

# *The Shepherd's Staff*

February 2008

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Issue 95

P. O. Box 355

**GOOD SHEPHERD**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**(507) 534-3675**

**[www.goodshepherd-elca.org](http://www.goodshepherd-elca.org)**

**Pastor's Office Hours:**

Tuesday & Thursday 1pm - 4pm

Pastor's home phone: 534-0122

Pastor's e-mail:

## **LENTEN SUPPER & WORSHIP**

**Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 6, 2008**

Each Wednesday Lenten suppers begin at 5:30 p.m. They are hosted by the senior high youth ministry. A free will offering will be collected and all proceeds will support the impact trip planned for summer 2008. Everyone is encouraged to join us for food & fellowship

February Menu Main Dish Items

February 06 - Soups

February 13 - Shredded beef sandwiches

February 20 - Soup

February 27 - Spaghetti

### **READ ALL ABOUT IT!!**

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### **Multiple Touch Ministry**

Our mission is to reach out to congregation and community members in times of joy and celebration, pain, sorrow or whenever the need may arise. If you know someone needing a cheerful card, phone call, or food please contact Lynn Evers-

At 7:00 p.m. we will gather in the sanctuary for Worship. On Ash Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> our worship will include the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion.

The following five Wednesdays we will worship with Holden Evening Prayer. In the midst of each Holden Evening Prayer Service, the good news of Christ will be proclaimed through a courtroom-setting drama, "*The People Versus Jesus of Nazareth*."

Confirmation students and parents are especially encouraged to worship together on these Wednesday evenings. Sr. High Youth and Adult Choir will gather after worship has concluded.

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## **FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN**

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>. On that day Christians around the world will gather to have the sign of the cross marked on their foreheads. The Ash Cross traces the cross of Christ that was marked on our foreheads at baptism. The Ashes we wear on Ash Wednesday is a way of saying, "I am sorry for my sins, and I know I need to be forgiven."

It is okay to leave the ashes on your forehead after worship. Some have talked of the experience of looking in the mirror and seeing the ashes on your own forehead. It is a reminder to us of our sinfulness, our need to be forgiven, and our need to forgive others. Seeing the outline of a cross sometimes hits me with a new sense of awesomeness of what Christ has done. Can you imagine that he would die on the cross for us??!! That's the awesomeness of God's love, and that's just what he was set on doing, and has done!

Ash Wednesday is a day that can bring out lots of emotion. For some it is a very serious day, as lent begins. It is also a hopeful day, as we are reminded of God's love for us that is so evident as we look at the cross. Each day brings forgiveness and newness!

Blessings,

Pastor Kevin Woestehoff

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

Updates were given by committee chairs; numerous tasks, projects & activities were completed in 2007.

The proposed budget for 2008 was approved.

New council members were elected: Tom Anderson, June Barnick, Mike Boraas & Barb Peck.

The nominating committee for 2008 was elected: Diane Petit, Franny Schwantz, Kathy Sveen, Carol Goergen-Fenske and Darald Bothun.

Thank you to all who participate at Good Shepherd in any way!

## **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

We are working to complete the last tasks and get it printed this winter. We need some help from you. If you had your photo taken at another church please contact Barb Peck. If you haven't had a photo taken, a glossy photo is requested. Wallet size is best, but they can use any size up to 4" x 6". We could do this at church IF you want. Please contact Barb Peck by Feb. 10. **251-5202** or **[bjpeck47@msn.com](mailto:bjpeck47@msn.com)**.

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2008**

Good Shepherd has changed their format for this summer's VBS. We will be offering the Adventurers camp at Good Earth Village for any students completing grades K-6. This is a one day camp with grades K-4 going to GEV on Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. Grades 5 and 6 will go on Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. The camp runs from 9 to 4 with lunch provided. Good Shepherd will pay the camp fee and provided transportation to and from GEV in Spring Valley. If you would like to participate in the great opportunity please complete and return the form below by February 14<sup>th</sup>. After this date we can't guarantee a reserved spot for you. If you have any questions please call Jake Thompson at 798-2336. Attached to this letter are more summer programs offered at GEV that you can sign up for on your own.

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE (2007-2008):** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENTS' NAMES:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT AND PHONE NUMBER:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am available and willing to drive campers to and from Good Earth Village  
in Spring Valley.

**Please return this to your Sunday School teacher or the church office by Feb. 14.**

## **TOGETHER IN FAITH**

- 1<sup>st</sup> graders and their parents will connect on February 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> for two special sessions on the “Ten Commandments.” Sessions happen during the 9:15-10:15 Sunday School hour. We will gather in the fellowship hall, first classroom on the left. Students will recite the 10 commandments at worship on February 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Kindergarteners will lead the Lord’s Prayer during worship on Sunday February 10<sup>th</sup>.

## **HUMAN SEXUALITY EDUCATION**

Good Shepherd’s policy for Human Sexuality Education is based on a belief that God created all that is human including our sexuality. This gift does not come without responsibilities – responsibility to one’s self and to others, responsibility under God in creating human life, responsibility in using this awesome and powerful gift with great potential for joy yet also great potential for pain and misunderstanding. Parents and the church have a shared responsibility for teaching about all of God’s creation, including our sexuality.

Good Shepherd teaches age appropriate sexuality curriculum in every age level of Sunday school. These sessions will be taught during regular class time by the usual teacher or a volunteer from our congregation who has expressed an interest in teaching this material to our youth. Exact dates for your child’s sexuality education may be obtained from your child’s Sunday school teacher as they are set.

Reasons for having a sexuality component in our curriculum are as follows:

1. We want to build self esteem, acceptance, and respect in youth.
2. The church can provide a positive, safe, and ethical environment for issues of sexuality.
3. We want to assist our students in protecting themselves from abusive sexual relationships.
4. We want to equip youth to resist social pressures for early sexual activity and pregnancy.

The focus of the lesson for three year olds through Kindergarten will be on enhancing self image with the message that God made your child special and that boys and girls are different. They will see the movie “Why Boys and Girls are Different” from Concordia Publishing House, and the Pre-K and K classes will read the book “The Story of Me” and do an activity.

The 1<sup>st</sup> grade class will focus on appropriate and inappropriate touch and on accepting those with disabilities. They will read the books “My Body is Private” and “My Body Belongs to Me” as well as a book entitled “Alike and Different.”

The 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class will see the video “Where do Babies Come From” from Concordia Pub. The focus of the lesson will be on the basic facts of reproduction and appropriate touch. They will read the book “My Body is Private.”

The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class will see the video “Where do Babies Come From,” Concordia Pub. The class will focus on the basic facts of reproduction, appropriate touch and self esteem.

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes will discuss how today’s media, including television, music, & movies affect their decisions and lives. They will watch the video “Mind Over Media”.

6<sup>th</sup> graders will view the video “Sex has a Price Tag” featuring Pam Stenzel and discuss issues of dating and peer pressure.

The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade class will watch the video “No Apologies, the Truth about Life, Love, and Sex,” put out by Focus on the Family. Discussion will focus on dating, peer pressure and decision making.

As a parent you are the first educator of your child. Following your child’s lesson, we encourage you to take time to ask your child about the information discussed in class. This would be an opportunity to discuss and reinforce your personal and family values associated family life.

The complete statement of Human Sexuality Education at Good Shepherd is available in the church office. The materials used for instruction are available to you to review by contacting Deb Weinrich. You are always welcome in your child’s classroom as a teacher, helper, or visitor.

## **FEBRUARY ADULT FORUMS**

Pastor Dick Rehfeldt will lead a second session on “Understanding Islam” at the 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. education hour on Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## **BIBLE STUDY GROUPS**

**Afternoon Bible Study** : The February meeting of the afternoon Bible study group will be at 3:30 p.m., February 7<sup>th</sup> at the church. Please feel free to come and join in.

**Evening Bible Study**: The “Bad Girls of the Bible” Bible study is held every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the church. This Bible study is led by Franny Schwantz.

## **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

As a child of God, prayer is kinda like calling home every day.

## **MILESTONE MOMENTS**

### **Funerals...**

Blessings to the family and friends of Maurice Haessig. Maurice died on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

### **Baptisms...**

Blessings to Hannah Annabelle Loucks who was baptized on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Hannah is the daughter of Thomas and Angela Loucks.

Blessings to Destiny Skye and Calen Rain Drenckhahn who were baptized on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Destiny and Calen are the children of Mindy Sue Drenckhahn.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

Special thanks go out to:

- Bob and Adam Endres for taking the time to eliminate and replace the wire maze we had for phone lines in the offices.
- Merlin Mielke for his efforts painting the offices. Their efforts have put us well on our way to completing the office project. Stop by and see the progress.

**“God is present through the MILESTONES of our life.”**

***Marilyn Sharpe will be preaching at the March 2<sup>nd</sup> worship services and leading a Cross-Generational Event during the 9:15-10:15 a.m. hour.***

Marilyn Sharpe knows it's all about faith! She is the Director of Christian Parenting and Intergenerational Ministries at The Youth & Family Institute. A parent for 34 years, she knows first hand the joys and sorrows, the triumphs and challenges of being a family.

A Certified Family Life Educator, Marilyn has been a parent educator for 28 years, committed to helping parents become the best and most effective they can be. She teaches parents to celebrate their strengths, give and receive support, and glean wisdom from other parents. Marilyn helps parents and congregations work together to pass on faith and values to the children we all cherish. Formerly a high school English teacher and a confirmation teacher and director for 23 years, Marilyn has a passion for kids and their families. She believes that families are the classroom for teaching all that is most important, the crucible for refining the best in each of us, and a safe harbor from life's storms. She presents with energy, passion and contagious enthusiasm. With a BA from Wellesley College and an MAT from Harvard University, she takes extraordinary joy in both learning and teaching. Marilyn is adjunct faculty at Luther Seminary and Concordia University, St. Paul and a guest speaker at Augsburg College.

### **SENIOR HIGH YOUTH NEWS**

**Senior High Youth, Wednesday Night Schedule.** Gathering in the Youth Room, 7:30 -8:30 p.m.

January 30<sup>th</sup> – Movie Night: Spaceballs

February 6<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wednesday)– Abbreviated Movie Night: Spaceballs

February 13<sup>th</sup> – Movie Night: Spaceballs

February 20<sup>th</sup> – Discussion Night

February 27<sup>th</sup> – Wilderness Canoe Base Trip Conversations

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Discussion Night

Come and join in these fun student-led evenings! Faith and friendships make a great combination.

Fourteen people came out and enjoyed a great afternoon of skiing on the January 25<sup>th</sup> outing to Coffee Mill! We'll have to go again!

### **GOOD SHEPHERD SOUND SYSTEM UPDATE**

Thank you to all who have so graciously given to the sound system project. Your support is greatly appreciated! We have made a commitment to completion of the entire sound system project. It is expected to be installed sometime in February, following 2 – 3 days of the installation process. We will have a complete system providing new speakers in the sanctuary with 11 inputs, and a portable special music upgrade. We will have speakers in the narthex, for those who need to step out for a period of time or overflow. In addition, we will have individual hearing devices for hearing impaired. If you wish to have a personal hearing device, please contact the church office. Currently we are still in need of approximately \$500 to fully fund the project. If you would like to contribute, please mark your offering to the 'sound system' and place in the offering plate or the red box by the narthex door. Sound and video will also be available in the Nursery as the offices are restored.

Email received Jan. 4, 2008

Dear Lonnie and Church Friends,

Thanks so much for our Christmas gifts. We love them all. We do appreciate anything you send and are very grateful. What you send us never has to be new. We are pleased with whatever you don't want and think that we can use. We are happy to have hand-me-down clothes that your families have gotten tired of. We will be glad to get them.

We are having some very cold days. The kids are still out of school. Melissa has gone back to work. Dedrick has not, due to the weather. He lays tile and hangs cabinets when houses are finished. He goes to school three nights a week.

We had a program at church on Christmas night. Monique sang a song by herself. The church looked lovely. After the program was over, they gave every member a large fruit basket. In it was a nice box of candy too. So with all the gifts you sent, we were certainly blessed. Thanks so much.

I got your family picture and showed it to the church people and our pastor. He put it on the altar and prayed for all the church families for being such a blessing to our family. I have talked so much about your family to people they feel they know you too.

God bless you all in this New Year. Love, Jeanette and family

### **STAFFING**

As we continue to carry out our vision and strategic plan, we celebrate the additions of Lynn Eversman as Congregation Administrator and Deb Weinrich who was recently hired as the Shared Ministries Coordinator.

As Deb Weinrich begins the position of Shared Ministries Coordinator, it is important to remember that this position is designed not to "do the work" but to direct us as a congregation in identifying our gifts, identifying ministry opportunities and needs in the community and congregation, and making connections to match gifts to opportunities and needs. We have contracted with Marilyn Sharpe of the Youth & Family Institute for a year long coaching contract to guide us in developing our "Shared Ministries" as well as "Milestones Ministry." We anticipate hiring a 5 hour a week Milestones Ministry Coordinator later this summer to add direction and vitality to that ministry concept.

## **FACILITY**

While the offices have been under construction to deal with the interior water damage, this window of time has also been used to reconfigure this work space to provide more efficient work stations. This project should be completed by late February. Tile and carpeting are to be completed the last week of January

While the carpeting work is done in the office, carpeting repairs have been ordered to take place in the sanctuary to eliminate tripping hazards where the carpet has raised up. This is a short-term solution until the day when new carpeting goes into the sanctuary. This is another step in our facility plan.

As we look ahead we know that many more facility questions need to be addressed: narrow entrance to parking lot, paving of parking lot, continued meditation garden development, lack of desired space for youth ministry, adult and children's education, and music ministries. Our space issues continue to be magnified with ministry growth. As we put our heads together about ideas for the facility and grounds can be a little scary. We do not have the benefit of being down this road 100s of times, but maybe a handful. Adjustments to the facility and grounds not only have the initial dollar expense, but facility decisions that turn out to be the wrong ones can bring about an even greater cost by hampering ministry. With this reality in mind, the concept of a Space Utilization Study by an outside firm is being explored.

Thank you for your partnership in ministry,

Pastor Kevin Woestehoff

## **FLOWER MINISTRY**

Flowers on the alter for church services are a welcome bonus. The color and joy of flowers decorating our altar area are an inspiration at this time of year. In summer, garden flowers and/or ordered arrangements are encouraged.

Please don't forget this ministry. Sign up for a Sunday to honor or remember important family dates. We appreciate sharing your family's happenings. The flowers are then yours to take home and keep following the late service.

Joanne Melbostad is now in charge of flower orders. If you sign up, Joanne will order, pick up, and deliver them to church. You can reach Joanne at 507-876-2837, or by e-mail at [Joanne@melbostad.net](mailto:Joanne@melbostad.net). Order forms are available by the flower poster in the narthex.

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDATES

<b>02/01</b>	Riley Wendt	<b>02/18</b>	Franny Schwantz
<b>02/05</b>	Jon Amos		Monica Anderson
	Barb Kingsley	<b>02/20</b>	Carol Buntrock
<b>02/07</b>	Sandy Ulwelling		Jenny Yust
<b>02/10</b>	Neil Weaver	<b>02/21</b>	Steve Erwin
	Shannon Olstad		Lorne Lundeen
	Luke Gelner		Joe Weinrich
<b>02/11</b>	Abbey Christison	<b>02/22</b>	Buzz Christison
	Katie Kappauf		Bruce Iverson
	Nikki Goergen	<b>02/24</b>	Jim Howard
<b>02/12</b>	Chad Getschmann		Nancy Jensen
<b>02/14</b>	Andrea Bartz	<b>02/25</b>	Elaine Salek
	Morgan Fick	<b>02/26</b>	Shellie Tradup
	Megan Fick	<b>02/27</b>	Don Tradup
<b>02/15</b>	Dustin Boettcher		Kirk Bartz
<b>02/16</b>	Cindy Rettmann	<b>02/28</b>	Corrine Hanson
	Paul Fick		Andrea Masseur
<b>02/17</b>	Jan Fiskum	<b>02/29</b>	Dean Fritz
	Heather Watson		
	Jonathan Timm		

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

<b>02/06</b>	Bob & Sue Tangen
<b>02/14</b>	Jim & Char Balcome
<b>02/16</b>	George & Karen Back
	Steve Fenske & Carol Goergen-Fenske
<b>02/20</b>	Morey & Mary Applen

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**P. O. Box 355**

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*The Shepherd's Staff is a communication tool among our friends and members spreading the word of Jesus Christ with*

**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**VISION STATEMENT**

**Claimed by God through Word & Sacrament, we move  
forward with a NEW VIEW:**

Notice the needs of our congregation, community, and world with eyes of faith.

**THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR THE  
MARCH 2008 NEWSLETTER IS**