

THE WITTENBERG DOOR

AUGUST 2023

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2509 PERRY AVE. BREMERTON WA 98310

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Pastor's Message

Jesus said, *"COME FOLLOW ME, and I will make you fishers of men"*

Matthew 4:19-20 and 28:18-20

And He said to them, *"Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."* Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4:19-20

Easter Sunday, April 9th: Worship and Baptisms. This day we welcomed into God's family, two sisters and one brother in Christ! Brian (Dad), Isabella (daughter, 11 years old); Victoria (daughter, 2 1/2 years old) and their mother, Sacajawea Paulus (already baptized and a member). We celebrated their Baptism, and welcomed them as our new members and family in Christ!

Day of Pentecost July 9th, 2023: Confirmation Ceremony and Celebration (Thanks Pastor Tim, Confirmands and families).

Pastor and Lori's Vacation and Pastoral coverage (Thank Pastor Tim, Pastor Rob, Miki and Larry Farner)

New members classes that were blessed and helped share our faith, Emmanuel Lutheran Church's History and our ongoing mission for serving the Lord and making disciples together!

New Member's Reception into Membership Sunday, August 9th 2023. Fellowship Afterward!

New Members: Jon Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. Dick and Chris Cockrell, Ms. DeeDee James, Mrs. Gretchen Ramsdale (Steve).

One Day Vacation Bible School Event! Friday, August 18th. Come and join us! Games, snacks, music, crafts, Bible lessons, let Judy Armstrong or Delores Stroud know if you wish to participate and help in some way. The Theme is "Following Jesus" and the key Bible Verse is Matthew 4:19. "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

Thursday Bible Study/ Fall Kick-off Sunday, September 10, 2023: 10:00 am Worship; 9:00 am Sunday School; 9:00 am Men's Bible Study, Fellowship time, invite your friends as guests and help them come to hear about Jesus, Volunteer Opportunities, teaching Sunday School, helping with Fellowship time, assisting with worship as Altar assistants and greeting new guests!

Let's Follow Jesus together! Pastor Gary Koutsopoulos

Contact Pastor

Gary at

1 (541) 350-7737

or

ggkouts65@gmail.com

A One Day VBS Event !!

Emmanuel is offering a one day VBS event on Friday, August 18th. We would like to be able to offer games, snacks, music, crafts and a Bible Lesson. The sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall. We still need people to sign-up to help with this fun and meaningful day for children.



The theme is "Following Jesus."

If you are interested or have questions ask Judy Armstrong or Delores Stroud.

Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them. Matthew 18:1-20

Kaddish

(Traditional prayer of mourning)

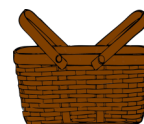
I was amazed when I recently read that while Jews in concentration camps during WWII did, in spite of dealing with death, despair and the feeling of abandonment, continued to pray for those who were shot in the head, dies from starvation or disease or sent to the crematorium. Their prayer as a "Prayer of Praise". That prayer is included for all of us! *"Exalted and hallowed be His great name; Throughout the world which He has created according to His will. May He establish His kingship, bring forth His redemption and hasten the coming of His Messiah. In our lifetime and in our days and in the lifetime of Israel, may the Holy one be blessed forever, and praised and glorified and exalted and honored, adored and lauded. Blessed be He beyond all the blessings, hymns, praises and consolations that are offered in the world and may there be abundant peace from Heaven. And, may there be a good life for us, and all Israel. He who makes peace in His heavens, may He make peace for us and for all. Amen"*

Annual Church Picnic!!

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The Annual Church Picnic of Emmanuel Lutheran Church will be Sunday, August 20th, following the Worship Service. It will be at Lutherhaven. Please bring your eating and serving utensils, a side dish to share (and/or a dessert to share). Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, buns and relishes will be provided. If we are able to schedule a lifeguard, swimming will be available .

Assignments (volunteered):

Bob– Master BBQ Man
Farners– Hot Dogs,
Hamburgers, Buns, Relishes
Judy and Family– Cold
Drinks



As of the writing of this announcement I do not know if a lifeguard has been hired.

Thank you for your valuable service to the Lord and to His people.
Pastor Tim (the old goat)

Assumptions-Absolutions



The other day I was cleaning-up and spilled a small amount of Sticky rice on the table. I put it between two pieces of napkin thinking it would hold the pieces of napkin together, "Sticky right?" Guess again, it may as well have been grains of sand. I had assumed something and had been absolutely convinced I was correct. How often are we absolutely sure only to learn that we had been absolutely wrong! When it comes to relationships, TV news, news articles...it's only the Word of God that we can absolutely count on.

-Larry

Armed for the Challenge

We have all heard the phrase, “An Army marches on its stomach”. Well.....school will start in a month and our “kids” will need to be nourished to be ready for the march ahead. In order to learn, a child must be fed. A nourished child is a successful child. We are the “supply chain” for these young children for these young children (students). First Fruits Sunday is on September 3rd. Lets fill the food cart so our “kids” will be well nourished and ready for the challenge.



-Sally, coordinator

August Bible Study Resumes



If you have considered being part of our Thursday Bible Study, mark your calendar now. We meet at 10 am, and resume after our summer break on Thursday, August 24th. Come and join us.

Pastor Rob Stroud

The Holy Alphabet

Although things are not perfect
 Because of trial or pain
 Continue in thanksgiving
 Do not begin to blame.....
 Even when the times are hard
 Fierce winds are bound to blow
 God is forever able
 Hold on to what you know
 Imagine life without His Love
 Joy would cease to be
 Keep thanking Him for all the things
 Love imparts to thee
 Move out of “Camp Complaining”
 No weapon that is known
 On earth can yield the power
 Praise can do alone
 Quit looking at the future
 Redeem the time at hand
 Start every day with worship
 To “thank” is a command
 Until we see Him coming
 Victorious in the sky
 We’ll run the race with gratitude
 Xalting God most high
 Yes, there’ll be good times and yes some will be
 bad, but.....
 Zion waits in glory...where none are ever sad!

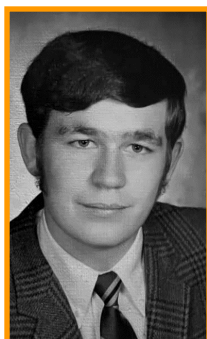


- written by Cindy Blackmore

Funeral Service for Steven Michael Boyce

1953-2023

March 3, 1953-June 4, 2023



Funeral Service:
 Bethany Church
 713 S. Hill Park Dr.,
 Puyallup, WA
 September 30, 2023
 at 1 pm

Special thanks to members that contribute to our newsletters. If you wish to send me a poem or quote or a short article please do so. I welcome your contributions.

-Sharie Adrig, editor

Luther and Lutherans—Part Eleven

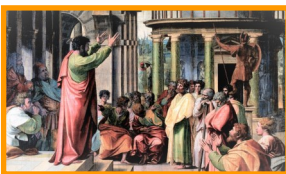
THE NATURAL MAN. Luther thought unnatural celibacy to be the devil and natural and healthy marital sex to be something that glorified God. He communicated in a letter...”Dear God, we see daily the effort it costs to live in a marriage and to keep the marital vows. And we try to promise chastity as if we were not human, had neither flesh nor blood.” Luther believed the union of man and woman was a living picture the union between the Bridegroom, Jesus Christ and His bride, the Church. He believed, truly believed, that the mode of life too, while indeed humble, is nevertheless holy and more pleasing to God than celibacy. After his marriage to his beloved Kathie, Luther truly found the physical act of sexual union within the context of marriage to be something beautiful. Luther lived what he preached and thought. Considering the argument over the materialistic and spiritual, the reason sexual relations sometimes referred to as “dirty”, is that our ideas of shame are social constructs. Indeed, our ideas of sin and definition of what is sin and even what is good and true and beautiful are the “spiritual” is the wound at the heart of the universe, and only Jesus can heal it. It was Jesus who died on Calvary who we must invite into our hearts so that He can do in our lives what He came to do. Luther was saying that there is no longer a world in which officially religious and spiritual people only do religious and spiritual things. Every person is a “priest”, in which every person can live fully loved and approved by God.



- Larry

Filling the Gap

To fill the gap while we take a summer break from the Thursday Bible Study, consider an introduction to Galatians. When men and women get their hands—on religion, one of the first things they often do is turn it into an instrument of controlling others, either putting them or keeping them “in their place”. The history of such “religious manipulation” and “coercion” is long and tedious. It is little wonder that people who have only known religion on such terms experience release or escape from it as freedom. When Saul of Tarsus was converted by Jesus something radically and entirely different took place in his life. Through Jesus, Saul now Paul, learned that God was not an impersonal force to be used to make people behave in certain prescribed ways, but a personal Savior who set us free to live a free life. God did not coerce us from without, but set us free from within. It was glorious experience, and Paul set off telling others, introducing and inviting everyone he met into this free life. In his early travels he founded a series of churches in the Roman province of Galatia. A few years later Paul learned that religious leaders of the old school had come into those churches and called his views and authority into question. They reintroduced the old ways, herding all those freedom-loving Christians back into the corral of religious rules and in with their strong-arm religious tactics and intimidating the Christians for caving in to the intimidation. His letter to the Galatian churches helped them., and helps us, recover the original freedom. It also gives direction in the nature of God’s gift of freedom. So, how does this relate to us in the 21st century? You will discover the answer to those questions when you read the NT book of Galatians.



-Larry

August Birthdays

8-----Dominic Fuller
 15-----Bonnie Stouffer
 27-----Teresa Prange

August Anniversaries

1-----Pat Alcantra & Nancy Kerlee
 10-----Jim & Miki Turowski
 12-----Glen & Marialis Jurges
 18-----Ward & Mollie Erickson
 27-----Keri & Patrick Roberts

September Birthdays

5-----Randy Fuller
 5-----Bob Fox, Missionary
 10-----Nate Armstrong
 11-----Victor Gehring
 23-----Mary Moen
 24-----Kim Bjornemo
 24-----Carl Knight
 26-----Judy Lund
 28-----Andrew Atienza

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 August

Altar Guild-----Jo Klempan
 Reader-----Larry Farner
 Acolytes -6, Nathan- 13, Tiffany- 20. Bella -27, Nathan

Members Serving in September

Altar Guild -----Carol Henning (Sat)
 Maurine Simons (Sun)
 Reader -----Miki Turowski
 Acolytes-TBA

What's Coming Up?

August

2-----12, noon-----Ladies' Lunch
 6-----10 am-----Worship Service
 9-----12, noon-----Ladies' Lunch
 12-----8:30-----Men's Breakfast
 13-----10 am-----Worship Service
 18-----9 am-----VBS
 20-----10 am-----Worship Service
 20-----Annual Church Picnic
 23-----12, noon-----Ladies' Lunch
 24-----10 am-----Bible Study
 27-----10 am-----Worship Service

September

3-----10 am-----Worship Service
 6-----12, noon-----Ladies' Lunch
 7-----10 am-----Bible Study
 10-----10 am-----Worship Service
 11-----6 pm-----Peninsula Knitting Guild
 (Celebrating the beginning of knitting season with a potluck.)

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

There are several ways you can help with coffee hour. 1. You can sign up to host a Sunday. 2. You can put money in the offering and designate it for coffee hour. Or 3. you can talk to Rose Link or Teresa Prange and ask what you can bring to help supplement the coffee hour refreshments.

