

THE WITTENBERG DOOR



MARCH/APRIL 2025 EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2509 PERRY AVE. BREMERTON WA 98310

ELCBREMERTON.ORG

Pastor's Message

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PASTOR'S MESSAGE	1 & 2
PALM SUNDAY	2
HOLY WEEK AT EMMANUEL	3
MEMBERS NOTES	4
MARK THE DATE	5
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES	5
MEMBER'S SERVING & ELC ACTIVITIES	5

The Spirit Anointed Christ for Mercy

(Psalm 51:1-13, Joel 2:12-19, Ephesians 1:3-14, Luke 4:18-19)

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor” (Luke 4:18-19)

This Lent we ask, “what did the Spirit anoint Jesus as our Prophet, Priest and King to do? Again, what was He anointed to do in our relationship with Him, in our relationship with God the Father, and in our relationship with one another, our relationship with our community and world?” Through this season we will answer those questions and similar ones concerning our Church’s question: What will sustain us in our relationship with Jesus, in our outreach and growth in reaching others as Jesus has commanded and commissioned us in His Holy Word” (This question and a number of thoughts connected to our key Gospel message, is a summary of a resource written in the LCMS resource: “LCMS Resources” (16 years ago).

INVITATION TO SHOW MERCY BECAUSE CHRIST JESUS HAS SHOWN MERCY

From the “LCMS World Relief and Human Mercy Care “SHARING” Newsletter, we read as part of the Lenten Worship Service for Ash Wednesday this year:

“Dear ones in Christ, it was the custom of the early Church to prepare for the suffering and death of Christ on Good Friday and for the celebration of the resurrection of our Lord with special worship and acts of repentance and faith. Believers were invited to increase their prayer, to fast, and to increase their private meditation. Today and throughout the Lenten season we will be reminded of the message of pardon and absolution proclaimed in the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The proclamation of Law and Gospel on the Lord’s Day, and in special Lenten services is intended to remind us of our need to renew our repentance and grow in our faith and be merciful as the people Christ has prepared us to be.”



Contact Pastor

Gary at

1 (541) 350-7737

OR

ggkouts65@gmail.com

Pastor's Report continued.....

Jesus at Nazareth

This call to Lenten discipline and meditation highlights the Gospel of our Lord and Savior and reminds us of our daily need for growing in faith, and showing mercy to others, as “Christ has prepared us to be.” For the mid-week Soup supper Lenten Luncheon services and as reflected in our Sunday Services for this season, we will have addressed the Scriptures, Lenten devotions and spiritual practice of prayers, study of God’s Word and weekly attendance to church attendance (discipline), that we might have time with our Lord and with one another that will help us toward outreach, growth and blessings.

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it is written.” “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.’ (Above: See the Scripture which Jesus’ read in its entirety.)

When we consider the gifts which God ha given us in our Lord and Savior, and how we might use these gifts to do all that for which the Lord has commanded and empowered us, we will depend upon God’s mercy and grace every step of the way. We will ask the question, “How in the Spirit fof God and the proclamation of the Gospel, might we proclaim the mercy and power of God for salvation, unto all those searching for, coming to worship and believing in Jesus our Lord? This would transcend our stated church goals and possible outcomes. It would be the prayer that our Lord would allow our church to be like those called of God, led by His Soon, Jesus of Nazareth, and empowered by His Spirit in His commission to fulfill His mission. As Scripture says, this is to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives and the recovering of sight to the blind; to set at liberty them that bruised, and to preach the acceptable year of the Lord, to this generation and our city and nation.” And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing” (Luke 4:18-21).

Further, “The Series-Produced by LCMS World Relief and Human Care-was written by the Rev. Bernie Seter, chairman of the Lutheran church Missouri Synod’s Board for International Mission.

Pastor Gary Koutsopoulos



Sunday, April 13th Palm Sunday Service

10 am

***This will be a very special service complete with a children’s choir.
Special thanks to our children from our childcare center.***

(No Adult Sunday School)



Holy Week at Emmanuel

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 17th - 12:00 Noon



Devotional Prayer and Hymns Theme: "The Spirit Anointed Christ for Mercy"

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 18th--6:00 PM

The Spirit Anointed Christ to be Savior through Suffering....



Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 20th ---8:30 AM

There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.



Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Sunday (April 20th) a special Easter Egg hunt has been planned for all children. Please invite your friends and family. The Hunt will begin around 12:00, following our worship service. Rumors have it there are some special golden eggs.



Easter Sunday Worship Service

10:00 AM

The Holy Spirit Anointed Christ to Bring the Good News.

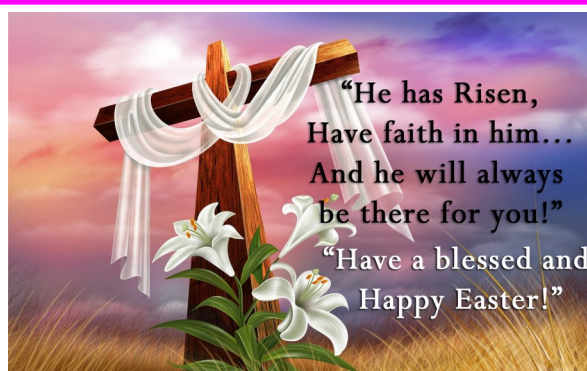
(Invite all your friends and neighbors!)



Special Thanks to those that purchased

You "Are" A Blessing!

Every month you sacrifice some of your grocery money by putting food into the First Fruits cart. In this way, you celebrate Lent "every month". Your sacrifice has allowed seniors to pay their rent bill; a child to come home from school for a snack and later...dinner. A young family to pay on their medical bills and still have food to eat. Your spirit of giving heals others, it relieves someone the pain of hunger the anxiety of despair and the constant worry about "will our little family have something to eat tomorrow"? For those in need it is a blessing. For you, it is a blessing "to be" a blessing.



LETS HEAR FROM YOU

Please E-mail your responses to Sharie Adrig, Newsletter Editor.

Who is the most influential person in your life? (2) Describe an opinion you used to hold but no longer do. What changed your mind? (3) What are you looking forward to most in your life right now?



Not Much Has Changed

When I went to basic training in 1955 at Parks Air Base in Pleasanton, California, one of the things my Drill Instructor taught me was how to roll my socks and underwear. To this day, I continue to roll my socks in exactly that way. When on occasion, my wife folds my socks or underwear, I am compelled to unfold them then re-fold them in the "proper" way before putting them into my dresser. Some years ago, my wife and I were vacationing in California and when we drove by a highway sign pointing the way to Pleasanton, we thought it would be fun to visit my old Air Base. When we finally found the location, we discovered it was now a State prison. We had a good laugh over how nothing had much changed. Over the years, we see lots of changes but when it comes to things like how we worship, how we relate to the Word of God or, how a former basic training base is now a prison, not much has changed...thanks be to God!



-Larry Farner

Did You Know This

Mary descended from David. Her father's name was Joachim and her mother's name was Anna. Joachim was raised in Galilee and the city of Nazareth. Anna, Mary's mother's family was from Bethlehem

-Larry Farner

GOD, TIME AND HISTORY

Up until recent times with the knee-bending acceptance from the pulpit, of same-sex marriage and abortion, the Bible had been held as sacred. The New Testament was written and had been unchanged for over 1600 years. The Old Testament, also unchanged, was written in its current form around 397BC. And now, in our time, there are those, even some clergy who say that the Bible as it was written is no longer appropriate for modern times. Does that mean that "The Word of God" is no longer appropriate for modern times? The Bible, which "is" the inspired word of God is not "just" a book but, several books written as a covenant to true believers. It expresses God's love for His people. It was written to comfort us and to clarify the Law. The New Testament has one main theme above all, that Christ, God's only son, came to pay with His life for our sins and save all mankind...is that no long relevant?

-Larry Farner

For Which It Was Intended

After weeks of hard work, the church office has been returned to what it was intended to be, an Administrative business office. It IS NOT a storage room or a repository. It is designed to be a functioning work area. Historical and educational or reference materials are "properly" housed in the cabinets located in the room adjacent to the Narthex. At this point however, old novels, videos, pamphlets and other non-essential items are "taking up space" in those cabinets. The Council President is asking for volunteers to "clean-up" this area so it can be used for the purpose for which it was intended. If you are willing to help with that effort, please contact Larry

*Thanks, Larry, for all your
hard work!*

April Birthdays

2-----Victoria Gehring
 6-----Rosie Armstrong
 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
 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



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.



Check out our new updated Website at ELCBremerton.ORG

Special thanks our Webmaster:
 Aaron Maruska

Members Serving in April

Altar Guild-----Teresa Prange
 Elli Anderson
 Reader-----Larry Farner

Members Serving in May

Altar Guild-----Jo Klempan
 Chelette Williams
 Reader-----Miki Turowski

What's Coming Up?

April

13----10 am-----Palm Sunday Worship Service
 14----6 pm-----Kitsap Peninsula Knitting Guild
 17---12, noon-Maundy Thursday Worship Service
 18----6 pm-----Good Friday Worship Service
 20-----8:30 am-----Easter Breakfast
 10 am-----Easter Worship Service
 12, noon---Children's Easter Egg Hunt
 24-----10 am-----Midweek Bible Study
 27-----9 am-----Adult & Children's
 Sunday School
 10 am -----Worship Service

May

1-----10 am -----Midweek Bible Study
 4-----9 am-----Adult & Children's
 Sunday School
 10 am -----Worship Service
 8-----10 am-----Midweek Bible Study
 11-----9 am -----Adult & Children's
 Sunday School
 12-----6 pm ---Kitsap Peninsula
 Knitting Guild



Men's Fellowship Breakfast

Second Saturday of the month!

8:30 AM at All Star Lanes

Questions? Ask Glen or Pastor Gary

