

THE WITTENBERG DOOR

APRIL 2024

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Pastor's Message

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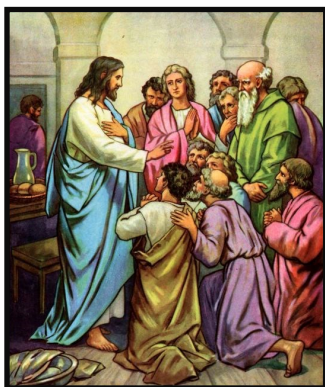
Jesus Appears to His Disciples (Luke 24:36-49)

36 As they were saying this, Jesus himself stood among them.^[a] 37 But they were startled and frightened, and supposed that they saw a spirit. 38 And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do questionings rise in your hearts? 39 See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have."^[b] 41 And while they still disbelieved for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate before them.

44 Then he said to them, "These are my words which I spoke to you, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled." 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, 46 and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be preached in his name to all nations,^[c] beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city, until you are clothed with power from on high."

The modern disciples experience of this Scripture may be slightly different than it was for the first and original disciples. These were the followers of Christ for three years and had seen and experienced countless, powerful, and life-changing miracles, times of teaching and personal convictions and commitment to follow Jesus wherever He was to lead them. Then, in the fear and uncertainty of the night in which he was betrayed, and the confusing words about bread, wine, his body and blood, and then, how did he say that about what would happen on the third day? Then the confusion and mayhem only increased as they ran for their lives and hid, lest they too might be arrested

and put on trial and treated like their Master and Rabbi. This very hiding place, the upper room as it is called, was the very place that Jesus came mysteriously, and yet gloriously, and stood among them. The first thing He addressed for them was their fear and anxiety, and the questions that were rising in their hearts. Was any of this true, and are we ever going to see Jesus again?



Pastor's message continued on page 2.....

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Pastor's Message continued.....

It was a good thing that for them, he could start at the basics: "Here's my hands and my feet. And you see that it is me, myself. Remember the crown they put on my head, and then mocking me, they ground in the thorns all the way down till it hit bone? What about the piercing cut on my side, to prove that I was dead before they cut me down? See here it is! Ya, that's gonna be a good scar, and a great sharing time for the future! To continue to assuage and comfort them in their continuing fear, He went on to make the point that if He was a spirit, he would have not flesh as they now could see he has. And while he still waited for them to believe it was him, He realized that it had been a while since he had eaten and asked casually, "Have you anything here to eat?" Some say that Jesus did that in continued effort to prove His resurrected body was real and true man; In my understanding, He hadn't eaten probably since before the trial, Conviction, flogging, scourging, wretched and tortuous walk to the Cross carrying His own cross (okay, the day of the Crucifixion itself – and then He was dead, and not to eat any regular food again until this meeting with them. He took the fish and ate it before them.

That was the object lesson that began by showing and teaching them by what they could see. The very present truth of His resurrected body and eating before them. Now He begins to give them and show them what The Father and The Spirit will give them, by feeding them the food which is the Word of God, and the Sacraments which He has instituted. These along with the Church built on faith in Him, will never perish and the promise of God's Word will last forever Isaiah (40:6-8; I Peter 3:16-17)! He recounted words which, "I had spoke to you while I was with you, and everything written about Him in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms"(Luke 24:44). Then He opened their minds to understand the scriptures." (vs.45)

- Pastor Gary Koutsopoulos

Amazon.God

"God, I want you to take care of this problem, like immediately. And, this is how I want you to handle it!" A young sailor was on duty in the middle of the night when he got a call on the radio. "I'm steaming toward your light, turn to starboard." The sailor transmitted back, "I'm unable to turn starboard, recommend you turn to port." "You don't understand" came the reply. "I am unable to turn to starboard." "Listen clearly" came the reply, "This is Admiral Rufus McGreggor, I command a very large battleship which can blow any vessel out of the water...so, I strongly urge you to turn to starboard." The unfazed sailor replied., "Sir, this



Seaman second class Clarence Brown, I command a lighthouse and I strongly urge you to turn to port." The battleship turned to port. We believe we know what is going on and cannot understand why God doesn't just do what we are telling him He should do.

-Larry Farner

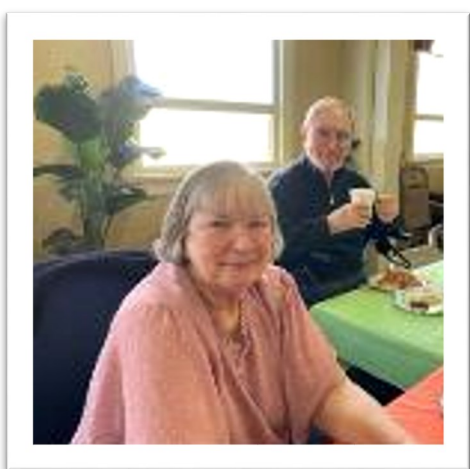
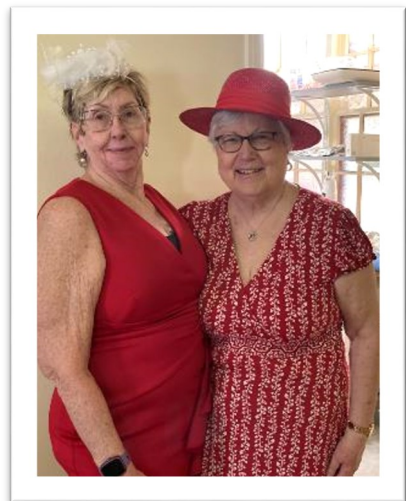
Easter Celebration at Emmanuel



Special Thanks to all that ordered flowers to adorn our altar for our wonderful Easter Worship Service!



Our very talented musician, Rhonda!

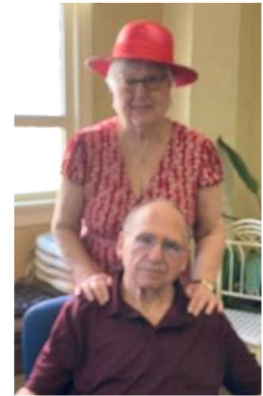




Thanks to Teresa and Rose for the awesome decorations and coordinating such a lovely breakfast.



An amazing Easter Breakfast!! Thank you to all our wonderful cooks!!!



Fossil Fuel– A Blessing?

In the late 1800's, Darwinism was in vogue. Naturalists were challenging the concept of "a creator, God." The current global warming proponents, who are set against fossil fuels harkens back to a time when the great debate concerning God vs the "origin of the species" was first being considered by the general public. Following is a counter article in support of one God, "Creator of Heaven and Earth." (quote) *"Here is yet another instance, only one of the Almighty Creator's many contrivances both wise and good, only one proof of His personal and superintending will wrought upon every atom of His universe-and that is the existence of coal! Coal, we are told by the naturalists, is the fossil remains of the primeval forest which covered much of the earth in former ages, untold eons before God created Adam. Rich and inexhaustible are those deposits which He hath caused to be laid down! Coal, which fires our furnaces, our mills, our steam engines- and cheers our hearths as well, from the grandest castles to the most humble cottage. Coal, which fuels all that is best and most advanced in human endeavor and progress. Now, dear reader, what reasonable person can doubt that this gigantic forest was called into existence by the personal and superintending will of an Almighty God, who cared for His creatures; proof of His goodness-His foresight-His great plan=His generosity? For no other purpose than to provide for the future needs of the human race, His beloved children, whom He even then intended to call into being, in His own image, in the fullness of His own good time? Is not coal an irrefutable proof of God's goodness; of His might; of the vastness-and debate...so, the beat goes on!* -Larry Farner

Big Donation to Special Needs Charity

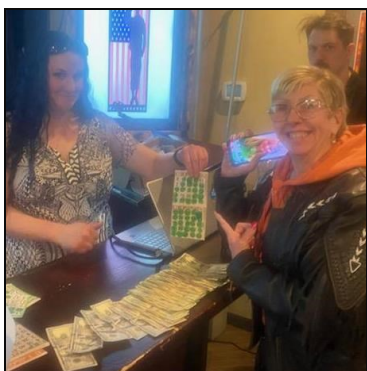


Vitalize Kitsap is a nonprofit that develops programming for young adults (and their families) who have “aged out” of the special needs programs offered through public schools. Delores Stroud, who taught Life Skills at Kingston High School is on the VK Board since last summer.

Recently McCloud’s Grill House generously hosted a Bingo game to support the charity. Several



members of Emmanuel were present to participate in the fun and support Vitalize Kitsap. One of them, who will remain anonymous (although her first name starts with T, and you can often find her in the church kitchen)...won the grand prize. That grand prize was 50% of the game’s “profits,” which amounted to over \$700 for the winner. Congratulations are in order.



But the story doesn’t stop there. This modest member of our congregation contributed the entire amount to the charity.

Now there’s another testimony to the generosity that is a deeply embedded part of Emmanuel’s spirit! Thank you to everyone in our congregation who give so generously through your time and talents—both to our church, and all the worthwhile ministries that you support.

- Delores and Pastor Rob Stroud

God, Time and History

Early Chinese philosophers had a circular view of time (Tao), which was able to transcend between past and present. The Greeks saw reality in timeless ideals of beauty. The ancient Hebrews produced the first comprehensive and accurate historical narrative. History has its roots in the biblical story of Johweh (God). The Bible is more than history, it shows God as the Lord of all and encourages the growth of the idea that time and history is important. Christians believe that time will be brought to a summation by the God of history. Death is not the end of the human



An AARP Safe Driver Class will be hosted in our Fellowship Hall on Monday April 22nd and Tuesday April 23rd from 9 am to 1 pm each day. This updated class is designed to save money on your auto insurance and also to refresh your driving skills and confidence behind the wheel.

See Glen Adrig for class details.

Just for Fun



I didn't like my beard at first,
Then it grew on me.

Thank you for your support of First Fruits!!

Our small church is one of our local food banks contributors. Well done, Emmanuel!!! First Fruits Sunday is always the first Sunday of each month. Don't forget to bring your donation in on Sunday, May 5th. If you are not able to get to the store remember you can always put money in the offering and designate for first



fruits. Thank you for your continued support of this ongoing need in our community.

Helping the Trillium Women's Center

Trillium Women's Center (formerly Pregnancy Resource Center) needs the following baby items. Your assistance is appreciated.

- Boys size 18-24 months footed sleepers
- Girls size 9-12 months, 12-18 months, 18-24 months footed sleepers
- Size 4 disposable diapers
- Baby wipe packages

Gently used clothing is ok as long as it is washed. If shopping is difficult for you, you can always ask Rose Link to do the shopping for you.

Thank you for your help.
Rose, coordinator



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

– Martin Luther King Jr.



The Story Behind the Hymn....."The Old Rugged Cross"

George Bennard was the composer of the famous hymn, The Old Rugged Cross. He was born in Youngstown, Ohio shortly after the end of the Civil War. He was the son of a coal miner that moved to Iowa. He came to Christ through the ministry in the Salvation Army. He was preparing for the ministry but at age 16, his father died and which left him responsible for his mother and sisters.

As his obligations lessened he moved to Chicago and married. He eventually was ordained by the Methodist Episcopal Church and became a traveling evangelist. Following a particularly difficult season he felt the need to understand the power of the Cross of Christ. He prayed for greater understanding. Through a greater understanding of John 3:16 he felt the words "leave the printed page, take form and act out the meaning of redemption. While watching this scene with his mind's eye, the theme of the song came to him."

He carried the words with him. After many months the hymn was finished. He sung it for his friends, Rev. and Mrs. L.O. Boswick. They were so moved by the hymn they helped pay the fees to have it published. It has been printed and sung for many years across America.

Taken from the publication, "Then Sings My Soul" by Robert J. Morgan

April Birthdays

- 2-----Victoria Gehring
- 6-----Rosie Armstrong
- 10-----Riley Dupree
- 11-----Jo 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
- 23-----Arriel Atienza

May Birthdays

- 1-----Sacajawea Paulus
- 2-----Stephanie Johnson
- 10-----Kaitlyn Armstrong
- 16-----Sally Farner
- 16-----Nancy Kerlee
- 21-----Maurine Simons

May Anniversaries

- 1-----Bob & Jo Klempan
- 12-----Arriel & Tina Atienza
- 21-----Loyal & Gail Campbell
- 30-----Mark & Bonnie Stouffer

If you have any additions or corrections to our birthday or anniversary list please let our editor, Sharie Adrig, know at gadrig@comcast.net



Members Serving in April

- Altar Guild-----Chelette Williams,
Sharie Adrig & Arriel Atienza
- Reader -----Eric Branson
- Acolytes-----7, Nathan-----14, Bella--
21, Tiffany--28, Nathan

Members Serving in May

- Altar Guild-----Teresa Prange
- Reader -----Miki Turowski
- Acolytes-----TBA

What's Coming Up?

April

- 7----- 10:00--Sunday Worship Service
- 10-----12, Noon--Women's Lunch
- 11-----10:00----Weekly Bible Study
- 14-----9:00----Children's & Adult's
Sunday School
- 14-----10:00-----Worship Service
- 17-----12:00, Noon--Women's Lunch
- 18-----10:00 ----Weekly Bible Study
- 21-----9:00----Children's & Adult's
Sunday School
- 21-----10:00-----Worship Service
- 22 & 23-----9 am--1 pm--AARP Driver Safety
Classes
- 24-----12:00, Noon--Women's Lunch
- 25-----10:00----Weekly Bible Study
- 28-----9:00----Children's & Adult's
Bible Study
- 28-----10:00-----Worship Service

May

- 1----- 12:00, Noon--Women's lunch
- 2-----10:00 ----Weekly Bible Study
- 5-----9:00----Children's & Adult's
Sunday School
- 6-----6:00 pm----Kitsap Peninsula
Knitting Guild

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.

Helping with Coffee Hour

I am sure many of you enjoy coffee hour and would like to help in some way. Please talk to Rose Link or Teresa Prange about ways you can help. Thank you two ladies for all you do.