

Lutheran Minister Charged With Child Porn Possession

News

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ST. CHARLES, Mo. (AP) - A Lutheran pastor is in jail after detectives with the county's cyber crimes unit raided his home Tuesday and discovered child pornography on his computer, police say.



Matthew D. Luetke, 35, of the 5000 block of Danielle Drive, was charged today with promoting child pornography. He had been under investigation since December, when undercover detectives began trading child pornography with him, police said.

Luetke has been a pastor at Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church, 8425 Mexico Road, for about a year, police say. Before that he worked at churches in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Police say he had no previous criminal record.

A day care at the church is attended by about 50 children, police said, but they do not suspect Luetke had any improper contact with any of the children. The church is sending out a letter to parents about the arrest as a precaution, police said.

Officials at the church could not be reached for comment.

Police found nine images of prepubescent girls on Luetke's home computer.

When interviewed, Luetke admitted that he had been viewing pornography, and that his wife and children knew nothing about it. In a written statement, he said he had "developed a problem with viewing child pornography" in 2004.

Luetke's bail is set at \$100,000 cash only.