



# Emmanuel News

MAY 2015

## Confirmation Sunday

Four young people from our congregation will be affirming the promises God made to them in baptism through the rite of Confirmation on Sunday, May 10, 2014.

The four students are: Lydia Nelson, Brynn Newell, Mazie Poor, and Conor Reitler

We pray that God will continue to bless and guide these young people as they now assume greater responsibility for their lives of faith.



### Emmanuel Lutheran Church Youth Group

Invites you to:

A Spaghetti Feed and Quilt Auction

**Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2015**

Following worship (11:00 a.m.)



**Spaghetti  
Dinner**

The menu features spaghetti with meat sauce, vegetable, and garlic toast and are available with a free will donation. Meals to go will be available. The quilts to be auctioned were handmade by a former member of the congregation. All funds raised will be used to support the youth group.



#### ***Congratulations to the following High School Graduates:***

Jonah Nelson — from Huntley Project High School

Katie White — from Shepherd High School

Kyle Reitler — from Skyview High School

Kyle also has earned his Eagle Scout Award and will have his ceremony at the Elk's Lodge on May 19

#### ***Congratulations to the following College Graduates:***

Brittany McKenney — Bachelor's degree from Great Falls

Logan McKenney — a Masters degree from MSU Billings

Autumn McSweyn — Bachelor's degree in Community Health from the University of Montana

God's continued blessings to each of you!

Dear Friends at Emmanuel,



I don't know if you saw the picture posted a couple of weeks ago on our Facebook page. It was a quote from Martin Luther: "Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf of springtime."

Right now, following some nice rain and warm temperatures the leaves outside are shouting RESURRECTION! As with Christmas, Easter is not one day, but a whole season. We remain in the Easter Season until May 17<sup>th</sup> this year—the Day of Pentecost. Of course, the resurrection of Jesus isn't just about one day or one season, it's about every day. In Jesus resurrection, we are being made new every day, as the Apostle Paul writes: "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Corinthians 5:17) That is why I love the change of seasons so much, it reminds me that everything is renewed by God and that things are constantly changing. Even fall and winter—as the leaves fall and the grass turns brown, as the crops are harvested and the creation goes to sleep—whisper that spring will come again! The creation can help but shout: "RESURRECTION!"

It is interesting then, that we avoid and fear change so much. I think we fear change because we become comfortable with the old, comfortable

with the way things are and we want them to remain that way, even when "the way things are" or "the way things were" might not really be so good. We allow ourselves to be deceived and resist the new life that Jesus wants to give us. That's why addictions are so hard to overcome, because even though the addiction may be literally taking our life away, we can't image living a new life without the addiction. In refusing to change, we choose often the old and familiar and ultimately we choose death.

Our faith, however tells us something different. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God is wanting to make us new every day. God wants to give us a new life, an abundant life! The leaves of springtime shout it!

The seasons are changing. Spring will soon become summer. Easter; the season of the resurrection will soon become Pentecost; the season of the Holy Spirit and the season of growth. I can't wait! "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" How about that for a change?

Thanks be to God!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Mark".

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women

We met at the home of Louise Bischke on April 16th with six people present. Pastor Mark lead the Bible study, Our brief business meeting Included upcoming events to be held at our church: May 3rd will be the Youth Fundraiser, with a spaghetti dinner right after services, followed by an auction. Then four young people will be confirmed on May 10th. May 30th is the date for our annual garage sale, and the



summer community BBQ's will start on June 17th. Treasurer's Report: Mary gave her report, showing a balance of \$3183.78. The report was accepted and is held for audit.

A motion was made by Judy, seconded by Mary, to donate \$100.00 to the "in-kind" gifts for the Youth convention in Detroit, being held July 17th to the 26th. We will also continue to watch the ads for good prices on the beef roasts needed for the Harvest Dinner this fall. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

Spring is here and summer is fast approaching. I have been spending my time packing away the warm winter clothes and digging out the flip-flops, shorts and tank tops. At the same time I have been going through all of my stuff to see what I can donate to the annual church garage sale. I'm kind of a pack-rat at heart, as I tend to keep everything. You never know when you might need this or that; but in the long run, all of the good junk just seems to collect dust and never get used again.

