

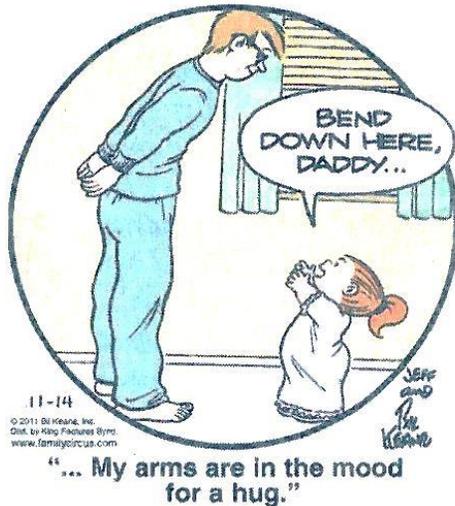
GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

June 2013

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



THE FAMILY CIRCUS



On Father's Day, a story about fathers might be appropriate, don't you think?

Here's a story told by a firefighter. I've heard it before, but that doesn't mean the firefighter wasn't telling the truth. He shared how he had gone to a blaze, which was destroying a two-story home.

Everyone had made it out when the smallest boy remembered something he had forgotten.

Without anyone seeing him, he managed to make it back to his bedroom on the second floor. He made it in, but he couldn't get out.

Seeing his son at his bedroom window, the father shouted, "Jump, son! I'll catch you!" The boy cried, "Daddy, I can't see you!" "I know", his dad called back, "but I can see you."

When we were growing up, it was really important for us to be seen by our fathers, wasn't it?

A smile or an arm around the shoulder could make all the difference for us.

Now that I'm older, it's still true. Yes, my earthly father has run his race, but my heavenly Father is still watching over me. (see Psalm 33:13-14)

Although I'm no longer a little boy, there are times when I feel very small and helpless. That's when His smile and His heavenly hand on my shoulder make a difference. By faith in the crucified and risen Savior, I know I am not alone!

I can't see my Father, but it's enough that He sees me and is there to catch me.

Pastor Dan

Living in Pentecost

The longest of the Church's seasons began near the end of May, and will continue until the new school year is in full swing. The season is called Pentecost, and it takes its name from the day of Pentecost which kicks it off. If you look at the Church calendar, all the other seasons last a few weeks or so (Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter...) but Pentecost lasts nearly half the year. There's a reason for this, though... and it's not just that the old Church calendar planners got lazy, and ran out of things to celebrate.

While the other seasons of the Church year are times when we're transported back, in a way, to a time that happened once in history and is now behind us (for instance, Jesus was only born of the Virgin Mary once, no matter how many times we celebrate Christmas; only crucified once, no matter how many times we remember Good Friday,) Pentecost actually points us to the time in which we currently live. The Day of Pentecost followed closely on the heels of Easter Sunday (just 50 days later, after the Passover Feast on which Christ died) and ushered in an era of the Church that will continue until Christ comes again. The time of Pentecost is the time of the Church, the time in which we find ourselves even now.

Sometimes, when we read through the Bible, we can find ourselves wondering how it applies to us today—just what am I supposed to do with the Creation account in Genesis, the time of the Judges, David's reign, or the return of the Jews to Israel after the Babylonian Captivity? If we were in the Garden with Adam and Eve,

we would have a very different context than living in David's Kingdom, or walking back from Babylon with Nehemiah. In fact, after hearing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and all that Jesus has done to work out our salvation through His life, death, and resurrection, we might find ourselves saying (as the hearers of St. Peter's Pentecost sermon replied,) "What now shall we do?" It is a reasonable question for the Church to ask. What, in fact, shall we do, having heard of all the great works of God in Jesus Christ for us?

Repent. Believe. Be baptized, every one of you, for the forgiveness of sins. The call to us is the same as it was when the Apostles were sent out into the world by Jesus so very long ago. As we hear the Word of God speaking to us both Law and Gospel, we are called to turn from our selfish evil, and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness, life, and salvation. Empowered by the Holy Spirit working through the Word, we believe and live, walking no longer according to the flesh which is destined to die, but according to the Spirit which is life everlasting. What now shall we do? Believe and live.

The long season of Pentecost reminds us, that we need to hear that Word every day of our lives. We need the Law to confront us with our sin, so that we may repent. We need the Gospel to heal our broken souls with the assurance that our sins are forgiven, and we live in the love of God for Jesus' sake. We need the grace which comes to us through the Sacraments, where the Holy Spirit delivers to us all the gifts

that Jesus won for us on His Cross. We need the power of the Holy Spirit to daily drown our old earthly and sinful nature, while rising up to a newness of life conformed to the image of Christ. We need all the gifts Jesus left to His Church, to fight the good fight of faith, and receive the Crown of Life.

So, what does Pentecost mean to you, in the hustle and the bustle of 21st century American life? It reminds you that your day of Pentecost came upon you, as the Holy Spirit descended upon you through Water and the Word at your Baptism. It reminds you, that you are called by the Holy Spirit through the Word daily to repent of your sins, and believe the Gospel of salvation. It reminds you, that the true Bread of Heaven is found in that Holy Supper given to us by Jesus Himself, where His Body and Blood are delivered to you. It reminds you, that Christ gave the Keys of the Kingdom to the Church, so that as your pastor speaks in His stead and by His command, you really do have the forgiveness of sins spoken over you from the very lips of Christ. It reminds you, that you live by every Word that proceeds from the mouth of God, now and forever more.

May the Holy Spirit bless you richly this Pentecost season, pointing you always to your Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in the boundless love of the Father—One God, now and forever. Amen.

Pastor Brad

Updates from Congregational President

I hope and pray that everyone's year is progressing wonderfully and that you all are looking forward to an exciting summer. I have a few things to share this month.

First off I want to thank all the various committees for their hard work thus far this year as well as all the people who have stepped up to assist during special activities. We appreciate the opportunity to serve and socialize together.

We have lots of wonderful people in our congregation and I don't want to make anyone sound more important than the rest, but I do on occasion want to extend a specific thank you. In this case, I am extending a pointed thank you to

Katie Reinitz. While she has only been with the church a short time she has been involved in helping with various activities ever since she joined our congregation.

I want to remind everyone that as we move into the summer months, the months heavily laden with vacations, late nights spent with friends and family, and various activities to keep the youth busy, to continue to support our church. Sometimes during this time of year the financial resources needed to sustain church activities can be light.

The bulk of everything the council is working on makes it into the bulletin or into one of the pastor's announcements during church.

However, outside of that, we have been discussing ways in which we can serve our youth outside the normal Sunday School hour. We have tried a couple things but we continue to run into some of the same challenges. Finding a consistent time by which we can plan activities around for our youth is the biggest challenge. We are also looking for someone who could volunteer some time to coordinate these activities. Please feel free to share any suggestions and ideas, whether targeting this specifically or not.

Julian Doyle

Preschool News



O give thanks to the Lord, for He is Good!
We give thanks to God for another wonderful preschool year. God blessed us with twenty one little children to share Jesus with-though not at the same time. We ask for God's continuous blessings on these children and their families.

Now is the time to register for our upcoming 2013-2014 Preschool Year. Our prices are remaining the same as this past year! The registration fee is **\$65** and the yearly tuition for Preschool 1 is **\$1035.00** (\$115 per month). Preschool 2 yearly tuition is **\$1,552.50** (\$172.50 / month). We currently have

www.littlelambstacoma.com

room in both classes that begin this fall. Please let your family members, friends, and neighbors know about us. More information about our preschool can be found on our website: www.littlelambstacoma.com. Please feel free to stop by and visit the preschool.

We ask for your continued prayer support for our preschool, staff, board, students, and families. Thank you!

Bonnie Jean Huset
Director / Teacher

Lunch Bunch News

on Tuesday, May 7, nine GS members enjoyed the spring flowers in Chase Gardens in Orting. Most of us visited these gardens last year - but this time rhodies and other spring flowers were all in their glory. As we were leaving, the clouds began to disperse and we got a glimpse of the majesty of Mt. Rainier. Following this treat we had lunch at EMPEROR'S CITY Restaurant in Orting. We have made plans for our summer outings on Tuesday, June 4 and August 6.

In June we will have a concert by the Marimba Band of Concordia School. The concert will begin at 11:15 on June 4 at the school. After the concert we will go over to church and enjoy a lunch of salads.

For our gathering on August 6 we plan to picnic at Pt. Defiance Park. We had thought about a visit to the Zoo/Aquarium or Ft. Nisqually in July, but each of them has lots of walking and difficult for those who find it

difficult to walk a lot. So at our June gathering we will discuss a couple other possibilities for July. We invite YOU and your friends to join us for these monthly gatherings. Come and enjoy these upcoming activities and the fellowship of other members and friends of Good Shepherd. See you at the Marimba Band concert on Tuesday, June 4!

Pastor Ken Boetcher

FINANCE UPDATE

God has blessed us with a vast mission field here at Good Shepherd and around the world. Our church requires a significant amount of money each month in order to be able to keep our doors open and to share God's Word within our community. Over the past couple of months our church finances have been stretched beyond our giving. God has provided us with the necessary means, but it is our responsibility to answer His call. Please prayerfully keep our church in your monthly budget as you travel and enjoy our beautiful surroundings this summer.

Men's Breakfast / Bible Study June 15th

Join us **Saturday, June 15th** at **8 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: "This is Getting Old" (Numbers 11). *Pastor Dan*



Women in Mission

Mark your Calendars:

Tuesdays, 9:15 am – LWML Bible Study
Tuesdays, 10 am – Quilting

Mites - Sunday, June 9
June 27-30 – LWML Biennial Convention

Hello Sisters in Christ!

What are you doing this Summer? How about joining us on Tuesdays for Bible Study (Lutheranism 101) and/or quilting for World Relief? Children are always welcome! And Sisters in Christ also includes teenagers!

Please remember to pray for and consider helping with:

1. Mites for Missions
2. Pray for LWML Convention “Quenched by the Water” June 27-30 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
3. Seafarers Christmas Boxes (we fill 150 of them).

Praise and thanks to God for all His blessings on each of us.

Serving the Lord with Gladness!
Jane Oberg

Sunday School News

We have a wonderful Sunday School Teaching Staff and seeing that June will be Teacher Appreciation Month I would like to shout out to these people that teach our children here at Good Shepherd. We will have a teacher's appreciation lunch with the June Pot Blessing on June 9th.

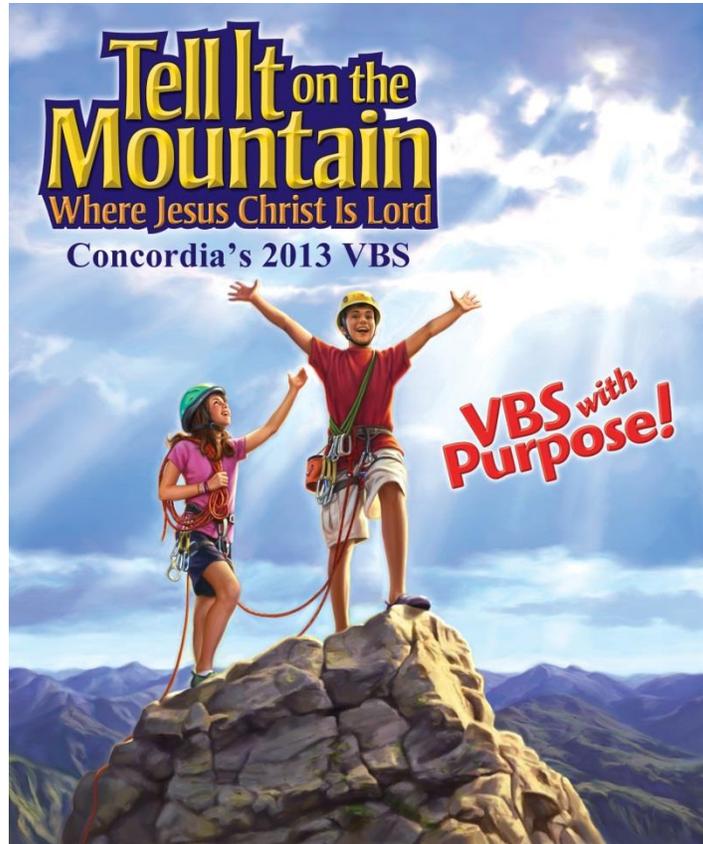
- **Kathy Palinsky**
- **Ruth Gerken**
- **Denes Van Parys**
Christmas Program
- **Caron Long**
- **Tony and Bonnie Jean Huset**
- **Rachel Deaderick**
- **Dick Durkopp**
- **Debbie Tanner**
- **Brad and Melissa Varvil**
- **Julian Doyle**

Summer Sunday School – will be starting **June 2** and going till August 18. We will be outside, weather permitting, and doing lots of fun hands on activities with the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. The Synod has provided the curriculum and we will be also giving the children used, empty, clean, pill bottles for a fundraiser for the Lutheran Malaria Initiative. They can fill the bottles up with pennies, dimes, nickels, and quarters.

\$1.00 buys medication
\$10.00 buys a family over the bed treated mosquito net
\$50.00 buys radio advertisement for treatment and education
\$100.00 buys the education of a health care worker.

For more information on the Malaria Initiative please call 855.642.2019 or visit the website at

Katie Reinitz



Vacation Bible School July 22-26 9 am – 12 pm

**Register Soon!
253-473-4848**

Volunteers Needed!

VBS News

The forms are now available to pre-register for Vacation Bible School (VBS). Our VBS will be held **July 22-26, 9 am – 12 noon**. The VBS Express Truck will be here this year as our theme is, "Tell it on the Mountain." We are

asking for many prayers and volunteers to make our VBS a success. Please contact Bonnie Jean Huset (253-473-4848) if you are able to help with teaching, assisting, crafts, snacks, registration, music, opening,

closing, decorations, etc. We would truly appreciate your help!

Bonnie Jean Huset