



Emmanuel News

APRIL 2016



1st Annual "Church Shower" Report

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts! The first church shower was a success and the group that organized the party could not be happier with the outcome!

We will be making this a yearly event so keep your calendar open for the first weekend in March (or there about)! With an attendance of about 32 ladies we raised over \$800 in cash/donated items. We also asked that everyone bring an item for the food pantry and, as usual, the gracious ladies filled the entire shopping cart.



The cart was literally overflowing!

The party, in essence, was similar to a bridal shower or baby shower where the church itself was the "guest of honor". The ladies brought gifts such as: toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning

products, linens, plastic silverware, paper plates, new coffee makers, trash bags, new pot holders, serving spoons, knives, and coffee. The donations were creative and fun and geared to alleviate some of the budget earmarked for these simple (yet sometimes expensive) items throughout the year. *I can tell you that we should not have to buy paper towels and coffee for at least a year, maybe even two.

Liz White, Laurel Noland, and Laura Vanberg, thank you from the bottom of my heart! You ladies are amazing!

If you have any ideas or suggestions for next year's party, please feel free to talk to any of us. We would love some feedback!

My heart is full! Thank you! — Abbey Emmons



Dear Friends at Emmanuel,

We have celebrated Easter. We have greeted one another with "Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! We had a beautiful Sunrise Service on Easter morning, but I'm already starting to play the role of the disciple Thomas—what difference does it make?

At the beginning of Holy Week our world again experienced another horrible terrorist attack. This time the city of Brussels was targeted in the country of Belgium. Then on Easter Sunday Pakistan was inflicted with a terrorist attack as well. The world reacted with shock and fear, but even as you read this, a little over a week later, these two autocracies have faded from the headlines and most of the media as well. I ask the question: what difference does the resurrection of Jesus make anyway?

Maybe it has to do with whether we really believe in the reality of the resurrection. Do we let the fact that the grave could not overcome God's love for this world make a difference in the way we live our lives each day?

It seems as though the world just goes on being a hateful and cruel place where sinful people try to lord it over one another and create an atmosphere of fear in order to achieve their goal of being the most powerful. As long as we let fear motivate us, terrorists will keep us entombed in our fear. As long as we allow other to practice hate and prejudice we will be entombed in the misery that hate and prejudice unleash on our world.

Pastor's Post



The witness of our Christian faith is that God's love in Jesus has rolled away the stone from the tomb of death; has rolled away the stone from the tomb of fear; has rolled away the stone from the tombs of hate and prejudice. And this makes way for living a new life—not just in heaven some day, but in this world now—the world that God still loves. It is a matter of believing that God has truly rolled those stones away and daring to live without fear, without hate and without prejudice. It is a matter of seeking justice for all people that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Our opening worship service at the Pastor's Conference in Chico is really the Easter Worship for Pastors, where we get the chance to have the Bishop preach an Easter Sermon to us. Our Bishop, Jessica, preached a good one to us! Our opening hymn was Marty Haugen's *All Are Welcome*. I think verse 4 of that hymn sums up what I heard in her sermon and what it means to live really believing the daily reality of Jesus' resurrection:

Let us build a house where hand will reach beyond the wood and stone to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face; let us bring an end to fear and danger: All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!
Let's live it!

Pastor Mark

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

We will be meeting for our Bible Study and short business session on Thursday afternoon, April 14th. Our lesson for each month is from the "Gather" magazine, and Pastor Mark leads the study. He always has lots of background information that makes the lessons so interesting. We have been meeting at Louise Bischke's home at 1:30 PM. Won't you join us?



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

You will notice a beautiful new picture on the west wall of the sanctuary at church. It is a scene of "The Last Supper" which was crocheted and given by Pat Radden, of Shepherd. She is one of the Seniors Group that meets for lunch on Wednesdays, at the Shepherd Community Center. Many thanks, Pat.

COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Do you read any books or novels to pass the time? I love to read, as it helps me to escape into another world, temporarily. Sometimes I feel I get too involved in the stories I read, and the outcome is often awkward. Recently I was reading "The Last of the Mohicans", and really getting lost in the adventure of the story.

Meanwhile, Mrs. T.C. had been busy giving the kids a little shape 'em up haircut in the laundry room and she happened to leave the clippers out when they all retired for the evening. Well, when I took a break from reading, I saw the hair clippers and had an epiphany of sort. Yep, I grabbed those clippers and shaved off every thing, except for a small strip from nose to tail! There I was, standing in a pile of hair, sporting the coolest Mohawk anyone has ever seen! The last of T.C. Mouse! I could hardly wait to show Mrs. T.C. my new hairstyle. Her reaction would be priceless. Me showing up for breakfast, acting like nothing had changed. Kind of like your reaction, when I proclaim.....April Fool! A mouse with a Mohawk? I may be crazy, but not that crazy! Tread lightly my friends, as the 1st of April is the prankster's holiday. Have some fun with it, but keep it safe.



Spring has officially sprung and all of the trees, flowers and plants are starting to grow. Won't be long before it's time to get the garden prepped and ready for planting. I'm sure hungry for some fresh greens....I can't wait until somebody gets the church garden planted. I sure hope we get some of those April showers that bring May flowers. If we have a wet spring, the wild asparagus and mushrooms will be sprouting up

in abundance, and the hunt will be on. I'm anxious to don my buckskins and run through the cottonwood trees along the river bottom in search of these treasures! Speaking of trees, don't forget that Arbor Day is April 29th. Just think, if everyone planted a tree on Arbor Day, the future would be a little greener. This warmer weather makes me want to get the kids out for a picnic and

some rock climbing behind the church....Mrs. T.C. packs a mean picnic lunch. And don't look for me around here all week...we're going to be outdoors exploring! But we'll see you in church on Sunday!

Your Faithful Friend,



CARING RELATIONSHIPS



Hello Emmanuel Lutheran!

With Spring now here it has come to our attention that the summer BBQ season is around the corner. Our Wednesday night Community BBQ's will start June 15th and run through August 14th. They are evenings filled with good food, fellowship, and donations go to the Food Pantry. Set up usually begins around 5 p.m. and the BBQ goes from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30. We are looking for a co-coordinator to help Dawn Petty. This would consist of making sure the meat and buns are provided and coordinating the set up and clean up. If you are interested in volunteering and giving your time please speak to Dawn Petty or Liz White

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

March 9th, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pastor Mark, Matt, Liz, Laurel, Karen, Kristianne, Carol, and Sharon

DEVOTIONS: Lenten service before the meeting

SECRETARY: Minutes from February were corrected and approved as corrected

TREASURER: Reviewed budget for January and February. Special offering for February was for Lutheran World Relief. January's offering was exceptionally high. Guest Pastors receive \$100 minimum per ELCA guidelines. Kristianne motioned that the financial report for February be accepted, motion passed.

DEACONS: Dawn, Laurel, and Roseanne Plath attended the recent Family Promise meeting at the new facility. They have decided to keep trying but more volunteers are needed. Faith Chapel has people available to fill in if we are not able. Our next rotation is April 17. Need someone there by 6pm for dinner and at 8 pm for sleep over. Church Shower was a success. Estimated \$557 in supplies for the church, \$105 in checks that Abbey will use to purchase items still needed. Need value of new coffee pot and groceries donated to pantry. Saved money in the ELCW budget with all of the donated items. Liz will add note to newsletter about the Summer BBQ/potluck being held from June 15th through August 24th from 6 pm-8 pm. \$5 per person goodwill donation and funds go to the food pantry. Church supplies meat, tomatoes, and onions. Need people to help with coordination of this summer community outreach

TRUSTEES: Matt got the alter rail fixed to the floor. Takes 8 bolts but is easy to remove if needed. Dawn got the north door fixed. Plumbers are coming 3/10 to clear the pipes. Have not heard anything new from the school/shop. Need something done with the house as it is a hazard. Needs to be moved or maybe roped off with caution tape. Matt & Melissa will be donating 200 lbs. of beef to the food pantry. Put together list of

duties for the Building Use Facilitator. Discussed adding this as a new council role. Would like them to serve for a year at a time. If no one volunteers, this will fall back on the trustees. Spotlight to Mission Cornerstone "Loving Service." Matt will address the church on 4/10 and will be adding Help Wanted notice to newsletter.

PASTOR: Has been busy with senior services, Lenten services, and home visits. Would like to plan a procession with palm leaves for Palm Sunday. Had \$3500 in mission support for 2015 and received thank you from our Bishop. Total Synod giving for 2015 was \$4,883.10 which included several special offerings throughout the year that are Synod sponsored programs. Council members signed a letter of intent for mission support in 2016 for \$4,400. Eastern Star wants to donate to the pantry and the backpack program. Pastor will discuss details with the deacons. Pastor will be at a retreat in Chico from Tuesday 3/29 through Friday 4/1. Revised wedding guidelines to include same gender weddings.

