

A Note
from
Pastor Dan



Dear Fellow Redeemed:

Forty days separated the ascension of Jesus from His resurrection. It is interesting to observe that a like period of time frequently factored its way into some significant Bible narratives: Moses was on the Mount for forty days prior to the deliverance of the law; Elijah was in the wilderness for forty days before he came forth for his great work in Israel. For forty days Jesus was in the desert at the beginning of His public ministry. In the light of these examples, it might just be that we are to regard these forty resurrection days to be a type of prelude to Jesus' glorious heavenly ministry in which he is engaged forevermore.

Then, when the forty days were over Jesus led His disciples through the streets of Jerusalem, over the Kedron, past the shadows of Gethsemane. I imagine that the followers of Jesus were silent. Their hearts were too full of memories for speech. When they arrived at the knoll near Bethany, Jesus lifted up His hands and blessed them. And when He blessed them, a cloud gathered, came between them, and Jesus was carried up into heaven.

It was a simple and reserved scene. No chariot of fire; no sound of music. It was a fitting departure of the One who had

come down as gently as rain on freshly mown grass. And did the disciples sorrow and lament? Not at all. Instead, they returned to Jerusalem with great joy (Luke 24: 52). Jesus had not really left them; He would be with them still through the power and presence of His Spirit. Their Lord and they would never be separated again.

I would like to suggest that we who have seen the resurrection with more than our eyes also regard these forty or so post-Easter days as days of special preparation. Spring is here---summer is coming! We have a ministry to perform---all of us---and it is meant to be exciting. And we can do it with joy because we know that our Lord and we need never be separated.

Joyful with you in Him:
Pastor Dan

Rev. Dan L. Siedenbug
Intentional Interim Pastor



Ascension Day

Thursday, May 13th



CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

Sunday Morning Bible Study
9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

- **Resolving Conflict Biblically** (Led by Pastor Dan in the Chapel)
- **“Revelation – The Triumph of God”** (Led by Randy Marko in the Accounting Room)
- **Mom’s Group – “Spiritual Warfare”** (Led by Jill Marko in the Nursery Room)

1st & 3rd Sunday Evenings at 6:00 p.m. (Meet at Church)
Couples in Christ

- **“John 3:16, Stories of Hope”** (Led by Rick Marko)

3rd Monday Evenings at 5:30 p.m. – Supper, 6:00 p.m. – Bible Study

- **Parenting Class – “Effective Parenting in a Defective World”** (Led by Randy Marko)

Tuesday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.

- **Book of Luke** (Led by Pat Squires at the Gables Apt. Bldg.)

Men’s Tuesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.

- **The Authenticity of the Bible** (Led by Nick Marko in the Accounting Room)

Wednesday Mornings at 9:30 a.m.

- **The Book of Habakkuk** (Led by Elaine Bakalar in the Accounting Room)

Thursday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.

- **Crash Course on Jesus** (Led by Chuck Squires in the Accounting Room)

May Daily Bible Readings

Morning Readings

1st – 1 Kings 1, 2
2nd – 1 Kings 3, 4, 5
3rd – 1 Kings 6, 7
4th – 1 Kings 8, 9
5th – 1 Kings 10, 11
6th – 1 Kings 12, 13
7th – 1 Kings 14, 15
8th – 1 Kings 16, 17, 18
9th – 1 Kings 21, 22
11th – 2 Kings 1, 2, 3
12th – 2 Kings 4, 5
13th – 2 Kings 6, 7, 8
14th – 2 Kings 9, 10, 11
15th – 2 Kings 12, 13, 14
16th – 2 Kings 15, 16, 17
17th – 2 Kings 18, 19
18th – 2 Kings 20, 21, 22
19th – 2 Kings 23, 24, 25
20th – 1 Chronicles 1, 2
21st – 1 Chronicles 3, 4, 5
22nd – 1 Chronicles 6, 7
23rd – 1 Chronicles 8, 9, 10
24th – 1 Chronicles 11, 12, 13
25th – 1 Chronicles 14, 15, 16
26th – 1 Chronicles 17, 18, 19
27th – 1 Chronicles 20, 21, 22
28th – 1 Chronicles 23, 24, 25
29th – 1 Chronicles 26, 27
30th – 1 Chronicles 28, 29
31st – 2 Chronicles 1, 2, 3

Evening Readings

1st – Luke 22:54-71
2nd – Luke 23:1-26
3rd – Luke 23:27-38
4th – Luke 23:39-56
5th – Luke 24:1-35
6th – Luke 24:36-53
7th – John 1:1-28
8th – John 1:29-51
9th – John 2
10th – John 3:1-21
11th – John 3:32-36
12th – John 4:1-30
13th – John 4:31-54
14th – John 5:1-24
15th – John 5:25-47
16th – John 5:1-21
17th – John 6:22-44
18th – John 6:45-71
19th – John 7:1-31
20th – John 7:32-53

21st – John 8:1-20
22nd – John 8:21-36
23rd – John 8:37-59
24th – John 9:1-23
25th – John 9:24-41
26th – John 10:1-21
27th – John 10:22-42
28th – John 11:1-17
29th – John 11:18-46
30th – John 11:47-57
31st – John 12:1-19

Children's Ministry Update

Sunday School

As our regular Sunday School comes to an end for this year, you are all invited to come hear the kids from Holy Emmanuel and Open Arms sing on May 16th at the 10:30 worship service and then stay for the BBQ picnic.

A big thank you to all who took time to teach our kids every Sunday this year – Linnea, Michelle, Sandy, Jill, Kelsey and Robert. Also, thank you to all who donated snacks each week. God bless all of you!

Spread the word that **“Heroes of the Bible”**, is the theme for Bible Camp June 21-25. We will be learning about the heroic acts of Peter, Mary, John and our greatest hero of all, our Savior Jesus Christ. Brochures and registration forms are now available in the church office.

In His Name,
Natalie Mylander

Youth News

Thanks to all who helped with our annual Egg Hunt. The little kids love getting help and look up to the older ones.

Since our Noisy Offering in April went to Feed My Starving Children, we will be going to work there. That date has not been determined.

Our end of the year date for Sunday Morning Bible Class is May 16th. However, we will be continuing to stay in “His Word” over the summer.

Look for a Summer Calendar in your mail coming soon.

May God bless our youth!

Blessings,
Natalie Mylander

Open Arms News

This month will be a busy month. We will be singing on May 16th, getting ready to graduate our preschoolers who will be going onto Kindergarten, and celebrating Staff Appreciation week.

We are still in need of donations of any outdoor toys such as shovels, buckets, etc.

Join us on May Tuesday, May 25th, for our family fundraiser night at Baker's Square. Come have dinner and a percentage will go to Open Arms.

Thank you again for your continued financial support and prayers. May God continue to bless the mission work of Open Arms.

In His Service.
Natalie Mylander

"A Teaching Moment"

From the Board of Christian
Education

Are you troubled about something affecting your life? Are you in over your head? Are you trying to solve all your problems by yourself? Why? We have a "BIG GOD" who can solve all our problems and bring comfort to us through all our ups and downs. Read on for more encouragement and advice on how to change your idea of the importance of God and how big He really is.

Shrinking Your God

By Ron Hutchcraft

One of the great names for Jesus in the Bible is the "Lion of the Tribe of Judah." When noted author C. S. Lewis created a character to be his Christ-figure in his "Chronicles of Narnia" fantasies, he introduced us to Aslan, the lion-king of Narnia. In Lewis' enchanting books, Narnia is a land where the animals speak, where the forces of evil are strong, and where Aslan, though only seen on rare occasions, is the dominant figure. Lucy is one of the children who's transported to Narnia. In one of the later books in the Chronicles, Lucy is finally reunited with the lion-king, Aslan. I'll let C. S. Lewis take it from here: "'Welcome child,' he said. Lucy said, 'Aslan, you're bigger.' And he answered, 'That is because you are older, little one.' 'Oh, not because you are?' Lucy said. 'Oh, I am not. But every year you grow, you will find me bigger.'"

That is your King's plans for you - that every year you grow, you'll find Him bigger. That's the kind of God you have if you belong to Jesus Christ. You can never reach His limits. He has none. He is all those "omni's"

the Bible scholars talk about: omniscient - there's nothing He doesn't know; omnipresent - there's no place where He isn't there; omnipotent - there's nothing He cannot do. The problem is this strange tendency we have in the more challenging times in our life: that the bigger the issue is, the smaller our God seems to be to us. The problem looks unsolvable, the need looks unmeetable, the mountain is unmovable, and we end up handling the hard times as if our God is too small to handle this one.

For all of us God-shrinkers, there's our word for today from the Word of God in Jeremiah 32, beginning with verse 17. It's a wonderful prayer, a powerful prayer from the prophet Jeremiah, and perhaps, the very prayer you need to be praying right now in the face of something overwhelming. "Ah, Sovereign Lord, You made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you. O great and powerful God, whose name is the Lord Almighty, great are Your purposes and mighty are Your deeds." Now listen to God's response: "Then the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: 'I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for the Lord?'"

Think about it: when your problem suddenly gets bigger than it's ever been, does it get harder for God? When the financial need is greater than you've ever seen, does it suddenly get harder for God to supply it? When your medical condition gets worse, does it get beyond what God can handle? If the person you've been praying for so long seems to be getting farther from God than they've ever been, did God's

rescue challenge suddenly get a lot bigger? When the issues with your child or your spouse or your parent take a turn for the worse, is it suddenly harder for God to pull this out? For every question like that the answer is a BIG: NO! "Nothing is too hard for the Lord" including your thing/situation. It gets bigger and harder for us, but there's no such word as "hard" in the vocabulary of God.

When the ancient Jews saw the size of the people and the defenses in the Promised Land, they obsessed on how big their problem was. They totally forgot how much bigger their God was. And they ended up in the wilderness wandering for a long time, and so do we. You may be stressing and sinking and even sinning right now because you're underestimating your God; you're under-trusting Him.

Faith is the key that unlocks all the great things God has for you. And He isn't about to let your faith stay the same size. He's in the faith-enlargement business. He's let something come into your life that defies human solution, that overwhelms human answers, so you can experience how big your King really is. When the bad news gets "badder," your God does not get smaller. He is still the Sovereign Lord, the great and powerful God. So, let yourself be overwhelmed by the God you have, and you'll find that nothing but Him is truly overwhelming!

Scrap Craft Fever!

Take time for yourself and time with your friends!
Scrapbook (and all other crafts) the day away!

Holy Emmanuel Lutheran Church
201 East 104th Street
Bloomington MN 55420
952-888-2345

Saturday, May 8th
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

\$20 per table (in advance)
(\$25 at the door)

Table space proceeds to the Holy Emmanuel Youth Group

Includes:

Lunch w/beverage
Bottled water/coffee/Snacks
Prize drawings throughout the day

Available:

Make and Takes*

Stampin' Up

Creative memories

Boutique Items

*Make and takes available for nominal fee.

Thank You!

Dear Holy Emmanuel:

Greetings in Jesus' Name!

We wanted to thank you for the generous "Noisy Offering" that you recently blessed us with. We were speechless and we were humbled! The Lord has continually shown us just how much He cares for His people.

If any of you doubt His personal love for you, you are/were not alone. God will surround you with His care when you need it – and Jesus is "A friend that sticks to you closer than a brother/sister."

Also, thank you for your faithful prayers!

Love in Christ,

Mr. Joel and Xochitl Marie Grant

Confirmation Day

The Rite of Confirmation will be conducted for two of our young members on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, 2010 during the 10:30 AM service.

Jessica Elizabeth La Goo and Kayla Marie Manske will confirm their Baptismal vows at the Lord's Altar and in the presence of the Holy Emmanuel congregation. Following the Rite of Confirmation the Confirmands and the congregation will be invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Our member **Elisabeth Kaitlin Melde** will be Confirmed at Trinity Lone Oak Lutheran Church in Eagan with her school class on Sunday May 2nd.

Please pray for these youngsters as they prepare to speak their vows to the Lord and His Church.

Stewardship Corner

Being a Faithful Steward

As stewards, we demonstrate our faithfulness by how we manage the resources and gifts God entrusts to us. "*Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful*" (1st Corinthians 4:2). We are to "*always give [ourselves] fully to the work of the Lord because [we] know that our labor in the Lord is not in vain*" (1st Corinthians 15:58). Our effort is invested in the Lord's winning cause.

Peter wrote, "*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in it various forms*" (1st Peter 4:10). Through faith, we serve others by showing our love (3rd John 5-6), by witnessing for Christ (Acts 1:8), by sharing with those in need

(2nd Corinthians 9:7-8), and by doing good to all people (Galatians 6:10). God is pleased when we use our time, talents, and treasures in ways that give Him honor and glory through our service for others.

As devoted and committed stewards who seek to do God's will, we receive His special blessings. The Lord will "*bring to light what is hidden in darkness and will expose the motives of men's hearts. At that time each will receive his praise from God*" (1st Corinthians 4:5). In 1st Samuel 26:23 we read, "*The Lord rewards every man for his righteousness and faithfulness.*" We look forward to the Lord telling us, "*Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!*" (Matthew 25:23).

Until the Lord takes us to our eternal home, we are to be active and involved stewards faithfully seeking to please Him. We can be faithful because He abounds "*in love and faithfulness*" (Psalm 86:15) to us. We press on as faithful stewards knowing that "*He will not forget [our] work and the love [we] have shown Him ...*" (Hebrews 6:10).

GOOD NEWS T-SHIRT


Jesus told his disciples — and us — to go into all the world and preach the good news. Wherever you go, this cool T-shirt will help spark conversations about your faith.

What you need:

- Newspaper
- Cardboard
- Plain white, cotton T-shirt
- Permanent markers
- Goggles (optional)
- Eye dropper
- Rubbing alcohol
- Clothes hanger

What you do:

1. Cover a table with newspaper. (Work outside or in a well-ventilated area.)
2. Place a piece of cardboard inside your T-shirt. (This keeps pen marks from going through to the other side.)
3. With permanent markers, draw a design of large circles, spirals, hearts, etc.
4. Wear goggles while dropping rubbing alcohol onto your designs with an eye dropper. As the alcohol permeates the permanent marker, the color will break up and spread in interesting ways.
5. Hang the shirt to dry.
6. When the shirt is dry, place cardboard inside it again. On the front, write “I have some good news to share with you.” You can also write a Bible verse.




Just for KIDS


“I am with you always.”

Before Jesus ascended into heaven, he encouraged his disciples in the work they had to do. We, too, are Jesus’ disciples and should follow his same instructions.

Follow the words in the clouds to find Mark 16:15-16a, NIV.



Go into all the
 away Bible the world
 good the preach and
 word it
 news to all creation
 the
 people friends animals Whoever
 in baptized is and believes
 power will be saved.



Answer: “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” (Mark 16:15-16a, NIV)

**International Christian
Literature Distributors, Inc.**

Don't forget to save your Portals of Prayer, My Devotions, Happy Times, etc. There is a box in the narthex located in the reading center. These materials will be delivered to ICLD.

If you have any questions, please speak with Dan Marko at (952) 854-4191.

Thank you for supporting this excellent mission!

Stamps For Missions

Don't forget to save your cancelled stamps from your mail. Just cut around the stamps leaving at least a ¼ **inch paper margin** and place them in the stamp box in the Reading Center (next to the Chapel) in the church lobby. Thanks!

If you have any questions regarding this mission opportunity, please call the church office.

Amnion Fundraising Walk

This year's Amnion Crisis Pregnancy Center Walk for Life will be on Saturday, May 15th. The event goal of \$45,000 will raise funds needed to provide pregnant women in crisis with life-saving assistance.

Join the Holy Emmanuel Walk Team by contacting Team Captain Carla Crawford at 952-201-6383 or CK12@hotmail.com or visit Amnion's website at: www.Friends.AmnionCpc.org and sponsor Carla Crawford.

Can't walk? Watch for sponsorship forms in May or donate on-line at www.Friends.AmnionCpc.org to sponsor Carla Crawford and give what you can to save an unborn life.