



Emmanuel News

January
2017



Sunday School Christmas Program



ANNUAL MEETING

January 29, 2017 — 11:15 a.m.

Dear Friends at Emmanuel,

Happy New Year!

So we being a new year, 2017. When I was a little boy I wasn't sure I'd ever see the year 2000. Such is our concept of time. When one is only 8 years old forty years seems and impossibly long time away. Now, twenty years more seems like an unlikely gift.

At the beginning of each new year, many people dream and plan for what the next twelve months will bring. We make resolutions about what we will do in this new year—exercise more, loose weight, give up some bad habit, take up some new good habit, plan a vacation, prepare for a wedding or a birth—the list goes on. We are fascinated with *time*.

The writer of the Book of Ecclesiastes has an interesting take on time in Chapter 3:

¹*For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:*

²*a time to be born, and a time to die;*

a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

³*a time to kill, and a time to heal;*

a time to break down, and a time to build up;

⁴*a time to weep, and a time to laugh;*

a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

⁵*a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;*

a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

⁶*a time to seek, and a time to lose;*

a time to keep, and a time to throw away;

⁷*a time to tear, and a time to sew;*



a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

⁸*a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.*

Each year, indeed each day has its own time, and who knows what the day or year will bring? All that we can say for sure is that time is in God's hands—as are we.

As we enter 2017 I leave you with a poem by Dietrich Boenhoeffer, a Lutheran Pastor and theologian, written as he sat in prison in Nazi Germany due to his part in a plot to assassinate Adolph Hitler; waiting to see what time would bring him.

*Should it be ours to drain the cup of grieving
Even to the dregs of pain, at they command,
We will not falter, thankfully receiving
All that is given by thy loving hand.*

*But should it be they will once more to release us
To life's enjoyment and it good sunshine,
That which we've learned from sorrow shall increase us
All that our life be dedicated as thine.*

*Today, let candles shed their radiant greeting;
Lo, on our darkness are they not thy light
Leading us, haply, to our longed-for meeting?
Thou canst illumine even our darkest night.*

*While all the power of good aid and attend us,
Boldly we'll face the future, come what it may.
At even and at morn God will befriend us,
And, Oh, most surely on each newborn day!*

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

God's Blessings for your New Year!

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

The ladies have not been meeting this winter, but hopefully we can return to our monthly sessions and Bible studies in the spring. We were able to help pay the benevolence to the Synod, due to the success of the Harvest Dinner, Bazaar and Auction in November. A big "Thank You" to



Women
of the
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA

all the women of the church for their participation and hard work for that event. We also will be replacing at least one of the electric ranges in the kitchen for something new and more dependable. There are other items that need to be updated....so watch for the changes.

COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Happy New Year! I trust that everyone had a safe and happy new year, watching the ball drop with friends and family. As for myself, I continued my tradition of watching the ball drop on the 10:00 o'clock news, go to bed and be asleep by 10:30, and not even rolling over for the fireworks that went off at midnight. It sure is hard to believe that another year is over, and a new one is upon us. Perhaps 2017 will be a lucky year, since it has the lucky number "7" in it. Well, did you make any new year's resolutions? I decided to give up Twix bars for mine. Partly because of my expanding waistline, but mostly because of the danger of craving a Twix. Yeah, a couple of cousins of mine from town met their early demise, when they couldn't resist the caramel and chocolate of a Twix. Of course it didn't help that the caramel and chocolate were on one of those spring traps in the garage that they were staying in at the time. So I warned my kids about staying away from any and all unwrapped sweets. Therefore, I resolve that the only "sweet" thing in my life will be Mrs. T.C. Anyway, I wish all of you the best for 2017.

Now that the holidays are behind us, Mrs. T.C. and I have spent the better part of today taking down the decorations and packing up all the Christmas stuff that we hauled out about a month ago. Lucky for me, the weather is such, that the outdoor things will have to wait for warmer weather. All of the plastic things will be too brittle to handle, so I can't touch it now. It will have to wait until warmer weather. Rest assured that I will get it all packed up and put away once the spring thaw gets here. I will spend my time now shoveling snow and keeping the front porch clear. Looks like we are off to a good start in the

snow department. I better spend some time checking out my ski gear too, as I think this will be a good season to hit the slopes.

This month, on the 16th, we celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Such a gifted and inspirational man, who was strong enough to come up with his "I have a dream" speech. I think with all the turmoil of this past year, there are many people who need to go back and read that speech again. Just think what we could do as a nation, if we all spent more time and energy on getting along, then we seem to spend getting after each other.



Oh, by the way, here is an update on the results of my Christmas wish list. I got the new Corvette for Christmas that I was asking for! Yep, a fully restored 1965 Corvette, Royal Blue, shiny, sleek, faster than a hurricane. What a surprise! Of course, it is only 1/18th the size of the original car, so don't expect to see me cruising the parking lot, but she is all mine!

I can put her on a shelf and dream of driving her around town. I already had one such dream the night after Christmas. I was going down the highway in the summer time, top down, wind blowing through my hair, and on my way to dinner at my favorite restaurant. What a treat! Thanks for the new wheels, Santa. Remember, it doesn't hurt to let your wishes be known....you never know when they might come true. Somebody may be listening. What have you got to lose? I, too, had a dream!

Your Faithful Friend,

T.C.Mouse, In Residence at Emmanuel

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 12/15/16

Vision: We will follow God's plan for us to grow in faith, family, and community.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Liz White, Kristianne Wilson, Sharon Wolske, Carol Kramer, Wade Malchow, Matt Walsh

Devotions- Advent Service served as Devotions for the meeting

Standing Reports

Secretary's Report- None

Treasurer's Report-The council discussed the E-Giving donations. Sharon reported the ease of the reports she receives from them. Automatic electronic giving may help the council as we discussed stewardship to help plan for the coming year. The Ladies group will donate \$3,000 to the church to put towards the Synod Benevolence-ELCA. We are currently ahead of our parking lot loan. The remaining balance is around \$10,000 or so. Treasurer's report was approved by Carol and seconded by Liz.

Deacon's Report- Liz was unsuccessful at getting a Billings Food Bank donation for October/November. Several messages were left and no call backs. She will try again after the holidays.

Trustee's Report-Lockout change will be on Friday 12/17. Abbey will be in charge of the key exchanges. Sharon had a gentleman come and give a quote regarding insulating the garage, which is not currently done. He recommended we put vents on the north and south side for venting prior to insulating for moisture control. We also need to get the propane and furnace in first. The insulation estimate he gave us was \$1,500.00. The Walsh family has donated game meat to the food pantry. Huntley Project Meats donated the butchering. Matt will work with Valley to bury the line when the weather is agreeable.

Pastor's Report- Pastor Mark has made several hospital visits and completed two Advent Services. The internet service provider has been changed . We no longer have East Slope. It is now Century Link, which is working much better. We discussed changing the church cell phone plan to something cheaper as Pastor hardly ever gets calls on it.

Old Business

Nominating Committee- reported that all positions are filled and will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Constitution update Resolution- The council agreed to adopt a resolution to create a Congregational Constitution Review Committee (CCRC) to update our Constitution

with Sharon making the motion and Wade seconding. We discussed possible members to help update our Constitution. Kristianne has volunteered to chair the committee with Sharon helping as well. CCRC makes changes, then Council, then Synod. We reviewed examples of constitutional changes what would be mandatory versus non-mandatory.

Annual Meeting- Reports and presentations need to be completed by 1/13/17. We discussed including in the Annual meeting agenda a re-vote regarding the parsonage rebuild verses housing allowance given the sense of the discussion at the special congregational meeting in November. Sharon will bring information to the January council regarding the budget impact of these decisions. This information will be finalized and brought to the annual meeting for a vote.

Special Ministries Giving- Below are last year's ministries

January- Prison Ministries, February- Lutheran World Relief, March- St. John's Lutheran Ministry, April- Family Promise of Yellowstone County, May-Emmanuel Youth Ministry, June-Lutheran Center in Billings, July- Lutheran Social Services of MT, August- Shepherd Food Pantry, September-Christikon Bible Camp, October- Northern Rockies Institution of Theology, November- Shepherd Food Pantry, December- Lutheran Ministries of MT.

We discussed having Rob Nedbalek with Freedom Christ Prison Ministries come and preach.

Sharon spoke to the success of our benevolence now that we keep track of each one separately and have set months for each.

New Business

2017 Budget – The council discussed the need to add a housing allowance per Synod recommendation. We added in a projected cost of parsonage/housing allowance loan in anticipation of the annual meeting vote. The final draft will be looked at during the January council meeting.

Counters/Communion Helpers

12/18 - Carol
1/1 - Kristianne
1/8 - Sharon
1/15 - Carol

Next council meeting will be January 18th.

Mission Cornerstone Sunday service assignment goes to Liz this month.

The church council closed with the Lord's Prayer.



LOVING SERVICE

Christikon Clips

January, 2017

Information for our Congregations



Watch this month for Christikon brochures on opportunities for youth. It's not too early to start thinking about this summer. Youth brochures will be mailed to every young person in grades 4-12 in our congregations this month. Those brochures will detail some very special deals for registering early for camp. We hope to serve even more people from our member congregations in 2017!

Save the date: **Christikon Benefit Auction** at the Billings Depot is scheduled for April 30.

Too few of our nation's young people (not to mention adults) have significant outdoor experience. Christikon combines spirited outdoor experience with a community experience that helps open people to the life of faith. Think about joining the Christikon life this coming summer. It can do a world of good...

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 •
director@christikon.org • ww.christikon.org

Endowment Scholarship Applications

Endowment Scholarship Applications are available. Please contact Sharon Wolske at 373-6137 or haybob59079@yahoo.com

January 2017



Freedom in Christ Congregation at the Men's Prison in Deerlodge

Emmanuel Lutheran Church New Year's Resolution

Do you want a New Year's resolution that's easy to keep? Sign-up for Online giving for 2017! It is very easy and simple to set-up. Electronic offerings may be set-up for the General Fund, Building Fund, Parking Lot, Food Pantry, or Youth. Electronic giving helps the church by providing predictable and consistent giving and helps you by saving you the time of writing checks. Giving can be set-up to be on a weekly, biweekly, or monthly basis or one-time through ACH, Credit, or Debit cards. To sign-up for online giving go to our church website, <http://elcshepherd.org>. Please be patient as it takes about 15 to 20 seconds to load. Then scroll to the bottom of the screen and click on 'Simply Giving'. If you need help signing up, please contact Jim McKenney at 406-967-2213 (Home), 406-861-7441 (Cell) or contacting him via email at mckenney.james@gmail.com

CARING RELATIONSHIPS

Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates



Members:

Esther and Bill Green; Eileen Johnson's niece, Jeanie Schyultz, in California on chemotherapy following cancer surgery; Meagan Malchow with various health issues; Roxanne Powell, Linda Hinkle's niece; Clarence Beddes recovering at home; Eileen Johnson is now at RiverStone Hospice house; June Weber, Dawn Petty's sister in Dallas, Texas, will be having her pacemaker replaced; Lee Borgen, Doreen McKenney's father, had a total knee replacement and is not doing well; Rita Pickard, Jim McKenney's mom, is now out of the hospital and back at home, on different medications, and doing better; Monty Mavity, who is quite ill with cancer.

Children:

Andrew Green, tumors on internal organs.

Friends of the Congregation:

The family of Shirley Sept as they mourn her death; Katie Rightmire ALS; John Barta, cancer; Tom Weichel, cancer; Kynzee Cooper, continuing to recover from her accident; Eileen Harbaugh struggling with numerous health issues; Kamrey Leiser has been doing much better, and is back in school after her landslide accident; Spencer Beddes, with kidney problems; Caitlyn Beley, a woman in her 30's with brain cancer; Ali McCarty, daughter of Greg and Vicky McCarty, in a coma after a horse accident; the family of Joyce Brown, wife of former Pastor Wendell Brown, as they mourn her death; Ted Bahr, age 60, had part of his leg amputated due to a serious infection. He is from Boise, Idaho, and a cousin of Bobbi Smith; Jim Schultz Sr., doing quite well after surgery to remove the tumor on his brain, and the tumor was not cancerous; Linda (Paul) Bronson, formerly of Shepherd, suffered a stroke four days ago, and is scheduled for tests on Thursday before beginning rehab therapy.

Community Living:

St. John's:

Eva Swenson; Esther Green, *Jensen Cottage*

RiverStone Hospice House: Eileen Johnson

West Park Village: Lenora Weist, Esther Bengtson



01/01 Will McSweyn
01/06 Connie Herberg
01/08 Ashton Christman
01/12 Vivian Pierce
01/23 Jackson Christman
01/26 Seeley Christman



01/25 Clarence & Agnes Beddes

J



JANUARY 2017

Sun

Mon





Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| <p>1</p> <p>8:45 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship</p> | <p>2</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>4</p> | <p>5</p> | <p>6</p>  <p>The Day of Epiphany</p> | <p>7</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|------------------|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--|--|--|--|
| <p>8</p> <p>8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Worship</p> | <p>9</p> <p>7:00 Shepherd Pioneers 4-H</p> | <p>10</p>  <p>6:30 Cub Scouts</p> | <p>11</p> | <p>12</p> <p>6:30 Girl Scouts</p> | <p>13</p> | <p>14</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>15</p> <p>8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 6:00 Kuntry Kritters 4-H</p> | <p>16</p>  <p>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</p> | <p>17</p> <p>6:30 Cub Scouts</p> | <p>18</p> <p>7:00 Church Council</p> | <p>19</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>22</p> <p>8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Worship</p> | <p>23</p> | <p>24</p> <p>6:30 Cub Scouts</p> | <p>25</p> | <p>26</p>  | <p>27</p> | <p>28</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>29</p> <p>8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Annual Meeting</p> | <p>30</p> | <p>31</p> <p>6:30 Cub Scouts</p> | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">December 2016</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | December 2016 | | | | | | | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">January 2017</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | | January 2017 | | | | | | | S | M | T | W | T | F | S | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |
| December 2016 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| January 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

PSALM 95:7

WE ARE THE
OF HIS
people
OF HIS
AND THE
sheep
pasture,
hand.



Address Service Requested

Shepherd, MT 59079

P.O. Box 66

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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