



# ***The Garden of Readin'***

# **March, 2015**

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Emanuel Lutheran Church  
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[www.lutheransonline.com/emanuelcbia](http://www.lutheransonline.com/emanuelcbia)

Director of Music Ministries: Cindy Richards  
Youth Ministries: Deann Over  
Children's Ministries: Michaela Lewis  
Parish Assistant: Brenda Hennigs

[www.facebook.com/emanuel.elca.cbia](http://www.facebook.com/emanuel.elca.cbia)

## **Happenings!**

### **"More Than a Fish Tale" Continues through March 19<sup>th</sup>**

"More Than a Fish Tale" is a study of the Old Testament book of Jonah. The book is part parable, part comedy, and part challenge to our tendency toward narrow localism. Pastor Hennigs will offer this study on Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. in the upstairs conference room and will last about ten weeks. Bring your Bible, your friends, your curiosity, and your sense of humor! We will take time off on March 26<sup>th</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will begin a new topic of study on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **First Communion Class offered in March**

Pastor Hennigs will offer first communion instruction for young people who have not yet begun to participate in Holy Communion. The classes will be offered during the Intergenerational Sunday School time (9:45 a.m.) on March 8, 15, and 22. The class is covered in three sessions, so participants should plan to attend all three Sundays. The class will be capped off by the celebration of a simulated Seder Meal on Sunday, March 29. That meal is a part of the class and will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Young people will then receive their first communions at our Maundy Thursday worship service on April 2 at 7 p.m.

Any young person second grade and older is invited to attend and participate. If parents of a younger child believe the child is ready to participate, Pastor Hennigs will consider that request. Parents are expected to attend with their children. All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend these classes to review our communion beliefs and practices. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Hennigs at the church office, or on his cell number (402-416-2819) or by email at [emanpas1@gmail.com](mailto:emanpas1@gmail.com).

### **Emanuel Leads Afternoon Vespers at Bethany Homes in March**

Emanuel Lutheran Church will lead the 4 p.m. Vespers services at Bethany Lutheran Homes on the five Sundays in March. The musical groups from Emanuel will provide inspiration at those services. Our own Cindy Richardson will accompany those services. If you have family or friends at Bethany Lutheran Homes, please encourage them to attend these services. And please consider attending one or more of these services to support the singing and praying of the saints who gather for worship there.

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

Dear friends in Christ,

**Here we are in the middle of our Lenten journey.** It is a rich time in the life of our church and in the life of the whole Church. Here are some details of that journey together.

- **You can still pick up your copy of our Lenten Devotion book, called *Devoted*.** The daily devotions have been written by members of Emanuel Lutheran Church. The devotions are based on readings from the Daily Lectionary found in the ELW. Paper copies are available at no cost. Electronic copies are available through Amazon.com at <http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00SXBLIN6>. As of this writing, over two dozen electronic copies are in use. Twelve of those copies are being read somewhere in Great Britain!
- **Midweek worship services continue on March 4, 11, 18 and 25.** A light supper will be served at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Worship will be offered at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Worship will feature Holden Evening Prayer, and will also be offered at noon those days. **The midweek worship messages will focus on The Lord's Prayer.** At the end of the Lenten season, those worship messages will form the basis of an online course on the Lord's Prayer offered through the Emanuel Lutheran Church Youtube channel.
- **The Sunday messages in Lent focus on Holy Communion.** This is in part to assist our young people and their parents as they prepare for First Communion. You can read an article in this edition of the "Garden of Readin'" that gives the details of that class.
- **Palm/Passion Sunday is March 29<sup>th</sup>** with worship at 8:30 and 11 a.m. (as usual). At 5:30 p.m. that day, we will hold our **annual Seder Meal in the Fellowship Hall**. This meal is part of our first communion class and helps the young people and parents to understand the roots of the Lord's Supper in the Jewish Passover celebration. Members of the congregation and community are invited to attend this meal. We will take reservations for the meal, and a freewill offering will be received to help offset expenses.
- **There will be no midweek worship or confirmation on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>,** to allow for rehearsals and worship walk-throughs.
- **Maundy Thursday worship will be offered on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at noon and 7 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. The 7 p.m. service will include First Communion and Foot-washing.
- **Good Friday worship will be offered on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at noon and 7 p.m.** in the Sanctuary. The 7 p.m. service will include the dramatic reading of "The Cry of the Whole Congregation" and pounding our nails into the cross.
- **Easter Sunday is April 5<sup>th</sup> with worship at 7 a.m. and 10 a.m.** Easter breakfast and activities will be held from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. that day. Those activities will include an Easter egg hunt for the children at 9 a.m. ***Van transportation to and from Emanuel will be available. Please contact the church office at your earliest convenience if you think you would like a ride to worship on Easter Sunday.***
- **The second Sunday of Easter, April 12<sup>th</sup>,** will be "Holy Humor Sunday" at both services. Bring your jokes and be ready to share in the Blessed Mirth of the season.

I am honored to travel with you on this journey!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Lowell

# Our Church Family

## In Our Prayers...



Ray Kanger  
Joyce Miller  
Elizabeth Britton

Daphne Miller  
Lucille Weatherill  
Jay Edson

Glen Fahrenkrug  
Leona Carlson  
Betty Ebsen

## Happy Birthday to...

|          |                     |          |                  |          |                   |
|----------|---------------------|----------|------------------|----------|-------------------|
| March 1  | Viola Anderson      | March 12 | Shelby McDowell  | March 22 | Anina Madsen      |
|          | Deloris Christensen |          | Cheyenne Shannon | March 25 | Rosie Spangenberg |
| March 3  | Judy Larson Pleas   | March 13 | Daniel Solon     | March 27 | John Husmann      |
| March 6  | Cheryl Ellis        | March 15 | Marcia Rodgers   | March 29 | Phil Meyer        |
| March 8  | Luverne Buley       | March 16 | Jill Gress       |          | Jim Nelson        |
|          | Dee Swanger         | March 17 | Ron Stairs       |          | John Smith II     |
|          | Loren Gress         | March 18 | Chelsea Baker    |          | Ciara Hite        |
| March 9  | Ruth Nelson         | March 19 | Kristin Cohorst  | March 30 | Ed Reedy          |
|          | Owen Hansen         | March 20 | Cassie Shannon   |          |                   |
|          | Macy Hansen         |          | Jacquie Moats    |          |                   |
| March 11 | Holly Snyder        | March 21 | Wade Juhl        |          |                   |

## Anniversaries...

|          |                      |
|----------|----------------------|
| March 24 | Tyler & Jamie Hansen |
| March 31 | Phil & Jane Meyer    |

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



## WORSHIP AND MUSIC NEWS

You may have noticed that the new sound system is here! There are many more speakers, much crisper and robust sounds as well as smaller cabinet with much better control. This system also has automatic adjustments of on/off as well as adapting to the volume of speakers using the mics!

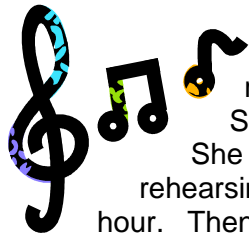
### BELL CHOIR OF EMANUEL

Cindy Richards and Elaine Sasso lead our Bell Choir! All youth ages 7 and older are invited to participate. Adults are also welcome to participate! The Bell Choir will meet Sunday mornings at 10:30 am in the lower level Sunday School rooms. The bell choir will share during worship sometime in March. Come and be part of the fun!



### Children's Music!

Cindy Richards will continue to lead our young people in rehearsal and singing the first Sunday in Mar, Apr and 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.

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Thanks to all who participated in Emanuel's 2nd Annual Mardi Gras Celebration!

We counted 107 who came and enjoyed a wonderful afternoon filled with music, food, fun and fellowship! Once all the bills are paid we anticipate over \$1,000.00 was raised for Bible camperships! Our special thanks to:

- Da Band for sharing their musical talents (Cindy Richards, Rosie Spangenberg, Kevin Epperson, Mike Hipnar and Tim Johnson)
  - The "Occasional Quartet" (Pastor Lowell, Mike Loos, Jane Anderson and Deann Over)
  - Linda Steensland, Sharon Hansen and Deann Over, who prepared "Taste of Cajun" specialties
  - Baker Amy Steensland whose cupcakes and candy treats were devoured in minutes
  - Angel McGee who organized the silent auction which raised \$800 !!
  - All those who donated silent auction items
  - Carrie Hansen and Michaela Lewis who helped the young (and young at heart) create individually decorated masks and other adornments
  - Tristan Steensland and his friend who wowed us with magic card tricks
  - Those who transformed the Fellowship Hall and entry ways with Mardi Gras flair: Mike Hipnar, Kevin Epperson, Sharon Hansen, Angel McGee, Lauren and Kylie Hansen, Carrie Hansen, Connie Solon and Jane Anderson
  - Many helping hands who helped clean up
  - Thrivent Financial who donated \$250 for our Mardi Gras Celebration
  - And especially Pastor Lowell and Brenda!
- Again thanks to everyone! The Mardi Gras Planning Team

Note: We've saved all the decorations – if you run across any throughout the year and are willing to donate – we can store them!

## ADULT EDUCATION NEWS

The Thursday morning adult study is now reading and discussing the Old Testament book of Jonah. The title of the study will be "More than a Fish Story!" Bring your Bible, your sense of humor and your curiosity. All are welcome!

Sunday Evening women's book study will continue to meet. We are reading Brene Brown's "Daring Greatly: Join us Sunday evenings at 6:30pm for lively conversation, good laughs and lots of learning!

The men's study will continue to meet as well and have been digging into a book titled "Simply Jesus" written by N. T. Wright.

## WIDER MINISTRY NEWS

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

- Chap stick
- Travel size hand lotion and hand sanitizer
- Kleenex
- Crossword puzzle books, word search books, etc.
- Journals (No bigger than 7"x9")

These can be placed in the container in the entryway at church.

The March Joyful Noise offering will be for the Spiritual Life Program at Children's Square.

The Wider Ministries Committee is again planning to sponsor 20 Angel Tree children who will attend Lakeside Camp in Pella this summer. Items needed include: beach towels with no writing or logos, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, brush or comb, notebook, notecard in an envelope, stamps and sunscreen. General items that are needed are: large lemonade and kool aid mixes, toilet paper and paper towels. Items can be given to Linda Steensland, or labeled and left at the church. Thanks for your support

## 125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE NEWS

The Anniversary Team met on February 5. We read a small piece of Emanuel history composed about 1915 by the secretary of the Iowa Conference, Augustana Synod. It was so very interesting—especially the part about a “vanishing” pastor in the early 1900’s! We reviewed Connie Solon’s work in reading and excerpting church records. She is putting items in the newsletter each month from Emanuel’s history. We had an update from Elaine Sasso regarding photo collection, storage and access. She has found a very inexpensive and efficient way to scan and store digitally 1000 photos. Two team members will cover the cost of about \$50 for that process. The team approved going ahead with that project.

We discussed funding and fundraising. The team will raise some initial funds by hosting the March 25th Lenten supper at ELC. We heard from Cindy Richards regarding music and worship possibilities. She will investigate options and costs for commissioning a musical composition in honor of the anniversary. She will investigate the options for a guest organ concert during the year and for having guest choirs (especially Lutheran college choirs) as part of the anniversary year. We heard from Richard Reed concerning the development of an address database to send invitations to former

staff. There are some blank spaces in the list, and he will request help from longtime members in securing more addresses. We will send “Save the Date” cards for our November weekend in early March.

We heard from Linda Steensland regarding mission project options. She visited with Cindy Wells at the synod office and will put those options into writing for us. We discussed options for creating a searchable database of information based on personal names in our records and photos. Ruth Sullivan will invite Abaigh Plummer to our next meeting to share with us how she carried out such a project for the Dodge House. We got an update from Michaela Lewis on windows in the old church building. They have been removed and are being stored at this point. She will check on their status for the future.

Our next meeting will be March 5 at 5:30 p.m. The agenda will include: Hearing from Abaigh Plummer; Lenten dinner plans; Photo storage project update; Remembrance Tea planning; Mission project options and possible decisions; and other items as they come up.

*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.*

As we prepare for Emanuel's 125th Anniversary, we are looking at the history of the Church in photos. If you have a few minutes of time, please come **Saturday, March 14th at 10:00 AM** to help sort through these photos as they are prepared to be scanned into a digital images. We will meet in one of the lower level classrooms to sort pictures into sections. If you have additional photos you wish to include in this analogy, please feel free to bring them along. All original photos will be returned but we will now have a digital image for our Anniversary Presentation. For additional information, please contact Elaine Sasso at Church or at home, 712-388-3830.



*The family of Elton Miller wants to thank you all for your kind words, prayers, cards, and visits after the loss of Elton. Much gratitude to the women of Emanuel who served lunch and provided food. Your love and support are gratefully appreciated.*

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## WELCA NEWS

Women of the ELCA: Our Savior's Lutheran of Council Bluffs invites you to the Tabitha Cluster meeting on Saturday, April 25, at the Museum of Religious Arts located between Missouri Valley and Logan on Highway 30. They will be opening the doors at 9:45 am with registration and coffee until 10:15. There is an admission fee of \$5 (if you are a member of AARP or AAA, it is \$2.50). We are honored to have Pastor Steve Pera from Missouri Valley conduct the Bible Study on the theme verse: Psalm 119:111 "Thy testimonies have I taken as an heritage forever; for they are the rejoicing of my heart." A representative will give an overview and history of the Museum. Lunch will be provided. A free-will offering will be taken with one-half going to the Igambilo Lutheran Girls Secondary School campaign (ILSGSS) and remaining will cover expenses and to WISWO

### 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
- July 2017: 10<sup>th</sup> Triennial gathering of the ELCA in Minneapolis MN

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*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. If you are interested in attending, please see Pastor Lowell.*

*Lutheran Lakeside holds its 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Quilt Auction on April 11, 2015 at St. John Lutheran Church in Carroll. Quilts are handmade by individuals and women's groups who support the camp. Pastor Cindy Johnson and members from St John are planning, organizing and carrying out the event. Our thanks go out to them and all those who made the quilts. This is a large task that takes the hands of many people. Large quilts, small quilts, baby quilts, comforters, afghans and other items are being auctioned for this fundraiser. The event begins with quilt viewing and lunch between 11:00am and 12:30pm. The auction begins at 1:00pm. Will Epperly from St John Lutheran Church in Dunlap is the auctioneer. Faith Lutheran in Odebolt is supplementing the proceeds with \$1.00 donated for every \$3.00 raised up to \$7000.00. Gifts given before the auction may be used to help reach the \$21,000.00 needed. If you would like to help us reach our goal but are unable to attend the auction you may send your gift to : Lutheran Lakeside Camp, 2491 170<sup>th</sup> St, Spirit Lake, IS 51360. Please indicate on your check your wish to help with the quilt auction. Thank you!*

## Meet Emanuel Member...



David Appel! David was born in 1917 on a farm near Dannebrog, Nebraska as the second of four children. (David wanted everyone to know that Dannebrog is also the name of the Danish flag). After high

school, David went to California to work in the oil fields. After several months, he became homesick and went back home. Since two of his uncles had been in the infantry in World War I, he joined the army asking to be placed in the infantry on February 27, 1941. Of course the army did not honor his wishes and placed him with the 18<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineer's Unit. He spent the summer of 1942 assisting in building the Alaskan highway and he participated in the Battle of Attu in May of 1943 which is the only battle during World War II fought on American soil.

David left the army on June 14, 1945 as a tech sergeant. He married his wife Eileen back home in Dannebrog, Nebraska on December 25, 1945. They were married for 59 years and had three children, two boys and a girl.

