



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...

Dear Friends in Jesus,

Happy New Year! I hope that by the time you read this you and your families will have enjoyed a wonderful celebration of our Lord's birth. I know that we have planned to make this a joyous season and rest on the promises of God to make it so. He always keeps his promises!

In America Christmas and New Year's is lumped together by many. This is thus called the "Holiday Season." Part of the season is the transition from one calendar year to the next. Sometimes it goes by with such a flourish of activity that one hardly gets a chance to take a breath from Christmas to New Year. We are not different in our family.

The problem of perspectives is one that I think about quite a bit during the holidays. It's hard to answer the question of whether the water of life that fills our respective glasses is half full or half empty. It's an exciting matter to contemplate, and my annual conclusion is that I have all the reasons in the world and more to remain positive. The future as I see it holds many more positive reasons to look forward than negative. I can say that because I've just been through Christmas!

I know that the Kogler household is especially thankful at this time of the year to be able to reflect back on all the things that happened in 2011. Our hearts have been troubled by the passing of dear friends, there is no doubt, and we are sensitive to the circle of sorrow that radiates out from the closest loved ones in our

community of friends and relatives. At the same time, however, we hold dearly those who are around us, and we have a clear understanding the all of us who know and love Jesus are permanently one in Him.

I have in my study a ceramic church building that glows with the warmth of its internal light, and while I study and read, it is a constant reminder of the omnipresent love of our Savior. Sometimes I stop what I'm doing and imagine how the light of faith glows in the hearts of our church family. I know that you love Jesus and that he is our Savior. For that I am thankful!

So, I will begin the calendar year 2012 with excitement, peace, patience, and zeal to move forward in the name of Jesus. Our glasses are more than full, remember, **Ps 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.** (NIV)

Happy New Year!

Pastor Kogler





## Join the Choir... You'll Be Glad You Did!

Choir will resume January 15 at 8 am. Everyone is invited to join us. We will be preparing music for Lenten and Easter seasons.



## FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

### •••• DIRECTIONS ••••

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.

gain as or ear van an for give  
gave her on it one other he an a

B \_\_\_\_\_ w \_\_\_\_\_ h each  
ot \_\_\_\_\_ d \_\_\_\_\_ give  
\_\_\_\_\_ e an \_\_\_\_\_ if \_\_\_\_\_ y  
of you h \_\_\_\_\_ grie \_\_\_\_\_ ce  
a \_\_\_\_\_ st some \_\_\_\_\_ .  
For \_\_\_\_\_ as t \_\_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_ d  
for \_\_\_\_\_ you.”

COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

## 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 18. We were excited to share the wonderful message with family and friends that Jesus is the best Christmas gift.

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 3, we will be introduced to the wise men, letter M, N, O, and P and a winter theme. Special days include Odd Day on the 19 and 20 and Pajama Day on the 26 and 27. There will be no school on the 16 and 27.

Welcome to our new students Aidan and Alan Bowman in our three year old program and Laney Heyer and Harry Larson in our Pre-K program.

Registration for next fall begins this month. Tell your friends and neighbors about our wonderful program.



The staff of Joyful Noise Preschool would like to thank the congregation for the generous Christmas gift. It was greatly appreciated.

Ann Winkler, Rebecca Huth, Ross Collins



## Epiphany

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# WELS NEWS – *from www.wels.net*

## **December Graduation at MLC**

Martin Luther College (MLC), New Ulm, Minn., graduated 19 students at its Dec. 15 mid-year graduation ceremony. Of the 19 graduates, seven graduated with early childhood education degrees, six with elementary education, two with secondary education, one with both elementary and early childhood, two with educational studies, and one with staff ministry.

Two graduates elected international service. Graduate Rachel Wendland says, “Four and a half years of study, and God's continued grace, and now I am prepared and excited to serve God's people in the full-time ministry, beginning halfway across the world in Zambia.”

The Conference of Presidents made two call assignments to previous graduates, one for teaching and one for staff ministry.

Mr. Bill Pekrul, director of public relations at MLC, says, “It is common to have few assignments in December with the majority in May. MLC is working diligently to provide well-trained candidates for the public ministry. While MLC also provide leadership for ministry training and continuing education, WELS as a church body calls these candidates to ministry positions as they become available through the work of the Holy Spirit in local congregations and mission fields.”

Pekrul says, “The graduates are eager to apply their education to their roles as seminary students, staff ministers, teachers, lay leaders, and international educators.”

## **News from Nepal**

Rev. Karl Gurgel will be serving as the Multi-Language Publications' (MLP) publications coordinator for Pakistan and Nepal. In this role, he will help Christians ensure their materials clearly present the Bible's message of salvation.

Gurgel says, “Pakistan and Nepal are two regions of the world where expatriate American missionaries are not welcome. Without this publication effort the spreading of the gospel would be severely limited in these regions and the Savior would not be widely known.”

Gurgel will also serve the South Asia Administrative Committee and MLP, replacing Rev. Harold Essmann, who retired in the fall.

To reach out to those who can't necessarily read the gospel message, the movie Road to Emmaus and 100 Christian hymns have been translated, uploaded to hand-held media players, and distributed in remote villages in Nepal. The media players can be charged with solar-cell charging stations, eliminating the need for electricity, which is only minimally available in these Himalayan communities.

Rev. Paul Hartman, coordinator of MLP, says, “What we are offering people is a way to see the story and hear the story of Jesus, rather than give them lots of text.” He explained that the illiteracy rate is high in some of the remote villages, and by offering the video, MLP can share the Word of God so people can understand the purpose of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection.

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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.***