

# THE WITTENBERG DOOR

JUNE 2024

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2509 PERRY AVE. BREMERTON WA 98310

ELCBREMERTON.ORG



**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

PASTOR'S MESSAGE	1
PASTOR'S MESSAGE & LARRY AND IDA	2
LILY'S GRADUATION	3
FIRST FRUITS & MEMBER'S CONTRIBUTIONS	4
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ELC	5
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES	6
MEMBER'S SERVING & ELC ACTIVITIES	6

## Pastor's Message

### I. Life and the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 4:4-6)

5 For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants<sup>[a]</sup> for Jesus' sake. 6 For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

A) We proclaim Christ and not ourselves, by God's revelation, not of this world's darkness and blindness toward faith in Christ: "4 *In their case* the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the likeness of God." (2 Cor. 4:4) .

1. It is God's desire that all would be saved (and come to saving knowledge of the love and gift of God in Christ by grace through faith in His only begotten Son- and then live!

*3 This is good, and it is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. (I Timothy 2:3-5)*

2. It is simply that we are called and empowered to believe upon Him, and him alone – by whose Spirit we live, and move, and have our being (Acts 17:28) This life, and the victory over death through Christ, shows us the glory of God in the face of Christ, who is the likeness of God.

**II. Our Common condition.** We all have this in common – we are sinners and our bodies are earthen vessels – and unless the Lord comes again soon, as in His Second Coming, we will all face the death of these earthly tents (mortal bodies) (2 Cor. 4:7-11)

Pastor's Message continued.....

**Contact Pastor  
Gary at  
1 (541) 350-7737  
  
OR  
ggkouts65@gmail.com**

***Pastor's Message continued.....***

*"7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. 8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; 10 always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. 11 For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh."*

This not of ourselves and our flesh, but of Christ Jesus and His grace, by which we believe in Him for life and health, burial with Him by Baptism, and eternal life with Him in heaven.

(Romans 6:4-5)

Romans 6:4-5

4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

**III. For its all for your sake...**

*13 Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, "I believed, and so I spoke," we too believe, and so we speak, 14 knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. 15 For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. May the Lord bless you in one true faith in Him, unto life everlasting. Amen.*

*-Pastor Gary Koutsopoulos*

***Congratulations Larry and Ida Ficca***



FICCA, Ida & Larry  
John, Susan

Larry and Ida Ficca will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on June 13th. They were married at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Tacoma, Washington in 1964. Larry retired from the Engineering Department in Puget Sound Naval Shipyard and Ida was an elementary school teacher and retired from Bremerton School

District. Larry served for many years on the Lutherhaven Board of Directors. He also served as Lutherhaven's Treasurer for several years. Ida has served on Altar Guild and helped with VBS for many years.

Larry and Ida are very precious to all of us at Emmanuel!!



### *A Member Reaches a Major Milestone*

Our longtime member, Lillian James, reached a major milestone Friday, June 7th at 7:00 PM. She completed her senior year at Bremerton High School and was recognized at her graduation. We are very proud of Lily. She has grown up at Emmanuel, attended Sunday School, VBS and our childcare center. She was confirmed at Emmanuel under the guidance of Pastor Tim Cartwright. This past school year she was working after school at our childcare. Her plan for next fall is to attend Olympic College and go into the medical field. We are all so proud of Lily for her accomplishments!



## The Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis)

A splash of brilliant magenta,  
wide stripes of iridescent green,  
only You could create this masterpiece for us.  
As I took a breath  
the scent of my neighbor's wisteria  
floated in on a cool breeze.  
It was as if you were saying,  
*"I created this moment especially for you.  
I'm here with you as you experience  
every joy or difficulty,  
just as I am  
for each of my children."*

Melody Knight



Special thanks to Melody Knight for writing and submitting the poem and thanks to Miki Turowski for your photograph.

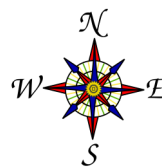
## Supporting the Home Front

Did you know that you are a Missionary?  
Your Mission Field is, "Home Missions."  
Recently, Emmanuel received a letter of appreciation from the Bremerton Food Bank, thanking us for financial donations, this was in addition to the "food" donations we give each month. Currently, the local Food Bank is trying to provide 50% of a household's weekly food needs for 4,300 family units. This really puts in perspective what we are doing for local families and seniors who need and depend on our donations. From day to day, from week to week to month "our" mission continues ...thank you "Missionaries" of Emmanuel!

*Thank you, Sally, for  
coordinating this ministry*



## Finding Our Way



You can't illustrate the unknown. For example, how would you with any accuracy, describe Heaven? You just cannot describe a place or an event for which we have no reference. A location without reference to some other can't be expressed. References shared by Jesus, always were compared to something the hearers, in their day, were able to relate to. Location references in Kansas were there in a crossroad (East/West; North/South) every mile are easy. However, any references today with regard to what is good, what is not good; what is true and what is not true are about as clear as "looking through a glass darkly." In the words of Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz, "Toto, I don't think we are in Kansas anymore!"

-Larry

## Scheduling and Planning Meeting

**June 15th at 10 am** there will be a scheduling and planning meeting to assist us in planning our church calendar for the next few months. This meeting is for our Pastor, Council Members, all ministry leaders and key volunteers. In fact it is for any one who would like to help the church in communication and concerted planning to bring people to Jesus of Nazareth. This will be from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm and include



lunch and coffee and you will need to sign up for the food and clean-up. **Please RSVP with Pastor Gary.**

## "The Means of Grace"

On June 16th, at 9 am the Sunday Adult Bible Study will begin a four-week course on "The Means of Grace" which will be for all baptized and confirmed members, inquirers, and visitors; those called by the Lord and seeking baptism, and who desire to understand how God has planned to save the world through Christ, and by grace, through faith in Him, according to Scripture. This will be lead by Pastor Gary



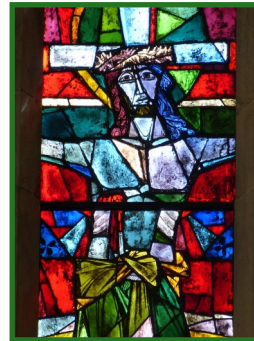
## Mid-Week Bible Study

Our mid-week Bible Study continues on Thursday at 10 am. Pastor Rob leads this study. All are welcome.



## God, Time and History

Religion has a direct effect on political, economic and social events in history. Christian art, drama and music often emerges from Christian roots. There is a wide range of expression in Christian art and Christians and Church officials often have a lingering distrust of art. Does it add-to, detract or, support the credibility of the Bible? And more importantly, how does art relate to faith and our Christian journey?



There are those who look and often see a particular message or revelation in Christian art. Others, just see and appreciate art for what it is...pleasing? Your be the judge. -Larry

## Did You Know This?

A Jew from Thessalonica in Macedonia, Aristarchus was converted to Christianity by Paul, who came to preach in the Synagogue in about 50 AD. The Church in Thessalonica subsequently sent Aristarchus to join Paul's coworkers (missionaries) and he continued to work with Paul throughout Greece, Asia Minor and Judea, and even accompanied Paul as a prisoner in Rome.



**June Birthdays**

- 2-----Linda Houlton
- 4-----Pastor Rob Stroud
- 5-----Isabella Paulus
- 6-----Marian Hungerford, Missionary
- 6-----Tina Atienza
- 7-----Loyal Campbell
- 7-----Carol Reece
- 12-----MaKenna Boisjolie
- 13-----Cheryl Fox, Missionary
- 16-----Sharie Adrig
- 19-----Carol Henning
- 21-----Lillian James
- 23-----Steve Armstrong
- 26----Carverlyne Prothero, Childcare Dir.
- 27-----Owen Johnson
- 27-----Crystal, Childcare staff

**June Anniversaries**

- 10-----Glen & Sharie Adrig
- 13-----Larry & Ida Ficca

**July Birthdays**

- 1-----Cole Simons
- 5-----Lori Koutsopoulos

**July Anniversaries**

- 17-----Pastor Rob & Delores Stroud

If you have any additions or corrections to our birthday or anniversary list please let our editor, Sharie Adrig, know at [gadrig@comcast.net](mailto:gadrig@comcast.net)



**Members Serving in June**

- Altar Guild-----Sally Farner
- Reader-----Larry Farner
- Acolytes --2, Tiffany --9, Nathan-- 16,Bella-- 23, Tiffany --30, Nathan

**Members Serving in July**

- Altar Guild-----Jo Klempan
- Reader-----Jo Klempan
- Acolytes-----TBA

**What's Coming Up?**

*June*

- 15--10-3----Scheduling & Planning Meeting
- 16-----9-----Adult Bible Study
- 10----Worship Service & Father's Day
- 19-----12, noon-----Lady's Lunch
- 20-----10-----Midweek Bible Study
- 23-----9-----Adult Bible Study
- 10-----Worship Service
- 26-----12,noon-----Lady's Lunch
- 27-----10-----Midweek Bible Study
- 30-----9-----Adult Bible Study

*July*

- 3-----12,noon-----Lady's Lunch
- 7-----9-----Adult Bible Study
- 7-----10-----Worship Service
- 10-----12,noon-----Lady's Lunch
- 11-----10-----Midweek Bible Study

**Suffering is a part of the human condition and must be borne. But, misery is a choice!**

**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.

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast**

Men's Fellowship Breakfast is being held at 8:30 am the second Saturday of each month at All Star Lanes in Silverdale. If you would like to receive email updates on this please let Glen Adrig know so that your name and email can be added to the contact list.

I got a job at the bakery because I kneaded dough.