

THE WITTENBERG DOOR

MARCH 2022

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2509 PERRY AVE. BREMERTON WA 98310

ELCBREMERTON.ORG



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Contact Pastor

**Rob at
360-204-4851**

or

**pastor.rob
@airpost.net**

Pastor's Message

What Prophets Can Teach Us

"O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear?"
Habakkuk

This is how the Prophet Habakkuk begins the book which bears his name. He speaks the same words that nearly every human being has uttered at one time or another. "Why, Lord, haven't you answered my prayers?"

Fortunately for us, that honest question is only the place where Habakkuk begins. In three vivid chapters, the prophet moves us from questions and doubt to faith and praise. He ends with the joyful proclamation: "God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer's; he makes me tread on my high places."

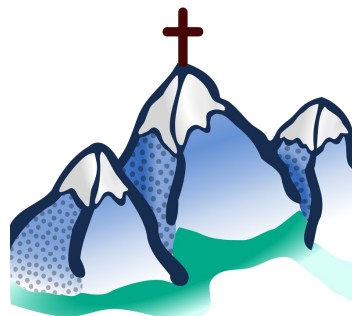
This is a journey we frequently undertake. In worship we begin with our confession. By the end of worship we have been forgiven, fed, and prepared to return to the demands of life with joyful confidence in God's loving presence.

During Lent, our Wednesday devotions are based on the messages of the "minor prophets" found in the Bible. Every one of them has a powerful word for each of us.

During this holy season I encourage you to attend the additional services if you are able, and to increase the time you spend each day reading God's Word. Don't be concerned if daily reading of the Bible isn't part of your life right now. It's simple to start fresh today! Even five minutes in God's word can make a very positive difference in our lives.

With God as our strength, we too can tread on "high places!"

Reverend Dr. Robert Stroud



Message from the President

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

I am not bashful about asking perfect strangers, “Where do you attend Church”? To me it’s like asking, “Where do you shop for groceries” or, “Where do your kids attend school”? However, when I reveal that I am a Lutheran, I make it clear that I’m not “just” any Lutheran. I am an AALC Lutheran. And, when the question comes up, “What’s the difference”? I get to say; “We at Emmanuel Lutheran Church are inclusive rather than exclusive, not only do we accept but we embrace everyone. We have Open Communion – where you do not have to be a “member of the club” to do what our Lord clearly tells us to do. And, this is the “big” one. “We” believe the Bible is “absolutely” the infallible “Word” of God – like it is “God” actually talking to us, and... we listen! So, what follows this kind of an encounter? You now ask, “Would you be interested in visiting and seeing what the “difference” really looks like”? Then, invite them, give them directions, offer to provide transportation. And be sure to tell them about our “social” time which follows Worship. On the Sunday of their visit be sure to introduce them to our Pastor and as many of our brothers and sisters that you can “snag” and in no time, they will discover for themselves, “What is the difference”.

Larry



Our New Pastor is Installed

On February 6th, 2022 Reverend Dr. Robert Stroud retired Air Force Chaplain was called to serve as Pastor. The special Installation Service was presided over by retiring Pastor Tim Cartwright.

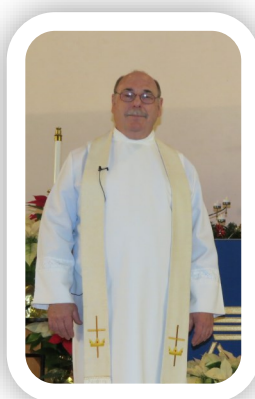
Look for the more complete article in the next Evangel.



Pastor Rob and Dolores



Join Us in Celebrating 41 Years in the Ministry



We are celebrating and honoring our dear retired Pastor Tim. He has given and continues to give so much to Emmanuel. Now is the time for us to show him our deep appreciation. He is such a humble servant to our Lord. We are having our retirement program and luncheon on Saturday, April 30th at 11 AM. If you wish to contribute to a monetary gift you can do so by placing your gift in the offering or mail it to Emmanuel at 2509 Perry Ave., Bremerton, WA 98310 and designate it as Pastor Tim’s gift or you can directly give this to Judy Armstrong. Also, on Thursday, April 28th at 1:00 we are having a decorating party. If you have a special thought or memory for Pastor Tim you will have a place to record this.

Questions please contact Sharie Adrig, 360-377-2448 or gadrig@comcast.net

Join Us for the Lenten Journey

Each Wednesday at noon during Lent we are coming together for a brief service and a delicious soup luncheon. Come for the double blessing of worship and warm fellowship



Do not be Children in Your Thinking

These are among the Apostle Paul’s words to the Christians in Corinth. We’re studying the letter which includes this challenge every Thursday at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited to attend. Well...Everyone who doesn’t want to remain a child in their thinking.....



