



Emmanuel News

NOVEMBER



2016

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH
HARVEST DINNER,
BAZAAR, RAFFLE
AND AUCTION
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6TH 2016
11:30 - 2:00 P.M.
ROAST BEEF DINNER
WITH TRIMMINGS.
ADULTS: \$10.00
CHILDREN: 6-12 \$5.00
CHILDREN: UNDER 6 FREE**

HISTORY OF THE HARVEST DINNER EVENTS

The Harvest Dinner and Bazaar was started here at Emmanuel many years ago, when the women's group was still called the "Ladies Aid". It seemed there often was a shortage of funds for various needs around the church, and the ladies decided to put on a dinner and bazaar. The Bazaar items were always hand made, crocheted or knit, and a quilt was sewn for a raffle. A variety

of baked items were made by the ladies, also. For the past 35 years or more, the dinner menu has included the traditional roast beef, gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, squash, coleslaw, freshly baked dinner rolls and pies.

The ladies (now called the ELCW, or Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women, continue to prepare this event each fall as the biggest fundraiser of the year. The monies raised have provided appliances for the church and parsonage, painting, carpet, special needs, and are often used to help pay the annual benevolences for the church. The menu is a popular meal, and anticipated by people from the Billings' churches and neighboring communities. Bazaar items are still donated by our members, and for the last five or six years, we have also had an auction of various unique items, which is very entertaining. This year's auctioneer duties will be shared by Pastor Mark and Randy Vanberg and will start about 12:30 noon up in the church.

Plan to take part in this annual event, which will be held on Sunday, November 6th, from 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM. You will be glad you did!



Dear Friends at Emmanuel,

"Do you believe in miracles?" Those were words made almost immortal when Al Michaels reacted to the final second of the hockey game between the United States and Russia as the up-start US team beat the Russian veterans and won the 1980 Olympic Gold in hockey.

Do you believe in miracles? That phrase has been used over the past several days in reference to this year's World Series Championship between the Chicago Cubs and the Cleveland Indians. Many Cubs fans woke up this morning firmly believing in miracles as the Cubs have won their first World Series in 108 years. I, for one, am thrilled!

This past week, however may have experienced an even greater miracle as an important event happened that may one day culminate in the healing between Lutherans and Roman Catholics that has been 500 years in the making. Leaders from both the Lutheran Churches and Roman Catholics Churches met on October 31, 2017 for a historic worship service and the signing of a *Joint Statement on the occasion of the Joint Catholic-Lutheran Commemoration of the Reformation*.

I would like to share with you some of the news report posted on the Lutheran World Federation sight relating to this historic meeting.

A commitment to move together in hope

(LWI) – Almost 500 years after the Reformation, which pitted Lutherans and Catholics against each other for centuries, leaders of the two traditions gathered in Lund, Sweden, to repent for past divisions and to commit themselves to common witness and service in the world.

Pope Francis and Kurt Cardinal Koch of the Catholic Church, and the President and General Secretary of The Lutheran World Federation (LWF), Bishop Dr Munib A. Younan and the Rev. Dr Martin Junge, embraced during a service of Common Prayer in the city's historic Cathedral, as they offered each other a sign of peace.

"With joy we have come to recognize that what unites us is far greater than what divides us," said the LWF President Younan, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, in words of welcome to the service on 31 October, the anniversary of the 1517 Reformation.

Held under the title, "From Conflict to Communion -



Together in Hope," the first joint Catholic-Lutheran Commemoration of the Reformation at the global level followed 50 years of international dialogue between the Catholic Church and the LWF.

"Help us to rejoice in the gifts that have come to the Church through the Reformation, prepare us to repent for the dividing walls that we, and our forebears, have built, and equip us for common witness and service in the world," Pope Francis said in a prayer at the beginning of the service.

Spontaneous applause broke out as Pope Francis and Bishop Younan later signed a Joint Statement committing Catholics and Lutherans to deepen their communion and common witness for justice.

About 500 worshippers filled the Cathedral for the service, where they heard sermons in Spanish by Pope Francis and Rev. Junge.

There are two paragraphs from the Joint Statement that I would also like to share.

As we move beyond those episodes in history that burden us, we pledge to witness together to God's merciful grace, made visible in the crucified and risen Christ. Aware that the way we relate to one another shapes our witness to the Gospel, we commit ourselves to further growth in communion rooted in Baptism, as we seek to remove the remaining obstacles that hinder us from attaining full unity. Christ desires that we be one, so that the world may believe (cf. John 17:23).

Many members of our communities yearn to receive the Eucharist at one table, as the concrete expression of full unity. We experience the pain of those who share their whole lives, but cannot share God's redeeming presence at the Eucharistic table. We acknowledge our joint pastoral responsibility to respond to the spiritual thirst and hunger of our people to be one in Christ. We long for this wound in the Body of Christ to be healed. This is the goal of our ecumenical endeavours, which we wish to advance, also by renewing our commitment to theological dialogue.

While we live in politically contentious times in a dangerous world that continues to pit human beings against one another, I believe in miracles! I long for the day when Lutherans and Roman Catholics and indeed all Christians will sit together at the Lord's Table and witness to the oneness that we share in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. Then we may truly begin to bring healing to our broken world.

Pastor Mark

COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Dear Friends and Neighbors:

It's finally November and those voices in my head have returned with a vengeance. Yeah, I know that I consistently have voices in my head, telling me all sorts of things. Like, "You the Mouse, T.C.".....or the Good versus Evil voice: "Don't do it, T.C.....It's ok, nothing bad can happen here." Or the pretty constant voice warning me about the Mrs., "Here she comes, T.C., Look busy or she will put you to work!" I guess you could say that with all the voices in my head, I'm never really alone. Lately whenever I scamper through the church basement, I hear a new voice, with a new message. "If you cook it, they will come!" I keep wondering what they mean. I've already cooked enough sweet corn to feed all my relatives North of the Yellowstone. I know when I make brownies, the youngsters almost take me out in a stampede-like reaction. Well, the summer barbecues are done and gone. So I what do the voices want me to cook now. Turkey day is still quite a way off, and these voices have a terrible sense of urgency. "T.C., if you cook it, they will come!" Then like a wild pitch in the top of the ninth, it hits me! Harvest Dinner! Roast beef, mashed potatoes, gravy and the fixings, pies and more pies. Of course, this is what the voices are telling me. Harvest "Dinner is just around the corner and there is always a bustle of activity for this annual event. "Be still, Crazy Voices, we'll be in roast beef heaven in no time.

Also, this month, we get to mess with the clocks on Sunday, the 6th, as Day Light Savings Time ends. Remember to fall back with your clocks and enjoy the extra hour of sleep! Then on the eleventh, we celebrate Veterans Day. May I be the first to say, "Thank you to all of the veterans out there for your service to our country." In between these two events, we have election day, but the constant

barrage of commercials from candidates telling what they will do for us, has us all ready for election day to be over and done with. No real good choice again for "Commander in Chief", so buckle up, it may be a weird four years ahead!

Finally, on the 24th, we celebrate Thanksgiving with family and friends. I hope your bird is golden brown, juicy and tender. We did a dry run a couple of weeks ago, and made turkey dinner for no real reason, other than the fact I had a hankering for some turkey with stuffing. Wow, was it good! Happy Thanksgiving Day to all of my friends and neighbors out there. Oh, and remember that

we help make up Thanksgiving Baskets for folks in our area that need a little assistance in putting on a special dinner for that day. Last year, I remember that we made about 25 baskets....so that's a lot of turkeys to buy, plus all the goodies to go with it. The Shepherd Lions' Club always co-ordinates this , and we help with food donations, so all you shoppers

out there...be watching for special prices on turkeys! Or maybe you ladies out there enjoy baking, and would make up a few extra pumpkin pies to go in those Thanksgiving baskets. My wife, Mrs. T.C. harvested some of the squash and pumpkins from the church garden, and plans to help bake some pies....she sweet-talked Phil Ehlers out of his pie crust recipe, and we are all going to be in pie heaven! How about some of you other ladies out there? The more , the merrier!

Well, with all those good things to eat at these special occasions and holidays, you can bet we will all be putting on a few pounds, adjusting the belts, and popping a few buttons....and snoozing in our recliners. So, see you around.....and round...and round.

Your Faithful Friend,
T.C. Mouse, In Residence at Emmanuel



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 9/17/16

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. Kristianne Wilson, Sharon Wolske, Jim McKinney, Laurel Noland, Wade Malchow ((via phone) , Pastor Morgenstern

Minutes from the September meeting were approved as published in the October church newsletter.

