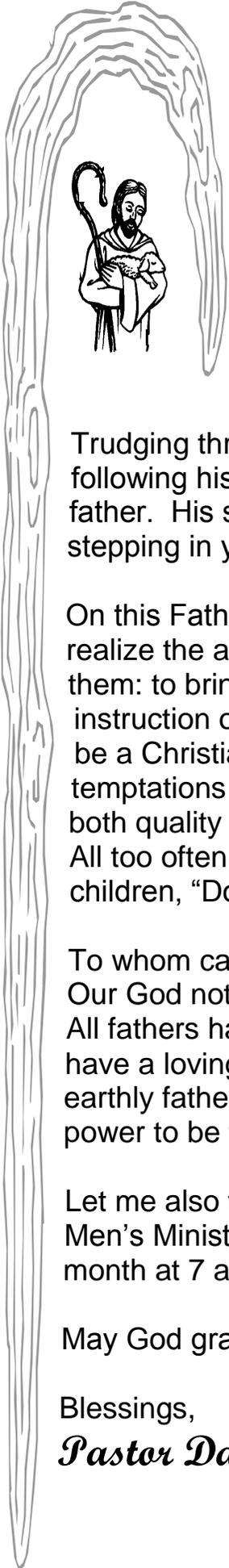


# GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

June 2011

## Christian Fathers



Trudging through the deep snow, a little boy was following his father. "How's it coming?" asked the father. His son answered, "It's easy, Dad. I'm just stepping in your tracks."

On this Father's Day it is good for all fathers to realize the awesome responsibility God has given them: to bring up their children in the training and instruction of the Lord (Eph. 6:4). It is not easy to be a Christian father. Countless are the temptations that prevent fathers from spending both quality and quantity time with their children. All too often fathers send conflicting signals to their children, "Do as I say, not as I do."

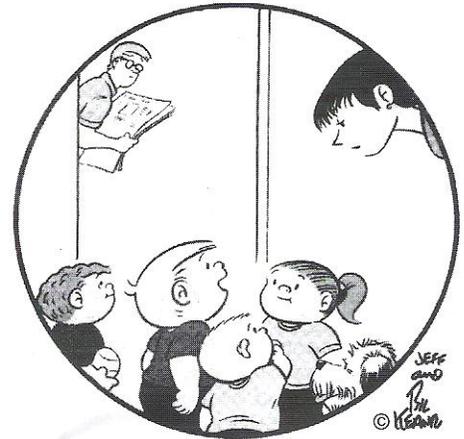
To whom can fathers turn to fulfill their responsibilities? To God and to His Word. Our God not only tells us how we are to live, He also empowers us to accomplish it. All fathers have fallen short of what God expects of them. However, because we have a loving heavenly Father who sent His Son to rescue us from our sins, all earthly fathers not only can receive forgiveness of sins but also the strength and power to be the kind of father God wants them to be.

Let me also take this opportunity to invite all men to join us each month for our Men's Ministry breakfast and Bible study. We meet on the third Saturday of each month at 7 am in the fellowship hall.

May God grant you a blessed Father's Day.

Blessings,  
*Pastor Dan*

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil and Jeff Keane



"We voted and on Father's Day  
Daddy gets to play with us ALL DAY!"

from *JoyfulNoiseletter.com*  
Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane

## President's Corner

I have a list of thank you's I would like to share and express. I'll start with a few I should have put in last month's article. Thank you to everyone who put together the Easter activities for the kids on the Saturday before Easter. There was a wealth of candy and toys donated for the event, and the event itself had a strong turn-out.

For me, the Sunday morning Easter Breakfast has become a tradition. To see the planning, work, and effort going into it to make it special on a very special day really puts a smile on my face. Thank you to the youth and the others who helped with the Easter Breakfast.

Thank you to the pastors and staff for the multiple wonderful services presented on Easter Sunday (all the services provided by our pastors are wonderful, but I know they try to put a little more energy into

the Easter service, and we the congregation appreciate it).

In April's article I mentioned that the church was in need of updating its computers. In a very short time, that has become a reality. The church has received their computers and is working to make the transition to them. I would like to thank all those who contributed a bit extra for this effort. I pray that God continues to bless you for your generosity.

The last thank you for this article is to the entire congregation for your efforts to make the quarterly Fellowship Sunday's very successful.

As we enter the summer months, I'd like to strongly encourage everyone to stay active with the church. I understand that the summer is a great time for traveling. But when you're not traveling,

make sure you are making an effort to maintain a high level of involvement with the church, or to increase your involvement.

Your relationship with Christ is a part of who you are. You have struggled with it, prayed for it, and God has reached out to you to encourage it. During these summer months when friends and family are traveling to you, bring them to church. Give them a little bit of additional exposure to who you are. Let the Living Word of God work to bring you closer to them, or give it an opportunity to work in their lives (at that point you may want to duck – sometimes it is good to be involved in God's work and other times it's better to stay out of the way).

*Julian Doyle*

## Men's Breakfast / Bible Study June 18<sup>th</sup>

Join us **Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>** at **7 am** 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." This month our topic is:

"God's Covenant with Abraham." *Pastor Dan*

# It's Music in God's Ears

*I was glad when they said to me "Let us go to the house of the Lord."*

In the great Biblical Hymnal that we call *The Psalms*, there is a special section: *Psalms of Ascents (Psalms 120-134)*.

These were Psalms sung by pilgrims as they journeyed to Jerusalem for the High Holidays and climbed the Temple mount to worship there. They are filled with joy at the prospect of worshipping God in His house and singing His praises.

Worship, it seems is its own reward. Worshipping God is a pleasure to be relished and a duty to be treasured. It would be helpful for us to remember that when we come to church on Sundays and other Holy Days.

All too often, we come to church, sit in the pews and wait to be moved. Even worse, we expect to be *entertained*. We want the Pastor to captivate us with witty anecdotes in his sermon, we want the Liturgy to be snappy (*and no longer than an hour, thank you very much!*) and we want to sing and hear the kind of music that *we* like.

What such a focus reveals is that we have turned worship upside down and made it about *us* when, in fact, it should be about God. Every action and motion in our worship should be directed to God. Rather than focusing on ourselves and our tastes, we should remember that we come to worship God and serve our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are all together performing for an audience of one: the Almighty.

Our praise is an offering to God no less than the sacrifices the Israelites brought to the Temple. Like those sacrifices, whether the offering was the first-born lamb of a wealthier worshipper or the doves brought by the poor, what was most important was the heart of the worshipper. What songs we sing and in what style may be less important than the spirit of servant-hood we have in singing them. And in singing our brother's favorite song, we help him worship, even if that song is not necessarily our favorite. If our sister does the same for us, a circle will be created as the family of God develops a worship language that involves many generations and is richer for the contributions and gifts of all.

Of course, that does not absolve us from carefully discerning what is proper in our worship and song. (Do our songs proclaim both Law and Gospel? Do they clearly speak with specificity about what God has done for us? Do they carefully avoid wrong and weak theology?) This is a broad topic we will be taking up in coming months but for now, let us all throw our un-restrained praise on God's altar.

And one final note: Summer is a time for travel and vacation. *We* may get a vacation but God *doesn't*. He deserves our worship 52 weeks a year. Don't forsake coming to church just because the weather gets warm!

Blessings!

*DVP (Denes Van Parys)*



**JOIN THE RHYTHM OF LIFE**

**4US 2011**

**FT STEILACOOM PARK  
SATURDAY, JULY 30th**

**(More details in upcoming bulletins!)**

# Lunch Bunch News

**LUNCH BUNCH** will meet Tuesday, June 7th. This time it will be an outing. We are visiting Watson's Nursery (6211 Pioneer Way, Puyallup). If you want to pool a ride be at church to leave promptly at 10:00 a.m. Otherwise be at Watson's by 10:30 a.m. for the guided tour. Following the tour we will eat lunch at Watson's (there is an area - prices are \$4.95-9:50). Sign up sheet is posted in Narthex - we need a total by Sunday, May 29th.

**IN JULY** we are planning a trip to Wilcox Farms in McKenna. We may have to change the date because our regular meeting day is the day after July 4th. Watch Sunday bulletins and the July GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS for details.

*Pastor Ken Boetcher*  
253-847-5925



## Women in Mission

Weekly Bible Study on Tuesdays at 9:15 am.

Weekly Quilting on Tuesdays at 10 am.

A monthly Bible Study on the second Saturday at 9:30 am.

Mites collected on June 12<sup>th</sup>

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Spring? In the Northwest that can be an interesting time. Flowers bloom. Frost *may* be past. God's love flows all around us. All praise to Him!

Tuesday Bible Study continues with Luther's Small Catechism. When was the last time YOU looked at it? We welcome you *any* Tuesday.

Thanks to Elaine Davies for taking pictures of our 20 completed quilts on May 4<sup>th</sup>. We will hang quilts for your viewing in September or October.

Plan ahead: Christmas Boxes! Please help us start gathering items for the Seafarers' Christmas Boxes. We will be filling 150 boxes again this year.

Please help us with:

- Unscented Bars of DOVE Soap
- Chap Stick
- Soft Adult Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste

There will be a box in the narthex for donated items. Thanks!

Serving the Lord with gladness!

*Jane Oberg*  
475-2832

## Women's Brunch & Bible Study / Pink Shoe

Our monthly Bible Study will meet again on the second Saturday of the month from 9:30-11:45 am in the fellowship hall. Please join us **June 11<sup>th</sup>** for a shared brunch and

fellowship followed by our Bible Study. **The Pink Shoe Club** is for girls from kindergarten – 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We all come together for brunch and then Miss Sue (Sue Tofflemire)

takes the girls for an activity while the adults study God's Word. All are welcome! Please join us! Babysitting is provided with advance notice at 473-4848.



# Preschool News

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

Wow! Our sixth preschool year is completed! We had a great year with nine students in both of our classes.

Thank you to Rob Frunz for cooking at our "Hot Dogs & Happiness" event! Thank you also to our family members who showed up to meet our preschool families. Everyone seemed to

have a good time with our indoor picnic!

We would also like to thank Marsha Schorer for designing our yearbook this year, and Michael Dean for the photography of our class group pictures.

If you know of anyone interested in preschool here at Good Shepherd please share our information with them. We can be

reached at 253-473-4848 or on the web at [www.littlelambstacoma.com](http://www.littlelambstacoma.com). Currently for the next school year our enrollment is seven students. We thank God for all His blessings at our preschool and continue to ask God to guide, direct, and protect our preschool and the families we serve.

*Bonnie Jean Huset*  
Preschool Director / Teacher



**Hot Dogs & Happiness**



**Preschool 1 2010-2011**



**Preschool 2 2010-2011**