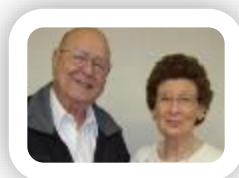
It’s Time to Order Easter Flowers

The sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall waiting for orders. Please indicate if you wish to order an Azalea or a Lily. Azalea’s are \$20, 6” Lillie’s are \$13 and 8 “ are \$25. If ordering a Lily please indicate what size you want. If you want to dedicate the flowers to some one indicate whether you want it “in memory of” or “in honor of”. Your payment can be placed in the offering but write on the memo line that the check is for your Easter flower order. Questions? Ask Sharie Adrig The flowers need to be ordered as soon as possible.



Richard Boyce

Our dear longtime member of ELC went to be with our Lord on January 30th, 2022. Richard and his wife, Sylvia, were dedicated members for many years. They both devoted thousands of hours to keep Emmanuel going. We miss them both.



Good Friday Worship Service

April 15th.....6:30 PM

Easter Worship Service

April 17th.....10 AM

Recycle Your Eyeglasses

Do you have old eyeglasses you no longer need? (Even glasses old enough to qualify as “spectacles” are still valuable) Do you want the opportunity to bless someone and clean out your house a bit in the process?

If so, bring in any glasses in good condition to send overseas to support mission work around the world.

Emmanuel will be sending our donated glasses to M.O.S.T. Ministries. MOST (Mission Opportunities Short Term) Ministries has served on five continents and in 50+ countries. Teams partner with local pastors and missionaries around the world to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of people.

So your gift will be used to bless someone in Jesus’ name. And the receiver will hear the gospel when they receive a gift they could never afford to purchase.

Helping people receive the “gift of sight” is a very biblical thing to do!

Please place any glasses in the labeled collection box in the fellowship hall. Thank You!



On Dying

While we mourn the loss of a loved one or a good friend, we generally accept death as we acknowledge what we read in Ecclesiastes that, “There is a time for everything”. However, when faced with our own imminent mortality, we tend not to be so “accepting” of the will of God. When confronted with this issue we need to ask ourselves, “am I really a true believer?” Do we truly endorse the AALC standard that The Holy Bible is actually, “The Word of God”? We need at that moment, to just believe, just to know and just to understand that before we were born, before we had an earthly body, God knew us and loved us. When our earthly body is no more, our soul returns to God who knew us before and knows us still and it is into His loving arms that we have or will have returned to where we first began. We will after our journey here on earth return to our Heavenly home. If we are indeed, “a true believer” we accept the promise and the joy of John 14:1 to, “Let not our heart be troubled” and believe!

Larry

Please Pray For Our Missionaries

Our missionaries, Bob and Cheryl Fox, are currently experiencing several challenges. They need our prayer support. Cheryl has been dealing with many health problems and they are struggling with car problems. Please keep them in your prayers. They publish a monthly newsletter. If you do not currently receive their publication via email let Glen or Sharie know and we will get contact information to you.

We also support Marion Hungerford in Africa . If you wish to be added to her distribution list let us know.

How Can We Help The Citizens of Ukraine?

The AALC has missionaries in Ukraine. Pastor Yount and his wife, Lena have been serving in Ukraine for several years but recently were forced to flee to Slovakia. They are assisting refugees fleeing Ukraine. Pastor Yount describes the situation as *“People arriving are shell shocked, they have been listening to air sirens all day long, constantly going to the basement, taking cover, listening to loud explosions, then they take what they can fit in a small duffle bag or carry-on suitcase and leave the country on a 20 –35 hour trip, stand in the freezing cold for hours to cross the border with no idea what the place they are going will be like or when or if ever they can go home. We are praying with people, giving them a safe quiet place to rest, until they can come to some sort of peace and try to make decisions on what to do from here.”*

They are also assisting a Lutheran congregation near the city of Odesa in feeding their people. Please pray for Pastor Yount, Lena and Pastor Alexander Gorss (in Odesa).

- How can you help?**
1. Please pray for these individuals as well as the people of Ukraine.
 2. The AALC has created a special fund to send monies to Pastor Yount. “These funds will be used for his personal needs, the extended humanitarian effort in the Ukraine and the care of refugees that are in Slovakia. Please send your donations to the AALC National Office.

The AALC

921 East Dupont Road #920

FT. Wayne, IN 46825-1551

The deadline for donations is Monday, March 28th, 2022. Please make checks payable to the AALC. These funds will be sent to Pastor Yount through a safe and secure agency. In addition, please keep Pastor Yount and all who he cares for in your prayers.”

Pastor Jamie M. Strickler

AALC WMC Chairman

The Religious History of the State of Washington

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 SEVENTEEN—A New Century

There was a spirit of cooperation spreading among many Christian and Jewish groups as we approached the 1900's. This spirit of cooperation took place not only with medical and aid facilities but also with establish relief societies such as; The Jewish Temple de Hirsch in 1890 in Seattle and the first Black Church in the state, Calvary Baptist in Tacoma in 1891. Black Pentecostal Churches were started in Roslyn, Franklin, New Castle, Kenndale, Everett and Yakima. In the early 1900's German, Russian and Sephardic Jews had built Temples in Seattle and Spokane. Other ethnic congregations made up of Greeks, Russians, Serbians, Ruthenians, Bulgarians, Syrians and Gypsies were being established in Cle Elum, Wilkeson and Black Diamond. Ethnic and theological divisions were even more pronounced among Washington's Lutherans. Lutheranism was established in Washington in 1867. The Scandinavians formed the Augustana Synod. The Germans embraced the Ohio Synod and the Missouri Synod and the Wisconsin Synod. The first Lutheran Church in Tacoma was Ohio Synod. The Wisconsin and Missouri Synods were predominate in Eastern Washington. In 1871 an independent First Lutheran Church which ignored Synods



1st Black Church in Washington

and ethnic differences was located in Oysterville, Bush Prairie, Centerville (Centralia) and Tacoma. However, differences prevailed and separate Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish and Danish Churches appeared. Norwegian Churches proliferated in North Puget Sound, Stillaguamish, Utsaladdy (Camano Island) and Seattle. Finnish and Icelandic Churches

were scattered in Southwest Washington. Lutheran Churches and schools grew rapidly. There were 27 Lutheran Churches in Ballard. Lutherans created Pacific Lutheran College in Tacoma, Bethany High School in Poulsbo, Spokane College and Columbia Collage in Everett.



Historical drawing of PLU

Success

Only "you" can make the difference! Did you know a healthy breakfast is linked to a successful school day? A healthy breakfast will boost attention span-boost learning and test scores. All this leads to a positive school experience and a successful future. Those who do not have breakfast are cranky and irritable and can become behavior problems in the classroom and at home. Always know that what you put into the food cart for "First Fruits Sunday" feeds a hungry child, adult or senior. God commands us to love one-another as we love ourselves us to love one-another as we love ourselves and as "He" loves us. So, "First Fruits Sunday" is not "just a good thing to do", it's a Mission and a Commitment to demonstrate Christian charity and love.

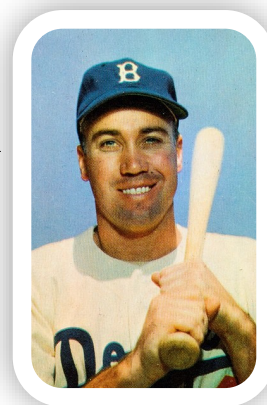


Sally Farner, "First Fruits" Coordinator

“The Best Team Doesn’t Always Get to Win”

The words of Duke Snider, a Dodger legend, when Brooklyn lost the 1963 World Series to the Yankees. At our first Lenten service of 2022, Pastor Rob, reading from the OT book of Habakkuk, pointed out that the people of God in Habakkuk’s time were basically facing the same issues, the same questions and confronting the same realities as we Christians are facing today. “Why does it often seem like the non Christians appear to win in the game of life?” Pastor Rob then clearly answered that question. It may seem that the rich and famous are winning the day but, in reality in so many ways people of faith are winning daily and in the end... they win big! So, as they used to say in Brooklyn...”just wait until next year”. We need only to look around, to count our blessings, to consider the legions of people who have and continue to defend our freedom of worship. And know and understand, always, that God is with us and in the end...the best team will win! Join us for Lenten services on Wednesday at noon where we share lunch, the “word” and our love and care for one another.

Larry



New Congregational Directory Coming

During the next month we’ll be taking new photos of the “members and friends” of Emmanuel to include in an updated pictorial directory. Please plan on taking a few minutes after one of our services to pose for a new picture. We’ll be verifying everyone’s contact information at the same time. Thanks, in advance, for participating.

Powerful New Film Coming to Emmanuel

This month Emmanuel will be among the churches premiering *Sabina: Tortured for Christ*. It will be free, encouraging—and a wonderful opportunity for you to invite friends and neighbors to hear the Gospel in a friendly, nonthreatening setting.



Sabina Wurmbrand and her husband, Richard, a Lutheran pastor, survived harsh oppression under the Nazis, and then Romania’s Communist government. Their story is very engaging and encouraging. After their release from imprisonment, they went on to establish Voice of the Martyrs ministry.

If you would like to help coordinate this exciting even, talk to Pastor Rob soon.

March Birthdays

- 5.....Chelette Williams
- 7.....Hailey Dupree
- 17Peyton Dupree
- 18Henry Simons
- 19Melody Knight
- 25Kneeda Williams, Childcare Supv.
- 27.....Jim Mace
- 27Josh Armstrong

March Anniversaries

- 13Cole & Maurine Simons
- 18.....Steve & Judy Armstrong

April Birthdays

- 2.....Victoria Gehring
- 6.....Rosie Armstrong
- 10.....Riley Dupree
- 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
- 28.....Ward Erickson III

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

Members Serving in March

- Altar Guild.....Teresa Prange
- ReaderMiki Turowski

Members Serving in April

- Altar GuildTeresa Prange
- Reader.....Larry Farner

If you are interested in helping with Altar Guild it is not too late. Just ask JoEllen Klempan or Sharie Adrig.

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour has resumed following the worship service. If you would like to provide refreshments for coffee hour or make a monetary contribution please talk to Carol Reece or Rose Link.



Lenten Services and Luncheons every Wednesday at 12, noon!

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.

Bible Study on Thursdays at 10 am in the Fellowship Hall. We are currently studying 1st Corinthians. It's not too late to attend.