

The Shepherd's Staff

August 2008

Issue 101

Contact Information

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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 Eversman (534-2336) or Kathy Sveen (876-3083) during the month of August..

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH: EBENEZER SUNDAY GIVE THANKS FOR WHAT GOD HAS DONE!

- 9:15 a.m. Students, Parents, and Teachers gather for Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m. One Worship Service of Thanksgiving
- 12:00 p.m. Share a meal together on the Front Lawn

"COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING"

The phrase, "Here I raise my Ebenezer," is the beginning of the second verse of the familiar hymn, "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing." On more than one occasion, I have heard worshipers ask, "What is my Ebenezer, and why did I say I was raising mine?" Good question. Here is some background, and why it is fitting that we still sing these words.

This hymn, written by Robert Robinson in 1758, stresses the joy of Christianity and the Christian's need to rely on the Lord. Robinson chose the phrase, "**Here I raise my Ebenezer,**" from **1 Samuel 7:12**, because it reminds God's people how God delivered Israel from danger. Chapters 4 through 7 of 1 Samuel describe a series of battles between the Israelites and the Philistines. In the end, the Israelites soundly defeated the Philistines.

As a reminder of the great victory God gave to Israel, Samuel took a great stone and raised it as a memorial "between Mizpeh and Shen." As he raised it he "called the name of it Ebenezer [or stone of help], saying, "Thus far the LORD has helped us." (1 Samuel 7:12). Whenever the Israelites looked at the stone, they would remember how God had helped them.

When we sing, "Here I raise my Ebenezer," we are quoting Samuel, who raised the Ebenezer stone to remind the Israelites of God's help for them in their time of trouble. The words of the hymn remind us that God is truly the "fount of every blessing," who deserves our worship and our praise. **Although the words, "Here I raise my Ebenezer" sound obscure to us, they do express thanks to God who is our "help" in time of trouble and always.**

We will raise up Sunday, September 7th at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church as our Ebenezer stone, to give thanks for the many joys and helps that God has given us. I invite you to read "Enlarging the Circle of Ministry" for more details on joys that you and our council and staff members are celebrating that God has continued to do at Good Shepherd! As we prepare for Sunday, September 7th please take time to write down joys that you want to celebrate in the display in the narthex.

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Following a year of Study, Prayer, and Discernment, the people of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on April 30, 2006 unanimously approved the following vision:

Good Shepherd Youth & Family Ministry

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

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

Educate all from cradle to grave.

Worship in thankfulness and joy.

Value all generations in passing on the faith.

Identify and affirm the gifts of God's people.

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

Welcome the opportunity to walk the talk with our youth.

Our Plan

As Good Shepherd Lutheran is resolved to be a congregationally based ministry which practices shared decision/vision making and strives to be a place of Youth & Family Ministry, our strategic plan for the next 3-5 years focuses on the following items:

Program

- Be a place of dynamic Word & Sacrament ministry, with an average worship attendance of 300 people.
- Develop an ongoing system of gift identification and implementation of all members in a two year period.
- Develop long range plan of Youth & Family Ministry that equips homes for nurturing faith, builds intergenerational connections, and gleans the wisdom of our oldest generation.
- Adopt one major external mission project to impact our community.
- Develop a structure of congregational care with members aware of how to access available resources.
- Develop a continuum of lifelong learning, with every member participating annually.
- Strengthen our video ministry and great commission ministry to our neighborhoods.

Staffing

- 2007 – Increase Program and Support Staff by adding .5 Volunteer Coordinator, and increasing the secretary position from .5 to Full-time.
- Develop Long Range Plan for staffing to carry out our vision.

Facility

- Develop a Facility Master Plan and Maintenance Schedule that is congruent with our ministry priorities and needs.

Finance

- Develop a long range finance strategy to address long term fiscal need.

The following groups and people have drafted, revised, and proposed the Strategic Plan. **Strategic Planning Team**: Tom Anderson, Nancy Bunde, Mark Jurgenson, Ron Fahrenz, and Deb Weinrich. **Learning Team**: Renee Bergstrom, Darald Bothun, Gloria Keseley, Fran Schwantz, Kathy Sveen and Stan Tesch. **Church Council**: Lily Bartz, Barb Peck, Ron Peterson, Gary Melbostad, Todd Wangen, Peg Mattke, Cheryl Schneider, Bob Sloan, and Stan Tesch.

ENLARGING THE CIRCLE OF MINISTRY

“Here We Raise Our Ebenezer!”

We have set aside September 7, 2008 as a special Sunday to celebrate what God has done. We will all worship together at 10:30 a.m. to mark this occasion.

This summer our staff and council members spent time reflecting on our shared ministry, and where we are at with carrying out our vision and strategic plan. We originally thought that our vision and strategic plan would lead us into 2010. Our strategic plan is being completed at a much faster pace than we anticipated, and we need to give thanks to God! We want to set apart Sunday, September 7th as a day to “raise my Ebenezer,” and celebrate what God has done!

How can I prepare for September 7th?

We invite you to look again at the shared vision and strategic plan. Make a list of joys that you would like to celebrate. Add to our celebration by listing ways you have seen God at work in our congregation and beyond. Please share your list on the display in the back of the sanctuary!

To get the ball rolling, here is a beginning list of the many joys we have to celebrate:

- More people are gathering to hear the good news of Jesus! Worship attendance has continued to grow each year since 2003. Our weekly average in 2003 was 113. Our weekly average in 2007 was 161. To help to grow as a place of dynamic worship, the sanctuary has also been air conditioned, and a reliable sound system has been added.
- Good Shepherd is helping people to see their life as a ministry by developing an ongoing system of gift identification and working to connect people with natural opportunities that match their gifts. Deb Weinrich began serving as a part time Shared Ministry Coordinator in March of 2008.
- We celebrate Ron Peterson’s 20+ years of serving as treasurer, and book keeper.
- We celebrate the development of a weekly senior high ministry with annual impact trips that have included mission trips to West Virginia and Mexico, the National Youth Gathering in San Antonio, Texas, Peer Ministry Camp, and the recent Boundary Waters experience.
- We celebrate the work of “multiple touch ministry” in providing care, and support through cards, phone calls, and visits.
- We celebrate the growing involvement in the social ministries of the food shelf, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Flood Relief Projects, and the Sharing Tree.
- We celebrate the increased number of people involved in ministries of all kinds and the addition of Lynn Eversman in September of 2007 as our part-time Congregation Administrator.
- The September 2008 addition of Carole Joyce as a 5 hour/week “Passing on the Faith” Facilitator. This staffing move is a crucial step in pursuing our vision of “valuing all generations in passing on the faith.” Carole Joyce brings 22 years of experience, and a passion for faith and its power for children, youth, adults, and families.

ENLARGING THE CIRCLE OF MINISTRY CONTINUED...

“Where do we go from here?”

As we have many joys to celebrate, we also find ourselves needing to go deeper in asking God, “Where are you calling us to go from here?” Although our strategic plan is not completely fulfilled, we are at place where we need to explore deeper what God is calling us to, and what that ministry will look like. It takes time and energy for a congregation to discern together the future that God is calling us to. As we have seen in our many joys, taking time to discern God’s vision is always worthwhile. From September through November a handful of dates will be selected to gather the congregation together for more discernment. Look for these dates in future publications. Pastor Kathie Nycklemoe has been enlisted to facilitate our discussions and to help us listen for God’s guidance. Her experience as a pastor, spiritual director, and congregational facilitator will provide us objectivity and a God-centered process.

Seeking God’s guidance together,
Pastor Kevin Woestehoff

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH

COUNT ME IN

You have likely noticed the half page bright blue additions to the bulletins. These new “Count Me In” forms are available to you in the bulletins weekly and are designed to keep you informed of the needs and opportunities at Good Shepherd and the community. “Count Me In” sheets are updated each week.

The opportunities range from short term (i.e. provide a meal for someone in need), to long term (i.e. volunteer to teach Sunday School for the 2008-2009 school year). As time goes on, we hope that this form becomes that one place that each of us can look to find out what is needed and where we can give of our time and talents.

If you would like to have something lifted up on the “Count Me In” form, please e-mail it to Lynn Eversman at Lynn.goodshepherd@embarqmail.com. Each entry needs to be brief and specific and will run for two weeks. After two weeks the entry will be removed. If you want it to be run again, it needs to be updated and resubmitted.

Please take time to review the opportunities each week and place the completed “Count Me In” form in the offering plate. This is one more way we can give of ourselves. Please say, “Count me in!”

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH CONTINUED...

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

The new church directories arrived in July. If you have not had the chance to pick yours up, please do so the next time you are at church. Thanks to Doris Johnson and Lynn Eversman, each directory is labeled with a family's name. If there is not a directory there for your family, please contact Lynn Eversman at 534-3675 or send an e-mail to Lynn.goodshepherd@embarqmail.com.

Thanks to the following for working on the directories: Kathy Sveen, Barb Peck, Joanne Melbostad, Pastor Woestehoff, Doris Johnson, and Lynn Eversman.

BOX PROJECT UPDATE

Email received July 1, 2008

Dear Lonnie,

Hello, we are doing fine. It is so very hot here, but we always have this kind of weather this time of year. I have been doing some canning. I put up some plum jelly and some pickles and peas and squash. The beans are not ready yet.

Yes, the price of gas is really a problem for everybody. We have an eighty-three Oldsmobile and it doesn't burn too much gas, but the prices hurt. We try to save as much as we can even in cooking.

My flowers are doing fine, but I have to water them in the afternoons. I have potted flowers as my yard is not good for outdoor flowers. They will not grow in the soil as it has lots of little rocks.

We have not planned anything for the 4th. Maybe we will have a cookout just for us. It is so hot. Monique has another week in camp and then she will be back home. Dedrick is putting in more hours of construction work and that is great because in awhile it will get bad again soon and he will have no work. Melissa still works at the gift shop and also at the gas station. I still do cleaning and ironing. Sometimes I do a bit of sewing. We all stay busy. I just wanted to catch you up to date on us. You all take care.

Love, Jeanette

E-mail received July 30, 2008

Dear Lonnie,

I just wanted to say "Hi" and "How is everyone?" We are having some very hot weather. The weatherman has a heat advisory out for us. We have been in the hundred and ten degrees for awhile now. You have to come inside by ten o'clock because it is so hot. So many people can't stand the heat. We get up early to try to do our early chores. We are all well. It will be a scorcher today.

Give my love to all and wish us luck through this heat.

Love, Jeanette

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

***Surviving and living your life successfully requires courage.
The goals and dreams you're seeking require courage and risk-taking.
Learn from the turtle, it only makes progress when it sticks out its neck.***

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE/YOUTH CONTINUED...

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Senior High trip through the Boundary Waters

Taking part on this trip was Matthew Keseley, Tommy Weinrich, Noah Kuhlman, Quin Tradup, Alex Jurgenson, John Rollins, and Pastor Kevin Woestehoff. (We missed out on enjoying the trip with Andrew Sackreiter who was sick and unable to take part.) On Friday July 11th, we loaded up in a van and headed up 400 miles to Wilderness Canoe Base on Seagull Lake. This is 60 miles west of Grand Marais, MN on the Gun Flint Trail.

Each day of this experience began and ended with some time in God's Word. We had some great discussions during our Bible Study times. Our group was led by a guide from Wilderness Canoe Base. Our group really bonded together as we paddled the canoes against some challenging wind and waves, and worked together to cook meals, gather firewood, and portage from lake to lake.

In all of our experiences we were reminded again and again of our dependence on God, and that we need each part of the body of Christ! We returned home on Thursday, July 17th with lots of great memories, and lots to think about.

We will share more of our experiences during worship at 9 a.m. on Sunday, August 10th and at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13th. Thank you all for your prayers, encouragement, and financial support. What a great experience!

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.

MINNESOTA TWINS 15TH ANNUAL LUTHERAN NIGHT

The Minnesota Twins 15th Annual Lutheran Night is being held on Tuesday, August 19 at 7:10 p.m. The Twins will be playing the Oakland Athletics.

Lower Level Reserved tickets: \$21 (regular \$30)

Upper Level Club Reserved tickets: \$16.00 (regular \$21)

Upper Level General Admission tickets: \$6 (regular \$7)

If you are interested in ordering tickets or organizing a group to attend, pick up a sheet with full details in the narthex.

MILESTONE MOMENTS

Weddings...

Blessings to Sarah Hayenga and Marty Hassig, who were married at Wedgwood Park on July 12th, 2008.

EDUCATION MINISTRY

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES TO PASS ON THE GIFT OF FAITH

Together In Faith is a Sunday Morning Program where Parents and Students play, learn, and grow together in faith. We are looking for people who have a desire to pass on the gift of faith, and to help this ministry in the following ways:

- Assemble the materials needed for each session (8 age levels meet for a total of 19 sessions.)
- Assist the session teacher, and work directly with the students for 10 minutes each session. (Materials are provided.)
- Be a Session Teacher: Facilitate the Parent-Student activities, and the 10 minute parent discussion. (Materials are provided.)

Wednesday Night Confirmation Ministry could use adults with a desire to connect with junior high students and give students an opportunity to ask questions and grow deeper in their faith. (You don't need to have the answers!) We could use your gifts in the following important roles:

- Small group Leaders
Attend the Wednesday 6 – 7:30 p.m. time together with 7th and 8th grade students and other adult leaders. Be with students during the meal, 30 minute large group time, and facilitate a small group of 5-6 students for 30 minutes of discussions or activities.
- Lead a large group teaching session.
(Teaching materials are web-based and are provided by "Here We Stand" Confirmation, and the content is Bible Stories, Luther's Small Catechism, or other discussions about worship or faith.)

We are always updating records. Please look at the draft copy of the Sunday School Class List (on the following page) and send corrections, updates, and other helpful information to Lynn.goodshepherd@embarqmail.com.

EDUCATION MINISTRY CONTINUED...

3-Year Olds

Trey Anderson
Destiny Drenckhahn
Alexis Ernst
Claire Henry
Tucker Johnson
Zack Nelson
Logan Onken

Preschool

Jakob Bethke
Kaylan Froisland
Amiya Klassen
Evan Kobler
Jacy Lundeen
Kaylee Peter
Peyton Schumacher
Isaac Woestehoff
Jameson Brinkman

Kindergarten

Carter Balcome
Mitchell Breuer
Eve Grabau
Rose Grover
Gage Hanson
Xander Henderson
Mariah Henry
Isabella Horstman
Kaylee Hutchison
Josh Labare
Ethan Onken
Conner Ramthun
Conner Schumacher
Zachary Snyder
Riland Wendt
Alana Wilson

1st Grade

Tyson Anderson
Carly Jo Goettl

2nd Grade

Olivia Amos
Alexis Chavarria
Anthony Ellinghuysen
Jeremiah Grabau
Jacob Labare
Jacob Munsch
Taylor Nelson
Parker Ramthun
Christian Wangen
Grace Wangen

3rd Grade

Jordyn Anderson
Trinity Anderson
Erin Bartz
Nicole Bartz
Danika Bethke
Hannah Grabau
Sage Grover
Caleb Kromminga
Brady Patzer
Parker Shanks
Hanna Sveen
Brady Walter
Arissa Wilson

4th Grade

Max Breuer
Raelin Ellinghuysen
Joe Goettl
Paige Gudmundson
Brooke Horstman
Kali Jurgenson
Shane Kingsley
Shelbey Ramthun
Taylor Thompson
Randal Wendt

5th Grade

McKenzie Bethke
Caleb Getschmann
Hunter Goergen
Tanner Goergen
Amber Kingsley
Jake Kromminga
Ashton Labare
Jayden Munsch
Anthony Rosckes
Brady Sveen

6th Grade

Haley Gudmundson
Angalee Schmidt
Thomas Zimmerman

7th Grade

Megan Fick
Morgan Fick
Larissa Jurgenson
Gannon Olson
Hayley Rau
Hunter Rau
Mathew Sackreiter
Emily Scripture
Nicholas Shanks
Lucas Simonson
Schuyler Thompson
Dylan Tradup

8th Grade

Justin Amos
Andrea Bartz
Dillon Beck
Jordan Getschmann
Jasmyne Johnson
Shannah Sexton

EDUCATION MINISTRY CONTINUED...

“Stars! Angels! Shepherds! Kings!”

December 21, 2008

10:30 Worship Service

Good Shepherd's Sunday School children will perform the Christmas Musical “Stars! Angels! Shepherds! Kings!” to tell one of the most beloved stories of all time. All children in Grades Preschool through sixth grade will participate.

A note to parents of Sunday School children: The month of November will be spent preparing the program. It will be extremely important that every student come to Sunday School each week so they can learn their part and feel prepared. The Sunday School teachers and program directors will be working together to prepare the children for the musical. If we have faithful attendance and good participation, we may not have to have a Saturday rehearsal in December. We know December is busy.

Plan to join us December 21 at 10:30 A.M. to hear the Christmas story through music and costumed characters.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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) and let us know what grade you are interested in helping out with.

Thank You and God Bless!

Jake Thompson
Education Committee chair

MISSIONS & STEWARDSHIP

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We will again be sending shoeboxes filled with school supplies, small toys and sweets to children in third world countries who might not otherwise receive a Christmas gift. Please think about this as you shop for your children's school supplies. These items tend to be at great prices now through September. Supplies could include pencils, cap erasers, scissors, glue or glue sticks, small notebooks crayons markers pens small pencil sharpeners etc. Please save shoeboxes whether you plan to fill one or not. Boxes can be left at church for others to use.

If you have any questions, please call Ginny Mielke at 534-3357.

PROPERTIES

GOOD SHEPHERD GARDEN CLUB

Kevin Gudmundson has suggested the name CCC Garden Club – Coffee, Cookies and Conversation. No dues, no offices, no minutes. If you would like to join this merry group of garden enthusiasts, please join us the 3rd Thursday of each month at 6:45 p.m. Bring clippers, shovels, and other garden tools.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

COME SING A SONG

It is hard to believe that soon we will start our Children's Choir program year. As you start planning for school, I hope that you will also start planning how you can share your gifts with the Good Shepherd music program. God has blessed all of us with gifts and our gift to Him is how we decide to use those gifts.

If you are in grades K-6 you are invited to come and sing with the Good Shepherd Children's Choir. All voices are welcome – experienced and new! We practice every **Wednesday** night from **6:30 to 7:30** and we participate in the worship service at least once a month and sometimes twice. We try to mix fun with learning. The children will learn how to use their voices properly, what it means to be a worship participant, good music literature and some things about reading notes and feeling rhythms. When time allows we have a short devotion and play a musical game.

Our **first gathering** will be **August 27 at 6:00pm**. This meeting will be used as our sign-up time and our robe fitting time. If you are interested, come to the church on **Wed., August 27** and I will fit you with a robe and get you signed up. Please come to the Youth Room for sign-up and fitting. Parents may stay because as soon as I have the information I need and the child's robe is fitted, the children are free to go. I will stay until 7:00 pm when church begins.

Our **first rehearsal** will be on **Wednesday, September 3 at 6:00 – 7:00**. This is a change from our regular rehearsal time because we need to be done before Wednesday evening worship begins. I would actually like to get into music this night so I want sign-up and robe fitting completed the week before. The children will be given a schedule for practices and for Sundays we sing at the first or second rehearsal.

"One voice can make a difference." Parents please share this information with your eligible child and encourage him or her to share the gifts God has given them. If you have questions, please call Gloria Keseley, 534-2147.

"Music shared plays forever."

Gloria Keseley
Children's Choir Director

Birthdays

08/01 Esther Tidball Rachael Anderson	08/15 Janeen Kappauf Chris Mattke
08/03 Karen Back Todd Schwantz	08/18 Erika Patzer
08/04 Brenda Axelson Stephanie Amos Jenna Christensen Heather VanHove	08/19 Betty Fahrenz Betsy Munsch
08/06 Lana Schneider Timothy Hanson	08/20 Jim Benitt Jan Stephenson Jon Ninas Tessa Holst Max Breuer
08/07 Barb Peck Karen Jurgenson Meghan Burke Cole Olstad	08/21 Linda Tesmer
08/08 Elaine Tesmer Chad Gelner	08/23 Garrett Olson
08/09 Brian Tesch	08/24 Jill Gelner Steven Zimmerman Brady Sveen
08/10 Joseph Goettl Jacob Munsch	08/25 Jan Nienow Lori Holst Brady Patzer Cailyn Finley
08/11 Mary Applen	08/27 Al Schwantz Kali Jurgenson
08/12 Sue Tangen Laurie Timm Bryan Goettl Clay Olstad	08/28 Danielle Tesmer
08/13 Calen Drenckhahn	08/30 Lonnie Yust Bernie Klennert
08/14 Parker Ramthun	08/31 Ted Lehmann Pat Lehmann

AUGUST 2008						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Anniversaries

08/05	Don & Jan Fiskum
08/07	Chad & Jill Gelner
08/08	Jason & Erika Patzer
08/17	Todd & Tina Wangen
08/18	Ron & Tammy Peterson
08/22	Merlin & Ginny Mielke
08/23	Paul & Monica Anderson Matt & Stacy Johnson
08/25	Steve & Peggy Erwin Jan & Susan Nienow Don & Deb Weinrich Paul & Diane Fick
08/27	Lennie & Lori Holst

Upcoming Events

8/3-8/9			
Sunday	8/3	9:00 am	Worship Service
Monday	8/4		Pastor's Day Off
Tuesday	8/5	9:00 am 1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Staff Meeting Worship & Music Meeting Education Committee Meeting
Wed	8/6	6:15 pm 7:00 pm	Co-Leader Meeting Worship Service
Thurs	8/7		
Fri	8/8		
Sat	8/9		

8/10-8/16			
Sunday	8/10	9:00 am 10:00 am	Worship Service Co-Leader Meeting
Mon	8/11	6:00 pm	Pastor's Day Off Congregational Life Meeting
Tues	8/12	9:00 am	Staff Meeting
Wed	8/13	7:00 pm	Worship Service
Thurs	8/14		
Fri	8/15		
Sat	8/16		

8/17-8/23			
Sunday	8/17	9:00 am	Worship Service
Monday	8/18		Pastor's Day Off
Tuesday	8/19	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Staff Meeting Finance Meeting
Wed	8/20	7:00 pm	Worship Service
Thurs	8/21		
Fri	8/22		
Sat	8/23		

8/24-8/30			
Sunday	8/24	9:00 am	Worship Service
Monday	8/25		Pastor's Day Off
Tuesday	8/26	9:00 am	Staff Meeting
Wed	8/27	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Children's Choir Worship Service
Thurs	8/28		
Fri	8/29		
Sat	8/30		

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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The Shepherd's Staff is a communication tool among our friends and members spreading the word of Jesus Christ with news of our church and related events. It is published monthly by Good Shepherd Lutheran Church of Plainview-Elgin.

VISION STATEMENT, GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

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.
Educate all from cradle to grave.
Worship in thankfulness and joy.

Value all generations in passing on the faith.
Identify and affirm the gifts of God's people.
Energize God's people to use their gifts for ministry.
Welcome the opportunity to walk the talk with our youth.

The submission deadline for the September 2008 Newsletter is

Monday, August 25.