



THE WITTENBERG DOOR

JULY 2015

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

BREMERTON, WA

Pastor's Message

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In case of an Emergency

Please call
Pastor Tim
on his cell
phone

286-1090

The Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) has now ruled that all states must recognize and allow marriages for homosexual couples. How do we, as disciples of Christ, respond to this decision?

I was not surprised by the court's majority opinion. At the formation of our nation a Biblical worldview prevailed in our country. Even those of our founders who were not professing Christians shared a common understanding of how the world worked, and this view was shaped by Biblical principles. For example, the Biblical doctrine of sin underlies the need for the three branches of government. By dividing the power of government, the influence of one person, or one group, to dominate government and tyrannize society is diminished.

Today our worldview is shaped by humanistic principles. Right and wrong have become relative points on a sliding scale. Somehow what is wrong for one person can be right for another person. No absolute standard exists for right or wrong.

Marriage standards are affected by this world view. It was once obvious to all that marriage was the union of one man and one woman. But when society is cut loose from absolute standards for right and wrong what was once obvious becomes obscure. People cannot remember why the traditional definition of marriage was exclusively accepted. The demanding cry for "equal rights" for the "victims" of traditional marriage supplants our understanding of what is natural and what is right.

I think this is what happened in the hallowed walls of our highest court, but it happened first the schools and homes and work places and even some of the churches of our society. The courts merely reflected back the way modern society has started to lean. In my opinion SCOTUS did not decide whether the Constitution of the United States guarantees the right of homosexual couples to marry or whether it requires the state to allow and to accept homosexual marriages, rather it accepted the argument that our practices discriminated against a certain group of people and that that was wrong.

In a nation that is guided by a constitution we who are Christians must understand and accept that the laws of the land will not always or even often reflect our values.

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Pastor's Message continued

We understand that the world and the nation are not Christian and that we march to the beat of a different drummer. Personally I rue this SCOTUS decision. I do not think the Constitution guarantees the right to homosexual marriage and I do not think that homosexual couples were under discrimination. I do not think the courts or popular opinion can redefine the institution of marriage, which was established by God in creation. But the decision is now the law of the land. We shall respect the law and we shall respect those who are "married" under the law. It will continue to be my position as a pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church that marriages will only be performed when they conform to God's design. We shall welcome all people who come to the Lord, as we have come, in repentance and faith.

Pastor Tim Cartwright

"First Fruits"

The "dog" days of summer are here and school is coming before we know it. The Bremerton Foodbank is in need of peanut butter, jam/jelly, cold and hot cereals, canned tuna, spam, other canned meats, and pasta and sauce. Children really need these foods for breakfasts and lunches.



Please consider donating these items for August, September and October "First Fruits" . We can be a blessing for those who are less fortunate. Thank you, Emmanuel, for your donation of 43 pounds of food for your July "First Fruits."

Larry and Sally

Next "First Fruits" will be Sunday, August 2nd. Don't forget your donation.



Aug 10-14 9:30am - 12:30pm



All children ages 4-10 are invited to join us as we experiment with fun and excitement at SonSpark Labs! We will have a great time with songs, crafts, Bible stories and lessons, snacks and games. Most important, we'll discover

God's loving plan for everyone is Jesus! It's sure to be a blast!

Registration forms are available at the church, by calling (360) 373-0290, or by following the link on our website at www.elcbremerton.org .



“The Lord giveth, the Lord taketh away

Long time member, Betty Shields, went to be with the Lord on June 25, 2015. Betty was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church for almost 60 years. Betty passed away at the age of 91 years. She served as church treasurer for many years. She was a very friendly person and enjoyed socializing with others. She liked to go out after church for lunch. She raised her 4 children in the church. Her son, Joe, was very good friends with Evelyn’s son, Mike. She was known as a real “go-getter” at church.

In her later years she resided in a care facility in Poulsbo but remained as a member of our church. Many of you may have remembered her also from the North Perry Water District. She worked there for many years. Betty also was an Avon lady for many years.

She was born in Spokane, Wa and grew up in Idaho. She moved to Bremerton with her husband, Lester, and her family in 1950.

Our love and prayers are with Betty’s family, 2 brothers, 2 daughters, 2 sons, 9 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandsons.

Childcare Center News

The Childcare center is always quite busy in the summer. Not only are the pre-schoolers there full time but we may see many school-aged children too. The pre-schoolers are studying the letter’s M-Z, the numbers 13, 14, and 15. The colors they are working on are purple and white and the shapes are triangle and square. Each week they emphasize different themes. Week one was 4th of July, week two was camping, week three will be bugs and the final week will be the ocean. A couple of field trips are planned. On July 31st the preschool age children will take a walking field trip to Mt. View Middle School and have a field day. On the 29th of July the school age children will take a fieldtrip to the Sylvan Way Library. From July 13th—17th the Good News Club will be visiting to share the Good News of the Lord. And, of course, the children are looking forward to our Vacation Bible School from August 10th—14th.



