



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING

# Emmanuel News



December 2019

## 2019 Sunday School Christmas Program

### A King's Birthday

A Traditional Christmas Program with a lot of traditional Christmas Carols for the congregation to join in singing.

The Sunday School will practice during the Sunday School hour on December 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. The Dress Rehearsal will be on Saturday the 21<sup>st</sup>, time to be decided.



## Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule

December 1<sup>st</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in  
Advent — 10:00 a.m. Worship

December 8 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in  
Advent — 10:00 a.m. Worship

December 15 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in  
Advent — 10:00 a.m.

December 22 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in  
Advent — 10:00 a.m. Sunday  
School Christmas Program and  
Worship

December 24 - Christmas Eve  
8:00 p.m. Candlelight Worship



Merry  
Christmas



If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to help decorate the church this year, they are available for \$12.00 each. Please fill out the information below and put it in the offering plate by December 15<sup>th</sup> or mail it to the church by December 17<sup>th</sup>.

I would like to purchase \_\_\_\_\_ poinsettias.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**In Memory of:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**In Honor Of:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

This has been a busy fall for our ladies, as we prepared the annual Harvest Dinner, Bazaar and Auction, which turned out to be very successful. With those funds, we were able to pay for our Church benevolences for the year, which totaled \$4000.00, and are planning to update our sound system at the church, too. Thank you to all the people who helped decorate the church for Christmas, by staying after services this last Sunday, and placing yule logs, Christmas trees and garlands around the sanctuary. "Many hands make light work".

We had a professional carpet cleaning company



Women  
of the  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
IN AMERICA

come in a few weeks ago, to freshen up the basement carpet before the Harvest Dinner, even though we realized that the carpets would need to be replaced, once the broken windows were redone in the building. We are certainly looking forward to having the windows repaired. This may all have to wait until after Christmas, depending on the availability of the windows, though.

It is gratifying to have the women willing and ready to help when needed, whether it's a general cleaning, a funeral and reception, a fund raiser, or a gathering of any kind...you are all truly a blessing. Thank you.

# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

December is here and if you listen closely, you can almost hear the sleigh bells a ringing in the distance. I've been a real good mouse this year, so I'm anticipating great things in my Christmas stocking. I even washed and pressed my stocking, so it is all ship shape and ready to go. Mainly I needed to clean out all of the coal dust that was left over from last year. Yes, contrary to popular belief, I was labeled as a bad mouse last year, but I don't know why. I think it was all a cruel joke by Mrs. T.C. to fill my stocking with coal, as there is no way that Santa could carry that much coal with him and still make good time. Well we will just have to wait and see what is in the stocking come Christmas morning.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> we have Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, so we should all fly Old Glory in honor of those that were lost. Since this day falls on a Saturday this year, I think that I will curl up on the couch and watch the movie Pearl Harbor. Or perhaps I should watch the movie Tora! Tora! Tora! instead. My favorite line from that movie is "I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve." How true is that line? Either way, you get the picture, that I'll be taking it easy on the 7<sup>th</sup> after hoisting the flag and work on my couch potato routine.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> we have Christmas, so everyone will be getting together to exchange gifts and enjoy a feast of food. I hope that Santa brings you all exactly what you want or need and that you enjoy the time with family and friends. I'm also looking forward to the Christmas program that the kids at the church put on every year. Retelling the wonderful story about the birth of baby Jesus. I was lucky enough to earn a part in the program this year too after a strenuous audition. Look for

me, I'll be the good looking mouse in the straw of the manger right next to the baby. Merry Christmas everyone.

Then on the 31<sup>st</sup> we have New Year's Eve. I hope everyone has fun celebrating the out with the old and in with the new aspect of this yearly tradition. This year again, I'll resolve to eat less cheese curds, which is really, really hard for me to do. I think that I should also resolve to volunteer more of my time in the coming year, trying to help out where I can. I've already begun to

inspect the food pantry on a regular basis, making sure the shelves are stocked and everything is in good order. Mrs.T.C. thinks that I'm just out scouting for cheese, which could be partially correct. Anyways, Happy New Year to everyone! Bring on 2020!

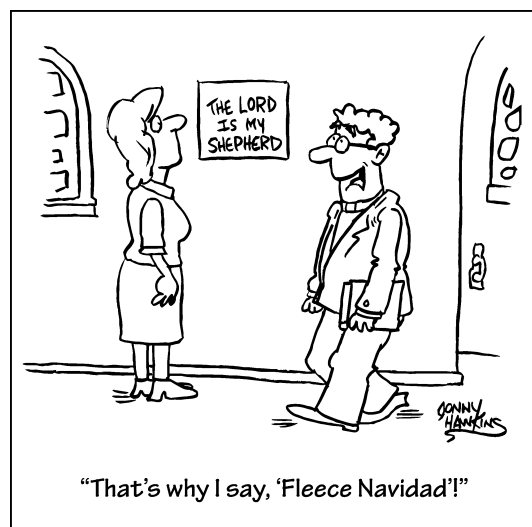
Well that is enough for now. I still have to finish putting up lights and decorations for Christmas. I'm

also going to put up a spot light that will shine on my stocking hung with care, so Santa is sure not to miss it.

See you in Church.

Your faithful Friend in residence at Emmanuel.

T. C. Mouse



## Church Council Financial Meeting Minutes 11/13/2019

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

**Members Present:** Meagan, Patty, Jill, Ricker, Linda, Laurel, Dawn

**Members Excused:** Brenda, Liz, Scott

**Guests:** LPA John Hanson. Todd from Big Sky Exterior Designs, Abbey Emmons

### Devotions & Old Business:

Due to the lengthy meeting agenda, the secretary and treasurer's reports were not discussed.

### New Business:

LPA John Hanson had requested to meet the council and obtain a clear understanding of our expectations of him when he is performing services for ELC. After a brief discussion, John departed the meeting at 7:15pm.

Todd Brownstin from Big Sky Enterprises attended the meeting to update the council on the window contract we had awarded to his company. Todd stated that the windows are currently being completed, and he hopes to have them delivered in 2-3 weeks. He was certain we would have the windows replaced by Christmas. A motion was made by Laurel and seconded by Dawn to approve the "Flemish" glass style.

Further discussion about the siding/gutters and the roof continued with Todd. During this discussion, Meagan introduced that the assigned insurance adjuster was not being helpful and Meagan requested a new adjuster through the insurance company. Heather Wallace has been removed and Brian Baskin has been assigned to our claim. This occurred with the help and guidance of Todd. We were able to obtain an additional \$30,000 from the insurance towards the total building repairs. The council needs to move forward with choosing a contractor for the remainder of the repairs. Todd left the meeting at 7:40pm.

The council discussed the other contractors and new updated insurance bid. Only one other company provided a bid and that was through Moonlight Roofing & Siding, as recommended by Brenda. Both BSE and MR&S were comparable and both bids came in under the insurance amount allotted. A motion was made by Dawn to contract with BSE for all three contracts (windows, siding/gutters, and roofing). Patty seconded the motion and it passed. An amendment requested by Jill Hoffman to add the north

side fascia/soffit to the bid for the siding/gutters - even though that damage was not made by the storm. Also, to withhold the signing of the roof contract until we make sure the windows and siding contracts are done to the council's satisfaction AND that the cost of repair has to stay under the allotted insurance amount. Amendment passed. The council agreed we need to request an insurance extension just to be safe on the timeline for repairs. No motion made. Finally, the church siding will remain white. The council opted to choose seamless metal siding and this will be completed by BSE.

Brenda has scheduled lay pastors through the end of February. Christmas Eve service will be performed by Dawn Petty with Daisy as the accompanist. Both have been contacted and agreed to perform the service.

As previously decided, Dawn is in charge of choosing the hymns for the church services in conjunction with the gospel lessons and liturgy. She is choosing songs that the accompanists can play, and so far this arrangement is working well.

The Pastor Call Committee progress was on the agenda. There was a meeting with Jason Asselstine on October 13, 2019 at 1pm, but there were no committee members present

at the council meeting to give a report. Therefore, this item was tabled.

Abbey Emmons attended the meeting to discuss the church key situation. The security of the church is a concern as well as the expectation of the insurance to know who has a key at all times. Key requests need to be made through Abbey Emmons. She keeps the key possession list updated. The keys should all be engraved with a number. If any church member has an exterior door key that is not numbered, they need to contact Abbey to get that list updated. Keys should NOT be made by anyone. Some ideas were discussed that would alleviate the issue of keeping track of who all has keys. We could possibly install a number keypad entry on the door nearest the office. While on the subject of keys, it was discussed that a coded entry door panel for the food pantry might be a good investment. Especially, one that would allow for remote lock/unlock capability. This might enable better consistency of open hours. No motions were made. The option for keypad entry will be discussed at a future meeting.

Abbey was also in attendance to discuss the Volunteer Facility Coordinator Policy. The calendar is currently in the council room, and shows the schedule for all church use requests such as: Boy Scouts, team meetings, rehearsal dinners, etc. This calendar should only be updated by the Facility Coordinator who is either Abbey or Rob Emmons.

(continued on page 5)



# LOVING SERVICE

[continued from Page 4]

In the past, Pastor Mark and Abbey worked well together via text message on the short notice uses. With Pastor Mark gone, the schedule has to be organized by one person only to avoid duplicates.

This discussion made the council realize there may be other "duties" that Pastor Mark was handling that we need to make sure are not falling through the cracks. He gave us a list of what he was responsible for before he retired but Jill will verify duties and make a list of who does what – just so everyone knows.

