May-June 2024

Emanuel Lutheran Church

The Emanuel Witness

Emanuel Lutheran Church 800 Green Street
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Office Hours

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.



Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

What do you have planned for the summer? Are you going to the lake? Taking a vacation? Working around the house? For some, summer is a time to slow down a bit from the fast pace we have in our lives. For others, the pace seems to pick up during the summer. Still for others, the pace remains the same. At whatever pace you are going at, it is still good to be going!

During the summer at Emanuel the pace will speed up, then slow down, then return to a constant pace. While some of the weekly activities (like the quilters, the choirs, some of the weekly Bible Classes, Sunday School and Sunday Morning Bible classes) take a break during the summer, there is still much going on at Emanuel during the summer. The Monday Morning Bible class meets through the summer. There is Vacation Bible School this summer (June 23-26). Some of our youth are going to the Higher Things Conference in Arkansas in July. The Food Bank will be serving those in need during the summer. Boards and committees will meet during the summer. And if that was not enough, at 5pm on Saturdays and 8 & 9:30am on Sundays, we will gather for worship services. At whatever pace we are going, it is good to be going!

Traditionally during the summer we see a drop in attendance. We know that people go on vacations and go up to the lake on the weekends. It is good to get away every now and then, but let us never get away from God! If you stay in town on the weekends, come to church! If you are away on a weekend, find a church to go to! The writer to the Hebrews writes, "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25)

Also during the summer we have a drop in contributions. The amazing thing about the summer is that it is like the rest of the year—the bills still come and they

still need to be paid. Even if some of us go away for awhile, the church is still open. As the church, we are dependent on each other and our financial contributions. St. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 9, "Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

If you are getting away sometime this summer, enjoy the time away. If your pace slows down this summer, enjoy it. If your pace speeds up, enjoy it. If your pace remains the same, enjoy it. Whatever pace you will be going, remember, it is still good to be going... to church.

Pastor Zeckzer
1 Corinthians 15:57





Daily Lectionary Readings

May 1

Lev. 23:23-44 Luke 12:35-53

May 2

Lev. 24:1-23 Luke 12:54-13:17

May 3

Lev. 26:1-20 Luke 13:18-35

May 4

Lev. 26:21-33, 39-44 Luke 14:1-24

May 5

Num. 3:1-16, 39-48 Luke 14:25-15:10

May 6

Num. 8:5-26 Luke 15:11-32

May 7

Num. 9:1-23 Luke 16:1-18

May 8

Num. 10:11-36 Luke 16:19-31

May 9

Num. 11:1-23, 31-35 Luke 17:1-19

May 10

Num. 11:24-29; 12:1-16 Luke 17:20-37 May 11

Num. 13:1-3, 17-33 Luke 18:1-17

May 12

Num. 14:1-25 Luke 18:18-34

May 13

Num. 14:26-45 Luke 18:35-19:10

May 14

Num. 16:1-22 Luke 19:11-28

May 15

Num. 16:23-40 Luke 19:29-48

May 16

Num. 16:41-17:13 Luke 20:1-18

May 17

Num. 20:1-21 Luke 20:19-44

May 18

Num. 20:22-21:9 Luke 20:45-21:19

May 19

Num. 21:10-35 Luke 21:20-38

May 20

Num. 22:1-20 Luke 22:1-23 May 21

Num. 22:21-23:3 Luke 22:24-46

May 22

Num. 23:4-28 Luke 22:47-71

May 23

Num. 24:1-25 Luke 23:1-25

May 24

Num. 27:12-23 Luke 23:26-56

May 25

Num. 32:1-6, 16-27 Luke 24:1-27

May 26

Num. 35:9-30 Luke 24:28-53

May 27

Eccl. 4:1-16 John 7:32-53

May 28

Eccl. 5:1-20 John 8:1-20

May 29

Eccl. 6:1-7:10 John 8:21-38

May 30

Eccl. 7:11-29 John 8:39-59

May 31

Eccl. 8:1-17 John 9:1-23 June 1

Eccl. 9:1-17 John 9:24-41

June 2

Eccl. 10:1-20 John 10:1-21

June 3

Eccl. 11:1-10 John 10:22-42

June 4

Eccl. 12:1-14 John 11:1-16

June 5

Prov. 1:8-33 John 11:17-37

June 6

Prov. 3:5-24 John 11:38-57

June 7

Prov. 4:1-27 John 12:1-19

June 8

Prov. 5:1-23 John 12:20-36a

June 9

Prov. 8:1-21 John 12:36b-50

June 10

Prov. 8:22-36 John 13:1-20

June 11

Prov. 9:1-18 John 13:21-38

June 12

Prov. 10:1-23 John 14:1-17

June 13

Prov. 13:1-25 John 14:18-31

June 14

Prov. 14:1-27 John 15:1-11

June 15

Prov. 15:1-29 John 15:12-27 June 16

Prov. 16:1-24 John 16:1-16

June 17

Prov. 17:1-28 John 16:17-33

June 18

Prov. 20:5-25 John 17:1-26

June 19

Prov. 22:1-21 John 18:1-14

June 20

Prov. 22:22-23:12 John 18:15-40

June 21

Prov. 24:1-22 John 19:1-22

June 22

Prov. 25:1-22 John 19:23-42

June 23

Prov. 27:1-24 John 20:1-18

June 24

Prov. 30:1-9, 18-33 John 20:19-31

June 25

Prov. 31:10-31 John 21:1-25

June 26

Joshua 1:1-18 Acts 8:1-25

June 27

Joshua 2:1-24 Acts 8:26-40

June 28

Joshua 3:1-17 Acts 9:1-22

June 29

Joshua 4:1-24 Acts 9:23-43

June 30

Joshua 5:1-6:5 Acts 10:1-17





Please Pray for our Shut In Members

Grace Bates Jane Brown Geneva Brueck Mary Ann Bulmahn Marilyn Dunaway Wilma Forks Mary Ann Gallmeyer Janice Gilreath Barbara Krauter LaVera Linker Helen Miller Tom & Marge Myers Sally Neilson Sandra Poling Helen Purvis Jim Purvis Ed & Sally Schwehn Ralph Seddelmeyer Barb Shriver Elna Szink Kenneth Werling

Jim & Anita Wise

SUNDAYS: 7am – NBC-TV 21.2 / 8am – MyTV Channel 21.3 / 4pm – Public Access MONDAYS: 10am — Public Access / 11:30am — WINM-TCT

May 5

1 John 5:1-8

When You Feel Overwhelmed

Rev. Paul Shoemaker

All of us have been overwhelmed by life's circumstances beyond our control. St. John reminds us that we have "the victory that has overcome the world—our faith."

May 12

Luke 24:44-53

Ascended but not Gone

Rev. William Mueller

Ascension Day is an often forgotten church holiday. It really shouldn't be. It is the culmination of all that our Lord Jesus came to earth to accomplish. Even though He is now ascended, He has not departed from us. In fact, he has given us a joy-filled mission to reach and share.

May 19

Ezekiel 37:1-14 *I Will*

Rev. Dr. Lawrence Rast, Jr.

Ezekiel 37 describes the human reality of being dried up and worn out. We experience this as individuals and even as churches. In this text God declares, "I Will." God's explicit promise to us this Pentecost day: "I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live."

May 26

Isaiah 6:1-8

When Darkness Hides God

Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

Do you experience those dark times when God seemingly fails to show up in our lives? Understanding the true identity of our great Triune God will bless us with right understanding, attitudes, and actions when the darkness hides God.

June 2

Mark 2:23-28

The Lord of the Sabbath

Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

The Sabbath was a day of rest. Jesus says that he is the Lord of the Sabbath, because as God he gave the Sabbath law, and he came to fulfill perfectly this law. In fact, Jesus fulfilled all the commandments perfectly for all people. Therefore, come to the Lord of the Sabbath in faith and find blessed rest.

June 9 Mark 3:28 All Sins Forgiven Rev. Thomas Eggold

The Holy Spirit is still present, and the Holy Spirit is still active, and the place where the Holy Spirit works is in God's Word, and the time when the Holy Spirit speaks is now. And so today, the Holy Spirit is here to save you in this Word of Christ: "Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven..."

June 16 Mark 4:26 Scattered Seed Rev. Shayne Jonker

The seed of the Word of Christ grows and produces fruit in being scattered, in being preached, proclaimed, and spoken. It's scattered when pastors preach and missionaries go out in mission. It's also scattered when you are scattered in the vocations of your daily lives, with seed bags full of ripe, fruitful seed and God's benediction.

