

# THE WITTENBERG DOOR

AUGUST 2022

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2509 PERRY AVE. BREMERTON WA 98310

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**Contact Pastor**

**Rob at  
360-204-4851  
or  
pastor.rob  
@airpost.net**

## Pastor's Message

### *God is at Work at Emmanuel*

We all know how Jesus promises to be present with his people wherever “two or three are gathered” in his name (Matthew 18:20). Our attendance, of course, has remained strong through the summer months, and we can anticipate that trend to continue as we enjoy August and welcome the arrival of September, with its return to busier schedules.

I want to highlight several reasons our church family at Emmanuel should be optimistic now. These are also evidence of Jesus fulfilling his promise to be with us and to guide us. We may not know the details of what is ahead, but there is no reason to be anxious. As our wise sister, Corrie ten Boom said: “Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to be known God.” And here are a few reasons for encouragement.

- 1.) After cancellations caused by COVID, we were able to offer our Vacation Bible School program again this year. We had a surplus of dedicated volunteers, and many children were blessed by the excellent program the VBS team developed from the ground up.
- 2.) Our Emmanuel Childcare ministry continues to serve greater Bremerton, building on its excellent reputation, and laying a solid foundation for children (and their families) that will bless them for many years to come.
- 3.) Our relationship with Olympic Lutherhaven campground continues to thrive. We had a strong turnout for a workday earlier this summer, and enjoyed our annual Emmanuel Picnic there at Wildcat Lake this month. In addition to the work done by our group of volunteers, our very own Teresa Prange served as the assistant chef during the Youth Bible Camp during the Week of 29 July through 3 August.
- 4.) In August we will be formally receiving several new members who are joining our congregation. With scores of congregations to choose between, they prayerfully chose to become members of our church.

One more sign of our Lord's active guidance is the continuing diligence of our Church Council and Call Committee, as they conscientiously seek the Lord's leading for the years ahead. And, looking ahead, we need not worry or be anxious. As Corrie ten Boom reminded us, in words that could echo those with which I chose- we know the God we follow is trustworthy. Take comfort and hope in the true declaration of Martin Luther, who wrote, “I know not the way God leads me, but well do I know my Guide.”

Pastor Rob Stroud



Corrie ten Boom

## From the Council President

SUMMERTIME BLUES! During the worship service on June 19th it was so cold in Church that Sally wrapped herself in a blanket and I swear, my lips turned blue! Is that what is meant by “Summertime Blues?” I think not. We have all experienced Summertime Blues and now with gas prices so high we can’t even afford those brief road trips. However, like any issue that leaves us a bit depressed and discontented, should perhaps bring it to the Lord. Don’t stay out of Church because it’s a nice sunny day to maybe just sit on the deck with a good book and a glass of iced tea-come to church, fellowship and worship the one who is “always” there for you-the one who is able to “Drive the Blues Away”! Come, hear the Word of God and participate in a time of fellowship and snarf-up a hand-full of snicker-doodles and a huge cup of “Lutheran “ coffee. And.....if you just cannot get by without a little sun...well, we’ll be happy to prop open the doors to the Fellowship Hall. -Larry Farner



## Bremerton Foodline

The Foodbank is concerned that children are starting school soon and many of them will be doing so while hungry. But it’s not just kids they are concerned about its also older adults or adults with special needs. The following is a list that the FOODLINE has put together for items that are needed as we go into fall. Please consult this list when you shop for “First Fruits” donations: RICE OATS CEREAL INSTANT MASHED POTATOES  
MAC N CHEESE STUFFING CANNED YAMS JUICE BOXES KID’S SNACKS  
JAM/JELLY DISPOSABLE DIAPERS HYGIENE ITEMS CONDIMENTS  
CANNED SOUPS, MEATS, VEGGIES

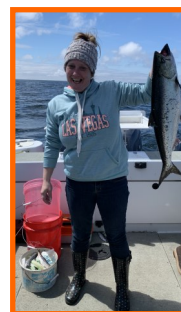


***Thanks for thinking of the hungry people in our community!!!***

## News from Callie.....



Hi All! Just want to let you all know why I haven’t been to church. I have been out loving life! So far I have caught my first halibut, last weekend, and now Saturday I’ve caught my first salmon!! Even though I’m not in church I have been thanking the Lord each week that I am able to be out on the water enjoying the beauty of all I see and that I have been blessed with being able to catch these fish. I should also mention all the shrimp we have gotten!! While we were out Saturday we were blessed with seeing whales jumping out of the water!



Love, Callie

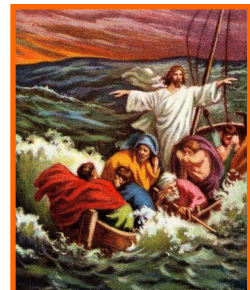
(because I took the month off from the newsletter, this message is a month old but I still wanted to share these special pictures and message from our member, Callie. Sharie, editor)

## Pastoral Candidate

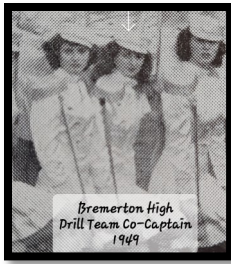
On Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, Rev. Gary Koutsopoulos and his wife, Laurie visited with us for a time of fellowship and discussion. Pastor Gary who currently lives in Snohomish obtained an AA in Biblical studies at LBI; a Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion at Christ College Irving/Concordia and a Master of Divinity at Luther Northwestern Theological Seminary. He has served as Associate Pastor at the Mission Lutheran Church, Laguna Niguel, (1994-1999); as Redevelopment Pastor at Prince of Peace Lutheran, LaMirada, CA (1999-2001); as Pastor of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Pineville, OR (2001-2006) and as Pastor of Glendale Lutheran Church, Burien, WA (2012-2016). Since that time, he has served in a capacity similar to that of Pastor Rob. Pastor Gary was recommended to ELC by the Presiding Pastor, AALC. The Council/Call Committee has scheduled a Congregational meeting on September 18th to consider extending a formal call. The meeting has been be rolled back to September depending on availability and the call selection process. Please plan to attend that meeting in order that we are able to have present the necessary members in attendance for a legal quorum. Meantime, be in prayer for our Congregation and keep your eyes out a possible date change of the Congregational meeting.

## Jesus Commands Us.....To Just Jet Down

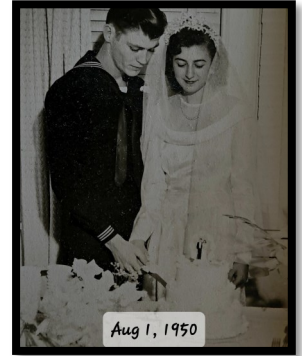
Please read: PS 107:29; JN 1:10; MT 8:26; MK 4:39; LKI 8:24. You know this story...Jesus and His Disciples boarded a ship on the shore of the Sea of Galilee and Jesus, exhausted from His work soon drifted off to sleep. As the Lord slept there was a great storm and His Disciples woke Him saying, "Don't you care about us"? Jesus arose and said to His Disciples, "Why are you so fearful, you of little faith"! Then Jesus commanded the sea to be calm. We all know what took place in the boat after the Sea was calmed. But, have you ever considered what happened to the "other" boats, the "other" travelers on the Sea? Did not Jesus calm the sea for them as well? The English have a saying, "Keep calm-carry on". Consider that with all the issues we at ELC are dealing with, i.e., the furnace, calling a Pastor, etc. We need to do just that, keep calm and carry on and more importantly...keep the faith, trust in the Lord. Do we not think our Lord is aware of our "issues"? In our story of the frightened Disciples, Jesus not only calmed the Sea for His followers, but he also calmed the Sea for all the other boats and all the other travelers upon the water that day. So, just jet down and keep the faith.



## Our Longtime Member .....Mae McConnell



Mae has been affiliated with Emmanuel since the 1940's. She remembers attending Emmanuel with her family, the Wuethrick's before she was married in 1950. Her parents were very involved in the church for many years. Mae married a sailor (Cecil "Mac" McConnell) and lived all over the USA. Cecil retired from the Navy in 1967, but his final year he was assigned to a ship and Mae with 3 teens in tow, moved to Bremerton. They started attending Emmanuel almost immediately. All three McConnell children were confirmed by Pastor Orville Crawford. (An interesting bit of trivia... Cecil was baptized by Pr Crawford at a Seattle church.)



1969 Emmanuel Directory

Mae's parents, Walt and Hazel Wuethrick, were very involved in Emmanuel's ministries. The Wuethrick and Stouffer families were close friends.

Two of Mae's favorite hymns are "In the Garden" and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

There were three children in the McConnell household. They were Bob, Patti and Miki. The years 2019 and 2020 were tough years for the family. Bob died Christmas Day 2019 of pancreatic cancer and Patti died December 4, 2020 from coronavirus. As you can well imagine, December is a hard month for them. Mae has three grandchildren plus two grandchildren-in-law: Ray (Kristie),

Jason and Andrea (Sam). She also has four great-grandchildren Alina and Leah (Ray's and Kristie's) and Emma and Tom (Andrea's and Sam's).

Currently Mae is retired and mostly homebound. However, when her children were pre-teens and teenagers she was a working mom. When Cecil was stationed at Pt. Mugu in California, she worked at the day care center located on base. When the family moved to Bremerton, she went to work at the Navy Exchange at PSNS. She managed the Sporting Goods Department. Her husband, Cecil, was an avid target shooter and hunter. Both husband and wife would shoot trap at the Bremerton Trap and Skeet Club. She became quite knowledgeable about sporting goods. She was chosen to manage the Navy Country Store when it was built.



Mae went to live with her daughter, Miki, and son-in-law, Jim, September of 2015 (one year after Cecil died, which was on September 29, 2014). She loves to read and spends most of every day reading and enjoying the wild life "shows" put on in their backyard (deer, coyotes, bobcat, turkey vulture, black bear, squirrels, chipmunks, raccoons, birds of every feather, etc have all visited them.)



Mae always says grace....  
Especially for chocolate!!

## VBS Returns After 3 Years

**A big thank you** to the many that supported VBS this year. **Thank you** for your prayer support, **thank you** for your food donations, **thank you** for your monetary donations, and **thank you** to all that were able to be there on Saturday, August 13th to give a helping hand.

TEEN HELPERS included: Nathan Armstrong, Anthony Barojas, Dominic Fuller, Rachel Fuller, Rebecca Fuller and Lilly Williams.

ADULTS VOLUNTEERS: Judy Armstrong, Steve Armstrong, Tina Atienza, Kristen Fuller, Rhonda Jaramillo, Bob Klempan, Rose Link, Bea McCray, Teresa Prange, Carverlynn Prothero, Carol Reece, Keri Roberts, Crystal Short, Delores Stroud, Chelette Williams, and Kneeda Williams.

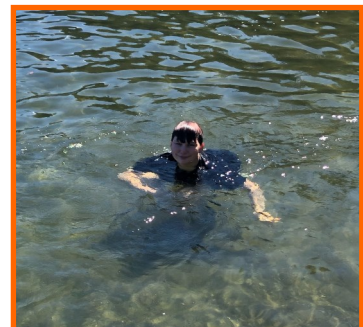
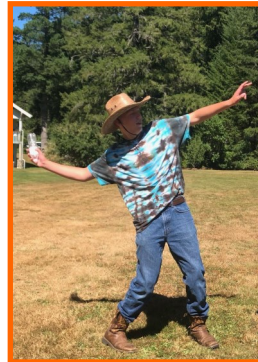
## Emmanuel's Annual Picnic—2022

Emmanuel enjoyed another year at Lutherhaven.

The food was good, the weather was perfect and it was a good day for fellowship!



## A Perfect Day for a Perfect Picnic



***A Big Thank You to Judy Armstrong  
for these Great Pictures!***

**August Birthdays**

8 .....Dominic Fuller  
 14.....Samantha Brewer  
 15 .....Bonnie Stouffer  
 27 .....Teresa Prange

**August Anniversaries**

1.....Pat Alcantra & Nancy Kerlee  
 10 .....Jim & Miki Turowski  
 12.....Glen & Marialis Jorges  
 18.....Ward & Mollie Erickson  
 27 .....Carl & Melody Knight  
 27 .....Patrick & Keri Roberts

**September Birthdays**

5.....Randy Fuller  
 5.....Bob Fox (our missionary)  
 10.....Nate Armstrong  
 11.....Victor Gehring  
 23.....Mary Moen  
 24 .....Kim Bjornemo  
 24.....Carl Knight  
 26.....Judy Lund

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 August**

Altar Guild .....Teresa Prange  
 Reader.....Ida Ficca


**Members Serving in September**

Altar Guild.....Maurine Simons  
 Reader.....Miki Turowski

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

**Coffee Hour**

If you would like to host a coffee hour there is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship all or you may make a monetary contribution please talk to Rosie Armstrong



**Women's Luncheon on Wednesday.**  
 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.

**Don't forget Bible Study on Thursday at 10 AM**

