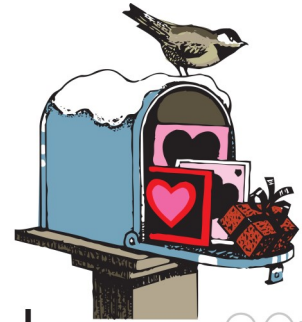




Emmanuel News



February 2019

ANNUAL MEETING Highlights

Revised Endowment Fund Bylaws

The revised Bylaws were presented and discussed. The revised Bylaws were approved.

Raise the Roof

The Raise the Roof project to raise funds to replace the ceiling in the church was discussed and approved.

Budget Approved

The proposed Budget for 2019 was presented and approved.

New Council Members

President	Meagan Malchow
Vice President	Jill Hoffman
Secretary	Brenda Emerick
Treasurer	Laurel Noland
Council Member	Patty McVay
Council Member	Liz White
Council Member	Dawn Sherseth
Council Member	Linda Oberg
Council Member	Ricker Olson
Council Member	Scott Green

Retiring Council Members

The following who are going off Church Council were recognized and thanked for their service:

Carol Kramer
Wade Malchow
Shane Christman

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

We are making plans for our congregation to host the spring gathering for the Shepherd and Beartooth Cluster women, and have set the date for that event to be held on Saturday, May 4th. The day will begin with registrations and coffee hour at 9:00 AM, and our meeting will begin at 10:00 AM. The plans are for a lunch at 12:30 PM, followed



by a closing worship service with communion and an installation of new officers.

Pastor Al Erickson had been our speaker at the fall gathering in September of 2017, and spoke on human trafficking. We have a problem with human trafficking right here in Billings, and there are often articles in the newspaper about it. Therefore, we would

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Dear Friends at Emmanuel,

"And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."



about the gift of love. Paul is not talking about romantic love, but the love which we are to have for one another and the loved children of God that we are.

1 Corinthians 13:13

During this Epiphany Season the second lessons for the last two Sundays in January were from the twelfth chapter of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians. In this chapter Paul is talking about Spiritual gifts which had become quite a controversy in the church in Corinth. Paul details the fact that there are a great variety of spiritual gifts and that the Spirit gives to each person specific gifts, not for their own glorification, but for the *common good*. Paul goes on to say that we are the body of Christ and each individual within that body are important. Paul urges the members of the church to "strive for the greater gifts."

On the first Sunday of February, as we entered the month where we celebrate Valentine's Day, we heard the love Chapter (1 Corinthians 13) which is Paul's completion of this dissertation about Spiritual gifts. Chapter 12 ends with this sentence: "And I will show you a still more excellent way." Then Chapter 13 begins with Paul's beautiful and almost poetic writing

This kind of love has its source in the love that God has for us. God demonstrated that great love by becoming a human being in Jesus and then showing us the heart of God by the way he lived his life and most powerfully by his death on the cross and resurrection on the third day. In verses 4-7 of chapter 13, just to make sure his readers get the proper picture of what this love is like, Paul writes: "*Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.*" Love is not feelings, but actions.

As we enter this month of February, the "Love Month", it is fitting that we remember that love is what is to be the dominate characteristic of our lives.

Glory and praise be to our loving God!

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like to have a speaker from this area, come out to talk to our gathering. As soon as we can arrange for one, we will let you know who it is.

Some dates to remember: March 1st is the World Day of Prayer, which has been officially celebrated since 1927, by thousands of women and women's groups, including women of the ELCA, and in more than 170 countries, gathering women of different races, cultures and traditions together in fellowship and understanding. The World Day of Prayer has a specific theme each year: this year the theme will focus on Luke 14:15 -24.....i.e. "Come, for all is ready now." We need to be Christian neighbors in a multi-religious world.

National Quilting Day is March 16....and Lutheran World Relief wants to celebrate you! For nearly 70 years,, women have made quilts for needy people around the world....hundreds of

thousands of quilts every year. "Those who sleep under a quilt, sleep under a blanket of love."

Sunday, February 24th, is "Bold Women's Day". Have you ever thought of Mary as a Bold Woman? The Virgin Mary...caring for the infant Jesus,...Bold Women have been a part of our faith's genealogy, e.g....the woman at the well, the persistent widow, the women at the tomb, and those certain women who supported Jesus and the disciples. On this day, congregations honor and remember bold women from their community who have helped bring about healing and wholeness for the church, the society and the world.

The Triennial Convention will be held in July of 2020, in Phoenix , Arizona...it's not too early to think about attending this inspiring event....and planning for it. More information on it will be coming soon, saving money with early registration, etc.

COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

February is here and I'm super stoked. This is my favorite month of the year. Although it is the shortest month of the year, it is packed with several important days. We have Groundhog Day, my Birthday, Valentine's Day, my Birthday, Presidents' Day and my Birthday! Yippee! Did I mention that I have a birthday coming up?

Yesterday my cousin the Ground Hog did his thing amongst all of the pomp and circumstance, saw his shadow and proclaimed an early spring. Today the day after his special day, I sit in my hidey hole typing this up, occasionally glancing outside at the falling snow and falling temperature and mumble to myself, "Early spring, I think not"! Oh well, I guess time will tell if my cousin is right or not.

On the 14th we have Valentine's Day, a very important day for all of us. No matter what the situation, everyone has a special someone in their life, who needs a little attention on this day. Yeah, I know that I often give Mrs. T.C. a hard time. Ribbing and jokes that go on and on, but I really do love her and couldn't get along without her, so I need to let her know how special she really is to me. Ideally I should be letting her know every day, all year long, but that isn't how I operate. Anyways, Happy Valentine's Day to Mrs. T.C. and all of you out there. I hope you spend some quality time with your special someone.

On the 18th we have Presidents' Day, so all of the bankers, and government types get the day off. Yes, a lot of important people and mice have birthdays in February, so I'm thinking of taking the day off too. Perhaps I can hit the ski slopes and try to enjoy all of the snow that we have received in the last few weeks. I really love the thrill of flying down the mountain with the wind in

my face. I learned an important skiing lesson last year. I closely watched the storms and snow fall, and decided it would be a great day to ski. I talked my son into going with me, cause there was new snow to pursue. After our first run that morning, both us had freezing fingers and toes, which is really unusual. As we were trying to warm up inside, I noticed the thermometer outside was saying 10 below zero! Well that

explains the numb fingers and toes! Yep, in my excitement to ski the fresh snow, I failed to see what the current and forecast temperature was for the day. It wasn't fit for man or mouse outside! Lesson learned.

Well, that is enough of my nonsense for now. I have a birthday to prepare for. Perhaps a little self-reflection is in order.

Enjoy your February. See you in

Church.

Your faithful friend. In residence at Emmanuel.

T. C. Mouse



Church Council Meeting Minutes – 1/9/2019

Submitted by Secretary: Brenda Emerick

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by president, Meagan Malchow.

Members Present: Meagan, Brenda, Carol, Laurel, Scott, Dawn and Pastor Mark

Members Absent: Wade, Shane, Liz

Pastor presented the devotion and the meeting began with a prayer.

Meeting Minutes: The December meeting minutes were approved as written with a motion from Dawn and a second from Scott.

Treasurer's Report: Laurel provided the December Profit & Loss Statement, along with a YTD P&L statement. For the month of December, we were in the black with net income of \$2,980.35. Our YTD net income is at \$21,709.79 but this total includes the Memorial Funds and the Food Bank donations. After removing these two line items that are not available for running the church, our account ended the year with \$1,597.77. The council agreed that we need to have a separate account for the Shepherd Area Food Pantry, as it is now its own entity. Laurel will get the account set up and add Brenda Emerick and Meagan Malchow as additional signers. Brenda will be added as she is the council secretary, and Meagan is on the Food Pantry Board. Laurel will also set up a sub-account for the Raise the Ceiling Fund Raiser. Brenda Emerick will also be added as a signer for this account. Carol Kramer has been the second signer for the church council, but since she is going off the council in January, we need a second signer. The treasurer's report was approved, including the set-up of the new bank accounts with their additional signers, with a motion from Scott and a second from Brenda. Deacons Report: Carol stated that everyone that she has asked to join the church council has declined, except for two people who are still considering it. Meagan said that she had also asked one person to come on in the new position of Vice President. That person is also still thinking about it.

Trustees Report: Scott reported that there is someone who can add a fan to the furnace to enable us to have air-conditioning. He will follow-up on that possibility and report back with details. Meagan

asked the council for ideas of work that needs to be done in the coming year. She stated that the fabric canopy on the playground was ripped in the recent high winds. We added that to the list of future work. Also included were cement curbs around the building. Laurel stated that the estimate we received last

year will remain at the same amount for the work to be done this spring. We also need to grout the parking lot, and do some welding on the ramp to make it sturdier.

Old Business: The Ceiling Fundraiser has already raised \$500 from the Sunday School and over \$1,500.00 from the congregation. The Shepherd Area Food Pantry received another \$5,000 donation from YVEC due to an application completed by Brad

Shersteth. These funds can be applied for once per quarter, and there is no limit to how many times the requestee can receive the funds. The Food Pantry Board can continue to apply for this grant in the future.

The Food Pantry also received \$1,000 from Conoco Phillips. Jill Hoffman completed an application for this money, and since she regularly volunteers at the church, she will be able to apply for this money again in the future. Since the Food Pantry is now its own entity with its own separate board, and soon to have its own bank account, Scott suggested that we should probably have a lease agreement for the board to sign. The previous verbal agreement was for an annual lease in the amount of \$1.00 per year. Scott volunteered to formally write up the lease, including the fact that the utilities and any upkeep will be paid for by the Shepherd Area

Food Pantry. As a follow-up from our last meeting, Laurel brought forward that the annual savings for Pastor Mark's reduced insurance premium comes to \$1,104.00. The council agreed to pay that difference to Pastor Mark in salary. Scott also suggested that we increase his base salary by 3% - in keeping with the increase in the cost of living. After discussion, Scott so moved and Carol seconded the motion. Pastor Mark will receive a total annual increase in salary of \$2,394.00.

New Business: The Endowment Committee met last week. Shaun Seedhouse from Thrivent attended the meeting and suggested some language changes in

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Council Minutes

LOVING SERVICE

(continued from page 4)

the Endowment Fund Articles. There was also a suggestion to limit the amount or percentage given out each year for scholarships. The updated paperwork will be available at the annual meeting. We set the agenda for the annual meeting to include: The Endowment Constitution, the 2019 Budget, The Raise the Ceiling Project and Fund Raiser, Officer Elections, and reports from the Deacons, the Women's Group, the Trustees and the Food Pantry. As the council looked at the budget prepared by Laurel, the only changes were to increase Pastor Mark's salary and to increase the janitor salary. Scott moved to increase the janitor salary by \$25 per month. Dawn seconded the motion and it passed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Mark attended his regular pastor meetings, text studies, and Sr. Citizens meetings. There were no confirmation classes in the month of December, due to preparations for Christmas. Pastor performed two funeral services, and one home communion. He also attended the endowment committee meeting. Pastor will be on vacation February 9 – 18, 2019. His church services will be covered by Dawn Petty. Pastor will have foot surgery on February 28th.

Mission Cornerstone:

Weekly Offering Counters:

01/13/2019 – Brenda
01/20/2019 – Dawn
01/27/2019 – Laurel
02/03/2019 – Brenda
02/10/2019 – Meagan

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm, and ended with The Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: February 6, 2019 at 7:00pm.
(One week earlier than normal due to Pastor's vacation)

February 2019



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.

Online Confirmation

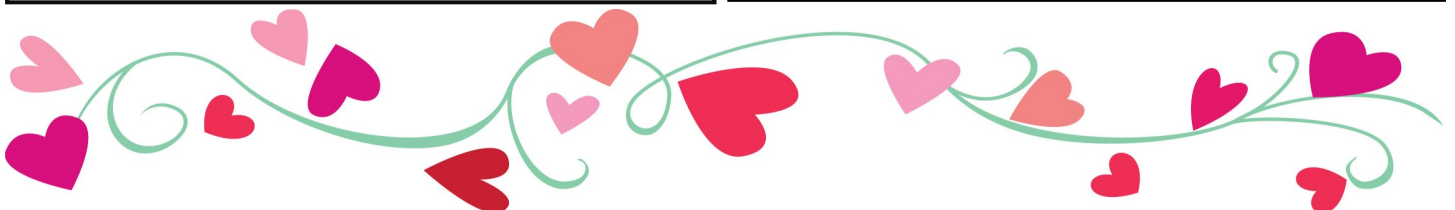


The 6th grade Confirmation Class, a Bible Survey class, is now online! With activities and schedules full it was difficult to have all 4 students meet on Sunday. The solution of online studies has been working for all involved! The online work promotes studies and completed work with ease. The class will meet a few times to review and build relationships. Thanks to the parents, for their support of this new way for confirmation study.

Affectionately yours

St. Valentine, a Roman priest, was martyred in 270 A.D. for loving Jesus. Some sources say he performed weddings after the emperor banned them; others say he rescued Christians from Roman prisons. Two centuries later, the pope declared February 14 St. Valentine's Day.

According to legend, the priest signed his letters "Your Valentine." Later, Christians followed suit to honor him. By the mid-1700s, friends and sweethearts exchanged heart-shaped trinkets or sent handwritten notes of affection on February 14.



CARING RELATIONSHIPS

Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates

Members:

Meagan Malchow with various health issues; Monty Mavity, who is quite ill with cancer; Sharon DeRudder; Gary Noland (Charley Noland's brother) treatment for a tumor on his kidney was unsuccessful; Nancy Byxbe, ongoing medical issues; Warren Peterson, nephew of the Osmundson's having medical issues; Kara Friesz, Brad & Sandie Green's daughter diagnosed with cancer; Kathy Bertrand and Lorraine Schleder undergoing treatment for cancer; Tierra Oberg, experiencing complications with her pregnancy; Judy Osmundson recovering from a broken hip at Aspen Meadows; the family of Chance Mavity as they mourn his death.

Friends of the Congregation:

Bessie Millard is being treated aggressively for colon cancer; Tonya Sullivan, Bill Biehl's daughter, rehabilitating from a horse accident; Agnes Beddes's great-grand-daughter, Jessalyn Fleming, age 3, was injured in a bad car accident and was air-lifted to Denver Children's Hospital; Taylor Happel (whose Mom is a friend of Liz White's) who was in a motorcycle accident; Dawn Petty's Neighbor, Jodi Hendrich now recovering at home; Richard Schüttler (friend of Collin Wilson) with health issues; Collin Wilson's friend Allen Habermann diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis; Kerry Martin Farman, Pat Martin's daughter and a former resident of Shepherd, diagnosed with cancer; Kelly Stokes (Cindy Glenwood's friend's son) recovering from a serious accident; Emma Brown, Kristianne Wilson's relative, recovering from surgery.

Community Living:

West Park Village: Lenora Wiest,

Aspen Meadows: Judy Osmundson

Tender Nest: Mary Cosset

Yellowstone County Jail: Chance Cavity

Minnesota State Prison System: Rob Larson



Local Youth Serving in the military: Taylor Green now training at Pensacola, Florida; Jacob Wagener serving in the U.S. Navy; Tucker Johnson and Brooke Nobel serving in the U.S. Air Force.

01 Brianne Malchow

02 Dawn Sherseth

03 Jill Hoffman

08 Scott Green

15 Destin Christman

15 Linda Oberg



20 Collin Wilson

23 LouAnn Grandpre

24 Mark Halvorsen

25 Bill Reitler

26 Peyton Christman



February
2019

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Wed

Thu

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Sat



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8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 11:15 Confirmation	4:30 Cub Scouts		7:00 Church Council								
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8:45 Adult S.S. 9:30 Youth Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship 7:00 BSLW 4-H	4:30 Cub Scouts 7:00 Shepherd Pioneers 4-H	7:00 Tumbleweeds 4-H		Valentine's Day							
17	18	19	20	21	22	23					
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Emmanuel Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 66
Shepherd, MT 59079
Address Service Requested

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