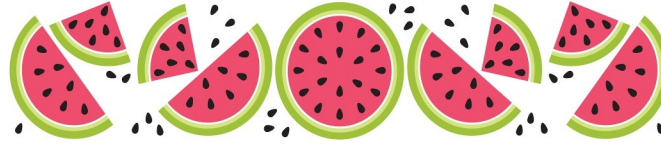




Emmanuel News

AUGUST
2023



"You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal."

-Isaiah 26:3-4

In every season of life, as we journey through challenges and joys, it can be helpful to be reminded of the importance of faith and trust in our walk with God. In Isaiah 26:3-4, we find a timeless and comforting reminder of the peace that comes from putting our trust and hope in the Lord who never fails.

The promise of perfect peace is not contingent on a life free of trials or uncertainties; instead, it centers on unwavering faith in our God whose love will never change. Let us explore the profound wisdom that can be found in these verses and how we can apply them to our lives today.

1. Steadfast Minds:

To have a steadfast mind means to fix our thoughts and hearts on the unshakable truth of God's character and promises. It is natural to face doubts and fears, especially in times of uncertainty. However, when we fix our minds on God's Word and faithfulness, we anchor ourselves in God's unchanging nature. As we meditate on God's goodness, our hearts can find a place of hope and stability even during life's storms.

2. Trust in the Lord:

Trusting in the Lord is an act of surrender and reliance on God's wisdom and sovereignty. When we put our trust in God, we acknowledge that God holds our lives and futures in God's hands. Through the valleys and mountaintops, we can rest assured that God is with us every step of the way. As we deepen our trust in God, we discover peace that surpasses all understanding.

3. The Rock Eternal:

The prophet Isaiah beautifully describes the Lord as the "Rock eternal." In a world of shifting sands, God remains steadfast and immovable. God is our unchanging foundation, providing us with stability and security. When we build our lives upon the Rock of God's truth, we can weather life's storms confidently, knowing that God sustains us.

Here are some ways we can nurture this reading from Isaiah, and the ideas of faith and trust in our lives:

Prayer and Meditation: Let us spend intentional time in prayer and meditation, immersing ourselves in God's Word. As we fill our minds with God's promises, our faith and trust will grow.

Embracing God's Faithfulness: Reflect on past moments when God has proven faithful. Recall answered prayers and instances of God's guidance. Remembering God's faithfulness strengthens our trust in God for the future.

Community Support: Encourage one another in faith and trust. Together, we can lift each other up during difficult times and celebrate God's goodness in our lives.

Dear friends, as we journey onward, let us anchor our hearts in faith and trust in our unchanging God. I pray that we find peace in knowing that God upholds us in all circumstances. Let us be steadfast in our minds, trusting in the Lord forever, for God is the eternal Rock on which we stand.

God Bless,

Pastor Josh

2023 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Hello Emmanuel Lutheran! Vacation Bible School was held at our church on July 12 and 13. We had 14 elementary-age children attend, with 2 middle school team leaders, and about 5 adult volunteers each day. Pastor Josh was in attendance also, and participated right along with us!

The theme for VBS was "Putting on the Armor of God." The kids learned the verses from Ephesians 6:11-17 written by Paul that are commonly referred to as the 'Armor of God.' Each piece of the armor described taught the kids different ways that they could safeguard themselves daily against attacks

The kids made each piece of armor: the belt of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shoes of the gospel of peace, the helmet of salvation, the shield of faith, and the sword of the spirit. After all the armor was completed, they dressed up in their creations and put on a program for their family. Each piece of armor was introduced, and then we all sang a very catchy song about 'putting on the full armor of God!'

I would like to thank the entire church for the donations of food, craft items and other odd and ends. Without you, VBS would not be possible. Thank you, volunteers, your time with those kids meant so much. Kristianne, Jack, Samantha, Jill, Tenille, Shayna, Pastor Josh, Shelby, and Taylor, you guys are AWESOME! And thank you, parents, for sending your children. It was an amazing opportunity and experience for all.



Respectfully, Wendy Siemsen

(continued page 3)



COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

August is upon us, and the strange voices are getting louder. Mrs. T.C. says the voices are all in my head, but I beg to differ. Every evening I go for a little walk to get some exercise to try and stay in shape and make the fall routine of walking my rifle through the woods or mountains a little easier. I usually walk the same route, down the street and past the corn field. It is there, by the corn field, that I hear the voices the loudest. Hundreds of little voices calling out to me. "T.C. we're almost ready. Stock up on butter now! T.C. we're on the home stretch. Pace yourself. T.C. we're ear for you!" I think the corn is calling out to me, letting me know that those sweet, juicy, yellow kernels will be ready to eat at the end of August. I can hardly wait! The barrage of voices is a little concerning, but if they get too bad, I guess I could wear my noise cancelling headphones.

Some big events coming up this month. I'm looking forward to the air show and will be attending with my Son and Grandson. Sure will be fun to check out all of the big planes and see the famous Blue Angels soaring overhead. I hope the weather cooperates for this outdoor event.

We also have the Montana Fair to look forward to. I love to go down there and walk around the animal barns. What a treat to watch the kids take care of and show off their animals. Another treat is the fantastic fair food, which I always have to partake in. Nothing better than watching the people and rides while munching on a foot long corn dog.

Then it is back to school for the youngsters. They often act like they don't want to go, but I know they are all anxious to see their friends again. Kind of a hassle with the back-to-school shopping. So much to buy, from clothes to supplies. I often feel like I need to get a second job to pay for everything. I hope all of you have had a great summer so far. Keep an eye out for the sweet corn vendors, as corn mania is just around the corner.

Well, that's enough for now. Still working on the honey do this list. Hope to see you in Church on Sunday.

Your faithful friend in residence at Emmanuel.

T. C. Mouse



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

The summer BBQ's are finished for this summer. We decided to end this event, because our turnout for these BBQ's was much smaller than in the past, and it was more of a problem to get people to sign up to help in the kitchen in preparation for the meals. Perhaps more families were traveling this summer, or involved in sporting events watching their children perform, so they weren't able to attend the BBQ dinners. However, it was great to see people from the community who attended each time. Here are some of the totals for each meal: attending on June 15th, we had 26 people, on the 22nd there were 30 people, on the 29th, 19 people. Then in July, there were 20 attendees on the 5th, 23 on the 13th, and 35 on the 20th. (the totals included the 5 kitchen helpers/griller for each meal.) The total expenses for the meals came to \$626.72, and free will offerings totaled \$368.00, leaving a balance of \$258.72 paid by our Women's Group. Of course, there were various side dishes each time, donated by attendees, as well as 5 lbs. of hamburger patties donated. A special thank you to the people who brought delicious desserts, salads, baked beans, and pasta dishes. You made each meal so special!



We will plan on putting on the BBQ's again next summer. It was always rewarding to visit with people from our community that did attend, and we look forward to seeing you during the church year also. Emmanuel Lutheran is a friendly church, helps to provide the space for various activities such as Pineview Quilters, 4H groups, school groups, and community meetings. Each fall, we have our Harvest Dinner and Bazaar, and that is a great event, on the 1st Sunday of November. Come and enjoy the fellowship and the delicious food.

On Thursday, July 27, women from our church are working at the St John's free evening concert. About 6 churches in the area provide volunteers for the concert, doing such things as driving carts, distributing water, greeting people and anything else needed.



Christikon Clips

August, 2023

Information for our Congregations

As you are reading this clip, we are readying for the last sessions of our 72nd season. We hosted over 500 campers so far this season including youth, families, adults and at-risk youth. We have retreats scheduled through mid-October.

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 your generous donations. 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.

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Billings, MT 59102**

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www.christikon.org**

Balance Sheet	May	June
Checking 1	5041.41	16310.61
ELC Memorial 1	11727.23	11728.78
ELC Youth	5440.87	5441.59
Savings	78155.77	66176.07
Savings Building Fund	29839.82	29843.74

Respectfully submitted by Lindsay Reynolds

August 6th - Worship in the park

At 10:30 there is a service at Barkameyer Park featuring music by Homeward. We will have our regular church service at Emmanuel at 8:45am and those wishing to attend the service can go afterwards.

August 7th - Book club

Book clubs meets at the Feedlot at 6pm. This month's book is The Negotiator. Call Lindsey with questions.

August 9th - Church council

The council meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Contact Jill Hoffman if there are any items you would like the council to review or discuss.

August 27th - Back pack blessing

Students and teachers bring your backpacks or book bags for a special blessing as school begins.

September 10- Sunday School Restarts

Sunday School will restart after the church service. Contact Wendy for more information - volunteers welcome!
Coming Soon....

We are exploring hosting a kids clubs one day a week after school for the church kids and friends. We will be looking for volunteers to help, please thoughtfully consider contributing to our youth ministry. Please let Pastor Josh or Jill know if you are interested.

We have had several requests for a 1st communion class as well as a new member class/ induction. Please let Pastor Josh know if you are interested and we will get dates determined.

Confirmation classes will be starting up again. Our church runs a two year program. Classes are typically 1 day a week and follow the school calendar. Class timing will be based on the confirmands schedules. Kids typically go through confirmation during middle school. If you have children interested, see Pastor Josh.

CARING RELATIONSHIPS



Prayers of the Church

Call Dawn Petty, 373-6673 with requests and updates

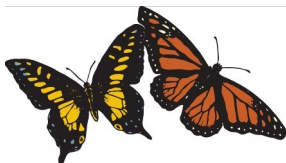
Rose Field, the sister of Agnes Beddes, passed away after a serious illness. Please keep Rose's family and Agnes in your prayers as they go through these difficult times.

Community Living:

St John's United: Inez Oberg

Local Youth Serving in the military:

Dan Johnson deployed to Iraq; Taylor Green deployed in the Asian Pacific Fleet, Jacob Wagenaar, Tucker Wilson, Brooke Nebel Bohrer, and Brandon Bohrer. 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



- 02 Milton and Marj Kinghorn
- 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.”

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EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING