

# CHRISTIAN LIFE NOTES

Oregon District LWML Volume 98 January 2025

## Ever Present

As you begin a new year, what do you focus on? Are you writing a resolution, planning time with family and friends or just hoping to navigate your way through each day?

My husband was a commercial fisherman for ten years beginning in 1975. His twenty foot dory was well equipped with chrome flashers, bait and multi-colored lures to hopefully entice salmon. His only navigational instrument was a compass. He communicated with his family and other fisherman via a CB radio. Many times I stood on the bridge in Depoe Bay watching for his return. He still loves fishing, but his sport boat is now equipped with several navigational instruments. His Garmin even plots the return path back to shore.

You may still find me standing on the bridge watching for his return, or more often, I have the volume turned up on the phone awaiting his call. Yes, I get anxious!



Yes, I try to rationalize what is happening. And I confess that I sometimes wait to talk to the one who will help me navigate all of my unrest and anxieties. **Christ our LORD.**

We do make use of navigational tools, such as our phones and map apps, trusting they will guide us along the way.

In Proverbs we are told: *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths* (Proverbs 3: 5-6).

*“And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age”* (Matthew 28:20b).

In Exodus 33:14, God spoke to Moses. *And he said, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”*

Even knowing some of the names of Jesus that we may have spoken or sung this Christmas affirms His presence.

*For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his  
shoulder, and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace*  
(Isaiah 9:6).

*Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel* (Isaiah 7:14).

I pray you greet each day knowing you are equipped with the blessed assurance that God, our LORD, is with us. He is ever present!

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