

# GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

May 2016

## Home on the Range



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The lyrics to “Home on the Range” yearn for a simpler, easier life. I wonder whether King David even felt this way about his first job as a shepherd. It was hard and even dangerous. He had to fight off bears and lions. But after 40 years of leading Israel, the bears and lions may have started looking good to him. Wouldn't a shepherd's life have been easier?

But then, a shepherd is exactly what David still was. God had given him the job of caring for God's people. And that is often a dirty, stinky, thankless job.

As we remember our mothers on Mother's Day, we give thanks for those who cared for us as children. And we pray God to give us, too, His strength and help, whether we are looking after children or other family members, teaching students, supervising employees, or caring for fellow church members. These roles are difficult and often thankless. And yet no matter how difficult the job God has given us to do, we can have the same confidence David did – that God is watching over us and caring for us. And we can have the same joy as the mother in the Family Circus cartoon – that God has blessed us. God has not forgotten us. He Himself is our Good Shepherd, who has laid down His life for us, His sheep. And now that Jesus lives and reigns for all eternity, He will continue to watch over us and keep us even in our most difficult times.

God's blessings,  
*Pastor Dan*

# **The Open Door**

By Michael J. Dunn  
Congregation President

Following Pastor Gerken's announcement of his impending retirement, it is timely to provide the Congregation with the basics of what is called the "call process," whereby we chose and solicit ("call") a new Pastor to minister to our Congregation. To begin with, our Congregation Bylaws specify the process we must follow within our own House of God, quoted below in ***bold italic*** text:—

## **BYLAWS § 1.0 PROCEDURES FOR CALLING PASTORS AND OTHER CALLED WORKERS**

- 1.1 When a pastor or other called worker is to be called, every member of the Congregation shall have the privilege of making one or more nominations. The Congregation shall also ask the President of the Synodical District for recommendations.***
- 1.2 The Board of Elders and Church Council shall serve as the Call Committee***
- 1.3 In the call process, the Call Committee shall submit all names to the District President for information and evaluation. After receiving information and recommendations from the District President, the Call Committee shall present to the Congregation, by means of a public announcement, all candidates, together with a biographical sketch of each.***
  - 1.3.1 If within a period of two weeks no objection is entered and sustained, the persons thus nominated and published shall be recognized as candidates of the entire Congregation.***
- 1.4 At the voters meeting, called for the purpose of electing a new pastor or other called worker, the preferred list may be amended by means of a two-thirds vote of those present. At that point the Voters Assembly shall be asked to agree to be satisfied with whatever selection is finally made by the Voters Assembly.***
- 1.5 Balloting shall proceed by a secret ballot vote of those present. A unanimous vote is needed to extend the call.***

Just as a few words of clarification:—

- The forming and activity of the Call Committee is separate from the business of the Board of Elders and the Church Council. Even though the participants will be in common, their duties are different, and it is likely that when they act as the Call Committee, they will observe different times and places of meeting.
- You can see that it is crucial for the Congregation to become involved with this process, not only as members of the Voters Assembly at the end, but also as Board members to become part of the Call Committee.

There are other processes that will take place between Good Shepherd and the Northwest District of the Lutheran Church / Missouri Synod (LCMS), but they will be discussed in a future note.

## Do You Know Who Your Elder Is?

Zone	Elder	Names
1	Norm Gerken (253-845-1521)	Alber – Gottgetieu
2	Joe Morton (253-473-5649)	Grochowicz - Popplewell
3	Wayne Boudreau (253-405-4904)	Preszler - Zmuda

*Members can contact any elder for any reason at any time.*

### Financial Update

Our giving continues to be on track, as we are slightly ahead for the year 2016. We, however, still have an accumulated debt for 2015 that needs to be paid. We are getting ready to start summer. These are traditionally our slowest months. Vacations and other things take our time, talent, and treasures. We ask you to prayerfully keep the church in your forethoughts. Consider listing your church donations with your monthly bills, to help you remember. This will help during these usually lean months.

