

The Shepherd's Staff

April 2008

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Issue 97

P. O. Box 355

GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

(507) 534-3675

www.goodshepherd-elca.org

Pastor's Office Hours:

Tuesday & Thursday 1pm - 4pm

Pastor's home phone: 534-0122

Pastor's e-mail:

SERVING TOGETHER TO TRANSFORM LIVES

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ... Ephesians 4:11-12

Over two years ago, the people of Good Shepherd gathered to discern a shared-vision. A common statement made in those cottage meetings was, **"We have lots of gifts to use, but we don't know how or where to use them."** As the Holy Spirit led us through the shared-vision process, it became apparent that God was calling us to be a church that is working to:

Identify the gifts of God's People.

Energize God's people to use their gifts for ministry.

We feel called to be a church that "equips" people to see their value and to use their gifts in meaningful, life-giving ways!

Part of our strategic plan to become an "Equipping Church" was the hiring of part-time Shared Ministries Coordinator in Deb Weinrich. Deb has been busy studying, reading, and setting up gift discernment training for herself and others. She has been working with Marilyn Sharpe, a Shared Ministries consultant, in establishing desired outcomes and a plan to achieve them. One of the primary outcomes that the Shared Ministries Coordinator and her team will be leading us in is becoming a church that intentionally identifies and affirms your God-given gifts, and helps you connect your gifts with a ministry opportunity or need that you have some passion for.

In living as an "Equipping Church" we believe that...

Every one of us is a worker in the Kingdom of God.

Every one, and every gift is just as important as the next.

All gifts are used to build up the body of Christ.

READ ALL ABOUT IT!!

Education Ministry.2-3

Worship & Music 3

Box Project Update.3

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 Misty Biers

I know Kirk Bartz of Good Shepherd doesn't clamor for attention. However, I'd like to share a little about Kirk, because I think his story reflects the power of matching up gifts with the right opportunity. Kirk is as busy as can be with work, family, home remodeling, and other commitments. Kirk is a skilled plumber and carpenter. In the midst of his busy schedule, he makes time to use his gifts to serve at the flood recovery work days. In hearing Kirk

CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

Confirmation Ministry (7th & 8th Grade)

The Service of "Affirmation of Baptism", also known as "Confirmation", will take place on Sunday, May 4th, 2008 at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Confirmation pictures will be taking place in the sanctuary the morning of Sunday, May 4th from 9:15-10:15 a.m. We ask confirmands and their parents to attend confirmation rehearsal on Sunday, April 27th, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

TOGETHER IN FAITH

"Together In Faith" – Parents and Students growing in faith together!

Fifth Graders and their parents will share in three special sessions on Sunday, April 6th 13th and 20th. We will meet in the nursery from 9:15-10:15 a.m. on these three Sundays. We'll learn how the Bible, prayer, and worship connect to everyday life, everyday troubles, and God's everyday help.

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Senior High Youth Group

Youth Group is held each Wednesday evening from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. Come and join in these fun student-led evenings! Faith and friendships make a great combination.

Aluminum Can Collection

The Senior High Youth will collect aluminum cans and proceeds will go toward the impact trip planned for

summer 2008. Please place your bagged cans in the wood crate between the two sheds and we will take care of it from there. Thanks for your continued support.

Gourmet Coffee Shop

The Senior High youth will sell gourmet coffees, hot chocolate and cinnamon rolls on April 9th between services. All proceeds will help fund the impact trip scheduled for this summer. Matching funds have been applied for through Thrivent. Thanks for your continued support of our youth.

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Afternoon Bible Study : The April meeting of the afternoon Bible study group will be at 3:30 p.m., April 3rd 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.

GOOD SHEPHERD SOUND SYSTEM UPDATE

Sound System Update

Thank you to all who have contributed to the new sound system. It is fully installed, but we will be adding a few other microphones etc to enhance the capabilities. If you would like to try out one of our four personal hearing devices, please feel free to contact an usher or call the office. The Narthex and the nursery now have sound for those who feel they would like to step out of the sanctuary. As we continue our progress, we are still accepting donations to offset the cost of additional microphones. Mark future contributions as ‘Sound System’.

The Sound System Committee

E-mail received March 9th

Dear Lonnie,

I got the two boxes. Thanks. I had the gum surgery. It was so painful. My face swelled so bad that I could not see out of my eyes. Then it was abscessed so I was on so much medicine. As you know, I was just getting over the flu so my resistance was low. I am so weak. I couldn't eat solid food for a month, but I am some what better now. Please understand I always write as soon as I get a box from you. I have been really sick for the past month. I am still very weak. Monique was so upset about my face. I looked horrible, but it is going down a lot now.

We got snow on Friday. We got four inches. It's so pretty but it is cold. All the rest of the family is well. Thanks so much for the boxes. I was just not feeling good enough to write. I hope to hear from you soon.

Love Jeanette.

SPECIAL THANKS

A very special thanks goes out to Barb Peck for all her hard work in planning and pulling together everything for the new offices for Pastor Kevin and the Shared Ministries Coordinator and Congregation Administrator.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.

NEW MEMBERS

New Member Potluck

On a weekly basis our congregation is blessed with people who are worshipping at Good Shepherd for the first time, as well as returning worshipers who are relatively new and getting to know the ministry of Good Shepherd. An orientation to Good Shepherd's ministry will be held Sunday, April 13th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Fellowship Hall. This is a time to learn more about Good Shepherd's mission and ministry. Sandwiches and refreshments will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass.

We would like to again develop a new member bulletin board, so plan on having your picture taken also on the night of April 13th. New members will be received during Sunday morning worship on April 20th. If you would like to attend this orientation and desire to become a member please contact the church office at 534-3675 or by email to lynn.goodshepherd@embarqmail.com.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Local Food Shelf

Our local food shelf is currently open just 1 day a week, Wednesday from 10 a.m. – noon and 1 - 5 p.m. To expand these hours, this service ministry needs people willing to receive a brief training and to be available for some evening or Saturday hours. At this point we are asking for interested people to contact Pastor Kevin at kevin.goodshepherd@embarqmail.com or at 534-3675.

Interfaith Hospitality Network

Interfaith Hospitality Network of Rochester provides temporary housing for working families that are homeless. This ministry is supported by 43 faith communities in the Rochester area who offer food and shelter. IHN is looking to expand in the Plainview-Elgin-Eyota area. Would you be interested in learning more about this ministry? For more information on Interfaith Hospitality Network, go online at www.ihn-greater-rochester.org

MILESTONE MOMENTS

Baptisms...

Blessings to Autumn Pearl Deyo, who was baptized on March 2nd, 2008. Autumn is the daughter of Rick Deyo and Jenny Ernst.

Blessings to Hunter William Hassig, who was baptized on March 2nd, 2008. Hunter is the son of Andy and Shasta Hassig.

Blessings to Owen Douglas Johnson, who was baptized on March 9th, 2008. Owen is the daughter of Mark Johnson and Katy Luebke.

Blessings to Jayda Reese Schwantz, who was baptized on March 16th, 2008. Jayda is the daughter of Todd and Brooke Schwantz.

APRIL BIRTHDATES

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 04/01 | Carol Goergen-Fenske | 04/16 | Hunter Goergen |
| 04/03 | Mackenzie Boraas | | Tanner Goergen |
| 04/05 | Shannah Sexton | 04/19 | Ryan Endres |
| 04/06 | Jamie Kappauf | | Trinity Anderson |
| 04/07 | Marilee Sexton | 04/20 | Mitchell Breuer |
| | Linda Olson | 04/22 | Doug Mahoney |
| | Christopher Fasching | 04/23 | Kevin Gudmundson |
| | Matthew Axelson | | Andrew Masee |
| 04/08 | Jeremy McMillin | | Xander Henderson |
| | Lauren Rohlik | 04/24 | Ryan Sawyer |
| | Kelsey Petit | 04/25 | Julie Herrmann |
| 04/09 | Patrick Petit | 04/26 | Ben Peter |
| | Kathy Rohlik | | Katy Luebke |
| | Kent Kingsley | | Sarah Nienow |
| | Stacy Johnson | 04/27 | Michelle Gudmundson |
| | Ben Albers | | Char Balcome |
| 04/10 | Keith Fuerstneau | | Jen Peter |
| 04/12 | Joe Ulwelling | | Kellie Nienow |
| 04/13 | Doris Johnson | 04/27 | Samantha VanHove |
| 04/14 | Steve Sawyer | 04/29 | Lily Bartz |
| | Pastor Kevin Woestehoff | | Shannon Ramthun |
| | Brande Ackman | 04/30 | Kay Rasmussen |
| | Makenzie Rau | | Sarah Hayenga |
| 04/15 | Tyson Anderson | | |

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

**Please contact church office if
you have additions or corrections**

| | | |
|--------------|---------------------------|--|
| 04/12 | Bill & Laurie Albers | <u>to the list of birthdays and</u> |
| 04/22 | Fran & Sheila Grover | <u>anniversaries.</u> |
| 04/22 | Roger & Cindy Rettmann | |
| 04/23 | Nathan & Betty Norregaard | <u>Thank You!!</u> |
| 04/24 | Thor & Tina Erickson | |
| 04/24 | Al & Franny Schwantz | |

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. Order forms are available by the flower poster in the narthex.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

P. O. Box 355

Presorted Special

Standard Mail

US Postage Paid

Address Service Requested



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
MAY 2008 NEWSLETTER IS**