

Immanuel Lutheran Church

March 2018

Messenger



Immanuel Lutheran Church
Called, Empowered, and Sent by God to Live, Love, and Learn God's Word
Nuestra Declaración De Misión
Somos llamados, autorizados, y enviados por Dios para vivir, amar, y aprender la Palabra de Dios
360-592-5876
Church Email: Immanuel.everson@gmail.com

Immanuel Lutheran Church
5782 Lawrence Rd.
Everson, WA 98247

OUR LIFEKEYS INFORMATION We are glad that approximately 30 people attended our Sunday afternoon *LifeKeys* workshop on January 28. Between 35 and 40 people have notebooks. If we could as a congregation set a goal of having 40 individuals provide their three main pieces of information--their RIASEC code, their Myers-Briggs Personality Type, and their identified Spiritual Gifts--it would give us a data base from which to better understand ourselves and the information from which to better value one another.

Travel and other reasons have prevented a few from obtaining these *LifeKeys* workbooks or from completing them. Pastor Barden's request--and the Transition Team's request--is that people find the time before Easter to give their full participation in gathering this material. More booklets are available. The Participant Report Forms are also available. There is a wooden tray in the Fellowship Hall with forms and also a place to leave completed forms.

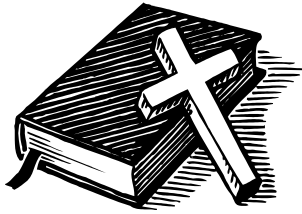
It might take up to two hours to complete those three sections of the workbook--some find the tables for the RIASEC code more difficult. Pastor and Transition Team members can help as needed. We can also consider a short 'make up' workshop if that would be helpful--please let us know, either Pastor Barden or Linda Anderson.

CALL COMMITTEE BEGINS COMPLETING FORM The Call Committee has received the basic form for providing information to our Synod and to potential candidates. The MSP (Ministry Site Profile) has spaces for statistical information and subjective answers as we try to present our material as to who we are as Immanuel Lutheran Church. Pastor Barden has been meeting with the group to help consider questions we might ask of ourselves, or make note of things that might need to be answered in the setting of the interview itself.

Mark Ohlswager is serving as our coordinator or chair. Committee members have accepted assignments to begin work on the various aspects of all these questions. On March 1, Pastor Shelley Bryan Wee of the Northwest Washington Synod office met with us to offer additional guidance and help with assessing our needs for a pastor and availability of possible pastors. There is the always the challenge of matching up the local situation with any pastors who might be likely candidates. The larger church has several stages of their process to help put together an eventual list of possible interviewees.

VISITATION TIME HAS BEEN LIMITED Pastor Barden continues to be available to the congregation for home and hospital visitation. When there is a specific need or request, he gives a high priority to responding. However, the congregation should know that the limitation of the part time availability together with increased meetings and other preparations has crowded his being able to be "out and about" with our people. Some people have not yet been able to be visited at all, but those people are asked to understand the challenge we have, and to be sure to call with any special request they might have. His numbers are...home in Auburn, 253-285-4998, and cell phone, 360-631-2177; email, arden.barden@yahoo.com. Or call the church number and leave a message, 360-592-5876.





Scripture Readings

March 4 - 3 Lent

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

March 11 - 4 Lent

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

March 18 - 5 Lent

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 51:1-12

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

March 25 - Passion/Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1-15:47

UPCOMING EVENTS AT IMMANUEL:

- **March 4** – Movie *Babette's Feast* after 2nd service.
- **All Wednesdays during Lent:** (March 7, 14, 21) Lenten Services at 6:00 after supper at 5:00.
- **April 21** – Women's Retreat 9:30 in Parish Hall
- **April 29** – Lunch honoring our members 80 years and older following second service.

Stroke Symptoms Awareness Poster

Please review the information about stroke symptoms that is on the bulletin board by the coffee pot. In the event you notice stroke symptoms, notify 911 and administer a full dose aspirin.



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 25 – Passion/Palm Sunday

March 29 – Maundy Thursday service – 7:00

March 30 – Good Friday Service – 7:00 p.m.

April 1 - Easter Sunday

Sunrise Service – 7:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast – 8:30

Easter Celebrative Service – 10:00 a.m.



March Birthdays

3/5 Darlene Bayer

3/6 Aaron Workman Smith

3/6 Rebeccajo Andrews

3/7 Dave Wagner

3/14 Stan Jacobson

3/14 Charley Short

3/20 Karen Harkness

3/20 Martha Sirguy

3/21 Belia Estrada

3/21 Sheila Gassman

3/22 Bob Enzler

3/27 Monica Bruland

3/31 Linda Anderson

March Anniversaries

3/18 Steve & Irene Higbee



Lenten Stewardship Project

This year we are using stewardship as a Lenten Project, collecting items for the Foothills Food Bank. Please bring 10 items and set them in front of the altar, 9 on one side, 1 on the other side. The donations will be delivered to St. Peter's Easter week.

WOI NEWS

This year WOI is featuring "Quilt of the Month". The money from the purchase of the quilt will go toward purchasing the batting and materials needed for construction of the quilt. Each month Helen will display a quilt to be purchased. The cost will be \$30.



WOI Directory addition:

Charley and Debbie Short
Debbie Short (birthday 6/6) and Charley Short (birthday 3/14). Anniversary 7/14/79. Address: 4310 Squalicum Lk Road, Bellingham, WA 98226. Cell Phone [360-393-2221](tel:360-393-2221). Email address: dmsshort56@gmail.com

We are thinking of changing the time of our *Gather* book review to the daytime; we now have it on the fourth Tuesday in the evening. If you would be interested in having the book review in the daytime please let Penny know. Also the days you would like to have it.

On April 29th WOI will have a lunch after second service to honor our members who are over 80. Everyone over 80 is asked to give a photograph of themselves at a younger age to Penny, Susie Finsrud, Karen Brewer or Sue Ohlswager. (Don't show it to anyone else).

Interfaith Coalition Hope Auction

Hope is on the Way! Interfaith Coalition's Hope Auction happens on **Saturday, March 24**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Please join us as we continue in our work of ensuring that all children have a safe, warm place to call home. You can help in these ways:

Donate an Auction Item - Do you have a service you offer, your own artwork, gift certificate, tickets to popular sporting events, vacation home getaway, ...let your imagination soar and get in touch with us!

Buy tickets. Tickets are \$65 each, including dinner. Join your friends and members of your congregation for lively bidding and fellowship. To purchase tickets or make a donation, please contact us at [360-734-3983](tel:360-734-3983), or through our website: www.interfaith-coalition.org/

We make a difference in the lives of homeless children and their families, and with your support, we will be serving additional families through our new program, Family Promise.

Laura Harker

Executive Director

Interfaith Coalition of Whatcom County

910 14th Street

Bellingham, WA 98225

[360-734-3983](tel:360-734-3983)

laura@interfaith-coalition.org

March 4, 2018 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Ass't. Min: Laura Hookham
Greeter: Muriel & Shelly Ron & Judy Bruland
Usher Ron & Judy Bruland
Reader: Ron Bruland
Com. Asst' Linda Anderson

Communion Set-up: Belia & Linda

Flowers: No flowers during Lent

After Worship Prayer Teams:

1st Service: Helen & Lois

2nd Service: Nancy & Linda

March 11 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Ass't. Min: Sara Murdock
Greeter: Pam Andrews Kathee Toivola
Usher: Kathee Toivola
Com. Ass't: Karen Harkness
Reader: Kim Roe

Communion Set Up: Belia/Val/Karen

Flowers: No flowers during Lent

After Worship Prayer Teams:

1st Service: Dennis & Jim

2nd Service: Joanie & Clarice

March 18 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Ass't. Min: Don Anderson
Greeter: Hunters Ron & Judy Bruland
Ushers: Ron & Judy Bruland
Com. Ass't: Linda Anderson
Reader: Dennis Workman

Communion Set Up:

Valerie Henderson & Linda Anderson

Flowers: No flowers during Lent

After Worship Prayer Teams:

1st Service: Linda & Helen

2nd Service: Nancy & Kim

March 25 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Ass't. Min: Karen Harkness
Greeter: Jim & Helen Freeman Wagners
Usher: Wagners
Com. Ass't: Kathee Toivola
Reader: Dawn Durand

Flowers: No Flowers during Lent

Communion Set Up:

After Worship Prayer Teams:

1st Service: Lois & Jim

2nd Service: Karen & Renee

If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please call someone that you can either switch an assigned Sunday with or sub for you.

A big thank-you to all the helpers; you are greatly appreciated and needed!

Email address for Kim: Immanuel.everson@gmail.com

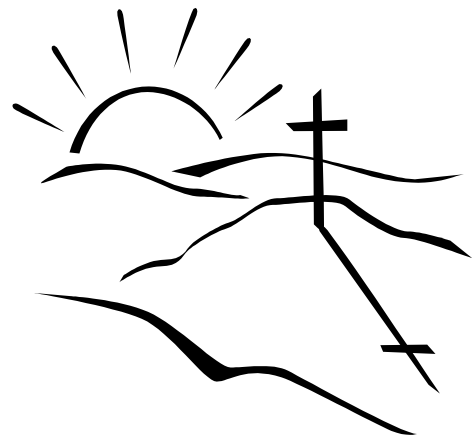
Email address for Pastor John: jokan001@luthersem.edu

Office phone: 360-592-5876

Pastor Barden's cell: 360-631-2177

TREASURER'S REPORT

2018 Budget	\$119,795.00
January Income	\$9,565.10
January Expenses	\$10,395.02
Net Income	(\$829.92)



“...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

Isaiah 40:31

Remember: Daylight savings time begins next Sunday, March 11

Please join us for Lenten services on the following Wednesday evenings: March 7, 14, and 21 at 6:00 p.m.



You Don't Have a Problem

The Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop,
NWWA Synod

From the March 2018 edition of
The Spirit

During my formative years, my dad was the Executive Director for the Easter Seal Society of Washington. It no doubt shaped his values - and informed mine as well. Let's just say he knew - and introduced to me - a great number of people who whose physical and mental challenges were not always easy to cope with.

One such introduction was to Johnny Kemp - who was born without arms or legs. His parents were told he would be better off institutionalized. Dad convinced the Kemp family that Johnny could be fitted with artificial arms and legs and that he would do just fine. He became a life-long friend who went on to have a successful law firm - providing counsel to people with disabilities.

Then there was Harold Wilke - who was born without arms. I remember the first time he sat at our family dinner table. Smoothly operating his knife and fork with his feet, he removed any doubt that he could do anything. You should have seen him pick out the correct paper denominations from his wallet when paying for a purchase.

The stories go on, including my attendance at Easter Seal Camp with my dad where I witnessed kids my age readily do what I was unable to do given *all* my body parts.

This background is important to understand the wisdom that dad shared with me the first time I got a dent in my first car. I was devastated. A friend sat on the hood and left an impression equal to her size. My day was ruined. More like my whole week was ruined. There was also the time I had my car window broken and my eight-track player and tapes were stolen.

His response in both cases was the same, "Kirby if money can fix it, you don't have a problem."

My dad taught me so much about perspective. How do you weigh the things in life that matter? He taught me wisdom - "The patient sorting out of what choices lead to life and what choices lead to death."

You can only imagine what my own girls have gone through. The first time my girls dented their cars you can be sure what words came out of my mouth. They may not be words filled with great empathy, but they are words filled with great truth.

Life does present us with challenges that money can do nothing to fix. These are the challenges that really matter. These are the challenges that call us to place our faith in God.

Johnny and Harold were both people of great faith. People who taught me that even when money can't fix what you are facing, *faith* can make all the difference in the world. Faith moves people from being victims to survivors - teaching all of us to see the challenges of life as opportunities to grow in faith and lean sharply into the direction of life. Let us lean into this life together, knowing that God is leading.