

The Shepherd's Staff

June 2008

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Issue 99

P. O. Box 355

GOOD SHEPHERD
LUTHERAN CHURCH

(507) 534-3675

www.goodshepherd-elca.org

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Tuesday & Thursday 1pm - 4pm

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SHARED MINISTRY & LIFEKEYS

As I begin this journey in the position of Shared Ministries Coordinator here at Good Shepherd, I reflect back on one of the first adult volunteer opportunities that came my way. It was several years ago when my husband Don & I were members of a large congregation in Rochester. We joined as a couple and became a young family as we had our children. This was a busy time in our lives as those of you with young children know. We both had jobs and our plates were quite full.

I was personally asked by our pastor and the committee chairperson to join the "Fellowship & Auxiliaries" committee. This committee met monthly and planned various fellowship events for the congregation. I had plenty of great reasons to say "no". I had a house full of small children who took up a lot of my time. I was busy with my job and in working as a nurse my schedule was unpredictable. After all, I had never volunteered in a position like this and there must, in this large congregation, be many more qualified people to take this on.

But, I did feel like if both the pastor and committee chair felt I was qualified, I just might be. I have always really enjoyed fellowship events and besides it might give me some much needed adult time. I said "yes" to that opportunity, eventually took on the chairperson position and enjoyed my time on church council.

I gained so much from this experience. I met wonderful people with many of the same interests as me and we became friends. I learned more about the church and how decisions are made. I learned that I really enjoy the work of planning events and watching them come together. When we get involved in an area that fits, it is fulfilling.

Recently Franny Schwantz, Karen Jurgenson, Gary & Joanne Melbostad & I attended a *Lifekeys* session at The Youth & Family Institute in Bloomington. We had a great time exploring our own Life Gifts, Spiritual Gifts, personality types, passions and values. I think we all left that day feeling we knew ourselves and each other a little better.

As a *Lifekeys* course participant you may learn more about ways to serve in the church and help you to say "yes" to opportunities. Opportunities that will help you fulfill your life and not just fill up your time. You will uncover what your passions are, the things you are interested in and the ways you hope to make a difference. You are valuable just as you are. Whatever gifts God, through his Holy Spirit has blessed you with, they are chosen to fit your way of life, your calling and your mission.

Please consider joining us in a future *Lifekeys* session.

READ ALL ABOUT IT!!

Enlarging the Circle of Ministry. . . . 2

Congregational Life/Youth. 3-4

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 Marlene John-

What's Important for a Church to Do?

There is no shortage of people telling us to “go.” Some of those encouragers may have our best interest in mind. Some of their guidance is good, and some may be a bit suspect. However, when our faithful God gives us a command, it is without a doubt a command that is life-giving for us. No one else has that faithful credibility.

The one who created us, the one who has been given all authority on heaven and earth **gives us a command to “Go and make disciples.”** This command is at the core of our identity. This not simply to say, lets add some more church members. But the command in its original language is **best translated “Go, disciplizing.”** Not a one time action, but an ongoing, 24/7, way of life that focuses on growing as a disciple! “Disciplizing” also means to be telling others about what Jesus has done, to be continually inviting others to grow as followers of Jesus.

How Do You Think We are Doing in Our “Disciplizing?”

The Church is involved with lots of good things. One example is works of charity. As people of faith, we feel called to go out and use our gifts to serve. This is a good thing! However, if the church quit doing charity (I don't suggest this), there would still be lots of other groups that would continue those good works. But what happens when the church falters in carry out the great commission to “Go and disciplize?” No other group does this! **At our very core, we are called to grow as disciples throughout our life and extend the invitation for others to follow Jesus.**

I invite you to **pray** about this, and to **ponder** these questions:

How does God desire us to grow in “Disciplizing?”

How does God desire to work through you and me as a congregation and as households to grow in faith and pass on the gift of faith?

How does God desire you and me as a congregation and as households to grow in the marks of discipleship of worship, prayer, reading the bible, giving, and service?

How is God at work to make us bold witnesses to invite others to follow Jesus?

Jesus gives us this command to “Go and disciplize.” He also gives us the promise to be with us always!

And Jesus came and said to them, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20 NRSV)

I invite your conversations and responses, as we continue living out our calling to be a missional and discipling church.

Blessings,

Pastor Kevin Woestehoff

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Boundary Waters Canoe Trip

Seven students will be participating in the Boundary Waters experience from July 11th -17th. This trip is being coordinated through Wilderness Canoe Base and ELCA outdoor ministry. Students taking part will be Alex Jurgenson, Matthew Keseley, Andrew Sackreiter, John Rollins, Tommy Weinrich, Noah Kuhlmann, and Quinn Tradup.

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.

MILESTONE MOMENTS

Baptisms...

Blessings to Landon Michael Klennert, who was baptized at Good Shepherd on May 11th, 2008. Landon is the son of Bernie and Michelle Klennert.

Weddings...

Blessings to Justin Tentis and Mindy Siem, who were married at Good Shepherd on May 3rd 2008.

Confirmed Members...

Congratulations to the following who were confirmed at Good Shepherd on May 4th, 2008: Lauren Bartz, Andrea Fick, Arich Herrmann, Shea Kromminga, Emma Lange, Angela Lehmann, Brooke Morath, Garrett Olson, Tyler Petit, Makenzie Rau, Quentin Tradup, Annie Weinrich, and Steven Zimmerman.

Graduating Seniors...

Congratulations to the following seniors who will be graduating on June 1st: Kayla Albers, Collin Buntrock, Tristan Morath, Jon Olmstead, and Callie Ulwelling.

BOX PROJECT UPDATE

E-mail received May 1, 2008

Dear Lonnie,

We are doing fine. We are just trying to get things done in the garden. We had to replant lots of plants because of the cold snap. I hope it will go well now.

Melissa, Dedrick and Monique, with the help of the Women's Christian Society at church, gave me a surprise birthday party on April 20. On Sunday afternoon our pastor asked me if I could stay and help him and a few other ladies go over some church records. I didn't think much about it. I just thought some records had been misplaced. After we had been there a while, and he was still looking through papers, I asked Rev. Wallace if I could help him find something. He said no, and that he was waiting for a phone call before we could do anything. So I thought that he meant someone else was going to help us, so we just sat and talked. After he got the phone call, he said, "I think everything is ok. Sorry I detained you ladies. You may go now and I will follow you to Mrs. Johnson's house for a

few minutes.”

I thought to myself that now I would have to open some canned food to go with what I have planned for our dinner to feed them. When we got to my house I saw other cars already there. I thought that something had happened. When I went inside I saw that the house was decorated with balloons and cards and flowers. I wish you could have seen it. It's been a long time since I was so happy. They had cake, ice cream,

sandwiches, and all kinds of food. There was punch, chip dip, salad, ham and cheese and all kinds of drink, even diet soda. They didn't leave until eight o'clock when everything was cleaned up. I got about forty birthday cards and a wall plaque from the church for the faithful work I have done.

Monique will soon be getting out of school. They will go on a field trip Monday. I have been looking for a bathing suit for her, but haven't found one as yet. I am going to look again tomorrow. Well, God bless you and all the families in the church.

Love,

Jeanette and family

EDUCATION COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The Education Committee met on Tuesday, May 6th. Highlights of the meeting are listed.

- Discussed Christmas program for next year.
- Discussed Teacher gifts for this year
- Deadline for ordering SS curriculum
- VBS dates at Good Earth Village
- Hutchison Pancake breakfast and Expo display
- Earth Day was a huge success!!
- Next meeting in August

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Teachers

A huge thank you goes out to this year's Sunday School teachers for all their hard work and time commitments. The teachers this year were: Kelly Zimmerman, Carol Goergen-Fenske, Shannon Ramthun, Michelle Wendt, Kevin and Shelly Gudmundson, Mike and Kathy Sveen, Tracy Goettl, Lee Olson, Jake Thompson, Deb Weinrich, and Lily Bartz.

Sunday School Perfect Attendance

CONGRATULATIONS to Schuyler and Taylor Thompson, who received perfect attendance for this past Sunday School year.

GOOD EARTH VILLAGE CAMP

Summer is Coming!

Have YOU signed up for camp? **Good Earth Village** still has space available for this summer. Join them for a day, an overnight or an entire week!

Camp offers a chance to learn about God and grow in your faith while having a ton of fun! Spend time playing games, cooking over the fire, splashing in the creek, meeting new friends and enjoying God's amazing creation! We guarantee it will be the highlight of your summer!

Use one of the following methods listed below to contact Good Earth Village for more information or to register:

Send e-mail to: www.GoodEarthVillage.org

Send e-mail to: info@GoodEarthVillage.org

Call: (507) 346-2494

A LETTER TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL FAMILIES AND SUPPORTERS

Dear Parents:

On behalf of the Education Committee and Sunday School teachers I want to thank you for sharing your child with us this past Sunday School year. It has been an exciting and eventful school year. The Sunday School teachers worked very hard at providing fun-filled lessons rooted deeply in Jesus Christ's love for us.

I also want to remind each of you of our Vacation Bible School opportunity this summer. Those students who are finishing grades K-4 will be going to Good Earth Village on Thursday, August 7th, from 9 to 4 (lunch provided). Students finishing grades 5 and 6 are scheduled to go to GEV on Wednesday, August 6th, from 9 to 4 (lunch provided). Good Shepherd will pay the fee. However, we do need parents to drive students down to the camp. It is not too late to sign-up!! Please fill out the form on the back side and return to the church office. This is an outstanding opportunity for your child to continue their journey in faith during the summer.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!! Rally Sunday is September 7, 2008 at 9:15 am in the sanctuary. Please join us on this day to kick-off another awesome Sunday School year.

WANTED: Sunday School teachers for 2008-2009. No experience necessary. Just a willingness to share God's love with children. Please prayerfully consider being a teacher. If interested please call the church office at 534-3675 or email Lynn (Lynn.goodshepherd@embarqmail.com) or myself (Thompson.jacob@mayo.edu).

Once again thank you for making this past Sunday School year a huge success! I look forward to seeing all of you again next fall.

God Bless!

Jake Thompson

Education Committee chair

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 7th. Grades 5 and 6 will go on Wednesday, August 6th. 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 July 16. If you have any questions please call Jake Thompson at 798-2336.

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 THE CHURCH OFFICE BY JULY 16.

JUNE BIRTHDATES

06/01	Darlene Mueske Alexis Chavarria	06/17	Caleb Tesmer
06/02	Steve Fenske Quinn Tradup	06/18	Isabelle Snyder
06/04	Scott Rohlik	06/19	Kelsey VanHove
06/05	Jessica Schumacher	06/22	Bob Sloan
06/06	Cindy Fuerstneau Tyler Mielke Brienne Axelson	06/23	Jackie Arens Shane Kingsley
06/11	Mike Boraas	06/26	Jack Christensen
06/12	Karla Appel Kimberly Rosckes	06/27	Debbie Bristow Nathaniel Norregaard
06/13	Bob Endres Jordan Getschmann	06/27	Zachary Snyder
		06/28	Roger Arens
		06/29	Julie Onken
		06/30	Alicia Pfeilsticker Amy Christison

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

06/09	Jim & Nyola Benitt Jack & Joyce Christensen John & Elaine Salek
06/10	Kevin & Michelle Gudmundson
06/14	Brent & Andrea Masee Tom & Julie Herrmann
06/16	Kit & Jan Sackreiter
06/17	Craig & Lisa Beck
06/18	Bill & Bonnie McMillin
06/19	George & Elaine Tesmer
06/20	Jake & Amy Thompson Buzz & Marget Christison
06/22	Tom & Janeen Kappauf
06/24	Arvin & Corrine Hanson
06/25	Troy & Betsy Munsch
06/26	Gene & Renee Bergstrom
06/30	Arlo & Penny Simonson

**PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH
OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ADDITIONS
OR CORRECTIONS TO THE LIST OF
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES.**

THANK YOU!!!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Before you criticize people, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away. And you have their shoes." J.K. Lambert

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

P. O. Box 355

Presorted Special

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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
JULY 2008 NEWSLETTER IS**