

GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

August 2010

Summer Fun

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE

By Mike Morgan



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Summer time seems to be a time for getting out into the outdoors and enjoying God's beautiful creation. We are blessed in this part of the country to be near the ocean and the mountains. We are surrounded by National and State Parks that show forth the beauty of God's creative hand. When I look at Mount Rainier I am reminded of Psalm 121: "I lift up my eyes to the hills -- where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth." Yes, God is our ever present help.

As we go hiking or playing in the outdoors, we need to remember to put on the bug spray and sun block. Likewise, we in life need to remember the real protection. Peter tells us: "Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour." That someone to devour is us. He is out to destroy us and our faith.

So, use the protection God provides. Or as Paul says, "Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." And of course, that armor includes prayer. So, Let us pray. Don't neglect the Lord this summer, but invite Him with you wherever you may go. And have a blessed summer.

Blessings,

Pastor Dan

Don't be Taken Captive!

It's a scary thought, isn't it—to be taken captive. No one wants to be a slave, and certainly no one wants to be seized and taken away by hostile forces. In some parts of the world, though, this is still a reality, as people worry about warring factions, competing warlords, or the horrors of abduction and the human slave trade. No one wants to be a slave, especially not to an evil or ruthless master.

Perhaps this is why St. Paul uses this kind of language in his letter to the church at Colosseae. In the second chapter, St. Paul warns them (and us) not to be taken captive by philosophies and empty arguments that would draw us away from Christ and the Gospel of salvation. St. Paul knew that the forces of evil can be very eloquent and convincing if we listen to them long enough, always trying to draw us away from our Savior, and back into slavery again to sin, death, and the devil. That prospect should be more scary to us than any kind of human slavery, since the worst that any warlord could do to us is kill us... but the devil, through his deceptions and philosophies, can snare the soul forever.

St. Paul also reminds us where our strength comes from, to resist these devilish snares: the Word of God. It is the Word which comes to us, giving us life in Christ by grace we receive through faith. It is the Word which continues to nourish our faith, and draw us ever further into His life and mercy. It is the Word of God which speaks to us, declaring us righteous for Christ's sake, forgiving us our sins, and promising eternity together with Him forever. The Word of God has always been the source of the Church's strength, and it continues to be so today, warding off the vain words and slick slogans of the devil.

So, if you don't have one yet, why not spend a little time this summer, getting better acquainted with that eternal Word of God, which endures forever? Let His Word flow over you and feed your soul. Perhaps it's as easy as taking the Scriptures we read in each Sunday's Divine Service, and exploring them a little deeper when you go home. However the Lord leads you into His Word, take St. Paul's admonitions to heart: don't be taken captive—remember the Word of God which saves you!

So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. (Col 2:6-12, NKJV)

Amen.

Pastor Brad

Men's Breakfast / Bible Study August 21st

Join us **Saturday, August 21st** at **7 am** for a delicious breakfast, wonderful fellowship, and in-depth Bible Study. Our Bible Study theme is "Who am I? What am I doing here?" This month we will tackle part 6. Join us. . . *Pastor Dan*

President's Corner

"Items of business...nah, items of fellowship. I would like to remind, point out, and/or bring to your attention some very important fellowship opportunities in August. During the second week of August, where we would normally have the pot-blessing, we will instead be having the church picnic. It will be right after the second service, at the church. Please plan to attend.

During the last week of August, we will be having our first Fellowship Sunday. There will be only one of the morning services (late service), and the normal bible studies/Sunday school classes, but there will be a coffee hour during the early service, and then lunch will be after the late service (I believe it will be a BBQ outside). Come early, stay late.

There are some of you who don't know many people here at Good Shepherd and thus don't feel real comfortable with the fellowship activities. You may be new, tend to be quiet in crowds (which I completely understand), or not even sure if you want to know people.

There are people here who want to get to know you, they just need the opportunity. There are others who will need more than one opportunity. You may need to present yourself to group activities for a little while, so that various people get a chance to work on including you in their comfort zone, before they will get to you.

As far as wanting to get to know people, I can understand this as well. The more you go through life, the more your feelings have been hurt by them. The more sensitive you are, the more the scars. However, I will challenge you to put your feelings at risk again. Much of life is more about who you know, than what you know. Hiding from people is very much like the servant who buried his talents until his master returned, at which point he gave them back."

Julian Doyle

Praise Him, Praise Him, Jesus Our Blessed Redeemer

(a cameo on the "Praise Team")

In case you haven't met them, Ken and Diane Smith have been leading us in worship once a month for some time now. I met them two summers back when I was substituting at Good Shepherd for Denes so he could travel back to Pennsylvania to help at a summer camp. The Smiths invited me to dinner & practice at their house, and that was where I met Barry Malone. He was going to Seminary at the time, and currently is on active duty in Iraq as a Chaplain. Barry played the sax, in the key of E flat at that, and I was soon up to my neck in fixing the keys of the songs (down a minor third (relative minor) make it major, then up an octave!) so he could play with the Praise Team. One of the old hymns we did was, "Have Thine Own Way". All I had to do was take the tenor line and bring it up to Barry's range, and we had a descant!

This summer, we are singing more of the old gospel hymns in our services. They have some advantages. Since they have been sung for so long, many know the words by heart. So, when do we

fully engage in worship? I do believe that the transformation where God can fill us, use us, is when we open our hearts and minds to God in our singing, in our reading, in our preaching, in our listening, and with our very presence. And, for me, I will only be doubly blessed as your organist, to hear my "Choir Invisible" sing from below while I play.