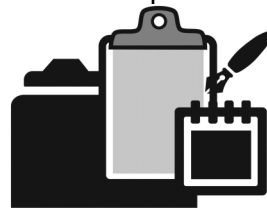
OLD BUSINESS: Moved building use policy to next month. Sexual misconduct policy was completed by Pastor. Need to have copies at the next meeting to review and will motion whether to accept it or to change if necessary. Member update requests have been done in the bulletin/newsletters but not enough response to update. Need active and inactive member's information. Pastor will make a list with Sharon & Carol and then engage other council members to do what is needed.

NEW BUSINESS: Agreed that date and time of council meetings seems to work for most and times will stand. VBS is coming soon. Need to determine if ELC will have our own. Talked about a joint VBS with either Berea Baptist or Good Shepherd. Berea is having theirs June 27-July 1 for 2 hours/evening and has a bus to transport kids to/from. Good Shepherd has theirs on a Friday/Saturday.

Counters/Communion Helpers

3/13 Kristianne

(Continued on next page)



Church Council Minutes

LOVING SERVICE

(Church Council Minutes continued from previous page)

3/20 Karen
3/27 Carol
4/3 Sharon
4/10 Matt

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Our next monthly meeting will be April 13 at 7pm. We will continue with the Mission Cornerstone updates at the Sunday services.

Respectfully, Karen Vanberg, Secretary



Family Promise
of Yellowstone Valley



Family Promise®
of Yellowstone Valley

Time sure flies by, doesn't it? Seems like we just were helping to host the families at Peace Lutheran Church, but that was in January. Our next rotation is during the week of April 17th to the 23rd. We will be doing the evening meal on Tuesday night the 19th and staying overnight, then scheduled for overnight on Wednesday the 20th, and the evening meal on Friday, the 22nd. So be thinking of how you can help with this worthwhile project...perhaps this would be the first time for you to help and you are a little uneasy about what to do and where to go, but one of us would join you to familiarize you with the routine. What can you do to help? Let me know. Dawn Petty, 373-6673

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
*Retirement
Open House*
HONORING



KENT BURGESS
PRESIDENT AND CEO

THURSDAY, APRIL 21ST
AT THE HILANDS GOLF CLUB
FROM 4:30 ~ 6:30PM

*Stop in to help us celebrate
25 years of dedicated service
to this community and*

ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN MINISTRIES



CARING RELATIONSHIPS

Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates



Members: Terri Hensley's brother on chemo for cancer; Tracy Kern's step-father Ernie Reynolds still on chemo treatments; Esther and Bill Green; Holly Reitler's great Nephew Trey Reitler, 3 months old and in need of heart surgery; Nancy Byxbe having thyroid issues; Eileen Johnson's niece, Jeanie Schyultz, in California on chemotherapy following cancer surgery, Eileen Johnson's niece, Darlene Robillard, in Dallas with cancer nodes in her neck, and Ron Robillard in Seattle, chemotherapy for non-Hotchkins lymphoma and very ill; Ed Thaut at Billings Clinic recovering from a fall at home.

Children: Andrew Green, tumors on internal organs.

Friends of the Congregation: Shirley Sept, cancer; Katie Rightmire ALS; John Barta, cancer; Tom Weichel, cancer; Sandy Green's brother's mother-in-law, Leta Lytton, who is in her 90's has fallen and broke her pelvis. Recovery is expected to be very long; Kenzie Cooper, injured in a truck accident; Pierre LaVe recovering from open heart surgery; Haley Irene Knickerbocker, infant daughter of Kerry Knickerbocker recovering from heart surgery.

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

Community Living:

St. John's:

Eva Swenson, Esther Green

West Park Village: Lenora Weist, Esther Bengtson

Yellowstone County Jail: Chance Mavity,

Rob Larson, MN



- 01 Dawn Petty
- 02 Cole Hoffman
- 04 Lydia Nelson
- 05 Agnes Beddes
- 08 Brittany McKenney
- 09 Peggy McSweyn
- 10 Mary Cossit
- 11 Derek Reitler
- 17 Rob Emmons
- 19 Ricker Olson
- 20 Rosanne Plath
- 27 Autum McSweyn
- 29 Gene Lundhagen



05 Chuck & LuAnne Super



JOHN 13:35, ESV

“By this all people will know
that you are my disciples, if you
have love for one another.”

Address Service Requested

Shepherd, MT 59079

P.O. Box 66

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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,

and community.”



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING