

Garden of Readin'

Emanuel Newsletter

Happenings at Emanuel!

Saturday, April 05—Craft Inn

Tuesday, April 08—ROMEO's (and Friends) Meet

Sunday, April 13—Palm Sunday, Joyful Noise, Blood Pressure Checks

Monday, April 14—Ale & the Almighty

Tuesday, April 15—Book Club Meets

Thursday, April 17—Maundy Thursday Worship

Friday, April 18—Good Friday Worship

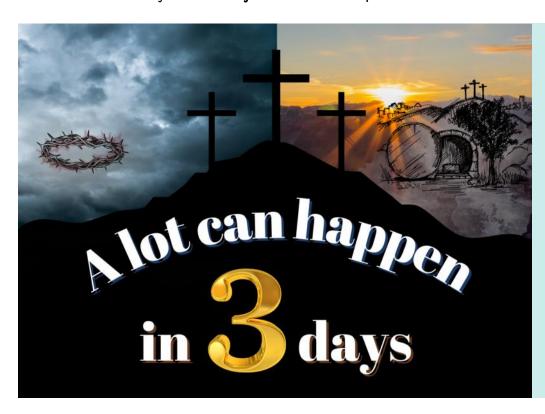
Saturday, April 19—Craft Workshop & Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 20—Easter Sunday

Monday, April 21—Newsletter Articles Due

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



In This Issue... A Post from the Pastor2 Easter Crafts & Egg Hunt2 Reconciling in Christ.....3 Bethany Volunteers.....3 Lenten Meals/Worship......3 Holy Week Schedule3 LSI Commitment4 Assembly Offering.....4 Youth Retreats & Camps......4 Worship Assistants.....5 Online Giving......5 Birthdays6 Anniversaries7 Thoughts & Prayers.....7 Foster Care 7 April Calendar8 May Calendar.....9 Lutheran Family Services...... 10 Bethany Easter Egg Hunt...... 11 Joyful Noise.....11 Directory......11 Attendance & Offerings 11 Finance Team Update.....11



Use Your Voice

On March 11 I had the opportunity to join other Lutherans all across Iowa for the Lutheran Dat on the Hill at our state capitol in Des Moines IA. While there I got to speak with my legislator Representative Josh Turek. I felt very empowered to be able to share directly with him my thoughts and concerns on the importance of continuing to fund Medicaid. We, like many other families, would be impacted if Medicaid were no longer federally funded. At Maja's place of employment many, if not most, of the clients receive their care through Medicaid benefits. If their benefits are cut, Maja's position would be in jeopardy.

One of the helpful things I learned is how to determine who my legislators are and how to contact them. I went to the iowa.gov website and in the search bar typed in the words "find my legislators. I was directed to a page where I typed in my address at the top and hit the search button. My legislator's picture and contact information popped up. Then I could click a link to send an email, or I could call or write using the information listed. I thought I'd send cards to my legislators during the holidays.

It was really easy to find the information I needed and to contact my representatives and share with them my concerns and advocate for the people I care for. I encourage all of you to not only remember our elected leaders in our prayers but to share with them our concerns and urge them to use their voice and power to better represent their constituents.

Martin Luther teaches that law is an essential instrument to govern the kingdom of the world. The government is meant for the maintenance of peace and order. As Christians we belong to two kingdoms: the kingdom of God and the kingdom of the world. In between these two worlds God keeps a close watch over them all. Government maintains order and punishes the wrongdoer. A true Christian lives not for themselves alone, but for for their neighbors. We are all called to be little Christ's in the world.

Please use your voice and your power to speak up on behalf of our neighbors.

UTHERAN CRIME ANDICATE

See you in church!

Pastor Cara



Is "Welcome" Enough

By Stephen & Michaela Lewis

Last month we talked about the technical aspects of becoming a Reconciling in Christ church, but we thought we would focus on some of the more humanitarian aspects.

We have all been made in the image of God.

Depending on societies views, at different points in history, and even today, there are people who are discriminated against. This can be due to their race, disabilities, lifestyles, sexual orientation and a host of other things that people sometimes use to divide us.

When looking for a faith community, people often wonder if they will be accepted. Part of the RIC program is leaving nothing unsaid. People know before they walk through the doors at Emanuel, they are loved, accepted and celebrated exactly as they are.

At the last Council meeting, Greg said that someone reached out to him and they mentioned that they

wanted to find out more about the ELCA because they were one of the churches that has spoke out about

policies that effect marginalized communities.

Michaela was talking to someone else who left the church that they had attended all their life because the Pastor refused to meet with them about planning a wedding, because their fiance and her shared an apartment.

We are called to love each other. We are called to welcome the stranger. This moves beyond welcoming and instead focuses on inviting and engaging.

If you would like to learn more, or would be interested in being on a task force to help Emanuel work towards becoming an inclusive church, feel free to come talk to us or visit the RIC website.

Wednesdays During Lent



Spring Clean-Up Day!

Date: April 26th Time: 9AM - 1PM

Location: Bethany Lutheran

Home

Lunch will be provided!

Please bring proper PPE for yardwork (ex. gloves, hat, sunscreen)

Join us for our Spring volunteer day to help make Bethany a welcoming place for our residence and Tenants. Your work will make a huge difference in enhancing the quality of life here at BLHS! DINNER & LENTEN WORSHIP

March 12 - April 09
DINNER AT 6 P.M. WORSHIP AT 7 P.M.

HOLY WEEK AT EMANUEL

Palme Sunday
SUNDAY, APRIL 13
Worship at 9:30 am followed by coffee & Fellowship

Mannay Parsday
THURSDAY, APRIL 17
Worship at 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday
SUNDAY, APRIL 20
Worship at 7 a.m.
Breakfast from 8 a.m. - 9:15 am
Worship at 9:30 am
Worship at 9:30 am

Emanuel Lutheran Charch
Emanuel

7 Elliott Street Council Bluffs IA, 51503

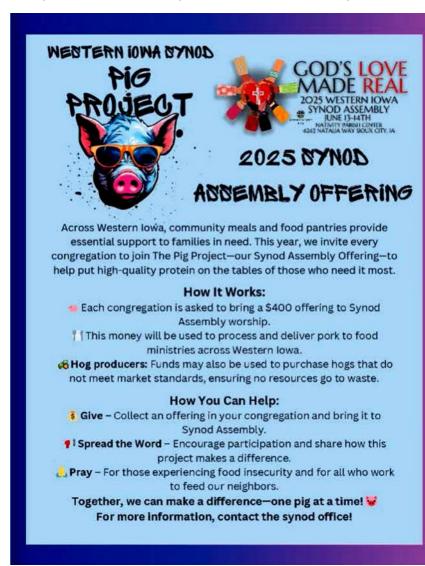
Here We Stand:

ISI's Commitment to Truth and Service From Renee Hardman President CEQ

For over 160 years Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) has been a pillar of support for Iowa's most vulnerable communities. Today as we navigate significant challenges that threaten our ability to continue this vital work, our resolve re-



mains unshaken. Your support empowers us to provide Mental Health Services, continued work with our Immigrants and Refugee Community Services, Services for People with Disability, Early Childhood, and Adoptive Services. Through your advocacy, generosity, and unwavering commitment, we can overcome these obstacles and ensure that every individual receives the care and resources they need. Together, we stand strong. Please continue standing with us—together, we will ensure that every individual and family receives the support they need.





Saturday, April 26th

Our Explore! Day Retreats for elementary students is a chance for young campers to get out and enjoy camp in one compact and fun day. If your camper is missing camp or if they didn't get to come out this summer, Explore! gives them the perfect opportunity to experience a day of adventure and faith building out at CJH Camp. We will be reviewing this past summer's theme, "Created to Be." This will be a wonderful reminder to those who were out at camp this summer of what lessons they had learned or an excellent opportunity to dive into the meaningful teachings from this summer to those who weren't able to come. In addition to Bible study and worship, we will be experiencing many favorite camp activities together as we share in fund and fellowship.

Let Mr. Steve know if you are interested in attending!

Summer Camp!

Registration is open for both Carol Joy Holling Camp in Ashland Nebraska as well as Lutheran Lakeside Camp in Spirit Lake, Iowa. Opportunities for all ages are available. Space is limited and each camp offers different experiences.

