

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER



In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it."

- John 1:1-5

The story of Jesus is the greatest story ever told. No other story frees, transforms, renews, convicts, compels, comforts, and inspires like the story of Christ Jesus our Lord. It is a living word that speaks to people throughout time and across contexts. This Word shaped the early church and still breathes life into us as we strive to live out the Good News in our lives and in our world. Seeing Christ's love for us in the Gospels, reading stories of his service, compassion, and grace both reveal how God loves us and how we are called to love others.

The story of Jesus is the most important story ever told, and so we preach its Good News each and every week. For a bit of a look behind the scenes, the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL) is the resource which churches across the globe refer to for their biblical texts for church services. The RCL is on a three-year rotation, and it provides an Old Testament reading, a Psalm, a New Testament reading, and a Gospel reading for each Sunday of years A, B, or C. These are commonly referred to by the primary Gospel that the readings are pulled from each year. This is because most churches that use the RCL use the Gospel reading as their sermon text, as we have done for years here at Emmanuel.

The story of Jesus is the greatest story ever told, but do Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John tell the full story?

The Gospel of John opens with the author writing in his trademark confusing poeticism by speaking about “the Word.” This Word that was with God and was God, who was in the beginning with God, and who created alongside the Father and the Spirit. This “Word,” this “Logos,” is the second person of the Trinity. This “Word” is Jesus. Jesus’s story didn’t begin 2000 years ago in a manger in Bethlehem; it started at the beginning.

It started in the beginning when God began to create the heavens and the earth. When the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep. He was there when Abraham was called from his safety and security to chase a promise of descendants more numerous than the stars. He was there when his people wiped the blood of the lamb over their doorposts so that the 10th plague would pass them over in Egypt. He was there when the people were promised a new covenant, one that was not written in law but on hearts. He was with Daniel, who slept safely and soundly through a night in a den of lions.

Our God has walked alongside us since the beginning of time and has shown us truth, justice, grace, and unconditional love every step along the way. This is why we will be making a change starting this fall. On September 8th, we will be moving from the Revised Common Lectionary to the Narrative Lectionary. The Narrative Lectionary is similar in function to the RCL, providing scriptural texts for church services, but it takes a different angle on how we tell the story of our God.

The Narrative Lectionary guides us through the story of the Bible, from beginning to end, throughout the course of the year. On the first Sunday of the Narrative Lectionary schedule, we begin in Genesis, the first book of the Bible. As we progress through the fall, we will follow the story of the nation of Israel and God’s steadfast love and promises we receive in the Old Testament. We will then transition to the Gospel of Luke on December 22nd, as a young girl named Mary is visited by an angel and is told news that will change the world. We will hear the story of the life and ministry of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke from Christmas to Easter. And from Easter to the end of the school year, we will see how Jesus’s followers shepherded the church that Christ had given them to steward and see how Jesus’s story continues even after he has ascended.

I am incredibly excited for this Fall. To be able to walk with you through stories we may not have heard before. To receive good news, and to wrestle with our faith, through the scriptures that led and fed Jesus while he was on Earth, and those that have shaped our theology ever since. To see the full story of the love of our God unfold in our midst, and to see how God will work through this story in our hearts, our minds, and our ministry together.

God Bless,

Pastor Josh



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN ELCW August Newsletter

We are pleased that four of the young girls from Waymakers & Emmanuel attended the Christikon camp in mid-July, with the financial help of the ELCW. The camp is a great experience, and this will encourage more of our youth to attend next year. Our ladies' group has also been funding the summer BBQs, and with the donation of many desserts, salads, and relishes the buffet table has been fantastic. Our last BBQ for this summer will be on Thursday, July 25th, starting at 6:00 PM. Other years we have had the BBQs throughout the summer, but the attendance really drops in August due to all the school sports and activities starting up. It has been wonderful to see the community people who have been attending the meals, too, as it has not been exclusively for our church members. A special "thanks" to all of you.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The strawberries are about finished for this summer, but there are lots of other fruits and vegetables growing well. Stop over there and check them all out, and pick whatever you want. We have some faithful people coming down to water the area each day, as this hot weather really dries things out so fast. The raised beds are full of vegetables, and at that height, much easier to pick them. Enjoy the beautiful flowers that brighten the area. Everything there is for people to pick, take home, and enjoy.

PINEVIEW QUILTING GROUP

Our ladies have been coming to quilt at least once a month, sometimes every two weeks. The quilts we make are given to families that have had homes destroyed by fire, or those people who are in nursing homes, the VA Hospital, Riverstone for homeless mothers and children, etc. Some are made for quilt raffles, bazaars, or as special gifts. For instance, this last spring, the ladies made quilts for the graduates from Shepherd High School that were from the families belonging to Emmanuel. Just the other day, we received a beautiful thank you card from one of those young men, James Malchow, saying he has used his quilt every day, and is taking it on to the university he will be attending this fall.

St John's Outdoor Concerts

Several members of Emmanuel Women's Group as well as three members of the Hardin church were volunteers at the St John's concert on August 1st. Our volunteers were asked to help with a variety of tasks including handing out water bottles and helping with handicapped seating. The Women's Group has sent volunteers to help out at one of the St John's concerts every year for at least the last ten years.

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 head phones.

Speaking of voices, there was a lot of conversation going on around the house lately, as the kids are getting excited for the fair starting up this month and then their return to school. So much to do to get everyone ready for the end of summer. Even the honey do list seems to talk to me every day, but that voice sounds much like Mrs. T. C. My only escape is to walk around outside to get away from these voices. I also inspected the Church garden, which is really growing good. Won't be long and things will be ready to harvest out there too.

The weekly barbeques are still going strong, as a lot of people show up every Thursday for burgers and hot dogs, along with a bunch of wonderful side dishes. So far the weather has cooperated too. Nothing like sitting around with everyone on a nice summer evening, enjoying food right off the grill and listening to all of the stories. Again lots of voices, but none directed specifically at me. I wonder why nobody else hears the voices in the corn fields. Maybe they do, but are just too shy to talk about them. Maybe it's just me, maybe I'm half crazy or something. Perhaps I need to lie down on the couch and think about this for a while. A little self-help psychiatric session. I'm sure I'll feel better when I wake up.

Well, that's enough of my babble for now. See you in Church.

Your faithful friend.

In residence at Emmanuel.

T. C. Mouse

Christikon Clips

August, 2024

Information for our Congregations

As you are reading this clip, we are readying for the last sessions of our 73rd 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 our 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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7/11/24

Shepherd Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council

Present: Pastor Josh Wyman, Jill Hoffman, Carol Kramer, Sam & Devin Murnion, Dawn Petty, and Abbey Emmons

Called to order at 7PM.

Agenda presented by Jill. We had a special guest that led our devotion. Thank you, Miss Rose Wyman!

Standing reports:

Secretary Report – Approved (Devin/Sam)

Treasurer Report – Discussion and approved (Carol/Sam)

Pastoral Report – Funeral for Gene Lundhagen and future funeral plans for Milton Kinghorn discussed. The council's hearts are with these families! Synod from June-talked about and the council will ask Kristianne to possibly provide an update for the newsletter. Excited to start confirmation and Sunday School and excited for the new church services planned (see new business).

Music Committee – Music plans covered. Music committee will be meeting sometime in August for the last quarter.

Old business:

Summer BBQ's – going well and will continue through the end of July. Much better turn out than last year, even with the heat! * Loving Service *

VBS – 7/15-7/18 9-12 all three days. Everything requested is in and they had a meeting 7/11 to finalize plans. Expectation of 24 which is almost double last year. *Joyful Worship and Loving Service*

Worship assistants – The church still needs some new helpers that want to step forward. If you have any desire to help and you have questions, please reach out to anyone on the council. Assistants are baking communion bread, communion set-up, ushering, reading scripture, and treats.

Building maintenance – Sump pump working well, thank you Devin! New pastor's office window has arrived and will be installed as soon as possible. Threshold for the main door still needs repaired. The concrete foundation has a few visible cracks that will need attention soon.

Basketball hoop – has been replaced and the police report was filed. Thank you, Buckley, for organizing this repair! It was being used during the BBQ and after our council meeting by some neighbors.

Recognition/Thank you volunteer is Carol Kramer. *Caring Relationships

New Business:

Worship in the park – August 4th and we are invited to participate. This is a group church service with other churches from our area that is held at Barkemeyer Park in Downtown Huntley. The service usually

has special music and a potluck to follow. More information to come but it is usually around the 10am hour. We will still have our regular church service at 8:45.

Narrative Lectionary – The pastor would like to change from the current lectionary and move to a new lectionary. (*Lectionary: A list of books or portions of the books of the Bible appointed to be read at a church service.) starting September 8th. The new lectionary will be about the Old Testament to start with Genesis and will continue through the journey of Jesus. Exciting changes! Motion passed. (Carol / Dawn)

***Joyful Worship**

Backpack Blessing on 9/8 during church service. We have done this in the past and will continue to do so. Please bring your children’s backpacks with them and any teachers or congregation members that assist with anything “school oriented” are welcome to bring their briefcases or bags as well.

Homecoming parade party – 10/4. We will gather for a “tailgate party” here at the church and then gather at the edge of the parking lot for the Homecoming parade. This was fun! Please come and join us. You are welcome to leave your vehicle at the church and walk to the school for the pre-game there as well. Maybe we, as a church or the youth would want to do another float and represent our church family during the parade?

Campfire and Smore’s party set for 8/29 at 7PM here at the church. Who doesn’t love a good S’more? This will be the official kick-off for all things YOUTH in our church for the 24-25 year.

Next meeting: August 21st at 7PM.

Mission Cornerstone: What did your council members talk about that raises itself to: Joyful Worship, Caring Relationships, and/or Loving Service? Our council represents all of you, all of our church family. If there is something you would like to see changed, added, or just want to be a part of this portion of the church, please raise your hand and let us know. It feels great to be a part of this team!

Closed with the Lord’s Prayer and meeting adjourned at 8:03

Counters for the next 5 weeks: 7/24 Sam 7/21 Carol 7/28 Dawn 8/4 Jill 8/11 Carol

Church council is the 21st (due to fair)
August 4th at 10:30 is the Huntley Park
worship in the park

	Expenses	Income	Difference
June	\$8,156.93	\$4,334.09	(\$3,822.84)
YTD	\$54,978.57	\$53,306.80	(\$1,671.77)

Unfortunately, we have landed in the red for June and Year to Date
Please consider donating.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>28</p> <p>Lynda Newell Birthday</p> <p>8:45am - Church Service</p> <p>10am - Sunday Bible</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Kyle Reuber Birthday</p> <p>Mark Mobergsten</p>					
<p>4</p> <p>8:45am - Church Service</p> <p>10am - Sunday Bible</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9pm - ELG Book Club</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10am - Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p> <p>8:45am - Church Service</p> <p>10am - Sunday Bible</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Ron Quabeck Birthday</p> <p>7pm - Church Council</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10am - Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Carla Ladigowicz</p>
<p>18</p> <p>8:45am - Church Service</p> <p>10am - Sunday Bible</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Wade Mathew Birthday</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Uwe Hoffman Birthday</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10am - Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>8:45am - Church Service</p> <p>10am - Sunday Bible</p> <p>12:00pm - Mari Kinghorn</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Maryann Mobergsten</p> <p>7:30pm - Community Ban</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Emile Christman Birthday</p> <p>10am - Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Phyllis Starr Birthday</p>

Emmanuel Lutheran
Church
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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