# Garden of Readin'

**Emanuel Lutheran Church Newsletter** 

May 2021

# Happenings!

Due to COVID 19 the church building remains closed for most activities except for Sunday mornings for worship and activities approved by the Church Council. If you do not feel comfortable coming to worship in person, please connect with us virtually via Facebook, Twitter and our YouTube channel.

Sunday, May 2—Outdoor Worship, Coffee Hour & DaBand Concert!

Friday, May 21—Food Pantry Volunteers meet at Our Savior's Lutheran

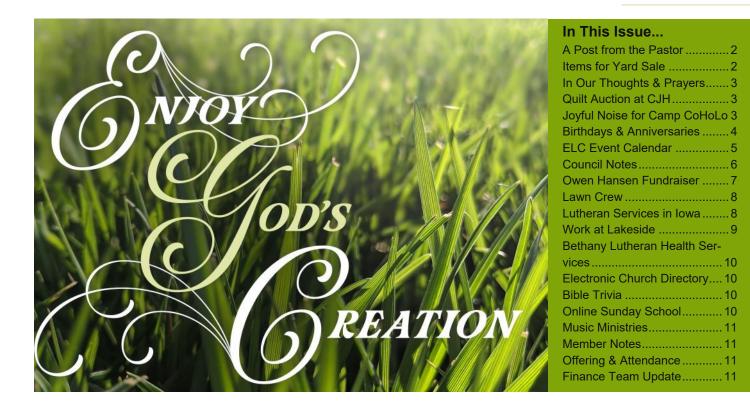
Sunday, June 6—Outdoor Worship & Coffee Hour

Tai Chi each **Monday** and **Thursday** morning at 11 a.m. in the upstairs Youth Center

Bible Study each **Thursday** at 9:30 a.m. in the upstairs conference room.

Mission
Statement:
Forgiven
by Grace,
Serving by
Faith

Vision Statement: To Grow in Faith, Love, and Spirit





#### A Post from the Pastor

By Pastor Cara Knutson

Good morning church! While we hope and pray the end of the pandemic is in sight, we unfortunately have not reached the end yet. We are however starting to make some changes to how we gather together and worship. Since Easter we've begun singing during worship—still with masks on and only two verses. One person commented that it brought him to tears to sing in church after having refrained for so long.

Also, starting Sunday May 2, on the first Sunday of the month from May to September we'll worship outdoors in the upper parking lot and have a time of fellowship as well. Bring on the coffee and donuts! We're hoping come fall when we move back indoors we can continue to have fellowship more safely indoors.

Right after Easter we started meeting with companies to look at upgrading our audio system and internet livestreaming capabilities. The council is in the process of reviewing and requesting proposals and hope to begin work within the next few months. With better equipment and technology in place we can even better share the gospel through music and further our outreach electronically.

Also, check out our Sunday School videos with Mr. Steve who has recently been joined by a new friend, Cory, the puppet. Rumor has it other puppets may join occasionally too! Through this medium Steve and friends are able to reach more youth and children than typically attended Sunday School in person before COVID. Thank you for all you do Steve!

I also want to give a big thank you to Michaela for her countless hours of research and her capable hand steering us into livestreaming. I also want to thank Kevin Epperson and Mike Hipnar for being willing to step in to run livestreaming so the Lewis family doesn't always have to. Thank you to Cindy and the excellence in music she brings to our worship. Every week she has extra practices and rehearsals for the special music after the sermon. Cindy you truly are the heartbeat of our worship!

And I want to thank all of you for your continued faithfulness and generosity during this time of upheaval. The word church comes from the Greek ecclesia—and it means to come together. As social beings created in the image of God, we're hardwired to come together for fellowship, friendship, family...the list goes on and on. It's where we connect and become united as one body. When we worship we are standing on holy ground. No one wants to have to stand six feet apart wearing a mask. But we continue to do so because of our love of neighbor—putting the neighbors safety and health ahead of our own needs and desires. Our society is still discovering and learning how to come together safely after vaccination. So we continue to carry on deciding on how best to gather with the information we have at this time.

We are church together for the sake of the world. And I'm really excited about the donuts...and coffee! I hope we can still get the strawberry ones.

See you in church!



### **Doing some spring cleaning?**

As you go through things, don't forget that we will be having our annual garage sale this fall and have begun collecting items!

If you have items you would like to donate we are collecting them in the first Sunday school classroom.

Please call to make arrangements to bring items in.



Esther Bender Robert Hesseltine Bob Vergamini Deloris Christensen Norma Mass Owen Hansen Paul Heath

Daralene Smith

# Quilting for a Cause

Carol Joy Holling is hosing their annual quilt auction July 31st. Funds raised through the Quilt Auction go directly to support our summer camping programs, making possible our promise



that no child will be turned away because they can't pay the fee. This policy and your quilt donations are catalysts for hundreds of lives changed each summer, as campers and their families grow closer to Christ in an intentional Christian community.

#### **Donating Quilts**

They are currently looking for quilters to donate items to the auction. Quilts of all sizes are welcome. Buyers are usually looking for standard-sized quilts. Tied, machine-quilted, hand-quilted, and handstitched quilts are all found at the auction.

Quilts should be delivered to Carol Joy Holling Camp between June 1 and July 26, 2021. The quilts will be auctioned in the order received at camp. It is very important that the enclosed instructions for delivery are followed closely to keep accurate records and to give proper credit to those donating quilts. A color photograph of your quilt is needed to assist in cataloging the quilts. The photo needs to clearly show the design of the quilt. When photographing the quilt, please turn over one corner of it to show the back side. The photo should accompany the quilt when it is delivered. On the back of the photo (in ink), please list the congregation or individuals donating the quilt and their city. We also encourage you to take photos throughout the completion of the quilt and send a few of those along with your quilt to show off the faces belonging to the warm hearts and caring hands that made the quilt! These photographs will be given to the buyer along with the quilt to add a special touch to their purchase. Quilts can be mailed, hand delivered, or sent along with pastors or campers coming to camp. (They should bring the quilt with them to registration.) A guilt donation form is available online or in the church office.

# Attending the Auction (In person or online)

Join in this exciting day at Carol Joy Holling Camp on July 31 for our 33rd Annual Quilt Auction! The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of Carol Joy Holling Camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. (We will use the Town Hall in case of rain.) Bring your friends and families! Quilts will be on display by 9 a.m. The live auction begins at 9:30 a.m. We will continue until all quilts are sold, which is usually around 5 p.m.

NEW THIS YEAR: The Silent Auction will be on Qtego, a mobile bidding site. Bidding will open at 2 p.m. on Friday, July 30, and end at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, July 31. You won't want to miss the lunch with dessert and beverage served from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Again this year, all of the quilts will be shown online! Be sure to check out the quilts before the auction. You'll start to see them appear in mid-June. If you or others can't be at the auction, we'll again have volunteer bidders who can submit your bids for you. Go to CJHCenter.org/quilt-auction and follow the links to view the quilts. There is an absentee bidder form on the website. If you wish to bid on a quilt, fill out this form, and we'll have a volunteer bid on your behalf!



Joyful Noise on May 9<sup>th</sup> will be for **Camp CoHoLo**, with special presenter **Grace** Hansen!

This camp is for children like her who have been treated for cancer or blood disorders.



May 01

**Carly Sorensen** 

May 02

**Abaigeal Plummer** 

May 05

**Bob Parker** 

May 06

**Anna Luther** 

May 09

Kyle Nordstrom Matt Solon

May 10

Alexander Bradshaw Riley Maxwell

May 12

**Chris Sorensen** 

May 13

**Richard Reed** 

May 14

**Christi Hauschild** 

May 19

Mike Loos

May 20

Kenna Hite

May 22

**Garrett Smith** 

May 23

Desirée Snell

May 25

Jennifer Clark Tiffany Pace

May 26

Ryan Wilson

May 27

Jennifer Plummer Rick Stone

May 30

Brad Dahlke Debbie Ferguson



May 03

**Gary & Judy Pleas** 

May 8

Gary & Cheryl Rowe

May 11

John & Glenda Smith II

May 19

Richard & Darlene Reed Sam & Wendi Hancock

May 22

Stephen & Michaela Lewis

May 28

**Edward & Clarissa Haats** 

May 29

David & Linda Fietz Bob & Kris Parker Ed & Nina Reedy

May 30

**Ron & Norma Stairs** 

If we've missed a birthday or anniversary, we apologize. Please let the church office know! Contact Michaela at (712) 323-9665 or office@emanuelcb.org



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
9:30 am Outdoor Service in Upper Parking Lot 10:30 am Outside Coffee Hour 11:30 am DaBand Concert in Upper Parking Lot	3 11 am Tai Chi	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Youth Center	5	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 11 am Tai Chi	7	8
Mother's Day 9 9:30 am Service in Worship Center  HAPPY  Meller's DAY	10 11 am Tai Chi	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Youth Center	12	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 11 am Tai Chi	14	15
9:30 am Service in Worship Center	17 11 am Tai Chi	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Youth Center	19	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 11 am Tai Chi	4:30 pm Volunteers for Food Pantry meet at Our Savior's	22
9:30 am Service in Worship Center	<b>24</b> 11 am Tai Chi	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Youth Center	26	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 11 am Tai Chi	28	29
9:30 am Service in Worship Center	Memorial Day 31 11 am Tai Chi					

Those in attendance for any services or events must wear a mask, and social distancing will be practiced. Masks will be provided if you do not have one.

Visit us online at <a href="https://www.emanuelcb.org">www.emanuelcb.org</a>.

## **Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Council Minutes for April 19, 2021** 

RECORDED BY CHRIS REED, COUNCIL SECRETARY

Members present: Pastor Cara Knutson, Char Les Kemmish, Greg Steensland, Mike Loos, Alan Ellis, Nick Rickard, Mike Hipnar, Shelby Rickard, Chris Reed, Matt Solon, Connie Edson

Members absent: Mike Winter, Joel Hauschild

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Vice President Greg Steensland. Mike Hipnar gave devotions.

Secretary's minutes from the March meeting: Motion to approve by Char Les Kemmish, seconded by Alan Ellis. Motion carried. Council asked Chris Reed to email council minutes to all members.

Financial Secretary report: Motion to approve by Chris Reed, seconded by Connie Edson. Motion carried. Char Les Kemmish will look into these accounts by June.

Treasurer's report: Motion to approve by Nick Rickard, seconded by Alan Ellis. Motion carried.

Capital Fund report: Motion to approve by Matt Solon, seconded by Mike Loos. Motion carried. Char Les Kemmish will follow up with Finance Committee on how interest will be reported for Elizabeth Miller's Estate CD.

Memorial Fund report: Motion to approve by Alan Ellis, seconded by Mike Hipnar. Motion carried. The following council members will contact Memorial folks to see what their vision for their funds are: Greg Steensland - Kathy Springer and Mildred Rogers; Alan Ellis - David Larson; Connie Edson - Edna Morgans. Alan Ellis informed council that the family of Kara Nickels requests that memorials go to an electronic sign.

Pastor Cara gave her monthly written report. She highlighted the FAITH team would like to finish the prayer path to correspond with a big outdoor picnic and neighborhood event to welcome folks back to worship and invite our neighbors to come join us. Pastor dropped off gift cards to the Hansen family. Cindy Richards, Kevin Epperson, Michaela Lewis and Pastor Cara met and talked with two companies (Electronic Contracting Company and Midwest Company) to get bids for streaming capabilities and audio equipment.

Property Committee report: Given by Alan Ellis. Oscar Over would like to recommend the following to be considered: power to garage and lighting in area;

fuse box at Parsonage house (already approved, just need to get done, Alan Ellis will follow up with electrician); drain backup issues; and both parking lots. Motion to approve getting bids for power to garage and lighting in area by Alan Ellis, seconded by Matt Solon. Motion carried.

#### Old Business:

Motion to approve getting bids for updating bathrooms and adding two new bathrooms by Alan Ellis, seconded by Matt Solon. Motion carried.

#### **New Business:**

- Streaming capabilities and audio equipment One bid from Electronic Contracting Company was received for \$42,535 and \$17,391 optional. Greg Steensland recommended to get as many bids as possible. Chris Reed will ask Our Savior's Lutheran Church's Pastor who did their upgrades. Mike Hipnar agreed to take charge of this process and bids.
- Chris Reed mentioned Cindy Richards said there was a Synod grant for electronic equipment. Pastor Cara said it was a \$1500-\$2000 grant for new ministry for electronics.
- Mike Hipnar mentioned the outside lighting in the front parking lot and light on cross. Alan Ellis will call electrician to receive bids.
- Council members agreed to ask Finance Committee to hold off on investing any more of Elizabeth Miller's Estate monies until bids are received, reviewed and approved.
- Mike Hipnar discussed Garage Sale coming up in August, suggestion was made to donate proceeds to Owen Hansen.
- Mike Hipnar mentioned The Band will do an outside concert after church service on May 2. Bring your own picnic.
- Pastor Cara mentioned the first Sunday of each month between May and September will be outside.

Next meeting is May 17 with Alan Ellis doing devotions.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matt Solon, seconded by Alan Ellis. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Vice President Greg Steensland at 7:59pm.



# MAY 22, 2021 OWEN HANSEN BENEFIT #OWENSTRONG

#### Benefit for Expenses

Owen is a 17-year-old who was in a snowboarding accident on February 11th. Owen broke his neck and is currently paralyzed from the shoulders down. Owen is an amazing athlete and an all-around great kid. All proceeds will go to assist the family with medical expenses and other items that will be needed during his recovery at Madonna Rehabilitation Center and upon his return home. Questions or donations, contact Stephanie at 712-314-7916 or Billie at 712-314-8367.



Spaghetti Feed \$10 per plate

50/50 Raffles

Mini Pool Tournaments

Raffle/Silent Auction Items

> JMJ Music and Karaoke

#### 411 STREET LEGION

716 S. 4th Street Council Bluffs, IA 51503 712-796-4470

May 22, 2021

3pm - 8pm

#### It's Mowing Season Again!

Thanks for volunteering to mow the church lawn. With nine mowers, we have a nice rotation where we are not mowing all the time. We ask that you mow the lawn sometime during your scheduled week, preferably by Thursday. If you have a conflict, just trade dates with someone on the list. Mowing consists of the church lawn and the parsonage lawn. If you use all the gas in the container, please fill up the container and turn the bill into the church. Keys for the mower and the garage are in the secretary's office which is open Tuesday & Wednesday, 9:30 am—3 pm. You can also contact Michaela to make arrangements to pick them up at another time. Any questions, problems, or suggestions, call Larry at 323-7379.



May 2 ----- Larry Hansen

May 9 ----- Tyler Hansen

May 16 ----- Mike Winter

May 23 ----- Chris Sorensen

May 30 ----- Alan Ellis

## Happy Mother's Day

According to the most recent Iowa Department of Human Services data, 9,532 Iowa Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the strong, loving women in your life. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we see thousands of Iowa moms through their journey to build the brightest full

Services in Iowa (LSI), we see thousands of Iowa moms through their journey to build the brightest future for their children.



We see moms turning to LSI Behavioral Health Intervention Services to ensure their child is receiving the coping skills and behavioral supports they need to thrive. In our Early Childhood Services, we see first-time moms who are eager to join our parenting education classes and support groups. In 2020, LSI's Early Childhood programs provided support to more than 1,097 families of young children. We are so inspired to hear their stories and see their hard work pay off as they raise our next generation.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember how many lowa moms are being empowered because of your support. If you are looking for a way to honor your mother this year, please consider making a gift in her name to LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the Iove of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and Facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

#### **Wrapping Care Around Iowa Children**

Martha and Marti first became foster parents in September of 2018, after their biological children expressed that they wanted to provide foster care as a family. They decided to become licensed through LSI Foster Care and Adoption and soon after, they welcomed a sibling group of three into their home.

"Our kids really wanted to look into foster care as a way to be able to help others as a family," Martha says. "Everybody had to sacrifice and pour in, and everybody was needed and brought something to the table."

The siblings stayed with the family for almost two years, until the opportunity came for them to find a forever home through adoption. Over the years, the siblings had become bonded to Martha and Marti, as

well as their extended family and friends. The siblings are currently in the process of officially being adopted by a family close to Martha and Marti, so they can continue to stay connected to the important relationships they built in foster care.

The family has found a passion they can all share, and it's making a difference in the lives of lowa children.

"We always explain fostering as 'good' and 'hard.' You never want to take one away from the other, because it's both. It's the hardest thing we've ever done, but it's the best thing we've done," Martha says. "We've had the privilege of having the kids in our home and you have the responsibility and the privilege to take care of them in their time of need."



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Summer staff receive housing, meals, and pay all summer! Perfect for young adults, school employees, and retired individuals.

# Bethany Lutheran Health Services

BY CHRISTINE GOCHENOUR

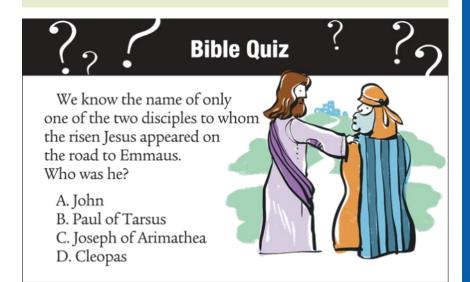
Well, we made it! A whole year with Covid and we made it. If you haven't yet please check out our Fa-



cebook page to watch a 10 minute video on all our activities during Covid.

The weather is getting nicer and we are planning lots of new outdoor activities for our residents. At the end of April we will be holding the "Bethtucky" Derby! Eight employees will be galloping for the title of the "Bethtuky" Derby Champion! The residents will "bet" on the horses, wear derby hats and sip on mimosas. Be on the lookout for a lot of pictures and smiles!

Have you been wanting to do something for Bethany, but didn't know how or what? Let us help you! See our wish list on Amazon.com. This is a way for you to be able to donate much needed and requested items to the residents at Bethany. You just click on the item, purchase it and it comes directly to us! Did you know that your donation is a tax deduction? All donations receive a donation letter and a thank you note from our residents. We appreciate all donations.



Answer: D (See Luke 24:18.)



FREE App for iPhone iPad & Android

Our church directory is a great resource tool to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church*Directory and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.







Join us each Sunday for a Sunday School lesson for kids and those who are young at heart! Emanuel Sunday School videos post to our youtube channel and the Sunday School Facebook Page each Sunday.

# Ramblings from the Back Corner

BY CINDY RICHARDS

The Wilderness. The definition means untouched by humans, uninhabited by humans, not modified by humans. Recently I read of the digital wilderness we've

been wandering through during the last year. Oh yes! I could relate to that! I realize that for some, it has not been the wilderness that it has been for others. Some churches had been in that digital wilderness years ago, so it wasn't really a wilderness for

them. But for some of us, our thrown together survival kit has gotten us through and kept us, not only alive, but thriving. Now we are ready to, not only restock, but to upgrade our survival kit to the point of

dropping the word survival altogether. It will be our digital worship kit! It will improve our in-person worship and dramatically enhance our online worship.



Does this sound interesting? Does it make you wonder? Is there a bit of intrigue forming in your mind? Then it is probably something you could help with on Sunday mornings. Let us know if you would like to venture into

this new wilderness with us. The excitement is building! Join us as our technology improves and the opportunities to serve open.



#### Thank you!

Thank you to Cindy Richards for starting the Bell Choir. You have such great patience and compassion to teach!

Also, thank you to Darlene Reed for making the Easter masks for the Bell Choir.



-Chris Reed



# Attendance & Offering

Week of:	In-Person Attendance:	Online Views:	Offerings:
March 28	84	55	\$1,618.00
April 4	82	29	\$2,770.00
April 11	39	39	\$2,255.00
April 18	37	21	\$2,323.00
April 25	N/A	N/A	N/A

# Finance Team Update Income & Expenses Monthly and YTD

March Income:	\$7,444.00
March Expense:	\$15,150.58
March Balance	

YTD Income:	\$60,842.99
YTD Expense:	\$39,072.13
YTD Balance	\$21,770.86
Plus Carryover	\$20,408.34
General Budget Fund	\$42,179.20



#### **Emanuel Lutheran Church**

2444 North Broadway Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0499

#### RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Mission Statement: Forgiven by Grace, Serving by Faith Vision Statement: To Grow in Faith, Love, and Spirit

#### Contact (\s

Emanuel Lutheran Church 2444 N. Broadway Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0499

(712) 323-9665 Emergencies: (712) 314-0085

office@emanuelcb.org

Like us on facebook: facebook.com/emanuellutherancbia

Visit us on the web at: www.emanuelcb.org

#### Worship Services:

Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the worship center, outside the first Sunday of the month.

Virtual Services live on YouTube, Facebook & Twitter

#### Staff:

Pastor Cara Knutson (pastor@emanuelcb.org)
Director of Music Ministries, Cindy Richards (music@emanuelcb.org)
Parish Assistant, Michaela Lewis (office@emanuelcb.org)
Kidz Kamp/Activities, Stephen Lewis (youth@emanuelcb.org)
Financial Secretary, Darlene Reed