



Happy New Year Happy New Year Happy New Year

News from the Cross

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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...

Greetings in the Name of Jesus,

Well, we're all but ready for the birthday party as I type these words. December has been like sitting on a toboggan and rushing down a really slippery hill. Whoosh....it's been going by too fast! I'm almost to the bottom of the hill, and feel out of control!

Maybe some of you feel the same way.

I got my Christmas shopping done, and yes, I bought Janet something with a cord on it...(Boo!) She has assured me that she will accept the gift with understanding and joy. Hey, what more can I ask? From the sounds being made at our table last Wednesday night there seems to be quite a few guys who are still waiting for superbuys in the gift area. And, if you know me at all, I usually fit quite nicely into that crowd. Not this year people, not this year.

Yesterday I was walking around church fussing over a few things that needed to be done, when I went into the entrance of the church. As I looked around it struck me how beautifully the whole area has become with all the decorations that have been placed there. It's perfect! Thanks to everyone who has helped with the decorating of the church this year.

We're making some special plans to combine two activities...the celebration of Epiphany, and the un-decorating of the church. It will all come together on January 3rd after the fellowship hour. Some really special plans are in the making for everyone who attends the Epiphany devotion and who stays to lend a hand in taking down and packing away the seasonal decorations. It's been rumored that there

will be a pizza lunch included in the festivities.

Here's one of my favorite parts of scripture: **Matthew 1:18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. 19 Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. 20 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" --which means, "God with us."**

This passage reminds me of hard candy.... It's sweet and wonderful, and when I put it in my mouth it takes longer for it to dissolve and I enjoy it much longer than if it were soft. This passage helps the wonderful story of Jesus' birth linger in my heart and mind, and I'm thankful all over again. Thank You Lord for sending your son to be our Savior.

Pastor Kogler





Bible Humor

- Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?
A. Ruthless.
- Q. Who was the greatest financier in the Bible?
A. Noah He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.
- Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?
A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.
- Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?
A. God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.
- Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?
A. Samson. He brought the house down.
- Q. What excuse did Adam give to his children as to why he no longer lived in Eden?
A. Your mother ate us out of house and home.
- Q. Which servant of God was the most flagrant law-breaker in the Bible?
A. Moses. He broke all 10 commandments at once.
- Q. Which area of Palestine was especially wealthy?
A. The area around Jordan . The banks were always overflowing.
- Q. Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible?
A. David He rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep.
- Q. Which Bible character had no parents?
A. Joshua, son of Nun.
- Q. Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?
A. Because Noah was standing on the deck.

PS... Did you know it's a sin for a woman to make coffee? Yup, it's in the Bible. It says . . .
....'He-brews'



Joyful Noise Notes

- Ann Winkler

Happy New Year from the preschool! We worked hard in December to learn our recitation and songs for our Christmas service on December 20. We were excited to share the wonderful message that Jesus is the best Christmas gift with family and friends.

Before taking our Christmas vacation, we learned our twelfth letter of the alphabet, the letter L. We now have been introduced to the letters A-L. When we return on January 4, we will be introduced to the wise men, letter M-P and a winter theme.



Just for KIDS

Make a joyful noise

people often gather with noisemakers to celebrate the promise of a new year. be thankful and joyful for the many blessings in your life.

Using the musical note code, write the words of Psalm 100:2 (NIV) in the correct order below.

CODE: before come gladness him joyful Lord songs the with Worship



_____ the _____ ;




_____ .



Answer: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.



MISSIONS CORNER



Milestone in Hong Kong

- from WELS.net

Lutheran Seminary (ALS), operated by WELS World Missions in Hong Kong, held its first graduation ceremony last month, with four men receiving degrees.

The ceremony marked a milestone for the school, opened just four years ago. In a city with more than 30 degree-granting Bible colleges and seminaries, "our first graduation was a statement that we are real, legitimate, and that we intend to stay," says Dr. John Lawrenz, president of ALS.

One of the graduates received a Master of Divinity, two received a Master of Arts in Religion, and one received a Bachelor of Theology. All continue to serve in a variety of roles in congregations in Hong Kong or Taiwan. "In respect to each of the men it means the triumph of the Spirit over various difficulties," says Lawrenz. In particular, Lawrenz cites the financial challenges. Because there are no grant dollars available to ALS students, all but the retired must work, most of them full time, throughout their education.

ALS faces its own challenges in recruiting. In Hong Kong, there is no Lutheran elementary school system, no Lutheran secondary schools like in WELS, and no ministerial education college. "We aspire to the same solid Lutheran ends, walking a different path," Lawrenz says.

Currently, about 50 students are enrolled in 11 different courses at ALS, but fewer than ten are seriously pursuing degrees. The rest are studying simply to deepen their understanding of Scripture or to better equip themselves to serve as evangelists or in other roles in congregations.



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Serving Your Personal and Family Needs

Baptism: We are eager to offer baptism to anyone who desires it. If you have children who have not been baptized, please contact our pastor about arrangements.

Weddings: If you have no church home and would like to have a pastor perform your wedding, please contact our pastor about arrangements. A premarital class (3-4 meetings) gives the future bride and groom the opportunity to talk over all the important aspects of marriage with the pastor.

Special Prayers: In each Sunday service, opportunity is given for special prayers for people who are in need of prayer. Special prayer requests should be communicated to Pastor before the service begins.

Counseling: We are interested in your life and your needs. Our pastor is here to help counsel you with God's comforting Word. Please consider contacting him:

- Before your marital relationship is in danger of being broken
- When you would like to talk or pray about something that is bothering you
- When substance abuse is a problem for you or someone you love
- When you have family problems
- When you have a spiritual problem or a question about a Bible teaching

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

*... home of Joyful Noise
Preschool*



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.