

EMMANUEL LUTHERN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2025



Buy a poinsettia to help
decorate the church for
Christmas



\$15 EACH



DUE DECEMBER
14TH



Worship Time 10:00am

Starting November 30th



2025 December Newsletter – ELCW group

Welcome to this busy time of the year! We are already shopping and sending out greeting cards to friends and family! It's also time to decorate our homes and the church for the Christmas season. We will shop for poinsettias to add to the holiday décor for the church. There will be sign-up lists at the church for those of you who will want to purchase some of the poinsettias, and those flowers can be taken home with you after Christmas. I will be checking various places over the next few weeks to get reasonably priced plants and buy them to take back to church.

Thanks to all of you who helped supply items for Thanksgiving baskets needed by the people who use the food pantry. The Shepherd Lions' Club was so helpful in offering their facilities to collect the food, purchase the turkeys and for the people to come and pick up their baskets in time for the holiday. The Lions' Club will again help us in gathering supplies and distributing food baskets for the Christmas season. They are a great blessing to our church and community.

We will have Christmas wreaths for sale in several weeks. I plan to gather the fresh boughs on December 1st, and will have some wreaths ready and on display in the back of the sanctuary by the next weekend. As usual, you can select yours and pay whatever price you want, with all proceeds going to the Emmanuel Youth Group.

You will see the "Christmas Angel Tree" in the back of the church again in early December, with names of the youth in our community who are in need. Would you please check that out and select one or more to fulfill the requests listed there?

Your help and attendance is always needed. You are truly a blessing to all of us.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Dawn Petty, President

11/11/25

Shepherd Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council

Present: Sam Murnion, Devin (via phone), Dawn, Jeanne, Kristianne, Jack, Jill, Carol, and Abbey

Called to order at 7PM at Dawn's house

Agenda presented by Sam. Sam led and opened with devotion.

Standing reports:

Secretary Report – from last month's minutes: strike "and call" and only have the wording a call committee. (Kristianne/Jeanne)

Treasurer Report – Discussion. No changes.

Pastoral Report – Jill spoke of the Transition Planning as we move forward w/o a pastor. She has broken down what our plans are moving forward. A Joyful Worship group was created with Jill Hoffman, Maryann Morgenstern, and Laura Vanberg. Laura will handle the music planning. Jill Hoffman will handle the preaching and presiding schedule. Maryann agreed to do a 4:30 Christmas Eve service and December 28th will be our Christmas Celebration, cookies to share type gathering during our regular service. To serve with our "caring relationships" an idea was to have a few extra servings of communion and have them blessed so that others could share with their family or other congregation members that are unable to attend church. Church decorations will be 11/23 celebrating the first Sunday in Advent following church. Forward all announcements to Jill so we keep everything organized. Caring relationships to continue with Dawn and Jeanne to include home visits and work towards keeping the communications open. Our one confirmation child was invited to join Atonement Lutheran Church's confirmation classes. Our church is blessed to have our pastoral schedule in place for a few months. Thank you to Maryann Morgenstern and John Goodheart!

Old business:

Storm/insurance update: still working on the steeple decision, the insurance said they sent the remaining \$50k to be added to the original \$104K check already deposited. Past that, there is really nothing more pending. Contractor was advised that there is a chance that the building will not be repaired so they understand the church's dilemma. The contractor is interested in bidding the new building if that choice is made moving forward.

Meeting with Bishop Quanbeck upcoming. He is interested in what our plans are and where we are dreaming of moving to as well as how to handle our church w/o a pastor.

Congregational Feedback Committee – Kristianne presented the Connect Cards which will be presented as soon as possible to the congregation and will be available in the pews of the church.

New Business:

Chad with Harvest Church coaching is still pending but we are awaiting his schedule before we move forward. Church start time will change to 10:00 AM starting the last Sunday of November. 11/30 at 10:00. Christmas Eve service will be 4:30 and the sing-a-long will be relaxed with a focus on Christmas carols and "Bring a cookie, eat a cookie, and take cookie" theme. Call committee discussion: open book on what we want, what we need, and we tabled most of the discussion until after we speak to the Bishop. The focus of the meeting was getting organized as we move forward w/o our pastor.

Next meeting: December 9th at Dawn's home at 7:00.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer and meeting adjourned at 8:17

Counters: Nov 16-treats/counter – Kristianne & Jack. Nov 23-treats/counter – Jill
Nov 30-treats/counter – Carol Dec 7-treats/counter – Dawn

Starting Nov 30th – church will be at 10:00 with fellowship to follow.

4:30 Christmas Eve service and December 28th
will be our Christmas Celebration, please bring
cookies to share during the gathering during
our regular service.

COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE

Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

T.C. the crazy Church Mouse

had a very witty mind.
And if you ever met him,
mild psychosis is what you'd find.

All of the other field mice
used to laugh and call him names.
They wouldn't let the Church Mouse
play in all their cheesy games.

Then one foggy Christmas Eve
Santa made a strange request.
T.C. with your mind of wit
Won't you ride with me a bit.

Through the night the pair would travel.
Guided by the stars that glisten
Kept awake by T.C.'s babble.
Even the Reindeer seemed to listen.

Better than a double espresso shot.
Spirited by the constant Ho, Ho, Ho!
Santa sure seemed to laugh a lot.
You should have seen those Reindeer go.

Then all the field mice loved him.
As they shouted out with glee.
T.C. the Crazy Church Mouse.
You'll go down in history.

Merry Christmas everyone!
See you in Church.
Your Faithful Friend in residence at Emmanuel.
T.C. Mouse



Christikon Clips

December 2024



As we move into the dark days of
winter,

and in the midst of a world weary of brokenness, division, natural
disasters and war, we look yet again towards the promise of the
coming Christ child. As the gospel writer proclaims, "The Light
shines in the darkness, and the darkness cannot overcome it."
Shine, Jesus, shine...in our hearts and homes, our community and
world.

A blessed Advent and Christmas to you and yours from your

Christikon family.

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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**MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL
MERRY CHRISTMAS**



Emmanuel Lutheran
Church
P.O. Box 66
Shepherd, MT 59079

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