Treasurer's report- Sharon reviewed the year to date financial report with focus on September income and disbursements. Regular giving, special offerings and parking lot loan repayment are occurring as budgeted. Sharon requested updating signatories on our checking accounts—Motion made and seconded to remove Terri Hensley and David Nelson's names from the regular and youth checking accounts. Motion passed. We continue to have 2 signatories on all checking accounts.

Deacon's report- Laurel stated we continue to have difficulty fulfilling our commitments to Family Promise, 2 evening meals and 2 stay overs. There are other needs of the organization that may fit our volunteer capacity. We will discuss again in the new year.

Trustee's report- Wade reported that a company will be coming to the church to help with new locks, do not duplicate keys, as per our discussion and decision last month with the facility coordinator (Abbey/ Robb Emmons). General discussion occurred about the lack of progress on the food pantry relocation/ garage remodel.

Pastor's report- Usual activities, in addition to counseling for Lindsay Carol and Buckley Reynolds for their recent wedding. There are 15 children in the 3 session First Communion class. Pastor will be attending the Bishop's Convocation in Helena on 10/16. We agreed to have 2 Advent services using the Holden Evening Prayer on 11/30 and 12/14.

Old Business- Wade and Sharon reviewed the handouts drafted for use in the 11/13 congregational meeting ,the purpose is to have a detailed discussion of the cost of a new parsonage versus building a new

expense – housing allowance- into our annual budgets. We hope to facilitate discussion around the pros and cons of each option. The meeting will be discussion only and a decision, either to confirm or not, the existing congregation decision of January 2014 to replace the parsonage. Background information for this 11/13 meeting will be included in the November church newsletter. Jim shared that the Simply Giving tool is now functional. We've successfully tested a couple of credit cards and checking accounts for electronic giving. Jim encouraged additional Council members to try the tool. Plans are to roll out this option for all members use in November. Jim will do a mission cornerstone update on this program at a November church service as well.

New Business- Kristianne reported the need to amend our church constitution to incorporate changes adopted by the Churchwide Assembly. This will be an item of business for action on our January 2017 annual meeting. Emmanuel has not updated through amendments our constitution since 2001.

The Council met in executive session to provide feedback to Pastor regarding his annual evaluation. The Council agreed that next year the process will incorporate feedback from selected congregational members on the areas of teaching and pastoral care.



Offering Counters/Communion Helper

10/16 - Laurel
10/23 - Karen
10/30 - Sharon
11/06 - Laurel
11/13 - Kristianne

Our next Council meeting will be on 11/13 following the congregational meeting.

Pastor shared his intention to focus on Martin Luther's teachings this upcoming year given the observance of the 500 year anniversary of the Reformation. We closed our meeting with a prayer from the Small Catechism.

Submitted,
Kristianne Wilson

The Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council has called a special Congregational Meeting to be held on November 13, 2016 following worship (approximately 11:15 a.m.) for the purpose of discussing the vote several years ago to build a new parsonage. Since that vote there has been some discussion that rather than building a parsonage Emmanuel should offer the pastor a housing allowance. ***There will be no vote taken at this meeting.*** If there is consensus at this meeting that the congregation should take another vote on this issue, that vote will take place at the Annual Meeting in January.

The following information is presented for the discussion.

COST OF PARSONAGE VS. PAYING ELCA HOUSING ALLOWANCE

HOUSING COSTS

SIMPLE EXAMPLE

Housing allowance per ELCA	\$1200/mo.	\$1500/mo.
Fair rental value (FRV)	\$12,000	\$18,000
<u>+ Utilities</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Total Paid Pastor Housing Allowance	\$ 17,000	\$23,000
Annual House Expenses (30 year loan)	\$220,000	\$300,000
Electricity & heat	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Insurance	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
<u>Mortgage principal & interest</u>	<u>\$15,000</u>	<u>\$18,300</u>
Average annual house costs (30 yr. loan)	\$20,000	\$24,500

LOVING SERVICE



Thanksgiving FoodBaskets

We will be putting together food baskets for Thanksgiving again this year. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Food Pantry for those who wish to receive a basket. If you know of someone who should receive a basket, please let them know that they can sign up in the Food Pantry or you can put down their name and then let them

know when they can pick up the basket. We will also start receiving items for the baskets. The list of need items is printed below. Please mark them for the Thanksgiving Baskets when you bring them to the pantry.

Turkey	Dinner Rolls
Dressing	Gravy Mixes
Potatoes	Jello/Pudding
Sweet Potatoes	Pumpkin Pie Filling
Marshmallows	Fruit Pie Filling
Butter	Cool Whip
Cranberry Sauce	Canned Milk
Canned Vegetables	Peanut Butter
Canned Fruit	Mac & Cheese

November 2016



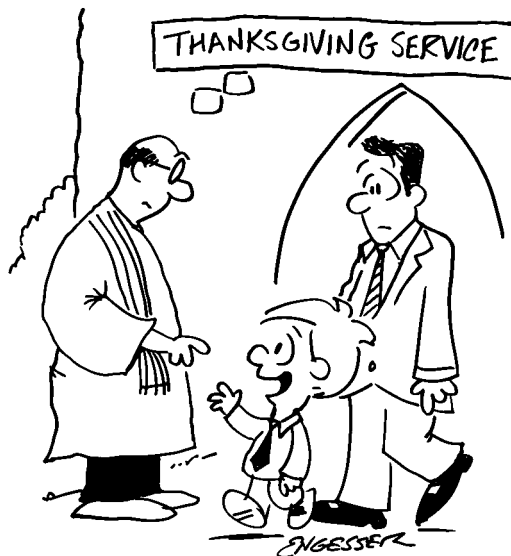
Emmanuel Lutheran Food Pantry



Court Appointed Special Advocates
FOR CHILDREN

CASA OF YELLOWSTONE COUNTY

2015 was an unprecedented year for children entering the foster care system. 455 NEW children entered foster care, compared to 182 in 2014. Unfortunately, 2016 looks to be worse than 2015. These children need a voice to speak in court on their behalf. You can help these children by becoming a volunteer advocate with CASA of Yellowstone County. Our next new Advocate training begins January 25, 2016. If you are interested in learning more, please attend one of our Information Sessions, visit www.yellowstonecasa.org/volunteer to find the schedule and more information about how you can make a difference in the life of an abused or neglected child.



"Dad's thankful service finished in time to rush home and see the big game!"

Imitating Christ

The biblical use of the term saint in the book of Acts ... applies to each of us. All who are attempting to imitate the Christ in their lives merit the title of saint. Some do it more fully than others and are willing to let go of more to get the job done.

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; Phil Garnett (Meagan Malchow's father) who has been placed in hospice care for congestive heart failure and renal failure); Roxanne Powell, Linda Hinkle's niece; Clarence Beddes who has returned home from the hospital, but still dealing with infection; Russell Osmundson, Judy and Howard's son, is recovering at home following surgery; Wesley Barnes, Lauris & Nancy Byxbe's grandson, who has returned home from successful surgery and is doing well; Sandie Green still recovering from broken arm; Eileen Johnson recovering from Surgery at St. John's Rehab; Brad Green recovering at home following complete shoulder replacement; Bob Wolske recovering from hip replacement surgery; June Weber, Dawn Petty's sister in Dallas, Texas, will be having her pacemaker replaced

Children: Andrew Green, tumors on internal organs.

Friends of the Congregation: Shirley Sept, cancer; 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, 5th grader from Shepherd, at home with wheelchair after numerous surgeries following a landslide accident; Spencer Beddes, with kidney problems; Fred Duggan, of Shepherd, now at home recovering with oxygen and Dialysis; Dorothy Blyeau, 91 year old from Pompey's Pillar area who is hospitalized from a fall with broken ribs; 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; Joyce Brown, wife of former Pastor Wendell Brown, was recently hospitalized for a serious illness and is now home with hospice support.

Community Living:

St. John's:

Eva Swenson, Esther Green

West Park Village: Lenora Weist, Esther Bengtson

Yellowstone County Jail: Chance Mavity,
Rob Larson, MN



11/14 Shirley Wittman
11/07 Raedawn Pasco
11/09 Daniella Leligdowicz
11/09 James Malchow
11/13 Randy Vanberg
11/14 Jon Herberg
11/22 Charles Noland
11/22 Sharon Wolske



11/10 Louis & Rachelle Garcia
11/11 Jim & Linda Hinckle
11/27 Mark & Connie Halvorsen

Freed & RENEWED in Christ 500 YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

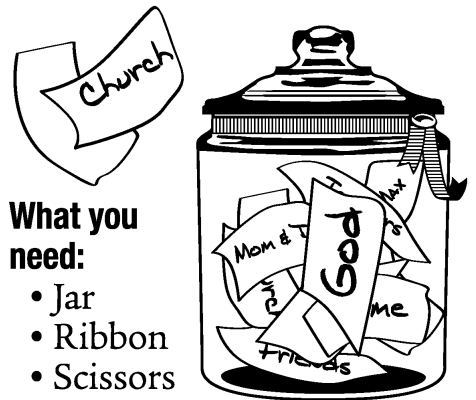
What Happened in the Reformation?

Martin Luther posted his “in Wittenberg on October 31, 1517 and the resulting debate about Christian teaching and practice led to changes that have shaped the course of Western Christianity for almost 500 years. At the heart of these wide-reaching changes was a deep conviction that God’s mercy or grace in Jesus is given freely to all. When Luther and others learned to trust God’s mercy with “a living, daring confidence,” they discovered in that faith the freedom to give themselves generously, lovingly in all of life’s undertakings with everyone they met.

The changes began with a critical look at confession and forgiveness, preaching and the sacraments — what Luther called the “means of grace.” The sale of indulgences, the practice of penance, the content of preaching, the administration of Baptism and the Lord’s Supper — all the restrictions that impeded the message of God’s mercy from being heard and received fully by all came under close scrutiny. Repeatedly, Luther made changes and took initiatives to give full and free expression to the gospel, the message of God’s liberating mercy in Jesus Christ. He translated the Scriptures into German so that ordinary believers could hear the Word of God in their everyday language. He composed many hymns including “A Mighty Fortress” (based on Psalm 46) that put the Word of God to music, the language of the heart. He preached for the people in Wittenberg in simple, everyday terms, and he used those sermons as the basis for teaching resources that parents and local pastors could use — his Small and Large Catechisms.

BLESSINGS JAR

Thanksgiving reminds us of our many gifts from God. Count your blessings all month long with this craft.



What you need:

- Jar
- Ribbon
- Scissors
- Glue
- 3 sheets of paper (different colors)
- Marker or pen



What you do:

1. Measure and cut enough ribbon to wrap around the jar’s neck, below the lid. Glue in place and let dry.
2. Fold each piece of paper in half three times, resulting in eight rectangles per sheet. Cut along the fold lines, and you’ll have 24 rectangles.
3. Each day in November until Thanksgiving, write down one blessing from God. Then place that blessing in the jar.
4. On Thanksgiving, open the jar and read all your blessings to your family and friends.



November 2016



Sun

Mon






Tue

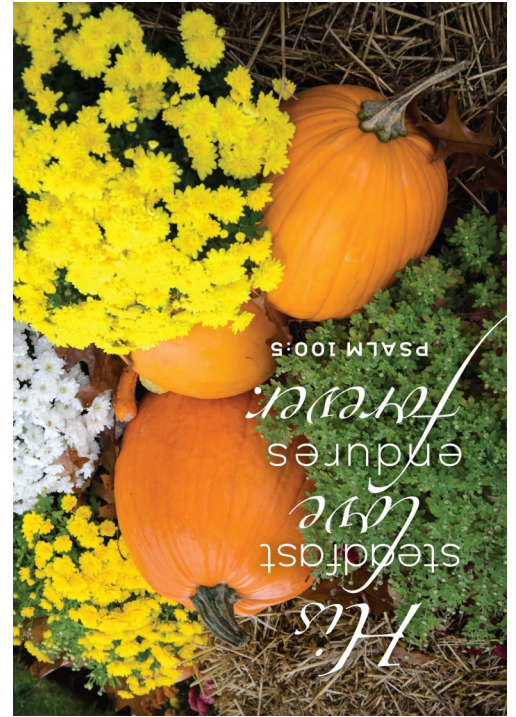
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		 6:30 Cub Scouts			6:30 Girl Scouts	Do not be anxious about anything. <small>Philippians 4:6</small>																																										
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8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Congregational Meeting 12:30 Church Council	7:00 Shepherd Pioneers 4-H	6:30 Cub Scouts				6:00 Cub Scouts																																										
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 8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	 Prepare ye the way of the Lord!	6:30 Cub Scouts	6:30 Advent Worship (Holden Evening Prayer)		<table border="1"> <thead> <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>		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
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Emmanuel Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 66
Shepherd, MT 59079

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