



**The**

# **Shepherd's Staff**

**On-Line Newsletter**

**"News from the Fold"**

September 2007    Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Carthage, Missouri    Vol. XVII, Issue 9

## Sunday School Rally Day, Sunday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>

It's an exciting time of the year. A celebration of sorts. It's a day for lots of NEW things: new Sunday School year, new teachers, new classes, and new class material. NEW could also stand for "News Each Week". So, come and hear the "news each week" of Jesus' love, through Bible lessons and through songs. Sunday School is important!

Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, is Rally Day. At 9:30 am, everyone will join together for the usual Sunday School opening. Next, the children will go to their assigned rooms to greet their teacher and classmates. There will be a short lesson, after which everyone will head outside for the much anticipated balloon launch, at approximately 10:15 am. After watching the colorful balloons float up, up, and away, everyone will return to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments. Parents, come with your children and join the fun.

Each Sunday morning at 9:30, Good Shepherd provides classes for all children from early childhood through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade, as well as the Adult class, led by Pastor. We encourage you, as parents, to see that your children are given every opportunity to grow further in their spiritual life through the Bible lessons taught here each Sunday. We also invite you to be a part of the Adult Bible class, which meets in the Fellowship hall after the Sunday School opening.



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." *Matthew 19:14*

# Immanuel, Lockwood, Celebrating 125 Years



You are invited to Immanuel in Lockwood on September 16<sup>th</sup>, for a special service at 10:30 am, followed by a meal and commemorative program, to celebrate their 125 years as a congregation.

We offer our congratulations and pray for God's continued blessings on our sister congregation, Immanuel.

## We are Thankful for Our Teachers!

Thanks to all those who volunteered to teach a class this summer. It was a nice break for the children from their regular classroom study, and also gave some of our regular teachers a well deserved summer vacation.

We are looking forward to a good "Sunday School" year, and want to recognize all those who will be teaching this fall, and to thank them for their willingness to serve.

2 & 3 year olds:	<i>Caryn D.</i>
Pre K & Kindergarten:	<i>Joann W., Jenny R.</i>
1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grades:	<i>Wally H.</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Grades:	<i>Sandy D.</i>
5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> Grades:	<i>Bradley M.</i>
7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades:	<i>Rhonda N.</i>
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades:	<i>Cheryl M., Keith Z.</i>
Adult Class:	<i>Pastor</i>
Substitutes:	<i>Linda B. Martha H. Angela R. Lora W.</i>

## Well Done

We congratulate Abbi S. on the completion and receiving of her certification for Certified Nurses Aid (CNA) training. We're proud of you!

*Doug and Kelli S.*

## Jr. Confirmation Classes to Resume, September 12<sup>th</sup>

Instruction for the Jr. Confirmation class will start September 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. The class is for students in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. They will need to bring their own Bible. The Catechism and a note book will be provided.

There will be a parents' meeting after each service September 9<sup>th</sup> to answer any questions, and to give an overview of the lesson material.



Chad & Nicole B. were blessed with the gift of a baby boy on Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Cole Garrett weighed 6 lbs., 11 oz., and was 20½ inches long. Cole was welcomed home by big brother, Brett. Joe & Sandy L. are the proud maternal grandparents.

Todd & Christy M. were blessed with the gift of a baby girl on Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. Olivia Grace Ann weighed 9 lbs., and was 22 inches long. Proud maternal grandparents are Jim & Judy B.

Congratulations to these proud families, and may God bless and keep all in his loving care.



## Thanks Lawn Crew

Our many thanks to all who so faithfully spent their time mowing and trimming the church property this summer. We know that there is still mowing to be done, but wanted to let you know that your labors are noticed and very much appreciated.

Thanks to Dennis & Anita M. for setting up the schedule and for mowing the east side of the property each week.

# "Gather the Sheaves"

Immanuel Missionary League  
Lockwood, MO

Invites you to the *Southwest Missouri Zone Lutheran Women's Missionary League* Thirty-Eighth Fall Rally  
Saturday, September 22, 2007, 10:00 am  
Registration: 9:00-10:00 am

Special Speaker:

*Mr. Gary Thies,*

LCMS Mission Development Counselor  
"What is God Doing These Days?"

You will hear inspiring answers as Mr. Thies thrills you with stories from around the world of mission joys and successes.

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Mary at the church office, 358-1325, before September 8<sup>th</sup>.

**INGATHERING:** *Bring non-perishable food and personal care items for the Lockwood Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry.*



## Remembering 9/11/01 with Prayer

Dear Lord, loving Creator of us all, we remember with great sadness those whose lives were taken on September 11, 2001. We hold up to you the victims' families that they may know, despite their pain, that they can find solace in your loving presence. Help them bring their hurting hearts to you, realizing that your everlasting arms can bear them up and that they cannot be separated from your abiding love.

Please assure us that even though we cannot understand such horrible deeds, you can bring good out of evil, justice out of injustice, and righteousness out of unrighteousness.

Therefore, confessing our human weaknesses, our grief, and our struggles to make sense out of this world, we cry out with the psalmist: "Rise up, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand; do not forget the oppressed." (Psalm 10:12, NRSV). Strengthen our hearts this day and every day. Amen.

