



Emmanuel News



welcome to our church family

Greetings All,

My name is Keith Weatherford. My wife of thirty-one years, Kirsten, and I have five children, three who are adulting in their own homes and the two youngest that remain in our home. They range in age from thirty to ten. Yes, you read correctly. There are twenty years between the boys, with three girls sandwiched in between. We were blessed with our first grandchild three and a half years ago. We live in the community of Laurel, and we will remain in our home there during the internship year. As a family, we enjoy the many outdoor activities that Montana has to offer such as cycling, camping, boating, but mostly walleye fishing.

I attended Montana State University in Bozeman where I studied Mechanical Engineering. I then transferred to MSU Billings where I finished in Business Finance. I jumped at the opportunity to relocate to Southern California and began working for Lutheran Brotherhood (now Thrivent Financial). It took 5 years, but I began missing the open spaces of "home," so I returned to Montana. At that time, I changed directions and fell back on my mechanical background and went to work for Conoco in their Billings Refinery as a process unit operator which, through the mergers, spin-offs, etc., has become a Phillips 66 facility. I remained in the plant for the next twenty-five years. In May of this year, I retired. I also worked as the Director of Youth Ministry at our

church, Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Billings from 2014 through 2020.

After a thirty year hiatus from academia, I attended Youth Cert. School at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg (now United Lutheran



Seminary ULS) in 2014/2015 and found myself following and discerning a deeper sense of call. In the Fall of 2017, I returned to ULS to begin the journey of pursuing a Master of Divinity degree as a Distance Learner (DL) student. As of May 2021, I have completed all the academic requirements of the Master of Divinity (MDiv) program at United Lutheran Seminary. I have also completed the ELCA requirements outside of the seminary course work. These requirements include study in the areas of Anti-Racism, Ministerial Boundaries and Clinical Pastoral Experience (CPE) which was completed through St. John's United. I have received a positive Endorsement from the Montana Synod candidacy committee allowing me to move into the final phase of my seminary education, Ministerial Immersion or Internship. That is where our faith journeys intersect. I will be serving a one-year internship that begins August 1st at Emmanuel Lutheran in Shepherd, MT. As a detached intern, I will have an offsite supervisor. That role is being filled by Pr. Darren Paulson from Atonement Lutheran in Billings. During the next year I will continue to meet with the ELCA Montana Synod,

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candidacy committee, Pr. Paulson, Emmanuel’s internship committee, and my academic advisor working toward fulfilling the requirements for Approval and Ordination into the ELCA. I am looking forward to the year ahead.

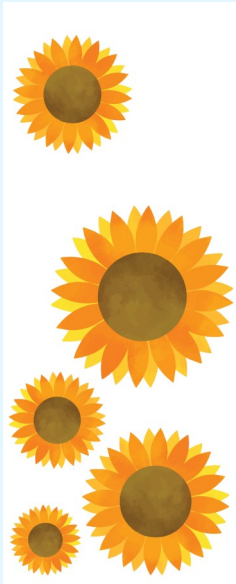
I am deeply grateful for Emmanuel’s commitment and willingness to be involved in my seminary education and journey. I am joyfully anticipating the opportunity for both myself and my family to form new relationships, rekindle old relationships, and the chance for all of us to share our faith journeys with each other. May our experiences become woven together in the faith stories and rich history of Emmanuel Lutheran’s ministry as the little white church in Shepherd.

In Christ’s Love,
Vicar Keith



Keith and Grandson Theo

Kirsten and I with our 5 kids
Front: Kendra (youngest daughter), Keith, Kinley (youngest), Keenan (Oldest)
Back: Kirsten (Wife), Kailey (middle daughter), Kelsey (oldest daughter)



The expanding family (this includes our 2 sons-in-law)
Back row: Keith, Gage, Brian, Keenan
Middle row: Kailey, Kendra, Kelsey, Kirsten
Front row: Theo, Kinley

ELCA Youth Gathering Overview

Every three years, 30,000 + high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

Join us after church on August 29th to learn more. Incoming 8th graders and up are eligible. Brunch provided.



The ELCA uses the term of vicar to describe a candidate for ordained pastoral ministry. Keith's final phase of his seminary education is the year-long internship at Emmanuel. During this year his title is vicar. The term pastor is only used after he is issued a call and ordained as a pastor in the Ministry of Word and Sacrament. It is the policy of the ELCA/Montana Synod that interns/vicars are not eligible to accept a call from the congregation that serves as their internship site. The Church Council accepted those terms when we agreed to have Vicar Keith Weatherford serve his internship year at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.



Mark your calendars for August 19!

Don't miss the final church BBQ of the season!

6:00pm to 8:00pm

Bring your family, bring your friends,
bring your favorite potluck dish.

Hope to see you there!



?? ? Bible Quiz ? ?

What word can be placed in all four blanks to complete this Bible passage?

"But just as he who called you is _____, so be _____ in all you do; for it is written: 'Be _____, because I am _____.'"

- A. righteous
- B. holy
- C. loving
- D. merciful



Answer: B (See 1 Peter 1:15-16, NIV.)



Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting

President Jill Hoffman presented a video by Bishop Jungling for our devotions.

Standing reports: Minutes from the June meeting were accepted as corrected, motion made by Sharon, seconded by Meagan. The Treasurer's report was given by Robin, who said the original computer problems were resolved, the report showed \$25597.72 in the regular account; \$4975.38 in the Youth Acct., \$53,027.86 in Savings; \$28,815.79 in the Building Account, and \$13,887.52 in the Memorial Account. It was decided to take the annual funds sent to the Synod from the General fund, the motion was made by Liz, seconded by Meagan. and approved. The Call Committee report was discussed, with the initial intern meeting to be held on July 21st at 7:00 PM. The Committee consists of Jill, Liz, Dawn P., and Kristianne, at this point, and more members are invited to join.

Old Business: Liz reported that Lay Pastors are assigned to do services until the intern Keith Weatherford, will be inducted in August on the 8th. It was decided to do a coffee hour with treats after that day's service to welcome him. Music will be supplied by Laura and some of the girls, who have supplied music in the past.

Prison Ministries: offerings will be taken for the prison ministries through this month, and the funds sent there in August.

Worship in Huntley Park: our area churches will join in an outdoor service, and potluck on August 1st, bringing their own chairs, helping to set up tables, and supply drinks. Dawn will take care of the drinks from our church.

Summer BBQ's will be held every other Thursday evening for the remainder of the summer: July 22nd, August 5th & August 19th. We will need help putting the meals on, and someone to do the barbecuing.

Worship Service Guidelines: We will do the communion up at the communion rail, with regular bread and individual communion cups, as we have done in the past beginning on July 25th. There will be sign-up sheets again for making the bread and setting up the communion.

Boy Scout Project update on landscaping and the church sign. James Malchow reported that he has changed his project from the church sign to making raised beds for the church/community garden. He

reported that the lumber was quite expensive, and would cost \$500.00 per raised bed, with dimensions of 32 inches in height, and eight feet wide by 12 feet long. It was suggested he should check into galvanized steel for the side walls, and change the dimensions to 4 ft. x 12 ft., as the width is easier to handle for weeding. Liz motioned that he should continue checking into the materials and design, seconded by Robin, and motion was passed.

Updates on the louvres: Ricker and Greg reported on the installation of the louvres, many hours of work went into building them, and they were installed with the help of equipment from some of the local people and the fire dept. They did a beautiful job; the louvres look great.

Council Appointments: the Youth Committee consists of Liz, Greg and Jill, and they are all looking forward to working with the new intern. The Music Committee will be handled by Dawn Sherseth with Liz's help.

New Business: September 12th, is the date for ""God's Work, Our Hands" Day. and we need to think of what project we will work on.



Sunday Service Attendants:

July 18th: Sharon Wolske, Jill Hoffman will take care of the music.

July 25th: Dawn and Ricker, and Laura will do the music

August 1st: NA, Worship in the Park (Perhaps Daisy will do that)

August 8th: Dawn and Liz (Laura will do the music)

Prayer Line: it was decided to re-work the prayer line, some of the information on there has not been changed for several years. We need to check on some of the prayers on it, perhaps change it to be current on a monthly basis.

Our next Council meeting is August 11th at 7 PM. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Tabled items: Council Retreat; Food Pantry residing?; Interest in creating a new logo; Thermostat and Furnace quote; Update church directory, being done by Laura, possible garage sale....

Respectfully submitted:
Dawn Petty, Secretary

Next Council meeting will be August 11th at 7 PM

COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

August is here and the heat continues. My floor fan runs nonstop, pointed directly at my couch so I can get in a good nap every afternoon. It's been so hot lately that Mrs. T.C. has refused to cook. The only hot meal that I have had in the last month has been at the Church barbeques, which have been quite scrumptious. It's good to see everyone gather at the Church to share in a meal of burgers, hot dogs and a variety of salads. This past year of Covid isolation has left me yearning for social interaction, so I spend my free time wandering around outside talking to anyone I meet. I even spend a fair amount of time talking to myself when I can't find a compassionate ear. Not to worry, it's all good. I don't think I'm going crazy, but Mrs. T.C. would beg to differ.

I finally got my hands on some sweet corn last night and it was fantastic. Of course, I had to cook it myself, due to the cooking strike by my better half. The corn was so sweet and tasty that I lost my methodical eating approach several times. Usually I employ the typewriter approach, munching left to right with an audible yummy sound at the end, before going back to the left side and starting again. At times I found myself lost in true tastebud

exhilaration, spinning that corn cob like a hamster wheel, eating those kernels like crazy. What a treat. I must track down that sweet corn truck again to replenish my stock.

My time camping at the lake last month was a blast and really helped me to unwind and recharge the old

batteries. It was nice to be back on the water in a boat, racing along with the wind in my hair. Now it's back to the daily grind around the house and the never-ending honey do this list. I hope to tackle a lot of items on the list early in the month, so I have free time to attend the big County Fair that is fast approaching. Perhaps I'll see you at the fair this year. Look for me in the animal barns, wandering around talking to whoever or whatever will listen. Goats are real good

listeners, as they just look at you, chewing on something constantly.

Well, enough for now. Hope to see you in Church on Sunday. Stay cool.

Your faithful friend in residence at Emmanuel.

T. C. Mouse



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Thanks for your help with putting on the Community BBQ's, next summer we will plan on doing them each week as the local people really enjoy coming to them. Sharon Wolske and I have discussed plans for the annual Harvest Dinner and Bazaar that we have always held the first Sunday in November, which is November 7th this year. We have always had a roast beef dinner and all the trimmings, with homemade pies, etc. which really brings in lots of people to dine in our little church. We made the decision to go ahead with that event, and we will also be contacting the women of the church to participate in helping to provide pies



and bazaar/auction items. So be thinking of what items you can create, whether it is craft items, sewing, decorations, whatever. We feel that with the restaurants all back in business again, plus other gatherings, that this would be suitable. If still mandatory, we can wear masks, removing them to eat or drink.

It will be good to get back into the routine again, won't it?



Christikon Clips

August, 2021

Information for our Congregations



As you are reading this clip, we are readying for the last sessions of our 70th season. We hosted over 550 campers so far this season including youth, families, adults and at risk youth. We have retreats schedule through August.

Our summer staff will be completing their stay with us and will soon be heading back to their lives outside of Christikon.

We look forward to our congregational and family retreats scheduled this fall. A few retreat times are still available.

Call Kerry in the office and reserve a time.

We continue to ask for your prayers for those traveling to camp, our staff, and campers.

Blessings to all of you who support Christikon with prayer, time, skills, and financially. We are grateful!

Please visit <https://christikon.org/donate-to-christikon/> and continue your support.

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 24th Street West • Billings, MT 59102

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Daisy Eddy is the classy “purple lady”, who delights us the first Sunday of each month with her talents on the organ and the harp. Many have commented that they would like to contact Daisy but do not know how to find her. She has graciously offered to share her contact information with all of us.

Daisy Eddy
502 Luther Cir.
Billings, MT 59102
406-656-3013

ajeddy@bresnan.net



“Flood insurance is very expensive, Mr. Noah, and besides, it would have to rain 40 days and 40 nights to flood around here.”

CARING RELATIONSHIPS



Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates

Please pray for the family of Matt Grandpre who passed away as a result of a motorcycle accident. Matt recently returned home from the military. Pat Radden's youngest son, Callan Hovland is improving in a Dallas hospital due to a severe heart attack. He was unconscious for several weeks but is now cognizant and is up and walking. He should be going home in about 2 weeks. Connie Herberg asks for prayers for friends Tom & Jacque Kittson and family. Tom had a severe reaction to black mold. Doctors suspected brain meningitis. He suffered strokes on both sides of his brain and was unresponsive and within the hour, Tom passed away. Darrell Mack is in the hospital due to severe pain in his leg and hip. Tests are being done to determine the infection in his leg bone and a fluid culture has been taken from his hip. Darrell and his wife, Kelly were janitors for our church for a number of years. Donna Mullins mother, Clara Johnson, born 9-14-1929 passed away. Please keep these people and their families in your prayers.

Community Living:

St John's United: Inez Oberg

Minnesota State Prison System: Rob Larson

Local Youth Serving in the military:

Dan Johnson 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 home.



04 Tierria Oberg
06 Bill Moen
17 Carla Leligdowicz
20 Wade Malchow
21 Dave Hoffman
28 Maryann Morgenstern
29 Emilie Christman
31 Phyllis Stahl



03 Shane & Emilie Christman



Emmanuel Lutheran Church
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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