

GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

September 2018

Mount Zion

Dear Christian Friends.

Hundreds of years before King David conquered Jerusalem and Solomon built a temple there, Abraham and his son Isaac came to a mountain then known as Mount Moriah (Gen 22). There, God commanded Abraham to sacrifice his beloved son in offering to Him. As Abraham raised his knife to kill Isaac, the angel of the Lord stopped the sacrifice. In place of Isaac the angel provided a ram for sacrifice. God provided a substitute to die in place of His children.

On this mountain, Solomon built his temple for the Lord (1 Kings 6). Here, sacrifice for the sins of God's people was offered. Here, God dwelt in glory. Here, a lost book was found and taken to heart by God's people (2 Kings 22). After this temple was destroyed by the Babylonians, ca 587 BC (2 Kings 23), it was rebuilt, first by Jewish exiles returning to the Promised Land (Ezra 3-6), and then again by King Herod at the time of Christ (Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, xv, ch 11).

To this temple mountain God's Son came, first as an infant (Luke 2.22-38), then as a young man (Luke 2.41-50), and finally as the promised Messiah (Luke 22.66ff). In this temple, in the chambers

of the Council (the Sanhedrin), Jesus was condemned to die in our place. Once and for all, God provided the Lamb for sacrifice, for the sins of all mankind (John 1.36).

Amidst our earthly struggles, we respond to God's presence in our lives in differing ways. When we think of the Lord in all His glory and power, we fear Him as did the Israelites at Mount Sinai (Hebrews 12.18-24). When we seem abandoned in a world of hostility to His very name, we complain to Him in prayer. We come to Him, trusting Him to provide us relief.

The Holy Scriptures promise us a better mountain (Isaiah 25). God invites us to think about His heavenly Mount Zion, where we will one day live forever, for Jesus' sake. Here are gathered a countless number of angels in praise of God the Almighty. Here Christ's own dear children live, finally free from sin, death and the power of the devil. Here Christ Jesus Himself lives to all eternity.

When we keep our eyes focused on this mountain, nothing that we face in this life overwhelms us. The heights of the heavenly Zion stand out above all fear, pain and suffering. Filling us with the hope of heaven, God enables us to continue onward in our earthly journey.

(Adapted from *The Lutheran Study Bible*, p 2126)

Noel D. Koss,
Interim Minister

President's Corner

The following are excerpts from the Summer issue of Interest Time put out by LCEF.

When you hear the term, "Steward," what comes to mind? A Steward is a person who actively manages affairs and looks after people. A Christian Steward is a keeper of a lord's estate – with two critical distinctions. In a Christian's case, the lord refers to God, creator, redeemer, and sustainer of all life. The other distinction is that the duties of a keeper are not a paid position – but a way of life.

When you hear the term, "Stewardship," what comes to mind? Most of us automatically think of money. Yes, that's part of it, but not all of stewardship. Rev. Heath Curtis, coordinator of LCMS Stewardship Ministry says "Stewardship falls under sanctification, how we are to live a godly life and grow in the image of Christ. The preaching and teaching of stewardship will always display our short comings, failures, and sins." Rev. Dave Miller, a pastor in Atlanta, GA says, "As our hearts get filled with Christ by Word and Sacrament, God swaps out our old stingy, selfish, joyless hearts and transplants in us His own. One that is generous, selfless, joyful – ready to serve our neighbor."

There are many misconceptions when it comes to stewardship. We focus on what the steward does (Stewardship) rather than who the steward is (Identity).

First and foremost, a Christian steward is a child of God. The Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ motivates the Christian steward. We love because He first loved us. That gratitude marks the life of the Christian steward. Thus, stewardship is a

response to God's gift of salvation. Luther said, "As Christ gives himself for us with His body and blood, so we too are to give ourselves with might and main for our neighbor."

Second the child of God cares (manages) for that which belongs to his Father. In the New Testament, stewardship is not used to designate the action of giving, much less the giving of money. It relates primarily to the office of administration or management, or to the implementation of a plan. The Lord has called each of us go different vocations in the home, church, and society. Under each of these vocations, we have the joy-filled duty to use all that God has given us for His purposes.

Third, what belongs to our Father? Everything. James 1:17 says that "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of Lights." That means that everything, from the food we eat, to what we do for a living, to our personal strengths, to the talents we possess, are all gifts from God.

True stewardship means that we depend on a good and gracious God for who we are and what we have because they are gifts to us. Thus, it rings hollow to limit stewardship to issues of finance. It robs the Christian steward of the rich, full, and fruitful life that God intends for His children. The Gospel is what makes stewardship distinctively Christian in content, in method, and in motivation. The stewardship life is dedicated to the cause of the Kingdom. Stewardship is the expression of our faith.

When one leads a Christian life of stewardship, the focus in on Christ. Trust is

placed in Him that He will provide for those who dedicate their lives in serving Him with the gifts He has blessed us with.

What are the consequences of poor or no stewardship? In short, ignoring any part of the whole counsel of God leads to trouble: maybe it's despair, maybe it's worldly security, maybe it's missed mission opportunities. These short-term consequences feed into the well of long-term consequences. This can include congregations struggling to have enough willing workers in service to others, fund both mission and ministry, provide

adequate compensations and care support for their professional church workers. These long-term consequences place the church in a critical condition and prevent called workers from carrying out their mission.

Are you a good steward of what God gives you? Is your stewardship a true reflection of your faith? We all need to examine ourselves in this area. I know I can do better, can you?

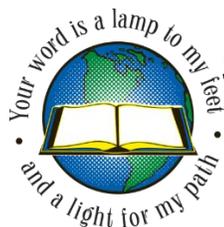
See you in church on Sunday

Blessings,

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



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



NOTICE!! NO Men's Ministry Bible Studies in September



THE LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES RADIO PROGRAM AND RESOURCES:

The Lutheran Hour Ministries can be heard on KLAY radio at 10 am Sundays.

The recordings are also available on their website (www.lhm.org).



The Lutheran Hour Ministries offers daily devotions, along with other opportunities to serve, through their website at www.lhm.org.

Elder Care and Senior Living Seminar

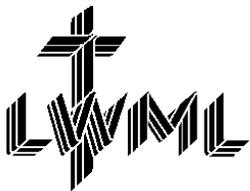


Have you ever thought about what you might need to do to plan for yourself or your parents as we get older? Have you ever considered what type of care you might need if injured or hospitalized due to illness? Have you been curious about what resources are available in the community that you can access for additional care assistance? CayCare Elder Care and Senior Living Advisors will be sharing information on navigating the senior living environment, with tips for how to plan ahead. Please join us for this **FREE** seminar on **Saturday September 8, 2018** from **9 am to noon** in the fellowship hall. Refreshments will be provided. Brought to you by the Board of Education.

The Board of Education Notes

Rally Sunday, the beginning of the Sunday School year begins **September 9th**. Paul Boule and Norm Gerken will be teaching adult classes in the sanctuary building in the basement. Julian Doyle will be teaching Sr. High students in the annex building, while Tony Huset and Jennifer Laie will be teaching the younger grades. On Tuesday mornings at 9:15 am Jane Oberg will continue the study of the Catechism. Pastor Koss will be teaching the Confirmation class. Please join a class on Sunday or Tuesday and bring your children to attend class. These classes are offered to benefit our spiritual growth as well as our Christian Fellowship.

--Board of Education Members: Tammy Boudreau, Angela Doyle,
Sue Tofflemire, and Bonnie Huset



Women in Mission / Women's Ministry

Tuesdays:

Bible Study (9:15 am)

Greetings **ALL** women of Good Shepherd,

Exciting events are on the horizon – two on the same day...**Rainier Zone Rally** and **Good Shepherd Retreat** on **October 13th**. Please attend one.

Quilting (10 am)

Mites—Sunday, September 9

Tacoma Seafarers Auxiliary misses you! Come and see who and what we are on **September 25th**.

Mites – Ladies, are you remembering Mites?

Happy September to all!

Jane Oberg



SPANISH Fiesta

ENDOWMENT FUND DINNER AND AUCTION

This year's Grow Auction and Dinner will be **October 6th** and will be set in **SPAIN!**

Come have a great time and help raise money for the Endowment Fund.

Tickets remain **\$15** and include dinner. Purchase tickets and reserve your spot.

GET YOUR TICKETS SOON!

WOMEN'S RETREAT— LOVING OTHERS – SHARING CHRIST

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Saturday, October 13, 2018

9 am

Cost: \$20

(Scholarships Available)

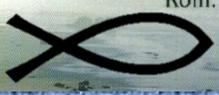
Ticket Sales begin September 2nd

Guest Speakers:

Betty Middleton and Myra Baughman

I am not
ashamed
of the gospel,
because it is
the power of **GOD**
for the **salvation**
of
everyone
who believes.

Rom. 1:16





Preschool News www.littlelambstacoma.com

Sharing Christ, Feeding Lambs



The Good Shepherd's Little Lambs Preschool will begin its 14th year September 4th at 8:45 am. This year the preschool will be offering 4 different classes for children aged 2—older 4 year olds. The toddlers meet on Tuesdays, the 3 year olds meet on Tuesday and Thursday, and the 4 year olds meet either 3 or 4 days each week; Tuesday through Thursday or Tuesday through Friday, depending on parents preference. We still have room in all these classes and there are scholarship dollars available for families with this need.

For the second year Kelly Johnson, will be our toddler teacher. Bonnie Huset will be teaching the other classes. Our new assistant this year will be Jami Whinery. Jamey is not new to our preschool; she and her husband, Jason, sent their 2 children here. She also served on our accreditation team four years ago.

As we begin the new school year we humbly ask for your prayers for all the preschool students and their families. We ask for prayer support for guidance and direction for our preschool board members: Angela Doyle, Diane Dean, Tammy Boudreau, Anita Long, Vicky McGee, Jean Morton, and Joe Morton as our Elder liaison. We also ask your prayers for our teaching staff of Kelly, Bonnie, and Jami. Thank you.

A heartfelt thank you to Richard Vasel who served faithfully on our school board and literally did many tasks for us and the church in his 4 years he was here with us. May God's hand of peace be on Richard, Kelly, Myla, and Amelia as they move on to the next chapter of their lives in Arkansas.

The preschool would also like to take this time to thank Mike and Tonya Dean for their prayer support, friendship, encouragement, and our website design and functionality for these past years. We thank you for answering God's call to do this for us and pray for God's blessings to be with you in your next endeavors.

**No Cost to You Preschool Donation
When You Shop
amazon.com.**

Thank you to everyone who has visited Amazon.com through our website. We have been blessed by your efforts with Amazon donating a small portion of its profits to our preschool. Remember you can use Amazon by logging into our preschool website first and clicking on the "Support US Shop AMAZON" button! By going to Amazon through our website we receive a donation from them. Thank you for your participation with this.

Serving our Savior,
Bonnie Huset,
Director / Teacher