The Praise Team meets four times a month, plus one Sunday a month. GSLC uses a Creative Worship format from Concordia for this Service.

P. S. THANKS to the two new members for our bell choir. We will be preparing for the upcoming ORDINATION. I have just finished arranging two songs for the group: DONA NOBIS PACEM, and BE THOU MY VISION.

Laura Wasson

253 445 0665 (ans. Phone also)

Email: edisonrag@juno.com

PRAISE TEAM - Mondays 7 - 8:30 pm
SHEPHERDS CHOIR - Resumes Aug. 25th
BELL CHOIR - Resumes Aug. 26th



Women in Mission

Summer Greetings to all!

Did you know that YOUR mites are part of the Washington / Alaska District Mission Grants and the National LWML Mission Grants? The new 2010-2012 goal for our district is \$85,000. The National goal is \$1.8 million and the combined districts is \$5 million. Please help us achieve these goals!

Some of our new district projects are: Aid to Seminary Students (\$16,000), Haiti Lutheran Mission (\$15,000), and Mekane Yesus Evangelical Lutheran Church (\$6,000). Our Tacoma Seafarers Center will also, with your help, receive \$5,000.

Upcoming events you are invited to attend:

- Rainier Zone Board Meeting, Saturday, August 7th at Trinity Lutheran in Olympia
- Fall Rally October 16th at Trinity Lutheran, in Olympia
- National LWML Convention June 23-26, 2011 in Peoria, Illinois
- Washington / Alaska District Convention June 22-24, 2012 at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia.

Remember YOU are the face of the LWML!

Serving the Lord with Gladness! *Jane Oberg*



Preschool News

www.littlelambstacoma.com

We continue to thank God for all the blessings He has given our preschool. Your prayers for the students and staff are a big part of that. Thank you for your prayer support!

In August our staff will receive CPR / First Aid training along with the Concordia and Mount Rainier staff. Also in August we will host our orientation night for all registered preschool families. If you or someone you know is interested in the preschool please contact the office at 253-473-4848 or visit us online @ www.littlelambstacoma.com. We will be happy to help you in any way we can!

Preschool Director / Teacher

Bonnie Jean Huset



Sunday, August 8th
Following Second Service (noon)

Hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks, condiments, paper goods, and utensils will be provided.
Please bring a salad and/or dessert to share.

LADIES BIRTHDAY CLUB Please join us at **Laquinta** for lunch, **August 19th** at **11:30 am**.
Questions? Talk to Elaine: 253-537-3768.

Lunch Bunch

On August 3rd we will tour the Tacoma waterfront. We are using a school bus for this – so be at church by 9:30 am that day to board the bus. If you wish to go on an outing it is imperative that you sign up by Sunday, July 25th (the Port authorities insist on the names before the outing). After the tour we will stop at the Seafarer's Center to eat a box lunch. Cost for the lunch is \$3, to be prepaid to Elaine Davies by July 25th. We need to alert you, that in case the surplus from the July outing and the box lunches is not enough to cover gas and bus rental we may need to assess you another dollar or two on August 3rd.

We were thrilled to have 38 at our July outing in Graham. And the weather was perfect! Our “program committee” which has planned our activities this year was comprised of Myron & Lil Schmidt and Bill & Myra Retzloff. If you have suggestions for the rest of the year, please pass your ideas on to them. For our September meeting (September 7th) we will meet at the church for devotion at 11:30 am, eat lunch at noon (bring a dish to share) and then view a video of a comedian, play games, or have line dancing.

Perhaps you have an idea for a future meeting? We would love to hear from you.

Pastor Boetcher

Grow Endowment Dinner and Auction Preparation

What can you do to help? This event helps “GROW” our Endowment Fund that assists families who have their children in Christian schools? Here are a few ideas...

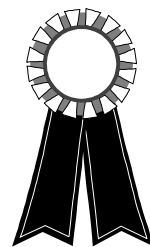
- Yard work (Mowing, weed eating, etc)
- Mending
- Wash and Vacuum Cars
- Baby Sitter
- Wash Windows
- Clean Flower Gardens
- Make Pies or Cookies
- Run Errands for a couple of days
- Donate a Dinner
- Movie Tickets
- Donate Needlepoint Items
- Make a Craft
- Make a Recipe Book
- Volunteer any service or skill you have that could be auctioned

If you would like to contribute items, a service, or skill, talk to someone on the Fellowship or Stewardship Board. Thank you!

GROW 2010 ENDOWMENT FUND DINNER AND AUCTION COMING SOON! September 18th Theme: “Going to the Fair”



Plans are underway for our Grow 2010 Endowment Fund Dinner and Auction! **We need YOUR help to make it a success.** If you are not able to participate in the dinner and auction, you may also donate monetary gifts at any time. Thank you for your help for our families and children here at Good Shepherd as they endeavor to be in Christian schools such as Concordia Lutheran School (pre-k through 8th grades) and Mount Rainier Lutheran High School, as well as Christian colleges. Interest earned on the Endowment Fund are used to assist these families.



Treasury Report

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|---|-------------|
| Offering totals July 1 st – 19 th | \$21,374.38 |
| Payments made July 1 st – 19 th | \$7,286.06 |

Through God's grace we have been able to pay our 2009 / 2010 25% tuition assistance to both Concordia and Mount Rainier Lutheran Church in full