

Emmanuel Lutheran Church



ECHOES

A Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume 47, Issue 12

1315 North Stevens, Tacoma, WA 98406

December 2008

Inside this issue:



From the Pastor's Desk	1
Advent Services/Advent Music/Children's Christmas Programs	2
Christmas Worship Schedule	3
Living Cross	4
Giving and the end of 2008	5
Another Forever Gift	6
China Service Ventures	7
We Need Teachers in China	8
Church Council Minutes	9
Office Contact Information/Website	14
Change of Address/Echoes Deadline	15
Adult Forum/Confirmation/Men's Breakfast	16
Lay School of Theology	17
Thank you to	18
Sympathy/In the Hospital/Congratulations	19
Parish Records	20
In the Mailbag	21
Library Corner/Silent Heroes/Food Baskets	23
Faith Circle/Martha Circle/Altar Guild/ Knit Wits	24
Childcare News	25
Soup Group/Holiday/Office Volunteers	26
Lutheran World Relief	27
Worship Assistants	28
NW Flute Winter Concert	—
The History of the 12 Days of Christmas	—
Puzzle	—
Monthly Calendar	—

From the Pastor's Desk

THE CHRISTMAS GIFT: RECOVERING THE DIGNITY OF THE IMAGE OF GOD

"In the Incarnation the whole human race recovered the dignity of the image of God", Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote in *The Cost of Discipleship*.

The whole human race was created in God's image, but as a result of our sin and rebellion, the image was significantly tarnished. In fact, God's image was almost totally obscured from view. But then God acted decisively and the dignity of his image was recovered by all of humanity.

God's action, by which he himself entered our world as one of us in the man Jesus, always catches us by surprise. Why doesn't he choose a different and safer method to save the world? When you possess all the power in the universe, why come into the world as a vulnerable infant? Why not remain safely in heaven and just establish an abstract religion that could produce lots of human pondering on difficult ideas by which they can solve the infinite puzzle?

It is because our God isn't into establishing a religion. He is into people. He loves people. He loves you and he loves me. That is why he became one of us. He hides himself in our world in Jesus Christ and does it in such a manner that we don't recognize him as a God-man. Bonhoeffer writes: "He goes incognito, as a beggar among beggars, as an outcast among outcasts, as despairing among the despairing, as dying among the dying". Though sinless, he insists on making his appearance as a sinner among sinners.

Christianity isn't a religion. Christianity is Jesus Christ. He is the very content of God's redemptive actions. Christmas is not the celebration of a new religion. Christmas is the celebration of Jesus who has entered our world in order to save it. Christmas is the announcement that God's love for us is not simply a concept or idea. Christmas is the announcement of God's love which has arrived in our midst clothed in our humanity. He has chosen to be one of us, which means he also has to face the reality that his future, like ours will include death.

Christmas is the event by which God boldly announces that humanity has great worth. Christmas is that event by which God boldly announces that **YOU** have great worth. "In the Incarnation the whole human race recovered the dignity of the image of God". What an amazing feat, accomplished by God alone without any help from us. No wonder we celebrate Christmas. No wonder we rejoice in the birth of the Child of Bethlehem.

Merry Christmas,

Pastor Dick Foege



ADVENT MID-WEEK SERVICES

During this season of Advent, as we prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of the Christ-child, we invite you to join us for our 30-minute mid-week Advent worship. The services will be on **Wednesday** evenings, **7:30-8:00 pm**, in the sanctuary. Our themes will be:

December 3 – **PEACE**

“ 10 – **HOPE**

“ 17 – **JOY**

Don't miss this mid-week pause for spiritual refreshment during the Advent season

ADVENT MUSIC FESTIVAL

On **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7**, Emmanuel will have its annual **ADVENT MUSIC FESTIVAL**, at **9:00 and 11:00 am**, in the Sand Memorial Center. Worship services with Holy Communion will be held at 5:00 pm on Saturday, and at 8:00 am on Sunday, in the sanctuary. Our annual **ADVENT MUSIC FESTIVAL** features all of Emmanuel's choirs and provides an inspiring preparation for Christmas. Join us!



TWO CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS



Members and friends of the congregation are invited to share in the joy of two children's Christmas programs.

They will be:

EMMANUEL CHILDCARE PROGRAM -
Saturday, December 6 – 11:00 am
EMMANUEL SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM –
Sunday, December 14 – 12:15 pm

The children always provide a delightful telling of the Christmas story. Please join us for these special programs.

Come Join Us for Christmas at Emmanuel

Wednesday, December 24 - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

4:00 P.M. - Sand Memorial Center

5:30 P.M. - Sanctuary

9:30 P.M. - Sand Memorial Center

11:00 P.M. - Sanctuary

The Living Cross at all Christmas Eve services

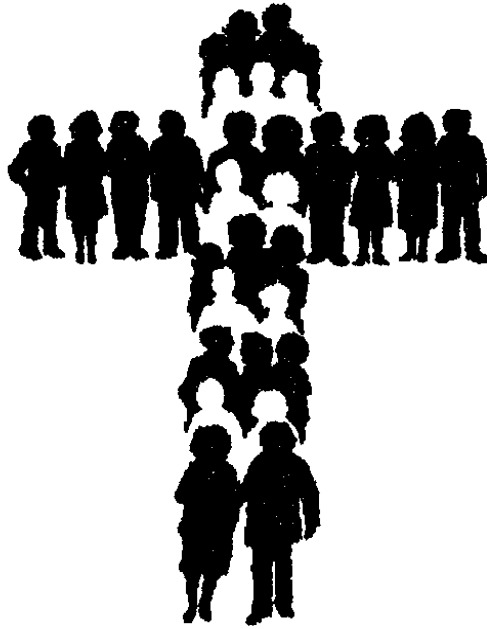
Thursday, December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 A.M. - Worship with Holy Communion - Sanctuary



This is December, which means Christmas... which means...

THE LIVING CROSS!



Youth from the 6th grade and up will once again be assembling the Living Cross at all 4 of the Christmas Eve Services, (4:00, 5:30, 9:30 and 11:00 P.M.). Just like last year, two services will be held in the Sand Memorial Center, and two services will be held in the Sanctuary.

The Living Cross sign-up starts now. All youth grades 6-12 are encouraged to participate in offering this gift to the congregation. A sign-up sheet is available on the Youth Director's door.

GIVING
AND
THE END OF 2008

As we enter the last month of the year, we are mindful of the current financial status of the congregation's general fund.

On November 1st, (the last date for which we have a financial report), our 2008 General Fund deficit was **\$8,774.95**. In addition to that we still have a General Fund debt for 2006 and 2007, of **\$25,796.49**.

