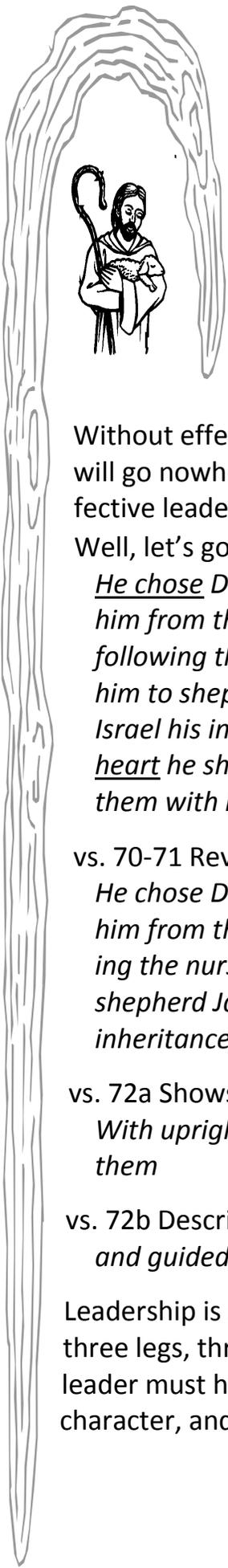


# GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

September 2017

## From the Pastor



Without effective leadership the church will go nowhere. So what makes an effective leader?

Well, let's go to Psalm 78:70-72:

*He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance. With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.*

vs. 70-71 Reveals David's calling  
*He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance.*

vs. 72a Shows David's character.  
*With upright heart he shepherded them*

vs. 72b Describe David's competencies  
*and guided them with his skillful hand.*

Leadership is sort of like a stool with three legs, three foundations that a leader must have and rest on; a calling, character, and competencies.

If one of these foundations is missing the stool cannot stand. For example, a leader can have both a calling and character but if he/she lacks competencies a big mess is produced. If a leader has good competencies and strong character but lacks a calling or vision, the organization may run well but won't accomplish anything of value and conflict or divisiveness may be the result. What if a leader has both a strong calling and competencies but is weak in character? Disaster is the result of that scenario.

We need all three foundations for a stool to stand! But is this sufficient? There are still two missing elements: Christ and Community.

Matthew 22:35-40 says this:

*And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."*

*continued on page 2*

Christian leadership begins and ends with Christ. Christ Jesus must come first!

I Corinthians 3:11 says,

*For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.*

Colossians 1:18 says,

*And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.*

Just like a body cannot live without a head, without Christ nothing works well in community.

Ephesians 4:17-19

*Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.*

'Christian' leadership is not character based, it is Christ-based although character is important.

John 15:5

*I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*

Philippians 1:10-11

*So that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.*

Without Christ first, the leader would have no calling other than having a sense of hopelessness and futility.

Ephesians 2:12

*Remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.*

Christ must be first. It's not about what you want, it's not about self, it's about what God wants. Man's competencies are useless apart from Christ.

The leader must know God, must walk with God, and it is out of relationship with God, in Jesus, that leadership in the Church takes place. This is not the best way of leading, it is the **only** way in Christian leadership. In the Church, without Christ, leadership is nothing more than fleshly works that mean nothing.

*Pastor Toby*

# The Interim Process

I have basically completed making calls on active members and will now be making calls on inactive members. I define members of a church as those who are coming to church and not those who simply like to have their names on a membership list of some kind. Please pray for me and those who agree to talk with me.

I am also going through some leadership training with the Elders and other interested leaders as part of the interim process. Together we will also look at the Constitution and how the church decides who is in charge of what and the day to day operations.

During the process, in October / November, I will begin to give the congregation (you all) options as to how to proceed in the future, especially when / if a new pastor comes.

Together we face many challenges but our God is a Great God and I will continue to trust Him and the Holy Spirit in leading and directing us. Please know how much I really have enjoyed sitting down with many of you and will continue to minister among you honestly and as lovingly as I can! Thank you for all you have done for me in making my ministry among you so enjoyable.

