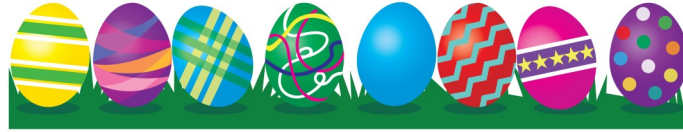




# Emmanuel News



We all anxiously await for the time to once again come together on Sunday mornings to worship and fellowship. While we wait, we can spend one on one time with the Lord. A good place to start will be the readings we would have enjoyed throughout this Easter Season and for the remainder of April.

DATE	PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL	1ST READING	PSALM	2ND READING	GOSPEL
APRIL 5	Matt 21:1-11	Isa. 50: 4-9a	Ps. 31:9-16	Phil 2:5-11	Matthew 26:14-27
MAUNDRY THURSDAY		Ex. 1:1-4; 11-14	Ps. 116:1-2; 12-19	1 Cor. 11:23-26	John 13: 1-7, 31b-35
GOOD FRIDAY		Isa 52:13 - 53:12	Ps. 22	Heb. 10:16-25	John 18:1-19:42
EASTER		Acts 10:34-43	Ps. 118: 1-2, 14-24	Col 3:1-4	Matt. 28:1-10
APRIL 19		Acts 2:14a, 22-32	Ps. 16	1 Peter 1:3-9	John 20:19-31
APRIL 26		Acts 2:14a, 36-41	Ps. 116:1-4, 12-19	1 Peter 1:17-23	Luke 24:13-35

Help comfort an elder at the end of life and become a Vigil Volunteer at St. John's United.

Our next Vigil Volunteer Training on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:30pm.



To sign up:  
Call 655-7727 or email [volunteer@sjlm.org](mailto:volunteer@sjlm.org)



# EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

**EASTER** is Almost Here! We know times are different this Easter season, and if we are all still on the order to stay home, it will feel strange to not meet as a church body on that glorious day. But, we know that God is good and He will use these moments to reach even more people through the Gospel message:

**"He is Risen indeed!"**

Many of the churches have their service on the website, or Facebook, and we can watch it at our own home. Check out [www.kingofglorybillings.com](http://www.kingofglorybillings.com), [www.amluth.org](http://www.amluth.org), or [www.atonementbillings.org](http://www.atonementbillings.org), or for a 5:00PM service on Saturday, go to [www.peacelutheranbillings.com](http://www.peacelutheranbillings.com). We can worship together, join in the familiar hymns, and proclaim **"He is Risen indeed!"**

We had all been looking forward to the Seder Dinner, on the Passover but the "stay in your own home" order, keeping 6 feet between people, etc. has fallen in that time frame also, so we will have to wait until next year to celebrate that event. Our church council will make the decision as to whether we will have Easter Sunrise Services, and 10:00 AM worship, also. You will be notified in advance.



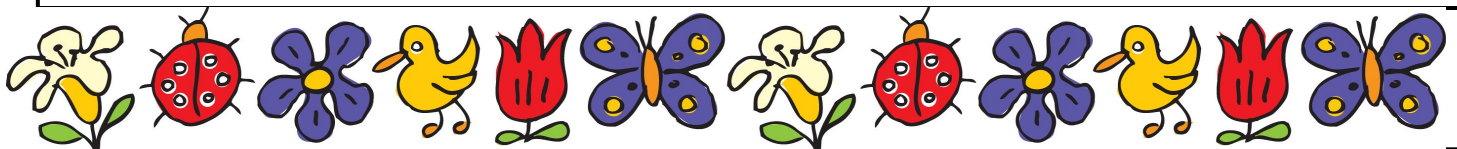
Women  
of the  
EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
IN AMERICA

The annual Christikon Auction held at the Billings' Depot on April 26th has been postponed until further notice (so we have plenty of time to make items for that auction).

The Spring Gathering for the women of the Shepherd and Beartooth Clusters is still on for Saturday, the 2nd of May, all depending on the spread of the virus., and any new "stay at home" orders.

Yet, do not lose heart! God does not forsake God's people. It is indeed in gathering at the foot of the cross with our many and diverse gifts that we find our common bond, and it is at Christ's table, where words and bread are brought together, that make us the body of Christ.

God breathes life into each of us, and into His church.



