

# THE WITTENBERG DOOR

APRIL 2022

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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## Pastor's Message

### Sharing in Christ's Resurrection

Jesus said "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." ~ John 12:23-25

"Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not books alone, but in every leaf in springtime."  
~ Martin Luther

Oh, the promise of the resurrection! What comfort it offers to God's people. How sad the ending of this brief life is for those without the gift of eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

For unbelievers, the words of the Psalmist bear a bitter truth. "Man is like a breath; his days are like a passing shadow" (Psalm 144:4).

But, for God's children, only joy awaits us after this body breathes its last. And that is all due to the sacrifice of God's only begotten Son in our place. He died that we might live forever in his presence, with all of the Christians who have gone before us — and follow after us.

That is what we celebrate every Sunday, the resurrection of our Lord. And that is the focus of the holiest day of the Christian calendar. Easter is the climax of Holy Week, and can even be viewed as the pinnacle of human history. After all, on that glorious day, Jesus Christ confirmed his victory over sin, death and the grave.

If you haven't felt comfortable returning to worship since covid arrived, now would be the perfect time to rejoin your brothers and sisters at worship. In fact, in many ways, Easter is the best and easiest time to invite family and friends to join you at church.



Don't delay your return. You need the church, and the church needs you. That's because the Body of Christ is only healthy when all of its members or parts are together and functioning properly.

If you are able to attend our 10:00 Palm Sunday service and our 6:30 Good Friday service, it will make our 10:00 Easter celebration even more meaningful. We hope to see you here.

Pastor Rob

**From the President.....**

As Council President, I feel I should pass along the rumor that God is considering “A New Deal”. That “He” is negotiating a clause that we should be very concerned about. It seems, God has decided to “Be there for us” just as we are there for Him. That means, “He” will only “be there for us” in our congregation between 10.m. and Noon on Sunday mornings. That means of course, that for the rest of the week, except for Bible Study, Lenten Service and SS, we will be on our own! I do clearly understand that because of our outside commitments to sports, book clubs, golf, fun times at the beach, hiking, work,etc., we have a hard time “fitting” God into our busy lives. And, on-the-other-hand, God only has two jobs. Creation and looking out for us 7, 24 hour days per week. But then, “He” is God. Speaking for myself, I don’t want a new deal. So, I am asking you (a prayer request) to send up your prayers and promises to God that we will in future, spend more time “just for Him”. And maybe sharing with our friends “what a great God is our God”. Just a brief comment...all parents and grandparents love hearing from their kids and grandkids on a regular basis and, from what I read in “His” Word—He loves nothing more than hearing from us as well.



Larry Farner

**From: God’s Got This: Missio Dei and the Pandemic**

Years from now, we’ll look back on the current coronavirus pandemic and understand far better the impact that it has had on our world, the church, and Christian missions. For the time being, however, we may be left with more questions than answers. We may wonder why it is that God has allowed such a deadly disease to so disrupt the whole planet. Nonetheless, amidst the uncertainties, this we can and do know: this pandemic surely will not destroy what God has done and will do, for Jesus assures us: *“On this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”* (Matthew 16:18) The virus doesn’t get the final say, God does.

Paul Gossman



This was a part of an article from “Together in Prayer” Global News from World Mission Prayer League. Please keep this organization (WMPL) in your prayers.

## Helping with Lutherhaven—Doing Our Part

All Church Camp Cook needed

The All Church Camp Committee just recently discovered that our loyal and popular cook will not be available this year from July 30 through August 4<sup>th</sup> due to family commitments. Without a Cook, we can't starve our campers so we need someone or a team to come forward as the All Church Camp cook or cooks. We have paid the lead cook for a number of years as it is a rewarding but time consuming job. We do have Youth as Kitchen Helpers and they will have a Food Handlers permit. Past menus are available and our past cook is offering her help with menu planning. We would also consider anyone that is not available for the entire time frame if we are able to have others to cover for the remaining time. Please contact Bob Arper via email ([b.arper@comcast.net](mailto:b.arper@comcast.net)) or cell phone (360-440-0572) to sign up for this rewarding opportunity or for additional information. Thank you!

Bob Arper

Member of the Lutherhaven Board

## Lutherhaven Spring Cleaning (Work Party and Picnic)

Vinland Lutheran Church is excited to host the first work party at Lutherhaven since 2019. We look forward to working side by side with our fellow member churches and getting the camp ready for an amazing season!

Where: Camp Side at Lutherhaven (9400 NW Wildcat Lake Rd., Bremerton)

When: Saturday April 23rd—9:00-2:00 PM

The week before the clean up we will be posting the work to be done, tools that are required, and opportunities to help up regardless of ability.

We will have coffee and donuts in the morning and a hearty BBQ picnic for lunch. Please sign up so we can adequately plan for food and drinks.

Volunteers can contact directly at: [olympiclutherhaven@gmail.com](mailto:olympiclutherhaven@gmail.com)



**Good Friday Worship Service**

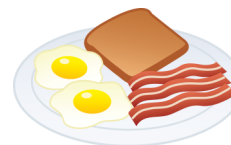
**April 15th.....6:30 PM**

**Easter Worship Service**

**April 17th.....10 AM**

## Easter Breakfast !

For the first time since the COVID shut-down, Emmanuel is planning it's annual Easter Breakfast (potluck style). At 8:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall on Easter Sunday. Please bring a "breakfast item", like eggs, sausage biscuits, "little sausages," rolls, etc. Even if you can't think of anything to bring we will have plenty of food.....what we most hope to see on Easter, is you! Coffee and juice will be provided. Note: The ones who bring in the food are asked to help set-up. Clean-up will be provided by volunteers (like the men's prayer breakfast group). If you have questions contact Carol or Rosie. Fellowship has always been a big thing at Emmanuel.....come and join us as we



## New Photo Directory

We're about to begin taking the photographs for our new pictorial directory. So, plan on taking just a few minutes after worship during the upcoming weeks to have your picture taken.

## Me and Ann Marie

When I was in my thirties, living in Salina, Kansas, I befriended an 18 year-old girl named Ann Marie. She was a lovely young girl who had a smile that was, well...Angelic. I do not recall how we actually became friends but now at 83, Ann Marie and I are still close. In early days we would sometimes meet for lunch or just to talk. Sometimes she would drop by my work or home greeting me with that Ann Marie "ray of sunshine" smile. She visited with my wife and kids but it was clear she gravitated toward me. I guessed it was because she came from a very large family and maybe felt overlooked by her own father. Over the years we, Ann Marie and I, remained close-sending cards, letters and E-mail. She eventually married, had a daughter of her own and then divorced. Through it all we always stayed in touch. Then along the way, a change occurred in Ann Marie's life. She became a Christian. Over the years I had always assured her she was in my heart and in my prayers. During troubled times I had always assured her that God knew her and cared for her and would always be there for her if she just reached out and opened her heart to the love and comfort that our Lord promises to each and everyone of us. Most recently, I received yet another E-mail from Ann Marie and it was about the same time Pastor Rob had delivered a message about "our" missions for Christ. Especially those missions we never much think about. It made me think of Ann Marie and also about how God is "always" near to us – how He "always" hears our prayers – how He "always" touches our lives in ways we would never have considered. Now, thanks be to God, Ann Marie and Me are no longer "just" friends, we are now brother and sister in Christ. What have I learned from Ann Marie? To love one another and to reach out to one another just as our Lord has loved and reached out to us.



Larry

## Pastor Rob Published an Article

Pastor Rob has an article in the current issue of *Connections*, a Lutheran magazine published for “LCMC, NALC, CALC, Lutheran Core and other evangelical Lutherans.”

The article is about the Office of the Keys (Confession and Absolution). He challenges the attitude of some pastors who claim that they possess “the power to forgive sins.” If you are interested in reading the article, you can see a copy of it on one of the bulletin boards in the fellowship hall.

Several months ago, Pastor Rob wrote an article for *The Lutheran Witness*, which is published by the LCMS. “Yielding to Sorrow” appears in the Nov. 2021 issue. It explores Martin Luther’s wise advice on how to comfort those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. A copy of this article is also available in the fellowship hall.

## How Can We Help The Citizens of Ukraine?

The AALC has missionaries in Ukraine. Pastor Yount and his wife, Lena have been serving in Ukraine for several years but recently were forced to flee to Slovakia. They are assisting refugees fleeing Ukraine. Pastor Yount describes the situation as *“People arriving are shell shocked, they have been listening to air sirens all day long, constantly going to the basement, taking cover, listening to loud explosions, then they take what they can fit in a small duffle bag or carry-on suitcase and leave the country on a 20 –35 hour trip, stand in the freezing cold for hours to cross the border with no idea what the place they are going will be like or when or if ever they can go home. We are praying with people, giving them a safe quiet place to rest, until they can come to some sort of peace and try to make decisions on what to do from here.”*

They are also assisting a Lutheran congregation near the city of Odesa in feeding their people. Please pray for Pastor Yount, Lena and Pastor Alexander Gorss (in Odesa).

- How can you help?**
1. Please pray for these individuals as well as the people of Ukraine.
  2. The AALC has created a special fund to send monies to Pastor Yount. “These funds will be used for his personal needs, the extended humanitarian effort in the Ukraine and the care of refugees that are in Slovakia. Please send your donations to the AALC National Office.

**The AALC**

**921 East Dupont Road #920**

**FT. Wayne, IN 46825-1551**

Please make checks payable to the AALC. These funds will be sent to Pastor Yount through a safe and secure agency. In addition, please keep Pastor Yount and all who he cares for in your prayers.”

Pastor Jamie M. Strickler , AALC WMC Chairman

## The Religious History of the State of Washington

*I have used many resources to assemble this series on "The Religious History of the State of Washington". If you are a Christian and a resident of Washington, this is not just a story – it's YOUR story.*

### PART EIGHTEEN –The Old Apostolic Lutheran Church (OALC)

The OALC came to America in the 1890's. The movement called the Nordic Firstborn Laestadian revival appeared within the official Church of Sweden and Finland, also called the "Lutheran Folk Church". The OALC believes in the Trinity, it confesses the Holy Bible as the only unchangeable Word of God. It accepts the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Unaltered Augsburg Confession and the original doctrine of Martin Luther, Lars Laestadius and the Elders of the Church in Sweden, Lapland and Finland. The Old Apostolic Lutheran Church is the largest Laestadian/Apostolic Lutheran Church in America (ultra conservative). The movement began in America around 1900 in Washington, Michigan, Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, North Carolina, Delaware, Montana and Wisconsin. The most significant membership area is in the State of Washington. Active OALC Churches in Washington are located in Battleground, Brush Prairie, Lewisville, Heissin, Woodland and Yacolt. A new (2<sup>nd</sup>) OALC is currently being built in Battleground. A large number of OALC Congregations are concentrated in the central and northern sections of Clark and Lewis Counties of Washington. A personal note: As a result of the recent "liberal" movement within mainline Lutheran Churches, three former ELCA Churches in Lewis County have joined together to build a new, very large OALC Church in my home town of Winlock, Washington. Beginning in 1899, English was the prevalent language in OALC Churches with sermons frequently translated from Finnish. My hometown was primarily settled by Finns and Swedes.



Lars Levi Laestadian  
1800–1861

## Trustee Ministry Beginning

Do you wonder who takes care of things like replacing light bulbs and touch-up painting? Individual members of the congregation take it upon themselves to ensure or facilities are cared for. If you would be willing to help out occasionally with minor repairs or upkeep, please talk to Pastor Rob or Bob Klempan. Bob will be setting up a box in the fellowship hall where people can identify projects that would benefit the church. We already have several volunteers, but the more, the better.

## A Famine in the Land-Ruth 1:1

According to data from the U.S Census Bureau, 16% of all women age 65 and older are living at or below poverty level. Rent in some cases has gone up nearly 20%. Since the pandemic, groceries have gone up nearly 10% and gas has climbed to an increase of 6% (even after the President's mandate). Everyone's monthly budget has taken a hit and those at or below the poverty level have little or no chance at all of being able to deal with it. Our monthly food donations here at ELC help to ease the pain of hunger being felt by our brothers and sisters who by no fault of their own may find themselves in "very" dire straits. They try so hard to stretch their meager income and only come to the food bank when they are out of resources and hungry. You can be sure that they are grateful for our help. You can also be sure that in some cases you may very well be contributing to saving a life. How else can you help? If you are planting a garden this year, maybe you could plant a row of vegetables for the food bank. Meanwhile, keep on doing your part (our part) by filling Emmanuel's food cart the first Sunday of each month.

- Sally



## Pastor Tim's Retirement Celebration

Please mark April 30th on your calendar. The program starts at 11 am with a luncheon following. We are anticipating many family members and former members. If you haven't signed up to bring food for the luncheon please consider it. If you wish to contribute to Pastor Tim's gift you can either give money to Judy Armstrong, put money in the offering and designated for Pastor Tim's gift or you can mail and write attn. Judy Armstrong on the envelope. Help to make this a special day for a Pastor that so deserves this. If you wish to help with decorating the fellowship hall we are gathering at 1:00 pm on Thursday, April 28th. Thank you for any help you can give.

Sharie Adrig, coordinator



**April Birthdays**

- 2.....Victoria Gehring
- 6.....Rosie Armstrong
- 10.....Riley Dupree
- 11.....JoEllen Klempan
- 12.....Gail Campbell
- 15.....Glen Adrig
- 17.....Judy Armstrong
- 17.....Lamonte James
- 20.....Marialis Jurges
- 21.....Mary Clare Gehring
- 22.....Keri Bjornemo Roberts
- 22.....Ida Ficca
- 28.....Ward Erickson III

**May Birthdays**

- 2 .....Stephanie Johnson
- 3.....Jim Mace
- 10.....Kaitlyn Armstrong
- 16.....Sally Farner
- 16.....Nancy Kerlee
- 21.....Maurine Simons

**May Anniversaries**

- 1.....Bob & JoEllen Klempan
- 21.....Loyal & Gail Campbell
- 30.....Mark & Bonnie Stouffer

I am sure that there are many members that I don't have your birthdates or anniversary dates. Any additions or corrections please contact the newsletter editor, Sharie Adrig at [gadrig@comcast.net](mailto:gadrig@comcast.net).

**Members Serving in April**

- Altar Guild .....Teresa Prange
- Reader.....Larry Farner

**Members Service in May**

- Altar Guild.....Sharie Adrig
- Reader.....Keri Roberts

If you are interested in helping with Altar Guild it is not too late. Just ask JoEllen Klempan or Sharie Adrig.

**Coffee Hour**

Coffee Hour has resumed following the worship service. If you would like to provide refreshments for coffee hour or make a monetary contribution please talk to Carol Reece or Rose Link.



Women's Luncheon on Thursday resumes after Easter. Contact Carol Reece for information.

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast**



Men's Fellowship Breakfast is being held at 8:30 am the second Saturday of each month at All Star Lanes in Silverdale. If you would like to receive email updates on this please let Glen Adrig know so that your name and email can be added to the contact list.

Bible Study on Thursdays at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. We are currently studying 1st Corinthians. It's not too late to attend.