



# Emmanuel News

April 2017

## Holy Week Worship

PALM Sunday	MAUNDY Thursday	GOOD Friday	EASTER Sunday	April 16, 2017
				7:00 A.M. Sunrise Worship @ Bill Green's Pasture
<b>April 9, 2017</b> 10:00 A.M. Procession with Palms & the Reading of Matthew's Passion	<b>April 13, 2017</b> 6:30 P.M. Seder Meal 	<b>April 14, 2017</b> 7:00 P.M. Good Friday Worship @ Ballantine United Church of Christ		8:30 A.M. Easter Breakfast In Church Basement
				10:00 A.M. Easter Festival Worship

## Second Annual Church Shower

*"If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."*

—Mother Teresa

"Feed our People" was the theme of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Church Shower and the gifts that poured in were over the top! Our congregation is simply the best!



Laura, Liz, Laurel, and Abbey want to thank you from the bottom of their hearts! The shower brought in all kinds of donations. We had socks, soap, protein bars, chips, fruit snacks, personal hygiene products, canned goods, bread, and about every type of cracker found in the stores. We knew that our congregation is amazing, but this, this was stupendous! The

party brought in \$190 in cash/checks and \$747.69 in food. Total: \$937.69. Attendance was 34.

Liz White is our church's liaison for the Backpack Program through the schools and we were able to load up 5 **very** large boxes of food for that program. It melted our hearts to see how many donations came in specific for that cause! The goal of the program is to send food home with about 30 special kids in school that may not get enough food to eat over the weekends. I would estimate that about \$250 raised on Sunday went to that program. Thank you!



(continued on page 4)

Dear Friends at Emmanuel,

When I was a young boy many of the names of the days during Holy Week had me confused. I was alright with Palm Sunday—I got that. Palm Sunday was the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and the people shouted “Hosanna” and put palm branches on the road as he came by.



From the  
Pastor

ever invented by human beings? My mind just couldn't get around that one. I remember reading in a book that the day Jesus died may have originally been referred to as “God's Friday.” This was the day that God in Jesus acted to redeem the sinful world. Over time it got changed to “Good Friday.”

Maundy Thursday was another matter. I always called it Monday Thursday and couldn't figure out why during Holy Week we would call Thursday Monday! I don't remember when I figured out it was Maundy, not Monday—probably when I was in Junior High School. I'm ashamed to admit that it wasn't until my Seminary Days that I learned what the word “Maundy” meant or was all about. The English word “Maundy” most likely comes from the Latin “Maun datum” which means mandate. This would relate to the “mandate” Jesus gave his disciples at the Last Supper as recorded by John to “love one another as I have loved you” and to be servant people following his example of washing their feet. Okay, now that makes sense.



Now, what about Good Friday? As a young person I could not see any possible way that the day Jesus was nailed to a cross could be good. I was taught that Jesus was the Son of God. He was a good and loving man. He even loved the little children. What could possibly be good about him being killed on a cross? What could possibly be good about him experiencing the most cruel and agonizing death



I don't know if this is totally true or not, but I kind of like it. The day Jesus died was certainly “God's Day”—the day God acted in a very dramatic way to show us the depth of God's love for us. As Martin Luther in his explanation to the second article of the Apostles' Creed says; that Jesus' death on the cross “has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.” That day was certainly “God's Day” and for you and me with was also a very “Good Day”. When you think about it, Good Friday worship should be the most attended worship service of the year. Without Good Friday there would be no Christmas and no Easter.

As we journey toward the last week of Lent, may that Holy Week fill us all again with the awe, joy and wonder of God's love for us. As we experience the mystery of that love poured out on Good Friday, may we be moved to a joyful celebration of God's grace as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter morning.

## EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

SAVE THE DATE; All Women are invited to the Women of the ELCA Beartooth and Shepherd Cluster Spring Meeting. The theme is

"WEAVE". It will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2017 at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1108 24th St. West, Billings, from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM. The day includes Special Speakers, Basket Raffles, Lunch, the Worship Service, and a short cluster meeting. We will learn about upcoming events, and have time for



Women  
of the  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
IN AMERICA

fellowship. We are asking each congregation to bring a theme basket to raffle off. To defray the cost of the lunch, we are taking a free will offering, or \$10.00 per church. For more information, please call Maria Waller (697-3193) or Connie Hausauer (690-4947).

Let us have a good showing from Emmanuel. I will be going, and will pick up whoever else is able to attend. Call and let me know which of you ladies can join me. Thanks, Dawn Petty 373-6673.

# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Dear Friends and Neighbors:

April is here and Mrs. T.C. keeps telling me "April showers bring May flowers". True story I agree, but I like to think that April showers reveal T.C.'s super powers, so I proceed to state my facts to the Mrs. I can sprint the length of the Church basement in ten seconds flat. Her response is "super". I can eat a whole cheese stick in eight seconds, with my best record of twelve in a minute at the annual cheese eating contest. Again, my impressed mate, lets go of another "super". I can leap cocked and ready traps in a single bound. I have faced the meanest cat in the neighborhood and caused it to back away, with just my tone of voice. The list of my super powers goes on and on, but yet my turtle dove is less than impressed. A simple "super" is her response, followed by a suggestion. "Once you are done saving the world, do you think you can get back to work on the spring honey do list?" So with a bruised ego, I dusted off the ever graying "S" on my chest and got back to work on her list.

The first is April Fools day, so watch out for those pranksters. I really don't pull many pranks myself, as I don't wish to be on the receiving end of any pranks. On the 16th we celebrate Easter. I really look forward to the sunrise service and of course

the Easter breakfast served in the Church basement afterwards. I probably should help the kids dye some eggs again, just to show off my artistic abilities.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> is Earth Day, so I'll try to join in a clean up effort around the neighborhood, to do my part in keeping Mother Earth in good shape. Then on the 28th, we have Arbor Day, which is a great time to plant a tree. The options are endless, but make sure the kind of tree you plant can handle our weather. My kids are quite the

budding green thumbs, as they follow in their Mother's footsteps. Seems like they will try to grow anything that has a seed. Right now on my window sill, I have little lemon trees, grapefruit trees, and an avocado tree. Bless their little hearts for trying, but I don't expect any produce for years to come, so I'm glad that someone shared some of the 4H fruit that was delivered recently with me.



Well time for a fruit snack break and then maybe iron my cape before Mrs. T.C. comes looking for me.

See you in Church.

Your faithful caped crusader, T.C. Mouse.

Three Cheers for the Church Shower Planners:

What a fantastic event those gals put on! The Church Shower was planned and carried out by Abbey Emmons, Laura Vanberg, Liz White, and Laurel Noland. It was cleverly done, with the Trivia Games, the Bingo, the



colorful name tags, the seating arrangements, and the entertainment. The lunch was terrific, so many casseroles to choose from, and all the fabulous desserts....you didn't want to stop eating! It was a very successful and fun time for all of us. Thanks to each of you gals for all the effort you put into this shower.

## **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

**03/08/2017**

Members present: Pastor Mark, Randy, Kristianne, Liz, Carol, Karen, and Abbey

**DEVOTIONS:** Lenten Service

**SECRETARY:** Approved as printed

**TREASURER:** No report this month

**DEACONS:** Had another bread donation this month. Liz picked up more communion cups. Carol will be getting more memorial donation thank you cards as we are almost out.

**TRUSTEES:** After Easter, we will be planning a workday, date to follow, to really push to get the garage converted to the pantry. All supplies will be present. Looking at maybe speaking with a general contractor about our plans for the building to get some guidance and feedback.

**PASTOR:** Has been doing premarital meetings and officiated the wedding for Chris & Brenda Peil. Had a baptism for Denim Rose Calentine. Ash Wednesday service still had low attendance from our congregation. Good Friday service in Ballantine. Seder Meal at 6:30 on Maundy Thursday at our church. Will have sunrise service on Easter Sunday at 7 a.m. followed by the youth breakfast at the church. Normal service will be at 10 a.m. on Easter Sunday. Week after Easter is the Pastor's conference but Mark will not be attending due to a family reunion. Going to check with Dawn to see if she would like to do her Slide Show from her visit to the Holy Land that Sunday in Pastor's absence. Summer BBQs are coming up and we had 100 pounds of hamburger donated.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Nothing discussed

**NEW BUSINESS:** Will be starting Youth Sundays in May to get the kiddos more involved with the actual service. The first Sunday of each month will have the children helping with the service (readers, ushers, communion helpers, acting as witness to counting of offering, etc.). Would like to do one community outreach project per quarter with the youth for fundraising as well as one fun event each quarter. We started out this Sunday School year with lots of kids involved



and now down to 6 or so per Sunday. Abbey was at our meeting and requested to use the northeast corner of the property for 1 month for a recycling project. The funds raised with recycling will go toward other youth events. Kristianne made a motion to allow the youth to use this area for this project and the motion passed. More details to come. Randy presented a printout that will allow the congregation to give us their input on discussion topics for the council meetings. If there is something that you would like to have the council address at our monthly meeting, please put down your ideas and we will discuss them at our meetings. If we feel that it needs to be addressed by the congregation, we will bring it up for discussion. Have you ever wondered who changes the alter cloths, or who sends out thank you notes for donations to our church, etc? Well, these questions and many others will be answered by Laura Vanberg in a new section of the newsletter.