June 23 Mark 4:35-41 Who is This? Rev. Paul Shoemaker

Life's challenges confront us all, even us Christians. When those calamitous life events occur we look to our God in confidence, knowing He is with us and will guide us through such challenges. In Him we have the ultimate victory over sin, death and the power of the devil.

June 30 Mark 5:21-43 The Sparkle Rev. William Mueller

Mark 5:21-43 contains 2 wondrous miracles of Jesus: a woman with a constant discharge of blood is healed and the ruler of a synagogue's daughter is raised from the dead. Two memorable miracles! Borrowing and adapting a retelling of this account by Christian author Max Lucado in his book, "Six Hours One Friday," this message will tell in story form the joy of Jesus' eternal love for sinners—even you and me!

EJY (Emanuel's Junior Youth) set up for the rummage sale, then went to Georgetown Entertainment for bowling & arcade!









Thank you to all who helped with Sunday School this year!







<u>EMANUEL OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS</u> to member students attending Concordia Lutheran High School and to members preparing for full-time church work at synodical colleges (the Concordia University System or either of our seminaries). Please let the church office know if your student will be attending Concordia Lutheran High School next year. Also, let us know if your student will be leaving CLHS. College students, let us know that you are entering or continuing a program. We're currently compiling the list of students among whom our funds will be divided. Thank you!

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED GIVING A GIFT TO THE CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP AT CLS? Donations are accepted at any time. They can be given in memory of loved ones or in thankfulness for present teachers & pastors. Your gift will be used to encourage our brightest students to enter professions in Lutheran ministry. The scholarship helps to reduce the costs of attending a Concordia University. Presently, we will have a scholarship for Callie Hoover, Lizzie Gatchell, Derek Carey, Paige Rebber, Evan

Maloney, Andrew Castens, Hannah Weber, Augie Hoover & Caleb Zeckzer. Abby Wietfeldt, Amber Birkmire, Bethany Zeckzer, Anna Werling, Alexa Hoover and Kathryn (Castens) Pennington are currently teaching in our Lutheran schools & Bryan Stecker is a pastor. Derek Carey will be entering his 3rd year at the Fort Wayne Seminary, and Caleb Zeckzer will be a 1st year student. Paige Rebber will begin her 2nd year in Deaconess studies at the FW Seminary. Blaire Rebber has accepted a position at St. Paul Fort Wayne. Please consider a gift in the coming months as we prepare to award next year's scholarships. Keep these students in your prayers as they become the next generation of Lutheran educators. If you have any questions, please call Phyllis Hockemeyer, Mary Potter, Jon Bolt, or Rebecca VanSpankeren.



WE CARE The We Care support volunteers at Emanuel are available to help you with errands, rides, companion sitting, or temporary short term jobs. Contact the church office with your requests/needs & we'll get you some help. There are many

hands willing to provide an assist, many already do it without the use of this group, but just in case you need someone it's a phone call away. WE Care sign up sheets for serving are available on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall.



Parish Health Nurses

- offer monthly blood pressure screenings
- offer pill bottle recycling and recently donated caps to the bench buddy project at Central Lutheran School
- will be providing First Aid Care at Vacation Bible
 School in June. Hope to see many of you there with our youngest members!

Who is my elder?

Emanuel is divided into 13 Elder districts, by member last name. If your last name falls within the listed range for an Elder, he is "your" Elder. The Board of Elders serves the church by overseeing the worship life of its members. Your Elders care about you and your spiritual life! Please don't hesitate to contact your Elder!

I am thankful to God all the time for you. I am thankful for the loving-favor God has given to you because you belong to Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 1:4

Jimmy Cobb—District #1: Abbott-Bohde
Ben Koeneman—District #2: Bontrager-Chin
Wade Benjamin—District#3: Christianer-Dyarman
Benjamin Castens—District #4: Echartea-Gehl
Paul Niccum—District #5: Geller-Heckler
Mike Sweet—District #6: Heine-Knittle
John Colter—District #7: Knoblauch-McEvoy
Ben Oberlin—District #8: McGraw-Myers
Steve Poling—District #9: Nahrwold-Reichhart
Terry Werling—District #10: Reimund-Schlund
Jerry Schlund—District #11: Schmeling-Stein
David Herman—District #12: Stemmler-Wells
Mark Schuller—District #13: Werling-Zuercher

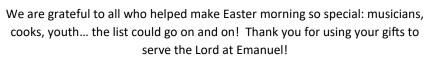








He is risen indeed! Alleluia!













Parish Health

May is Mental Health Focus Month: The Look Up Indiana website advocates that looking up is your first step to seeing past your struggles. Mental & behavioral health issues can be a silent battle, but there is always hope. You can access a lot of information for yourself at lookupindiana.org. Phone help is available at 988 twenty-four hours a day. You can also text 494949 24 hours a day as well. Faith can be a positive force for good mental health, the website has information about mental health topics from a faith perspective as well as added resources for you to read & consider for your own use. They have support for anxiety, depression, trauma, suicide & substance abuse (vaping, drugs, marijuana and illicit drugs, alcohol. NAMI of Fort Wayne is the local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. They are dedicated to building better lives for Americans affected by mental illness, stigma, and ignorance, toward brighter days filled with hope, health & recovery. NAMI has multiple support group offerings and more information can be found at

www.namifortwayne.org. May is also Physical Fitness & Sports Month, with focus on promoting benefits of being physically active. Older Americans Month is celebrated in May as well, Healthy Aging Initiative is part of the People 2030 objectives to improve health and well being of older adults. National Women's Health Week is 5/12 to 5/18. Suggestions for focus can be found on Move Your Way website.



As we start a summer of outdoor activities think of healthy habits so you can safely enjoy lots of time outside. With more barefoot activities (boating, swimming, etc.) you may want to check your health

records to see if your tetanus injection needs to be updated. It's usually good for 10 years & is the first thing checked with accidents that involve a contaminated or dirty exposure, so why not check ahead & have it on board rather than waiting till that dirty rock or rusty nail or flying object from your mower gets you?

Breaking Bread Together

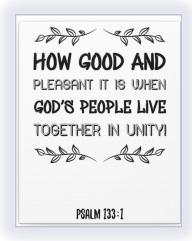


As a result of the participation of 286 of The Brend of Life you in our Lenten Meals, the ladies of the Lenten Meal team are venturing out with a new offering of a meal on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

Our first gathering will be Wednesday May 1st (MAYDAY). We hope your schedule allows your participation! Come for food, fellowship and conversation, all in the comfortable setting of our Fellowship Hall.

The meaning of Breaking Bread Together has biblical origins. Jesus, when eating with His disciples, would break the bread. Back then, bread was harder than the typical bread we know today, so it was broken (rather than torn) and passed out to be shared with a group.

By the 1300's there was a spiritual hymn "Let Us Break Bread Together" and the phrase has lived on because bread is such a life giving source of basic nourishment, and it carries the implications of friendship & life. To break bread is to share an emotional experience with someone. Often a coming together of some sort to share a meaningful connection over a meal—think of our new member luncheons, funeral dinners, Easter Sunrise breakfast, personal celebrations for baptisms, confirmation, graduation and weddings. The lifespan is well represented with the foundation of breaking bread together.



Please consider joining us to reap the benefits of biblically based sharing, a time honored tradition of Breaking Bread Together! Lets see how this opportunity allows us to grow together!

May Birthdays

Someone Special, I know who: that Someone, my God, is You! Who could make a world like this and a heaven full of bliss, Someone special I must be, since You made it all for me!

Someone Special, that You are, to create the Christmas Star, heralding the Savior's birth, bringing peace and joy to earth. Someone special I must be, since You made that Star for me!

Someone Special, who would give His own Son that all might live, and by Him would set us free from all sin and misery. Someone special I must be, since You gave Your Son for me!

Someone Special, who would send His good Spirit for a Friend, Faith Creator, Light and Guide, always standing at my side. Someone special I must be, since You gave that Gift to me!

Someone Special—God and man, You were there when I began, You'll be there when I depart, for You live within my heart. Someone special—now I see, that someone is really me.

OAAR 319 CLS Chapel Hymn of the Month

<u>1</u>

Russell Roemer Cayden Metzger Theodore Fensler

2

Janis Lahrman Sherri Bremer Larry Coomer Alice Lehman

3

Nicholas Gehl
Nick Scavone
Benjamin Koeneman
Mary Purvis
Avery Jones
Amy Biedess

4

Michael Christianer
Cillian Hoover

5

Susan Crowl
Kenneth Werling
Steven Baker
Zachary White
Molly Sorg
Lincoln Becker

6

Charlene Vondran

7

Beverly Newhouse Rachel Carter Blake Reed Koen Reinhard

8

Noah Aumick
Kerrigan GraylessKemp
Elin Miller

9

Camryn Reuille

10

Pamela Robinson Victoria Fox Jessi Fink

11

Don Lambert Timothy Hall Brian Poling Eden Shipp

12

Craig Fox Katie Snyder

13

Rick Salyer Madison McGuire Keira Dommer Georgia Conrad

14

Annette Adams

15

Sandra Herman Kate Cobb

16

Helen Purvis
Larry Fenton
Zachary Berning
Chase Ferrell
Kelsi Swygart

<u>17</u>

Olivia Pranger

40

Hannah Black Lauren Osborn

19

Autumn Richeson

<u>20</u>

Eric Knittle Candace Moore Sawyer Pontsler

21

Tamara Warney Makenzie Schneider Lillian Turner

22

Barbara Werling Reagan

Widenhoefer

<u>23</u>

Libby Cain Ruby Girardot Rafael Hernandez

24

William Kline Tyler Czubakowski

25

Alice Adams Jeffrey Robinson Avary Vincenski

26

Deloris DeLong LaVera Linker Wyatt Coomer

27

Jeffrey Brockmann Gregory Ernest Madalyn Smith Roen Abbott

28

Kathy Sovine Patricia Gardner Nicolette Bremer Carter Jackson Patricia Schultz

<u>29</u>

Deborah Vaughn Melissa Ottenweller Caleb Zeckzer

30

Lyle Elser Sandi Herman Amber Scherer

31

Lisa Fensler Leesa Bledsoe



For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope

Jeremiah 29:11

June Birthdays

Ann Kremer Zachary Dommer Nathan Miller Gwendolyn Hofman Abigail Snodgrass Daphnie Freeman Sylas Page

Patrick Gengo Beau Viggiano Isaac Carter

3

June Goranson **Chase Bremer**

4

Marianne Berning Grayson Becker

<u>5</u>

Cheryl Brockmann Tyler Grossman Asher Peters

Rebecca Coomer Sue Braun Julie Poling Jerry Schlund Lauren Bulmahn Henrik Guenin

7

James Evans Bruce Robinson Marla Voirol Jeffrey Turner Keegan Reinhard Andie Knittle Lydia Bender Scarlett Guy Everly Rodriguez Aaron Hunter

Andrew Castens Alexandra Russell Jasmine Conrad

Wayne Doenges Tyler Gerig Madelyn Gerig

Terry Werling Brian Franz Ava Werling

11

Stephen Poling Rebecca Van Spankeren Matthew Swygart Arianna Voirol Jude Peters Elizabeth Hileman Gatlyn Richeson

12

Kayleigh Morlan Collin Evans

13

Braden Walter Gracie Yoder

Sally Georges Michelle Hogle Austin Gardner Breanna Jackson

15

Doris Sowers Austen Nzekwe Joshua Werling Renee Brooks

16

Jay Melcher Angela Harter Rebecca Schlund

17

Jillian Short Sophia Andrus

Ashley Fuelling

Sandra Parisot Julie Krinn Scott Zeckzer Kimberly Coomer

Ashlev

San Inocencio **Brittany Swygart** Kendyhl Black Chloe Zimmerman 20

Chase Luginbill Violett Gillingham

Sally Schwehn Angelena Viggiano **Shay Pontsler**

22

June Davis Henry Koithahn Wade Benjamin Diane Dubbelde Hailey Schmeling Michael Brockmann

<u>23</u>

Lori Snodgrass

24

Susan Johnson Elinor Hofman Reece Minden Hannah Minden **Emeline Dommer** Derek Lehman

25

Michelle Loshe Brandon Loshe Hayley Woods

26

Janice Gilreath Cheryl Birkmire Molly Kidd Justin Koenig Matthew Sorg

27

Dale Hermann Erica Ernest Benjamin Schaadt Carlie Willger Jennifer Goranson

Donald Holmes Diane Bremer

David Werling Randy Chin Jeanie Doenges Bryce Fox

30

Thomas Quandt **Thomas Meyer** Daniel Ungemach **Shannen Colter**





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MISSION STATEMENT:

Emanuel Lutheran Church furthers God's Kingdom by connecting people, strengthening families, and proclaiming God's Word.

