

THE WITTENBERG DOOR

NOVEMBER 2020 EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCBREMERTON.ORG
 2509 PERRY AVE. BREMERTON WA 98310



Pastor Tim's Message

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In case of an Emergency
 Please call
 Pastor Tim at
 360-286-1090 or
 Pastor Blake at
 760- 637-4099

THANKSGIVING

On December 26, 1941, President Roosevelt signed legislation establishing Thanksgiving as a national holiday. This was the same month the USA entered WWII after the attack on Pearl Harbor. At first glance it seemed an unlikely moment in history to set aside a national holiday for thanksgiving, but it was not the first time America had been called to prayer and thanksgiving in the face of tragedy.

On November 26, 1863 President Lincoln, in the midst of the suffering and loss of the Civil War, called America to prayer and thanksgiving. The bloodiest battle of the Civil War, the battle at Gettysburg, had been fought. It's staggering losses had pierced the soul of the nation as well as bodies of the soldiers. It was time to turn hearts to God and Lincoln led the call.

The story most of us associate with Thanksgiving is the harvest feast shared by the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Indians. One hundred and two Pilgrims sailed on the Mayflower in 1620 and that winter forty-five of them perished facing the hardships of inadequate shelter and food. The Wampanoag faced the deadly effects of disease brought to American by the Europeans. Yet they graciously assisted the Pilgrims in planting and growing crops for the next harvest. In response the Pilgrims invited the Wampanoag to the harvest feast where the Pilgrims gave thanks to God for their bounty.

Today America faces unrest and a pandemic. This may seem an unlikely time to turn to God in prayer and thanksgiving, but our heritage reminds us that giving thanks can and should be done more often than just in times of prosperity. In the Bible God teaches that He has given us this wonderful world, a veritable garden filled with good gifts. He has made us in His image so we can know Him and have fellowship with Him. He has redeemed us at great cost so that we can walk with Him all the days of our earthly journey and have the promise of everlasting life! We have reason to give thanks and that reason is rooted in the work of God, not the changing fates of time.

Our sad times balance out our joy-filled times, but even in these we can turn to God and give thanks. For example, God has called me to give thanks for the wonderful forty-three years of marriage Carolyn and I shared together. I still grieve her passing, and then as I remember her, I give thanks to God for her. God used her to enrich my life.

This year again the call goes out to America to come to God and give thanks to Him. **Wednesday, November 25, Thanksgiving Eve, 6:30 pm**, will be our **traditional Thanksgiving Eve Service of Thanksgiving**. You are invited.

Pastor Tim Cartwright

Pastor Blake's Message

Being the Sunshine

I'd like to think our little corner of Washington State has only three seasons: rain season, winter, and "Oh my, what's the yellow thing in the sky?" season. Over the ten years I've been living here in Kitsap County, November has always inaugurated the rain season like no tomorrow. As I write this, I'm seeing the wet ground around Emmanuel and remembering being pelted with wind and water this morning on my way to the church office.



Typically, I've let this kind of thing get me down. During the summer, I wrote an article praising the heat of summer and remembering my love for humidity; November is the opposite of this! Where did my sunshine go? My poor son can't play outside for more than twenty minutes! It is easy for my mood to sink down as I quietly think of warmer locales.

But over the past couple of years, I haven't felt this way. I decided that, if the sunshine wasn't going to be out for us to enjoy, then the only solution was to *be* the sunshine. I started wearing bright, neon-colored T-shirts wherever I go. I started focusing on the good in every day and making sure my boy gets plenty of time out in town. I started smiling even when there wasn't a particular reason to smile. I kicked up the heater earlier this year than normal.

Wouldn't you know it, my mood started to improve, even if I was only wearing the shirt underneath my "business casual" clothing or my clerical shirts. It helped to fulfill St. Paul's exhortation to "rejoice always (1 Thessalonians 5:16), and to keep the lovely, commendable, excellent, and anything worthy of praise at the forefront of my mind (Philippians 4:8). The more I let myself be the sunshine that Kitsap County misses out on, the more I feel great joy, vitality, and the gratitude we celebrate when Thanksgiving comes along.

How about you? Is there anything you do to keep the gloom at bay when we enter the rainy season? What brightens these days up for you?

Pastor Blake Kilbourne

What's New at Emmanuel

New Beginnings

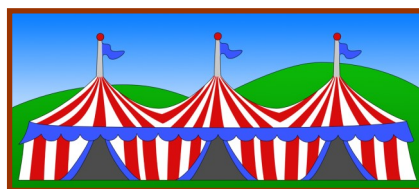
Change is always hard. New beginnings is however, pretty much what Christianity and the Christian Church is about. Emmanuel, has had its share of "New Beginnings". Most recently, a significant new beginning was when Emmanuel became only the second Lutheran Church in the State of Washington to become part of the American Association of Lutheran Churches. Our "first" Pastor as a TAALC church, was Pastor Tim Cartwright. Sadly, we have reached a crossroad and our beloved Pastor Tim will be retiring December 31st, 2020. So, yet "A New Beginning". Something ELC is very good at dealing with. We have therefore, put together a call committee dedicated to insuring that we have "a smooth" transition into yet just another event in the history of ELC. Our call committee members are: **Judy Armstrong, Steve Armstrong, Aaron Fredrickson, Larry Farner, Larry Ficca, Bob Klempan, Carl Knight, Teresa Prange, Carverlynn Prothero, Chelette Williams and Kneeda Williams.** Consultants to the call committee are: **Glen Adrig and Miki Turowski.** Our resources in the call process are: **All the members of ELC.** The first action in the Call process is to submit to our Synod (1) The Profile Of The Pastor We Seek and (2) The Congregational Profile. The first Call Committee meeting is today, November 8, 2020. Input and recommendations to the call committee by any member of ELC will be given full consideration.

Larry Farner, Chairman



A Really Big Show!

Rescue 2020, a joint food drive with ELC and Thrivent, was a "Total Success" thanks to YOU members of ELC. The Rescue 2020 food drive was focused on providing food for kids who will be doing-on-line school work. In the past, the local school district was providing supplemental food items for kids who were coming to school with NO breakfast, NO lunch, and most likely NO dinner. At the beginning of the COVID epidemic, school bus drivers were delivering supplemental food. However, now the only hope those kids have is what will be provided by the local food bank via organizations such as Emmanuel Lutheran Church...that means, **you and me.** And, we did it! Our little church contributed 303 pounds of food and \$560.00 in cash. That along with Thrivent's contribution resulted in a total of 481 pounds of food delivered to the local food bank. That is nearly a fourth of a ton of food. ***"Good show, over the top ELC."***



Sally Farmer

Thanksgiving Worship Service

**November 25th, 6:30 PM we
are having our traditional
Thanksgiving Eve Worship
Service**

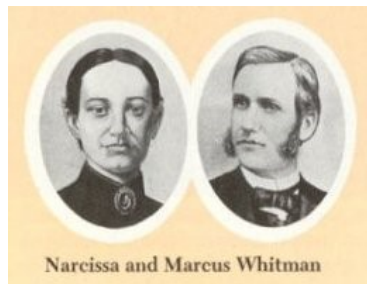
The Religious History of the State of Washington

THE JOURNEY

I have used many resources to assemble this series on "The Religious History of the State of Washington". If you are a Christian and a resident of Washington, this is not just a story – it's YOUR story.

PART FIVE - NARCISSA WHITMAN

In 1836, Marcus Whitman a missionary Doctor and his wife Narcissa, a teacher' headed west. Narcissa was the first white woman to make the transcontinental trek from Massachusetts to Fort Vancouver on the Columbia. They had one child, Alice Clarissa who drowned in the Walla Walla river when she was two years old. Both Alice and her mother had learned to sing songs in the Nez Perce (Cayuse) dialect and were a favorite of the local Indians. After the death of their daughter, the man and wife missionary team pledged to carry on with this calling to provide religious services, medical aid and teaching in a small school. However, there begin to exist conflict between the Catholic Priests and the Protestants in the area around Fort Walla Walla. There was also a conflict between the American and British settlers. The Whitman's good work at their mission contributed to the Americans claim to the area. There is much controversy concerning the Indian uprising which resulted in the death of the Whitmans. The controversy seems to have resulted because of the quarrels between the Americans and the British, the encroachment of Whites on Indian lands and Doctor Whitman's "poison" medicines. (Doctor Whitman supplied medication to the Indians as well as the white settlers). The Indians were getting ill and dying while the whites survived. The result was that the large number of Native Americans who were killed off was linked to the medicines provided by Doctor Whitman. Today, we know the reason so many Indians died while the whites survived was because the Native Americans had no immunity to diseases carried by the white settlers. This was and is a sad event that was totally unintended when the Whitmans decided to live near, work with and tell the story of Jesus to the Native Americans. Whitman college in Walla Walla is named in their honor, brave and dedicated Apostles of Christ.