The 'monh of May is here, and I get to practice my limited Spanish, if only for a day.. Happy Cinco de Mayo everyone! Muchas gracias mi amigos. On the 10th day of May , we celebrate Mother's Day, so happy Mother's Da to all the Moms out there. It wasn't until I became a parent myself, that I truly appreciated the fantastic job that my Mom did in raising my brothers, sisters and me. Being a Mom is no 8 to 5 job, and I know it takes lots of hard work. Thanks for everything Mom!



Then on 25th, it's Memorial Day to celebrate! The day to remember those who served our country and paid the ultimate price. I always try to attend the service that morning behind the church, in the land of the great granite stones. We have had some very inspirational speakers in the past, and I always leave with a new perspective on life. Happy Memorial Day to everyone, and I hope you enjoy the three day weekend, which typically kicks off the summer. Its time to dust off the old barbecue grill, and cook something up while enjoying the company of family and friends.

Speaking of barbecues, I heard that our community BBQ's will be starting again on June 17th, and for each Wednesday evening after that for the summer. I love those gatherings...all the goodies, leftovers for my family, the camaraderie while we share the meal, and meeting new people. AND speaking of food, there will be lots of fresh veggies in that garden spot again, next to the garage.... ah, I am already drooling just to think of it! Hope to see all of you there.

Your Faithful Friend,

T.C. Mouse, In Residence at Emmanuel



## Memorial Day

Is it enough to think today  
Of all our brave, then put away  
The thought until a year has sped?  
Is this full honor for our dead?

Is it enough to sing a song  
And deck a grave; and all year long  
Forget the brave who died that we

Might keep our great land proud and free?

Full service needs a greater toll,  
That we who live give heart and soul  
To keep the land they died to save,  
And be ourselves, in turn, the brave!

—Annette Wynne

# CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

## April 15, 2015

The Council met on Wednesday evening, April 15th, at the church with nine members present.

Pastor Mark lead devotions from the book "Reclaiming the "L" Word: Renewing the Church From its Lutheran Core", which we will continue using before each meeting.

Pastor's Report included the Lenten services: Wednesday night soup suppers, Passover Dinner, Good Friday Services, Easter Sunrise Service, and 10:00 AM Worship. He officiated at two funerals this past month: Fred George and Larry Bengtson. He has done numerous visits to the hospitals checking on members who have had medical problems. Pastor has also posted several pictures from Holy Week services on our Facebook page.

Confirmation will be held on May 10th for a class of 4 young people. Stoles will be needed for that day, and Kristianne has graciously offered to make them. The confirmands will be measured for the length of their stoles on Sunday, the 26th, during the class session.

Pastor wants to update the church directory and have it reprinted and bound. We need to know who considers themselves members, even if they are not attending services, and get their e-mail addresses and phone numbers.

Pastor explained the "Shepherd's Staff", a data base software program from Concordia to improve our church records retention and for parochial reports. Sharon made a motion to purchase this material, seconded by Terri, and the motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was accepted as printed.

Deacons: The Food Pantry is doing well. We will again receive food from the Billings Food Bank at the end of April....it averages about every 8 to 12 weeks

that we can go in to pick up their surplus. The Deacons will also make a recommendation for the project " God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday, which is scheduled for September 13th.

Trustees: They are working on plans to convert part of the garage into the Food Pantry. One overhead garage door will be removed and replaced with regular entry doors. The furnace, hot water heater, and well pump need to be removed from the parsonage and installed in the garage in the Food Pantry area. They are getting prices on siding and roofing and the partition wall, and plan to do most of the work themselves with help from the congregation. Matt is still talking to Ostermiller House Movers about removal of the parsonage. Terri Hensley reminded them that once the parsonage is removed, the bats in the attic will find another place to go, and if we don't put up some "bat houses" for them, they will attempt getting into the church attic. David suggested putting one on the new security light pole.

Secretary: The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as printed.

Old Business: We need to discuss the pledges made for the building fund, and remind people to continue to give for this purpose, so we will have the funding when it is necessary to put up a new parsonage. It was decided to discuss that at the end of the summer.

