



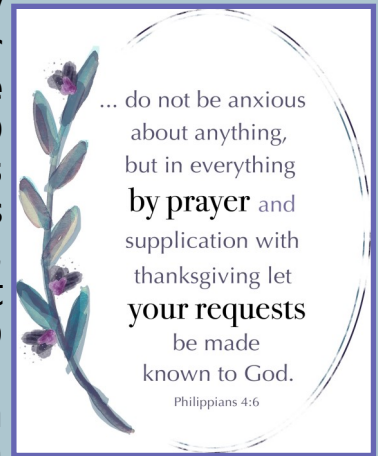
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING

# Emmanuel News



## Words for Today

We are living in fearful and anxious times with this deadly pandemic overwhelming our lives and our country, with over 200,000 deaths already and no end in sight. We need to be asking God continually to help us, not only while this COVID rages around us, but to help us also with our other frailties and health problems, with our fears and our future. Let us remember to care for one another, to help our neighbor, feed the hungry, and pray for our children's well-being. Let us pray for the leaders of our country, and President Trump and the First Lady, as they have tested positive for the virus, as have many of the others who took part in the pre-election conventions and caucuses. Let us pray for all the children in schools, and activities, as we strive to keep life as normal as possible during these times.

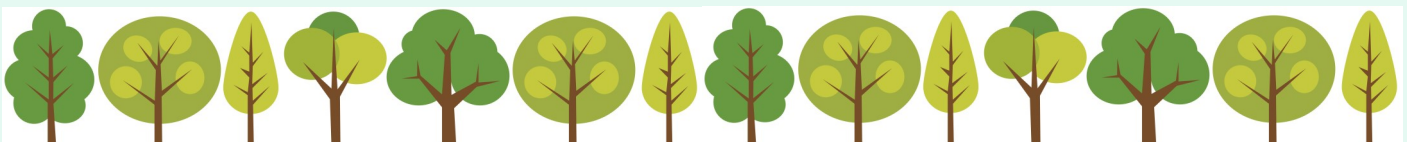


... do not be anxious about anything, but in everything **by prayer** and supplication with thanksgiving let **your requests** be made known to God.  
Philippians 4:6



As the church year wraps up, many Bible readings address the end times and Jesus' return at an unknown date (unknown to all but God the Father, that is). Specific beliefs about the Second Coming vary throughout Christendom, but our attitude about that momentous event affects how we live right now.

"Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces," Martin Luther reportedly said, "I would still plant my apple tree." Instead of constantly despairing about this broken-down world, we can remain determined to serve God and our neighbors, planting seeds of life and hope in the process.



# Make a Joyful Noise!

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!  
Serve the Lord with gladness!  
Come into his presence with singing!  
Know that the Lord, He is God!  
It is He who made us, and we are His;  
we are His people, and the sheep of His  
pasture.  
Enter His gates with thanksgiving,  
and His courts with praise!  
Give thanks to Him; bless His name!  
For the Lord is good;  
His steadfast love endures forever,  
and His faithfulness to all generations.*

**Psalm 100**



We invite you to once again join us in worship on Sunday mornings. We are now enjoying worship indoors with some modifications to our services. Communion is administered using individual portion cups, we nod and wave to share God's peace and some of us even hum as the hymns are played. Please consider joining us Sunday mornings at 10:00.

*We look forward to seeing your smiling faces!*

*(We are adhering to the restrictions and CDC guidelines by maintaining distances, wearing masks and disinfecting. We have masks available for those who need one and lots of hand sanitizer.)*

## EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

I am sure all of you ladies are missing our get-togethers at church, whether it is the coffee hours after services, doing projects for events, the Community BBQ's, the quilting times, etc. This confinement at home, and restrictions when in public, make one feel rather depressed. The Apostle Paul felt much the same way, and he had some good suggestions for all of us in these verses from 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18. "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." Or as Eugene Peterson says it in 'The Message' "be cheerful no matter what; pray all the time; thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live."

I know many of you are thinking: "How can we be cheerful during a global pandemic? How can we give thanks in these circumstances?" Accept

the challenge in Paul's words....find reason to rejoice and be cheerful...pray while walking the dog, or while cleaning the house, or while quilting . Pray for those who are ill, for those with little access to healthcare, pray for the healthcare workers, for those in unsafe places, for those who are worried or anxious, and for leaders making difficult decisions, and also for those driven by greed or careless disregard for others. It may be difficult to feel thankful for much in these current days, but let us follow Paul's advice "pray without ceasing" .



# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,  
October is here and fall is in full swing. All of the beautiful colors of the leaves make everyday scenes seem like priceless paintings. I think this is my favorite time of the year. Cooler nights makes for some awesome sleeping and the chores of summer are finally coming to an end. Of course all of those pretty leaves will soon fall to the ground, giving me a new chore to work on, but what can you do.

On the 12th we celebrate Columbus Day, so all of the government and banker types can have the day off. Sadly for me, I don't fall into one of those categories, so I'm forced to go to work. I kind of owe my lineage to distant relatives that arrived in this great land on those early sailing ships. The history books always talk about Columbus and his crew, but never mention the furry rodents that disembarked at Plymouth Rock as well. Thanks for the ride Chris!



On the 31st we celebrate Halloween. I'm not really sure how this year's trick or treating will pan out with all of the Covid nonsense, but one still has to plan for it. I'm guessing that we will see a lot of people dressed up as doctors, surgeons and nurses with the whole mask mandate deal. I think a Wild West bandit costume would be easy to pull off as well. I thought at first that I could stand at my door and throw snicker bars at the little goblins that show up, to allow for social distancing, but Mrs. T. C. shot down that idea. Perhaps I can use one of those long handled trash grabbers to safely hand out candy this year. Anyways, Happy Halloween everyone. Stay safe out there.

See you in Church.

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

2021 is just around the corner!

With our new ELCA constitution, we have term limits for several key positions on the church council that will need to be filled. We ask that you give prayerful consideration to serving our country church as part of the church council.

Please contact Jill Hoffman or any council member for more information..



## ELC Council Meeting 9/7/2020

**Present:** Patty McVay, Linda Oberg, Ricker Olson, Jill Hoffman, Liz White, Robin McCafferee, Dawn Sherseth, Meagan Malchow, and Laurel Noland

**Devotions:** "Peace within turmoil"

### Secretary's report

Everyone has read the minutes to the August meeting. Dawn made a motion to approve the amended minutes and Laurel seconded. The motion passed.

### Treasurer's report

The treasurer's report was reviewed. A number of motions were included with the motion by Dawn to approve the treasurer's report with a second from Linda, motion passed. Additional motion items included opening a money market savings account which was previously voted on by the council of a three month savings, this will total a minimum of \$24,000. The motion also included adding Robin McCafferee and removing Carol Kramer from all of our accounts including: general checking, youth fund, building fund, memorial, Shepherd Area Food Pantry, and the new money market account.

### Call committee report

Pastor Asselstine has been in contact with another congregation in Billings for configuration. He has a pastor in mind but will not be available until the end of the summer. Bishop Laurie is also conferring with her counterparts in the Congregational and Methodist churches. So if an opportunity is available between Shepherd, Huntley, Worden, or Ballantine that is also a part of the mix of "sharing" to consider.

### Old business

### Construction updates

The only remaining work that needs to be done to the church is the north door wrap, gutter, saffit. No work or bids have been done on the food pantry at this time. Ricker continues to work on the west side door and louvers.

### Lay Pastor Update

Liz is continuing to fill the schedule through the end of the year. Updates will be made to the schedule on the working Google spreadsheet.

**Music Committee:** Daisy will cover the first Sunday. Laura Vanberg will pick and cover music the second and fourth Sundays

**Cleaning:** Our cleaning lady, Lilli, will be paid a flat monthly fee instead of monitoring hours that have to be turned in to the accountant every month.

**Water inspection failure:** The last samples have come back clear!

**Work day:** Working chore list will go in the September newsletter. Liz will monitor this.

**Internet:** Internet is up and working!

### New Business

### Girl Scout Bronze Award Project

We were joined by Nona Rose, Girl Scout Troop 2051, who would like to earn her Girl Scout Bronze Award by placing a bench in our community garden similar to the one that is by the playground. It is a steel bench that will be supported by gravel. Laurel made a motion to support the project by contributing \$245 from the general fund, Liz seconded the motion. It passed.

### Youth vs Sunday School

Jill brought up discussion regarding whether we should continue to have Sunday school, or switch to a youth group as we have more adolescents than small children currently in our congregation. Jill, Liz, and Robin will form a subcommittee and discuss ideas.

### Handicapped Facilities

The question arose on where we were at as far as looking into getting one of the restrooms made handicap accessible. We will get an electrician to look at the electrical box on the inside wall of the former men's bathroom as the first step.

### Council positions

Brief discussion was had regarding the current council positions which will need to be replaced at the end of the year. We will put a nominating committee on next month's agenda.

### Service coverage (counters, readers, music, set up/cleanup)

September 13th	music-Laura,	service-Laurel
September 20th	music-Jill,	service-Jill
September 27th	music-Laura,	service-Linda
October 4th	music-Daisy,	service-Liz
October 11th	music-Laura	service-Dawn

Next council meeting will be October 14th at 7 PM.

The council meeting was adjourned with the Lord's prayer.

God bless you all and keep you healthy!

Liz White

Secretary, Emmanuel Lutheran Church



# LOVING SERVICE



## Youth Group now forming!

Join us on Sunday October 18th at 11:30am

We will have Food, Pumpkin Carving, Devotions and Fun.

All ages welcome, bring a friend!!!

RSVP to Jill Hoffman by October 16th.

\*Social distancing, masks, and good hygiene will be ensured.

## Isolation Gown Update:

St. John's United is now furnishing isolation gowns for their assisted living communities so more gowns are needed due to the national gown shortage. Current amount sewn by volunteers is 299 and counting. With the scare of COVID cases rising, the need for more gowns is critical. If you are willing to help sew gowns, ready to go sew kits with a pattern, material, bias tape, and elastic are available. Gown sew kits and completed gowns can be picked up and dropped off at the St. John's United campus check in point off of Rimrock Road.

Thank you for your support helping keep our most vulnerable population safe!

"The residents admire the homemade bright gowns and appreciate staff having them for their protection. As always, we appreciate all our sewing volunteers so much!"

Ellen Kern, St. John's Employee



## Christikon Clips

October 2020

Information for our Congregations



**2021 Calendar!** The calendar and sessions listing is on our website [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org). It's not too soon to start planning for next summer's trip to camp! Already accepting reservations! We are hopeful for a full season so registering sooner rather later is encouraged!

**Fall Retreats.** We have retreats scheduled into mid-October. Bring your group and enjoy fall in the mountains!

**Thank you for your prayers** this past summer, for the summer staff, for its ministry and for all who have joined in the Christikon life. 2020 held opportunity for much needed connection and ongoing ministry. It was better than we could have hoped for and we are grateful!

**Capital Campaign:** We are looking at the Adult Housing/Boys Dorm next! **If you have not received a Capital Campaign packet, please contact the office and one will be sent to you.**

It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ— exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.

## CHRISTIKON

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[www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)



# CARING RELATIONSHIPS

## Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates

### Members:

Our congregation's financial situation, Meagan Malchow's various health issues, Monty Mavity's battle with cancer, Debbie Cossitt's mother, Doris Martin, on chemo at home and doing well, her father Al Martin is in hospice at St. John's. Mary Cossitt's grandson Carter Dodson, age 29, has MS. Patty McVay's adopted granddaughter, Keeva, age 4, no longer on feeding tubes and doing better. Vivian Pierce at home and on oxygen. Mary Beddes has breast cancer, and scheduled for a mastectomy on October 15th and her husband Spencer who is on dialysis plus other medical issues.

**Friends of the Congregation:** John Mark Owens has stage 4 pancreatic cancer; Glen Ray has Parkinson's and dementia; Tonya Sullivan; Brittany Reinhardt waiting for a kidney transplant;; Lisa Rekdal has cancer; Abbey Emmons asks for prayers for Curtis, a friend of the family, who has COVID now and in the ICU, also prayers for Chelsea, a friend who has COVID and has been flown to Denver. Robin, a friend of Karen Vanberg, is in the hospital with major medical and health issues. Catherine Johnson is taking treatments for various health issues. Judy Smelser is recuperating from surgery on her shoulder. Sari Stahl and family are having a bad time, no details other than that, but asks for our prayers. Please keep Jon Martin in your prayers, he is the son of Jack Martin, (who has been to church a number of times with Kristianne) and he will be having surgery on October 9th for a stem cell transplant, he is in a hospital in California and has been ill for some time. Karen's friend Robin passed away Friday, October 9th. Please keep that family in your prayers, and also pray for Karen Vanberg, as Robin was a very special friend. Abbey reports that Curtis was in the hospital for 61 days with COVID. but now is at home with his wife and family, although he still has a long road to full recovery, and will continue to need our prayers. Donna Mullen's sister, Linda Ernst, who has been waiting for a donor for a kidney due to PKD (polycystic kidney disease).

### Community Living:

**St Johns United:** Inez Oberg

**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 and Thomas Aigner. Please keep these soldiers in your prayers that they may return safely

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*



01 Jennifer Ingram	21 Carol Kramer
09 Jackson Plath	24 Ellie Stahl
10 Lauris Byxbe	29 Tanner Emmons
10 Louise Nunemaker	29 Samantha Leligdowicz
12 Brad Sherseth	30 Heather Plath
18 Susan Quanbeck	31 Hailey Hoffman
20 Durene Green	
20 Robert McSwayn	



09 Greg & Heather Plath  
10 Brad & Lisa Strecker



Address Service Requested

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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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