

# Garden of Readin'



Emanuel Lutheran Church Newsletter

June 2020

## Happenings!

Due to COVID 19 indoor services at Emanuel are cancelled until further notice. People may attend a service on Sundays at 9:30 am in the back parking lot. For this service everyone will remain in their cars and practice social distancing. Other than this, meetings and events will not take place at Emanuel until we are able to do so safely. Please connect with us virtually via Facebook, Twitter and our YouTube channel in the meantime.

**Sunday, June 10**—Worship in back parking lot

**Friday, June 19**—Volunteers meet at OSL Food Pantry

**Friday, June 26**—Theology on Tap (via Zoom)

**Mission Statement:**  
Forgiven  
by Grace,  
Serving by  
Faith

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



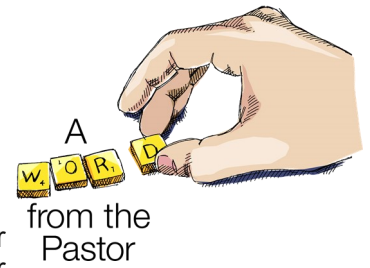
The Free Little Library is back up at church. Thanks to Pastor Lowell Hennigs for rebuilding before he left. Also, thanks to Carly, Megan & Chris Sorensen for priming and painting the Free Little Library. Carly wanted the library to look like the church. She did a great job! The Free Little Library is located on the Northeast corner of the parking lot. Feel free to take a book or leave a book.

### In This Issue...

A Post from the Pastor .....	2
Mowing Team.....	2
Member Announcements .....	2
Virtual Coffee Hour.....	3
OSL Food Pantry .....	3
Online Sunday School.....	3
Birthdays & Anniversaries .....	4
Council Minutes.....	5
Worship & Videos.....	6
Church Directory .....	6
Lutheran Family Services.....	6
Music Ministry .....	7
Bethany's Flock a Friend.....	7
Finance Team Update.....	7
Offering & Attendance .....	7

# Ponderings From Your Pastor

BY PASTOR CARA KNUTSON



Dear church:

Good afternoon church! Last night, May 18, at our monthly council meeting after much discussion, the council made the decision to return to worshipping together as a community. Experts have reported that there is less risk in assembling out of doors, so to begin we will gather in the back parking lot in our cars Sun. June 7. Emanuel staff will be planning and working out logistics of how to come together in this way. At the June council meeting 15 we'll review feedback from the services and continue to discuss and plan how we will gather moving forward. We will continue to follow the physical distancing recommendations as laid out by the Center for Disease Control and other official experts. We encourage you to wear a mask and to practice proper hand hygiene and distancing. Emanuel will continue to offer services and daily devotions online for those who do not feel comfortable or safe attending in person. If you do not feel well, have a fever or a cough please for the health and safety for yourself and others please remain at home and take advantage of the opportunity to worship in alternative ways.

At this time we are returning for worship only, other activities and events that have taken place at the church will not resume at this time.

James 4:14 tells us that we do not know what tomorrow may bring. Our society in recent days is living out the truthfulness of these words. We do not know if numbers of people infected by COVID 19 will increase or decrease, we don't know if there will be a second and maybe even third wave in the weeks and months to come. We do not know when and if a vaccine will be readily available to combat this virus. What I do know is that we are called to make the best decisions as we can with the best of the information we have available, fully aware that whatever decisions we make are not without risk. We may not all agree with one another, but my prayer is that we can come together each offering our gifts and talents for the benefit of God's people the church. We cannot control the course of this pandemic; it's an emergency that has hit our society unexpectedly and impacts us all. Through this let us continue to be church together for the sake of the world, hungry for the life-saving gospel of God's word.

In closing I offer this quote from Julian of Norwich composed during the Black Plague: in my folly, before this time I often wondered why, by the great foreseeing wisdom of God, the onset of sin was not prevented: for then, I thought, all should have been well. This impulse [of thought] was much to be avoided, but nevertheless I mourned and sorrowed because of it, without reason and discretion...But Jesus, who in this vision informed me of all that is needed by me, answered with these words and said: 'It was necessary that there should be sin; but all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.'

## Ashley Hipnar Graduation Party

We have decided to move back the graduation celebration for Ashley due to the current gathering restrictions & future uncertainty. The party will now be scheduled for **July 19<sup>th</sup>** from 12:00-3:00 in the church community room. We hope that by this time gathering restrictions are lifted but if not the party will be moved to Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup> from 5-8pm at our home at 652 Arnold Avenue. One way or another we **will** celebrate the many accomplishments of our daughter Ashley. As this date nears, please call, text or email with any questions or to confirm details of this celebration. Any changes will also be updated on social media.

Mike Hipnar (402) 830-7000 / Carla Hipnar (402) 677-1885 / [mjhipnar@gmail.com](mailto:mjhipnar@gmail.com)



Thanks for volunteering to mow the church lawn. 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.

June 7	Mark Ellis
June 14	Terry Eyberg
June 21	Ken Kemmish
June 28	Phil Meyer



We lift up in prayer and express our Christian sympathy to the family of Glen Fahrenkrug, who passed away Wednesday, May 13.

# Virtual Coffee Hour

BY CARA KNUTSON

Join us for an online coffee hour from the comfort of home. Login to zoom.com

Every week on Sun, until Jun 14, 2020:  
May 31, 2020 10:30 AM  
Jun 7, 2020 10:30 AM  
Jun 14, 2020 10:30 AM

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73580549710>  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73580549710>  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73580549710>

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73580549710>

Meeting ID:

735 8054 9710

Password:

4dfEST

We may continue this past June 14, but the login may be different at that time. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for details.



## OSL Food Pantry

Our Savior's Lutheran Food Pantry is still open. They ask that you stay in your car and someone will greet you at the curb. Once the food is ready it will be brought out and loaded into your car. You still need to call for an appointment Thursday mornings between 930am and 11am for an appointment that day. They are open 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday evenings, please call on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Friday between 4pm and 5pm for an appointment that evening.



Our High School Graduates had signs placed in their yards congratulating them on their achievement on behalf of Emanuel. We wish them all success in their future endeavors. Congratulations Tristan, Ashley, Alaire, Kobie, Clare and Carly.

## Online Sunday School for Families

"We hope this series helps...during these challenging times." -

- 1517 Media/Faith Formation & Sparkhouse School Team

The Augsburg Fortress Sparkhouse Sunday School and 1517 Media Faith Formation Teams are offering Family Sunday School, a free 8-episode at-home series of video lessons.

In the comfort of home, families can enjoy the video Sunday School lessons together without parents having to be the learning facilitator.

Each episode runs about 13 minutes and includes a Bible story from the lectionary, songs and activity ideas.

New episodes are available every Tuesday through Trinity Sunday on June 7, 2020. Churches may need to send families printouts of activity pages.

Families are encouraged to post photos of their Family Sunday School adventures on Facebook pages and send to e-Spirit.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9GjcsO1tRQ&fbclid=IwAR0uRRnoz8RfFYqsHGy6ggjz0p-yszMWPILoc925Nw10AexeHyaQ0VK5dT4>





Paul Heath  
Bob Vergamini

Daralene Smith  
Deloris Christensen

Robert Hesseltine  
Phyllis Fowler

Esther Bender  
Jim Fowler



## Birthdays

<b>June 03</b>	Jeselyn Maxwell	<b>June 13</b>	Linda Vergamini	<b>June 24</b>	Ian Spangenberg
<b>June 04</b>	Danette Hein-Snider Bette Juhl	<b>June 16</b>	Judy Heithoff	<b>June 28</b>	Megan Hansen Brad Holding Chris Wade
<b>June 05</b>	Sarah Britson	<b>June 17</b>	Ben Heithoff	<b>June 29</b>	Jeff Wilson
<b>June 07</b>	Connie Solon Sherri Stinson	<b>June 18</b>	Ken Kemmish Ryan Nordstrom	<b>June 30</b>	Connie Edson Mason Lewi
<b>June 10</b>	Heather Linsenmeyer Nolan Winter	<b>June 21</b>	Kade Holcombe Porter McSorley		



## Anniversaries

<b>June 01</b>	Mike & Carla Hipnar Ken & Char Les Kemmish	<b>June 21</b>	Bob & Esther Bender
<b>June 04</b>	Laura & Clayton Kai Steve & Jennifer Plummer	<b>June 24</b>	Eric & Carrie Hansen
<b>June 11</b>	Ryan & Tara McSorley	<b>June 25</b>	Brandon & Jennifer Clark John & Jan Husmann
<b>June 17</b>	Jim & Phyllis Fowler Jim & Ruth Nelson	<b>June 28</b>	Dennis & Jane Eitmann Gary & Sherri Stinson Mike & Suzanne Winter
<b>June 19</b>	Kevin & Rita Epperson	<b>June 29</b>	Chris & Megan Sorensen

***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](mailto:office@emanuelcb.org)***

# Emanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes May 18, 2020

RECORDED BY ROSIE SPANGENBERG

Members present via Zoom, in person, and conference call: Pastor Cara Knutson, Mike Winter, Jane Anderson, Rosie Spangenberg, Stephen Lewis, Joel Hauschild, Nick Rickard, Char Les Kemmish, Mike Loos, John Spilde, Alan Ellis, Matt Solon Member absent: Alex Skovgaard

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Mike Winter. Jane Anderson gave devotions.

Secretary minutes from the April meeting: Motion to approve by Stephen Lewis, seconded by Jane Anderson. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary report (dated 05/13/2020): Motion to approve by Alan Ellis, seconded by John Spilde. Motion carried. Treasurer's report (dated 05/13/2020): Motion to approve by Alan Ellis, seconded by Nick Rickard. Motion carried. Capital Fund report (dated 1/1/2020): Motion to approve by John Spilde, seconded by Alan Ellis. Motion carried. Memorial Fund report (dated 1/1/2020): Motion to approve by Char Les Kemmish, seconded by Matt Solon. Motion carried. No committee reports were given.

## Pastor's Report:

- Mary Knutson, Pastor's mother-in-law, has requested to be an associate member of Emanuel, understanding that this kind of membership does not allow for voting rites. John made a motion to approve, Mike Loos seconded. Motion carried.
- Pastor Cara gave specifics of Emanuel's ability to apply for funds through the Payroll Protection Plan. Motion made by Alan, seconded by Nick, to have Connie Solon pursue this through Avila Bank. Pastor will report on this next month.
- Pastor Cara has the forms that need to be filled out to continue Emanuel's appointment as an emergency shelter for the Red Cross. She has not been able to get in contact with anyone to complete this process, but will report next month.
- Pastor Cara has supplied her sister and brother-in-law, who live in Hawaii, with materials to review in preparation for becoming members of Emanuel. She will keep the Council updated on the progress.

## Old Business:

- President Mike Winter asked about the progress of contacting Emanuel's members through the shepherding lists established last month. Council members will continue to contact those on their lists and let Michaela know of any updates, such as new addresses/phone numbers, etc.
- John Spilde continues to work on redeveloping the Prayer Chain
- Rosie asked if Emanuel has received the refund

from registration from the Synod for the canceled Synod Assembly. Nothing has been received to date. Pastor Cara will follow up and report next month.

- Mike Winter encouraged Emanuel members to be a part of Emanuel's virtual services.

## New Business:

- Council member Alex Skovgaard has moved to Colorado. After some discussion, it was decided to not act on replacing his position at this time.
- Michaela Lewis will continue to work from home as Emanuel's secretary.
- Matt Solon brought to the Council's attention that Emanuel is spending more each month than money being taken in. After much discussion, Emanuel's employees and committees are asked to restrict spending as much as possible.

## Reopening of Emanuel

Many factors were reviewed during this discussion.

- "Considerations for Returning to In-person Worship" put out by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and provided by the Synod
- The financial information presented by Matt Solon
- Input Council members and the pastor have received from Emanuel members.
- Matt Solon made a motion to reopen Emanuel Lutheran Church for Sunday worship services starting June 7, 2020. Alan Ellis seconded it. After much discussion, motion carried, with these clarifications:
  - Weather permitting, Sunday services will be held at 9:30 a.m. in the upper parking lot.
  - Participants will be encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing.
  - Participants may use church folding chairs, bring their own chairs, or take part in the services from their cars.
  - Services will continue to be broadcast online.
  - There will be no physical coffee hour. Virtual coffee hours will continue.
  - Service specifics, including but not limited to, communion distribution, gathering of offering, and use of canopies and other physical arrangements will be sent out to Emanuel members prior to the first service via Facebook, email, and newsletter by Emanuel staff.
  - Feedback about the services will be reviewed at the June Council meeting.
- Mike Loos made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alan Ellis. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m. by President Mike Winter.
- Next meeting is June 15, devotions by ?

## Worship & Videos

Although we are starting to have services in the back parking lot, we will continue to have services and daily messages posted online. If you go to our website ([www.emanuelcb.org](http://www.emanuelcb.org)) we have links to our Facebook, Twitter and YouTube sites at the bottom of the main page, just to the right of the "donate online" button.

YouTube videos are uploaded throughout the week and shared on both Facebook and Twitter. If you go to the "News" page on our website we also have video instructions from Carly Sorensen on how to set-up a Facebook page to stay connected. Feel free to share any posts with friends!

# Church Directory

BY MICHAELA LEWIS

Just a reminder that we have our church directory available online and in an app on your smartphone or tablet. You can visit [www.instantchurchdirectory.com](http://www.instantchurchdirectory.com) or download "instant church directory." It will ask you some questions to identify you and then it will connect you to our directory. If you have trouble accessing it, please let me know so I can check what information I have on file, as that is how it syncs up. No one will have access to the directory outside of members, as their information would need to be included to access it.

You can also update your own information on the app and upload your own family photo!



## Happy Father's Day!

At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day.

Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families.

Many Iowa children entering foster care need a positive male role model in their lives. And through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, our licensed foster dads are there to help guide them.

This is only possible through your support of LSI! If you would like to make a gift, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love 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](http://LSIowa.org) and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

## Creating Her Community

Paulynn had a dream of what she wanted in life: lots of friends, a job she loved, a healthy lifestyle, and a sense of community.

But it was difficult for Paulynn to leave the apartment she shared with her dad, Lee. Though Lee had dedicated his life to serving as his daughter's primary caregiver, they didn't have reliable transportation that could accommodate her wheelchair. And Paulynn's risk of seizures meant she always needed to be accompanied by her dad.

Despite the obstacles, Lee was determined to give his daughter the life she dreamed of. He enrolled her in LSI's Services for People with Disabilities.

Fifteen years later, Paulynn's dream has become a reality.

Through LSI, Paulynn's team provides transportation that allows her to travel to and from her apartment with ease. While Paulynn is out, Lee is able to take a well-deserved break from his caregiving role.

With support from LSI, Paulynn is able to give back to her community. Each week, she helps package meals for individuals in need. She has created a community of her own through her volunteer work. And for every moment, her LSI team is there to support her.

"We're very grateful for LSI," Lee says. "They've been really great supporting my daughter."



# Ramblings from the Back Corner

BY CINDY RICHARDS

This has been a rough few months. But we are resilient. We are all anxious to return to church as we know it. It will happen, but slowly. Guidelines have been given by the ELCA and our Western Iowa Synod that we will be following for the music. A transition period returning to church will keep us all safe. During that time music will be different. Since singing, speaking in unison, and playing wind instruments all involve expelling air at a high velocity, the aerosol and droplets that may carry the virus would be in the air around us. Therefore, when we return inside the church building we will be listening more; listening to instrumentalist and vocal soloists. As we slowly phase back into communal singing please know that we would rather err on the side of love for our fellow members and be overly cautious for everyone's safety than to put anyone at risk.

This is an experimental time. Everything we try may not work. But we are flexible. I have always been amazed at the grace and patience this congregation has as we try new things in music and worship. And I thank you once again for all your understanding as we move forward.

## THE FLOCK IS FLYING!

Team BLHS Fundraiser Council Bluffs

### Walk to End Alzheimers

Help us raise awareness for the Alzheimer's Association by sending a flock of flamingos to your friends and family!

Flocks will roost for 24 hours in the yards and migrate to their next location.

Order forms are available on our Facebook Page and via request at [info@blhs.care](mailto:info@blhs.care)

We are unable to go into Omaha due to limited staff. Thank you!



#### Cost:

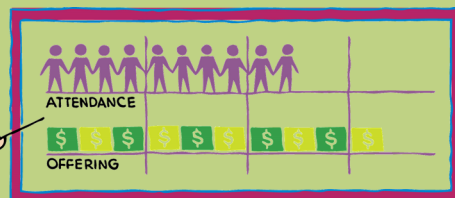
- Small Flock (12) \$10
- Medium Flock (24) \$15
- Large Flock (36) \$20
- Super Flock (60) \$30



**Beginning June 7 at 9:30 am**

**BACK PARKING LOT  
WEATHER PERMITTING**

Pre-recorded services still posted online



### Attendance & Offering

Week of:	Attendance:	Offerings:
May 3	n/a	\$1,714.00
May 10	n/a	\$1,595.00
May 17	n/a	\$1,318.00
May 24	n/a	\$1,739.00
May 31	n/a	n/a

## Finance Team Update

### Income & Expenses Monthly and YTD

April Income: .....\$8,366.00  
 April Expense: .....\$13,183.00  
 April Balance ..... -\$4,817.00

YTD Income: .....\$62,582.05  
 YTD Expense: .....\$55,520.82  
 YTD Balance .....\$7,061.23  
 Plus Carryover .....\$16,983.29  
 General Budget Fund .....\$24,044.52

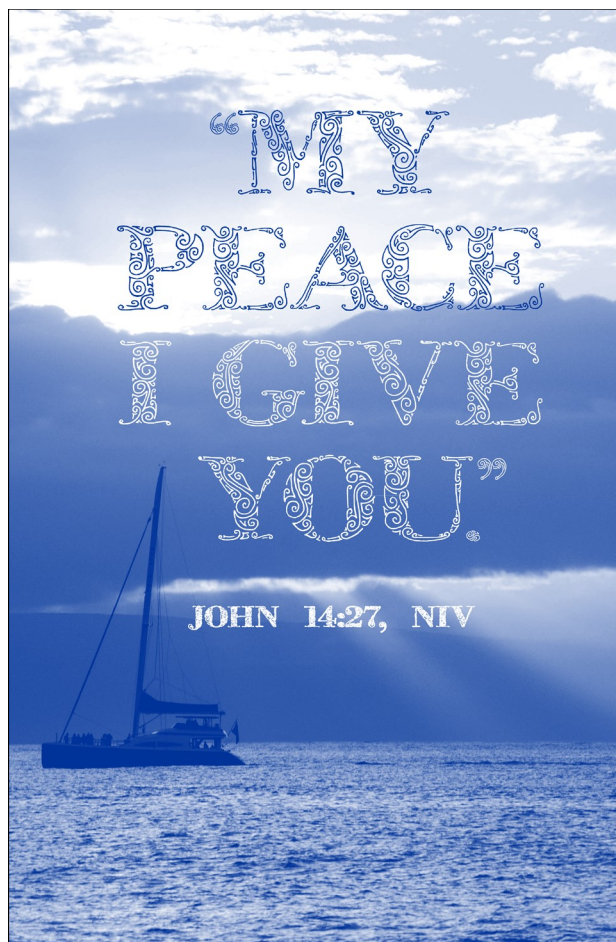




## Emanuel Lutheran Church

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 Us

Emanuel Lutheran Church  
2444 N. Broadway  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0499  
(712) 323-9665    Emergencies: (712) 314-0085  
[office@emanuelcb.org](mailto:office@emanuelcb.org)  
Like us on facebook: [facebook.com/emanuellutherancbia](https://facebook.com/emanuellutherancbia)  
Visit us on the web at: [www.emanuelcb.org](http://www.emanuelcb.org)

### Worship Services:

Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the back parking lot  
Virtual services posted each Sunday on YouTube and  
our Facebook page

### Staff:

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