



**Devotion**  
**Biblical Truths About the Pastoral Office**  
**Part 1**  
**March 4, 2018**

**Dear Church,**

Things you may have wanted to know but didn't know how to ask

Pastors aspire to a noble vocation

1 Timothy 3:1

***Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task.***

In the popular movie Shrek, the donkey struts about proudly when the princess calls him "a noble steed". Even though he was a donkey, acted like a donkey, looked like a donkey and couldn't be anything else other than a donkey, being called "a noble steed" was a source of pride. That was because the comparison elevated him in the eyes of those around him.

The Apostle Paul, in speaking with his young friend Timothy, begins a series of verses about the public pastoral ministry with the verse quoted above. He calls it "a noble task". Notice, he first qualifies that one should aspire to it. In other words, it isn't handed out like free popcorn at the local auto dealership. One should desire to do it, not be pushed into doing it. And why is that?

Public pastoral ministry isn't for the faint of heart. It is said that pastors are on duty 24/7, 365 days a year – and that isn't far from the truth. They are available to the members of their congregation at any time. They schedule time to get to know the community they live in, so they can be better prepared to give an answer for the hope they have. They schedule time to sit in front of members to teach them, individuals to counsel them and unbelievers to instruct them while still taking the time to pray for each and every one of them. They do this while still being husbands and fathers, coaches and cleaners (since they want to help their wives clean the house!) and are even known to develop a few hobbies along the way of life.

Even though the public pastoral ministry may seem to be more than one man can handle, every pastor knows that he isn't doing this work alone. He walks with Christ, who is the great shepherd of the sheep and has called him to be an under-shepherd to a particular flock. He studies Christ's word daily, to be better prepared with that same Word to share God's Law and God's Gospel in season and out of season. In fact, the pastor who intends on participating in this noble task and feels that he can do it all by himself, takes the nobility out of the task and makes the public pastoral ministry all about himself and not about Christ.

So, the next time you see your pastor at church, ask him to call on you at home, meet him at the local grocery stores with a list in his hand, or look at the noble task he has as an overseer, a pastor. Then, give thanks to God that he is here, serving Christ by serving you with the Word and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. He is not a donkey – he is a noble steed, because he trusts in the Lord, not in himself.

THANKS! ~ ***En Cristo, Pastor Tim Flunker BHMHOC***

***1<sup>st</sup> in a series of 4***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Divine Call** – Extended on Sunday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> to Reverend Nathan Zastrow. Dear Church, keep praying for Pastor Zastrow, his family, his church, and God's plan for us as our call is being considered. His contact info is: phone# 605-868-8572

email: [pastorzastrow@gmail.com](mailto:pastorzastrow@gmail.com)

**Lenten Focus** - Our Lenten season continues through March 21<sup>st</sup>. The 6-week series is focusing on *petitions of the Lord's Prayer*. Soup suppers begin at 6pm for the 6 weeks duration. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the back of the church for those who wish to contribute to the weekly meals.

### Upcoming Wednesday Lenten Services at 7pm

- March 7<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Stuebs
- March 14<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Cherney
- March 21<sup>st</sup> – Pastor Teske

**2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest next week!! Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>** - Correction! Helpers needed at 10 am for the unloading and packaging of produce, table set-up, etc. *Distribution will be from 12-2.*

**Men's Breakfast, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday!** – The next joint redeemer/Grace monthly breakfast is on Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at Shari's on 40<sup>th</sup> and Fruitvale. Men of Grace and Redeemer are all invited to come on out and show the ladies our strength! ~

Submitted by Mike Martin. *As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another Proverbs 27;17*

**Lydia Circle** – Will meet tomorrow, Monday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 at the church. There are still church mugs for sale, please see Florence Teske or Sandy Martin!

**Coffee Hour** – Starts at 10am. Hosting sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. March Sundays are open!

**Next Streams** – Newsletter will be published March 10<sup>th</sup>, and weekly this month. Please give me your submissions or updates by email; [slwrgeg526@yahoo.com](mailto:slwrgeg526@yahoo.com). Thank you!

**Ladies Bible Study** – Every Thursday, ladies from Grace and Redeemer meet. This week on Thursday at 1pm there were 16 in attendance. God Bless you for your faithful diligence!

**Grace School Updates** - Grace Lutheran School has a new Facebook page! Head onto Facebook and search "Grace Lutheran Yakima." Click on the page that has our Grace logo as the profile picture. Be sure to spread the news and share it with all your friends. We'll be posting pictures and updates from the school, information about registration, and highlights as we prepare for the School Auction. Enrollment applications for Fall 2018 are being taken now! Talk with Ms. Hussman if you have any questions.

## **Auction News**

The 10th Annual Grace School Auction will be held Saturday, April 28th at Redeemer Lutheran Church. Tickets will be \$25 each with a table for eight going for \$175. There will be a catered meal. Entertainment during dining will be provided by a Yakima Youth Symphony string ensemble. We are making a special effort to include school families this year. School students will be part of the entertainment.

We have already received some items for the auction, but of course we need more. We're asking the congregation help by donating items and soliciting donations from merchants. A letter for merchants and auction forms can be picked up on the table in the narthex.

The Auction Committee includes:

Dave and Valerie Kamppi

Catherine Ball

Becca Hussman

Chey Temple

Louise Boss from Redeemer

Cathy Rodriquez, parent of former student

Marilee Nolte, Chairman

If you have questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to ask any of us

## **Prayer and Praise**

**Garland Hill**- Healing from a stroke

**Marilyn Smith** – Health and strength

**Sandra Sullivan** – Healing for cancer

**Doris Sumner** – Recovery and strength

**Corae Temple** – Healing and strength

**Mark Jankowski** – Healing for cancer

**Karen Jankowski** – Healing for back

**Irma Alderson** – Comfort & Strength

**Dee Ekstrom** – Healing for cancer

**Marilee Nolte** – Praise God for healing a broken leg

## **Our Homebound Members**

**Irma Alderson**

**Carol Butler**

**Ewald Ehlers**

**Jack Lott**

**Marlen Rieker**

**Norm Campeau**

**Anne Rhine**

**Garland Hill**

**Dorothy Johnson**

**Ed Peterson**

**Esther Wachter**

# March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> Ladies Bible Study 1pm Catechism 9:00	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> Communion Worship - IC 11 & <b>12:15</b> SS & ABS 10	<b>5</b> Lydia Circle 1:30	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Chapel - IC Soup Supper 6 Lenten service 7 - WS	<b>8</b> Ladies Bible Study 1pm Catechism 9:00	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Daylight Savings time - turn clocks ahead 1 hour tonight
<b>11</b> Worship - TF 11 & <b>12:15</b> SS & ABS 10	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Grace Council mtg. 4:30	<b>14</b> Chapel - IC Soup supper 6 Lenten service 7 - IC 2nd Harvest 12-2	<b>15</b> Ladies Bible Study 1pm Catechism 9:00	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Men's breakfast</b> <b>10am Shari's</b>
<b>18</b> Communion Worship - WS 11 & <b>12:15</b> SS & ABS 10	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Chapel - IC Soup Supper 6 Lenten service 7 - MT	<b>22</b> Ladies Bible Study 1pm Catechism 9:00	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Worship - IC 11 & <b>12:15</b> SS & ABS 10	<b>26</b> 	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Chapel - IC	<b>29</b> Maundy Thursday TF&MT Bilingual 7pm	<b>30</b> Good Friday - MT 7pm <b>No school</b>	<b>31</b> <b>Spring Break</b>
				KEY: SS=Sunday School ABS=Adult Bible Study <b>12:15</b> =Spanish Service	TF=Tim Flunker WS=Bill Stuebs IC=Isaac Cherney TL = Ted Lambert MT= Mel Teske	