Emmanuel







As the church year wraps up, many Bible readings address the end times and Jesus' return at an unknown date (unknown to all but God the Father, that is). Specific beliefs about the Second Coming vary throughout Christendom, but



our attitude about that momentous event affects how we live right now.

"Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces," Martin Luther reportedly said, "I would still plant my apple tree." Instead of constantly despairing about this broken-down world, we can remain determined to serve God and our neighbors, planting seeds of life and hope in the process.



October₂₀

Potluck

There will be a Potluck following worship on Sunday, October 27th in recognition of Pastor Mark's retirement.

Dear Friends at Emmanuel,

As the days grow closer to my retirement date I've been doing some reflecting on my 40 plus years in ministry.

There have been many changes. The first Lutheran woman pastor was ordained only four years before I began seminary. Women were still struggling for acceptance as "real" pastors during my time in seminary and several of my female classmates we among the leaders of women seeking to gain more acceptance in ministry. The first female bishop was a classmate and several others soon followed her. Great gains have been made in the past 40 years, but women in ministry still struggle for acceptance and equal treatment with their male counterparts.

The last 40 years has seen great change in the liturgical practices of the Lutheran Church. I've seen four different hymnals during my ministry, not to mention different liturgies written by people such as Marty Haugen that weren't fully printed in our Lutheran hymnals, but have been widely used in Lutheran congregations. My first congregation only celebrated Holy Communion four times a year when I arrived. The typical practice in the 60's and 70"s was communion once a month. Over the past 40 years of my ministry this gradually increased to twice a month and now a majority of congregations have

From the Pastor

returned to the practice of the early church of communing every time we gather for worship. I have also witnessed the increase of musical instruments other than organs and pianos in worship. Now we have worship teams and bands and the worship service projected on screens.

Great strides have been made since the 1980's in ecumenical agreements and cooperation with many of our sister and brother denominations in the Christian faith. This has been a very difficult and yet satisfying endeavor which I believe has enhanced our witness in the world.

On the down side, during my years of ministry the mainline Christian denominations in the United States has seen a dramatic loss of membership. The church has changed and I believe it will look much different 20 years from now than it does today. The reality is that the church has had many dramatic changes throughout its history, but God is faithful and the church will continue to witness to the good news of God's love and grace and bring hope to a world in need. I am grateful that I have had the privilege to participate in that witness these past 40 plus years.

God is good! All the time!

Boston Mark

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Ladies....as you know, time just seems to fly by, and it's a month away for the time of our annual Harvest Dinner, Bazaar, Raffle and Auction. Our church has held this Roast Beef Dinner for many years now, and it is well known for this delicious

menu. We have gone over the work group lists, and some of the phone numbers have been changed, or e-mails added, so we should be able to contact all of the women regarding our Harvest Dinner plans, and what is needed for each of us to do. This event has always been very successful, and it is because each of you do your best to make it that way. Each of you will be IN AMERICA contacted a week or ten days before the dinner, to let you know what to contribute. Meanwhile, we can be working on craft items for the bazaar and auction. If you don't want to make a project, perhaps you can purchase a small

appliance, kitchen items, household decorations, baked goods, etc. to be auctioned off, or tools and gadgets for the man of the house, to keep him busy or entertainedor an afghan to keep him cozy while watching TV in his recliner...



It would be helpful to bring the items you already have, ahead of time, leave them in the back of the church on a Sunday, and they can be inventoried, so it isn't all left until the last weekend. The items will then be stored in the "nursery room", which can be locked, and be ready to be brought out on the 3rd of November....making it less hectic for our people who will be running the

auction and bazaar. Any questions or suggestions, let me know. Thanks for all your help. Dawn P. 373-6673

COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

I'm sitting in my den in front of the computer, working on putting something together for the monthly Church newsletter. Of course I have the news playing in the background, so I can stay up to date with everything, and the weather man is talking snow for the weekend. What? It's still September and I wasn't expecting the fluffy white stuff so soon. I still haven't pulled the old long johns out of storage yet. I think they may even need some mending also, so I'll have to butter up

Mrs. T.C. to get that done. Oh well, what can you do? Nothing really, just go with the flow. Perhaps just look at it. Exactly what I like to do when the snow starts coming down, piling up on the front walk. I stay in the comfort of my little house, staring out the window and just look at it. I hope this weather event is short lived and kind of a wakeup call for us to get all of the fall stuff done, as Old Man Winter is coming.

On the 14th we celebrate Columbus Day, so the government and banker types get a day off, but the rest of us just keep plugging away. How come there isn't a special food or meal to celebrate Columbus Day? I love to eat. Perhaps I just don't know what it is. You know how St. Patrick's Day has corned beef and cabbage as the traditional meal, I think Columbus Day should have something too. Well, until I learn different, I'm telling the family and the Mrs. that Columbus loved Sloppy Joes, so that is how we will celebrate! Sloppy Joes for Columbus Day! Yippee. I might be on to something, possibly starting a new tradition. Work with me people and spread the word!

Mrs. T.C. also celebrates her birthday this month, so I need to come up with something extra special to help her celebrate. Happy Birthday honey! I wouldn't be half the mouse without you! Finally at the end of the month we celebrate Halloween. What a fun excuse to get dressed up and run around the neighborhood collecting free candy. I'll have to get busy on making costumes for all of the kids and then come up with something for myself. I really don't want to repeat any of the great costumes of my past: Pirate, Lumberjack, Detective, Supportive Husband, Clown, Frog, (yes I dressed up as a Frog once, it was a hopping good time)! I could go on and on about the crazy costumes that I've

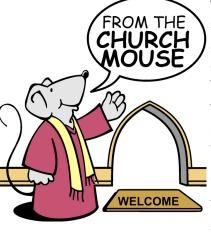
> worn. I'm thinking this year I could stay with the theme of October and go as Columbus! Better yet, I could go as a giant Sloppy Joe! What will you dress up as? I hope to see you all out and about on the 31st. If not, I'm sure that I'll see you in Church.

See you in Church.

Your Faithful Friend in residence at Emmanuel.

T.C. Mouse.





Church Council Financial Meeting Minutes – 9/11/2019 – Submitted by Secretary: Brenda Emerick

Members Present: Meagan, Scott, Ricker, Dawn, Linda, Brenda, Liz and Pastor Mark

Members Excused: Jill and Patty

Guests Present: Carol Kramer, Dawn Petty, Sharon Wolske, Kristianne Wilson

President, Meagan Malchow called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Pastor Mark led a devotion to begin the meeting.

The council welcomed the newly formed Pastor Call Committee: Chair - Carol, Sharon, Dawn and Kristianne. Prior to the meeting, Meagan had e-mailed documents to the council and the call committee to help get the process started. These included job description examples, Synod compensation guidelines, and a resume for a potential interim pastor. Meagan will send the committee members a copy of the new budget that was approved at the congregational meeting. Based on that budget, our church cannot afford to hire a full-time pastor until we can build up our reserves again, and/or increase our giving. A lay pastor can be compensated at \$100 per service plus mileage. The church council will schedule lay pastors until the call committee can determine if there is a pastor available who would be willing to work half time. The council will try to get the

same lay pastor on a regular basis and would pay them a little more each week if they would take on any additional duties beyond conducting the service. For example, lead confirmation, prepare the bulletin, etc. Liz White volunteered to be on the call committee as a representative from the council and Meagan volunteered her son James to be on the committee as a youth representative. Jasen Asselstine from the Synod will be at Emmanuel on Sunday, October 13th at 1:00 pm to meet with the committee.

Dawn made a motion to accept the minutes from our previous meeting. Scott seconded the motion and it passed.

Laurel presented the August Profit and Loss statement. We were in the black for the month of

August with net income of \$594.14. YTD we are in the red \$5,311.99. This does not include the \$6,000 we owe the Memorial Fund. With that expense, we are in the red \$11,311.99. The Garage Sale brought in about \$1,300 which will be shown on the September P&L. So far, we have received \$5,000 for hail damage repair. We have not yet received our damage estimate. Laurel will call our insurance on Friday if we have not had a response from them by then. Scott moved to accept the treasurer's report. Liz seconded the motion and it passed.

The IT committee has been meeting and working on updating our website, etc. Jim McKenney has joined the committee along with Ricker, Kyle, Pastor and



Colter from the Synod office. They will have one more phone conference with Colter prior to him coming to Shepherd for a face to face meeting on September 24th.

Pastor reported that during August, he performed one home communion and one hospital visit. He attended text studies and Sr. Citizens. He helped clean up the church yard after the storm and attended

the Wednesday BBQ's and the new family fun night. He said the first two family fun nights each had about a dozen folks in attendance and everyone had a great time. The numbers were much smaller tonight, but the rain may have kept folks away. We talked about changing it to once a month if attendance does not stay steady.

Pastor Mark's last service will be on October 27th. We will have a potluck celebration after the service. The following Sunday is our Harvest Dinner. Pastor has volunteered to prepare the bulletin for that Sunday. After that, we will need volunteers to prepare the weekly bulletin, write and publish the monthly newsletter, keep church records and teach confirmation. Pastor will train the volunteers on the bulletin and the newsletter. He already has the books for confirmation and the lessons are prepared. We have two confirmation students.

We have wonderful music planned for our services. Dawn reported that the youth choir started this week and five students attended. They are all very excited to perform. They will regularly perform on the first Sunday of each month along with Daisy and her Harp. We will have Blue Grass music each 3rd

[Continued on Page 5]

LOVING SERVICE

[continued from Page 4]

Sunday of the month. Laurel will play the piano for us two Sundays per month with traditional hymns.

Offering Counters for September:

09/15/2019 – Ricker 09/22/2019 – Linda 09/29/2019 – Brenda 10/06/2019 – Dawn



The next council meeting will be October 9th at 7:00 pm.

Pastor led the council in the Lord's Prayer and the meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.



Family Fun

and

Fellowship

Night

Each Wednesday we'll gather at 6:00 p.m. for Potluck followed by games and fellowship. Bring something to share for potluck and your favorite game. We need a host family each Wednesday to: **Help** with set up (set out Make Coffee and lemonade). **Help with clean up: (**ensure all garbage containers have been emptied, Dishes washed and put away—including coffee pots, Heat turned down—if needed, turn off all lights, Doors locked & vacuum if needed). Bring potluck, your favorite games—board or cards and join in the FUN!

Christikon Clips

October 2019



Information for our Congregations

2020 Calendar! The calendar and sessions listing is on our website www.christikon.org . It's not too soon to start planning for next summer's trip to camp! Already accepting reservations!

Fall Retreats: We have retreats scheduled into mid-October. Bring your group and enjoy fall in the mountains!

Thank you for your prayers this past summer, for the summer staff, for its ministry and for all who have joined in the Christikon life. We are truly blessed.

Capital Campaign. The newly renovated Blackfoot Lodge and South Bath House were put to good use this past summer! If you haven't been to camp to see what has been happening the fall is a beautiful time to visit! Watch for more news with the campaign in the near future!

It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ – exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.

CHRISTIKON • 1108 24th Street West • Billings, MT 59102

406 656-1969 • secretary@christikon.org •



Harvest Dinner Auction Items

Do you have an item you wish to donate to our Harvest Dinner Auction? Please prepare them and bring them to the church as soon as possible. The more time we have to take pictures and prepare, the better turn out we have on auction day. (OK to leave in the nursery.)

Bazaar items and bake sale items are also needed so feel free to break out your aprons!

CARING RELATIONSHIPS

Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates

Members:

Our congregation's current financial situation, Meagan Malchow with various health issues; Monty Mavity, cancer; Gary Noland (Charlie Noland's brother) has kidney cancer; Nancy Byxbe undergoing chemotherapy; Warren Peterson, nephew of the Osmundson's having medical issues; Louise Bischke on hospice care; Tom Mitchell with various health issues; James Simpson's nephew, John Mark Owens being treated for stage 4 pancreatic cancer; Connie Halvorsen receiving radiation treatments; former pastor Ron Hovic diagnosed with liver and lung cancer; Laurel Noland's grandson Darius, who had emergency appendectomy; Laurel Noland's son-in-law Andy Dean's Dad, Dale, who has begun treatment for lung, liver and bone cancer; Pastor Mark's brother-in-law, Glen Ray diagnosed with Parkinson's disease with related dementia complications.

Friends of the Congregation:

Bessie Millard being treated colon cancer; Tonya Sullivan, Bill Biehl's daughter, rehabilitating from a horse accident; Richard Schüttler ongoing health issues and Allen Habermann (Cyctic Fibrosis) both are friends of Collin Wilson; Kelly Stokes (friend of Cindy Glenwood) recovering from accident; Brittany Reinhardt (daughter of Toni and Rob McCann, the granddaughter of Judy Smelser), waiting for a kidney donation; Ben Spotts; Lesa Rekdal, Shepherd school secretary diagnosed with cancer; Lee Brumley being treated for thyroid cancer; Rosie Neumiller recovering from surgery on her foot and big toe; Randy Fabor in ICU with diabetic shock; the family of Dave and Deb Dougherty as they mourn the death of Dave's mother; Glenn Lockwood medical issues; AJ, Shauna Calentine's cousin's little boy medical issues.

Community Living:

West Park Village: Lenora Weist Minnesota State Prison System: Rob Larson

Local Youth Serving in the military:

Taylor Green (US Navy) is assigned to the USS Abraham Lincoln and will be deployed as of April 1st to do a world tour for a year; Jacob Wagenaar (US Navy) is stationed in San Diego on the USS Nimitz and will also be deployed this summer; Tucker Wilson is assigned to Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico, Brooke Nebel Bohrer (US Air Force) and Brandon Bohrer (former US Marines) are stationed at Travis Air Force Base in California. Thomas Aigner US Navy Reserves is home now but looking to go on active duty.

01 Jennifer Ingram

- 09 Jackson Plath
- 10 Lauris Byxbe 10 Louise Nunemaker
- 12 Brad Sherseth
- 18 Susan Quanbeck
- 20 Durene Green
- 20 Robert McSwayn
- 21 Carol Kramer 24 Ellie Stahl
- 28 Nancy Byxbe
- 29 Tanner Emmons
- 29 Samantha Leligdowicz
- 30 Heather Plath
- 31 Hailey Hoffman









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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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6 8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth S.S. 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	7 4:30 Cub Scouts	8	9 6:00 Family Fun & Fellowship Night 7:00 Church Council	10	11	12
13 8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth S.S. 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 1:00 Call Committee 7:00 BSLW 4-H	14 4:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Shepherd Pioneers 4-H	15	6:00 Family Fun & Fellowship Night	17 4:30 Boy Scouts	18	19
20 8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth S.S. 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	21	22	23 6:00 Family Fun & Fellowship Night	24	25	26
27 Reformation Junday 8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth S.S. 10:00 Worship 11:15 Potluck	28	29	30 6:00 Family Fun & Fellowship Night	31 Reformation Day	S M T 3 4 5 10 11 12 17 18 19	12



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

We have a mission . . .

Emmanuel Lutheran is a welcoming church in a rural community, called by God to joyful worship caring relationships and loving service.

We have a vision . . .

"We will follow God's plan for us to grow in faith, family, and community." elcshepherd.org – elcshepherd@gmail.com



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING