



News from the Cross

FEBRUARY

2010

REMEMBER ...

- Our services are broadcast on Hudson cable Channel 15 on Wednesday night at 9:00PM and again on Thursday morning at 9:00AM.
- Check out our church web site at: <www.emmanuelhudson.org>
- Watch "Time of Grace" on TV Sunday mornings at 6:30 a.m. on FOX 9.
- "Message from the Master" airs on 1220 AM radio Sunday mornings at 7:30 a.m.

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Pastor's Pen...

Dear Friends of Jesus, beloved members of Emmanuel congregation,

In a recent email it was reported that one of my classmates from high school was having to deal with the terrible pain of watching her son die. I wrote her pack that I would be praying for her and her son. I wanted be encouraging, but I felt there was something more that I needed to say to her. The answer came to me as I read through the bible passage chosen for this morning's reading.

"I have prayed for thee." --Luke 22:32

'Dear Eileen,

Since I received the note from John L. about Paul, I have not been able to get the very thought of your and his circumstance out of my mind. I know I sent you an earlier email message, but please allow me to add just this one more:

How encouraging is the thought of the Redeemer's never-ceasing prayer for us?

When we pray, He pleads for us; and then we are not praying, He is advocating our cause, and by His supplications shielding us from unseen dangers. Notice the word of comfort addressed to Peter—"Simon, Simon, Satan has desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat; but"—what? "But go and pray for yourself." No. Even though that would be good advice, that's not what Jesus says. Neither does he say, "But I will keep you careful, so you shall be preserved." That certainly would be a great blessing. No, this is what he says, "But I have prayed for you, so that your faith will not fail."

We know very little about what we owe to our Savior's prayers. When we reach the hill-tops of heaven, and look back upon all the way along the path the Lord our God has led us, we will greatly praise Him who, before the eternal throne, undid the mischief which Satan was doing upon earth.

The devil is real and would like to rob us of our hope and especially when one whom we have loved dearly is slipping away from us...then he

even attacks our faith itself and tries to pull us away from Jesus and to re-enslave us to himself.

But Jesus will not let this happen! How shall we thank Him because He never held His peace, he never kept quiet, but day and night pointed to the wounds upon His hands, and carried our names upon His breastplate! Even before Satan had begun to tempt, Jesus had triumphed over him and entered a plea in heaven. Mercy outruns malice. Mark this, He does not say, "Satan hath desired to have you." He checks Satan even in his very desire, and nips it in the bud. He does not say, "But I have desired to pray for you." No, but "I have prayed for you: I have done it already; I have gone to court and entered a counterplea even before an accusation is made." O Jesus, what a comfort it is that you have pleaded our cause against our unseen enemies; countermined their mines, and unmasked their ambushes. Here is a matter for joy, gratitude, hope, and confidence.

In the middle of our pain, sorrow, and troubled mindedness, we can all be of good cheer, because we have an advocate with the Heavenly Father, His Son Jesus Christ. Even though the devil would like to take away our peace, our joy and our certain hope, he cannot. Why? Because Jesus died on the cross for all of us, and through his death has assured us a place in the heavenly home that he has prepared for all those who live and die believing in him. It's a home for you and your son.

May God bless you richly.

Pastor Kogler





New Organ

On Tuesday Pastor and Don Benisch met with Denny Davis from Rodgers Organ Studio. At that time the church balcony was measured and a best use plan was implemented for the organ we will be getting.

The current speakers and organ will be removed and the replacement organ and speakers installed. At the present time it is expected that new speakers will be placed on the shelves in front of the balcony. Additional speakers will be mounted on the wall beside the windows upstairs. The closet behind the organ will also be used. An amplifier system will be installed in the closet. This will necessitate the installation of an outlet in the closet. This we will have to do

Joyful Noise Notes

- Ann Winkler

The children in preschool are putting their whole hearts into learning this month. We will be studying the ministry of Jesus during Bible Story Time.

We are over half way done with our study of the alphabet. This month we are concentrating on letters Q, R, and S.

Valentine's Day will be celebrated on February 11 and 12 with a party. It will be fun exchanging valentines, making special gifts, and playing party games.

Our month will include two special days. We will wear our red clothing on Red Day and our silly socks and shoes for Silly Sock and Shoe Day.

Our class list is beginning to fill for next fall as we open our preschool classes to the public.

Christian Worship Supplement

As a congregational project the church council has directed our special giving attention to the acquisition of the Christian Worship Supplement booklets. These books will enhance our services with some new service liturgies, new Psalms, and more hymn selections. A chart is on display in the narthex to help us see how we're doing at achieving the financial goal of \$1750. Each book costs \$17. As we receive the gifts the chart will be filled. As of this publishing, we have 21 supplements funded, (87 to go). If you are able to help us reach our goal, please place a check in the offering plate with "SUPPLEMENT" written on the memo line.



Hymnal Supplement

ASH Wednesday

February 17th begins the Lenten season. Services will be at 7:00PM Wednesday evenings, preceded by suppers served at 6:00PM. Please join us! There

WELS offers aid for Haiti earthquake relief

- from WELS.net

The WELS Committee on Relief (COR) has authorized the release of \$25,000 to the international relief agency CARE for immediate disaster relief supplies for Haiti following the Jan. 12 earthquake.

The decision was made at the COR's meeting in Chicago on Jan. 16.

According to Mr. Mark Vance, COR director of operations, working with CARE allows money donated by WELS members to be put into immediate use for relief efforts in Haiti. "Being an international group, [CARE] always seems to have people on the ground in areas where we can't get into," he says.

"Please know that we at CARE in the United States as well as in Haiti greatly appreciate the support of WELS and its partners and parishioners," says Tom Hanschman, senior director of CARE Chicago. "This is going to be such a long-term recovery and rehabilitation process, and this support will go a long way to alleviating the suffering occurring in Haiti."

Vance reports that additional donations to COR will support any potential efforts undertaken by WELS contacts in the region and continue to support CARE's efforts as appropriate.

WELS has no resident missionaries or congregations in Haiti, but Rev. Philip Strackbein, a member of the Latin American Traveling Theological Educators team, is based in the Dominican Republic. Strackbein reports that no members of the Dominican Republic churches were hurt in the 7.0 magnitude quake, although some members have relatives in Haiti that they have been unable to contact. National pastor Rona Abraham—from Haiti but now residing in the Dominican Republic—

traveled to Haiti this past weekend to contact his relatives and assess the situation firsthand. Strackbein and the COR are waiting to hear what he discovered. "He very much needs everyone's continued prayers because he is entering into a very dangerous situation even for him as a Haitian going to look for relatives," says Strackbein.

At its meeting, the COR also approved a possible assessment trip for COR and WELS World Missions representatives to the Dominican Republic in the next few weeks to meet with Strackbein and Haitian members of the Dominican churches. "The purpose of this meeting would be to begin assessing the physical needs of affected members' families, friends, and communities in Haiti as well as to look at opportunities to provide spiritual aid and gospel comfort," says Vance.

Donations to the earthquake relief effort can be made online. Checks can be made out to WELS Committee on Relief. Designate Haiti earthquake and mail to: WELS Committee on Relief, 2929 N Mayfair Road, Milwaukee WI, 53222-4398.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is matching donations from its members to WELS Committee on Relief and other Lutheran relief agencies one dollar for every two dollars donated—up to \$1 million. To benefit WELS COR, checks should be made payable to WELS Com-

mittee on Relief. Make sure the memo line of the check reads "Helping Haiti" and mail it to Thrivent's home office: 4321 N Ballard Road, Appleton WI, 54919. Gifts can also be made online or by phone; go to www.thrivent.com/helpinghaiti or call 800-236-3736 between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. CST, Monday through Friday. When prompted, say "directory" then enter extension 83003.



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*"Believe in the Lord Jesus and
you will be saved ..."*

... home of Joyful Noise



Frederick A. Kogler, pastor
Ann E. Winkler, preschool teacher
Don Benisch, congregational president

Why we're here ...

Emmanuel Lutheran exists to prepare people for eternal life. The Bible presents two possible destinations when we die: one is hell; the other is heaven. While people follow all sorts of ideas and philosophies to gain heaven (self-denial, being a good person, etc.), the Bible gives us the only pathway to heaven: "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31). Emmanuel Lutheran proclaims the truths of Holy Scripture, pointing always to Jesus Christ as our only Savior from sin -- our only path to heaven.