David entered the University of Nebraska under the GI bill and received a degree in business education in 1949. From there, he worked for the United States Post Office from 1949 to 1967 when he retired at the ripe old age of 50. He then applied to be a teacher at an Omaha business college, but instead they made him the dean of the business college where he served in that capacity for five years. After that, David spent 10 years with the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA) and retired for the last time in 1982.

After his retirement, David built a cabin in Black Hawk, Colorado about 25 miles from Golden.

David joined Emanuel Lutheran Church in 1949 when the church was located at 7<sup>th</sup> & Mill in Council Bluffs, Iowa and the pastor was Ernie Holmes. David's energy and laughter are well loved here at Emanuel!





As we celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we would like to share with you a bit each month about the various departments and programs at Bethany Lutheran Home. This month we highlight our **Spiritual program.**

Founded and sponsored by 15 area Lutheran churches in 1975, Bethany Lutheran Home continues to be dedicated to helping people meet the challenges and enjoy the blessings of life. This is done through programs and services addressing the physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual needs of our residents. As a faith based organization, Bethany Lutheran Home along with our sponsoring congregations offer a variety of programs to residents and staff. Sunday afternoon worship services are conducted by our sponsoring congregation Pastors, lay leaders and volunteers on a rotating monthly basis. Our chaplain, Pastor Wolfe conducts Holy Communion services each Monday morning as well as Vespers services on Wednesday afternoons. A Bible Study is offered by our Chaplain on Thursday afternoons in the Worship. Catholic Communion services and Rosary services are held on a regular basis by our colleagues from the Catholic community. The foundation from which Bethany was built 40 years ago, continues to be our focus today—We serve by Sharing Christ's Love.

**Welcome Pastor Wolfe**—Bethany Lutheran Home and Bethany Heights are excited to share that Pastor Ian Wolfe has joined the Bethany family as Chaplain. Originally from Treynor, Iowa, Pastor Wolfe graduated from Treynor High School and the University of Iowa. What originally started as a path as a Political Science major with the intent to attend law school, God had other plans for him. Through prayer and discernment, Pastor Wolfe was called into the ministry and attended Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, South Carolina where he met his wife, Alicia. Following his internship in Huntsville, Alabama, Pastor Wolfe served St. Paul Lutheran Church in Maynard, IA as well as Reformation Lutheran Church in Westminster, CA. Pastor Wolfe is excited to be back in the Midwest and at Bethany. When asked about his role at Bethany, Pastor Wolfe shared it is to “provide an intentional spiritual aspect of care.” Likened to a parish, Bethany can easily be viewed as a multifaceted ministry, serving individuals of all ages and from all walks of life. Please join us in welcoming Pastor Wolfe, his wife Alicia and children Paige (8), Justin (7) and Jordan (4) Wolfe.

**Employment Opportunities at Bethany**—Bethany currently has several positions available. For more information, please visit our website at [www.bethanylutheranhome.org](http://www.bethanylutheranhome.org) or contact our HR Coordinator, Cindy Schechinger at 712-328-9500.



During March's National Professional Social Work Month, we celebrate social workers and the

difference they make by dedicating their lives to helping others! Social workers are found in all areas of our communities, helping struggling children, families and adults find resources, discover their own strengths and build healthier futures.

You make it possible for LSI's many social workers to bring hope to Iowans who are struggling with mental illness, family crisis, addiction, poverty and many other challenges. Thank you for your support and prayers that fuel LSI's mission of responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

**“April is the best person I have ever worked with in her field.”** The hard reality about parenting a child with a history of trauma is that as much as you want to find the right help, sometimes it's impossible to know where to look.

Just ask Jill and her 15-year-old stepdaughter Sierra.

“Sierra has a history that a child shouldn't have to go through,” she said. “We tried to seek help for her in several different places through therapists and institutions and various agencies.”

When Sierra was discharged from a residential placement, Jill and her husband were nervous. They knew she wasn't ready to come home, but they felt they had exhausted all the options.