## FOOD BANK NEWS

**Hello all!**

**I hope this note finds you all healthy.**

**I just wanted to give a quick status update on the pantry. We are still open our normal hours, Monday through Friday approximately 8AM to 5PM. We stock it every couple of days, but with everything going on, it is getting wiped out every single day. We are having a tough time finding items such as canned soups, canned vegetables, pasta, rice, and beans.**

**Please be patient with us as we work through this time. If you know of a family in need, especially the elderly, that cannot make it to the pantry, please message me and we will try to make accommodations to get them what they need.**

**God bless you all,**

**Liz White  
Board member  
Shepherd Area Food Pantry**

# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

April is here and the weather is getting nicer. There has been a lot of activity around the Church lately, just no gatherings of the faithful since corona came to light. Workers have been pounding away replacing the siding on the Church and fixing the damage from last year's hail-storm. Boy what a racket. All of Mrs. T.C.'s trinkets have been vibrated off the walls several times during this construction work. Other than the noise from construction, I finally realize the truth behind the old saying "Quiet as a Church Mouse". Most days the only noise that one can hear is my consistent singing of old country tunes as I make my rounds in the empty Church.

Now the Governor has instituted a state wide "hunker down" mandate, telling us all to stay at home, so I'm not too sure that we will even be able to gather for the annual Sunrise Service on Easter. We will just have to wait and see. I guess this just leaves me more time to do some spring cleaning and a chance to go through my closet to clean out stuff that I no longer use. The hope is that some sacrifice now by all of us,

will slow this virus stuff down and let us get back to normal life in the near future. At least we can still get outside for some afternoon walks to help calm the cabin fever.



Mrs. T.C. came up with a good idea yesterday on our walk, saying that each community should start some Covid-19 trash pickup days. We could all get some fresh air, keep our distance from each other and clean up the neighborhoods at the same time. Every once in a while she comes up with some grand ideas, and this sounds like a good one.

Well anyways, no matter what you do to stay busy, I hope all is well with you and your family and friends. Stay safe and healthy. Remember my motto, "Like a bad sandwich, this too shall pass". I can't wait to see everyone around the Church again.

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



You are the heart of this church, and we pray that you remain safe and healthy during this unprecedented time.

We understand the difficulties of not being able to assemble as the family we are, and we anticipate the day we can once again pray together in God's house. In the meantime, your support is still vital to the church.

We ask, if you are able, to continue donating. Your assistance enables us to pay our monthly obligations and we simply cannot do it without you.



Donations can be made at [elcshepherd.org](http://elcshepherd.org) or mailed to:

Emmanuel Lutheran Church,  
PO Box 66 Shepherd, MT 59079

Thank you, and God bless.

## March Financial Report

Income:	\$ 5,408.00
Expense:	\$ 6,133.00
Net Income:	- \$ 905.00

## ELC Council Meeting 3/17/2020

**Present:** Dawn Sherseth, Patty McVay, Meagan Malchow, Linda Oberg, Ricker Olson, Laurel Noland, Robin McCafferey, Jill Hoffman, Scott Green, Liz White, and Todd Brownstein from Big Sky Exterior Designs

**Reflection:** Patty- prayer of St Patrick

**Secretary's report** from February was approved as previously read by Dawn and seconded by Robin. Motion carried

**Treasure's report** was reviewed. Linda motioned to approve, Scott seconded, motion carried.

### **Call committee report**

Liz contacted Kristianne for any updates. There is not much to share. Pastor Asselstine prepared us for a several month process. Given our budget for pastor compensation, he felt it was unlikely a new graduate would relocate for a first call position. Therefore he is anticipating finding a congregation partner to share a position.

### **Old business**

#### **Construction updates**

-Windows installation on the west side of the building has been completed. BSE is working on insurance paperwork for us to get matching windows on the east side.

Members met with BSE to discuss construction plans and do a walk through. Several things came from that walkthrough. I've added highlights of that meeting below.

-Voted for 4" siding vs 8" vs. keeping it the exact same (a combination of both)

-Note: This will not include the "fan" decal above the doors or windows. BSED stated that it was a custom made job and would be very costly and need more upkeep (painting, color matching, etc)

-Voted to pay \$600 to have the stain glass window wrapped with metal trim. This will keep us from having to paint the trim.

We requested separate bids for the following: all remaining windows and wrap to match new windows, metal wrap for the handicap door as the current wooden trim is starting to rot, replacement of the west side door that leads to the basement equipment room, and replacement of all four blue doors

We also discussed the bell tower and it's needs. Phil White requested they remove the louvers for us to fix. This would be a liability risk for BSED and they would be responsible for them if they were rotted or falling apart. BSED will make a bid for the louvers.

Todd with BSE brought the following bids to the meeting (window bids include metal wrap that will match new windows already replaced)

Window off the bathrooms 4949.00

Office windows (4 total) \$1,013 each (\$4,052 total)

Picture window right of front entry \$901

Picture window above side door, and left of front entry \$938.35, (\$1,876.70)

Wrapping the stained glass exterior \$600 (this was voted on at construction meeting and will be done)

Steeple vents: These will be slightly different. They will be squared off, not arched like current. The new ones will also include a screen backing. 4 each @ \$1575 = \$6,300

\* Note, if we do this, the louvers will not come in before the siding is finished. BSE will reserve receiving payment for \$1,000 to finish this at a later date.

-There are several more bids to come for the doors at a later date.

Discussion was had regarding the bids and how best to proceed. Ricker with a second from Scott motioned to postpone the replacement of the windows until we know more about our financial situation and can acquire several more bids. This motion passed. Ricker will reach out to Windor for another bid for the remaining windows. Ricker and Phil White had previously discussed either renting or borrowing a bucket ladder to remove and fix the louvers ourselves during a work day. Scott made a motion that we do this steeple work ourselves, with a second from Laurel, motion carried. Ricker will look for replacement bids for the

west side equipment door that we can install ourselves.

Siding- Siding removal began 3/13. Construction crew will work Monday through Saturday, weather depending. Estimated time to completion is 3-4 weeks.

If there are any issues during construction, we are to go through project manager Kyle Pugh, not the workers themselves.

The following have been tabled until the siding has been completed and the weather warms up: gutters, roof, carpeting. Dave Hoffman has contacted Guide One for an extension for the completion of all construction, which has been granted.

**Lay Pastor Update-** moved to new business following the COVID-19 discussion

**Music Committee-** chaired by Scott Green and includes Dawn Sherseth, Kristianne Wilson, and Sharon Wolske. Craigslist application was submitted for a musician that can play both traditional and contemporary style church music. No inquiries were had. Mrs. Armond Lohoff interviewed a pianist for us that did not work out. We will table the music committee until life is back to normal.

**Alter Railing-** is done and installed. Thank you letter sent to Shepherd Stainless for doing the work.

**Keys** needed for council members include: Robin, Scott, Patty, and Ricker

**Computer Installation-** The new computer is up and running and working great! Thanks, Jim McKenney for assisting in this. We will table discussion on what to do with the old computer for now.

**Blood drive-** Patty has set it for Thursday July 16th from 3-6PM.

### **New Business**

#### **Covid 19 Guidelines**

Meagan spoke to the current Billings process for patients if they think they may have viral symptoms.

If you feel like you have symptoms, call your primary care provider or the phone number on the hospitals' website. You will be asked a series of questions and the nurse will triage you to where you need to go, whether it be proceeding to a testing site or not.

As far as church services go, we will follow the CDC guidelines, which is what the Montana Synod recommends. This recommendation is that no more than 10 people shall gather together and be closer than 6 feet apart. We will follow a rolling 2 week schedule where we will reevaluate after the two weeks. Therefore we will not have any church or Lenten services through April 1st. The council will meet prior to this and decide whether we will reconvene. This motion was made by Meagan and seconded by Liz, motion carried. Linda will email John Hanson, Liz will email Armond Lohoff, Laurel will call Laura, and Ricker will notify Dawn of the cancellations. Liz and Jill will draft an email to go to the prayer line email list and newsletter list regarding this information.

**Cleaning bids-** Liz and Meagan are working to find a replacement cleaning lady as Kelly Mack can no longer clean for us. Liz contacted several known cleaning ladies in the Billings and Shepherd area that she found on Facebook and from word of mouth.

None came to fruition. Meagan contacted several cleaning companies with one response from I Dream Of Jenny's Cleaning Service. We met with Jenny and her husband at the church for a walkthrough. Dawn Petty, Meagan, and Liz were present. Her bid is \$195.00 for biweekly cleaning, which is 390.00 per month, with additional hours spent on extras (like exterior windows) will be \$25.00 per man hour. Jenny is licensed and bonded, with good references. We voted to give Jenny a month trial starting April 1st. This motion was made by Meagan and seconded by Dawn. Meagan will contact Jenny.

**Second collections-** We discussed restarting our special offerings. A motion was made by Meagan to start in June and go to the end of the year. They will be as follows: June- Freedom in Christ Ministry, July- Family Promise, August- Lutheran Social Services, September- Christikon Lutheran Bible Camp, October- Raise the Roof, November- Campus Ministries, December- St John's United. This was seconded by Linda, motion passed.

(continued on page 5)



# LOVING SERVICE

(continued from page 4)

will no longer pass the second basket, as this can be confusing. We will place the basket with a sign for what the monthly offering is at the back

of the church so as people leave, they may place their offering. Regular church offerings will be passed as normal. Several new business items were tabled as the meeting was lengthy. These items are Church members vs. giving units, spring work day set for May 2nd, Boy scouts to paint the swingset, community BBQ cook-off, fire safety walkthrough done with Phil White, and updating our current directory. No communion counters were made due to COVID-19. Final discussion was around how the food pantry is doing and how we can reach out to folks in our congregation and community in need. Liz will reach out to Louie and Rachele Garcia to check on the current Food Pantry status. Liz and Jill will include in their letter to the congregation, who to reach out to if anyone knows of needs in the community we can help with. The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer and a motion by Meagan, seconded by Scott, motion carried.

God bless you all and keep you healthy!

Liz White  
Secretary  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church



# Risen!

EASTER SUNDAY



In this uncertain time, many people may be finding themselves worried about where their next meal will come from, including some of our neighbors and friends.

Your gift to ELCA World Hunger can help.

## WAYS TO GIVE



**Online**  
ELCA.org/40days

**By mail**  
ELCA  
P.O. Box 1809  
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

**By phone**  
Call 800-638-3522  
Monday through Friday,  
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Central time.

Make checks payable to "ELCA World Hunger." Write "40 Days of Giving" on your check's memo line.

# CARING RELATIONSHIPS

## Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates



PRAYER MINISTRY

### Members:

Our congregation's current financial situation; Meagan Malchow's various health issues, Monty Mavity has cancer; Connie Herberg asks for prayers for her daughter Sarah and her children in Boston as they have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus. She also said her two brothers who work for Boeing have also been exposed and have been quarantined, they are in Washington state. Bob Fritz is doing much better and back to normal, and at home. Brandie Byxbe is in the hospital for observation and testing after experiencing seizures and dizziness. Nancy Byxbe has COPD, very shallow breathing and is on a ventilator. If she doesn't improve enough to return home, she may be transferred to a facility in Utah or Idaho as Medicare only pays for a certain length of time in the hospitals or the advanced care centers. As we are all concerned about the corona virus, this issue is extremely serious for someone whose health is already compromised. Her family is also very stressed and need our prayers. Lauris said family members are not allowed in to visit patients during these times. Clinton Welch was to have surgery, but this has been postponed for a time, due to the corona-v19 virus.

### Friends of the Congregation:

Gary Noland with kidney cancer; John Mark Owens has stage 4 pancreatic cancer; Glen Ray has Parkinson's and dementia; Dixie Cozzens, Kelly Mac k's mother in therapy at Aspen Meadows; Tonya Sullivan; Brittany Reinhardt waiting for a kidney; Lesa Rekdal has cancer. Jon Martin on chemo for fast growing lymphoma; Bob Fritz at home again after surgery for pacemaker. Jacquie Schleder for endurance. Jon Martin, who is starting chemotherapy treatments for a fast growing lymphoma. Connie Herberg, a member of St. John's Board, reminded me that we should be keeping St. John's United in our prayers, as the Board set practice and quarantine protocols in place as proactive measures to ensure the safety of their elders. The board is in constant contact to measure that action.

### Community Living:

**West Park Village:** Lenora Weist

**Minnesota State Prison System:** Rob Larson

### Local Youth Serving in the military:

Dan Johnson and Matt Grandpre deployed to Iraq; Taylor Green, Jacob Wagenaar, Tucker Wilson, Brooke Nebel Bohrer, Brandon Bohrer, & Thomas Aigner, please keep these service people in your prayers, that they may return safely back home

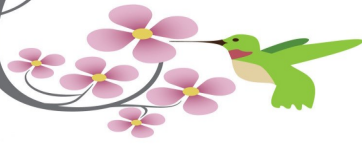
- 01 Barbara Cooper
- 01 Dawn Petty
- 03 Cole Hoffman
- 04 Meagan Malchow
- 05 Agnes Beddes
- 08 Brittany McKenney
- 09 Peggy McSweyn
- 11 Derek Reitler
- 17 Rob Emmons
- 18 Matt Grandpre
- 19 Ricker Olson
- 20 Roseanne Plath
- 27 Autumn McSweyn
- 29 Gene Lundhagen



05 Chuck & LuAnne Super



# April



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Mon

Tue







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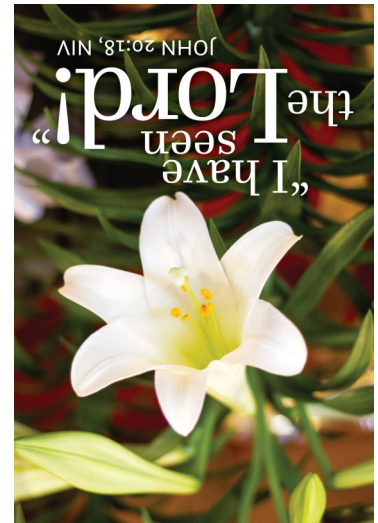
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Address Service Requested

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