

# May 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 No after-noon busing	3	4	5
6 Confir- mation Day	7	8 4-6th grade field trip to Ft. Snelling	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18 4-6th grade track meet in Fair- mont LFL bike ride 6:30	19
20 school choir sings at 8 am service	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day. No school	29	30	31 End of school year picnic/potluck & awards		

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OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD  
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LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
2101 LOR RAY DRIVE  
NORTH MANKATO, MN  
56003

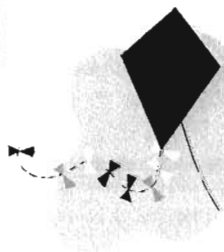
Phone: 507.388.4336  
Web: <http://mankatolcmsschool.org>  
E-mail: [goodshepherd57@juno.com](mailto:goodshepherd57@juno.com)

Check us on the web at <http://mankatolcmsschool.org>



## Little Lambs Preschool

The preschool has been busy with all sorts of spring time activities and the energy levels match. They have been working on things such as planting a sunflower seed, making tissue paper kites that they want to fly for the ascension service, gummy worm birds and taking nature walks.

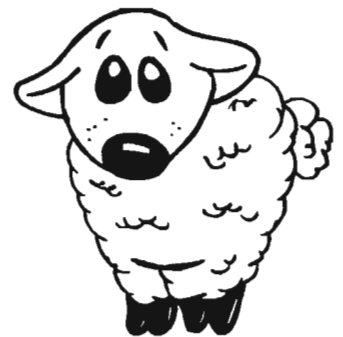


In their Bible circle time they have



been discussing and learning about Jesus dying and rising and the joy that this Easter season brings. The children have enjoyed hearing this told, that Miss Tracy said they have talked about it for many days.

The enrollment process for next school year is well underway. Again there will be sessions offered for three days (M, W, & F) both mornings and afternoons (cost \$95/month) and two days (T & Th) in



the mornings and if enough interest afternoons, too (cost \$75./month) Morning sessions tend to fill up fast. If you have questions or want an enrollment form, You may either stop by the church or call Tracy Mielke at 507.345.8871 or the church at 388.4336.

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