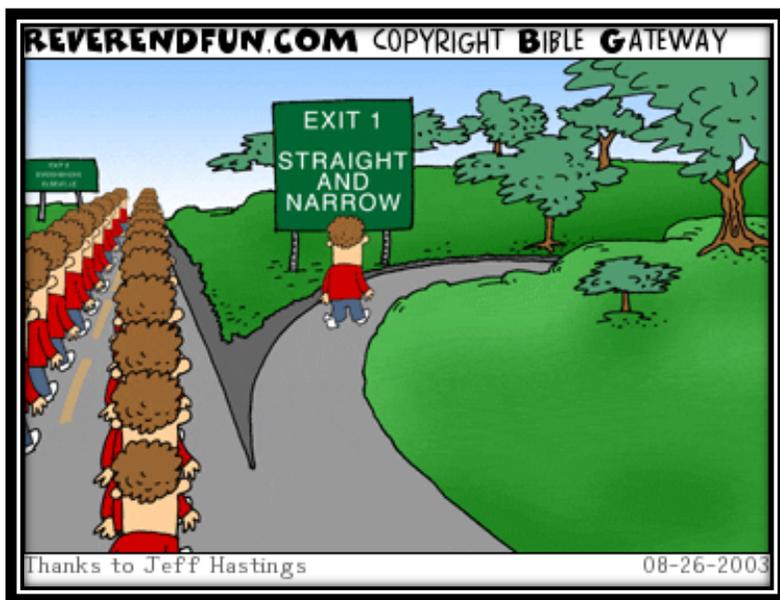


# GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

August 2016

## Potholes

I'd like to share with you this month a brief word about potholes. We don't usually experience them during the dry summer months, but wait until next spring after the snow has melted and the rains have come. Can't you feel the jarring as you remember previous drives down a pothole-riddled road in which you bounced from one side of the road to the other? Maybe even the road is still pothole-riddled. Sometimes, it is better to take a different route so that we can avoid the potholes, but then we might need more time to get to where we are going.



Some days, our spiritual journey may seem like a path covered with potholes. Sadly, these potholes occur in all seasons of our lives. Yet, when we in faith acknowledge that Jesus promises to walk alongside us to make the path straight, we don't bounce away from His Word. Jesus doesn't take away the potholes, but even in spite of them, He brings us blessings and ultimately to our final destination – eternal life with Him.

So, if you are working through a potholed-riddled path, may your faith hold on to His Word and see you through it.

May God bless your travels this summer.

Blessings,  
*Pastor Dan*

# The Open Door

By Michael J. Dunn  
Congregation President

My Friends,

On numerous occasions, you have heard Joe Morton, Paul Boule, and myself exhort you to become involved in the administration of this Congregation. To very little avail, so far. Therefore, I would like to tell you a parable.

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A passenger liner—let us call it the RMS *Britannic*—is under way across the Atlantic Ocean on a calm night, when the First Officer reports to the Captain in the bridge.

“Captain, I have bad news to report.”

“What is it, then?”

“The leak is worse, the pumps can’t keep up, and the crew is succumbing to fatigue.”

The Captain draws himself up. “Then I shall call upon the passengers to relieve the crew.”

The Captain proceeds to the mezzanine overlooking the Grand Ballroom, stands at the rail, seizes the lanyard of the clapper of the bosun’s bell, and makes a clamor for attention. All the passengers below, in gowns and tuxedos, cease suddenly with their conversations.

“Ladies and Gentlemen,” he announces, “the ship is in dire peril from leakage into our bilges, progressing to our engine rooms and coal bunkers. We are losing headway and are drawing water. The crew at the bilge pumps are exhausted and need relief. I am calling on you to volunteer. I will come among you to receive your responses.”

He strides down the staircase while the passengers turn to one another, murmuring.

“You, sir,” the Captain says to the first man. “Will you volunteer?”

The man looks away. “I’m comfortable where I am. Someone else can do it.”

The Captain turns to the next man. “And you?”

“Surely, there is no problem. We’ve always made this passage successfully.”

And to the next man, “You, sir?”

“Why should I be called upon for this? Haven’t I been active in the shuffleboard league?”

“And you?”

“I’m busy. I don’t have any time.”

“And you?”

“Oh, me? I don’t know anything about pumps.”

“And you?”

“I’m just a first-time passenger. I have no experience at this.”

“And the rest of you?” The Captain turns about, passing his gaze across passengers who will not return his look. He settles back on his heels, and says, “So be it,” and turns back toward the staircase.

“Captain?”

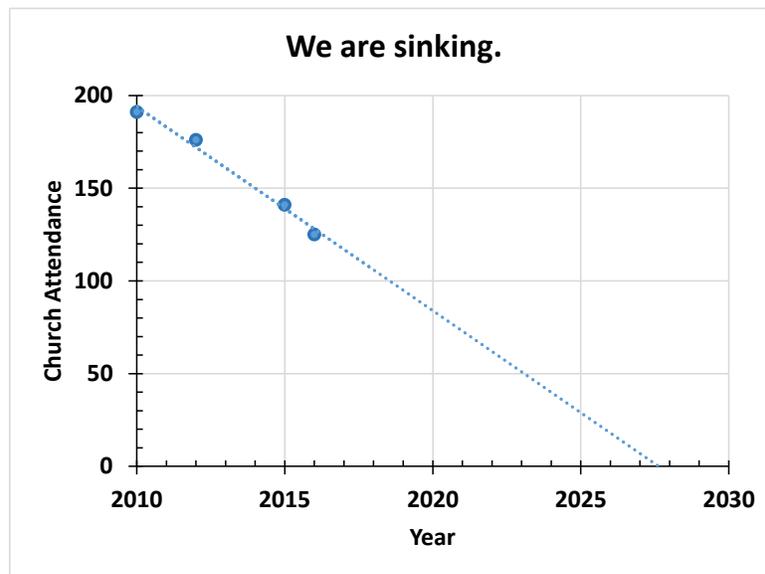
He turns about to see a frail, elderly woman in a wheelchair, nervously handling a handkerchief. “Yes, ma’am?” he inquires in a gentle voice.

“I would like to help,” she says.

He pauses, and gives her a sad but kindly smile. “Come with me, then,” he says, and pushes her along the companionway leading to the elevators.

You know how that parable must conclude.

And now I have something to show you.



Yes, we are sinking. It is literally only a matter of time, and not so much time as this straight-line projection would suggest, because a church body needs a critical mass in order to have any functionality. For us, we are already short of crew.

So, it comes down to You, whether you will help us avoid the otherwise inevitable dissolution of Good Shepherd. It is not a matter of praying in order to hear God's message to you. So often, we say that we must pray as a cover for procrastination or regretful refusal, imagining we are hearing God's voice in the form of our own reluctance. But there is no reason to ponder what God might say, because *He has already said it* to us in the words of the Apostle Paul, in the book of Romans, chapter 12:

*"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the reviewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.*

*"<sup>3</sup>For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. <sup>4</sup>For as we have many members in one body, but all members do not have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. <sup>6</sup>Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup>or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; <sup>8</sup>he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness."*

You have read this message in various forms throughout the Epistles. It does not get you off the hook. You cannot hide behind the protestation that you have no gifts, for this was not an exhaustive list, but an illustrative one. We are all supposed to serve.

Oh, yes. There actually *was* an RMS *Britannic*. It was the larger sister ship to the RMS *Titanic*, and it, too, met its end by sinking.

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As always, I am available outside of services, in the Narthex, down in the Fellowship Hall, by telephone (home 253-838-5820), and by e-mail (michaeljdunn@msn.com). Every question deserves an answer.

## 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

With the summer here, our church is seeing the usual offering slow down. While we are above the needed mark with our budget, each week shows a decline in offerings. Let's not forget that we still need to keep the doors open. Staff and bills need to be paid. God isn't taking a vacation.

Repairs are being done in a timely manner. As contributions come in, the more pressing and urgent things get done. The big one is the Annex roof was done at the end of July. Thank you all who made this happen.

Blessings to all. Your support keeps us going. Thank you!

## 2016 Grow Auction

The **2016 Grow Auction & Dinner** will be **October 15<sup>th</sup>**. What can you or your place of business / employment donate? The Grow Auction Committee is looking for new items, gift certificates for services, goods and / or restaurants, collectibles / antiques and we also accept cash donations to purchase items. Please look for Betty Hennig or Bonnie Huset on Sundays for more information, or contact the church office at 253-473-4848. We would like all donations in by October 1. The Grow Auction supports the Endowment Fund which is extra scholarship dollars for church members attending Christian schools.

## Men's Breakfast / Bible Study

**Saturday, August 20<sup>th</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 "The Good, the Bad and the Ugly" (1 Kings 11).



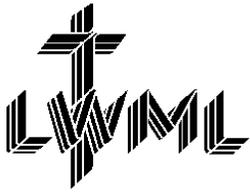
## Sunday School Rally Day

September 11, 2016 - 9:30 am – 10:30 am

Ages: 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

(we begin with opening in the Annex Preschool Room)  
Featuring stories, music, crafts, and sometimes snacks.

*Learn about God's Love Through Jesus*



## Women in Mission / Women's Ministry

- **Tuesdays:**

**Bible Study** (9:15 am)

**Quilting** (10 am)

- **Mites and Missions**—Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>

Ladies of Good Shepherd,

Thanks for your generosity when asked to bring salads and/or desserts for memorial services. This is one way we show care for our church family. Many thanks also for willing helpers!

Have you put anything in the Mite Box lately? Please help Mites grow.

**August 20, Rainier Zone Board Meeting** is at Beautiful Savior, Milton. You are welcome to attend. Fall Rally is October 8 at Beautiful Savior so mark your calendar NOW.

Knitters, your wonderful hats are a big part of our 150 Seafarers' Christmas Boxes, which include 13 other items. We will pack all 150

Christmas Boxes on December 3. Contributions of money to purchase items are needed.

The first Sunday in October is LWML Sunday. This year the theme is "Come and See!" written by Dr. Leopoldo A. Sánchez M.

Did you know that Taylor Hoffman from Mount Rainier Lutheran High School received the Clint Names Multi-Sports Excellence Award? How about Bart Borcharding, volunteer at Tacoma Seafarers' Center on the front of the July 11, 2016 Tacoma News Tribune? Congratulations to both Taylor and Bart!

Pray, Praise and Give Thanks!

*Jane Oberg*

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## Pastor's Summer Bible Class

On **Sunday, August 7**, Pastor Dan will begin his summer Bible class. It will be a 5 part video study on Martin Luther, the Man. Come and meet the German Monk who sparked the Reformation. Explore Martin Luther's life and quest for truth. In this Bible study, we will examine the life and times of this religious reformer. From his humble beginnings in Germany to his untiring work to understand Scripture and share the truths of the Bible, Martin Luther inspired a Reformation that reverberates throughout Christendom to this day.

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**Lunch Bunch** On **August 11<sup>th</sup>** we will gather at the church at about **11:30 am**. We will then head out in car pools to **Point Defiance Park** for our annual picnic. Bring a dish to share and join us for the fun!

## ***Sharing Christ, Feeding Lambs***



Registration for the 2016-2017 school year is in full swing and

openings are still available. If you or anyone you know is looking for a preschool, please consider our church's preschool program. We are nationally accredited by the National Lutheran Schools Accreditation program. The registration fee is \$75. We have increased the time by 15 minutes for both our classes to meet 8:45 am – 11:30 am. The yearly tuition for the Tuesday / Thursday class is \$1,170 for the school year or \$130 / monthly, payable September – May. The yearly tuition for the Monday / Wednesday / Friday class is \$1,755 for the school year or \$195 monthly, payable September – May. Please view our website or call for a tour at 253-473-4848.

**Saturday, August 20 from 11 am – 12:30 pm** will be our next **Preschool Picnic and Playdate**. Please join us in the preschool playground – just for the fun of it!

**Wednesday, August 31, from 6:30 – 7:15 pm** is our **2016-2017 Orientation Night**. All preschool families are encouraged to attend.

Do you place orders with **Amazon.com**? If so, please consider going through our preschool website to get to Amazon.com, using the link at the bottom of our home page or by using the tab at the top with the scrolling news. By doing this, Amazon will donate a small percentage of the total you spend to our preschool, with no extra cost to you. Thank you!

We thank you for your continued prayer support for our preschool students, families, board members, and staff. Thanks and praise to God for the privilege and opportunity to have a preschool as a ministry tool at Good Shepherd. To God be the glory!

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

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## **Excerpts from recent letters:**

“I came here in a dark place one day. Went to your service and got a different outlook on life. You all accepted me and gave me hope. Since then I have a new outlook on life and it is getting better. I thank you and God bless you. What you say is true and makes a difference. Thank you. Brad”

“Dear Members of Good Shepherd. Greetings in Christ from Nairobi, Kenya, where we are in the midst of the hottest part of the year. Happy Easter! Our Easter this year was a joyful celebration with a wonderful Easter Service and a bountiful Easter meal with our gathered friends and co-workers. The boys loved dying eggs and the Easter egg hunt. As we reflect on Christ this season, we want to thank you for being part of this work. Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and support. Happy Easter from Nairobi! Shauen and Krista Trump.”

## **LOOKING AHEAD...**

# **SEPTEMBER BABY SHOWER FOR LOCAL CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTERS**



**Care Net Pregnancy  
& Family Services**  
of Puget Sound

**FALL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN AND BABY SHOWER  
STARTS SEPTEMBER 11 – OCTOBER 2.**

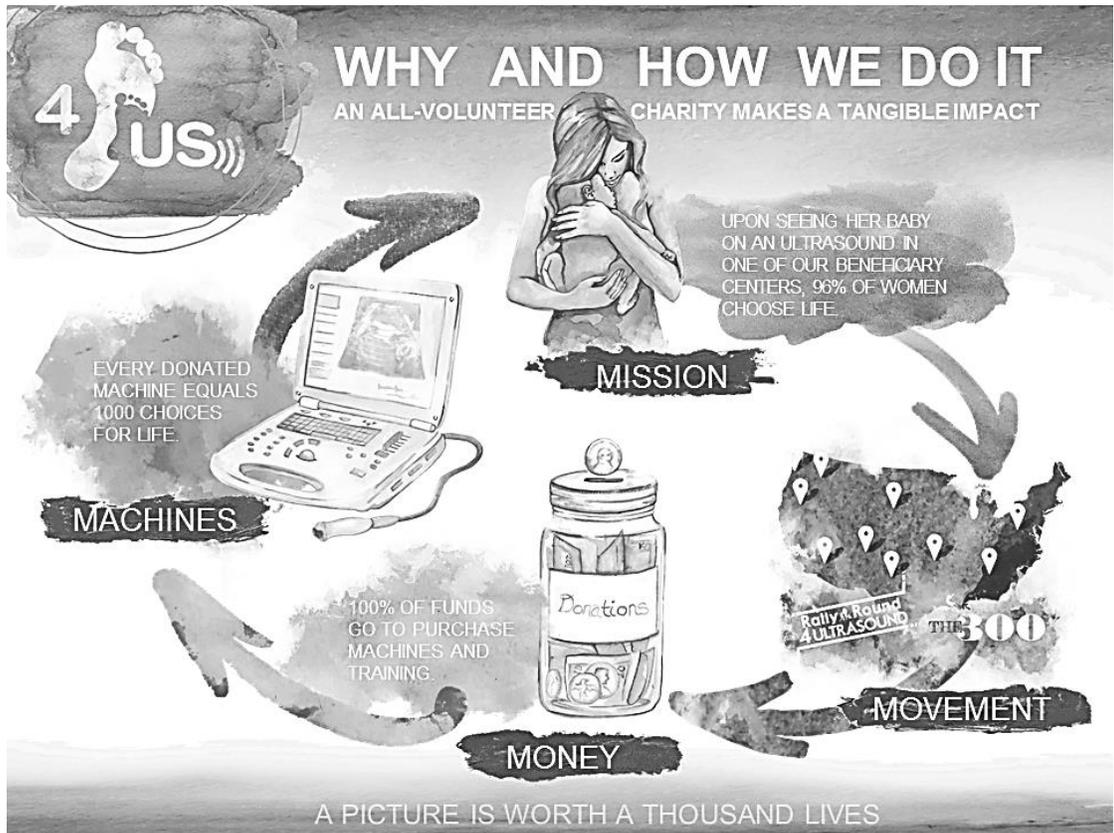
### **PUYALLUP**

Diaper bag  
Bassinet  
3 cribs  
Pajamas for boys & girls: 1-36 months  
Onesies for boys & girls: 0-24 months  
Diapers: NB,5,6  
Baby formula  
Baby cereal  
12 cloth diapers  
Car seat  
Stroller  
2 pack n' plays

### **TACOMA**

Bassinet  
2 cribs & mattresses  
2 baby gates  
Bus passes  
Mid-size stroller  
Pack n' play with bassinet  
Double stroller  
Infant bounce seat, girl

**FALL BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN STARTS FOR CARE NET OF PUGET  
SOUND: ABOVE ARE SOME OF THE NEEDS FOR THE TWO NEAREST  
CENTERS: PUYALLUP AND TACOMA**



## 4US Bake Sale

**August 7**  
After the services

Monies raised support 4US.org in providing ultrasound machines for Crisis Pregnancy Centers