



# Emmanuel News



July 2017



## 2017 ST. JOHN'S Summer Concert Series

20 years

July 6th  
LARRY GATLIN AND  
THE GATLIN BROTHERS  
OPENER: JESSICA LECHNER

July 13th  
DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH  
THE MUSIC OF NEIL DIAMOND  
OPENER: PIERRE & KRISTIN LAVE

July 20th  
PARKER BROWN AND  
THE BLEEDIN' HEARTS  
OPENER: GRANT JONES

July 27th  
THE MIDLIFE CHRYSLERS  
OPENER: LINDSEY JACOBSEN  
& KELLY BABER

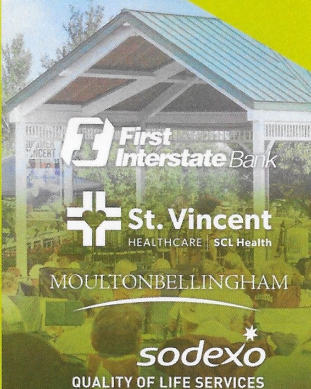
August 3rd  
VICTOR WAINWRIGHT  
AND THE WILDROOTS  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MAGIC CITY BLUES  
OPENER: CHUCK HOLLAND  
& AL JORDAN

FREE 7PM  
THURSDAYS

OPENERS BEGIN AT 6PM

Fred & Marie  
Miller Pavilion  
CORNER OF RIMROCK & SHILOH

ON THE  
CAMPUS OF



## Christikon Clips



July, 2017

Information for our Congregations

**We are grateful for all the hard work that our Work Weekend crew accomplished! Great group! Thank you!**

Remember to pray for the staff and campers.

**It's not too late to register for camp this summer!**

Space remains in most youth sessions and in those for families and adults. You can register online at [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.

**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.

Christikon has registered many newcomers to Christikon and we would appreciate **gifts towards scholarships** if you are able! Wonderful problem to have!

**Special guest speakers** become part of the Christikon life this summer during sessions for adults and families. During Mountain Weekend 1 (July 8-10) we feature **Steve Schmidt**, pastor of Hope Lutheran Church in Bozeman. Continuing Education Retreat (Jul 31-Aug 3) and Mountain Weekend 2 (Aug. 4-6) speakers are **Reverend Karyn Wiseman** and **Johnny Hermanson**. Come spend a few days of relaxation, learning, and faith growth with us.

**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)

Dear Friends at Emmanuel,

I thought the Presiding Bishop (Rev. Elizabeth Eaton's) letter in the June issue of Living Lutheran Magazine was especially good and is relevant as we celebrate our nation's birthday. I share it with you as my offering this month. It's entitled:

### ***Serving the neighbor in charged times.***

These are politically charged times. This very sentence in the presiding bishop's column is likely to raise eyebrows.

Across this church I've heard stories of parishioners disturbed by the Gospel read on Sundays, believing the pastor chose the passage as a critique of the current administration. The Beatitudes seemed to provoke the most attention. In a way this is good—maybe we are all hearing Jesus' words with fresh ears. But really, the Beatitudes have been the appointed Gospel for the fourth Sunday of Epiphany (year A) for as long as we have been using the lectionary.

In these charged times it's helpful to consider two things: the relationship between church and state, and how Lutherans participate in civil society. Often we speak about the "separation of church and state." This principle is usually raised when parishioners feel the pastor (or the synod, churchwide organization or bishop) is being "political." There is the assumption that the church should only deal with the spiritual and that it should have nothing to do with civil and political life. The First Amendment says: "Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." The separation of church and state is intended to protect religious liberty and keep the government from interfering in the church.

We Lutherans also cite Martin Luther's doctrine of the two kingdoms—the temporal and the spiritual. This has been misinterpreted to mean that the temporal realm is inferior to the spiritual realm—or that God, and therefore the faithful, should not be as concerned with the temporal, should not allow the temporal into the church, and really need not be too engaged in the public square.



But our understanding as Lutherans is that the church and the state, the spiritual and the temporal, are *both* established by God and are *both* part of God's twofold rule. When we pray, "Give us today our daily bread," we are also praying that God send us the gift of good government (Luther's Small Catechism).

Both church and state are good gifts from God and have been established for specific purposes. The proper work of the church is to "preach the gospel in its purity and administer the sacraments according to the gospel" (Augsburg Confession VII). The proper work of the state is to keep peace and order and to support and nourish the lives of its citizens. And since we confess that God entered human life through the incarnation of Jesus Christ, who took our flesh upon him, we do not have a hierarchy of value that places the spiritual above the temporal.

Active participation in public life and the duty of government to care for its people, especially the most vulnerable, have been part of the Lutheran movement from its beginning. In his explanation of the petition "Give us today our daily bread," Luther said: "It would be therefore fitting if the coat of arms of every upright prince were emblazoned with a loaf of bread instead of a lion" (Large Catechism). He also wrote that the "second virtue of a prince is to help the poor, the orphans, and the widows to justice, and to further their cause."

Lutherans don't withdraw from public life. In fact our constitution pledges us to "work with civil authorities in areas of mutual endeavor, maintaining institutional separation of church and state in a relation of functional interaction." Lutherans fulfill our baptismal vocation when we show up.

So why are we so tense? I think we've been influenced by a divisive culture. We forget that we are one people. I think we fail to recognize Christ in others, whether the other is across the pew or across the world. We forget that we all—whatever our politics—stand under the judgment of God and that only God's promise of reconciling love in Jesus can save us. Set free by that promise we can find a way to serve the neighbor.

*Pastor Mark*

# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Dear Friends and Neighbors:

America's Birthday is here and time to celebrate! Pop, boom, bang! Oooooo, Ahhhhhh! Look at all the pretty colors. I hope everyone has a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July this year. You know when I think of all of the fireworks that go off on the 4<sup>th</sup>, I'm reminded of that old black and white video. An adventurous young lad in ice skates on a frozen lake, with a massive fire work looking rocket strapped to his back. Of course he believes that this device will propel him across the ice at break neck speeds and all will be good. One of his buddies lights the fuse, the rocket ignites, his feet fly out from under him and he lands on his rear. The rocket is still shooting out sparks, burning a hole in the back of his pants, as his buddies quickly throw snow on him and the flaming rocket to extinguish this failed experiment. Immediately, I think to myself "What was he thinking?!" I myself have come up with some pretty hair brain ideas, but thankfully Mrs. T.C. is close at hand to talk some sense into me, often preventing just such a disaster. "T.C. that doesn't look safe!" Or, "T.C. put the rocket down and calmly walk away!" Usually it is just, "T.C. what are you thinking? Somebody's gonna get hurt!" I guess my point is. Have fun everyone, but be safe out there and keep a close eye on the children, especially the grownup children.

I see the church garage is getting a face lift. New siding and a new roof is in the works. There was a great group of volunteers out there a while back, tearing off the old siding and prepping for new siding to be put up. I tried to get involved and volunteer my services, since I'm pretty handy with a hammer, but they declined, saying I would just be under foot! So I sat off to the side

watching, supervising and adding in my two cents every now and again.

The weekly barbeques are off to a good start and there have been a lot of people showing up each Wednesday. Again, I try to get involved, but nobody wants to see a mouse at the grill flipping burgers, so I stay out of sight. My main contribution is helping to clean up the area afterwards. Lots of goodies for me to grab and pack off to my pantry. I'm also impressed with how the church garden turned out. Very colorful and fun. The plants are really starting to grow and I look forward to harvest time. I'm also

closely watching the corn in the fields. Knee high by the fourth of July. Is that my knee or the farmer's knee? I just have to trust that they know what they are doing and patiently wait for the golden kernels to mature. I really can't wait! Corn on the cob, with butter....Ooooooo, Ahhhhhh.....Yummy!

Well, that's all for now. Enjoy the summer and I'll see you in Church.

Your faithful friend.  
In residence at Emmanuel.  
T.C. Mouse



## **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

**06/14/2017**

Members present: Pastor Mark, Laurel, Karen, Randy, Carol, Matt, and Wade

**DEVOTIONS:** Went over the Sacrament of Holy Baptism from the Catechism – this is a gift from God – he wants a relationship with us and this is a gift that no one can take away

**SECRETARY:** May meeting minutes were approved as written.

**TREASURER:** Went over expenses for May and June and are keeping up with our budgeted numbers. Received a partial refund on one of the steel doors as the company charged us for fiberglass.

**DEACONS:** Nothing new to report.

**TRUSTEES:** The rubber and rocks around the playground have been put in. Still needing to complete the rebar. Pantry/garage update: the old siding and sheeting has been removed and insulation and new sheeting has been put up. The soffit has been completed on 2 sides of the building with the other 2 sides ready to complete. Just a few other things to do before the siding can be put on. An additional electrical line was added. Had a good work day and a great crew. A big Thank You to all who have helped thus far! Matt has been looking in to some new options for camera/security of the church property. We are looking at a couple new options as the system we have now doesn't capture enough or store enough. Two of the systems are like the one we have now but with more cameras and storage memory. The other is through Kenco. We can set a time when there should be no one in the church and if anything is detected during those times, it alerts Kenco who then dispatches the Sheriff. This would be a one-time payment for the installation and there is a 5-year warranty on all parts. Installation was estimated between \$3500-3800 depending on the options chosen but then there is no monthly payment. If broken down for 5 warranty years, it would be around \$60/month for this service. Council will continue discussing our options at future



meetings. Phil Ehlers, with the Shepherd Volunteer Fire Department, said we are within fire code having the deadbolts on all doors, if they have an inside flip and must be unlocked when there are people inside so they can easily exit in case of an emergency.

**PASTOR:** Made the front page of the Billings Gazette for an article on aging clergy. Has been busy with text studies and premarital sessions. We had good delegates for the Synod Assembly that represented Emmanuel well. Pastor Bill Tibbs service was held at Mayflower in Billings. First community BBQ had 50-60 in attendance. Will be starting Confirmation in the fall starting with 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Letters and phone calls will go out. Pastor will be on vacation July 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and July 24<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No youth Sunday for June as there would not be enough children in attendance.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Constitutional committee should have a draft of our constitution for church council to go next month. Need to look in to bat removal/control. It has been noticed that they are in the soffit area to the right of the sanctuary doors. Synod website has a disaster preparedness & response group. They are not trying to replace groups like the Red Cross or FEMA, but wanting to put together response teams/groups that can help out when emergencies arise. Will have a couple special offerings for the Synod Disaster Fund.

### **Counters/Communion Helpers**

6/18 Karen  
6/25 Randy  
7/02 Carol  
7/09 Laurel

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.  
Next council meeting is July 12 at 7pm.

Respectfully, Karen Vanberg, Secretary

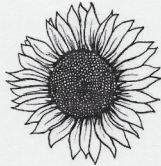


# LOVING SERVICE

MONTANA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION JUNE 2017 NEWSLETTER

of the  
**Women ELCA** 

**Montana Synodical Women's  
2017 Convention/Gathering**



**"Behold the New Has Come"**

**2 Corinthians 5:17 (NRSV)**

*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation;  
everything old has passed away;  
see, everything has become new!*

**September 22 - 24, 2017  
Hilton Garden Inn  
Billings, MT**



## July 2017

*Special*  
**OFFERING** 

 **Lutheran Social Services**  
OF MONTANA



Christikon Kitchen Shower

Hosted by the Women of Peace

Thursday, July 6th  
@ 7pm  
Peace Lutheran Church  
1301 Ave. D

Join us for Fellowship along with desserts and hear an update on what is happening now at Christikon. We are collecting money to help Christikon upgrade their kitchen equipment and small appliances. As you can probably guess, many of their kitchen items have years of heavy use, and need to be replaced. To put our resources to the best use, we are collecting money and will be able to take advantage of Christikon's non-profit group purchase for the items. Some items needed include a new blender, baking equipment, serving bowls, a variety of utensils, measuring cups and spoons, and if we manage to collect enough funds, maybe a new commercial size mixer.

Join us for an enjoyable evening, whether it is in person or through a mail-in donation of funds to support our church camp.

Please RSVP by leaving a message at 248-3610 by July 3rd. If you are unable to join us but would like to donate, please make your check out to Peace Lutheran Church Women and send to Connie Hausauer, 1200 Blair Lane, #4, Billings, MT 59102.



### **Join People Healing People At St. Vincent Healthcare**

Help patients, visitors and staff in just 4 hours a week. We're looking for "people" people who are quick to smile and like to visit, help others and have fun! Training and benefits provided. Volunteer opportunities are available in Guest Services-Emergency Department and our Gift Shops. Please call us today at 237-3377 or visit our website at [www.svh-mt.org](http://www.svh-mt.org). Thank you for your consideration!

*Pearls Of*



*WISDOM*

Have you ever wondered how many people within our church know the dollar amount of offering/tithing you give to our church? Does the Pastor know? No. Does the Council know? No. The only two people who know how much you give or tithe is the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer. (It is important to have two people "handle" the money in order to keep a "checks and balances" in place.) Giving/tithing is very important to the church but you should never feel that you will be treated differently by the Pastor

or Council because of the amount you give!

And while we are discussing donations to the church, are you aware that you can get credit for the amount of a donated item (or items)? If you buy something for the church, please put your first and last name on the receipt and just place it in the offering plate. The donation will then be added to your giving record just like a regular offering would. For example, if you know we are short on coffee cups and you are willing to pick some up, do so and turn in the receipt for credit.



# 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, 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; Nancy Byxbe; Laura Vanberg's niece, Fawne McCleary who has been diagnosed with breast cancer; Colleen Garberg, mother of Rachele Garcia in now at Tender Nest Assisted Living; The family of Jenny Ingram as they mourn the death of her son, John Ladd; Matt Walsh's friend Danny, who was seriously injured in a car accident; Abbey Emmons, home from the hospital but still recovering from cellulitis; Lois Sneva (mother of Connie Herberg) hospitalized in Plentywood; Rose, Field (sister of Agnes Beddes) hospitalized.



### Friends of the Congregation:

Katie Rightmire ALS; Kynzee Cooper, continuing to recover from her 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; Debra Ruona; Geeta Allen, a 40 year old woman with brain cancer; Georgia Wageman, recovering from open heart surgery recently in Salt Lake City; Lori Widhalm of Broadview suffering from brain cancer; Cheri McNeily of Laurel scheduled for surgery for a brain aneurysm; Ardis Hanson of Shepherd, in rehab at St. John's Transitional Cottage after having recent 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

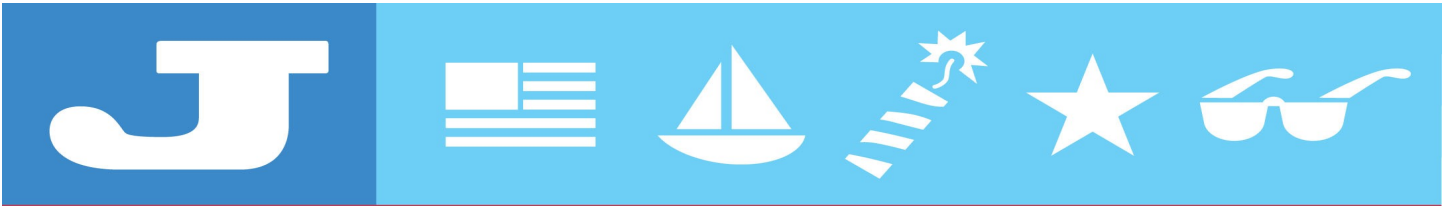
Rob Larson, MN



- 03 Jeremy Stahl
- 07 Matt Walsh
- 10 Abbey Emmons
- 11 Carol Bennett
- 14 Kristianne Wilson
- 15 Laurel Noland
- 19 Tom Plath
- 25 Howard Osmundson
- 27 Olivia Plath
- 28 Lynda Newell
- 29 Kyle Reitler
- 29 Mark Morgenstern



- 08 Wade & Meagan Malchow
- 12 Brad & Dawn Sherseth
- 20 Ed & Sue Hawthorne

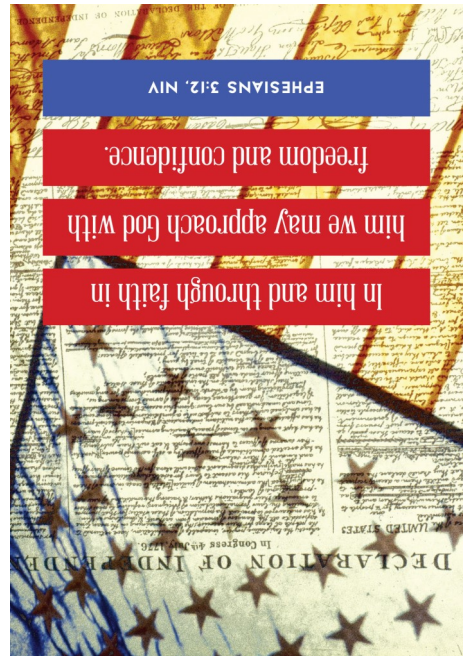


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Address Service Requested

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](http://elcshepherd.org) — [elcshepherd@gmail.com](mailto:elcshepherd@gmail.com)



**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING