



THE WITTENBERG DOOR

NOVEMBER 2025 EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2509 PERRY AVE. BREMERTON WA 98310

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Pastor's Message

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And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." (Luke 21:5-6)

In this November Newsletter Article, I am going to connect our lectionary readings to words of Thanksgiving, Praise, Comfort and Hope for all that is to come in our Church re: Vitality efforts, our outreach to the Community for Thanksgiving and Christmas the next couple months, and offer what I hope is a word of encouragement for any of those who may be watching the news about life in our changing world. That's a big bite to take in one article. There is, however, a blessed consistency in God's Word and prophetic inspiration of Scripture. For today, as in Jesus' day, He provides His Word of prophetic grace and hope for us. We begin as His followers were called to come follow Him, and serve as fishers of all men, women, Children and neighbors (Luke 5:1-11).

In contemplation of Jesus' preparation to teach:

"...Teacher, when will these things be and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" And He said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am He!'" and, "the time is at hand!" Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once." (Luke 21:7-9)

Wouldn't we like to have this same front seat with the Lord in our day and time, our Church and its calling to bring people to Jesus, and for our future in following Jesus according to His calling to make disciples? As for us, it was the simple calling of God, in Scripture, and the daily practice of Word and Sacrament living in the power of His Holy Spirit. He (Jesus), is calling and empowering us to hear his Word, lift up our heads, and follow Him. This is purely by grace and through faith in Him and His Word.

Contact Pastor

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or

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Pastor Message continued.....

In Jesus' pointed conclusion, and one for all people and servants of God to consider; Jesus said about Himself and His coming:

"And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:27-28)

Yes, Lord Jesus. We pray that, as you have said, you will come to us by your Word and the Sacraments, as your daily means of grace and forgiveness. We pray we might humbly respond in faith, and by your grace and strength, raise our heads in godly fear according to your Word. (Luke 21:28). Amen.



Your fellow servant in Christ, Pastor Gary Koutsopoulos

Operation Christmas Child is coming soon.....

Please bring your gifts for our shoeboxes this Sunday (November 9th) and you all are invited to help pack our boxes next Saturday, November 15th at 10 am. We do this every year and it is great fun. Bring your friends and family to help. Young and Old will be blessed by this event. If you are not able to pack boxes perhaps you can write some cards that will be placed into our boxes. This event is for all. Come, I know you will be blessed.

-Sharie Adrig, Coordinator



Thanksgiving Eve Service

***November
26th
3:00 PM***



Preparing our Church for the Advent and Christmas Season

We will be decorating our Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall on Saturday, November 29th at 10 am. If you are able to come and give a little of your time it would be greatly ap-



An Opportunity to Help Our Own!!

Our Christmas Giving Tree is up and ready for you to help support some of our Childcare Children. For the past few years our Childcare staff have selected families that have had a particularly difficult year. Their parents are hard working essential workers but for one reason or another they have struggled this year. We stepped up and helped children in other countries with Operation Christmas Child. Thank you for that. But once again we have children right here in our Childcare that need our help. Most of their wants and needs are gifts that we may consider essential for most families. Please consider taking a gift tag and bringing in a unwrapped gift. We only have three more weeks left to do this. We want to wrap these gifts on Saturday, December 13th at 10 AM. If you are unable to go out and shop do not hesitate to ask Sharie Adrig to do the shopping for you. You can either give her the money directly or you can put your money through the offering designating it Childcare Christmas Giving Tree.

"Thanks for the Memories"

An unforgettable song performed by Bob Hope in one of his movies. He was remembering not only all the good things and bad things that had happened in the past year but also, he was thinking about what he had done to make things better or worse. Could he have made a difference? That is the question we all have to ask ourselves as we draw nearer to that most "American" holiday, Thanksgiving. What a month for the Food Banks in America. Government subsidies stopped. Women, Infants and Children programs in jeopardy. And the SNAP Program, has stopped. It's hard to believe all this could happen in a matter of weeks. And now, there is concern that even additional cuts may occur. What are we to do as a Congregation? We begin by filling the First Fruits grocery cart and we pray for those who are impacted by these programs cuts. As we sit down to enjoy our Thanksgiving dinners, please consider those who you have helped throughout this past year. Know and understand and believe that God does hear our prayers and know also that it is truly a blessing to be blessed and to be able to share that blessing. Can we at Emmanuel really make a difference? Will we make a difference for those who are beginning to lose hope? Our Mission is clear and in God's own words, "First Fruits in a mission of love and hope!"

-Sally Farner, coordinator



We will be ordering our Christmas Poinsettias soon!!

Look for more information to come in the future.

Trillium Pregnancy Center

Currently the Trillium Pregnancy Center needs Sizes 6 & 7 disposable diapers and baby wipes. There is a white bookcase in the fellowship hall that your donations can placed on. If you have questions talk to Rose Link-coordinator



The Giving Tree.....

Our Giving Tree gifts are due on
Sunday, December 7th

Our Wrapping Party will be
Saturday, December 13th!!

***Our Christmas Pageant
with our Precious
Childcare Children and our
members will be
Sunday, December 21st!!***

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

December 24th

3:00 PM

***Complete with a visit from
St. Nicholas!***



Did You Know This?

Japheth. The last of Noah's three sons, Japheth had seven sons and seven grandsons and was the ancestor of many nations. The descendants of



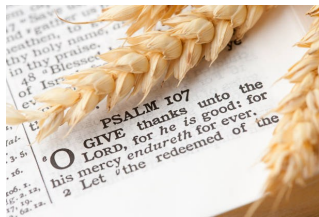
Shem and Ham are mentioned throughout the Bible. Japheth's progeny—outside the genealogies in Genesis and I Chronicles—appear mainly in the books of Isaiah and Ezekiel. -Larry

Just For Fun

Those who get too big for their britches will be exposed in the end.

When you've see one shopping center you've see a mall.

If you jump off a Paris bridge, you are in Seine.



God, Time and History

Charlemagne, God's deputy. After separating itself from Constantinople, Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne as emperor of the West. However, Charlemagne did not believe he should take his orders from the Pope. Eventually making the Papacy subordinate in his empire. He then initiated educational reforms of the Church. His chief educational advisor was the Anglo=Saxon Alcuin of York.

One of the

major controversies at that time was....”Did the Holy Spirit descend from the Father through the son, or from the Father and the son?” -Larry



Confession-Part 1

Read James 5:16. We humans are strange creatures. We want others to like us even when we don't even like ourselves. When we have issues or when someone hurts our feelings or when we hurt someone else, we are reluctant to openly deal with it. We want the problem to just “go away”. We can't seem to bring ourselves to confront because of the fear that they won't like us. Or maybe I am just “getting my undies in a bundle.” Maybe we shouldn't have brought it up in the first place. Maybe it would have been better to have said nothing—but then, we are overcome with resentment or even worse—guilt. We seem to have an issue with Truth! If I tell the truth, will I be forgiven? Will I be judged? Will I have to defend myself? Will my transgression of confronting ever be forgiven? Forgotten? Would it have been better if I had not been “so truthful?” Then, would I be guilty of avoiding or outright lying? Maybe “my truth” isn't really true—is that true? If my truth comes across as a kind of accusation or judgement, maybe the person I am confronting will be made to feel unworthy or “less than” they would have me to view them. The Bible tells us to “confess one to another.” The “Telling, is hard but more often than not it's the “Hearing” that is even harder. (to be continued)... -Larry

Think About It

Do you believe this? Stop thinking about why you can't do something, walk in the spirit of God, ask yourself, "Am I or am I not a true believer? Then step-up like Luther, "Make a Stand". Soon Emmanuel will begin a new year (2026) and we will need willing Christian servants of the Lord on Altar Guild, as Council Members, as Financial Secretaries, as Teachers, as Maintenance workers, as Ushers, as Communion servers, as Hospitality and Kitchen helpers, and as Prayer Warriors. And volunteers to put together our Annual Report. Think about it, pray about it then talk to Pastor Gary



Midweek Bible Study

Thursday's- 10 AM

Sunday School

Sunday 9 AM

Have You Noticed?

All kinds of things are happening in November. We start wearing sweaters, using umbrellas and we turn up our thermostats. We look forward to warm "stick to our ribs" meals. And at the end of the month—Thanksgiving! An....speaking of Thanksgiving, what exactly is it all about? According to Webster, the "thanks" part of it means to express gratitude, to be well pleased, or a public acknowledgment or celebration of Divine goodness. So, what is the "giving" part? To make a present of, to grant or bestow, to offer to another, to sacrifice. On our Thanksgiving table we all want potatoes and gravy, lots of stuffing and of course cranberry sauce. These items and many more, i.e., soups, broths, pastas and canned fruit and vegetables will be most appreciated by those who need and count on our Thanksgiving donations this year.

-Sally, Coordinator



Thank You, to McClouds for Supporting Lutherhaven!!!!

A couple weeks ago McClouds donated money from their Sunday, Bingo Night to help support Lutherhaven. Special thanks to the owner, Andy, and our member, Teresa for coordinating this.



November Birthdays

1-----Victoria Boisjolie
 1-----Larry Farner
 4-----Delores Stroud
 6-----Pastor Tim Cartwright
 22-----Callie Woodward

November Anniversaries

3-----Patrick & Victoria Gehring
 16-----Jay & Stephanie Johnson
 19-----Josh & Rosie Armstrong
 20-----Bob & Cheryl Fox (missionaries)
 24-----Larry & Sally Farner

December Birthdays

2-----Brian Boisjolie
 7-----Bonnie Mace
 19-----Emma Atienza
 20-----

Matthew Johnson

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 November**

Altar Guild-----Jo Klempan
 Chelette Williams
 Reader-----Maurine Simons
 Glen Adrig

Members Serving in December

Altar Guild-----Teresa Prange
 Sally Farner
 Reader-----Judy Armstrong

What's Coming Up?**November**

9-----9-----Sunday School
 10-----Worship Service
 10-----6 pm-----Kitsap Peninsula Knitter's Guild

Operation Christmas Child Gifts are due!

13-----10-----Mid-week Bible Study
 15-----10-----Operation Christmas

Child Packing Party!!!

16-----9-----Sunday School
 10-----Worship Service

(Blessing our shoeboxes/Giving Tree goes out)

20-----10-----Mid-week Bible Study
 23-----9-----Sunday School
 26-----3 pm-----Thanksgiving Eve Service
 29-----10-----Decorating for Advent/Christmas Season
 30-----9-----Sunday School
 10-----Worship Service

December

4-----10-----Midweek Bible Study
 7-----Giving Tree Gifts are Due
 7-----9-----Sunday School
 10-----Worship Service
 8-----6-----Kitsap Peninsula Knitter's
 Guild Christmas Party
 11-----10-----Midweek Bible Study
 13-----10-----Wrapping Party
 14-----9-----Sunday School
 10-----Worship Service
 18-----10-----Midweek Bible Study
 21-----9-----No Sunday School
 10-----Christmas Pageant
 24-----3:00-----Christmas Eve Worship Service

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 and Stu for all you do.

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast****Second Saturday of the month!****8:30 AM at All Star Lanes****Questions? Ask Glen or Pastor Gary**