

# EMMANUEL LUTHERN CHURCH

## JUNE 2024



*“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.”*

*- Acts 2:1-4*

The events of Pentecost were not just about a miraculous moment in history; they were about the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in our lives today. The Holy Spirit equips us with the gifts and courage needed to live out our faith boldly. The early disciples, filled with the Spirit, found themselves able to communicate across barriers, sharing the good news in languages they had never spoken before. This miraculous ability was a sign of God's desire for inclusivity and unity among all people.

In our own lives, the Holy Spirit might not enable us to speak new languages, but it does empower us to break down barriers of misunderstanding and division. It helps us reach out in love and compassion, to bridge gaps in our communities, and to bring people together. This power is crucial in today's world, where division and discord often seem more prevalent than unity and peace. As followers of Christ, we are called to be agents of reconciliation, driven by the Spirit to heal wounds and build bridges.

In Matthew 9:35-38, we see Jesus moving with compassion among the people, healing the sick, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom. He then calls on His disciples to join in the mission, recognizing that “the harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few.” This call is just as urgent today. We

are invited to participate in God's mission, reaching out to those who are harassed and helpless, offering them hope and healing.

Our discipleship journey is not just about personal spiritual growth; it's about being sent out to serve. The Greek word for "church" (ekklesia) means "those who are called out." We are called out of our comfort zones to be Christ's representatives in the world. This can be challenging, requiring us to step into unfamiliar or uncomfortable situations, but we do so with the assurance that we are not alone. The same Spirit that empowered the early disciples is with us, guiding and strengthening us for the work ahead.

As we engage in this mission, we are reminded of God's unwavering provision and care. Romans 5:1-2 assures us that through faith, we have peace with God and stand in His grace. This peace and grace give us the confidence to face challenges and uncertainties, knowing that God is with us every step of the way.

It can be easy to feel overwhelmed by the demands of discipleship and mission. We might wonder if we have enough resources, time, or energy to make a difference. Yet, Scripture reminds us that God's provision is abundant. Jesus teaches in Matthew 6:25-34 that we should not worry about our needs because our Heavenly Father knows what we need and will provide for us. This trust in God's provision allows us to focus on our calling without being paralyzed by fear or anxiety.

Consider how you might embrace the Spirit's leading in your daily life. It might be in small acts of kindness to neighbors, speaking words of peace in conversations that turn heated, or standing up for those who are marginalized and oppressed. Every action, no matter how small, is significant in God's eyes and contributes to the larger tapestry of His work in the world.

As we navigate this journey together, let us continually seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit. In our moments of doubt, may we find reassurance in God's promises. In our efforts to serve, may we experience the joy and fulfillment that comes from being part of something greater than ourselves. And in all things, may we trust in the boundless love and provision of our Heavenly Father.

God Bless,

Pastor Josh Wyman



June ELCW notes:

Summer is vacation time, but it's still a busy time for us. Our ELCW is sponsoring the Summer BBQ's again, which will start on June 20<sup>th</sup> and go through July on Thursday evenings, from 6:30PM. BBQ's will include burgers, brats, hot dogs, and the delicious salads, side dishes and desserts prepared by numerous people who attend. There is no charge for the meals....that's right! They are free! Come and enjoy the companionship of others in the community. This enjoyable get-together is absolutely free and everyone in the area is invited to take part in it. Our ELCW also has donated funds of \$1500.00 for the camp fees for Christikon, and hopefully some of the young people will take part in attending it this summer.

**PINEVIEW QUILTING CLUB:** Our next quilting day is Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the church basement. As you probably know, our quilts are constructed and donated to people in nursing facilities, people who have lost their homes through fire, etc., Riverstone Health, Veterans, and various others. Our ladies made three quilted lap robes to be given to the three Shepherd High School graduates that are our church members. This year's graduates from Emmanuel are James Malchow, Roman Glinwood and Marc Newell. Graduation was on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The three lucky young men will be getting their quilt gifts this weekend, and I know they will be surprised and happy with their gifts, which are being delivered to them.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN:** It's about planting time for the community garden on the church property...so bring your extra seeds, young plants, and energy to help get things growing. We appreciate all the help we can get, and the results are available to the entire community. There will be "sign-up" sheets at the church for the helpers that are needed to plant, weed and water throughout the summer. So...Let's get growing!

# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE



Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

June is here and the weather should be warming up. Summer arrives on the 20<sup>th</sup>, which is odd, since we really haven't had much of a spring yet. As I sit down to type this up, it is raining like crazy outside and there is already two inches of rain in the old rain gauge. I think somebody has been praying for rain.

Flag day is on the 14<sup>th</sup>, so dust off Old Glory and fly her proudly from your front porch. Might as well keep that flag handy, so you can fly it on the 16<sup>th</sup> as well, which is Father's Day. Happy Father's Day to all the dads out there. I hope you can spend some quality time with family and of course fire up the barbeque grill. Sure is satisfying to cook something over smoke and flames.

I also get to celebrate my wedding anniversary this month. Thirty-three years of marital bliss with Mrs. T. C. I'm surprised that she has put up with my nonsense for so long. I think the secret to our success is humility, humor, and trust. Yes, I do love to make her laugh. Happy anniversary Pooky! You are the best.

Update on my broken leg. Everything has healed up and is almost like new. Sometimes I even forget that I injured my leg. Case in point. Last weekend as Mrs. T. C. and I were out for billiard lessons and I was playing music on the Juke box, as she says she can't shoot if it's quiet. Well, I played this song that had a groovy little riff, which made me want to do some sort of four step jig. Yep, I was getting happy feet! Fortunately, the more sensible side of my brain reminded me of my injured leg, so I didn't get crazy, even though I wanted to. What was the song, you ask? It was Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood by The Animals. Go ahead and Google it. See what you think of the riff. De da de da de, da da da de de.

I'm thinking that this should be my theme song if they ever make a tv show about my life. I can just see me walking proudly across the parking lot as the song plays in the background! Waiting for Hollywood to ring me up. I'm a patient mouse.

Well, that is enough of my rambling for now. Enjoy the month of June and the start to summer. Let the adventures begin. Hope to see you in Church.

Your faithful friend in residence at Emmanuel.

T.C. Mouse

5/8/24

## Shepherd Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council

Present: Pastor Josh Wyman, Jill Hoffman, Dawn Petty, Carol Kramer, Wendy Siemsen, Devin Murnion, Lindsey Reynolds, Buckley Reynolds, and Abbey Emmons

Called to order at 7PM

Agenda presented by Jill. Josh led and opened with devotion. We listened to a "Breath In, Breath Out" study of the Holy Spirit.

### **Standing reports:**

Secretary Report – Approved (Devin / Carol)

Treasurer Report – Discussion and we compared last year to this year on the financial spreadsheet. Insurance has been paid for. Approved (Carol / Devin)

Pastoral Report – Busy! Confirmation on Sunday. Confirmed was Tanner Emmons, Charlie White, and Ellie Stahl. Waymakers is complete. Looking forward to next year's start up. First communion winds up on 5/9. First communion set for 5/12 and we will celebrate the new children. Memorial Service in the cemetery on 5/27. Home visits were good and will continue.

Youth Committee – Looking forward to VBS. Last Sunday School will be this Sunday 5/12/24.

Music Committee – No meeting. Will continue with working through the summer to plan services.

### **Old business:**

Vanco – general conversation. Have a few more congregants using it. Vanco is the electronic option for members to donate to the needs of the church.

Smith Family Fundraiser – we will double check the status and then send around a sign up in church for those willing to bake some items for their bake sale. 6/15

\$1590 donated from the ELC Women's Group for help with the children that want to attend Christikon. Thank you! **\*Loving Service**

### **New Business:**

Summer BBQ's – Women's group will buy the food and a friend of Dawn volunteered to BBQ but we will need to work on getting more families involved in the prep and clean up. Starting 6/20 – 8/1 with no BBQ on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. 6-week session. Start at 6pm. **\*Caring Relationships**

Vacation Bible School. 7/15-7/18 9am-12pm Attempting to get a decent head count somehow using Face Book or a Google Doc. Theme will be "Spend your Summer with God!" If you can help, please reach out to any of the council members. **\*Joyful Worship**

Worship assistant sign-ups. Discussed ways to hopefully get something better to get more congregation help. We are asking for ideas from the congregation as to ways to improve the sign up system.

Building maintenance – Devin will help with the sump pump, Buckley will work to fix the window in the Pastor’s office. Threshold on the main double doors is loose. Basketball hoop replacement and a “backstop” of some type to keep the ball out of the neighbor’s yard. Buckley will see if a friend of his will cut a piece of aluminum to replace the glass. Abbey will make an official report with the Yellowstone County Sheriff’s Department.

Recognition / thank you volunteer: Carol will volunteer to send out thank you notes.

Dawn will get some flowers for Mother’s Service.

**Next meeting:** July 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 (No June meeting)

**Mission Cornerstone:** What have we talked about today that raises itself to: Joyful Worship, Caring Relationships, and Loving Service.

**Closed with the Lord’s Prayer** and meeting adjourned at 8:00

Counters: 5/12: Carol    5/19: Jill    5/26: Carol    6/2: Dawn    6/9: Wendy  
6/16: Jill    6/23: Devin    6/30: Carol    7/7: Dawn



# Christikon Clips

June, 2024

*Information for our Congregations*



**We kick off the season with Staff Training on June 2<sup>nd</sup>**, followed quickly by our first camper session for Developmentally Disabled Adults.

**Family Adult Camps:** Our speaker will be Professor Jason A. Mahn for the **Continuing Ed. Retreat (July 29 – August 1) and Mountain Weekend (August 2-4)**. He is a professor of religion and director of the Presidential Center for Faith and Learning at Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. He teaches about faith in God in the contemporary world, environmental ethics, social justice, vocation, and religious responses to suffering at Augustana, and also frequently speaks at churches, colleges, and universities. **Topic: Gifted and Graced: Christian Discipleship in the Anthropocene** — This series of discussions will begin with telling stories about the gifts we cherish the most. What makes them so powerful? How must we think and act to cherish life itself and the whole earth as gift? More details can be found on our website where you can register.

**Former Staff Reunion (August 4-8).** Join your peers, meet their families, catch up with old friends and make new ones! Hope to see you all there!  
Go to <https://christikon.org/registration-adult-family-information/> to get registered.

**Campers!** There is still room in our on-site and trails sessions. Register now.

Go to <https://christikon.org/registration-individual-information/>

**Remember to pray for your congregation's ministry through Christikon** this summer, for the summer staff who begin their journey soon, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

**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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**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 . . .**



**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
JOYFUL † CARING † LOVING