



Emmanuel News

SEPTEMBER



2015

September 6, 2015

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



This year we will be participating in "God's work. Our hands." Sunday on September 6th. We will be doing some weed whacking and general clean-up at the new community center to help get it ready for the Fall Jamboree on the following weekend. We will begin working about 11:30 following worship and should be done in an hour to an hour and a half.

Please plan on participating in the ELCA wide service day. Bring your weed whacker and fuel, work gloves and whatever else you might need. Wear your T-shirt from previous years if you have one. If you don't have one, we do have a few available.

See you on the 6th!

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Children's Sunday School

Starting Sept 13th

10 AM Sunday Mornings
Church Basement
Fellowship Room

Questions? Call Jill 671-3030



Final Community BBQ 2015



Dear Friends at Emmanuel,

Change is in the air.

Literally the temperatures are supposed to finally cool down to more normal levels by the first weekend of September. The summer break from school is now over and school, along with all the fall sports activities, are getting into full swing! Here at church Sunday School and Confirmation Classes will soon be getting under way. The days are getting shorter and the first official day of Fall arrives on September 23rd. Already I'm beginning to see signs in some of the trees that leaves are beginning to change color.

Yes, change is in the air.

When you think about things are changing around us all the time. There is the constant change of the seasons. People are constantly moving into and out of our community. Every day there are people who die and every day new babies are born. Change is a normal and constant reality of our lives. Maryann and I were given a perpetual calendar made by a dear friend in a former congregation. She is now in the arms of her Lord. On this calendar each day is a separate page, and each day of the year has a quote or Bible passage and sometime a picture that she had drawn. I remember one quote in particular: "When you're done changing, your done!" How true this is. Where



there is life, there is change. Where there is death, there is no change.

Isn't it interesting then, that we fear change so much? Rather than fear change, we should embrace it, learn from it and let the change help us grow—because when we're done changing, we're done!

As we move through this time of change from summer to fall, perhaps it's a good time for us to consider some of the changes we are experiencing. There are changes we have no control over and changes we do. How can we learn to live with the changes we can't control and how can we embrace changes we can control to help us grow?

In the midst of changes, there are some constants that have helped take the fear of change away for me. God's love, mercy and grace never change. As the writer of the book of Hebrews says "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." And Paul writes in Romans, "Nothing can ever separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God's blessings to you as each day you breathe the changing air around you!

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

Our September meeting and bible study will be held on Thursday afternoon, the 10th, at 1:00 PM. We have taken a recess from meeting during the summer months, and are anxious to get back together again. Fall is always a busy time for our group as we are preparing for our annual Harvest Dinner, Bazaar and Auction which will take place on Sunday, November 1st. Ladies, this is a reminder to be working on your handiwork, crafts, and homemade goodies for this event.

The weekend of September 25th to the 27th is the date for the Montana Synodical Women's Organization to hold their biennial convention in Great Falls. There are always Bible studies, inspiring worship, guest speakers, and a chance to renew old friendships, so plan to take part in this event. Call Dawn Petty for more details and arrangements for travel, etc.

COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

September is finally upon us and summer is winding down. Labor Day on the 7th is the official end of summer, a three day weekend, too, but the calendar is really telling me the first day of autumn begins on the 23rd. Fine by me, I'm all in favor of a three day weekend to spend time with family and friends, and fixing up something tasty on the barbecue. Speaking of barbecue, the last Community barbecue was held on Wednesday, August 26th, and there was a good turnout. From my vantage point in the corner church window, I could watch the grill action unfold. Wow, I have never seen so much chicken in my life! The smoke was just rolling off the grills! Hopefully everyone enjoyed this summer tradition and will be looking forward to starting them off again next summer.

On the 11th of September, we have Patriot Day, a time to remember and reflect on the past. Also a must, to fly the flag to show solidarity that we all stand together against a common foe. We didn't ask to be involved in this mess, but the actions that occurred on that day fourteen years ago were a wake up call and a personal invitation. Too bad all the energy spent on hating and fighting, couldn't be spent on helping and healing. Anyway, I will be glad to fly Old Glory proudly from my front porch. Last Saturday, my youngest son asked me why I was flying the flag....was it a special day or something? I told him that I didn't have to work today! Any day that old T.C. doesn't have to work is a special day, so

I thought I should put up the flag.

With fall coming, I know that hunting season is right around the corner. Hunting for food to put into the freezer. Hunting for memories shared among family and friends. Perhaps even hunting for the perfect Christmas tree, as the holidays will be fast approaching also. You know, a lot of times, my best days in the field are the ones that I am spending quality time with my kids, looking for that trophy animal.

