

#### **Emanuel Lutheran Church Newsletter**

March 2023

## Happenings!

Saturday, March 04—Craft Inn & Art Demo with Connie Eyberg

Wednesday, March 1—Lenten Dinner & Worship

Wednesday, March 8—Lenten Dinner & Worship

Sunday, March 12—Blood Pressure Checks During Coffee Hour, Confirmation

Tuesday, March 14—ROMEO's (and Friends) Meet

Wednesday, March 15—Lenten Dinner & Worship, Newsletter Articles Due

Monday, March 20—Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 22—Lenten Dinner & Worship

Wednesday, March 29—Lenten Dinner & Worship

Saturday, April 04—Craft Inn

Tai Chi each **Monday** and **Thursday** morning at 10 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



Our royalty at this year's Mardi Gras were Richard & Darlene Reed. Thank you so much for serving as our King and Queen this year!

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## A Post from the Pastor BY PASTOR CARA KNUTSON



At our evening Ash Wednesday service one of our acolytes asked if we would learn a lot about Lent at the service. So we took some time and talked about the history of Lent which I thought I would share here as well.

A long, long time ago, when princes wore crowns, and knights wore shiny armor and ladies wore fancy dresses with pointy hats with little veils fluttering from them, the church had a tradition. When someone committed a serious sin, such as stealing someone else's sheep or goats, or wife, or did something really bad, like hurt or kill someone they would confess their sin. To help them both understand the seriousness of their actions, and for the victims to see the person was really sorry, the person who sinned would dress in old rags and put ashes on their body. In the Old Testament people would tear their clothes and put on ashes to show severe distress. For forty days the person who sinned would stand outside the church entrance for everyone to see as they came into church. You can imagine how hard and embarrassing that would be. At the end of the 40 days the person who sinned would take a bath, and be brought into the church and given a gleaming white robe, and oil would be put in their hair (they didn't have hair gel then) and they'd be brought in front of the congregation. The pastor would explain that this person repented of the things they had done, had shown they were very sorry for 40 whole days, and now it was the congregations turn to forgive and welcome the person back to church.

Over the years this tradition slowly changed until it looked like what we do for Lent today. Like the Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years, and Jesus was tempted in the wilderness after 40 days, when we see the number 40 we know it's something important about God. So for 40 days we look deep inside ourselves and see the places where we've hurt people, where we hurt the most, and invite God into those spaces. We mark our forehead with ashes to remind us that we are people with only a limited number of years to live on this earth. We "remember we are dust and to dust we shall return". Every day of life is a gift and we don't want to waste a single moment. During these 40 days we allow God into the deepest, darkest, and scariest corners of ourselves and ask God to touch and heal the parts that are most hurting and get in the way of being the person God created us to be.

At the end of the service this same acolyte pointed to his forehead and asked sweetly, "Pastor do we keep these on our foreheads for 40 days?" Maybe it would be a good idea to remember our sooty foreheads for this season and reflect on what those ashes mean.

May you have a sacred and holy Lent,

Pastor Cara

Just a reminder that if Council Bluffs
Public Schools cancels activities due to
weather, the office will close and activities
and meetings scheduled for that day will
also be cancelled or rescheduled.

If there is a cancellation of services, this will be posted on our Face-book page as well as be relayed

to the local news stations.

Inclement Weather

Policy



## Bethany Auxiliary News

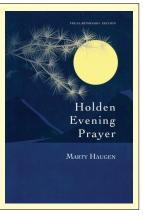
The Auxiliary meeting was held on January 9 at the Heights. Officers were elected: President – Jan Stone (Emanuel), Vice President – Sylvia Lilly (St. John Mineola), Secretary – Rose Hansen (St. John CB), Treasurer – Norma Vorthmann (St. Paul Treynor). Reports were given by Tracey Gebehart, Director at the Home, CeCe Mickells, Spiritual Advisor, Angel Watts, Activities at the Home and Michael Thomas, Activities at the Heights. Old business discussed duties of the Key Ladies and balance to keep in checking account. New business discussed the possibility of bringing back the ice cream social this summer.

Remember that the Auxiliary membership "shall consist of every person who is a member of a congregation affiliated with Bethany Lutheran Health Services". The Purpose shall be "to promote love in action, to assist with leisure time activities and projects, and to promote volunteer services at the Home and the Heights by serving in areas that otherwise would require paid staff." Each congregation is represented by a "Key Lady" but we are always looking for others to join our meetings. If interested, contact the Key Lady at your church.



Wednesdays During Lent (March 1, 8, 15, 22 & March 29) Dinner at 6 pm, Service at 7 pm Join us for dinner hosted by various ministries at Emanuel, followed by

service using Holden Evening Prayer.





There is a wonderful chapter on Lent called "Ash" in a book called "Searching for Sunday" By Rachel Held Evans This excerpt is available at https://rachelheldevans.com/blog/ash-searching-for-sunday

## Habitat for Humanity

SUBMITTED BY LINDA STEENSLAND



Family Fare and No Frills have ended their receipt program to support Habitat.

The house has had some delays, but should be completed for the family in March.

# VIEW OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!



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.







<u>March O1</u> Deloris Christensen

March 02
Nick Haats
Roux Smith

<u>March O3</u> Judy Pleas Alexander VanSickle

> <u>March 05</u> Gayle Grap

March 06
Joel Hauschild
Croix Smith

March 08 Dee Swanger

March 09
Owen Hansen
Macy Kephart
Ruth Nelson

<u>March 10</u> Derek Knutson

March 12 Shelby Johnson

March 13
Kinsley Cahalan
Caeli McDowell
Killion McDowell

March 16 Michael Garreans Jill Gress

<u>March 17</u> Judith Borwick Ron Stairs

March 20 Jacquie Moats

<u>March 21</u> Angelina Maxwell <u>March 22</u> Dean Loos Anina Madsen

<u>March 25</u> Mike Burns

<u>March 26</u> Stephen Lewis

March 29
Ciara Hancock
Chuck Madsen
Jim Nelson
John Smith II

<u>March 31</u> Emma Richards Mia Richards



<u>March 07</u> Chuck and Peg Madsen March 08
Joel & Christi Hauschild

<u>March 24</u> Tyler & Jamie Hansen

## Worship Assistant Schedule

(if unable to serve as scheduled, please arrange a substitute and notify the church office of the change)

Sunday, March 05	9:30 a.m. Service	
Ushers	Rick & Jan Stone	
Acolyte	THER & BAIT STOTIS	
Lector	Connie Beckman	
Altar Guild	Connic Deckman	
Communion Assistant		
Visual Tech		
LiveStream Tech	Michaela Lewis	
Coffee Hour	Connie Edson	
Sunday, March 12	9:30 a.m. Service	
Ushers	Rick & Jan Stone	
Acolyte Lector	Grace & Tayah Nixt  Connie Beckman	
	Connie Beckman	
Altar Guild	Cross <sup>9</sup> Toyob Nivt	
Communion Assistant	Grace & Tayah Nixt	
Visual Tech	Michaela Lauria	
LiveStream Tech	Michaela Lewis	
Coffee Hour	Connie Edson	
Sunday, March 19	9:30 a.m. Service	
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Ushers	Rick & Jan Stone	
Ushers Acolyte	Rick & Jan Stone Alex & Gabe VanSickle	
Ushers Acolyte Lector		
Ushers Acolyte Lector Altar Guild	Alex & Gabe VanSickle	
Ushers Acolyte Lector Altar Guild Communion Assistant		
Ushers Acolyte Lector Altar Guild Communion Assistant Visual Tech	Alex & Gabe VanSickle	
Ushers Acolyte Lector Altar Guild Communion Assistant Visual Tech LiveStream Tech	Alex & Gabe VanSickle	
Ushers Acolyte Lector Altar Guild Communion Assistant Visual Tech LiveStream Tech Coffee Hour	Alex & Gabe VanSickle  Alex & Gabe VanSickle	
Ushers Acolyte Lector Altar Guild Communion Assistant Visual Tech LiveStream Tech Coffee Hour Sunday, March 26	Alex & Gabe VanSickle  Alex & Gabe VanSickle  9:30 a.m. Service	
Ushers Acolyte Lector Altar Guild Communion Assistant Visual Tech LiveStream Tech Coffee Hour Sunday, March 26 Ushers	Alex & Gabe VanSickle  Alex & Gabe VanSickle  9:30 a.m. Service  Rick & Jan Stone	
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### We need YOUR help!

We would love to heave you help with worship! Please contact the church office at (712) 323-9665, office@emanuelcb.org or sign-up on our website at: www.emanuelcb.org



Students who would like to attend Sunday school will leave the Sunday worship service after the Gospel reading to go to the classroom for lessons, projects and songs with Stephen Lewis & Lori Lynn Ahrends.

#### March 5

God's Gift of Forgiveness

The Prodigal Son

Luke 15:11-32; Matthew 6:14-15

We forgive as God Forgives

#### March 12

Storm Warning

Jesus Calms the Sea

Matthew 8:23-27; 28:20

Jesus is with us in tough times.

#### March 19

Sowing and Growing
Parable of the Sower
Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23; 1 Corinthians 2:9
Jesus wants us to tell others about him.

### March 26

The Trust Test

Peter Walks on Water

Matthew 14:22-33

God will always take care of us.

## What is the ELCA Youth Gathering?

Every three years, thousands of high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation and fellowship known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through inspiring speakers, conversations with partners, Bible study and being immersed in the host city, young people will be inspired, challenged and called to

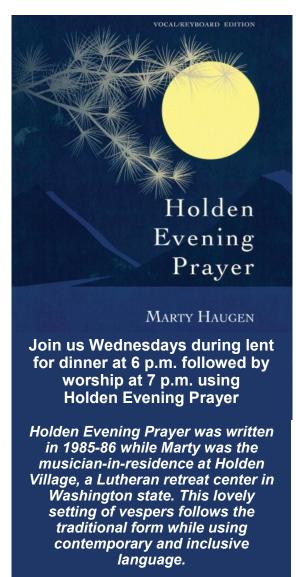
live out their faith in their daily lives. Additionally, young people will have opportunities to explore their vocation and discern where they are being called into this world.



An essential part of the ministry of the Gathering is the two pre-events, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) and the tAble. MYLE is a faith formation and leadership development event primarily for youth of color or whose primary language is not English. The tAble brings together, blesses and empowers youth living with a wide range of physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities.

The ministry of the Gathering is dreamed, planned and executed by Gathering leadership, which consists of nearly 98% volunteers and a small full-time staff out of the ELCA churchwide organization. See who is behind the scenes planning the 2024 Gathering, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event and the tAble.

Multicultural Youth Leadership Event and the tAble (July 13-16, 2024) ELCA Youth Gathering and Young Adult Gathering (July 16-20, 2024)



## Holy Week at Emanuel

Palm Sunday Worship Sunday, April 2 - 9:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Worship Thursday, April 6 - Noon & 7 p.m.

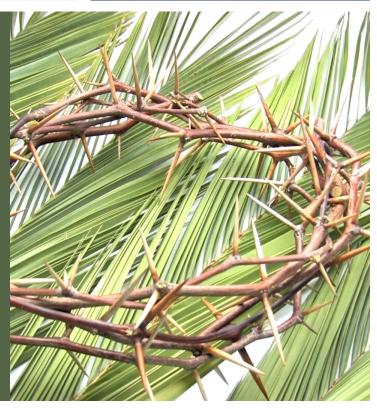
Good Friday Worship Friday, April 7 - Noon & 7 p.m.

Easter Worship Sunday, April 9 - 7 a.m. & 9:30 a.m.

> Easter Breakfast 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

> Easter Egg Hunt 9 a.m.

Emanuel Lutheran Church 2444 N Broadway Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503 www.emanuelcb.org





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:30 am—10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour	<b>27</b> 10 am Tai Chi	28 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Com- munity Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am—3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 am Lenten Dinner 7 pm Lenten Service	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Tai Chi	3	4 10 am Craft Inn
9:30 am—10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour	<b>6</b> 10 am Tai Chi	7 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room 6 pm SCA Meeting Upstairs	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am—3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 am Lenten Dinner 7 pm Lenten Service	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Tai Chi	10	11
9:30 am—10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour & Blood Pressure Checks VRES with Crystal	9 am Cookie Crumbs Sort- ing 10 am Tai Chi	8:30 am ROMEO's (& Friends) meet @ Village Inn West) 9 am Cookie Crumbs Pack- ing 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Com- munity Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am—3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 am Lenten Dinner 7 pm Lenten Service	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Tai Chi	17	18
9:30 am—10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour	20 10 am Tai Chi 7 pm Church Council Meeting MEE ING	21 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room 6 pm SCA Meeting Upstairs	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am—3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 am Lenten Dinner 7 pm Lenten Service	9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Tai Chi	24	25
9:30 am—10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour	<b>27</b> 10 am Tai Chi	28 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Com- munity Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am—3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 am Lenten Dinner 7 pm Lenten Service	30 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10 am Tai Chi	31	1 10 am Craft Inn

## Emanuel's 9th Mardi Gras Celebration!

SUBMITTED BY DEANN OVER, FOR THE MARDI GRAS TEAM

Approximately 75- 85 attended\* and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon filled with music, food, fun and fellowship at our 9th annual celebration on Sunday, February 19th! (\*The number of attendees is still being debated!)

We wish to especially thank Thrivent. As an approved Thrivent Action Team Project, we received \$250 as seed money to apply toward food for the event.

Emanuel's Mardi Gras celebration could not be accomplished without the help of so many volunteers! Our special thanks to:

- Queen Darlene and King Richard Reed, Emanuel's 2023 royalty
- Linda Steensland who prepared the delicious "Taste of Cajun" specialties
- All who donated such a variety of wonderful silent auction items!
- CharLes Kemmish who chaired the silent auction, along with Ken
- Michaela Lewis who made a delicious King Cake as well as a smaller one for Steve's Sunday School class. The kids tasted the cake, learned about its religious connection and Lent.
- Those who decorated the Community Room Mike Hipnar; Connie Solon; Linda Steensland; Angel McGee; John Spilde; Michaela, Steve, Mason &

Spencer Lewis; Crystal, Chris, Tayah & Katrina Nixt; CharLes & Ken Kemmish.

- Angel McGee for the loan of her tower vases for our centerpieces and mascot "Mardi"
- Pat Hiller who loaned her mannequin which greeted guests in the community room
- The kitchen krewe who prepped and/or served: Sandy Kanger, Pat Hiller, Pastor Cara, Kathy Schneckloth, Judy Heithoff, Barb Burns, Connie Beckman, Darlene Jeppesen and Jan Husmann
- Sunday's set up & clean-up crew: Chris Reed, Kevin Epperson, Angel McGee, John Spilde, Mike Loos, Greg Steensland, and my apologies, I know there were others who pitched in and helped! Decorations were put away and the community room and kitchen cleaned in record time — no one would know we had a party!
- Pastor Cara for welcoming our guests
- Cindy Richards who ran the sound system with Cajun music throughout the event since da Band was not able to play this year.
- Michaela Lewis, our photographer who captured the memories, posted on Facebook and Council Bluffs events website.

Thanks again to everyone!















## March is National Professional Social Work Month

March is National Professional Social Work Month! Take time this month to recognize social workers in your life and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa, we want to give thanks to all our social workers who do such important work every single day. Without you, LSI wouldn't be able to provide the essential services that Iowa families need.

Our social workers provide a variety of services to families in Iowa, such as crisis child care, in-home programs and classes for parents. These services provide families the support and education they need to care for their young children.

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at <a href="mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org">Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org</a> 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.

## Social Work is Rewarding Work

A child saying "mom" for the first time at 3 years old, a parent getting a job that brings them joy – these are successes that are important to Mallory Berkenpas, Service Coordinator in LSI's Early Childhood department in Sioux City.

Mallory has been an employee of LSI for more than a decade, and has held many different roles in supporting children and families. "My heart lies in working with children and families and prevention work, because I've seen the value in it. I see how important it is. I wish more people knew and understood and valued the work that is done in the early childhood period because it is so crucial," said Mallory.

She expressed that one of the most rewarding parts of her job is being able to see, experience and walk this journey alongside these families, who along the way, make these small or big strides – whatever that means for them.

"Maybe the child says 'mom' for the first time at 3 years old, which is something that has happened in our program. That's a big win for this child that didn't speak from zero to three years old, and did because of the interventions we helped that family find," said Mallory. "All of those successes are so important to me and also my staff – being able to see them grow, build their skill set and feel good about their work."

"Social work can be so hard... so I think being able to see those small and big wins along the way is important," said Mallory.

Help decorate the sanctuary for Easter by ordering a E	Easter Lily or mums.
Your Name: (Please list your name how you would like it typed in the ar	nnouncement/slides)
Please list the number of each plant you would like below (Lilies: \$14.00 each) (Mums: \$15.00 each)	
□In honor □memory of □other/as listed below	Easter Lilies
Total Enclosed:	
ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE BY YOU MAY TAKE YOU PLANT HOME FOLLOWING THE 9:30 A.M. SERVICE	



Deloris Christensen

Norma Heath

Jane Meyer

Rita Epperson
Robert Hesseltine
Tommy Schott

Owen Hansen Sawyer Lorenz Ruth Sullivan

Larry Hansen Norma Mass Bob Vergamini

## Helping Others

Sequels-Hope Net and members of Emanuel Lutheran Church are asking for your help. We are looking for folks to cook soup for Wednesday or Friday's each week. They serve between 24-30 people each day. The meals begins at 11:30 am. It works best if two people take on the same day. Wednesday and Friday are days that there isn't much food. Ideas for food are soup, crackers, casseroles, sandwiches for colder weather. Summer garden produce is appreciated. Hy-Vee and Panera Bread often donate bread. Canned soups with flip top that they can use in emergency. You do not have to serve the food. It works best if you do NOT leave your container to be picked up later. Please contact: Pastor Cara, Jan Husmann, Darlene Jeppesen, Connie Solon, John Spilde, or Suzanne Winter for more



Our next Joyful Noise will be Sunday, April 9 for

## **Junk ReStored**

Proceeds go to support Habitat for Humanity



MAKERS - CRAFTERS - CREATORS



## SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY

MAY 20, 2023

9 AM - 3 PM

Get registration details at events@habitatCB.org!



information or how to get involved.





Week of:	In-Person Attendance:	Online Views:	Total Attendance:	Offerings:
February 05	63	33	96	\$3,367.00
February 12	53	38	91	n/a
February 19	57	24	81	n/a
February 26	73	24	97	n/a

## Finance Team Update

#### **Income & Expenses Monthly and YTD**

January Income:	\$28,134.00
January Expense:	
January Balance	

YTD Income:	\$28,134.00
YTD Expense:	\$16,870.47
YTD Balance	\$11,263.53
Plus Carryover	\$3,245.82
General Budget Fund	\$14,509.35



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

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(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
Follow us on Twitter at: https://twitter.com/Lutheranla

#### Worship Services:

Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the worship center followed by coffee hour in the community room. Services are streamed live on YouTube, Facebook & Twitter

#### Children's Ministry:

Children will be dismissed to Sunday School after the Gospel reading during the Sunday worship service (September—May)

#### Staff:

Pastor Cara Knutson (pastor@emanuelcb.org)
Director of Music Ministries, Cindy Richards (music@emanuelcb.org)
Parish Assistant, Michaela Lewis (office@emanuelcb.org)
Children & Youth Programming, Stephen Lewis (youth@emanuelcb.org)
Financial Secretary, Darlene Reed