They are also hiring summer staff for a variety of positions.

Visit their websites or pick up a brochure in the community room to learn more!



Worship Assistant Schedule

(If unable to serve as scheduled, please arrange a substitute and notify the church office.)

Orași de la Assail O	0.00 0		
Sunday, April 6	9:30 a.m. Service		
Ushers	Pat Hiller & Kathy Schneckloth		
Acolyte	Grant & Garrett Ashcraft		
Lector			
Altar Guild			
Communion Assistants	Grant & Garrett Ashcraft		
Visual Tech	Cheryl Rowe		
Sound Tech	Mike Hipnar		
LiveStream Tech	Michaela Lewis		
Coffee Hour			
Sunday, April 13	9:30 a.m. Service		
Ushers	Pat Hiller & Kathy Schneckloth		
Acolyte	Tayah Nixt		
Lector			
Altar Guild			
Communion Assistants	Tayah Nixt		
Visual Tech	Cheryl Rowe		
Sound Tech	Mike Hipnar		
LiveStream Tech	Michaela Lewis		
Coffee Hour			
Thursday, April 17	7 p.m. Service		
Ushers			
Acolyte			
Lector			
Altar Guild			
Communion Assistants			
Visual Tech			
Sound Tech	Mike Hipnar		
LiveStream Tech	Michaela Lewis		
Friday, April 18	7 p.m. Service		
Ushers			
Acolyte			
Lector			
Visual Tech			
Sound Tech	Mike Hipnar		
LiveStream Tech	Michaela Lewis		

3	
Online	Giving

Did you know that we have the option of online giving? You can download the Vanco Faith app on your mobile device through the Ap-

ple Store or Google Play, or you visit our website at https://www.emanuelcb.org/ There are customizable giving options, including giving to different

funds with one donation and you also have the option of setting up reoccurring payments. You are also able to view your electronic giving history through the app.



Considere Ameril 20	Z a va Camilaa
Sunday, April 20	7 a.m. Service
Ushers	
Acolyte	
Lector	
Altar Guild	
Communion Assistants	
Visual Tech	
Sound Tech	Mike Hipnar
Coffee Hour	
Sunday, April 20	9:30 a.m. Service
Ushers	Pat Hiller & Kathy Schneckloth
Acolyte	
Lector	
Altar Guild	
Communion Assistants	
Visual Tech	
Sound Tech	Mike Hipnar
LiveStream Tech	Michaela Lewis
Coffee Hour	
Sunday, April 27	9:30 a.m. Service
Ushers	Pat Hiller & Kathy Schneckloth
Acolyte	
Lector	Joann Blum
Altar Guild	
Communion Assistants	
Visual Tech	
Sound Tech	Mike Hipnar
LiveStream Tech	Michaela Lewis
Coffee Hour	





April 01 Barb Burns

April 02 Jenny Jarrell-Smith

> April 04 Scott Carrier Peg Madsen

April 06 Suzanne Winter

April 07 Lori Ahrends Renee Goss

April 08 Dwight Rogers April 09 Joshua Tiffey

April 12 Chasity Christie Nathaniel Larson

> April 13 Tes Winter

April 15 Jim Andersen William Donovan Sharon Hansen

<u>April 16</u> Amy Epperson April 17 Laura Kai Jack Loos

April 19 Christian Chatterton Deanne Skovgaard

April 20 Lucas Holcombe Heather Wilson Angela Wolfe

April 21 Glenda Smith

<u>April 22</u> Cara Knutson April 23 Brayden Fager Linda Steensland

April 24 Priscilla McGee

April 26 Cynthia Borwick

<u>April 27</u> Kylie Hansen

April 28 Haley Snell

April 30 Allison Goldapp



May 01 Carly Sorensen

May 02 Abaigeal Plummer

> May 06 Anna Luther

May 09 Kyle Nordstrom Matt Solon May 10 Alexander Bradshaw Riley Maxwell Chris Nixt

> May 12 Chris Sorensen

<u>May 13</u> Natalie Boose Richard Reed

May 14 Christi Hauschild May 19 Cheryl Eneboe Mike Loos

> May 20 Kenna Hite

May 22 Garrett Smith

May 23 Desirée Snell May 25 Jennifer Clark Tiffany Pace

<u>May 26</u> Ryan Wilson

<u>May 27</u> Jennifer Plummer Rick Stone

<u>May 30</u> Brad Dahlke Debbie Ferguson

If we have missed a birthday or anniversary, let us know! office@emanuelcb.org or (712) 323-9665

Anniversaries, Prayer List, Foster Care



Bob Bender Norma Mass Melody Schott

Deloris Christensen
Jane Meyer
Paul Schott

Owen Hansen
Patty Maxwell
Tommy Schott

Sharon Hansen
Julie Powell
Ruth Sullivan

Margie Powell Stephany Sanborn

Norma Heath

Mark Malick Ron Reiff Jr.



April 08
Zach & Samantha
Winter

April 10
Allen & Linda
Martens

April 14 Richard & Jacqueline Ogg April 19 Dick & Donna Steensen

April 22 Alan & Tedette Fllis



May 03 Gary & Judy Pleas

May 07 Chris & Crystal Nixt May 08 Cheryl & Gary Rowe

May 11 John & Glenda Smith II May 19 Richard & Darlene Reed

May 20 Jeremy & Tonia Thielen May 22 Stephen & Michaela Lewis

May 28 Clarissa & Edward Haats May 29
David & Linda
FietzEdward & Nina
Reedy

May 30 Ron & Norma Stairs



You Can Make a Difference!

- Council Bluffs
- Davenport
- Des Moines
- Sioux City

More info at LSIowa.org/foster

- Spencer
- Storm Lake
- Waterloo
- And More!







If you have something you would like to submit for the newsletter, please email it to office@emanuelcb.org by the third Monday of the month.

Thank you!



At Emanuel Lutheran Church

	At Emanuel Lutheran Church							
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Ukdnesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
		5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room	3 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi 7 pm Bell Practice	4	5 10 am Craft Inn		
9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11 am Confirmation 2 pm SCA meet upstairs Confirmation Class	7 10 am Tai Chi	8:30 am ROMEO's (& Friends) meet @ Village Inn East) 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am - 3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room	9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi 7 pm Bell Practice	11	12		
9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour & Blood Pressure Checks with Crystal	14 10 am Tai Chi 11 am-4:30 pm Bridge Group in Community Room 6 pm Ale & the Almighty at Glory Days Bar & Grill Almighty	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room 7 pm Book Club in Conference Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room	9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi	7 pm Good Friday Worship	19 10 am Easter Crafts in Community Room 11 am Easter Egg Hunt		
7 am Sunrise Service 8 am Breakfast in Community Room 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion EASTER SUNDAY	Newsletter Articles Due 10 am Tai Chi	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am -3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room	9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi	25	26		
27 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour Piano Recital	28 10 am Tai Chi 11 am-4:30 pm Bridge Group in Community Room	29 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	30 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room					



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				9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi	2	3 10 am Craft Inn
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9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour & Blood Pressure Checks w/ Crystal 11 am Church Council Meeting 2 pm SCA meet upstairs YOUTH-LED WORSHIP	Newsletter Articles Due 10 am Tai Chi SUBMIT VOUR ARTICLES	20 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room 7 pm Book Club in Conference Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am—3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room	9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi	23	24 1 pm Community Room In-Use
25 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour	26 10 am Tai Chi 11 am-4:30 pm Bridge Group in Community Room	27 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	28 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room	29 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi 7 pm Bell Practice	30	31

Support for families through HOPE

Submitted by Deb Whitford



LSI serves lowans of all ages; from families with newborns navigating parenthood, to Refugee and Immigrant elders, and children of all ages. One of the most vital populations LSI supports is young parents, especially those navigating the challenges of early motherhood. Cheyenne F., a Family Support Specialist for LSI's Healthy Families America (HOPES) program, shares the impactful work she's doing with young mothers in need of support. She shares that she had the privilege of working closely with NF, a young mom who has shown incredible growth and resilience.

The Healthy Families America (HOPES) program is an evidence-based child abuse prevention program that provides support to prenatal families and families with children ages 0-5. LSI's Family Support Specialists work with families like NF's to provide the guidance and resources needed to break cycles of abuse and neglect and build strong, healthy foundations for children and parents

NF's journey began in June 2023 when she reached out for help. At 19 years old and pregnant, NF was living in Muscatine County and knew she needed extra parenting support. Through the HOPES program, Cheyenne began building rapport with NF right away and learned about NF's challenging upbringing, which included bouncing from foster home to foster home starting at age 6.

"NF had faced so much inconsistency and pain in her early years," shared Cheyenne. "It was clear that she had a lot of unresolved trauma, but it was equally clear that she wanted to make a positive change in her life, especially for her baby."

Throughout the course of their work together, Cheyenne and NF focused on building trust and creating a safe space for NF to share her experiences and challenges. NF revealed that after High School, she fell into a pattern of poor choices, including run-ins with the law. NF got pregnant, and although she knew the father, he didn't want to be involved in her pregnancy or her life. Despite this, she had two strong support networks: her foster parents and her current roommate.

Cheyenne shares that NF struggled with controlling her behavior, and she feared she might end up back in jail, which unfortunately happened. When she was incarcerated, Cheyenne made sure to stay in contact with her foster parents and provided them with regular updates and support. When NF was released from jail, she confided in Cheyenne that she was considering running away with her baby, which prompted Cheyenne to share valuable resources with her to support her mental health, housing, and employment.

"I knew that if NF ran, it could jeopardize the progress we had made. But with the right guidance and resources, NF began to see a different path forward," Cheyenne shared.

Cheyenne expressed her excitement about NF's progress stating, "NF has made such huge strides. She started attending therapy twice a week and has also found a job at a local consignment store. She's enrolled in anger management classes and is committed to creating a better future for herself and her baby."

Today, NF's baby is thriving, meeting all developmental milestones. NF continues to meet regularly with Cheyenne and enjoys engaging in evidence-based activities that are tailored to her needs as a young mother. "I'm so thankful for the HOPES program. I don't know where I'd be without the support of Cheyenne," NF shared.

It's stories like NF's that remind us why the work we do is so important. With the right support, anything is possible.

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676 -2065.

LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the lowa 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.



March Joyful Noise

The Joyful Noise for April 13th will be for the Salvation Army. Sherrill Stacy will be sharing information about what all the Salvation Army does in the community.



Church Directory

Did you know we have a directory that is accessible to members on their phones or other electronic devices? Download "Instant Church Directory" through the App Store or Google Play and sign-in with your email address. If you are unable to sign-in, let Michaela know so she can check your email in our system.

If you would like a printed copy of the directory, please contact the church office. There are updates almost weekly, so the online one will be the most accurate. If you have any questions or have trouble accessing it, contact Michaela at office@emanuelcb.org.



Attendance







Week of:	In-Person Attendance:	Online Views:	Total Attendance:	Offerings:
March 02	69	27	96	n/a
March 09	75	21	96	n/a
March 16	56	26	82	n/a
March 23	56+	20	76+	n/a

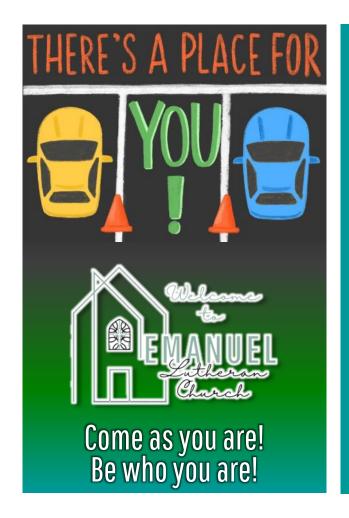
Finance Team Update

Income & Expenses Monthly and YTD

February Income:\$7,4	194.00	YTD Income:\$29,968.00	O
February Expense:(-\$15,5	<u>01.68)</u>	YTD Expense:(-\$34,030.95)
February Balance(-\$8,0	07.68)	YTD Balance(-\$4,062.95	<u> </u>
·		Plus Carryover\$9.12	<u>2</u>
		General Budget Fund(-\$4,053.83)



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 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

Office Hours: Monday 9 a.m.—1 p.m.,

Tuesday –Friday 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

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
Treasurer, Connie Solon (finance@emanuelcb.org)