Additional ways to generate additional member participation in the host responsibilities for the Family Promise program were discussed. Dawn Petty and Laurel Noland will co-chair this program.

The Youth fundraiser will be held on May 3rd after worship services. There will be a spaghetti dinner which will have a free will offering for the meal, and then there will be a quilt auction. David reported that the free will offering at the Easter breakfast took in over \$200.00. The Youth are raising money for a trip to Detroit from July 10th to the 19th for the National Youth Convention.

*(continued page 5)*



# SERVICE

## Church Council Minutes (continued from page 4)

New Business: Feedback was received on Lent and the services for Holy Week, with plans for next year considered. We will again have the summer Community BBQ's on Wednesday evenings, beginning on June 17th, with proceeds going to the Food Pantry. The date for our annual garage sale has been set for May 30th. We will check with the school to see if they will be having a garage sale, and try to have ours on the same day to draw larger crowds.

The Church garden was discussed, and it was decided to have one again. Co-chairmen will be Terri Hensley and Dawn Petty. We will look into the possibility of having a "community garden"

where others could till, plant and harvest their own plot. Joy Anderson will again buy all the bedding plants, in memory of her late

husband, Jon DePanfilis. High School graduation dates were mentioned. Shepherd's is May 17th and Worden's is May 24th. Our next Council Meeting is May 13th.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned, and Pastor Mark lead us in the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted;

Dawn Petty , Secretary

## Counters Communion Helpers

4/19 Sharon Sharon

4/26 Laurel

5/03 Dawn Dawn

5/10 Kristianne



## Did You Know???



- That Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley has a new website?
  - That you can follow and like FPYV on Facebook?
- That you can watch the incredible testimonies from three of FPYV most recent families on the new website?



[www.familypromiseyv.org](http://www.familypromiseyv.org)

Facebook@FamilyPromiseYV Like Us!



The Special Offering this month is for Emmanuel's Youth Ministry. We will receive the offerings on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup>.



"I'm going into all the world to make disciples of all nations. So I might be a little late for dinner."

# CARING RELATIONSHIPS

## Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates



**Members:** Laurel Noland's sister-in-law Cindy, stage 5 cancer; Terri Hensley's brother on chemo for cancer; Tracy Kern's step-father Ernie Reynolds has liver cancer; Esther and Bill Green; Brad Sherseth recuperating; Agnes and Clarence Beddes, dealing with numerous medical problems; Brad and Latoya Halvorsen (Mark and Connie Halvorsen's son) their unborn son has cardio problems; Brad Green recovering from surgery; Connie Herberg's mother, Lois Sneva, moved to St. John's Transitional Care for therapy; Cathy Peil's brother-in-law, Mike LaSorte has pancreatic cancer; Mary Cossitt's brother-in-law, Donald Cain, very ill; Kevin Kincheloe recovering at home after surgery; Pastor Maryann Morgenstern recovering at home after complete knee replacement.

**Children:** Andrew Green, tumors on internal organs.

**Friends of the Congregation:** Cliff Sanchez, cancer; Stephanie Lunder, end stage liver disease; Janice Austby, cancer; Shirley Sept, cancer; Bob and Darlene Robillard both 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.

*(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*

**Riverstone Hospice, St. John's Campus:** Janice Woodworth

**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



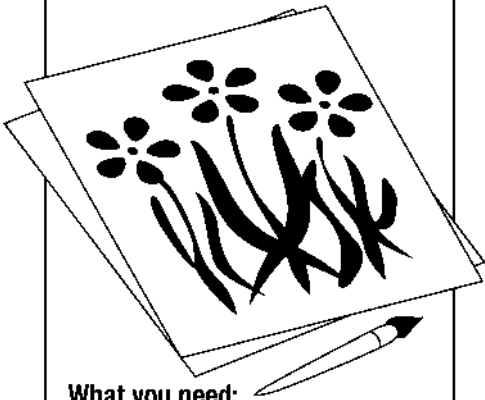
May 04 Scott Ingram  
May 21 Bob Wolske  
May 28 Craig Wilson



May 11  
Jim and Linda Hinkle

# SPRING

Make this beautiful craft to remind you of God's gift of new life at springtime.



## What you need:

- White 11" x 17" paper
- Acrylic paint (various spring colors, including green)
- Paintbrush
- Empty two-liter plastic bottle
- Paper plates
- Paper towels

## What you do:

1. With the paper placed vertically, paint stems and leaves with green paint.
2. Pour a different color of paint onto a paper plate. Then place the bottom of the bottle into the paint.
3. Using the bottle as a stamp, press it onto the paper to create a flower atop a green stem.
4. Repeat with different colors on different plates, cleaning the bottle each time, to create a beautiful spring bouquet.



## Christikon Clips

May, 2015

*Information for our Congregations*



**It's not too late to register for camp this summer!** Space remains in youth sessions and families/adult sessions, including the Work Weekend, May 22-25. You can register online [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org), or use the forms distributed with the youth and family/adult brochures in your congregation. Or call us at the camp office for further information. Trails? On-site? You pick!

**Christikon covers the full costs for each at-risk kid participating in Sojourners Camp.** (We expect to have 24 this summer) We invite individuals, congregations and their auxiliaries to consider special giving for camp scholarships this summer.

**Special guest speakers** become part of the Christikon life this summer during sessions for adults and families. During Mountain Weekend 1 (July 10-12) we feature **Lindean Barnett Christenson** pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bozeman. During Continuing Education Retreat (Aug. 3-6) we feature Jessica Crist (Bishop of the Montana Synod of the ELCA) and Pastor Kathy Schifferdecker (Professor at Luther Seminary). Mountain Weekend 2 (Aug. 7-9) features Director Mark Donald. Come spend a few days of relaxation, learning, and faith growth with us.

**Remember to pray for your congregation's ministry through Christikon** this summer, for the summer staff, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

**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 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT 59102**

**406 656-1969 • [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) • [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)**

## Faith and Work Luncheon: Maintaining Soul in a Time of Rapid Change

Come, dine, and engage with Billings business leaders and Concordia College as we discuss how faith and spirituality impacts and inspires our leadership at work. Concordia College's Lorentzen Center for Faith and Work brings this luncheon to Billings and the surrounding communities to spur dialogue surrounding ethical values and practices in organizations and individuals. In this increasingly secular world of work, this is a "safe space" for dialogue that is happening informally in faith communities about the role your values play in the process of managing change. Join Darrell Erhlick, editor of the Billings Gazette, Lisa Harmon, executive director of Downtown Billings Alliance, Dr. Scott Millikan, cardiothoracic surgeon and former chairman of the Billings Clinic board, and Scott Twito, Yellowstone County Attorney for this important conversation.

Thursday, May 28 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Northern Hotel 19 North Broadway, Billings, MT

Cost for luncheon is \$20

RSVP by Friday, May 22 at  
[concordiacollege.edu/ontheroad](http://concordiacollege.edu/ontheroad) (or call Carol at 218.299.3305)



SEÑORAS & SEÑORITAS  
LET'S HAVE

# la Fiesta

CINCO DE MAYO! 🌶️

MAY 5



MISSION RIDGE  
ACTIVE SENIOR LEARNING  
3840 Rimrock Road • Billings, MT

2 PM

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with festive music, food and more as we learn about the needs of youth and families in South Billings.

Featured Speaker: Jessica Sprattler  
Friendship House, Program Coordinator  
Support the Friendship House by bringing a financial donation to help sustain their mission of educational enrichment.

Si or No to Fiesta?  
Please call 655-5218 or email [marjorie@sjm.org](mailto:marjorie@sjm.org)  
with a Si to make your  
Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Reservation!



## Church Membership Records

We are beginning the process of putting our church membership records into a computer database. In order to do this accurately we would like up update everyone's records. There will be sheets available to do this on the table in the back of the church. Please fill out one sheet for each member of the family. You don't need to re-enter address and phone information for the children. Please pick up the sheets at worship and return them as soon as possible. Your help with this update is very much appreciated. Thanks!





# may

# 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.”

[emmanuelluthshepherd.com](http://emmanuelluthshepherd.com)

“Like” us on Facebook



**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING