



WITH DAVE OLTROGGE & FRIENDS

# Christikon Clips July, 2018

HRISTIKON

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 <a href="https://www.christikon.org">www.christikon.org</a>, 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 (June 29-July1) we feature Phil Wold from Trinity Lutheran Church in Sheridan. Continuing Education Retreat (Jul 31-Aug 3) and Mountain Weekend 2 (Aug. 3-5) speakers are Dr. Phil Jamieson and Dennis Trotter. 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

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Dear Friends at Emmanuel.

This month I defer my column to the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and her June 22<sup>nd</sup> statement on the President's Executive order on immigration and family separation.

About two weeks ago, I joined more than 20 other faith leaders in raising concerns about the administration's announced plans that it would begin separating families and criminally prosecuting all people who enter the U.S. without previous authorization. In line with that statement, I acknowledge that President Donald Trump's new executive order, "Affording Congress an Opportunity to Address Family Separation," does keep families together, but for how long and in what conditions? I am troubled by what the executive order does and does not guarantee. There is no provision for reuniting children already separated from their families, nor for children whose parents have already been deported. The executive order also allows for the possibility of future family separations.



The forced separation of children from their parents is unnecessarily cruel, further traumatizing families who have already suffered in their countries of

origin and on the dangerous journey to the U.S. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and its

predecessor church bodies have a long history of caring for children, families and refugees. It's who we are.

This executive order will expand the detention of families. The ELCA opposed the detention of families policy during the George W. Bush and Barack Obama administrations, and we oppose the policy now. Detention centers are not designed to support families. Community-based alternatives to detention, like ones that Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) has piloted, are cost-effective ways to ensure that children and parents can await their court case in a dignified setting.

In his explanation of the Lord's Prayer in the Small Catechism, Martin Luther reminds us that good government is part of our daily bread. As Lutherans and as citizens, we can work with elected officials toward humane, just, and compassionate solutions. Through AMMPARO and LIRS, the ELCA is committed to walking alongside children and families who are seeking asylum. You can be part of a network that uses their hands and voice to ensure they feel welcomed wherever they go. We can also advocate through ELCA Advocacy (elca.org/advocacy).

By grace we are set free to love and serve the neighbor. Let us, through prayer and action, serve these vulnerable children and families.

Have a happy and safe 4th of July!

## **EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN**

A big thank you to the ladies who helped furnish lunch items and their help to serve the meals after two funerals this past month. Everything worked out well. As we started calling the ladies for help and food, we discovered that our work group lists need to be re-done and updated. Our group leaders will be meeting in a week or two down at the

church to go over the calling lists.



Check out the books on the shelves in the church basement....there are various study Bibles there....take one for your own, also look over the reference books, study guides, etc. to see if some of them appeal to you. Read, return, and donate some of your own favorites if you like, for others to read. This display of books is the beginning of our "church" library. Enjoy!

# **COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE**

FROM THE

CHURCH

WELCOME

MOUSI

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

July is here and that means one very important thing, a status check of how well the corn is growing. My recent venture out to the nearest corn field has confirmed that we are on track to be "knee high by the fourth of July". Great news indeed and hopefully my words of encouragement "grow baby grow" will produce some beautiful ears of corn come August. We also celebrate our nation's birthday on the 4<sup>th</sup>, with family gatherings, barbeques and fireworks. I hope everyone enjoys the day off and time spent with family and friends. Be safe out there and Happy Fourth of July! Don't forget to hoist Old Glory early that morning as part of the day's activities.

The church barbeques have been doing really well so far. I consistently count around 45 people showing up every Wednesday to enjoy some burgers, dogs and traditional sides, as well as some great desserts. The old grill is getting quite the workout and the Pastor is doing a fine job flipping burgers. I hope we have the same kind of turn out for the planned Church work day on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There is always a lot of general maintenance that needs to be done around the church, so I look forward to pitching in myself to help get everything done.

The garden seems to be off to a great start and everything is growing well. Speaking of well, I noticed that there was a big machine by the garden recently drilling deep into the ground. A new water well has been drilled, for watering the garden and lawn area. I think the only thing left to do is get the pump hooked up and it will be ready to roll. I also noticed a few new trees planted by

the children's play area. What a nice addition to the Church landscaping. Speaking of landscaping, my better half keeps coming up with new flowers to plant and I seem to get volunteered to dig the holes. Her nickname for me recently is Digger. Not because I'm so good at using a shovel, but more so because my unedited comments to her often create problems.

Mrs. T.C. will tell me that I'm digging myself a hole that I won't be able to climb out of, so she has started calling me Digger. Just when I seem to be back in her good graces, I say something really stupid and she replies with the Digger nickname! Not honey, sweetheart or awesome husband of mine, just Digger. Just the other day two new rose bushes showed up on the front step and I knew what was coming. "I need

your help planting the rose bushes Digger"! Oh well, at least she still needs me.

Well that is enough for now. I have a couple more holes to dig. Enjoy the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and I'll see you in Church.

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



Lord Jesus, thou who art the way, the truth and the life; hear us as we pray for the truth that shall make all free. Teach us that liberty is not only to be loved but also to be lived. Liberty is too precious a thing to be buried in books. It costs too much to be hoarded. Help us see that our liberty is not the right to do as we please, but the opportunity to please to do what is right.

-Peter Marshall, before the U.S. Senate

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**

#### 6/13/18 - submitted by Dawn Sherseth

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm by president, Meagan Malchow.

Members Present: Meagan, Scott, Dawn, Laurel,

Wade, Carol and Pastor Mark.

**Members Absent:** Liz, Brenda, Shane Pastor Mark led devotions and a prayer.

**Meeting Minutes:** Minutes from May were

approved.

#### Old Business

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Our current balance is \$1915.99. Discussion on the financial crisis last month focused on what to do in the future. Funds came in this time

to cover the payroll and other expenses. Scott reminded us to always pay the payroll and payroll taxes to avoid penalties. Laurel shared a reconciliation page for the checkbook. It does not change much from

month to month. Major changes might be in electricity and propane during the winter. There are very few places in which to cut the budget for each month. Pastor mentioned having some stewardship discussions with the congregation. The food bank did take money from the general fund this year that was more than planned. It was asked if we could borrow money from the endowment fund and the answer was no. It cannot be used for regular budget items but is used for items like scholarships. Wade moved to approve the treasurer's report and it was seconded by Carol and approved.

**Deacons Report:** No additional information on the Hooligan's fundraiser. The new schedule probably won't come out to fall.

**Trustees Report:** A work day for God's Work, Our Hands is scheduled for July 21<sup>st</sup>. On the list for projects to be completed are foundation painting prep for the boy scouts, window trim painting, and ceiling the parking lot. Sharon will be consulted about submitting to Thrivent for funding for these projects. Other smaller projects will also be completed.

**Audit Committee report:** The committee met after church one Sunday and discussed what will be required. A date will be set in October to complete the audit.

**Food Pantry 503C designation:** Meagan asked Scott if he would be willing to donate his time. He agreed and will get started when Meagan gets him the information. It will be called the Shepherd Area Food Pantry. There is a difference between food

banks and food pantries, so this was important. It will be its own entity and have its own board of directors. The pantry will lease the building for \$1. Completing this process will make the food pantry eligible for many more grant opportunities and take some of the financial burden away from the church. A motion was made and approved to proceed with the 503C designation for the food pantry.

#### Pastor's report:

Pastor Mark attended text and bible studies. He presided over graveside services for Ruby Post, provided premarital counseling for an upcoming June wedding, and attended Synod assembly. He visited members both at the hospitals and in nursing homes. The garage sale was on June 9. Pastor Mark will contact Wendell Wilson about tuning the piano. Our community BBQs started on June 13. There will be no BBQ on July 4. Pastor will also lead funerals for

Eva Swenson and the Garbergs. He

will be gone July 1-5.

# Minutes New Business:

Ceiling 2019 goal: Sharon and Bob Wolske, Dawn Petty, and Meagan met with G & L Enterprises about

covering the ceiling. They said that sheetrock is too heavy and recommended 6" tongue and groove pine. It will be finished with a clear coat. They did say that the acoustics will be affected with the changes. It will take about 6 days to complete the job. He suggested doing it in January to take advantage of available workers. The bid was for \$9,742 with unfinished wood or \$12,205 finished wood. Ray Gorham also was asked for a bid and suggested the same material. His bid was \$8,250 which was assumed to be unfinished wood. Both are willing to install ceiling fans and lighting provided by the church.

Garage Sale: The annual garage sale was held on June 9. It was well attended. The total \$1613.82. Left over items were donated to Good Will and Rescue Mission. Our storage unit is empty. It was mentioned that next year we consider holding the garage sale on both Friday and Saturday. The early set up went well and was very helpful. Scott made a motion to put the garage sale funds in the general fund. It was seconded by Wade and approved.

**Work Day Volunteers:** Boy Scout Troop 9 has volunteered to move wood chips when they are delivered. They have also volunteered to paint the concrete foundation, redwood boards, and swing set boards. Trustees are to get prices for the paint and stain. Prep work for the painting projects will be completed on the July 21<sup>st</sup> work day.