Many thanks to all that showed up for the work party on Saturday.

The church will look that much better for it.

In the Mission Field

Continued prayers for Marian Hungerford

Contributions to support Marian can be made weekly through our Sunday Offerings. Just designate that it is for Marian Hungerford's ministry.

News from Bob and Cheryl Fox

Serving in Niger, West Africa

“He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.” - Rev 2:29

We are excited to share what God has been doing in our lives. Ever since we got married, we knew that God had a special purpose for our union. Through prayer and the prompting of our pastor and others, we have felt God’s call on our lives to serve Him cross-culturally with the people at SIM. We are excited to pursue serving Him as secondary school teachers at the Sahel Academy, an international school located in Niamey, Niger.

Bob and Cheryl just recently returned from Charlotte, North Carolina. At that time they went through a teacher training course, helping them prepare for their service in Niger.

They have the following prayer requests:

- Prayers for a successful garage sale upon our return to Washington.
- Prayer that we will listen to God’s voice.
- Thanksgiving for the people who have been sharing our ministry with others.

If you have questions for Bob and Cheryl you can contact them by email at cheryl.fox@sim.org or bob.fox@sim.org to find out more. If you wish to send a financial contribution to Bob and Cheryl’s ministry you can send your money to SIM P.O. Box 7900, Charlotte, NC 28241 or at www.sim.org or www.simusa.org If you wish to send a contribution to go directly for Bob and Cheryl please include the following. SIM #041764.





Pastor Tim & Carolyn enjoying the sunshine, entertainment and company.

A Father's Day Celebration at Lutherhaven !

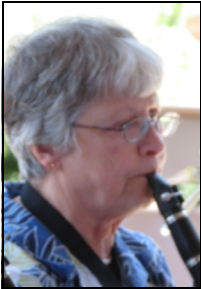


Ward & Mollie, new Lutherhaven caretakers



Larry & Ida share the day with their son and family

Thanks to Ward and Mollie for a wonderful annual All Church picnic at Lutherhaven for Father's Day. Once a year all supporting congregations come together for an annual picnic. With unusual warm weather it proved to be a perfect day. Quite the contrast to last year when it poured!



Marialis, our clarinetist



Entertained by "The Home Town Band" , an annual tradition.

By tradition, The Home Town Band entertained us with their wonderful music. You may have recognized our own Marialis in the clarinet section. We are privileged to hear Marialis' beautiful clarinet during some of our worship services. The Home Town Band is a group of local volunteers that gather on their own time to practice and then go out to various community gatherings. We so appreciate their time and efforts to entertain us.

***A Father's Day Celebration
at Lutherhaven !***



Larry & Sally enjoy the day with their daughter and granddaughter.



Ward & Bonnie (Ward's mother-in-law)



Glen & Sharie enjoyed the day !



Mollie being silly!



Dr. Norm & Judy shared the day with their family. We finally got to meet this wonderful new grandson that they have been talking about.



July Birthdays

- 1.....Cole Simons
- 26Peter Mace
- 29Ashlee Cartwright

July Anniversaries

- 13Tim Jr. & Gina Cartwright
- 20Jim & Bonnie Mace
- 24Belinda Matta

August Birthdays

- 7Bob Armstrong
- 14Samantha Brewer
- 15Bonnie Stouffer
- 27Teresa Prange

August Anniversaries

- 1Pat Alcantra/Nancy Kerlee
- 10Jim & Miki Turowski
- 12Glen & Marialis Jurges
- 12Matt & April Mills
- 14Norm & Judy Lund
- 18Ward & Mollie Erickson
- 27Carl & Melody Knight
- 27Keri & Patrick Roberts
- 30Peter & Ashlee Cartwright

If there are any additions or corrections to the list please let Sharie Adrig, editor, know. You can do so via church mailbox, 377-2448 or gadrig@comcast.net.

Members Serving in July

- Altar GuildJoEllen Klempan
Mollie Erickson
- ReaderWard Erickson

Members Serving in August

- Altar GuildSharie Adrig
Sally Farner
- ReaderCarol Henning

Sunday School

Sunday Schools and Wednesday night Bible study will be taking a break for the Summer and will resume in the Fall

Friday Women’s Bible Study10 AM
We will be meeting June 26th & Aug.28th.

Men’s fellowship breakfast will continue on the first Saturday of each month at the Bridge Deli at 8:00 AM.

Thanks to all who are signing up to host coffee hour! If you are interested, the sign up sheet is on the counter in the fellowship hall!

Thank you to Carol Reece for being our coordinator for coffee hour.

If you need to contact Pastor Tim Cartwright you can call—286-1090.

If you have a prayer request for the prayer chain call Sharie Adrig 377-2448 or Judy Armstrong 479-4892.

Any comments or questions about the newsletter call Sharie Adrig—377-2448