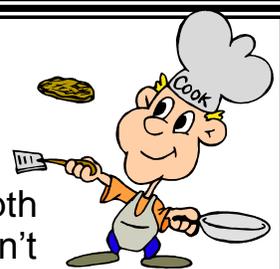
The Board of Trustees have identified the Chapel Annex as a priority this year. We need to re-roof the Chapel area, and paint the entire building. Our maintenance funds are low for this endeavor. We ask that you prayerfully consider helping financially with these projects.

Thank you all. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

### Men's Breakfast / Bible Study

**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> – 8 am**

Join us for a delicious breakfast, wonderful fellowship, and in-depth Bible Study. We are going through the series "Stuff They Didn't Teach Me in Sunday School." We will be discussing the chapter "Skeletons in the Family Closet" (2 Samuel 13-19).





## Women in Mission / Women's Ministry

- **Tuesdays:**  
  - Bible Study** (9:15 am)
  - Quilting** (10 am)
- **Quilt Dedication** – May 1
- **Quilt Packing** – May 3
- **LWR Shipping** – May 6-7
- **Registration Deadline for LWML WA-AK Convention** – May 15<sup>th</sup>
- **Mites and Missions**—Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>
- **Seafarers Auxiliary**-May 24

To All Good Shepherd Ladies:  
 You, yes YOU are invited to:

- 1) Join the Joy at the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Washington – Alaska District 30<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention June 17-19, 2016 at the Holiday Inn, Everett, Washington. You will be enriched, enlightened, and fed from the Word...
- 2) "Sparked by the Word, Sent to the World" – LWML CANADA July 7-9, 2016 at Columbia Bible College, Abbotsford, BC (see bulletin boards for further details)...

- 3) National LWML Convention 1017 (has been moved to Albuquerque, NM) June 22-25, 2019. Theme, "Jesus Christ Above All" – celebrating 75 years as the Women's Auxiliary of LCMS...
- 4) Bring Mites...
- 5) Attend Seafarer's Auxiliary Meetings...
- 6) Attend Rainier Zone Fall Rally in October at Beautiful Savior, Milton...

Seven of us attended the Rainier Zone Spring Rally with the theme, "But Wait, There's More," at Trinity Olympia on April 9<sup>th</sup>. What a special day we had! Communion, Mission Speakers, Bible Study, and FUN!

Serving the Lord, with Gladness.  
*Jane Oberg*



## Vacation Bible School Summer 2016

### July 11-15, 2016

### 9 am – 12:30 pm

Please prayerfully consider how you can help with this year's VBS.  
 Our Theme this year is: Barnyard Roundup! More details to come.

# Preschool News

[www.littlelambstacoma.com](http://www.littlelambstacoma.com)

## *Sharing Christ, Feeding Lambs*



This month the children are learning about the early mission work of Peter, Paul, Philip, Tabatha, and Timothy. These individuals were important to Jesus and the early church. Today, the preschool students are learning they are important to Jesus and can also do mission work. In fact Jesus is calling you too. Let's work together with Jesus in His important kingdom work.

Thanks to Thrivent Financial for the "seed money" to give us a start with our flower fundraiser for electrical work. We also appreciate everyone who supported the preschool by way of donations and flower orders. Your beautiful flowers will be ready for pick-up on Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

Everyone is invited to join us on **Sunday , May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 pm** in the fellowship hall for our **Hotdogs & Happiness** dinner celebration. The preschool will provide the hot dogs, buns, condiments, beverages, and dessert. Please join us for dinner with our preschool families.

Please remember our ongoing fundraiser with Amazon.com. Please make your Amazon purchases through our preschool website and Amazon will make a donation to us – just because you went through our website!

Registration for the 2016-2017 preschool year is now underway. All registrants before May 20<sup>th</sup> receive a \$10 discount on the registration fee – from \$75 down to \$65. Please register early. Look for more information on our website or in the narthex.

Thank you for all the prayers for the preschool and the families it serves. It is much appreciated. Please keep the students and their families in your prayers.

Serving our Savior,  
*Bonnie Jean Huset*  
Director / Teacher



## **Little Lambs Preschool Invites You To Hotdogs & Happiness**



**May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**Please join our preschool families for a time of food and fellowship.**