It is still possible for us to make up this lost ground by December 31. God has given us the resources! Will he also give us the needed generous hearts?

It would be great if we could begin 2009 debt-free!

Thank you for every gift you share for the sake of Emmanuel's ministry. And thank you for your attention to our current needs.

JUST A REMINDER! If you desire 2008 credit for your offerings, they must be post-marked, or received by the church office, prior to midnight on December 31. (the IRS made this rule, not us).

Another "Forever" Gift

Recently our congregation was blessed again by the memory of Audrey and Larry Martin. At a Sunday morning service the Martin children: Chris Martin Agnew, Gail Stewart and Rusty Martin presented a new memorial gift to our Endowment Fund Committee in the amount of \$25,000.

About twenty years ago I called Larry and Audrey and asked if I could meet with them in their home to tell them about the new Emmanuel Endowment Fund that was forming. Of course they welcomed me and we met. They became Charter Members.

I asked them to consider what charitable need they would like to support after they passed away and they didn't have to think very long. They promptly decided that they would like to establish an endowment fund that would provide yearly scholarships to needy student nurses. As you may recall Audrey was the Director of Nurses Training at Bates Vocational School for many years. She saw the need for this kind of financial aid on a daily basis.

Shortly after our visit they met with an attorney and prepared a will. It included a gift provision naming the Emmanuel Endowment Fund to provide ongoing, annual funding for nursing scholarships. The fund was called "The Audrey and Larry Martin Nursing Scholarship Fund."

Our congregation suffered a great loss when Audrey passed away on March 19, 2005. Many generous memorial gifts were made to the Fund in memory of Audrey. Those gifts, plus others from the Martin family provided an endowment fund exceeding \$27,000. Since that time two scholarships have been awarded each year for a total of six scholarships to date.

Last year we were saddened to learn about Larry's passing on September 14, 2007. Recently Larry's family informed our Endowment Fund Committee that they wished to add another \$25,000 to the scholarship fund. What a blessing this will be! Now there will be over \$50,000 in the fund.

This past year I sat in our sanctuary and visited with two recent scholarship recipients. All three of us were brought to tears as they expressed how grateful they were for this financial aid. They said they only wish they could have known Audrey. They commented on how wonderful it is that she is still giving to others, even after her death. After this new gift there will be four nursing scholarships awarded each year. The gifts from this endowment will be ongoing. Only a small portion of the fund is distributed each year.

Since our Endowment Fund began over twenty years ago there have been more than 1,200 gifts made In Memory or In Honor Of loved ones. Counting the new Martin gift \$365,055 in cash gifts have been made and we will have made \$112,086 in total grants since the fund was established.

Following Audrey's passing an article appeared in the Echoes. It contained a Bible verse which we felt represented Audrey's life of Christian service. It is from James 1:22. It reads in part: "Prove yourself doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves." Audrey and Larry were certainly hearers and doers of the word.

Jim Sparks, Endowment Fund Committee member

100 Words from China Service Ventures

Hundreds of Thousands on Christmas Eve!

It was the oddest thing I'd ever seen at a Christmas Eve service. Some people were walking in off the street "ooh-ing and aah-ing" at the bright decorative lights, sitting for a few moments, listening to the sermon, singing a hymn, and then getting up to leave. It was a constant stream of people sitting down, getting up - coming in, going out.

This is the scene at Chinese Christmas Eve services in Taiwan and China. People have been invited by Christian friends to attend worship because of the special attention given to the birth of the world's Savior, and the emphasis of the light overcoming darkness. The lights that adorn Chinese churches are spectacular.

As pastors, evangelists, and co-workers ready their churches and their Christmas sermons for hundreds of thousands of first-time worshippers, pray with China Service Ventures that these new visitors will experience the Light of Christ in their lives. Who knows how the prayers for first-time worshippers will be answered! Continue to pray that Christian brothers and sisters will be welcoming ambassadors of Jesus Christ. Pray that God will touch and bless the lives of all those who worship the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Faithfully,

Steven F. Ray, Developer
CSV Relations
1.877.408.7056
steverayCSV@aol.com
www.newsoundsinchina.org
CSV is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 Charitable Organization
and an affirmed partner with the ELCA
"God's Work, Our Hands"





中美服务促进会
China Service Ventures

WE NEED TEACHERS

2009 Summer English Language Training Program

July 5-August 3

Where?

Henan Province, China

Who is Eligible?

Trained Teachers & Volunteers

(mature post-high school students are also invited)

Who Will You Teach?

Chinese English Teachers, Nurses, and Students

Costs?

Approximately \$900.00

Post-Teaching Excursion?

Xi'an & Yangtze River (add 7 days)

Costs: approximately \$700.00

For more information & an application

Please contact:

Steven Ray, Director of CSV Relationships

1.877.408.7056 or 253.851.7643

steverayCSV@aol.com

All costs, except for sightseeing, are tax deductible

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

8	President.....Bob Mattson Vice President.....Angela McDougall Finance.....Dave Andersen Secretary.....Nancy Savage Education.....Jim Ellingson	Resource..... Roger Ahrens Outreach.....Laurie Moren Worship & Music.....Russ Holtz Fellowship.....Maylin Clark
---	---	--



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 COUNCIL MINUTES
 October 28, 2008
 6:04 PM – 8:30 PM

COUNCIL ATTENDEES: Bob Mattson, President; Jim Ellingson, Education Liaison; Angela McDougall, Vice President; Laurie Moren, Outreach Liaison; Russ Holtz, Worship & Music; Nancy Savage, Secretary; Roger Ahrens, Resource Committee Liaison; Maylin Clark, Fellowship; Dave Andersen, Finance; Pastor Foege

COUNCIL ABSENT: Diane Wasalino, Past Council President

Devotions: Dave Andersen (Pastor Foege, in Dave's absence at the beginning of the meeting – Psalm 46)

Prayer: Pastor Foege

Guests: Katy Patjens

Minutes for September 23, 2008 – Jim moved for approval; Angela seconded. **Approved**

Due to Budget presentation committee reports should be brief:

- 1 **Angela** – Childcare is still going strong; evaluating financial management options.
- 2 **Jim** – Education – Adult Education Committee accepted the resignation of Winnie Kildahl; they are looking for additional members. Sunday School is making plans for Christmas program.
- 3 **Roger** – Resource – □♦The white and gray vans have been serviced. The white van is out of warranty now. The gray van will need some transmission work done fairly soon – it runs well at this time, estimated to be about \$200.00. ♦The compressor went out on the far side of the Narthex – Air Systems reviewed and determined that we need a new one. To have it available to replace prior to the Congregational meeting, there would be an additional charge for shipping. \$3560.00 for the replacement and shipping (Trane compressor for the air conditioning). Motion made to approve by **Angela**, seconded by **Maylin**; **Approved** to go forward with the replacement and shipping to have installed prior to the Congregational meeting.
- 4 **Laurie** – Outreach – Youth did the Peace Lutheran dinner. It was very successful and they loved doing it and want to make it an annual Youth commitment. The Halloween dinner should have had better attendance – more promotion will be done next year.
- 5 **Maylin** – Fellowship – Request still stands for more volunteers to come forward.
- 6 **Russ** – Worship and Music – No meeting was held due to the Chair being out of town.
- 7 **Russ** presented the Nominating Committee Report in the absence of Nancy Holtz. The listing is attached. Motion to approve: **Angela**, seconded by **Russ** – **Approved**.

