

News from the Cross



2011

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...

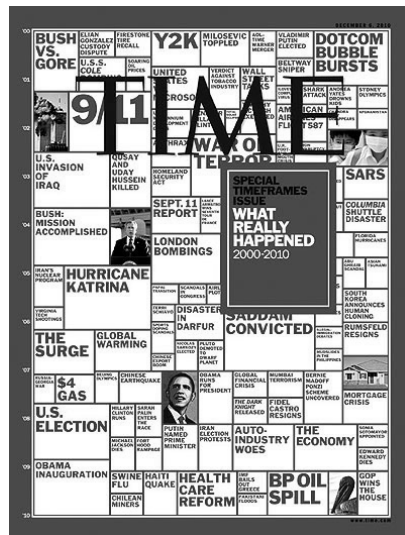
Do you know what Good News is?

Mark 16:6 "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him."

Spring is here! Maybe! The economy is improving! Maybe! Obama is an American by birth! Maybe! The housing market is stabilizing! Maybe! Things are getting better in the Middle East! Maybe!

Where in the world is the good news that can be accepted as true and real? Is there anything to be reported that is positive? It would appear that almost everything that we hear about, see or read is reporting something bad, half true, negative and depressing.

In research for a paper on the history of the last 10 years I came upon a blog by Rabbi Eli Fink. <http://finkorswim.com>. In his blog Rabbi Fink wrote of an article by Gregg Easterbrook in which he refers to Time Magazine's cover for their December 6, 2010 issue. It is composed to illustrate what "really happened" between the years 2000 and 2010.



If you go to the archive of the issue you will see the cover and the 118 happenings chosen by the Time editors as the most important in the decade. Four of the events were positive, 14 were neither good nor bad, the rest, 98 of 118 events cited, were negative.

The Rabbi notes: "That means that according to Time Magazine 83% of the events worth mentioning this decade are negative events!"

I agree with the Rabbi and Easterbrook's assessment which suggests: **Bad news is news. Good news is not.** I also believe that such an assessment of the decade referred to, and the impact of such reporting, is one of the main contributors to the wide spread negativism in America. It is as though those who have chosen to report and record history are to a very great extent infected with the same disease of heart and mind. It is a sickness that has not only infected the reporters and journalists around the world, but it has infected those who read and see their reports. The result of all this gloom and doom is the depression, the nit-picking, the offensive activities and the bitter dissatisfaction of people with almost everything (83%). The result is the wide spread corruption that is felt by everyone...

It is a psycho-social disease that feeds on itself and its symptoms are seen in such terrible things as the recently reported suicide deaths of two beautiful 14 year old teenage girls. Their lives to them appeared hopeless and without positive reasons to continue. Even though surrounded by all manner of opportunity, recognition, and superficial goodness, their minds were so influenced that they thought it would be better to self destruct. How terribly sad!

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Your help is needed to insure that this year's Vacation Bible School will be a success. We will need help in several areas such as teaching, assisting in the classes, helping with snack or wherever needed, etc. If you are willing to volunteer your time, please contact Ann Winkler.

Vacation Bible School will be held from Tuesday, August 9 - Thursday, August 11 from 9:30 - noon. We will be singing songs, playing games, making crafts and hearing about God's Word. Vacation Bible School is open to all children between 4 years old and 4th grade. Siblings are welcome. There is no cost to attend.

Joyful Noise Notes

- Ann Winkler

The last month of school is upon us and is filled with many activities. We will finish up our alphabet and begin reviewing letters A-Z, numbers, and our readiness skills.

The Mother's Day program will be held May 5 from 10:30-11:30 or May 6 from 10:30 - 11:30. The program will include a dessert and songs. All mothers are invited.

The children will be singing with the Sunday School on May 22.

Our big project will be preparing for the last day of school, which is Thursday, May 26. That evening the children will perform their plays, sharing the songs they have learned, and receiving their preschool diplomas. Refreshments will follow. The event will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 26 in the church sanctuary. Everyone is invited.



The church picnic will be held on Sunday, May 22. The Board of Education will be grilling meat. Please bring a dish to pass.

Pastor's Pen Continued...

What is overlooked, and it seems even denied, is all the good that is present. In the period of years from 2000-2010 so many wonderful things have taken place, opportunities have been presented, progress in human relationships have been improved, diseases overcome, lives extended and mysteries unveiled that no cover of a magazine or long running video series could report it all. What is more, the enduring truth of God and the peace, love, forgiveness and hope that is well chronicled and clearly understood from the annals of history and set forth in the sacred scriptures of the Holy Bible are ever present and indelibly imprinted on the story of mankind.

The Good news needs to be reported!

There is a demand for a change in this regard that needs to take place. Journalists and reporters have to be lifted from their pitiable state of mind and the way they look at the life course of the world. If honesty will not guide them, then at least there should be a conscious effort to present a balanced picture of the current state of affairs. Until such a journalistic recovery takes place, I can hardly imagine that it will ever happen; individuals must seek to find a balance, to keep a hope filled perspective and to remain in touch with the reality of the world around them. This can and should be done by reading, evaluating and discussing the matters of life as we can learn to know them in our world of instant communication.

Where should one begin? How about with the truth of God! How about right now? Easter is a good time for such a beginning. It is because it sets forth in terms incontrovertible the life, death and resurrection of the historical Christ! Easter and all its associated details are not so because they are wished for by unsettled people everywhere, but because the only almighty God who has created and sustains all things has intervened and brought a solution to the negativism of sinful mankind and the corrupt self-indulgence that grips our world.

We all need a good dose of the "Good News" about Jesus Christ. We believe, teach and confess that Jesus Christ is the risen Savior of all people, including you! You and I need to take our "Good News" medicine everyday so that we may fend off the temptation, depression, wickedness, dishonesty, emptiness, and pain, the dizziness of psychobabble of a rebellious and corrupt world.

Join us for church every Sunday.
9:00 AM - Pastor Kogler



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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.

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

... home of Joyful Noise Preschool!



Frederick A. Kogler, pastor
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Don Benisch, congregational president