## Youth Tidbit

The Youth Group will be selling foods and drinks at the Festival of Friends, Central Park, Carthage, on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

# Carthage Little League All Stars, State Champions

Congratulations to the Carthage All Star team for winning the State Championship. We want to recognize member Jordan M., who was a pitcher for the championship team. Pictured is Jordan getting a well deserved greeting from his mom, Mechelle, and an action picture showing good pitching form.

Jordan is the son of Jerry & Mechelle M., and is in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Congratulations, Jordan, on a job well done!



## Strike Up the Band!



Do you play an instrument? Come be a part of the Good Shepherd band. Practice begins Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. If you need more information, contact band leader Karen M. (contact the office if you need the number).

# Special Investment Opportunity!

## LUTHERAN CHURCH EXTENSION FUND

LCEF is very pleased to announce a special investment product for a limited time. They will offer a two-year term note with an interest rate of **6.00% (6.13% APY)**. The minimum investment is \$500 and this offer will be available from September 1, 2007 through November 30, 2007. *LCEF reserves the right to end this special promotion early if they receive \$150 million in investments.* For more information about the program, contact LCEF at (800) 843-5233 or visit their Web site at [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org).

The LCEF provides loans to churches of the LCMS for building programs, or to professional church workers for housing, home equity, and debt consolidation loans at a very competitive rate. Our congregation is using LCEF for our present loan on the church building.



Lutheran Church Extension Fund  
10733 Sunset Office Drive, Suite 300  
St. Louis, MO 63127-1020  
1800-843-5233 [www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org)

# Thank you!

I would like to thank everyone who helped me celebrate my birthday with cards, prayers, well wishes and a gooseberry pie! 63 doesn't seem quite as bad now as it did before. Thank you everyone!!

*Pastor*

# Celebrate and Pay Tribute



Zion Lutheran Church of Independence, KS invites you to come

share the good times at GermanFest 2007, at the Riverside Park Oval, Independence on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00 am to 11:00 pm. Come and enjoy authentic German cuisine, live music, entertainment, hayrides, and activities for the whole family.

All proceeds from this event will benefit Christian education at Zion Lutheran School.

For more information visit [www.indygermanfest.com](http://www.indygermanfest.com).

*Evangelism—What is it?*

# "This Little Gospel Light of Mine, I'm Gonna Let it Shine"

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to visit our church for the first time and not know anyone, or which Sunday School class your child should go to, or what to expect during the worship service? More importantly, have you ever wondered what it would be like to pass through this life without knowing the peace and grace of our loving Lord, Jesus Christ? In Matthew 28 our Lord commands His disciples to "go and make disciples of all nations..." (this includes our friends, neighbors, and visitors of all kinds). How do we as Christ's disciples respond to such a command? Are there things we can do as a congregation to make our church's presence more visible in the community? Are there things we can do to make worship, Bible study, and fellowship opportunities more visitor-friendly? Are there other ways in which we may participate more fully in sharing the gospel to those who hunger to hear it?

The Evangelism Committee would like to give Good Shepherd members an opportunity to ponder these kinds of questions and develop some ideas on how we may be of service to our Lord in the expansion of his kingdom. Evangelism doesn't have to be about tent revivals, or going door to door and dropping off tracts. It can simply be about how we may allow the Holy Spirit to use our time, talents, and treasures to reach the lost and the seeking in whatever ways He may enable us. An organizational meeting for the Evangelism Committee will be held on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. If you have a heart for letting your gospel light shine, we welcome you to come and share your ideas. For more information, please call John or Rhonda N.

Thanks,  
John

# United in Marriage



Our congratulations to Shala O. and Walter C. who exchanged wedding vows on Saturday evening, August 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Holiday Inn, Joplin.

We ask for God's blessings on this new family. The couple make their home in Webb City.

*Two Become One*



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Picture taken in front of the Orange Co. Convention Center, Orlando, FL.

Front Row: Cole S., Kelsey P., Ali V., Nicole K., Rebecca D., Kayla D., Cheryl M., Tim R.

Back Row: Keith Z., AJ S., Gretchen N., Caryn D., Morgan S., Kurt H., and Katy S.

## 2007 LCMS National Youth Gathering

By: Keith Z., Cheryl M., and Caryn D.

On Thursday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, twelve members from the Youth Group returned from the 2007 National Youth Gathering in Orlando, Florida. All youth reports indicate that the trip was an impacting success! The Youth were able to share their experiences with the congregation during Bible Study on Sunday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. For those of you unable to attend this presentation, listed below is the "Top Ten" list the Youth created to summarize their experiences:

**10. The Skit Guys** – Christian performers Eddie & Tommy were able to dramatize Christian messages through both serious and entertaining skits.

**9. Daily Bible Studies** – Whether within our family group meeting times, or as a part of morning Bible Study, the Youth furthered their faith through the study of the book of First Peter.

**8. ChoZone Activities** – Fun fellowship area that included games, informational booths, competition activities, and more!

**7. The Jesus Painter** – Christian performance artist and speaker, Mike Lewis, captivated our interest with large portraits of Christ completed in minutes.

**6. Echelon & Fusebox Concerts** – Christian music bands that entertained and energized our faith through their music and lyrics.

**5. Scavenger Hunts** – Just one way the Youth was able to interact with thousands of Christian brothers and sisters throughout the United States and the world.

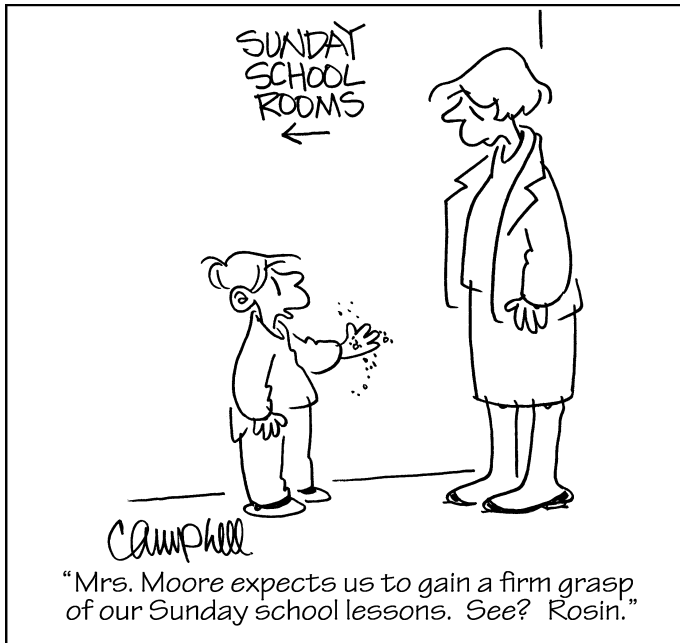
**4. Speakers Bob Lentz and Rev. John Nunes** – Spoke with prominence and connection to teenage issues and understanding. Truly memorable speakers!

**3. Free Ablaze! MP3 Players** – As a part of the *Ablaze!* goal of reaching 100 million people with the New Testament by the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation in 1517.

**2. Daily Mass Events** – Praise and worship with 25,000 Lutheran youth was unlike any other experience!

**1. Being Chosen** – Learning that we are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, as told in 1 Peter 2:9.

The Youth Group would like to thank each member of the congregation who helped support this trip through their thoughts, prayers, efforts, and donations. The Lord has worked through all of us to make this experience for the Youth possible!



## Just for KIDS

### Apple of Your Eye

When something is said to be the "apple of your eye," it means it's precious to you and you would protect it as you would your own eye. With school starting up again, we should remember God's instructions in Proverbs 7:2: "Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye" (NIV).

Find and circle the word "apple" 13 times in the puzzle below. It can be horizontal, vertical, diagonal and even backward.

e	a	e	e	a	p	e	l
l	a	p	p	p	i	e	a
a	p	p	p	a	i	e	p
l	p	i	p	a	p	i	p
a	i	e	l	a	i	p	p
e	e	a	e	p	e	a	e
l	i	e	a	p	p	i	e
a	p	p	a	p	p	i	e
l	a	p	p	i	e	p	
e	a	a	e	a			

# 5th annual Pig Pickin' on the Prairie

Lockwood, Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup>

Come on out to the Flyin J Prairie, Thom & Beth Mehl's home, for an afternoon and evening of good food, games, and a chance to just sit around and visit with friends and family.

The Thom Mehl family has created the Jason Mehl Memorial Scholarship fund to help with tuition costs for those families who would like to have their children experience the Christian education offered at Immanuel Lutheran School in Lockwood. Donations received at the event, along with matching funds from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, go towards growing and furthering this cause. The Mehls also match the first \$1,000.00 in donations. We hope to see you there, and that you make it an annual activity for your family. For more details you can call Thom's office at 1-888-243-8225.

You can check out the event flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex at the church.

## A Final Thought...

- You can either complain that rose bushes have thorns—or rejoice that thorn bushes have roses.
- The manner in which it is given is worth more than the gift.
- We've lost a lot when we stopped writing letters. You can't re-read a phone call.



**The Shepherd's Staff** is the monthly publication of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Rev. James Schnackenberg, Pastor, Doug Dickey, Mary Parks, Dorothy Lovejoy, & Wynette Quade, staff members; Members of the congregation, contributing writers. Articles without a byline have been written by the editorial staff. Life without typographical errors would be life without bulletin bloopers, boring. Contributions may be edited for publication.

**Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (LCMS)** is located one mile west of Carthage, at the northwest corner of the US 71 Business and MO 96 Highway interchange. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 257, Carthage, MO 64836-0257. Our telephone number is 417-358-1325; fax line is 358-1381. Our e-mail address is [goodshepherd@ecarthage.com](mailto:goodshepherd@ecarthage.com). Check out our website at [www.gslc-carthage.com](http://www.gslc-carthage.com).

Sunday Morning Worship services are at 8:15 am and 10:45 am, with Sunday School for all ages beginning at 9:30 am. Wednesday Ladies' class, 6:30 pm; Thursday Bible Study and Fellowship, 9:30 am.