

# EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER



### ELCW March newsletter article

It's hard to believe it's almost March. Our mild winter has made it seem like spring is just around the corner. All the seed catalogs that are arriving in the mail inspire thoughts of planting and the community garden. We hope many of you will have time to volunteer to help when cleanup and planting time begins. There will be more information about that later this spring.

Our church women displayed their talents providing the treats for the congregation at the annual meeting on January 25, as well as the follow-up meeting on February 15. It was hard to decide what to choose from the delicious buffets. Connie Halvorsen's breakfast burritos on the 15<sup>th</sup> were thoroughly enjoyed by all. A big thank you to all the women who brought treats on those Sundays.

The Pineview Quilting group will have its annual spring luncheon in early March. The ladies continue to stay busy making baby quilts and lap covers for Riverstone Health groups and local nursing homes. We are also busy collecting baby clothes, diapers and other necessities for our May semi-annual meeting with the Riverstone Health group. The ladies are so generous with their donations.

Just a reminder that the Christikon Fundraiser Auction will be held in mid-April. Any contributions for the Auction need to be registered by mid-March, with the donated items brought by the end of March. The money raised supports the Christikon summer camps. Please contact Sari Stahl for more information or questions about donating items.

Dawn Petty

ELCW President

# COMMENTARIES OF THE CHURCH MOUSE



Greetings Friends and Neighbors,

I must digress for just a moment. I had a fantastic day on the slopes last month for my birthday. The weather was nice and sunny, but yet the snow was still in good shape. It sure was great flying down the slopes, wind in my fur and sun on my face. I managed to make it through the whole day without any mishaps and thoroughly enjoyed spending the day with my son, shredding some snow. Ride up, race down, I was the brown blur of the mountain.

March is here, so we are once again forced to synch up all of the clocks, as we spring forward on the 8<sup>th</sup>, with the beginning of Daylight Savings Time. I hate to think that I also get to lose an hour of sleep in the deal, but what can you do? Go with the flow and maybe make up for it with a Sunday afternoon nap. I plan to also follow the advice of the fire fighters and change the battery in all of my smoke detectors. Better safe than sorry.

Then on the 17<sup>th</sup>, it's time to roll out the corned beef and cabbage, as we celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The only day of the year, where everyone is a wee bit Irish! I think that I'll dye my fur green this year to show my enthusiasm for the day and maybe even have a green beer or two. Happy St. Patrick's Day everyone. May the luck of the Irish follow you all year long.

Spring officially arrives on the 20<sup>th</sup>, so it won't be long now before we can put Old Man Winter to bed for the season. I'm looking forward to everything starting to grow, bud out and green up. At this point I'm more than ready to trade in my snow shovel for a little time with the rake and lawn mower. Looking forward to mushroom and asparagus hunting, even though that is still a couple months away. Cabin fever has hit me a little harder this year, as I seem to talk to myself more than usual. Often Mrs. T.C. will yell to me from the kitchen, "Who you talking to in there?" as I'm chilling on the couch. I usually just tell her to never mind, as it is only lighthearted banter between Me, Myself and I! Me tends to argue with Myself and I is a really good listener. No, don't worry, I'm not crazy, just brutally honest.

Happy March everybody. See you in Church.

Your faithful friend in residence at Emmanuel.  
T. C. Mouse

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting

2/10/26      Called to order at 7:05 by President Sam Murnin

Mission: Emmanuel Lutheran is a welcoming church in a rural community, called by God to Joyful Worship, Caring Relationships, and Loving Service.

Opening devotion: Led by Kristianne with focus on the council and our Lutheran Church constitution. In attendance: Sam, Rob, Devin, Barb & Jack, Dawn, Jill, Linda, Kristianne & Jack via Zoom, and Abbey. Welcome new board members: Linda Hinkle, Rob Emmons, and Linda Oberg.

Standing reports: Secretary report, no discussion (Devin/Rob). Treasurer Report, pastors and musicians paid through February. Motion made to clear old council names from the banking information and change the names to only be Linda Oberg, Sam Murnin, and Jill Hoffman as the three signers (Kristianne/Devin). Jill needs to send the secretary the official copy of the signature sheet. Joyful Worship Committee presented by Jill. This week after church Sam and Jill were able to speak privately with Bishop Quanbeck. Refresher on the budget approval about how we were going to pay our two main LMA's and if we can secure them on more of a contractual setting. Kristianne asked if we could possibly ask for more involvement with possibly the youth, home visits, and other suggestions. Maryann has been already helping with a lot of the other things which has been super helpful. Kristianne made a motion to speak to both LMA's to enter into further pastoral duties and bring those back to the council. (Kristianne/Jack) Caring Relations Committee discussion led by Kristianne. Kristianne reminded us to get the prayer requests to the envelope so that Tari & Dawn can properly get those entered. Loving Service Committee still needing a chair for the committee but have 2 others wanting to be on the committee just don't have the chair right now.

Old Business: Annual meeting discussion. Kristianne mentioned that she appreciated Maryann Morgenstern's request for a more specific intention offering. She liked the goal setting. Building committee had open discussion. So much information to present. Great discussion. Motion made by Rob to go to the special meeting and move forward to hire an architect to move towards a new build. (Rob/Devin) Insurance discussion led by Sam: steeple conversation, the insurance has agreed to pay for the steeple but only after the steeple is replaced and proof is done. She is still working on everything with the insurance. Lenten & Easter Season: Ash Wednesday 2/18, Good Friday Service 4/3, Easter 4/5. Sedar dinner will have to be cancelled this year. Breakfast on Easter will be finger food type instead of casseroles and will be held upstairs. Easter Egg hunt in the sanctuary or outside if the weather holds. Thank you to the new

financial secretary, Barb Judish and the new Youth Leader, Greg Plath. Coaching is on hold for now.

New Business: New council induction service. The council will work via email to set up a date for this service.

Sunday attendants: 2/15 Sam (no treats needed) 2/22 Jill for both assistant and treats 3/1 Rob counter and Rob & Abbey for treats 3/8 Linda will count and Dawn will provide treats.

Next council meeting will be Tuesday 3/10 at Dawn's home.

Mission cornerstone – what have we talked about today that raises itself to our mission? Joyful worship, Caring Relations, and Loving Service? Closed with the Lord's Prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30.



**CHRISTIKON CLIPS** | MARCH 2026  
*INFORMATION for our CONGREGATIONS*  
**christikon.org**

- **Benefit Auction: April 26th** at the Billings Depot.
- **Camp Registration is open—and filling!**
- **Adults and families: Work Weekend** is a great time to get to camp and help us prepare for the 2026 season!
- **Bus Attendants needed for 2025!** Please contact us if you know someone who would be great! The job is a paid position.

**406 656-1969** | [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) | [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)



## CHRISTIKON CLIPS

MARCH 2026 | INFORMATION for our CONGREGATIONS

# christikon.org

Our annual Benefit Auction is on April 26th at the Billings Depot. We are looking for items for the auction such as: fishing trips, weekend getaways, dinners out, themed baskets, artisan items. Have an idea? Let us know!

Are you registered for camp, yet? Registration is open and filling! We are excited about our new registration process! We believe you will be, too!

Adults and families: Work Weekend is a great time to get to camp and help us prepare for the 2026 season. Registration is open!

Bus Attendants needed for 2026 – Would you or someone you know be willing to ride with youth on their way to Christikon? Please contact the office! It pays a daily rate.

*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

406 656-1969 | [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org)

[www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

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.”

[elcshepherd.org](http://elcshepherd.org) — [elcshepherd@gmail.com](mailto:elcshepherd@gmail.com)

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**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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