

GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

July 2017

From the Pastor

First I need to thank everyone for the great welcome you all gave me on my first Sunday here. The Pot-Blessings was a fantastic way to welcome me. With me, you can never go wrong with food! Thanks also to all who prepared the apartment for me and for a very comfortable place to rest. Finally special thanks to Joe Morton, who as your president, did a great job in the transition. Thanks Joe! And thanks to Joe's wife Jean, as well! Great job!

There are 5 phases that most interims will take a congregation through:

- 1) Together we will examine honestly the Church History of Good Shepherd and celebrate its ministry for many years and the many challenges it has endured. We look at the ups as well as the downs from its beginning.
- 2) Analyze the Church Leadership and Organizational Structure. Evaluate leadership styles. What kind of leader should Good Shepherd look for in its next pastor?
- 3) Access Denominational Connection. All churches in the LCMS are independent and have different relationships with one another. It is, or can be, devastating for a pastor as well as the congregation if a pastor does not align himself to the theological and philosophical understandings with the congregation.
- 4) Clarify the Identity and Vision of Good Shepherd. Here we look for fresh insights to the purpose and direction of Good Shepherd. We ask questions. What is it that distinguishes us from other churches? Proverbs 29:18 says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish."
- 5) Lastly, we delve into the area of new Pastor Loyalty. We look for pastoral candidates that are in line with Good Shepherd's ministries, mission, and vision. This is really important in avoiding conflict.

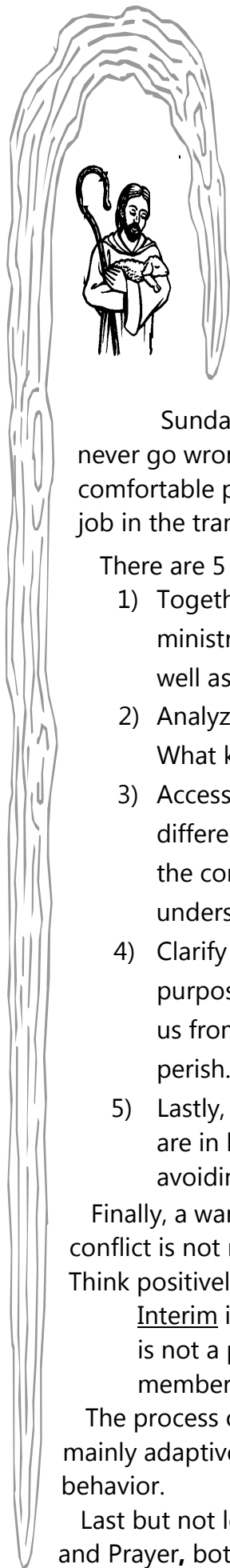
Finally, a warning! This is a slow process and the process itself can cause conflict. Remember conflict is not necessarily a bad word as conflict can be helpful as we work through these steps. Think positively with these thoughts in mind:

Interim is systemic and slow in process: It is filled with anxiety and uncertainty at times, it is not a painless or 'quick solution' process, it is emotionally draining, and finally, you as members work the process, not the Interim Pastor.

The process of 'interim' is not technical work (i.e. traditional verses contemporary, etc.). It is mainly adaptive work about a changed heart or pattern of thinking or a change in conventional behavior.

Last but not least, the most important two ingredients are being in and listening to the Word and Prayer, both of which we will be working on together.

Pastor Toby



President's Corner

Pastor Toby has arrived and is very energetic about getting to know everyone. He will be visiting the congregation in the next few months and is looking forward to not only meeting each of us, but also what our thoughts are about the church and its future. Please welcome him with open arms, hearts, and minds.

The Trustees have authorized the work to be done to purchase and install a new audio-visual system. The cost will not come from the church budget but from memorial funds the church has from former members. This upgrade is badly needed. We hope to have it completed by September.

This July 4th, our country will celebrate another birthday. While we enjoy the freedoms we have, let us remember the sacrifices given for those freedoms. Our country allows us to worship freely as we wish. The ultimate sacrifice was that of Jesus Christ, that we might have eternal life with Him. Is worship in your weekly activity?

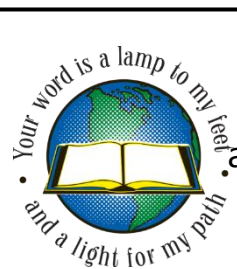
See you in church Sunday!

Joe Morton,
President

Do You Know Who Your Elder Is?

Zone	Elder	Names
1	Norm Gerken (253-845-1521)	Alber – Classen
2	Joe Morton (253-473-5649)	Cunningham – Jaech
3	Wayne Boudreau (253-405-4904)	Jindra – Merkel, L.
4	Julian Doyle (253-584-7244)	Merkel, R. – Scott
5	Tony Huset (253-753-3764)	See - Zmuda

Voters Meeting, July 9, at noon in the Sanctuary. There will be one item on the agenda: Dissolution of the Concordia Lutheran School Association. Plan to attend.



Sunday Sermons are now being audio recorded

and are available for you to listen, share, and enjoy again anytime on our website @ www.goodshepherdluth.com

Financial Update

Last month's financial update showed that we were \$14,695.05 behind in our giving. As of Sunday, June 18, we are now \$21,187.56 behind in giving. To extrapolate, at the end of the year we would be over \$42,000.00 behind in giving.

Our church is struggling with attendance. We are not the only church that is struggling. Most churches also struggle with attendance. So, how do we change this? First, we need to attend worship. God's Word should be foremost in our hearts and minds. Second, we need to keep our doors open and that only happens with your offerings and gifts.

Are you doing your part? See you in church on Sunday.

- **Lunch Bunch is being cancelled until the elevator is fixed. We will keep you posted.**

Reading and Studying

DARE TO READ

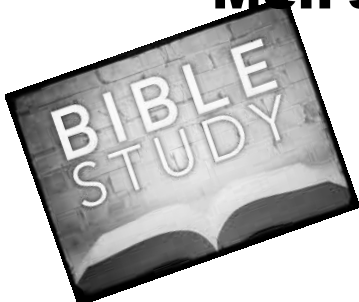
The Book of Concord
The Lutheran Confessions



The Lutheran Confessions

Our Nisqually Circuit (and the adjacent Rainier Circuit) continues the study group aimed at reading and exploring the Lutheran Confessions as contained in the Book of Concord. We are meeting on the first and third Thursday of each month (6th and 20th for July). We meet in the chapel in the annex of Good Shepherd from 7-8:30 pm. We will read sections of the Confessions and talk about them.

Men's Ministry Schedule for July



July 8 – 8 am

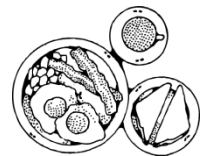
COFFEE AND BIBLE STUDY

“No Middle Ground” (Isaiah 1, 9)

July 22 – 8 am

BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY

“Here Comes the Judge, Prosecutor, Witness, and Jury” (Micah 1, 5, 6)





Women in Mission / Women's Ministry

Tuesdays:

Bible Study (9:15 am)

Quilting (10 am)

Happy summer everyone! Bible Study is currently looking at the Gospel of John. We meet Tuesday mornings at 9:15 a.m. but in July we won't meet July 4th, or July 18th (VBS). Also, on Tuesdays the quilters meet and are always looking for more people to be involved. You are welcome to join us!

Did you know Lutheran World Relief has a matching gift challenge doubling your gift until July 24, 2017? Please consider this. You may mail your donations to LWR, P.O. Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21298-9832.

"Called to Be" LWML Washington-Alaska District Retreat will be **September 28 – October 1, 2017** at the Best Western Wesley

Mites—Sunday, July 9

Inn & Suites in Gig Harbor. Register before August 4 and save \$10 on registration.

Please start planning to provide items for the Seafarers' Christmas Boxes. We need travel size shampoo, toothpaste, men's deodorant, adult soft toothbrushes, full size wrapped bars of soap and much more. The world comes to the Seafarers' Center in the Port of Tacoma and these gifts are one way as Christians we show them that we care, which often opens their hearts to hear His Word.

Serving the Lord
with Gladness,
Jane Oberg

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 17 – 21, 9 am – 12 noon.

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER FOR VBS

We are also in need of **VOLUNTEERS** and **DONATIONS** to help with VBS and assure its success. Please prayerfully consider donating your time to this community mission outreach effort. Your participation will be greatly appreciated!



Sharing Christ, Feeding Lambs



Thank you for the prayers for our Preschool Board and the decisions we make. We have four more decisions to announce as the board prayerfully considered these options at our last meeting.

- 1) This summer we will be offering six weeks of **Summer Camps** for **children 3, 4, and 5 years old**. The cost for each camp is \$35.00 and there is no registration fee. The camps will run **Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 am - 11:30 am**. The weeks and themes of these camps are:

June 20-21 Tools

June 27-28 Birds

July 11-12 Static Electricity / Magnets

July 25-26 Bears

August 1-2 Transportation

August 8-9 Castles, Kings and Queens

Please call the church office for more information and registration forms.

- 2) **Summer Play-Dates** have been scheduled for **June 21, July 12, and August 9**. These will run from 11:30 am – 12:30 pm in the playground on those days. These are free events for preschool past, present, and future families to enjoy some time together. Sack lunches may be brought or just play the whole hour.

- 3) **Toddler Tuesdays** is a new program our board approved to begin this fall. It will coincide with our academic school year. The toddler class will be offered on Tuesdays from 8:45 am – 10:45 am. The registration fee for this class will be \$55.00 with an annual tuition of \$450.00 or \$50 / month payable September – May. The minimum age requirement for this class is 22 months old by September 1, 2017.
- 4) **Further Fridays** will also be offered for our Preschool 2 students. This is an option only and not required. With this option Preschool 2 parents will be able to choose to send their child three days per week or four days per week. This additional day increases the Preschool 2 cost by \$585.00/year of \$65.00 more / month payable September – May.

We are adding a lot of choices to our preschool hoping to more fully accommodate parents' preschool needs and wants. Please continue to pray for our preschool and the board as we prepare for these new programs. We cannot emphasize enough how much your prayer support is valued. Thank you!

Serving our Savior,
Bonnie Jean Huset
Director / Teacher

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Tacoma, Washington

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

July 17 - 21, 2017

(One form per child, please)

*Student First Name _____ *Student Last Name _____

Nick Name _____ Age: _____ Gender: Male Female

Grade entering: _____

Home Church (if applicable): _____

Allergies: _____

Medical Issues or special Needs: _____

It would be nice if my child is placed in same group as (child's name): _____

*Parent Name: _____

*Address: _____

*City: _____ *State: _____ *Zip: _____

*Email: _____

*Home Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Other Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Emergency Phone: _____

Alternate Pickup Name: _____

Alternate Pickup Phone: _____

General Information: _____

(Please check the boxes below for permissions granted.)

Medical Release: I give my permission for the VBS staff to administer basic first aid to my child (named above) in the event of an injury. I understand that the VBS staff will contact emergency services in the event of a significant injury and all expenses for such emergency services will be paid by me.

Photo Release: I hereby grant the above named church permission to copyright and use photographs/videos taken at VBS of the minor designated above in any manner or form for any purpose lawful at any time. I waive any right that I may have to inspect or approve the finished product or written copy, that may be used in conjunction therewith, or the use to which it may be applied.

Permission to Attend: I give permission for my child (named above) to attend the Vacation Bible School (VBS) listed above. I understand that the information I give for this registration will only be used by the VBS hosting church, and that all registration information will be removed from the hosting site by December 31 of this year.

Parent Signature Date: _____