### **Counters/Communion Helpers**

03/12 Carol  
03/19 Karen  
03/26 Kristianne  
04/02 Liz  
04/09 Liz

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Mission Cornerstone – Caring Relationships – will showcase 3 of our youth singing during offering as well as the church shower on Sunday 3/19.

Respectfully, Karen Vanberg, Secretary





# LOVING SERVICE

## Christikon Auction



The annual Christikon Benefit Auction will be held at the Billings Depot on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. This fundraiser supports the camp's work. Your generosity helps to share the Christikon life with young people, families and adults, and developmentally disabled adults. In the glorious mountain setting for the Camp, the intentional focus is on developing Christian community to bring people together with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Last year, between the live and silent auction, Sojourners and other gifts, the day raised over \$55,000.

Various craft items are donated, such as quilts, paintings, bronzes, sculptures, wood craft, metal work, antler art, etc. Just use your talent and imagination and come up with some items for the auction. Your contributions can be dropped off at the Church of the Good Shepherd, on 24<sup>th</sup> St., the week before the auction, where they will be itemized and transported to the Depot. What will you make?

## APRIL 2017

*Special OFFERING*



(2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Church Shower—continued from front page)



Three military boxes will also be put together and sent to some very deserving men and women. A sweet thank you to Karen Vanberg for the greeting cards that we were all able to sign. The boxes will be sent filled with food and love from all of us here at Shepherd Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

The rest of the money and food stays here. We were able to stock the shelves in the council room and hopefully we did not disrupt Louis & Rachell's organizational skills too much.

The four of us are grateful to be a part of this amazing church and we hope you are too!



*"Small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world"*

—Howard Zinn

### Pearls Of



### WISDOM

Going forward, I am going to try to have a Pearl of Wisdom in the newsletter each month. These "pearls" will range from knowledge of general Lutheran traditions, phrases, terms, etc.; to information as to who does a particular job behind the scenes in our congregation; to just general knowledge about "things". If you have something you would like to know more about, please don't hesitate to give me a call, e-mail, or just talk to me in church. My address, phone number, etc. are in the church directory. Thank you, Laura Vanberg

**This month's Pearl:** Have you ever given a monetary gift to the church in memory of someone? And then you received a beautiful, hand-written thank you? Well it's Carol Kramer that writes these thank you's and sends them out. She has been doing this now for 4 or 5 years. Before that Louise Bishke was our "thank you" lady. Thank you Carol.

# CARING RELATIONSHIPS

## Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates

### Members:

Esther and Bill Green; Meagan Malchow with various health issues; Clarence Beddes recovering at home; Lee Borgen, Doreen McKenney's father, has various health issues following total knee replacement; Rita Pickard, Jim McKenney's mom is back home and has been diagnosed with stage IV breast cancer; Monty Mavity, who is quite ill with cancer; Vivian Pierce recovering at home from surgery for a pacemaker; Debra Ruona; Lois Sneva. (Connie Herberg's mother) moved to St. John's transitional care; Stacy Dean, the Noland's daughter, had a mini-stroke and is recovering at home; the family of Laurel Noland as they mourn her mother's death; Nancy Byxbe; Diane Lundhagen recovering from hip surgery.

### Children:

Andrew Green, tumors on internal organs.

### Friends of the Congregation:

Katie Rightmire ALS; John Barta, cancer; Kynzee Cooper, continuing to recover from her accident; 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 rehab following a horse accident; Eileen Harbaugh has difficulty walking, problems with her legs, and other difficulties; Bobbie Smith's husband, Smitty, age 91, now receiving in-home hospice care; Heather Tranquillo, a good friend of Emilie and Shane Christman recovering at home from open heart surgery.

### Community Living:

#### St. John's:

Eva Swenson; Esther Green, *Jensen Cottage*

**West Park Village:** Lenora Weist, Esther Bengtson

**Yellowstone County Jail:** Chance Mavity

Rob Larson, MN



- 01 Barbara Cooper
- 01 Dawn Petty
- 02 Cole Hoffman
- 04 Meagan Malchow
- 05 Agnes Beddes
- 08 Brittany McKenney
- 11 Derek Reitler
- 17 Rob Emmons
- 18 Matt Grandpre
- 19 Ricker Olson
- 20 Roseanne Plath
- 29 Gene Lundhagen



05 Chuck & LuAnne Super



# APRIL 2017

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9	8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	10	7:00 Shepherd Pioneers 4-H	11		12	7:00 Church Council	13	 MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30 Seder Meal	14	 GOOD FRIDAY 7:30 Good Friday Worship @ Ballantine UCC	15	1:00 Cub Scouts																																																
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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](http://elcshepherd.org) – [elcshepherd@gmail.com](mailto:elcshepherd@gmail.com)



**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING