

Echoes

June/July 2011 | Newsletter of **Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

“A Church of Family Ministry”



Holy Scripture

Inside This Issue

- Pastor's Message
- Family Devotion
Myths -Mark Holmen
- Children's Ministry
- Happenings
- Childcare
- Member Highlight
- XYZ Club
- Council Highlights
- Endowment Fund
- Financial Report

Scripture is clear. God is not in the business of hiding things. He doesn't want you to be confused or in the dark concerning the salvation given to you in Jesus Christ. Most secularists, and even those in the church, assert that the Bible is a murky book that is difficult, if not impossible, to understand. The problem with Scripture is that it is unclear. However, in actuality, the problem we sinners have with the Bible is that it is too clear, and we work with sinful diligence in order to cover up this clarity! We do this because we do not find the condemnations that God's word frequently levels at us very appetizing, and for that matter, we do not like hearing that we are saved by Christ, and him alone, rather than by our own pious inclinations. So it is that God's word must save us from our own interpretations about God's word. We must begin to see that the Bible is not a word *about* God but a word *from* God. That means, of course, that we are not the interpreters *of the Bible*, but the ones being interpreted *by the Bible*. Sinners do not sanctify God's word, but vice-versa. This word, God's word, goes to work on the reader/hearer. This word is not a document to be studied or understood, but a sword which cuts with its two edges (Hebrews 4:12). This is a word that goes on the offensive! This word kills and makes alive (1 Sam. 2:6). This word is living and active (Hebrews 4:12). This word cuts to the heart (Acts 2:37). Furthermore, this *clear* word of God will remain forever (Matt. 24:35).

In His clear Word,

Pastor Shaw

Family Devotion Myths

◆ **Family Devotions are Long and Boring:**

We live in a great time where there are all sorts of fun ways to engage in family devotions. Family devotions can take place in the minivan, on vacation, in the bedroom, while taking a bike ride or while having a happy meal at McDonald's. You can use a computer, DVD player, the Internet. Some of the best family devotions will happen in five minutes or less.

◆ **We Don't Have to Do Family Devotions Because Our Kids Are Involved at Church or Attend a Christian School:**

Do you believe the church is the primary place where faith is nurtured? The home is the primary place where faith is nurtured.

◆ **You Have to Have All the Answers to Lead Family Devotions:**

It isn't so much about giving answers as it is about creating an environment where anyone can ask and together you can wrestle with the questions of life. That is where true faith comes to the forefront. All you can do is share what you have been given for ideas, insights or experiences, and look into God's Word for what He has already shared there.

◆ **Family Devotions Require Hours of Preparation:**

Don't wait until you have all the crayons, glue sticks and cardboard cutouts ready to go before even starting. It is helpful to have some sort of plan for engaging your family in devotions on a regular basis. Yet you need to be careful not to over-program or over-prepare for family devotions. Be prepared and ready to engage in family devotions anytime and anywhere because God is at work at all times and in all situations.

◆ **You Have to Be a Biblical Scholar or Expert to Lead Family Devotions:**

God has given you what you need to lead family devotions. Trust Him. You also have two things going for you: First, chances are that no one in your household has ever participated in family devotions before, so they won't know if you're doing it right or wrong; second, there is no right or wrong way to have family devotions.

◆ **You Have to Stop Everything Else You Are Doing to Do Family Devotions**

Embed your devotions throughout your day. Sing songs about Jesus to your babies as you change their diapers. Squat down with your toddlers and observe how the ants in the yard have a job as helpers to get things done, just like the family of God. Develop a "family of God hug," with your preschoolers squished in the middle that any family member can call for at any time of day. Talk out loud to God conversationally around your young children as you go through the day so they can see what your relationship with God is like. Reminisce at night with your older children about how God was with them and took care of them in each of their activities throughout the day. Talk with your teens about current news items you see on TV and how people make choices based on what flows out of their hearts. Make devotions part of your life, not something disconnected from what you are already doing.