Jill presented a few upcoming items: Thanksgiving baskets will be handed out after church on 11/23. A list of items needed for the baskets will be emailed to the church members. The Christmas Youth Program will be 12/22 during church service. The Angel tree will be set up around 12/1 and the gifts will be picked up from the church on 12/22. Donations need to be at the church by 12/15. The Lion's Club will sponsor a wrapping party on 12/18.

Jill informed the council of some minor complaints about the food pantry. There were concerns placed about the new hours and one person said that the Food Pantry was not open when they came to get items. Meagan said she will bring the concerns to the Food Pantry committee.

## Counters:

11/17 – Laurel

11/24 - Linda

12/1 - Jill

12/8 – Dawn

Next council meeting will be December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer and adjourned at 9:16pm.

## November 2019 Offerings

**Our November offering total was \$7,889.38 plus \$1650.00 matching funds for income of \$9,539.38 which made for a net income of \$7,873.17.**

The Memorial Fund has been paid back in full.

**The Call Committee is seeking congregational member feedback to help us fully describe Emmanuel's ministry goals and identify the skills and abilities we seek in our next pastor.**

1. Please rank these ministry tasks on a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being least important and 5 being most important.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pastoral Care and Visitation

\_\_\_\_\_ Youth and Family Ministry

\_\_\_\_\_ Preaching/Worship

\_\_\_\_\_ Ecumenical Work (working with other churches)

\_\_\_\_\_ Music/Worship /Arts

2. What current activities or issues are you excited about at Emmanuel Lutheran Church?

3. What are your current concerns about Emmanuel Lutheran Church?

Please return your completed survey to the box labeled Call Committee surveys in the back of the church.

Thank you

Call Committee members

Kristianne Wilson, Elizabeth White, Dawn Petty, Sharon Wolske, Carol Kramer, Meagan Malchow, James Malchow

# CARING RELATIONSHIPS

## Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates

### Members:

Please continue to keep Ron Hovick and his family in your prayers. Ron has decided he no longer is going to continue with the treatments for his liver and lung cancer, and just let it continue to take it's course. He is getting stronger after stopping the chemo treatments, which is encouraging. For those who would like to send him a card, greetings or prayers, his contact info is: Pastor Ron Hovick, 4974 Miners Ridge Dr, Las Vegas, NV 88122; Nancy Byxbe is doing therapy at the nursing facility and doing better with that rehab. Gordon Lockwood received a pacemaker several weeks ago, and is doing well with it. cancer; Warren Peterson, nephew of the Osmundson's having medical issues; Tom Mitchell with various health issues; James Simpson's nephew, John Mark Owens being treated for stage 4 pancreatic cancer; Connie Halvorsen receiving radiation treatments; Laurel Noland's son-in-law Andy Dean's Dad, Dale, who has begun treatment for lung, liver and bone cancer; Sandie Green's aunt, Dixie Cozzens, Tylor Green and Jake Wegenaar.

### Friends of the Congregation:



Bessie Millard being treated colon cancer; Tonya Sullivan, Bill Biehl's daughter, rehabilitating from a horse accident; Richard Schüttler ongoing health issues and Allen Habermann (Cyclic Fibrosis) both are friends of Collin Wilson; Kelly Stokes (friend of Cindy Glenwood) recovering from accident; Brittany Reinhardt (daughter of Toni and Rob McCann, the granddaughter of Judy Smelser), waiting for a kidney donation; Ben Spotts; Lesa Rekdal, Shepherd school secretary diagnosed with cancer; Lee Brumley being treated for thyroid cancer; Rosie Neumiller recovering from surgery on her foot and big toe; AJ, Shauna Calentine's cousin's little boy medical issues;

### Community Living:

**West Park Village:** Lenora Weist

**Minnesota State Prison System:** Rob Larson

### Local Youth Serving in the military:

Taylor Green (US Navy) is assigned to the USS Abraham Lincoln and will be deployed as of April 1<sup>st</sup> to do a world tour for a year; Jacob Wagenaar (US Navy) is stationed in San Diego on the USS Nimitz and will also be deployed this summer; Tucker Wilson is assigned to Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico, Brooke Nebel Bohrer (US Air Force) and Brandon Bohrer (former US Marines) are stationed at Travis Air Force Base in California. Thomas Aigner US Navy Reserves is home now but looking to go on active duty.



03 Sierra Stahl  
07 Raedawn Pasco  
09 Daniella Leligdowicz  
09 James Malchow  
13 Randy Vanberg  
22 Charles Noland  
22 Sharon Wolske



13 Scott & Durene Green  
14 Robert & Peggy McSweyn  
18 Lauris & Nancy Byxbe  
18 Charles & Laurel Noland  
28 Randy & Laura Vanberg  
29 Tom & Roseanne Plath  
30 Bill & Holly Reitler



December  
2019



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



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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)



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