*Pastor Tobly*

P.S. I may have not reached out to everyone so if I did not get a hold of you please call me to make an appointment at 702-523-6210.

## 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

**Youth Confirmation Classes** will begin on **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>** at **9:30 a.m.** in **Classroom C-2**. Any young person who is 5<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade who has not been confirmed are invited. Any adult is also welcome to attend.

**The Apologetics Bible Class** will begin on **Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>** at **10:30 a.m.** in **Classroom C-1**. Any people and guests are welcome to attend.

# President's Corner

September has arrived. Summer is finally gone with the start of school just around the corner. We survived the summer financially. We started June with a deficit of \$19,000.00 and as of this writing are **\$24,000.00 behind projected budget needs if we spent the full budgeted amount.** Your prayers and support are needed to keep our doors open and our ministry current.

Announcements following church services have been discontinued. Hopefully, all the announcements will be printed in the newsletter and Sunday bulletins. There are also sign-up sheets available on the information table in the narthex. Please take time to read the announcements and look at the weekly calendar and monthly calendar to keep updated as to what is happening and when. Diligent efforts are made to share accurate and up-to date information. However, there are occasional changes and/or mistakes made. Please be patient during this transition period. And you may always access the monthly calendar and newsletter on our website at [www.goodshepherdluth.com](http://www.goodshepherdluth.com)!

A few things that will be happening soon:

- **Sunday School and Confirmation Classes** will begin in September.
- The **Confessions Reading Group** is changing locations and will now be meeting in **C-1** on the first and third Thursdays at 7 pm instead of the Annex Chapel.

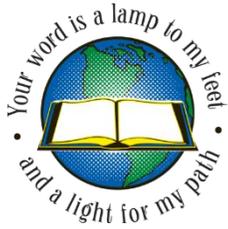
- Our annual **Grow Auction and Dinner** is scheduled for **October 7<sup>th</sup>**. Sign-up sheets are in the narthex on the information table for you to volunteer to help with this event.
- Finally, there is a sign-up sheet on the information table for **anyone needing transportation** to the **500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation Celebration, October 29<sup>th</sup> in Redmond, Washington.**

The Church Council has voted to support two items brought before it on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

- First: The Church Council supports the cancellation of an event if there is not sufficient help for setup, cleanup, and support help at least 2 (two) weeks prior to the event. For the Grow Auction this year, without sufficient help there will be no dinner. A dessert will be served and the auction will be held instead.
- Second: The Church Council also supports that all major cooks at Operation Thanksgiving, Lunches, Dinners, and other events must have a Food Handlers card. This is a safety concern.

Praise God!

*Joe Morton*  
President



## **Sunday Sermons are now being audio recorded**

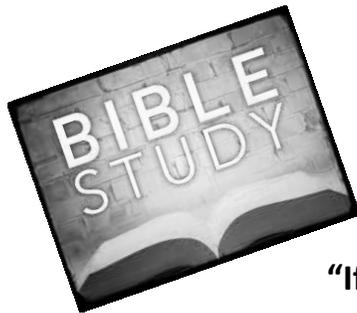
and are available for you to listen, share, and enjoy again anytime on our website @ [www.goodshepherdluth.com](http://www.goodshepherdluth.com)

## **Sunday School Teachers Needed**



At this time we have no volunteers to teach Sunday School beginning September 21. Please prayerfully consider teaching for Preschool – Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades or 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grades. We will accept teachers who have a love for Christ and are willing to be a blessing to our children. The teaching time commitment can be done on a quarterly basis. Please call the church office (253-473-4848) or let Sue Tofflemire or Bonnie Huset know if you are willing to teach. Thank you.

## **Men's Ministry Schedule for September**



September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 8 am

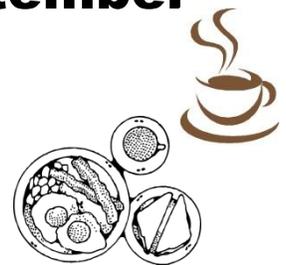
**COFFEE AND BIBLE STUDY**

**"The Dream Job—NOT!" (Jeremiah 20:1-13)**

September 16<sup>th</sup> – 8 am

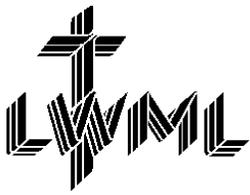
**BREAKFAST AND BIBLE STUDY**

**"If You Could Ask God Anything" (Habakkuk 1-3)**



## **Financial Update**

We made it through the summer but did have trouble paying our monthly bills. We continue to run a deficit and it increases each month. An increasing deficit means more programs and services will stop. No one wants that to happen. Your support is vital to our church so we can keep our doors open and provide a ministry that preaches the Good News of Jesus Christ. Are you in? See you in church Sunday!



# Women in Mission / Women's Ministry

## Tuesdays:

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

**Quilting** (10 am)

**Mites**—Sunday, September 10

**Seafarers Auxiliary** – September 26, noon

**District Retreat** – Sept. 29-Oct. 1

**LWML Sunday** – October 9

**Zone Rally** – October 14

Greetings Sisters in Christ!

**YOU ARE GIFTED TO SERVE** – the LWML WA-AK District theme for 2016-2018. What are your areas of service? Are you a prayer warrior? A hugger? A giver? Do all to the glory of Christ!

## **BE READY IN SEASON AND OUT OF SEASON**

is our **LWML Sunday theme**. You can help usher, read, greet, or ? Watch for details. Mark your calendar for the **8th of October**.

Remember **CALLED TO BE** the District Retreat **September 29 – October 1**. Pray for those attending and the leaders.

**Tuesday Bible Class** is working our way through the Gospel of John. Come and share His Word with us. You are always welcome!

Serving the Lord with Gladness

*Jane Oberg*

**Lunch Bunch News** The Lunch Bunch will begin meeting on the **second Thursday** of the month starting **September 14<sup>th</sup>** at **11:30 am**. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall for a Pot Blessing Lunch and a program. September will serve as a planning meeting.

On **October 9<sup>th</sup>**, Lunch Bunch has been invited to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Graham beginning at 10 am for Bible Study, Lunch and Program about Luther and Katie portrayed by Pastor Dan and Ruth. A sign-up sheet is on the information table. We need to know by **October 1<sup>st</sup>** how many are attending.



## Sharing Christ, Feeding Lambs



All the preschool classes will begin on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:45 am. This includes our Toddler Tuesdays, Preschool 1 for 3-year olds and Preschool 2 for 4 year olds.

The Toddler Tuesday class will meet in the Annex Chapel and run from 8:45 – 10:45 am.

Welcome to Kelly Johnson. Kelly will be our Toddler Tuesday teacher. Last December she completed her master's degree in Early Childhood Education and has a long history of teaching as well as being a wife and mother. She and her husband sent their four children to Concordia Lutheran School and the two oldest have graduated with the youngest two at Mount Rainier Lutheran High School. We look forward to a great year with Kelly and our new venture with Toddler Tuesdays.

It is that time of year again. All you photographers who would like to submit up to 3 landscaped photos for our 2018 annual calendar contest, please submit your entries, including a Bible verse to Valerie. **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT IS OCTOBER 15.** Please submit photos of God's creation without people. Thank you. We will have the calendars ready for sale during the month of November.

### No Cost to You Preschool Donation When You Shop AMAZON.COM

Do you like to do shopping online? If you do, we would like you to consider going through our website to AMAZON.com. Our preschool has a continuing fundraiser through our website that is an ongoing campaign in association with AMAZON.com. Please help us by making your purchases through AMAZON by visiting us at [www.littlelambstacoma.com](http://www.littlelambstacoma.com) and clicking on the "Support US Shop AMAZON" button! By using the Little Lambs Preschool website AMAZON will donate directly to our preschool a small percentage of what you spend without it costing you any more money.

**A friendly reminder, if you are a Thrivent member and have Thrivent Choice Dollars available to you please consider including Little Lambs Preschool as one of your recipients. Thank you.**

Please continue to pray for our preschool and all who are involved with it. Thank you for your kind financial and spiritual support. It is greatly appreciated and beneficial for our school. We are grateful for the love and encouragement shown to us as we endeavor to share Christ with God's little lambs.

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