Devotions Defined

This review of myths leads to a definition for family devotions:

Family devotions are simply the way you bring Christ and Christ-like living into your daily lives as individuals and as a family. Devotions are about seeking God at all times, in all you do. Devotions are about living a wholly devoted life to God that is continually seeking, wrestling with and applying the truths of God's Word to your daily walk. The question is not "Are you ready to do family devotions?" The question is, "Are you ready, as a family, to be devotional at all times and in all places?" With that as your target, you are ready to further explore how to make family devotions a way of life rather than something you have to do once a week.

Mark Holmen, *Faith Begins @Home Devotions* (Regal From Gospel Light, 2010), 23-35

Deuteronomy 6: 1-2

Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the LORD your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children's children may fear the LORD your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long.

Last Fall, Pastor Shaw suggested that I read *Building Faith at Home*, by Mark Holmen. The first question I asked was, "Where was this book when I was raising my children?" This book speaks directly to the problem: Too many of us, parents and grandparents, have "outsourced" the spiritual growth of our children to the church, just as we have with sports, education, music lessons . . . and a Christ centered home has become less important in our busy lives.

I truly believe that the main reason our home was not as Christ centered as it could have been, was my fear that I lacked the knowledge and resources to "teach" my children and help them to grow spiritually. I conveniently left that up to the church. Boy, did I have it all wrong!

The information that Marc Holman and the Faith @Home Movement have to share is so appropriate for raising our children and creating a Christ centered home for them. I suggest you take some time and check out the resources that Faith @Home has to offer. I have several of the books in my office that I would be more than happy to share with you, and I have included the websites for both Faith @Home and the NEW Faith @Home Network site.

I hope you enjoy this information as much as I have.

Peace,

Theresa

www.faithathome.com

www.faithathomenetwork.com

Middle School Youth

Join us on July 7th at 7:00 PM in the Youth Room on the 3rd Floor. Let's get to know each other, eat some pizza and talk about the future of the Middle School Youth Ministry. We need your input!!

See you there!

The time is coming soon!

Back to school sales are coming in July and we need to fill **SCHOOL BAGS.**

Here is what we need . . .

Bags
Notebooks (70 page notebooks 3 in a bag)
Pencils (6 in each bag)
Pencil Sharpeners
Erasers
Colored Paper (12 sheets per bag)
Crayons Box of 8, 16 or 24 are okay
Rulers (12 inch length)
Scissors (Children's blunt scissors)



Watch for the ads for the best prices OR if you want us to shop for you. . . .

Please put cash or check donations in the offering plate, just make sure it is marked for **LWR School Kits**
If you would like to help, please call Joyce Farmer at 752-2200 or Cathy Mattson at 564-2101.

Thank you to all of you for helping children worldwide.

With heartfelt thanks to all of you at Emmanuel for making Bud's memorial service so special by showing your love, honor, respect and words of sympathy, kindness and all of your prayers.
Thank you to Pastor Daniel Shaw. Your sermon was very reassuring and comforting. Thank you also for all of your loving understanding and support.

Thank you to Jan Larson for being our great pianist. Thank you to Bill Farmer for your outstanding solos and speaking at the luncheon. Susan Nelson and Dick Elmquist, thank you for ushering. Judy Bebich, thank you for making all of the arrangements and the beautiful bulletin.

Thank you Linda Fuson for making sure the food was plentiful and delicious. To the fellowship committee and Jeremy we extend our heartfelt thanks for making the luncheon perfect. The audio was all in order and the tables in the Sand Memorial Center were all set up so nice.

God Bless each and every one of you.

Ann Heseltine and Family

Dear Pastor Shaw and Fellowship Group,

We all thank you so much for allowing us to honor Ray at your church. I know how much effort is involved and we really appreciate it. I love you all and miss you.

Love,

Jan, Robb, Darcy, Lara, Luke and Justine



This has been an incredible year! It seems like it was just yesterday that we kicked off the Sunday School year in September, with the introduction of the Rotation Model and the Godly Play curriculum. Both were met with excitement and enthusiasm by the leaders and the children.