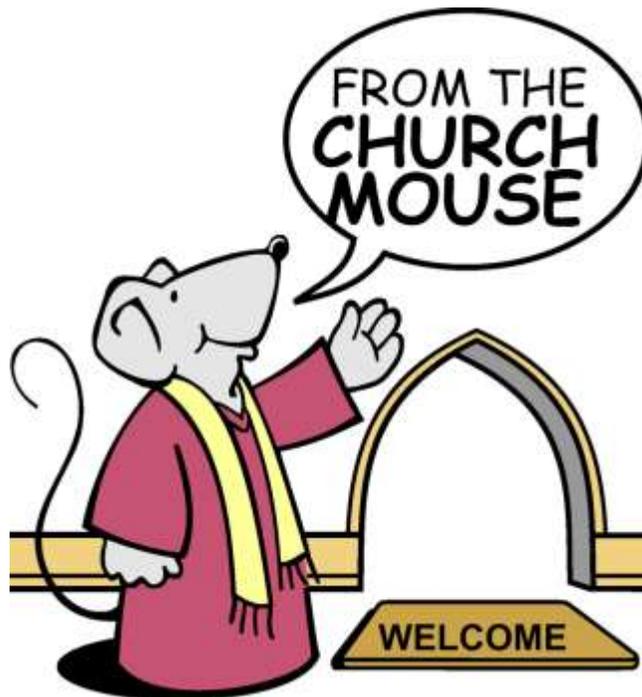
Often we return home tired and empty handed, but still satisfied with our time together, knowing that there is always a tomorrow for a chance to fill the tag. Many a year, I have had to eat my tags for lack of success, but yet we have had a great season.

Well, it's back to school time again...my youngsters have been home schooled by Mrs. T.C., but have been begging to join all the kids

at the elementary building. I keep telling them it's too risky just getting there, with all the neighbors' cats around....stay here at the church where it's safe. We haven't even seen a trap or any of those little blue morsels placed in strategic places here for a long time....besides on September 13th, Sunday School begins, and they can take part in that. So bring your youngsters to meet mine....see you in church!

Your Faithful Friend,

T.C. Mouse, In Residence at Emmanuel



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

August 12, 2015

The Church Council met Wednesday evening after the BBQ, with five members present. Pastor Mark opened with devotions from "Reclaiming the 'L' Word". He also reported on his activities for the past month, which included officiating at St. John's for their worship on August 2nd; visiting patients at the hospitals; and cooking at the weekly community BBQ's. He has been attending the Wednesday luncheons for the Senior Citizens and is getting acquainted with many of the people in this area. He baptized his granddaughter at Seeley Lake this past month, and also baptized four other people at that time. He is planning on the confirmation class for this fall, and said the Sunday School will be starting again. He has been checking into projects for the "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday on September 13th, possibly doing some work at the Lions' Club Community Center, and putting in horseshoe pits or doing some painting on the building. Pastor will be out of town attending meetings from Sept. 6th to the 11th, plus going to the Bishop's Convocation with the Episcopal Diocese in Great Falls on September 24th.

Standing Reports included the Secretary's minutes, which were approved as printed. The Treasurer's report was discussed, recent offerings were low due to less attendance in the summer months. The report was accepted and held for audit.

The Deacons reported that Sunday School would be starting on September 13th. Also, we will begin raising monies for the Synod House in September and October with a mini-fundraising campaign called "From Our House to the Synod House", using various ways to accomplish this. The Synod campaign co-coordinator, Jeanne McCoskery, will be with us on Sunday, November 9th, to receive our offering and to let

us know how the Synod House project is progressing.

The Trustees report: The chair lift will need to be inspected regularly, and an inspection notice will need to be posted, according to the maintenance regulations.

Old Business: We will communicate with the congregation regarding plans for our facilities here, such as moving the existing parsonage, turning part of the garage into the Food Pantry, and extending our parking area over the old parsonage site. The Council is also planning a retreat for Friday evening, September 18th and Saturday morning, September 19th. At the retreat, we will be reflecting on our current mission and vision and setting some long term goals. We will discuss the need for written policies/ procedures utilizing resources from the Synod and Pastor's

experience at former churches. He will also check on the church's policies and procedures regarding gay marriages, sexual abuse cases, and accusations of wrongdoings, and how do we handle them? What steps do we need to follow in making decisions and communicating them to the congregation?

New Business: We talked about supplies for "back to school" and the food pantry families, and what is needed. Kristianne will check with Dawn Shersest to identify the appropriate contact to coordinate with at Shepherd Schools. The Pastoral Evaluation needs to be completed and turned in by September 3rd to Kristianne Wilson. Our next meeting will be September 16th, with an abbreviated agenda. The meeting was adjourned and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Petty, Council Secretary

(continued page 5)



SERVICE

Church Council Minutes (continued from page 4)

Communion Helpers Counters

8/16 Liz White Liz White

8/23 Sharon Wolske Sharon Wolske

8/30 Dawn Petty

9/06 Dawn Petty Dawn Petty

9/13 Kristianne Wilson



Community BBQ's

WOW!! We just finished preparing and enjoying eleven weekly barbecues for the community! What a fun time that was! Our menus consisted of

burgers, bratwurst and hot dogs on the grill, plus all the tasty potluck dishes brought by the guests....and there was always plenty of food. We received \$1,514.00 from the voluntary contributions, all of which went into the Food Pantry account. The smallest group we had was about 20 people, and the largest, this last Wednesday, was 67 people. We always had a handful of people from our church, and the rest were from the community, so we had the opportunity to become acquainted with these neighbors. Pastor Mark was the main "Grill Master", flipping burgers with gusto and wearing his BBQ apron and sox. Our last BBQ on the 26th of August featured chicken on the grill...so much chicken!! We needed two people to do the cooking, and Rich Larson joined Pastor to do the basting and the flipping! What a team!! We are already looking forward to next summer. Thanks to all of you and the volunteer helpers.



Christikon Bible Camp



Family Promise
of Yellowstone Valley

Emmanuel's schedule to host the families for two nights will be in October. In the meantime, there will soon be a "ground-breaking" ceremony for the new facility which will be in the downtown area on the corner of South 27th Street and Montana Avenue. The existing building is being refurbished and prepared to house the day center, offices, storage and some apartments. Family Promise is an organization that makes a difference in people's lives, and has such amazing volunteers that work with these homeless families. It is an inspiration to work with these families. Perhaps you would like to volunteer to make a meal for them, or to be their host for the overnight time at Peace Lutheran Church. Please consider volunteering for this.

A Community Response to
Homelessness
CARDBOARD
BOX CITY



Saturday, October 3, 2015
Rocky Mountain College

Cardboard Box City, one of the fundraisers for Family Promise, is scheduled for October 3rd. We have had some of our members and youth from Emmanuel take part in the past...so plan on camping out and sleeping in a cardboard box for this again. Brochures with registration information are on the table in the back of the church.

CARING RELATIONSHIPS

Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates



Members: Laurel Noland's sister-in-law Cindy, gradually failing, getting weaker every day; Terri Hensley's brother on chemo for cancer; Tracy Kern's step-father Ernie Reynolds still on chemo treatments; Esther and Bill Green; Clarence Beddes, at home recovering from surgery and Agnes Beddes, Cathy Peil's brother-in-law, Mike LaSorte has pancreatic cancer; Doris Martin (Debbie Cossitt's mother) starting cancer treatments; Virgene Steadman, health issues; Ron Quanbeck who has a hip infection.

Children: Andrew Green, tumors on internal organs.

Friends of the Congregation: Cliff Sanchez, cancer; Shirley Sept, cancer; Darlene Robillard very ill with cancer; Katie Rightmire ALS; Mary Elizabeth Aude, friend of Lori Johnson, multiple back surgeries; Paul LeClaire, friend of Bobbi Smith, in hospital with severe head injuries and seizures; John Barta, cancer; Parker Richard, 18 yr. old had heart surgery in June; Eugene Decker in Billings Clinic ICU following a work related fall.

(If you have anyone you want on this list, please call Dawn Petty.)

Community Living:

St. John's:

Eva Swenson, *Vista*; Charles Pederson – Dorothy Haaland's father; Esther Green, *Jensen Cottage* & sister Aggie at *Fisher Cottage*

West Park Village: Lenora Weist, Esther Bengtson

Yellowstone County Jail: : Chance Mavity, Anthony Allen, now out of jail, but still in the "system supervision" living with relatives in Wisconsin.

Rob Larson, MN



09/13 Chuck Super
09/14 Ron Quanbeck
09/15 Ed Hawthorne
09/19 Jackson McCloud
09/21 Melissa Sherseth
09/21 Linda Hinkle



09/15 David & Jill Hoffmann

september 2015

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Address Service Requested

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 66
Shepherd, MT 59079

We have a mission . . .

Emmanuel Lutheran is called
by God
to joyful worship
caring relationships and
loving service.

We have a vision . . .

to “follow God’s plan for us
to grow in faith, family,
building and community.”



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING

elcshepherd.org — elcshepherd@gmail.com

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