Pastor Foege – Need to promote the 8:00 service. Information was shared regarding comments made during discussion at the Council Town hall about consolidating services so the congregation could get to know each other. Response “Congregations are divided into to two groups, those who worship and those who don’t worship. Those who don’t worship are the ones we’d better start addressing.”

9 **Laurie** –Youth Director Search Committee – They are still looking. They have had two interviews, but want to continue to look. The want to have more applicants to get a better idea of available candidates.

10 **Bob** – Call Committee – they are trying to wrap-up the congregation profile for submission to the Synod Office.

11 **Katy Patjens** – 2009 Draft Budget – A detailed presentation for the process and the figures was presented. All questions were responded to and the input from the open hearings and congregation input was reported on. **Angela** made motion to approve the budget as presented with the shift of funds to a corrected line item, seconded, **Russ – Approved.**

12 Discussion followed regarding the Annual meeting agenda sequence and presentation order.

13 **Bob** – Report of the e-mail vote by Council to sell the Blue van, a vote of 7 to sell, one – no response; President does not have a vote. Blue Book values indicates setting a minimum of \$1500 bid. The process will close at the end of the annual meeting, (bids written at the office, silent auction at the dinner and on Craig’s list.) Designation of the funds will be at the Annual meeting. Council’s recommendation to put proceeds to the deficit.

14 **Dave** – Finance –End of September we are still \$8800 to the negative. We are still running at a current month-to-month deficit, net general fund to the operating expenses. The final ‘severance package’ payment has been made and ‘cleared’. The Labor and Industries audit has been completed, exit interview and report – we were assessed \$419.88. (Reporting adjustment and \$90. penalty.)

Dave presented a resolution prepared by Mary Mobley. **Nancy** took exception to the language of ‘using their full legal name’ recommended the language be in compliance with Federal reporting requirements which require the payroll name to be consistent with that filed with the Social Security Administration – motion made by **Dave** to have a ‘continuing resolution, subject to the clarification regarding ‘employee’ name; seconded by **Angela – Approved.**

15 **Bob** – review of the items inadvertently left on the final page of the 05/24/2005 approved Child Protection Policy. **Angela’s** recommendations/motion: ♦1) paragraph one page 9 - remove the “[QUESTION FOR COUNCIL]”; ♦2) delete the “[PRESS RELEASE? QUESTION FOR COUNCIL]”; ♦3) amend the first sentence to read: ‘Any contact with the media should be handled by a designated spokesperson(s), the Pastor or the President of the Congregation.’ Motion seconded by **Laurie. Approved**

16 Discussion regarding Administrative Policies; following review there were no changes needed to be made.

17 **Bob** – 403b IRS changes requiring the employer to sign the documents. Discussion – the Church does not have a Section 125 Plan filed with IRS. Bob will contact Thrivent regarding the 403b plan implications. **Tabled**

18 **Bob** – Facilities use requests: ♦St Marks Lutheran Church requesting the Sand Center for a Samalie Kid tutor program – once or twice a month, 6pm to 8pm Tuesdays – duration not specified – **Angela** will do some further clarification regarding the ages of the children, the duration. ♦Boy Scouts troop request for annual banquet April 18th, 2009 – in the Sand Center, 9am to 9pm-**Approved** ♦ CSV banquet Friday February 20th, 2009, Sand Center, 6:30-8:30pm-**Approved** ♦Suzuki Violin group Sunday November 16th, 2-4pm-Sanctuary-**Approved** ♦North End Flute Collegium Concert 3pm– Sunday December 14th, Sanctuary and Room 200, 2pm – 5pm -**Approved**

19 **Pastor** reported that this All Saints Sunday a family will be presenting a gift to endowment fund; the following Sunday Luther Seminary will be presenting a special presentation gift to Emmanuel; the Finance Committee agreed to have the 2008 Mission & Benevolence designated be made available to present in-turn.

Requesting action by the Council – to approve John and Tracy Clark for the 2009 LWR Study Tour to Columbia and authorize the \$800.00 down payment required to be taken from this year’s budget due to the required filing time. Motion made by **Nancy,,** seconded by **Angela- Approved**

20 **Dave** – will work with the Finance Committee regarding the ‘ten points’ approve by the October-2008 meeting.

21 **Bob** indicated that any of the filing cabinets that cannot be put to functional use, they be put up for the silent auction too.

Adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

Next meeting: November 25th, 2008 – 6:00 pm

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
Annual Meeting
November 9th, 2008
12:15 pm – 12:52 pm

COUNCIL ATTENDEES: Bob Mattson, President; Angela McDougall, Vice President; Maylin Clark, Fellowship; Jim Ellingson, Education Liaison; Laurie Moren, Outreach Liaison; Roger Ahrens, Resource Committee Liaison; Russ Holtz, Worship & Music Liaison; Nancy Savage, Secretary; (Diane Wasalino, Past President)

COUNCIL ABSENT:

Dave Andersen, Finance Chair

1 Bob call the meeting to order.

2 Pastor Foege gave an opening prayer.

3 Bob identified Carlene Garner as the Parliamentarian.

4 First order of business – Election of Officers. Bob read the slate of the candidates as presented by the Nominating Committee and had them stand to be identified.

5 Three calls for nominations from the floor were announced by Bob. No nominations from the floor were presented.

6 Elvine Carman made the motion to accept the nominating committee's slate, seconded by Darron Nelson. The vote was a unanimous ballot of acceptance. (Nominations attached.)

7 Katy Patjens, Chair of the Budget/Staff Evaluation Committee called upon to present the 2009 Council approved budget. Items specifically brought to attention, lines number 12, 57, 132, 135, and 145. The next item for clarification, the approach for two Mission and Benevolence opportunities. There were no questions brought forward by the congregation.

8 Bob gave an overview of the Council's request for the Budget Committee to present multiple M & B percentages. He identified that the 10% presented in 2008 was an emergency measure. Bob indicated that prior to a vote of a budget; the percentage for M & B had to be determined.

9 Angela McDougall made a motion to accept M & B at the 15% level budget, seconded by Susan Nelson. Comments were made by Darron Nelson, Phyllis Kaiser, Marna Clark Mary Jane Haemig – concern on the current financial picture. Mary Jane Haemig, don't think of just a percentage, but who Emmanuel is as a congregation that cares. The vote was done by a raise of hands; motion did not receive a passing vote.

10 Dutch Randall made a motion to accept M & B and 2009 budget at the 12% level, seconded by Darron Nelson. No discussion by the congregation. By a raise of hands, the motion passed unanimously.

11 Next order of business presented by Bob; the disposition of the proceeds from the sale of the two vehicles (church blue van, driven less than 1,000 miles in the past year, and the donated pick-up truck). Dale Wirsing moved to use the proceeds to reduce the past general fund deficit, seconded by Pat Gessler. Approved by the congregation.

12 Next point of business – What to do with any excess funds of 2008.

First recommendation presented by Nancy Savage, previous deficits and then fix the roof, seconded by Elvine Carman. The vote was negative.

No other motion was presented.

13 Next point of business – Extending a Letter of Call to Pastor Ray for the year 2009. Motion was made by Elvine Carman, seconded by Katy Patjens. Motion approved.

14 Old business:

The Youth Group still has pies for sale.

The Huskies are ahead in the Touchdown for Food - Apple Cup.

15 Call for New Business – none presented.

16 Elvine Carman stated the congregation should thank the Council for a Job well done. Motion to adjourn, seconded by Angela. Approved.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Nov. 25, 2008

The Pastoral Call Committee reported that the Congregational Profile has been submitted to the Synod. This step will qualify Emmanuel to receive names of candidates from the Synod office.

Laurie Moren has been selected as our new Youth Director. She will begin in the position on Jan. 1, 2009.

Due to the regularly scheduled Council meeting being too close to Christmas Eve, the last Council meeting for the year has been moved to Monday, Dec 22nd at 6 p.m.

Seven new members joined the Church in November. The current class of "What Lutherans Believe" will also have a graduating class in December.

IRS is making a change in the employee "retirement" plans. It is requiring that the employer be involved in 5 functions to qualify to participate in a 403b program. Discussion concluded that further options need to be explored.

It has come to the attention of the Council that the membership rolls have not been validated since 2003. Usually this validation process is an annual activity. Pastor Foege, the Financial Secretary and the Board of Elders are currently reviewing the status of members. The final results will be published in the 2008 Annual Report.

The Sunday School Christmas program will be Sunday, December 14th, time to be announced.

Reminder!

Attention: All committee chairpersons and those charged with the primary responsibility for congregational programs and organizations, are reminded that **annual reports are due in the church office no later than Friday, January 9th at 5:00 P.M.**

If at all possible we are asking that you e-mail your reports or download them on a floppy disk and drop them off in the church office by the due date. Thank you!

NOTE:

You can email your reports to either of the following addresses:

judy_emmanuel22@hotmail.com

Office@emmanuel-tacoma.org

2009 Elected Officers & Committees

President

ANGELA MCDOUGALL

Vice-President

DR. DAN COOK

Secretary

NANCY SAVAGE

Council Member (1)

DENNIS DALE

Council Member (2)

RUSS HOLTZ

Council Member (3)

ROGER AHRENS

Council Member (4)

MAYLIN CLARK

Council Member (5)

JOAN KAPLIN

Board of Elders Chairperson

LAMAR HUGHES

Endowment Committee Member

LYNN ROSELLINI

JIM SPARKS

Financial Secretary

MARNA CLARK

Assistant Financial Secretaries

5:00 PM Service

HELEN FULGHUM

GERT LANDIS

NORMA LYSLO

8:00 AM Service

MIKE GAGE

JUDY GAGE

RUSS HOLTZ

9:00 AM Service

DENNIS DALE

11:00 AM Service

KELLY FORS

JIM MCDOUGALL

Substitutes

ALDYTH CAMERON

LEE HUNT

DEBBIE OLSON

SHERRY RYAN

2008 Nominating Committee

ALAN APLIN

NANCY HOLTZ

BOB MATTSO

SUSAN NELSON

DIANE WASALINO

JIM ELLINGSON





WE HAVE A WEBSITE!
CHECK US OUT AT:
www.emmanuel-tacoma.org

ECHOES newsletter is now available on the website!

Contact Information

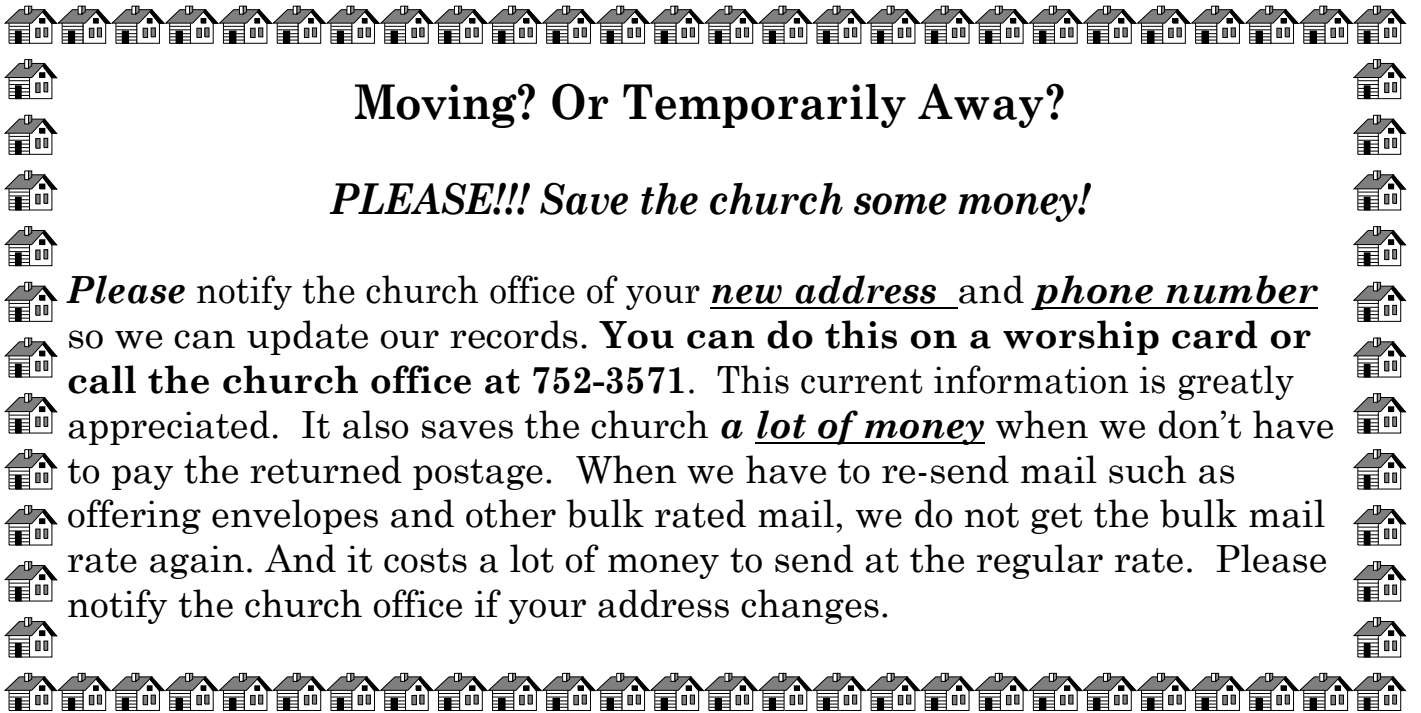
Church Office.....752-3571
 Emergency Phone Number253-318-5006
 Rev. Richard Foege, Pastor.....Ext. 12
 Mary Mobley, Administrative Secretary/Bookkeeper/Wedding Coordinator.. Ext. 11
 Mary Foege, Director of Music.....Ext. 14
 Judy Bebich, Program Coordinator/Secretary.....Ext. 15
 Wendy Hrvatin, Childcare Director.....752-1195
 Office Fax Number..... 752-6078

E-mail Addresses

Steven Ray, Outreach Pastor.....steveraycsv@aol.com
 Administrative Secretary.....office@emmanuel-tacoma.org
 Program Coordinator.....progco@emmanuel-tacoma.org
 Sunday School..... sundayschool@emmanuel-tacoma.org
 Youth Director.....youthgroup@emmanuel-tacoma.org
 Emmanuel Lutheran Childcare Center.....emmanuelutheranccc@yahoo.com

Web Sites

Emmanuel's Web Site.....www.emmanuel-tacoma.org
 Southwest WA Synod Web Site.....http://www.lutheranssw.org



Moving? Or Temporarily Away?

PLEASE!!! Save the church some money!

Please notify the church office of your ***new address*** and ***phone number*** so we can update our records. **You can do this on a worship card or call the church office at 752-3571.** This current information is greatly appreciated. It also saves the church ***a lot of money*** when we don't have to pay the returned postage. When we have to re-send mail such as offering envelopes and other bulk rated mail, we do not get the bulk mail rate again. And it costs a lot of money to send at the regular rate. Please notify the church office if your address changes.

ATTENTION!!! DEADLINE: JANUARY 2009 ECHOES DECEMBER 15TH

Please note that all January 2009 ECHOES articles are due in the church office on ***Monday, December 15th.*** If your article is not received by that time, it will ***not*** be published in the upcoming issue. In order for members to receive the ECHOES by the first of each month, you must have all of your information by the due date. You may e-mail your articles and information to Judy in the church office at either of the following addresses.

Judy_emmanuel22@hotmail.com

Progco@emmanuel-tacoma.org

FYI....If you want to know the availability of a room or have an event scheduled on the calendar, or have some information to put in the ECHOES newsletter or the weekly bulletins, please call or e-mail ***Judy Bebich*** (progco@emmanuel-tacoma.org). If you want information on weddings or have financial questions, please call or e-mail ***Mary Mobley*** (office@emmanuel-tacoma.org). If they are not available please leave a message at the front desk and your call will be returned promptly.

ADULT FORUM



**Sunday mornings during the Education Hour
10:00 AM. In Room 200**

- Dec. 7 China Service Ventures, *Pastor Steve Ray*
- Dec. 14 *Prof. Mary Jane Haemig*, "Advent"
- Dec. 21 "A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus," recorded lecture by New Testament scholar *Kenneth Bailey*.
- Dec. 28 To be announced.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

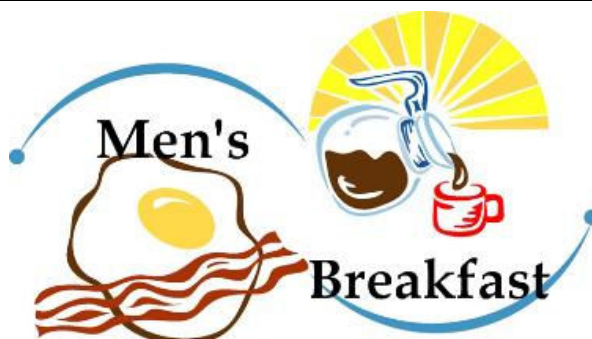
The Wednesday Bible study will continue to be taught by *Pastor Al Gerstmann* on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 A.M. in Room 200.

The Sunday Adult Bible study will continue to be taught by *Pastor Dick Brandt, ret.* on Sunday mornings at 10:00 A.M. during the Education Hour in the Fireside Room.

Attention 7th and 8th graders!

CONFIRMATION CLASS: THE CHURCH MINISTERS TO SOCIETY

During the Christmas holidays, 7th and 8th grade students will have the opportunity to complete one Confirmation course in just two days. The course "THE CHURCH MINISTERS TO SOCIETY", will take place on **Monday and Tuesday, December 29-30**. Please be sure to bring a sack lunch both days, as the class will meet **9:30 am-3:00 pm**. Also, be sure to have a permission slip (available in the church office) signed by a parent or guardian, since we will be going by van to visit several sites in Tacoma and Seattle. (This course has also been called the **MISSIONS** class).



Join us every Monday morning at 9:00 A.M. and enter the week fed with God's word and a hearty breakfast. You won't want to miss this refreshing start to your week.

Everyone is welcome!

Looking Ahead!!!

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH LAY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY INVITES YOU TO
IT'S NEXT TWO COURSES

CHRISTIAN ICONOGRAPHY

BY: DR. CAROLINE T. SWOPE

Instructor of Art and Architectural History at Seattle Central Community College

4 Thursdays (January 8,15,22, & 29, 2009)

7:00 P.M

in Room 200



JOURNEY TO CALVARY

IN THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE

BY: DR. JAMES L. BOYCE

New Testament Professor Emeritus, Luther Seminary

TUESDAY through FRIDAY (February 17-20, 2009)

10:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.

The cost for each course is \$15.00 and pre-registration is not required. If you have any questions, please contact the Emmanuel Lutheran Church at 253-752-3571.

Come join us and Bring a friend!



TO:

DORIS ANDERSON, GLORIAN DELORME, JOYCE FARMER, MARGE GUTHRIE, MARY ELLEN GLOCKNER, ANITA IDE, VERNA JONES, GLORIA LINDSTROM, NORMA LYSLO, GAIL MARKHAM, SHARON MARTIN, JO NICHOLS, MYRNA SPARKS, and JAN WALTIER, for all of their wonderful help in the church office.

COLLEEN DOCKERY and NANCY SAVAGE, for all the work they do taking charge of the *Lay School of Theology* class registration.

VERDA JACOBSON, for all the work she does with all the church mailings.

ALL OF THE VOLUNTEERS, who help with extra projects in the church office.

LINDA FUSON, for all her hard work setting up the volunteer schedule and calling for readers each month.

ALL THE VOLUNTEERS WHO SERVE AS LAY LEADERS, LAY READERS AND WORSHIP ASSISTANTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. You are very much appreciated.

LINDA FUSON, PAT GESSLER, GLORIA LINDSTROM, DEAN MELLOR, CONNIE SCUSSELLE, JOEL STUMPH, JAN WALTIER and anyone else who has brought treats to the church office. They are always appreciated and welcome.

MARNA CLARK and THE COUNTERS, for all their dedicated time and service.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS, ELIZABETH ALTAR GUILD, AND ALL OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEES. Your continued and dedicated service is very much appreciated.

THE FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE, especially **GAIL MARKHAM, CAROL OAK** and **MIM RITTER**, who are always there to set-up and clean-up following all of Emmanuel' events. Also to **LINDA FUSON** who does all the food preparation. **Thank you all so very much.**

VOLUNTEER VAN DRIVERS, who make it possible for ones that cannot drive to come to worship services.

EMMANUEL'S CHOIRS and MUSIC STAFF, for all the beautiful music they provide for our worship services throughout the year.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO EMMANUEL'S INSIDE WORK PARTY—JAMES BRYAN, MIKE GAGE, EILEEN HUDAK, CHUCK HUNT, LEE HUNT, STAN LARSON, BOB MATTSON, JENNIFER MELLUM, NANCY SAVAGE & JOEL STUMPH, who helped with the clean-up at the church on Friday, November 28th. Great Job!



With Sincere Sympathy

Emmanuel Lutheran congregation extends it's heartfelt Christian sympathy to:

Verna Jones and family on the recent passing of her sister.

Bob & Sharon Langren and family on the recent loss of their uncle.



Marilyn Crowe

Harold Harris

Jim Neese

Jack Sonntag

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Marion Brager, on the recent celebration of her 90th birthday, with a special dinner with her family at Anthony's restaurant. (She is now a resident at Kings Manor).

Jeff King, who as a football player at Bellarmine Prep was chosen for the all-league first team.



PARISH RECORDS

New Members

11/23/08

By Confirmation Melissa Gage
Tyler Graff
Bruce Jacot

By Re-affirmation Anne Jacot
*Ben Jacot
*Katie Jacot

By Transfer Ila Jean Gerry

Funerals

10/20/08 Richard (Rick) Meyer

11/16/08 Harvey Higgins

Transfers Out

11/03/08 Andy and Liz Comstock family Transferred to St. Marks

Chris and Rhonda Patrick family Transferred to St. Marks

11/13/08 John and Penny Christiansen Family Transferred to St. Marks

11/17/08 Paul and Cindy Morris Transferred to First Lutheran



From the family and relatives of Richard Meyer,

Dear Pastor Foege and Pastor Brandt;

Thank you so much for your prayers, your support and your visits to Rick throughout his illness. Richard thought very highly of both of you and found great comfort in your presence. Thank you for your kindness and help to our family during Richard's final illness and for his beautiful memorial service.

Thanks also to the members of the Fellowship Committee;

You did an outstanding job of taking care of the reception following the service. It is such comfort not to have to worry about food (wonderful food, by the way), setting up chairs and tables for family and friends to gather around, or the cleanup after. Thank you so much for your willingness to do this service.

To Elvine Carman and Patty Shaver;

Thank you for ushering at Richard's service. It was wonderful gesture of kindness. Rick would have been pleased you did that for him.

To the members of Emmanuel;

Thank you to all the members of Emmanuel. Richard loved Emmanuel Lutheran Church because of you. You filled a great void in his life and he was forever grateful for your help, your prayers, your comfort and the friendship you so freely gave.

May God Richly Bless All of You

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$522.00 to the Food Connection. Your gift will touch many lives. We provide food to an average of 3,000 families each month, and more than half of the people receiving support are children and seniors.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,
Kevin Glackin-Coley
Director



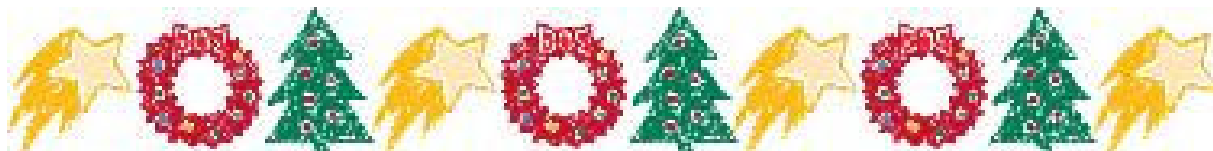
Dear Emmanuel Lutheran Church Friends,

Thank you for your gift in support of the mission of Luther Seminary! We are grateful for your partnership and promise to be wise stewards of this gift. It will help educate strong, missional leaders for the church.

Thank you for walking with us in this important ministry. Through your prayers and support you are helping to shape the future of the church. Please continue to lift up our students, faculty and staff in your prayers as together we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

Louise P Everson



Dear Friends,

Thanks to your support we have been able to provide enough nutritious food for a growing number of individuals in need. Thank goodness we have not had to turn anyone away. Your gift of \$2,086.65 to FISH Food Banks of Pierce County is helping us to serve more and more individuals and families needing assistance.

Overall, from January through October 2008 we have served approximately 305 more individuals compared to the same period of time in 2007. We have served over 188,000 individuals. It is individuals like you who help bring joy to others by putting food on their tables.

Thank you for your generosity!

Sincerely,
Beth Elliot
Executive Director

LIBRARY CORNER

Check Them Out!!! The following new books have been added to our library collection. They can be found on the shelf labeled NEW BOOKS.

Christmas Books

Away In A Manger
The First Christmas
My Christmas Gift
Max Lucado Christmas Collection



The Kregel Pictorial Guide series to Ancient Jewish Places, People and Events:

The Temple	Women at the Time of the Bible
Everyday Life in Bible Times	Daily Life at the time of Jesus
The Bible	Israel, Land of the Bible
The Tabernacle	Foods at the Time of the Bible

These guide booklets may be very helpful to children in connection with Sunday School and Confirmation classes, as they provide interesting insights into the times of Jesus and the world at that time.

There are many other new books on different topics that you may enjoy.

Please follow the posted Check Out Procedures when checking out books.

Books can be checked out for 3-4 weeks and then please return them to the RETURN Box

BE A SILENT HERO!
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2009
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
in the Sand Memorial Center



**Please come and donate much needed
blood to help save lives.**

CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS



The youth will be assembling food baskets for those with need in our community this Christmas season. They will be collecting non-perishable food and cash donations on Sunday, December 7th and 21st.

FAITH CIRCLE

Faith Circle will meet on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:30 A.M. in Room 202. Next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 9th.

Bring your sandwich!

**FAITH
HOPE
& LOVE**



MARTHA CIRCLE

Date: Wednesday, December 3rd

Place: Fireside Room

Time: 12:00 P.M.

Pastor Gerstmann will lead a Bible Study.

ALTAR GUILD

Elizabeth Altar Guild will meet on Wednesday, December 10th at 10:00 A.M. to decorate the Christmas trees, Sanctuary and Sand Memorial Center.

Hostesses for December are

12/7 *Sandy Ahrens & Jo Nichols*

12/14 *Susan Nelson*

12/21 *Maureen Elmquist*

12/28 *Verda Jacobson*

Poinsettias!!!

This year the Elizabeth Altar Guild is purchasing several of the large poinsettias from Costco to decorate the Sand Center & Sanctuary for Christmas. There will not be a sign-up sheet but if you wish to help with the cost please make a donation to Elizabeth Altar Guild to help purchase them. Thank you.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 14th at 2:00 P.M. in the Library.

Knit Wits

We meet in the Fireside Room

Mondays - 7:00 – 9:00 P.M.

If you would like to work on a portable craft, or would like to learn a portable craft, Knit Wits is for you! Instruction is always available on many types of crafts.

Everyone, including youth, is welcome to join us anytime!

Any questions call Elvine Carman at 752-3875.



Emmanuel Lutheran Childcare

December 2008

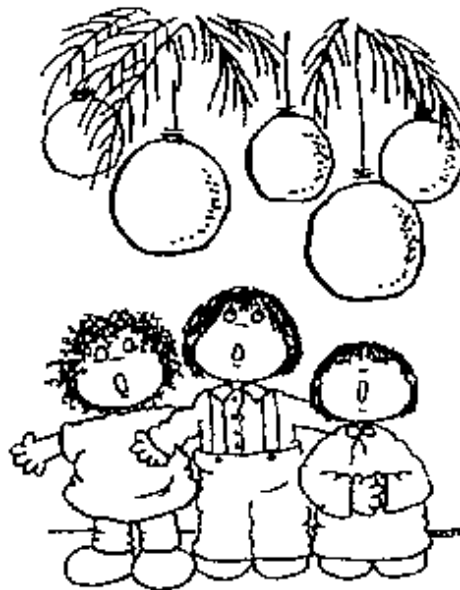
Season's Greeting to you and your family. Our Christmas childcare program will be Saturday, December 6 at 11:00 A.M. Please join us; we will be having a potluck lunch following the program. The children and teachers have been practicing their songs everyday. This will be a fun and cheerful event.

Our theme for this month will be family and holiday traditions. The bible verse will be Luke 2:11 "Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you: he is Christ the Lord." Our shape for this month is the star and our colors are red and green.

We have openings in our preschool and pre-k classroom. If you or anyone you know is looking for childcare have them call Wendy at 253-752-1195.

We will close at 4:00 pm on December 24 and December 31. We will be closed on December 25. Please have a safe and joyous holiday season.

Staff at ELCC





COME JOIN US!

Friday, December 19th

11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

in the Sand Memorial Center for a bowl of:

HEARTY SOUP AND CHATTER

This month's soups will be:
Beans & Ham and Creamy Carrot

(Soup served till 12:30 P.M.)

We welcome salads & desserts

(now may include nuts)

Open to everyone

(Free-will offering)

We Need Office Volunteers!



Anyone interested in spending a few hours a month volunteering to answer phones and do misc. office tasks, please call Linda Fuson at 752-6101 or 592-1270.

Thank you,
Linda



December 2008

Every day in 35 countries, Lutheran World Relief works to combat the causes of poverty and the dignity it robs from people's lives. We advocate for Fair Trade that helps farming families and artisans earn a better income. We teach people to better care for themselves, their communities and the environment. We teach people how to be less vulnerable to natural disasters. We advocate with and for them for policy change that more fairly represents them. We counsel them after manmade and natural disasters, and help them recover with material aid. We do all of this exclusively with partners from the communities we serve. Our partners help us remain incredibly efficient and effective. Our partners let us help people help themselves...for a day when they won't need us at all.

**Our Church supports Lutheran World Relief
in many ways including Parish Projects –
Making Quilts and School Kits.**

**As you plan for the coming year,
think about getting more involved
in these wonderful Parish Projects.**

***YOU have joined
YOU are part of the solution.***

Thank YOU ♥

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR DECEMBER 2008

Lay Readers


Saturday	6th	5:00 P.M.	Marge Guthrie	Saturday	20th	5:00 P.M.	Nancy Purdy
Sunday	7th	8:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	Debbie Gallinatti Advent Music	Sunday	21st	8:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	Dr. Mike Gage Dr. Dale Wirsing
Saturday	13th	5:00 P.M.	Norma Lyslo	Saturday	27th	5:00 P.M.	Shirl Fickert
Sunday	14th	8:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	Susan Alexander Sherry Ryan	Sunday	28th	8:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M.	Debbie Olson Elvine Carman

Lay Leaders

Sunday	7th	9:00 A.M.	Advent Music	Sunday	21st	9:00 A.M.	Dr. Russ Holtz
Sunday	14th	9:00 A.M.	Dr. Dan Cook	Sunday	28th	9:00 A.M.	Don King



December 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 TOPS 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:00 NW Flute 6:00 Youth Committee 6:30 Girl Scouts 6:30 Future Steering 7:00 Knit Wits 7:00 Boy Scouts	2 7:00 Memorial Comm.	3 10:00 Bible Study 12:00 Martha Circle 5:00 Confirmation Class 6:00 Choir dress Rehearsal 6:00 Joyful Sound 7:30 Advent Service	4 6:00 Choir dress Rehearsal 6:30 Adult Instruction 6:30 Cub Scouts	5	6 11:00 Childcare Christmas program 5:00 Communion Wor. 7:00 High School Lock-in
7 Donut Fundraiser/Youth 8:00 Communion Wor. 9:00 Advent Music 10:00 Education Hour <i>Sunday School</i> <i>Adult Forum</i> <i>Adult Bible Study</i> 11:00 Advent Music 5:00 High School Youth	8 9:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 TOPS 4:00 Girl Scouts 6:30 Girl Scouts 7:00 Support & Assist. 7:00 Knit Wits 7:00 Boy Scouts Setting up Christmas Trees	9 10:30 Faith Circle 6:00 Resource Committee 6:30 Childcare Board	10 10:00 Bible Study 10:00 Altar Guild Christmas Decorating 5:00 Confirmation Class 5:15 Handbells 6:00 Joyful Sound 7:30 Advent Service	11 5:00 Confirmation Class 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30 Adult Instruction	12 10:00 Mom's club	13 10:00 S.S. Christmas program Rehearsal 5:00 Worship Ser. 6:15 <i>New Member Dinner</i> 7:15 Board of Elders
14 8:00 Worship Service 9:00 Celebration! Wor. 10:00 Education Hour <i>Sunday School</i> <i>Adult Forum</i> <i>Adult Bible Study</i> 11:00 Worship Ser. 12:15 Sunday School Christmas Program 3:00 NW Flute Winter Concert 5:00 High School Youth Night Out/ Holiday Lights	15 ECHOES DEADLINE 9:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 TOPS 4:00 Girl Scouts 6:00 Worship & Music 7:00 G. S. Leadership Mtg. 7:00 Knit Wits 7:00 Boy Scouts Christmas Party	16	17 10:00 Bible Study 5:00 Confirmation Class 6:00 Joyful Sound 7:30 Advent Service	18 5:00 Confirmation Class 6:30 Cub Scouts-Pizza Christmas Dinner 6:30 Finance Committee	19 11:30 Soup Group (Bean & Ham/Creamy Carrot)	20 5:00 Communion Wor.
21 8:00/9:00/11:00 Communion Worship 10:00 Education Hour <i>Sunday School</i> <i>Adult Forum</i> <i>Adult Bible Study</i> 5:00 High School Youth	22 9:00 Men's Breakfast 10:00 TOPS 5:30 Living Cross Rehearsal 6:00 Christmas Food Basket Assembly 6:00 Church Council 7:00 Knit Wits	23 Christmas Food Basket Delivery	24 Christmas Eve Worship <i>Living Cross/All Services</i> 4:00 Worship Service (Sand Memorial Center) 5:30 Worship Service (Sanctuary) 9:30 Worship Service (Sand Memorial Center) 11:00 Worship Service (Sanctuary) Childcare closed 4:00 PM	25 Christmas Day 10:00 Worship Service with Holy Communion Church Office Closed Childcare Closed	26	27 5:00 Worship Service
28 8:00/9:00/11:00 Worship Service 10:00 Education Hour 5:00 High School Youth	29 9:30 Confirmation Class/Church Ministers to Society	30 9:30 Confirmation Class Church Ministers to Society	31 New Year's Eve  Childcare closed 4:00 P.M.			

*The Northwest
Flute Collegium*

Presents

The 2008 Annual Holiday Concert

December 14, 2008 at 3:00 P.M.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

1315 N. Stevens, Tacoma

Featuring works by:

J.S. Bach, Saint-Saens, Boismortier, and many

traditional holiday favorites

***Admission by Donation**

Matthew, Chapter 24

WORD LIST

age	hate	winter
alarmed	holy	
betray	lightning	
building	love	
call	miracle	
carcass	moon	
cold	name	
deceive	Noah	
desert	pain	
door	persecute	
dreadful	privately	
earth	roof	
earthquake	rumor	
end	sake	
faith	sign	
faithful	sky	
false	stone	
famine	sun	
fig	twig	
firm	unequaled	
flee	vulture	
flood	war	
four	watch	
gnash	wicked	

s f o o r w w t t g u r t z h
 m t o o i s g r w n w a r p k
 d l o c k d e c e i v e o f i
 u d k n u s b q n d g e i r f
 p e r s e c u t e l t r u v m
 d k k d p a e s l i m o o n a
 x a z a l r l k u u f m s m u
 a s i e u a i y f b a u s f w
 e n d t f q g v d e m r a l a
 l y l o h o h b a f i g c o t
 o u h a t v t t e t n q r o c
 v f t s i g n e r t e l a d h
 e e l c a r i m d a r l c a a
 b i x e f n n a g e e a y m o
 i o z e e p g n v p g c y s n

*“Through Christ’s friendship and love
we seek to become richer in faith*

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
DECEMBER ECHOES 2008**

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday - 5:00 P.M. - Contemporary Worship
Sunday - 8:30 A.M. - Contemporary Worship
Sunday - 9:00 A.M. - Celebration! Worship
Sunday - 11:00 A.M. - Traditional Worship

CHILD CARE NURSERY

(Infants - 3 year olds)

Available: All Sundays

(7:45 A.M. - 12:15 P.M.)

No child care provided on Saturday evenings

Come Join Us for Christmas at Emmanuel

**Wednesday, December 24 - Candlelight Christmas
Eve Service**

4:00 P.M. - Sand Memorial Center

5:30 P.M. - Sanctuary

9:30 P.M. - Sand Memorial Center

11:00 P.M. - Sanctuary

Thursday, December 25 - Christmas Day

10:00 A.M. Worship with Holy Communion
in the Sanctuary



Matthew, Chapter 24

WORD LIST

age	hate	winter
alarmed	holy	
betray	lightning	
building	love	
call	miracle	
carcass	moon	
cold	name	
deceive	Noah	
desert	pain	
door	persecute	
dreadful	privately	
earth	roof	
earthquake	rumor	
end	sake	
faith	sign	
faithful	sky	
false	stone	
famine	sun	
fig	twig	
firm	unequaled	
flee	vulture	
flood	war	
four	watch	
gnash	wicked	

s f o o r w w t t g u r t z h
 m t o o i s g r w n w a r p k
 d l o c k d e c e i v e o f i
 u d k n u s b q n d g e i r f
 p e r s e c u t e l t r u v m
 d k k d p a e s l i m o o n a
 x a z a l r l k u u f m s m u
 a s i e u a i y f b a u s f w
 e n d t f q g v d e m r a l a
 l y l o h o h b a f i g c o t
 o u h a t v t t e t n q r o c
 v f t s i g n e r t e l a d h
 e e l c a r i m d a r l c a a
 b i x e f n n a g e e a y m o
 i o z e e p g n v p g c y s n