

# THE WITTENBERG DOOR

NOVEMBER 2017      EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH      ELCBREMERTON.ORG  
 2509 PERRY AVE. BREMERTON WA 98310



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**In case of an Emergency**

**Please call  
 Pastor Tim  
 on his cell  
 phone  
 286-1090**

Thanksgiving Eve members of Emmanuel will gather to give thanks and praise to God for all His good gifts in 2017, and for all that the year has brought us. I thank God for Emmanuel and for the privilege of being your pastor. I thank God for the many ways the Lord has touched lives in our community and across the world through you. Well done, Saints of God.

Advent Season begins December 3rd. This also begins a new Church year. Our theme Gospel for the year will be the Gospel of Mark, wherein God reveals His Son to be the Suffering Servant prophesied of in Isaiah. God also calls us to the lives of sacrificial servanthood.

During Advent we will have our First Fruits Sunday (Dec. 3) to help those in need. December 9th is our traditional Christmas Tea (Noon—2 pm). December 15 we will package and distribute Christmas cookies to our shut-ins. December 17th we will be blessed by our Children's Christmas Pageant during the Worship Service. December 24th, Christmas Eve, we will have a Sunday morning Christmas Service, then our traditional Lessons and Carols at 6:30 pm. That service will include a possible visit from the very busy St. Nicklaus, and a candlelight singing of "Silent Night."

To prepare God's House for these festivities on December 2nd at 10 am there will be a church work party to decorate to God's glory. Refreshments will be served.

Many of us are still celebrating the 76 shoeboxes Emmanuel stuffed with goodies, love and the Gospel for children around the world. You also raised over \$600 for shipping. Well Done! Thank You!

Please mark your calendars for the Annual Meeting on January 28th after our Worship Service.

The Lord be with you.  
 Pastor Tim Cartwright



## Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service

Wednesday, Nov. 22nd

6:30 PM



## Annual Christmas Tea

All are invited to Emmanuel's Annual Christmas Tea on Saturday, December 9th, noon to 2 PM. A sign-up sheet is available for you to indicate how many will be attending in your group so we can arrange proper seating. Bring a favorite dish to share. Take some time from your busy holiday schedule to enjoy wonderful fellowship, sing some carols and reflect upon the true meaning of Christmas. Any questions you can ask Miki or Carol R.



## Cookies for our Shut-in and Special Members



Each year we gather and pack cookie bags for members that are either ill, are not able to get out to our Sunday services or are having a challenging year. We are gathering on Friday, December 15th, at 10:30 AM to pack and deliver cookies to various members. You can either bring cookies that day or leave some on the Sunday prior to be packed. More information will be coming. Any questions you can ask JoEllen or Sharie.

## Work Party

In preparation for the Advent and Christmas Season we will be gathering on Dec.2nd at 10 AM to decorate our fellowship hall and sanctuary. Refreshments will be served.

## Children's Christmas Pageant

On December 17th we will be blessed by our Children's Christmas Pageant. The pageant happens during our regular Worship Service. It always proves to be a delight and a blessing.



Thanks to our Sunday School staff and Childcare staff for coordinating this each year.

## Christmas Poinsettias

It's that time of the year again when we are thinking about ordering our flowers for the altar at Christmas. If you would like to order a Christmas Poinsettia for our Christmas Worship service please put your money in the offering designating it for Poinsettias. ALSO, there is a sign up list in the fellowship hall. The Poinsettias are \$11.50 each.



**The Deadline is December 1st!!!!**

## Christmas Eve Worship Service

**December 24th**

**6:30 PM**



# 76 Boxes Strong !!!!!



Emmanuel Lutheran packed 66 boxes and our Childcare center packed 10 boxes this year. Many thanks to all that prayed, contributed gifts, money and/or your help the day of our packing party. In spite of the shipping costs going up this year we meant our financial goal.

Emmanuel, YOU ARE AWESOME !!!!!!!

With all the natural disasters that happened this past year it seems like the need is even greater. Emmanuel can feel good knowing that you will bringing joy to 76 children that may have faced unimaginable trauma or poverty in their life.

Thank you for making a difference!!!

## **Greetings from Africa .....Marian's Ministries**

In September I attended a training session on mother-child health. I then met with the literacy coordinator for language, for a sit-down dinner and meeting. It has indeed been a busy and challenging month. My rent will be the highest I have ever paid, \$240. This will be a home to me until my retirement and home to Ibrahim, his wife Jacqueline and their baby, Marian, as well as a place for guests. During the first week of September, Ibrahim installed the washing machine and Djarako began making wooden beds complete with mosquito net. The beds are sturdy and have enough space underneath for storage. The second week of September the refrigerator was in its place. I was so happy to see Fadimatu when she returned from school with her faithful motorcycle transporter Adamu. So I got big hugs and a photo with her. I do love that girl. Fadi turns 11 on October 26th.

Taking care of Marian doesn't seem like a good goal, but I'm sleeping well and eating well with good Myaro food. A new man is working here, outside for garden and animals and inside for cleaning floors and windows. A Ngambal man who is a Sunday School teacher at Djambutu congregation, Mr. Nason. Prayer requests: for Ibrahim's wife, Jacqueline and my namesake, Marian who is two years old; for the encouragement and shared vision for the Mambay; for the Kingdom to strengthen God's Church among the Mambay people; for God's healing in relationships.

*Marian's complete newsletter can be found on the table near the fellowship door.*

## **Bob and Cheryl Fox .....Serving in Niger**

As we begin to settle into the busy routine of school and life in Niger, we remind ourselves to look for how God is at work in this amazing but challenging country. Teaching at school, shopping, preparing meals, worshipping our Lord, all these things are so different from our life before Niger. Bob is teaching four different classes, which means four lesson plans each day, tests to write, papers to grade, activities to prepare, meetings to attend, and struggling students to help. Yet, we see God at work each day as He provides Bob with creativity, insight into his students, wisdom in grading and fresh ideas even when he is feeling exhausted. Cheryl teaches two cooking classes, tutors a student in math and helps in the library. At times she feels discouraged as she sees how much more needs to be done. However, God shows her how He is using her in a quiet way to reach students, especially her math student who is from a different religion and comes from a family of influence. So, even when we don't understand God's ways, He reminds us of His love for even the one person we come in contact with and how valuable they are to Him.

**Praise for:** successfully finishing the 1st quarter of school, our sense of being more settled here and our enjoyment of the culture, our faithful financial supporters, we could not be serving here without you. Pray that God will continue to raise up supporters for this work.

**Pray for:** Students who are struggling academically and /or spiritually particularly that they will see God at work in their lives, that the ongoing hurdles to obtaining a Nigerien driver's license will be overcome soon, wisdom in teaching our classes and in reaching the hearts of the students who come from different religions.

*Bob & Cheryl's complete newsletter can be found on the table near the fellowship door.*

## Ways We Can Help in Our Community

### First Fruits

The clean clothing drive will continue through the month of November with an emphasis on warm coats and hats, long pants, sweatshirts and sweaters. All CLEAN clothing is appreciated.

For food bank donations: you may want to consider soups, broths, pasta and sauces, canned meat and fish, cranberry sauce, toothpaste, toilet paper, Kleenex, bar soap, and shampoos are greatly appreciated.

***Remember!!!! December 3rd is our last First Fruits before the holidays.***

So you may want to include gravy mixes, stuffing mixes, cake and frosting, flour, sugar, cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes, pumpkin and even seasonings used for holiday baking.

***Thank you, Emmanuel, for the love you show to our brothers and sisters in need.***

### Kitsap Mental Health Needs our Help

Currently Kitsap Mental Health is collecting warm coats, hats, scarves, and mittens or gloves for their clients. A cold winter is being predicted and these people are in need. All sizes are welcomed and appreciated. Rosie will be collecting these items. Questions, ask Rosie.



### Helping Ward?

Ward, a nurse at Martha and Mary, is currently trying to raise money to travel to Sierra Leone to help with training the local medical staff. Questions, ask Ward for information.

**Did you know? Maurine represented Washington State at the annual national School Bus Mechanics competition. Maurine placed 7 in the country! Way to go! We are so proud of you.**

**From the Bremerton Food Bank:** "Did you know the food bank serves more than 35,000 individuals a month. Twenty percent are seniors. The rest are families and children. It's hard to believe there are that many people in our community who are in need of food. Our monthly mission of First Fruits REALLY makes a difference. We are blest to be a blessing to our brothers and sisters in Christ. You are faithful every month with your food or cash donations. The food bank depends on us. We are listed in their quarterly newsletter. Sally ( Special thanks to Sally and Larry for coordinating this ministry each month.)