Community Garden: The well is coming soon and

(continued on page 5)

# LOVING SERVICE

(continued from page 4)

drip lines will be installed. Wood chips have been delivered and will be spread. There will be a sign up list for a watering schedule. Advertising for the garden will wait until the plants are up. A newspaper article will feature the garden and girl scouts.

## **Communion Helpers and Counters:**

06/17/18 — Wade

06/24/18 — Carol

07/01/18 — Dawn

07/08/18 — Laurel

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm. The meeting ended with The Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting: July 11, 2018 at 7:00pm



The Church Council has set Saturday, July 21st as a Church Work Day. We will begin at 8:00 a.m.

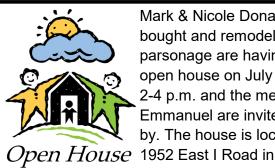
Please wear old clothing,

bring work gloves etc. We will be cleaning up around the grounds, doing some painting and other things that need to be done. With a good turn out we should finish up by noon. See you then!



"Ed here has a question about the origin of life."





Mark & Nicole Donally who bought and remodeled the parsonage are having an open house on July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2-4 p.m. and the members of Emmanuel are invited to stop by. The house is located at Ballantine.

**Emmanuel Lutheran** Church and the Shepherd Area Food Pantry will become a distribution point for



the Montana Food Bank Network. They will be coming to our location once a month and distributing food boxes to individuals and families in need.

The first distribution will likely take place during the week of July 9-12. The exact day has yet to be determined. The truck will also be at Huntley United Methodist Church on the same day. We will have the truck either in the morning or afternoon—also yet to be determined.

We need two or three volunteers to help with the



distribution on the day the truck arrives. Please contact Pastor Mark if you are able and willing to volunteer — 698-9479.

Thanks!

# **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; Bud Sherrod, father of Shawna Calentine, recovering from a stroke; Sharon DeRudder, Brenda Emerick's mother, having various health problems; Rachelle Garcia; Gary Noland (Charley Noland's brother) treatment for a tumor on his kidney was unsuccessful; Mary Cossitt has moved to Tender Nest on 4040 Parkhill; Judy Carroll, Lindsey Reynolds' mother, who is being treated for cancer; Nancy Byxbe, ongoing medical issues; Dennis Vidic (Dawn Petty's son-in-law recovering from surgery at home; Warren Peterson, nephew of the Osmundson's having medical issues.



### Friends of the Congregation:

Virjean Steadman is recovering from a stroke; Bessie Millard is being treated aggressively for colon cancer; Brady Rink from Huntley (age 8) and his family, Brady at Children's Hospital in Denver being treated for leukemia; Tonya Sullivan, Bill Biehle's, rehabilitating from a horse accident; Agnes Beddes' son, Bryan, recovering at home from bi-pass surgery; Amanda St. John (friend of the Byxbe family) following surgery for cancer; Clinton Welch, son of Joy and Joe Welch, has extensive health issues.

#### **Community Living:**

West Park Village: Lenora Weist, Esther Bengtson

**Aspen Meadows:** Howard Osmundson

**Tender Nest:** Mary Cossitt

Yellowstone County Jail: Chance Mavity

Rob Larson, MN

ASK... SEEK NOCK."

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

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



03 LaDonna & Millard Hultgren

04 Matt & Stacie Grandpre

07 Wade & Meagan Malchow

09 Jon & Connie Herberg

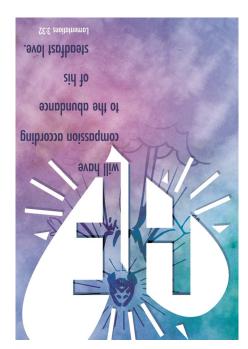
20 Bob & Sharon Wolske







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
**	* * *	***	* * *	**	**	***
	W					
1 8:45 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship	2	3	HAPPY The JULY!  NO Community BBQ	5	6	7
8:45 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship	9 7:00 Shepherd Pioneers 4-H	7:00 Tumbleweeds	We're Havin' a BAR-B-Q! 6:00 Community BBQ 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Book Study	12	13	14
15 8:45 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship	16	17	6:00 Community BBQ 7:00 Book Study	19	20	8:00 a.m. Church Work Day
8:45 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship	23	24	6:00 Community BBQ 7:00 Book Study	26	27	28
8:45 Adult Sunday School 10:00 Worship	30	31	3 4 5 10 11 12 17 18 19 2	2018 W T F S 1 2 6 7 8 9 13 14 15 16 20 21 22 23 27 28 29 30	5 6 7 12 13 14	St 2018 W T F S 1 2 3 4 8 9 10 11 15 16 17 18 22 23 24 25 29 30 31



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