



The Garden of Readin'

May, 2015

Emanuel Lutheran Church
2444 N. Broadway
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Youth Ministries: Deann Over
Children's Ministries: Michaela Lewis
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Happenings!

May 3rd—The young people going to Detroit will update us on their progress toward the ELCA National Youth Gathering. As part of that update, Alyson Sorensen will bring the message at both services.

May 7th—Representatives of local Lutheran congregations will meet at ELC at 7 p.m. to hear more about our opportunity to do a joint Habitat for Humanity project the second weekend in September. YOU are invited to attend!

May 9th—The North Broadway Neighborhood Association will hold a neighborhood cleanup day. Bring yard clean up tools and meet at Kimball Park at 10 a.m.

May 16th—Emanuel Lutheran Church will have a float in the Celebrate CB Parade that begins at 10:30 a.m. The float will promote our June Vacation Bible School. Contact Michaela Lewis (michaela_lewis@icloud.com) for more information! We need your help building the float, riding on it and walking along side!

May 17th—Paul Abbott, assistant pastor with the Church of the Damascus Road (our synod's prison ministry in Fort Dodge and Rockwell City) will be at Emanuel from 3 to 8 p.m. From 3 to 4 p.m., Paul will describe the need for a Re-entry/Reintegration program for ex-offenders. The rest of the time will be spent in training for those who wish to consider being part of a Re-entry/Reintegration team in the Council Bluffs area. Supper will be provided.

May 24th—**We move into our summer worship schedule.** We will have one Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. We will have **worship on Thursday evenings at 7 p.m. beginning May 28th**. That service will be on the patio when weather permits. Otherwise it will be held in the Sanctuary.

June 6th—Spring Workday at Emanuel Lutheran Church. Bring your tools and your enthusiasm!

June 7th—Service of Healing and Wholeness at Worship. Following that service we will hold a special congregational meeting to consider moving to one Sunday worship service and one Wednesday evening worship service year round, beginning on September 13th. The meeting will include a final report from the ELC Transition Team.

June 20th – All women of ELC and friends are invited to attend a one day retreat at Knowles Mercy Spirituality Center in Waterloo NE. This day long garden party will take us down a garden path to places of love and joy! Sign up in the Fellowship Hall today!

New Study Opportunities at ELC

Thursday mornings: We are moving into a new study topic, the First Letter of John. The study is called "If We Walk in the Light." The study will include reflections on how this letter impacts life in a variety of cultural and personal settings.

Sunday evenings (men): We are now reading Jim Wallis' book entitled *On God's Side: What Religion Forgets and Politics Hasn't Learned about Serving the Common Good*. We in the church are not afraid of talking about politics and the gospel. If that's your thing, here's your chance! No right answers, but lots of good questions—and Wallis will challenge many of our assumptions about both politics and the Christian faith. Here's your chance, guys!

Periodic Pastoral Ponderings (from a guy who likes alliteration a lot)

Spring is the season of *opportunity*. We plant seeds with hopes for the harvest. We watch the flowers bloom and marvel at their beauty. We walk with high school and college graduates as they prepare for the next chapters of their life and work. We notice that the Chicago Cubs are playing well and think that *this* may be the year (but we'll check back in August to see how things are going).

What are the opportunities for life and ministry Emanuel Lutheran Church?

- We serve a neighborhood in transition. Homes in our area are moving from one generation to another. The former Gunn School will be remade into homes for thirty-six households. At some point Bethany Lutheran Home will build units on the field south of us. We will have new neighbors.
- We serve a neighborhood in need of a center. Because the neighborhood school is closed, ELC has become a gathering place for the North Broadway neighborhood. We are making the most of this opportunity as we collaborate on the date of our annual garage sale, as we help the neighborhood association become more effective, and as we participate in neighborhood events.
- We are building partnerships with other local congregations. We will have Vacation Bible School with Our Savior's this summer, and we are talking about having a joint worship service at Bayliss Park. Our youth are partnering with Our Savior's and two other congregations for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. We will partner with other congregations on a joint Habitat for Humanity project in September as part of our "God's Work, Our Hands" weekend. We will be part of conversations about re-creating a ministerial association in Council Bluffs.
- We have a strong high school group because of the National Youth Gathering. We have the opportunity to build on this experience and to engage our middle school youth in a vibrant youth community here. We have young people involved in leadership in the larger community and the Western Iowa Synod, and they bring those gifts to us.
- We have the facility, the space and the people to offer high-quality children's programming. We will have an exciting and innovative Vacation Bible School in June. We will partner with Lutheran Lakeside Bible Camp to offer a Day Camp in late July. We have some of the best green space in town. We have a fine facility for youth activities and children's education. We have a high number of capable and creative people who are involved in these efforts.
- We have a congregation deeply committed to loving service in Jesus' name. If people long for genuine community, this is the place! If people want to make a difference in the lives of the least, the lost and the lonely, this is the place! If people are looking for a church that loves fun and parties, joyful music, and healing laughter, this is the place!

Seeds have been planted. Flowers are blooming. Growth is happening. We are surrounded by opportunities!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Lowell

YOUTH NEWS!

Thank you for your wonderful support of our children/youth/gathering sponsored activities during the Lenten and Easter season. Special thanks to:



- Everyone who donated, prepared, served and attended our four Lenten dinners, Seder dinner and Easter breakfast hosted by Children's/Youth and the Gathering Group.
- Pastor Lowell in conducting first communion classes for Emanuel's eight students (Ava Jarrell, Grace Hansen, Hanna Ferguson, Cael Hansen and Alexxia, Xander, Emma and Mia Richards), and our appreciation to parents and grandparents for their support and attendance.
- Pastor Lowell for leading the first communion students, their families and congregational members in a simulated Seder meal - a culmination to their first communion on Maundy Thursday.
- Jan Husmann for the beautiful table settings. Linda Steensland, Sharon and Lauren Hansen, Angel McGee, John Spilde, Baylee Snyder, Haley Holland, Will Schademann, Marcus McGee, Jan & John Husmann, Darlene Jeppesen, LaWayne Andersen and Barb Burns for their assistance in the Seder meal.
- Pastor Lowell and Brenda for sharing their time and talents in the Confirmation lock-in for Emanuel's 6th, 7th & 8th graders and their friends. Linda Steensland for her assistance in the energy filled lock-in evening and Greg Steensland for the construction of Emanuel's latest action game!

Your support, both monetarily and spiritually, will assist Emanuel's children/youth in furthering their faith journey with sponsorship to attend church camps, ELCA Youth Gatherings and service through mission trips.

Deann Over, for the Children's & Youth Ministries

PROPERTY NEWS!

Mowing Schedule for May

Week of May 3 Al Martens
Week of May 10 Larry Hansen
Week of May 17 Tyler Hansen
Week of May 24 Jesse Hansen

Thank for volunteering to mow the church and parsonage lawns. Please mow sometime during your scheduled week, preferably by Saturday. If you have a schedule conflict, just trade with someone in the rotation. After mowing, if mower needs gas, please fill the tank and submit the bill to the church secretary. Larry Hansen will take care of all general maintenance and any oil needs. Keys for the mower and the garage will be in the church secretary's office. Return them when you have finished. If you need some training before mowing, contact Larry Hansen at 323-7379.

Spring Work Day

The spring work day is scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 2015 starting at approximately 8:00am or when you can make it.

The main projects will be outdoor work, inside sprucing up, and cleaning and applying clear water sealer on a portion of the brick wall by the narthex. Please bring the tools and supplies you anticipate working with.

Look forward to seeing you.

The Property Committee

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# Spring Cleaning

# Our Church Family

## In Our Prayers...



Ray Kanger  
Lucille Weatherill

Daphne Miller  
Leona Carlson

Glen Fahrenkrug  
Elizabeth Britton

Betty Ebsen

## Happy Birthday to...

|        |                  |        |                    |                         |
|--------|------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| May 1  | Carly Sorensen   | May 13 | Richard Reed       | Jennifer Loos           |
| May 2  | Abaigeal Plummer |        | Jim Fowler         | May 27 Jennifer Plummer |
| May 5  | Bob Parker       | May 17 | Dayton Hiers       | Rick Stone              |
| May 9  | Matt Solon       | May 18 | Leslie Meyer       | May 28 Theresa Dorman   |
|        | Kyle Nordstrom   | May 19 | Mike Loos          | May 30 Debbie Ferguson  |
| May 11 | Gary Stinson     | May 20 | Kenna Jo Hite      | Brad Dahlke             |
| May 12 | Chris Sorensen   | May 22 | Seth Steensen      | May 31 Jerry Todd       |
|        | Claire Schrage   | May 24 | Bob Nordstrom      |                         |
|        | Jeff Smith       | May 25 | Tiffany Matuszeski |                         |

## Anniversaries...

|        |                        |        |                              |
|--------|------------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| May 3  | Mark & Cheryl Ellis    | May 22 | Michaela & Stephen Lewis     |
| May 11 | John & Glenda Smith    | May 25 | Christian & Shelley McDowell |
| May 17 | Loren & Jill Gress     | May 25 | Bob & Kris Parker            |
| May 19 | Richard & Darlene Reed | May 26 | Lowell & Brenda Hennigs      |
|        |                        | May 30 | Ron & Norma Stairs           |

# Spring

*If we've missed a birthday or anniversary please let the church office know!*

## WORSHIP AND MUSIC NEWS

### Children's Music!



Cindy Richards will continue to lead our young people in rehearsal and singing the first Sunday in May. She will spend time with them rehearsing during the Sunday School hour. Then the young people will sing on that Sunday as part of our 11:00 worship services.

It's hard to believe that the annual Garage & Bake Sale has been going strong now for 5 years. It has grown every year and has become a highly anticipated community event that we want to continue building. Over that time we have brought in thousands of dollars that has benefitted this church in many different ways, very little of which has been utilized by worship & music. What started out as a Worship & Music fundraising event has become more of an entire church event.

The Worship & Music committee feels this is no longer an event that falls under this committee's umbrella and should have its own dedicated planning group that can focus on its continued growth and success. This planning group will work together on planning, organizing, promotion and advertising and distribution of funds raised. Committees will be able to submit requests to this group for money needed not in their budget which will then be approved by this group for distribution. We hope you will consider being part of this important group as we continue to grow the ELC annual Garage & Bake Sale. We need new ideas and continued enthusiasm to keep this event going. Please contact Mike Hipnar if interested.

The next Worship & Music meeting will be May 11th at 6:30 in the upstairs conference room. We will start discussing the garage sale so if you are interested in joining the GSPT (garage sale planning team) please show up!

Plans are underway for our "Worship in the Park" Sunday! Weather permitting we will hold worship at Bayliss Park



## WIDER MINISTRY NEWS

The Wider Ministries Committee is still collecting the following items for the Survivor Bags given out by Wings of Hope to cancer patients.

**Chap stick**

**Travel size hand lotion**

**Travel size hand sanitizer**

**Kleenex**

**Crossword puzzle books, word search books, etc.**

**Journals (No bigger than 7"x9")**

**After looking for chap stick I would advise you not to buy the ones with a flavor or smell. Tastes and smells can cause nausea in someone receiving chemotherapy.**

The items can be placed in the container in the entryway at church.

The personal items for the **Angel Tree** children going to camp are nearly complete. Below is a list of things the camp could use.

**Large lemonade and Kool Aid mixes**

**Toilet paper**

**Paper towels**

**Sheets and pillow cases**

These items can be given to Linda Steensland or labeled and left at the church.

Thank you for always being so supportive of our projects.

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

*During the most recent Tabitha Cluster event, extended discussion took place regarding the difficulty in getting attendance at these events as well as getting commitments for leaders, Tabitha made the decision to maintain a Planning Committee of four members currently serving and that there would be only one meeting a year in the fall. This event will be Mission Action related, i.e. making kits, tying quilts, etc. St. John Lutheran in Council Bluffs will be the host. Enjoy your summer and see you in the fall!*

### **Upcoming Dates for WELCA:**

- May 29-30, 2015: Western Iowa Synod Convention in Spencer IA
- June 19-20, 2015: Tri-Synod Women's Convention in Fort Dodge IA
- June 20, 2015 "Down a Garden Path" Retreat for all women of Emanuel. Held at Knowles Mercy Spirituality Retreat Center 9am to 3pm. Cost is \$25 per woman. Come spend a day pondering, enjoying and praying about God's Great Garden!
- July 2017: 10<sup>th</sup> Triennial gathering of the ELCA in Minneapolis MN



**Remember when . . .**

In the early years of Emanuel communion was served only occasionally, sometimes only once or twice per year.

**In 1924** a Meeting of the Board of Deacons and Trustees was held. A motion was made and carried that Rev. Henderson buy one gallon of California port wine to be used for Holy Communion.

**In 1939** Holy Communion was celebrated 5 times.

**In 1948** there were complaints as to the taste and probable high alcohol content of the present sacramental wine. Mr. Ralph Berryhill was instruction to secure a more suitable sacramental wine.

**In 1993** there was a break-in at Emanuel. Pastor Jenkins called Matt Solon to investigate who broke into "his" church. It was soon determined neighborhood teenagers had broken a window in the church and the door of the shed. Among the items taken were: lawn mower, weed eater, gas can, hand tools, \$20 cash, four offering plates, two gallons of communion wine and communion wafers.

When the teenagers were brought to the church to return the stolen property they remarked that "it was cheap wine anyway and the little 'crackers' weren't very good!" As you can imagine, Pastor Jenkins was furious that they had complained about the "cheap wine and crackers" and "those kids should be coming to church rather than breaking into church."

**Today** Holy Communion is served at most services and we have a choice of wine or grape juice. Pastor Lowell reminds us that Holy Communion is a celebration, in Holy Communion we get a preview of the feast of victory that will never end.

*If you have remembrances you would like to share please contact a committee member or Connie Solon (siscss@aol.com) or Brenda in the office.*



*The Western Iowa Synod Assembly will be held in Spencer Iowa on May 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> 2015, and will feature keynote speaker Jim LaDoux. Sandy & Jeff Smith and Brenda and Pastor Lowell will attend.*

**CELEBRATE CB!!** Don't miss this year's parade on May 16th! It brings the Downtown Council Bluffs area to life every May. The Theme this year is Picture Me in CB! The route begins and ends in Downtown Council Bluffs, and is centered around the historical and beautiful Bayliss Park area. After the parade, activities abound in the park including music, kids activities and carnival rides. This year Emanuel WILL have a float in the parade! Help decorate the float, ride in costume (riders will be dressed in VBS themed character!) Contact Michaela Lewis (michaela\_lewis@icloud.com) to help out!

**Please join the family of Abaigeal Plummer for an open house held in honor of her graduation! The Pancake Man will be here! Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup> 11am to 2pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!**

"Attention all Emanuel builders!!! Our Vacation Bible School will feature experiences of Nazareth during the time of Jesus. **FIRST**, If you would be interested in hearing more about building a replica well, wine press or olive press, please see Pastor Hennigs. The construction will not be complicated, and the items will not be full-sized. We'd like to use them for our float in the Celebrate CB parade on May 16 as well. **SECOND**, if you would like to be part of a first-century woodshop during VBS (June 21-25, evenings), please talk to Pastor Hennigs. No previous carpentry skills required.

Our Saviors Food Pantry is in need of volunteer help on Thursdays during the day. If you have an interest in doing this please call Josh at 712-435-9118 or email him at [foodpantry@oursaviorscb.org](mailto:foodpantry@oursaviorscb.org). The current needs of the food pantry are: Plastic bags, crackers, canned soup, spaghetti sauce, dry dog food, canned cat food. If you have donations to share with the food pantry please leave them on the shelves to the right of the kitchen door. Our confirmation youth are hosting coffee hour the first Sunday of May to raise funds and accept donations but you can donate anytime! Thank you for your support of this important community ministry!



**CALLING ALL TEENS--** What are **YOU** doing this summer? Bethany Lutheran Home and Bethany Heights are looking for some great volunteers between the ages of 13-18 to be a part of our Teen Volunteer program. Teen Volunteers interact with residents and tenants, participate in activities and outings and assist where needed. If you are looking for an opportunity for a rewarding experience and willing to commit 2-4 hours per week, please contact Kaily Brokaw at Bethany Lutheran Home at 329-9500 or Sarah Norton at Bethany Heights at 328-8228 to sign up. Teen Volunteer orientation will be held on **Tuesday, June 16th from 2:00-4:00**. Hope you join us this summer!!

**I SCREAM, YOU SCREAM, WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM!!** Mark your calendar. The weather is turning warmer and its time for ice cream!! The **Annual Bethany Lutheran Home Auxiliary Ice Cream Social** will be held on **Sunday, June 7th from 2-4 p.m.** at Bethany Lutheran Home, 7 Elliott Street in Council Bluffs. Ice Cream as well as assorted pies and cakes will be available for a free will offering. Supplemental funds are being made available by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Pottawattamie County Chapter. Come join us for an afternoon of fellowship and dessert!! Proceeds will be used for resident projects.

**BETHANY GARAGE SALE JUST AROUND THE CORNER---** Finished your spring cleaning and wanting to find your garage again? The Bethany Lutheran Home and Bethany Heights Garage Sale will be held on **Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>** at the Bethany Heights garages. The sale will be held rain or shine. (Enjoy bargain hunting inside the garage if it's raining!!) Proceeds will benefit the Alzheimer's Association. Bethany will have a team in the annual Alzheimer's Walk. Donations of items for the sale are being accepted Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Please call Bethany Heights at 328-8228 to make arrangements for drop-off. Household items and furniture, small appliances, bedding, clothing, books and decorative/craft items are being accepted. If you have any questions, please contact Diane Carlon at 329-5451 for more information. Thank you in advance for your support.



## May is National Foster Care Month

Do you know someone who is open-minded, patient, caring, a team player and has a great sense of humor? He or she could be a great foster parent! As a partner agency in Iowa KidsNet, LSI helps find, train, support and license Iowa's foster and adoptive families. Iowa has an urgent and ongoing need for foster families, as children continue to enter the foster care system and foster families leave, often for positive reasons such as adoption or retirement after years of service. Foster parenting could be one of the most rewarding things you ever do! To learn more, visit [www.IowaKidsNet.com](http://www.IowaKidsNet.com). Thank you for your support of LSI and all we achieve together for Iowa children and families!

### A Dream Team for Brook

On a spring day in Muscatine, LSI brought together a dream team.

A pastor, principal, guidance counselor, teacher, grandmother and mom all gathered for one reason: to make sure a special teen girl knew just how much she mattered.

The girl was Brooke, a sweet, shy 16-year-old who had been struggling at school with poor decision-making and social issues.

"Since my daughter was in kindergarten, all I had ever heard were negative comments," said her mom Nicole. "No one else saw what I saw in Brooke until LSI came along."

LSI's Dream Team program brings together all the people who care about a teen. Brooke's team listened to her share her dreams to help animals or help the elderly, and then they responded with love, encouragement and ideas.

"They talked about her big heart and how they could help her reach her goals when she graduates," Nicole said. "Brooke was ecstatic."

Brooke's self-worth has skyrocketed, said Rochelle, an LSI service coordinator.

"You can just see when you talk to her that she feels better about herself. Before you could tell she wasn't happy. Now she has a glow about her."

Brooke also spent months working with LSI's Brief Intensive Services staff to learn how to make better choices. She didn't fail a single subject last year and even made A's.

"LSI convinced us to have her re-tested, and she was diagnosed with Asperger's and ADHD," said Nicole. "Without LSI I think we would be in jeopardy of Brooke not graduating high school."

Brooke is starting to believe in herself for the first time. And that's a dream come true.

LSI is proud to be an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

## WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE

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

| <b>May 2015</b>            | <b>Ushers – Ernie Techau &amp; Loren Carrier</b> | <b>Ushers – Rick &amp; Jan Stone</b> |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>May 3</b>               | <b>8:30 a.m. Communion</b>                       | <b>10:00 a.m. Communion</b>          |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Kylie & Lauren Hansen                            | Taryn McSorley                       |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Carly Sorensen                                   | Elaine Sasso                         |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | Megan Sorensen                                   | NONE                                 |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> | Penny Dahlke                                     | Carrie Hansen                        |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Matt & Connie Solon                              | Carol Fahrenkrug                     |
| <b>May 10</b>              | <b>8:30 a.m. Communion</b>                       | <b>11:00 a.m.</b>                    |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Clare Plummer                                    | Alaire Carrier                       |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Abaigeal Plummer                                 | Sandy Smith                          |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | Rosie Spangenberg                                | Elaine Sasso                         |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> | Jane Meyer                                       | Karen McPartland                     |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Pat Hiller                                       | Brenda Hennigs                       |
| <b>May 17</b>              | <b>8:30 a.m. Communion</b>                       | <b>11:00 a.m. Communion</b>          |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Aralynn Conley                                   | Owen/Macy Hansen                     |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Alyson Sorensen                                  | J Husmann                            |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | NONE                                             | NONE                                 |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> | Peggy Jarrell                                    | Carrie Hansen                        |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Al & Linda Martens                               | Barb Burns                           |
| <b>May 24</b>              | <b>9:30 Summer Schedule Begins</b>               |                                      |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Shae Nickels                                     |                                      |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Alan Ellis                                       |                                      |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | NONE                                             |                                      |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> | Karen McPartland                                 |                                      |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Amy & Linda Steensland                           |                                      |
| <b>May 31</b>              | <b>9:30 Summer Schedule</b>                      |                                      |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Kobie Ferguson                                   |                                      |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Kevin Epperson                                   |                                      |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | Linda Steensland                                 |                                      |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> | Chris Reed                                       |                                      |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | NO COMMUNION                                     |                                      |

### May Flowers

May 3        Sorensen's  
 May 10      CharLes Kemmish  
 May 17      Richard & Darlene Reed  
 May 24      Lowell & Brenda Hennigs  
 May 31

### May Coffee Hour

May 3 Confirmation Youth (food drive)  
 May 10  
 May 17  
 May 24  
 May 31

**\*The flower chart for 2015 is hanging on the bulletin board at the usher station.**

**\*The coffee hour chart is by the window in the kitchen.**

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## APRIL ATTENDANCE & GIVING

|          |     |        |
|----------|-----|--------|
| April 5  | 188 | \$3606 |
| April 12 | 92  | \$1405 |
| April 19 | 78  | \$3240 |
| April 26 | 89  |        |



# May 2015 – Emanuel Lutheran Church

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                       | MONDAY                                                                                     | TUESDAY                                                                           | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                    | THURSDAY                                                                                                                                         | FRIDAY                                                            | SAT.                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                            |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                  | <b>1</b><br>Office<br>Closed                                      | <b>2</b>                                                          |
| <b>3</b><br>8:30am & 11:00am Worship & Holy Comm<br>9:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>9:45 am Adult Study & Family Sunday Schl<br>10:30 Bell practice<br>6:30 pm Men's Book study                               | <b>4</b><br>11:00 am Tai Chi                                                               | <b>5</b>                                                                          | <b>6</b><br>9:30 am Mission Action<br>6:30 pm Confirmation<br>7:00 pm DaBand                                                                 | <b>7</b><br>9:30 am Adult Study<br>11:00 am Tai Chi<br>1:00 pm Game Day<br>7:00 pm Choir<br>7:00pm God's Work Our Hands<br>Habitat build meeting | <b>8</b><br>Office<br>Closed                                      | <b>9</b>                                                          |
| <b>10</b><br><b>Happy Mother's Day</b><br>8:30am & 11:00am Worship & Holy Comm<br>9:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>9:45 am Adult Study & Family Sunday Schl<br>10:30 Bell practice<br>6:30 pm Men's Book study | <b>11</b><br><i>Cookie Crumbs</i><br>11:00am Tai Chi<br>6:30 pm<br>Worship &<br>Music Comm | <b>12</b><br><i>Cookie Crumbs</i><br>8:30 am<br>ROMEOs<br>7 pm Council<br>Meeting | <b>13</b><br>9:30 am Mission Action<br>11:30 am Adult<br>Fellowship at Pizza<br>Ranch<br>6:30 pm Confirmation<br>7:00 pm DaBand              | <b>14</b><br>9:30 am Adult Study<br>11:00am Tai Chi<br>6:30 pm N<br>Broadway Nghbrhd<br>Assctn<br>7:00 pm Choir                                  | <b>15</b><br>Office<br>Closed<br>9:30 am<br>Blessings &<br>Brunch | <b>16</b>                                                         |
| <b>17</b><br>8:30am & 11:00 am Worship & Holy Comm<br>9:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>9:45 Family Sunday Schl & Adult Study<br>10:30 Bell practice<br>6:30 pm Men's Book study                                | <b>18</b><br>11:00am Tai Chi<br>7:00 pm MS<br>Support Group                                | <b>19</b><br>7 pm Children<br>& Youth Min.<br>Mtg                                 | <b>20</b><br>9:30 am Mission Action<br>6:30 pm Confirmation<br>Class held at<br>Steensland's – Bonfire,<br>games and more!<br>7:00 pm DaBand | <b>21</b><br>9:30 am Adult Study<br>11:00 am Tai Chi<br>7:00 pm Choir                                                                            | <b>22</b><br>Office<br>Closed                                     | <b>23</b>                                                         |
| <b>24</b><br><b>SUMMER WORSHIP SCHED BEGINS</b><br>9:30am Worship & Holy Comm<br>10:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>6:30 pm Men's Book Study                                                                    | <b>25</b><br>11:00am Tai Chi<br>11 am<br>Communion at<br>Midlands                          | <b>26</b>                                                                         | <b>27</b><br>9:30 am Mission Action<br>7:00 pm DaBand                                                                                        | <b>28</b><br>9:30 am Adult Study<br>11:00 am Tai Chi<br>7:00 pm Summer<br>Mid-Week<br>Worship begins                                             | <b>29</b><br><br><b>Synod<br/>Assembly</b>                        | <b>30</b><br>Schadema<br>nn Grad<br>Pty <b>Synod<br/>Assembly</b> |
| <b>31</b><br><b>JOYFUL NOISE!</b><br>9:30am Worship & Holy Comm<br>10:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>11:00 am Plummer Grad Open House<br>6:30 pm Men's Book Study                                              |                                                                                            |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                   |                                                                   |

# Children's Ministry

## Children's Ministry

By Michaela Lewis

Thank you again to everyone who donated items to help with the Easter egg hunt! Thank you also to the confirmation students who filled the Easter eggs during their lock-in! We had approximately 22 kids participate in the Easter egg hunt.

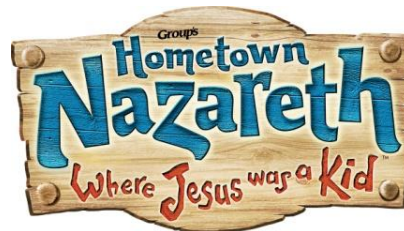


### Vacation Bible School June 21-25, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. 3 years old – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

This year we will be teaming with Our Savior's Lutheran for Vacation Bible School. Our theme is "Hometown Nazareth." This theme involves a lot of props, scenery and actors! The goal is to bring the culture of Jesus' boyhood to life, instead of just hearing stories. The shops in the marketplace will each need a leader, so please let me know if you are interested in helping! The shops are: carpentry shop, bead bazaar, synagogue school, olive oil shop, farmer's field, dye shop, rock quarry, barnyard, food market and operation kid to kid.

We would appreciate being able to borrow the following items:

- Props for any of the shops listed above
- Flat sheets (any size)
- Canopy style tents
- Brightly colored solid color blankets
- Baskets
- Clay vases with handles



If you would like to sponsor a craft or activity, I will be making a list of supplies and cost.

A registration form is included in this newsletter. Feel free to share with others who might be interested in attending!

We will be having a planning session soon. Contact me if you are interested in helping!

This year we will also have **Lutheran Lakeside** coming to hold a day camp **July 27-30**. For those interested in traveling to one of the Lutheran camps in Iowa, there are brochures in the fellowship hall. Camp is not just for confirmation students. There are also camps opportunities for early elementary students as well as family camp!

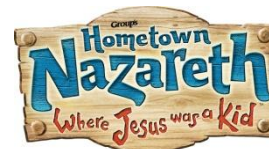


### Songs with Cindy! May 3!

We will be meeting with Cindy from 9:45 a.m.-10:30 a.m. to practice a song. Join us at the 11 a.m. services to hear the children perform!



**Our Savior's Lutheran and Emanuel Lutheran**  
**Vacation Bible School Registration**  
 Sunday, June 21-25, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
 2444 N Broadway, Council Bluffs, IA 51503



|            |                |           |
|------------|----------------|-----------|
| First Name | Middle Initial | Last Name |
|------------|----------------|-----------|

|               |     |                                                            |
|---------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Date of Birth | Age | <input type="checkbox"/> Boy <input type="checkbox"/> Girl |
|---------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------|

|                 |       |       |
|-----------------|-------|-------|
| Parent/Guardian | Phone | Email |
|-----------------|-------|-------|

|                 |       |       |
|-----------------|-------|-------|
| Parent/Guardian | Phone | Email |
|-----------------|-------|-------|

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| Emergency Contact | Phone |
|-------------------|-------|

|             |      |
|-------------|------|
| Home Church | Town |
|-------------|------|

Due to some activities being held outside, you may want to apply sunscreen and/or insect repellent before arriving. There may be some available at vacation bible school, but if your child is sensitive to scents or ingredients, it could cause a reaction if applied.

Date (month and year) of your child's most recent tetanus immunization \_\_\_\_\_

1) Is this child allergic to any food or medications? ☐ Yes   ☐ No  
 If yes, names and reactions. \_\_\_\_\_.

2) Does this child have asthma? ☐ Yes   ☐ No    If yes, what triggers your child's asthma? \_\_\_\_\_.  
 If yes, will your child carry a rescue inhaler during VBS? ☐ Yes   ☐ No  
 If yes, does your child need help to use the rescue inhaler? ☐ Yes   ☐ No

3) We will call parents and/or the emergency contact listed above if there is a question or emergency that arises. During the VBS, who would be the person who would be best to contact? \_\_\_\_\_.

4) Does your child have any special health considerations or other information that we should know about that could affect their participation in the program? If so, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_

My child \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to engage in all camp activities except as noted. I give permission to Our Savior's Luther and/or Emanuel Lutheran to use photographs, video and audio recordings of my child at Vacation Bible School publicly. This includes newsletters, newspapers and social media. The information completed on this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge. Vacation Bible School staff and volunteers will not be held responsible for accidents or personal injury. First aid will be administered for minor injuries.

Signature of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering Theological Statement

We have a problem. As God's people, we have become lost. We have turned away from our relationship with God. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. On our own, we cannot find our way out. We need good news.

The author of the Gospel of Mark tells us the source of the good news for which we long:

**"The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God"**  
(Mark 1:1).

The good news, Mark says, is Jesus, who is with us all along our way, a way that leads to the cross. Through the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering, we will explore what it looks like to follow Jesus on his journey to the cross even though our first inclination – supported by the dominant narrative of American culture – is to rush to the resurrection. Mark teaches us that we can't get to the resurrection without going through the cross.

The essential act of discipleship is to follow Jesus on the way to the cross. Young people and Adult Leaders who engage the ministry of the Gathering will be invited to follow Jesus on the way as they accompany the people of Detroit in their journeys. They will learn that to "rise up" doesn't mean pursuing power or victory over another, but choosing weakness over power so that they might be together. The experience of death and life held together on the way is the "beginning of the good news;" it is God's narrative into which we are inviting young people, and in which we hope young people will nest their own stories.

There are many people in Detroit who know experiences of death. In fact, **the media would have us think that Detroit itself is gasping for its last breath, near the end of its life as a major metropolitan city. But as people of the cross, we see promise in death.** Martin Luther said our yearning in despair is always taken up into the suffering love of Father and Son. We partake in the very being of God as we seek God in our own awareness of death, brokenness or despair, for **through the cross God has placed our brokenness at the very heart of God's life, and that is the beginning of the good news.**

We ask for your prayerful support as we continue to fundraise and prepare for this trip. Follow us on Facebook "Emanuel Lutheran at the 2015 ELCA Youth Gathering" and on Twitter @luthsquirrels

EMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Notes

Tuesday, 04/14/2015

Present: Kevin Epperson, Penny Dahlke, Charles Kemmish, Oscar Over, Chris Reed, Matt Solon, Mike Winter, Suzanne Winter, Danielle Schaal,

Absent: Carrie Hansen, Karen McPartland, Debbie Ferguson

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Kevin Epperson.

Devotions by Matt Solon.

Council Agenda:

- The following amendments were made to the minutes of March 10, 2015.
  1. Keven was corrected to Kevin under devotions.
  2. Soot was removed from the wall in the sanctuary.
  3. Capitol account was changed to capital.
  4. After the amendments were noted, motion was made by Chris Reed, seconded by Matt Solon to approve the minutes as revised. Approved.
- No new business was added to the agenda.
- Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by Matt Solon to receive and approve the financial secretary report. Approved
- Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by Penny Dahlke, to receive and approve the Treasurer's Report. Approved. It was suggested by Oscar Over that the treasurer's report be taken to each of the committee meetings so that each committee can see the status of their respective budgets.
- Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by Charles Kemmish, to receive and approve the Capital Fund Report. Approved.
- Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by Michael Winter, to receive and approve the Memorial Fund report. Approved
- Pastor's report was received and discussed. It was noted that during the month of March, there were 18 worship services among the many other duties of the pastor. Midweek Lenten services were held at both noon and 7 p.m. with good attendance and attendance at the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, noon and evening, and Easter all showed increases over the previous year. Outdated financial records were sorted and reduced the data from 14 boxes and tubs to only three. Other sections of the pastor's report were discussed later in the meeting. The Pastor also noted that the Selden Company will turn the former Gunn School into 36 housing units to begin this summer and in 2016, North Broadway water mains are to be replaced as per the Water Works Department at a cost of \$750,000. There was also discussion of where to put the Emanuel window taken from the former church at 7<sup>th</sup> and Mill.
- There have been no meetings of the Stewardship Committee.
- There have been no meetings of the Youth and Children's Ministries Committee.
- No report was received from Fellowship and Support.
- The Property Committee has set June 6 as the spring work day. The fall work day has not yet been determined.
- Suzanne Winter made a report of the Wider Ministries Committee indicating they are preparing backpacks for camp.
- Kevin Epperson made a report of the Worship and Music Committee. He sought alternative bids for the lighting and they came back close to previous bids offered by Echo. Menards has cheaper dimmer switches than the bid provided by Echo. It was also discussed involving members from many committees in this year's garage sale to be held on August 8. Those committees participating can split the proceeds among them.
- It was reported by Pastor that our church appears to be ahead of the average in use of social media such as facebook.

- CharLes Kemmish talked about the cost of constructing a digital sign. She found a range of between \$2,700 and \$7,000. The digital sign could be used to announce birthdays, anniversaries, gathering information and much more.
- Pastor reported on the Transition Team in his report and indicated they met on March 23 and that the team plans a second feedback session after worship on June 7. The next meeting of the Transition Team will be April 28. A determination needs to be made as to who will be on the calling committee.
- The Pastor's report included an update on the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The anniversary team met on April 8. Children's Square will donate the "Emanuel" window from the 7<sup>th</sup> & Mill site to Emanuel Lutheran Church after having it appraised. The photo scanning project is continuing and the first disk of scanned photos has been returned. The Remembrance Tea will be held in August. The anniversary team hosted a Lenten supper and raised \$280 for team expenses. The next meeting is May 5.
- There has been a very good response concerning signing up for pictures for the church directory and there remain very few additional people to be called.
- Oscar Over gave a very detailed report from the Property Committee. The tub in the parsonage needs repair and an electrostatic application would cost \$350-\$400. The Property Committee contacted Bath Fitters and recommended a shell to be placed over the old tub. Oscar Over made a motion to install the white shell from Bath Fitters at a cost of \$1,448 plus tax over the old tub. The motion was seconded by Penny Dahlke and approved. The money will come from the building and grounds portion of the capital and building account. The tub shell will have a lifetime guaranty.
- The air conditioner was repaired at a cost of \$800 by Moore's Heating & Air Conditioning, but during the installation, it was determined that an additional motor would be required at a cost of plus or minus \$500. This money will also come from the building and grounds portion of the capital and building account. Motion was made by Oscar Over, seconded by CharLes Kemmish. Approved.
- It was reported that Ron Reef will construct a sanctuary railing. Motion was made by Oscar Over, seconded by Chris Reed to proceed with the construction of the sanctuary railing. Approved.
- The church cornerstone needs to be repaired and Larry Hansen will do the work for material costs only. Motion made by Suzanne Winter, seconded by Danielle Schaal to leave the cornerstone in its present location for repair and to proceed with the repair. Approved.
- Oscar Over reported that there has been discussion of constructing a ramp from the parking lot adjacent to the sidewalk. The property committee is still thinking about how this will be accomplished including the possible installation of a railing.
- The Property Committee addressed the problem in the northwest corner of the sanctuary where the carpet gets wet when it rains. They suggested the installation of a gutter and drain pipe at an estimated cost of \$400. Motion by made by Oscar Over, seconded by Matt Solon to proceed with this project. Approved. The money will come from the building and grounds portion of the capital building account.
- The Property Committee recommended aluminum sheets to be installed near the entry to the Narthex with brown aluminum sheets at a cost of \$175. Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by CharLes Kemmish to approve this project. Approved.
- Discussion was held concerning the recommendations of the Worship and Music Committee that included going to one Sunday service at 9:30 the year round followed by coffee hour and to implement this new policy by September 13, 2015. A second service would be held each Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Motion made by Michael Winter, seconded by Danielle Schaal to go ahead with the recommendation of the Worship and Music Committee with a congregational vote to take place on June 7 after the regular service. Approved.
- Pastor requested permission to distribute envelopes to fund the Synod Assembly to be held at the end of May. Motion by Suzanne Winter, seconded by Danielle Schaal. Approved.
- Motion by Suzanne Winter, seconded by Penny Dahlke to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 12, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Mission Statement: Forgiven by Grace, Serving by Faith

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





Thank you to all who purchased Easter plants to adorn the Sanctuary this Easter! They were beautiful!

| Donated by:                   | In Honor of:       | In Memory of:                              |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Ruth Sullivan                 |                    | Jack, Mike and Randy                       |
| Marjorie Powell               |                    |                                            |
| Steensland Family             | Steensland Family  |                                            |
| Jane Anderson                 |                    | Conley and Delores Stone                   |
| Michael & Michelle Loos       | Judith Elaine Loos |                                            |
| Jason Carrier                 |                    | Donna Carrier                              |
| Patty Maxwell                 |                    | Arvil Morgan                               |
| Judy Dillon                   | Norma Heath        |                                            |
| Oscar & Deann Over            |                    |                                            |
| Elaine Sasso                  | Elizabeth Britton  |                                            |
| Elizabeth Miller              |                    | Mom, Rudy & Verlyn                         |
| Sandy Kanger                  |                    |                                            |
| Richard & Darlene Reed        |                    |                                            |
| Steve, Michaela & Mason Lewis |                    |                                            |
| Dan & Judy Heithoff           |                    | Parents Jim Robinson, Bob & Donna Heithoff |
| Angel McGee                   |                    |                                            |
| Darlene Jeppesen              |                    |                                            |
| Jan & Rick Stone              |                    | Michael Stone                              |
| CharLes Kemmish               |                    |                                            |
| Larry & Sharon Hansen         |                    |                                            |
| Al & Linda Martens            |                    |                                            |
| Kathy Schneckloth             |                    | Norman & Jean Krueger                      |
| Gary & Sherri Stinson         |                    | Sandy Stinson & Karen Herr                 |
| Melvin & Kathryn Bird         |                    | Terri Bird-Long                            |
| Viola Anderson                |                    |                                            |
| Jack Henderson                |                    | Carol Henderson                            |



EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2444 North Broadway  
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA  
PERMIT #61

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

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

**Game Day**

Thursday, May 7 at 1:00pm  
in Fellowship Hall

**Romeo's (Retired Old Men Eating Out)**

Tuesday May 12 @ 8:30a.m. at  
Village Inn East

**Adult Fellowship**

Wednesday, May 13 at 11:30 a.m.  
at Pizza Ranch

**Women of Emanuel Blessings & Brunch**

Friday May 15 at 9:30am

**Mission Action Committee (Quilters)**

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.  
in Fellowship Hall



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**\*Women of Emanuel will be holding a Garden Party retreat! One day at the Knowles Mercy Spirituality Center in Waterloo NE. Saturday June 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact Brenda in the office or Darlene Jeppesen for more details**

**\*\*WOMEN OF FAITH! Farewell Tour August 28-29! Sign up NOW in the Fellowship Hall. Approximate Ticket cost is \$79, many of the women will be staying overnight the 28<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested contact Brenda in the church office – 712-323-9665**



## Ramblings from the back corner....

The theme song for the Easter season is “Light Dawns on a Weary Word” ELW 726. In the Hymnal Companion to the ELW it gives a beautiful explanation of the hymns lyrical and musical inception. I found it extremely interesting and wonderful to look into the creative process of hymn composition.

“Mary Louise Bringle (b. July 31, 1953) wrote this hymn in 2001 at the meeting of the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada in Independence, Missouri. She explains it in detail in *The Hymn* 57:4 (Autumn 2006): 62-65. The story begins with the melody, so you might begin by reading below about it. When the composer played it for her it was, she said, “love at first listen.” She began writing the text that night in her motel room.

Bringle received the tune with the harmonization. The lone set of four sixteenth notes in the alto line of the refrain caught her attention. (They come where “with” is now positioned after “forth.”) She heard them as a water fountain, which suggested a watered garden. That suggested the watered garden in Isaiah 58:11, which is an image for the vision of a just society with an end to oppression after the Babylonian captivity. That in turn suggested Isaiah 55:12-13, and the first lines of the refrain were born. The next day Fred Kaan gave a plenary address on the need for Christians, Jews, and Muslims to work together for peace-shalom. Bringle says, “I found myself reflecting on Kaan’s remarks in the light of Isaiah’s vision of a truly just community-one in which harmonious relationships are restored not only among human beings but also between humans and the natural world. The idea of closing the hymn by having the entire creation call out ‘*Shalom*’ appealed to me,” and the last line of the refrain was born. The internal repetitions of the Os in “word,” “wonder,” “echo,” and “shalom” took the place of rhyme in the refrain.

The stanzas are successive extensions of light, hope, and love. The second and third continue the internal Os. All three with their following verbs form a most unusual spondee, two stressed syllables in succession. That immediately leads to two short iambic (an unstressed syllable followed by a stressed one) lines that rhyme “see” with “dignity,” “bread” with “fed,” and “forlorn” with “reborn.” These and other phrases of the hymn “reflect aspects of what the book of Isaiah holds up as a vision of the beloved community, blessed with life in all its fullness.” The overall formal structure does the same thing. The spondee announces, the rhymed iambic lines provide communal content and push forward, and the whole creation breaks into song and echoes shalom.

### TEMPLE OF PEACE

In 2000 the Hymn Society in the United States and Canada met in Boston. At that meeting William P. Rowan led a sectional called “A Collection of Hymns without Words: His “hypothesis was that a composer might arrive at structurally interesting settings for future hymns by letting musical forms rather than words animate the creative process.” He wrote eighteen tunes that stimulated about a hundred texts. That in turn encouraged him to write more tunes, for a similar sectional the next year at the Hymn Society meeting in Independence, Missouri. A few days before the sectional Rowan played this tune for Mary Louise Bringle because he was sure she would like it. That stimulated the hymn. After the text was written, Bringle named the tune TEMPLE OF PEACE, for the chapel of the Community of Christ where the Hymn Society had met.”