It was so exciting to see the awe, wonder and excitement on the children's faces as we traveled through the stories of the Bible. The Calendar of the Church Year, Creation, The Holy Family, Advent, Holy Baptism, The Good Samaritan, Lent, and Easter were some of the lessons and stories we explored this year. With each story, we made new discoveries, strengthening our relationship with God.

The team of leaders that worked with the children this year were amazing. They remained faithful to their commitment to the children, and always flexible to the schedule as we worked through the kinks this year. Please take a minute to stop and thank each of the leaders for their commitment this past year. I know I could not have done it without them.

Grace and peace,

Theresa

*Train children in the right way, and
when old, they will not stray.*

Proverbs 22:6

TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

There's a time and a place that's special each week,
Where we're eager to learn of the Word that we seek.

The lessons are studied and scripture is read
But let us go back a few days, instead.
Your week is so busy and filled with "to do's"
Like everyone else not a minute to lose.
Your family, your business, work never ending
Your precious few moments you're ever still lending.

But you make the time to prepare for Sunday
When you know someone will listen to the words
that you say.

So with God's special guidance, with prayer and
with time

You prepare for each Sunday, the Word we can
find.

Thank you for giving us an hour each week
Knowing it is the Word of the Lord that we seek.
And today we are blessed and grow more each
day

Because you dedicate your love to the Lord in
this way.

We wouldn't have Sunday School if it weren't for
you.

So today we say thank you for all that you do.
-Dania Hann-Lachapelle

Thank You

Sunday School Leaders

Sharon Anderson

Anne Jacot

Sara and Russell Knight

Stacey Luhning

Amylynn McCoy

Stephanie Ramsay

Sherry Ryan

Caitlin Upshall

Confirmation Class Leaders

Tim Luhning

James McDougall

Stacy McDougall

Dutch Randall

HAPPENINGS

Education

Education 3 yrs.-High School

Sunday School and Confirmation Classes will resume September 11th. Watch for further information on Summer Activities!

Contact: Theresa Fitzgerald
253-752-3571
childrensministry@emmanuel-tacom.org

Worship and Music

Choirs for all ages.

All music groups are now on a summer schedule. Rehearsals will begin again in September.

If you are interested in doing special music, or in being a part of the worship band, please contact: Carmen VanSoest
752-3571
musicdirector@emmanuel-tacoma.org

Elizabeth Altar Guild

The Altar Guild assists in communion and the care/preparation of the worship area for Sundays and holidays. Meetings are monthly with the exception of July and August. Anyone is welcome to join us.

Contact: Lee Hunt 566-0125

Greeting/Reading/Ushers

Summer worship assistants needed.

5pm Saturday worship assistants

8:30am Sunday worship assistants

Contact: Susan Nelson 565-0340

Readers for all services

10:00am Sunday service ushers

Contact: Judy Bebich 752-3571

Judy_emmanuel-tacoma.org

Summer Worship Schedule

Saturday Worship 5:00pm

Sunday Worship 8:30 and 10:00am

Child Care Nursery

(Infant –3 year olds)

Available: Sundays for 10:00 Service

Outreach

Lutheran World Relief Quilting

We are on break until September 6th. Please come and join us then. Bring your lunch and come for a wonderful morning Meets 10:00am Tuesdays.

Contact: Barbara Kaup (253)460-0638

Knit Wits

We meet in the Fireside room Mondays from 7:00-9:00pm. If you like to work on a portable craft, or would like to learn, Knit Wits is for you! Instruction is always available. Everyone, including youth are welcome to join us anytime!

Contact Sherry Loseke 564-9399

Scouting

Emmanuel Lutheran's community outreach includes opportunities for boys and their families to participate in the Scouting program. Cub Scout Pack 219 meets on Thursdays and provides a program for parents to get involved with their boys of ages 6 to 10 years and help them develop skills and learn how to "do your best" while gaining recognition for their achievements. Older boys aged 11 to 18 are invited to experience the Boy Scouts at Troop 219 and join in an outdoor adventure while participating in a values based achievement program that encourages leadership development. Troop 219 meets Mondays at 7:00 pm. For further information regarding Emmanuel Lutheran's Scouting program Please contact Scott MacDonald at 761-0369

Girl Scout Brownies

Grades 2 -3. Friendship, fun and age appropriate activities. Earn try-It's and explore your community. We are on summer break until September but feel free to call for information. Wednesdays at 4:00pm.
Contact: Stacey Luhning 759-4806

Weddings

To schedule a wedding
Contact: Judy Bebich 752-3751
Judy_emmanuel-tacoma.org

Blood Drive

Give the gift of life. Emmanuel Lutheran blood drives are conducted by Cascade Regional Blood Services. Saturdays, 9:00 -11:30am, on September 10, 2011 and November 19, 2011.
Contact: Sharon Anderson
Duaneandsharon@ymail.com

Soup Group

We will not meet again until September. Please watch for information in the August Echoes for dates and times.
Contact: Nancy Holtz-Leave a message with the church office-752-3571

Boxes for the Troops

Emmanuel Lutheran is sending food and sundry items to U.S. troops stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Contact: Marcia Ellingson 564-1421
Or Paula Aplin 752-7108

ChinaConnect

Would you like to get off the beaten path and experience "the Other China" with ChinaConnect? There are many opportunities. Orphan care, English teaching and more. Contact: Rev. Steve Ray
sray@chinaconnectonline.org

Walking in the Word

Saturday Morning Adult Bible Study

We not meet again until September. Please watch the August Echoes for dates and times for the Fall.
Contact: Theresa Fitzgerald
253-752-3571; childrensministry@emmanuel-tacoma.org

Faith circle

Bible study meets the second Tuesday of each month. All women are welcome! 10:30 am, room 202
Contact: Cathy Mattson 564-2101
cathy_mattson@hotmail.com

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfasts are an opportunity to get together weekly to discuss current events, hear devotions and participate in a Bible study. Meet at 9:00am Wednesdays at Tower Lanes, 6323 6th Ave.
Contact: Pastor Shaw 752-3571

Echoes Deadline

The next publication of the Echoes will be late August. The deadline for information you want included, will be August 10, 2011.

God's Eternal Seeds

We need to keep on sowing
The seeds of Jesus Christ
Of hope, grace and mercy
Into our children's lives

For they need to know
God's love
And the hope there is in
Him
Of receiving eternal
salvation
And forgiveness of their
sins

For if we remain faithful
In the sowing of this seed
We will reap the rewards
of it
As we see them come to
believe

And be planted like a tree
Beside God's flowing river
So they will be continually
refreshed
And their leaves shall
never wither

Their fruit shall also be
Ready in its season
Freely given out to those
Whose lives they're sowing
seeds in

So as we keep on sowing
We shall surely reap
A bountiful harvest in their
lives
From God's eternal seeds

© By M.S.Lowndes

Emmanuel extends a warm welcome to our new Childcare Director, Jill Knoblauch!

Jill has acted as the Interim Director since January and proven to be an asset to Emmanuel Lutheran Church Childcare.

We are looking forward to working closely with Jill and the Childcare Center in the months ahead as we continue to build and strengthen this ministry.



News From Emmanuel Lutheran Church Childcare

First off I would like to say how excited and proud I am to have been chosen as the Director for Emmanuel Lutheran Church Childcare! The center has seen many great changes over the past months, and I am excited to watch it blossom and grow in the upcoming months.

Soccer Stars was a huge success! The children enjoyed an hour of supervised instruction in the game and enjoyed every minute of it. We will be offering this program in September. The librarian from the Tacoma Library continues to visit the children monthly for an hour of story time where she utilizes puppets, finger plays and flannel boards.

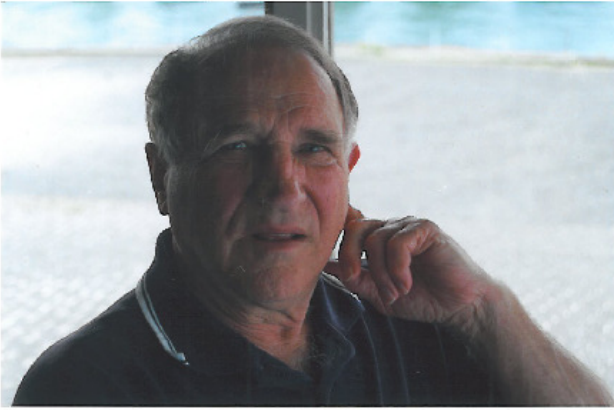
Summer official starts at Emmanuel Lutheran Church Childcare Center on June 15th, the last day of school for the Tacoma School District. We are looking forward to nicer weather and a trip to the Pt. Defiance Zoo. Watch for further details on this fieldtrip.

Happy Father's Day to All our Fathers!

Jill

Member Highlight

Jim Neese



Jim Neese, the father of two and grandfather to seven, has been a member of Emmanuel since 1971. Jim has served on the church council, the Mission Support Committee, the Budget Committee, the Youth Group Council and helped in the financial campaign for the Sand Memorial Center.

Jim was born and raised in Waco Texas and came to Washington in 1955 to live with his brother. He graduated from Moscow High School in 1957, where he earned a football scholarship to the University of Idaho. There he played both football and baseball while earning his degree in education.

Jim began his teaching career at Jason Lee Middle School where he continued to teach for 26 years. He spent the next 12 years teaching at Wilson High School and retired in 1998 but continues to substitute at Wilson to this day!



XYZ Club Reborn! (XYZ = Extra Years of Zest!)

Attention Adults 55+:

Would you like to have more fellowship and fun in your life? If that sounds like something you're interested in, please check out the calendar of events for Pt. Defiance-Ruston Senior Center, also known as Frank Tobey Jones. The June calendar is posted on the "What's Happening" bulletin board in the narthex and is packed full of activities from Quilting Club and Pinochle once a week to movies and lunch for a donation of only \$2.50! If you need transportation you can sign-up for a ride on the sign-up sheet also located in the narthex. Come join the fun!

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

May 17th, 2011

In the general fund we are +\$5,622.61 for the year. Accounts are paid bi-monthly and they are current. We are operating a very lean organization. Childcare continues to approximately break even for the year to date.

We are strongly considering hiring a visitation / support Pastor. This will be a part-time position. The council thinking is to hire a part-time visitation / support Pastor now; apply for an intern to begin in August 2012; ask the call committee to re-start the call process for an early 2013 second Pastor call.

- We will begin our new summer worship schedule of 8:30 and 10 am on June 5th. There will be fellowship activities this summer but there will not be an education hour with teaching or lecturing.
- There will be a once a month question and answer time after each service. This will be a time to answer questions and make comments about Emmanuel.
- The youth program focus has been modified to a bible studies based program.
- 214 were in attendance last weekend. We may need to re-allocate more money to music & worship.

There have been bible studies the first Saturday of every month. The last one will be June 4th. The education hour will also be suspended during the summer worship schedule and commence again on the Sunday after Labor Day.

The roof has been recently examined. There are no major issues. 75 tiles do need to be replaced. At some point the entire roof will need to be replaced. The resource committee will report back when they have agreement on a plan.

There was one Sand Center facility request approved for a family reunion for the Nyberg family. The Nyberg family was a founding member of Emmanuel.

- It was recommended by the search committee of Nancy Holtz, Pastor Shaw, Theresa Fitzgerald, and Amy Snell that Jill Knoblouch be hired as the childcare director. The vote was unanimous that Jill Knoblouch be hired as the childcare director.

Nancy Savage and Nancy Holtz have discussed the 100th anniversary celebration. It will be in August of 2013. A committee needs to be formed but it has not yet been done.

- It was requested we that start looking for leadership quality people in the congregation for 2012 officers and council positions. Submit your suggestions to the nominations committee. Please advise one of your council members if you or a friend are interested.

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, June 21st at 6 pm.

Loved Ones Remembered or Honored Through The Endowment Fund

Since our Endowment Fund was started in 1987 hundreds of gifts have been made to the Fund. These gifts were invested in our Endowment Fund. Many of these gifts were made "In Memory" or "In Honor" of loved ones. Annual grants are made from the fund for various charitable purposes. A large percent of the grant money is used to help hungry and homeless people in Pierce County. Other grants are made for seminary scholarships, academic scholarships, nursing scholarships, Salishan Mission, Lutheran World Relief, Lay School of Theology, Worship and Music and for Christian Education. If any of the names listed below need correction or if you would like to explore how to make a gift to the church In Memory or In Honor of a loved one contact one of our committee members: Mike Kapphahn, Donna Brown, Paul Robson, Lynne Rosellini and Mark Foege. The names of those loved ones remembered are listed below.

Anderson, Joe & Cora	Hagen, Norman	Meister, Lewis & Gladys
Archer, Max	Halvorson, Ruth	Mitchell, Ruth
Aughe, Jesse	Harville, Berdina	Mockel, Myrtle
BeMiller, Linda	Hauge, Chet	Nelson, Alf
Berg, Roberta	Heany, Archie & Olivia	Nelson, Arnold
Berg, William	Hoff, Irene	Nelson, Pearl
Berry, Ruth	Hoiland, Fred & Mary	Oak, Robert
Blix, Tryg & Pearl	Holmes, Alan & Margaret	Olson, Naomi Drage
Botten, Iver & Clara	Horst, Harry	Rousslang, Betty Jane
Cameron, Ray	Jacobosn, Milt	Sanders, Christina
Clark, Jack	Johnson, Gordon	Schultz, Alfred
Cratsenberg, Ruth	Kalinski, Emma	Schultz, Robert
Dixon, Rose	Kaplin, Robert	Schwind, Elsie
Doughty, Judd & Nancy	Kapphahn, Harold & Alice	Sherwood, Bill
Drage loved ones	Karna, Elaine	Smoke, Mabel
Drage, Matthew	Kotulan, Jerry	Stecker, Betty
Eberhardt, Dorothy	Krause, Gertrude	Stedje, Mary
Foege, Ann	Kutz, Grace	Stone, M/M Howard
Foege, Brock	Landis, Donald	Stromme, Arnold
Foege, Dick & Mary	Langren, Melvin	Strommen, Claire
Foege, William	Larson, Lucille	Tamsdell, Susan
Fortney, Elaine	Lockert, Ralph	Taylor, R. Marjorie
Galbarath, Naomi	Lueckenotte, Frieda	Teyler, M/M Ted
Garrison, Mina	Lund, Odd	Thompson, M/M Erling
Gehrke, Ann	Lundstrom, Hildegard	Thornley, Bill
Gehrke, June	Madson, A.H.	Torre, Juanita
Gerstmann, Al & Gladys	Mariani, Antone	Vaswig, Vernon
Greer, Vernon	Marshall, Archie	
Guenther, Carl	Martin, Larry & Audrey	
Hagen, Arne Leif	Meininger, Elsie	

Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life. 1 Timothy 6:17-19

GENERAL FUND

FINANCIAL REPORT

for

APRIL 2011

General Fund Beginning Balance-April 1, 2011	(7,606.86)
<u>Income:</u>	
February offerings and donations	38,694.97
Overhead reimbursements from Childcare	5,500.00
Reimbursements/adjustments to general fund	1165.28
Internal transfer/Revolving fund	0
Total receipts	45,360.25
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Mission & Benevolence	6,472.28
Internal Transfer Out	0
Salaries	16,255.32
Payroll expenses	6,397.13
Administrative expenses	0
Operating expenses	13,730.98
Operating supplies	0
Special programs	0
Mortgage subsidy	0
Total expenditures	42,855.71
General Fund Ending Balance-April 30, 2011	(2,545.34)

Emmanuel Lutheran Staff

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dshaw@emmanuel-tacoma.org

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