Larry Farner

It's Time to Order Your Poinsettia



It's hard to believe but it is time to order our Poinsettia's already. How could that be. We are doing it a bit different this year. No sign up list.

I put order forms in your church mail boxes. If you wish to place an order you can circle the correct size and place the check in our box. I will make sure that it is counted in the offering under your name. If you are in quarantine but still want to order a poinsettia you can email me and send the check to the church designating it as your Poinsettia order. As always the flowers can be picked up following the Christmas worship service. The prices are \$8.00 for the 4", \$13.00 for the 6" and \$32.00 for the 8".

Any questions? Email or ask Sharie Adrig

Sunday School 9AM

Adult: We're starting our new History of Israel class for Sunday School this weekend, starting with a sprawling study on what exactly the term means in the Bible and what it means for Christians.

Children: Educational opportunities are happening for children. Masks are required as well as social distancing.

Reaching Out to the Community

From Martha & Mary

“Bay Vista Commons (BVC) Assisted Living located in Bremerton, WA, is managed by Martha & Mary through a partnership with the Bremerton Housing Authority. BVC Accepts Medicaid as well as private pay clients and boasts 60 assisted living apartments, many offering amazing views of Oyster Bay, along with 12 designated memory care apartments. BVC provided quality living and services to 98 residents in 2019.

Pregnancy Resource Center



Let's not forget to support the Pregnancy Resource Center at this difficult time. Currently there is a need for diapers

(size Newborn and 3), baby wipes, toddler socks, diaper cream, and baby bath supplies. If you would like to donate any of these items please contact our coordinator, Sharon Kilbourne.

You Are Amazing!

We only have one tag left on our Giving Tree. The gifts that have been coming in are amazing. You never cease to amaze me with your selfless generosity to others in need. During this tough time in our lives we reached out to you and you answered the call. If you have not been able to help yet you can still help by sending a monetary gift to add to our Thrivent donation for gift cards to our three families for food. Please bring your gifts in anytime before or on November 29th. On Sunday, Dec. 6th, we can gather in the fellowship hall and wrap gifts for the children. We will do this social distancing and I will sanitize scissors and supplies. Many thanks to Thrivent (and Pastor Tim for making this happen) for their generous donation of \$250. We can feel blessed knowing that these

three Childcare families are going to have a wonderful Christmas this year because of all of you.



Sincerely, Sharie Adrig
Coordinator

From Our Missionaries

This is an abbreviated summary of what Bob and Chery are up to. Their complete newsletter can be found on the table at the entry in the fellowship hall. In short, Sahel Academy in Niger was damaged in a flood. However, they are teaching a 9th and 10th grade Honors English class online. Thank goodness for technology. They would like to return to Niger by Christmas but prayers are needed that a new medication for Cheryl will arrive soon. Currently Bob and Cheryl are also reaching out for additional financial support. Please keep Bob and Cheryl Fox in your prayers. Look for their complete newsletter at church.

November Birthdays

1.....Lyn Herr
 1.....Larry Farner
 6.....Pastor Tim Cartwright
 22.....Callie Woodward

November Anniversaries

16Jay & Stephanie Johnson
 19Josh & Rosie Armstrong
 20Bob & Cheryl Fox
 24Larry & Sally Farner

December Birthdays

6Mollie Erickson
 7Bonnie Mace
 20Matthew Johnson
 21Gladys Willis
 29.....Denise Williams

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.

Members Serving in November

Altar Guild.....Rose Link
 Ida Ficca
 ReaderKeri Roberts

Members Serving in December

Altar Guild.....Ida Ficca
 (JoEllen Klempan & Sharie Adrig)
 ReaderGlen Adrig

Sunday School for all ages!

We offer Sunday School at 9:00 AM for adults & children.

Pastor Blake holds his Wednesday Compline Service at 6:30 in the fellowship hall.

Men's fellowship breakfast will begin when Phase 3 is in effect. Location TBA .

According to the State Guidelines we are not having a Coffee Hour right now.

From Miki



"God's gift to us this morning. All is all right in His Kingdom. Maybe God's also saying, 'Remember that in all things the buck stops here! And I've got it all well in hand!'"

We miss you, Miki, and all of you that aren't able to attend right now.

WHO'S A LUTHERAN?

Someone that would rather vacation in South Dakota than Italy.