Fortunately, Jill had one last idea. She turned to someone she had known personally for years—April, an LSI social worker.

“I can honestly say that April is the best person I have ever worked with in her field,” Jill said. LSI and April were different, Jill said.

“We hit a lot of dead ends with agencies and people we called on for help,” she said. “It was frustrating. When we got involved with LSI through April, she always got back to us. She always had a suggestion.”

When their family faced a serious crisis last summer, Jill knew exactly who to call.

“My husband and I were in Texas for a work trip,” Jill said. “Sierra made some bad choices, and we were concerned about her safety and her caregiver's safety. Honestly, I don't know what we would have done if we hadn't had April getting us the help Sierra needed.”

With April's support, the family made a plan to get Sierra in a safe place until they returned home. For Jill, April was a lifesaver. For April, it was simply life as usual at LSI.

*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>March Ushers</b>        |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>March 1</b>             | <b>8:30 a.m. Communion</b> | <b>11:00 a.m. Communion</b> |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Macy Hansen                | Ashley Hipnar               |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Loren Carrier              | Linda Steensland            |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | Elaine Sasso               | NONE                        |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> |                            |                             |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Connie & Matt Solon        | Carol Fahrenkrug            |
| <b>March 8</b>             | <b>8:30 a.m. Communion</b> | <b>11:00 a.m.</b>           |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Clare Plummer              | Taryn McSorley              |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Brennan Plummer            | Darlene Jeppesen            |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | John Husmann               | Judy Pleas                  |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> |                            |                             |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Pat Hiller                 | Brenda Hennigs              |
| <b>March 15</b>            | <b>8:30 a.m. Communion</b> | <b>11:00 a.m. Communion</b> |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Aralynn Conley             | Alaire Carrier              |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Angel McGee                | Jan Husmann                 |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | Brenda Hennigs             | Carrie Hansen               |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> |                            |                             |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Al & Linda Martens         | Barb Burns                  |
| <b>March 22</b>            | <b>8:30 a.m. Communion</b> | <b>11:00 a.m. Communion</b> |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Lauren Hansen              | Tyler Steensland            |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Rick Stone                 | Greg Steensland             |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | NONE                       | NONE                        |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> |                            |                             |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Carol Fahrenkrug           | Amy & Linda Steensland      |
| <b>March 29</b>            | <b>8:30 a.m. Communion</b> | <b>11:00 a.m. Communion</b> |
| <b>Acolyte</b>             | Shae Nickels               | Andrew Hubbard              |
| <b>Lector</b>              | Aly Sorensen               | Mike Winter                 |
| <b>Children's Sermon</b>   | Elaine Sasso               | Rosie Spangenberg           |
| <b>Communion Assistant</b> |                            |                             |
| <b>Communion Set-Up</b>    | Pat Hiller                 | Carol Fahrenkrug            |

### March Flowers

|          |                     |
|----------|---------------------|
| March 1  | Judy Pleas          |
| March 8  | Dan & Judy Heithoff |
| March 15 | Margie Powell       |
| March 22 |                     |
| March 29 |                     |

### March Coffee Hour

|          |               |
|----------|---------------|
| March 1  | Jane Anderson |
| March 8  | Sandy Kanger  |
| March 15 | OPEN          |
| March 22 | OPEN          |
| March 28 | OPEN          |

**\*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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### February ATTENDANCE & GIVING

|                               |    |        |
|-------------------------------|----|--------|
| February 1                    | 12 | \$663  |
| February 8                    | 84 | \$4852 |
| February 15                   | 90 | \$1642 |
| February 22                   | 67 | \$1968 |
| ASH Wednesday Attendance - 70 |    |        |



# March 2015 – Emanuel Lutheran Church

| SUNDAY                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | MONDAY                                                                                                             | TUESDAY                                                             | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                                                            | THURSDAY                                                                                                  | FRIDAY                                                   | SAT.                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>8:30am & 11:00 am Worship & Holy Comm<br>9:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>9:45 Transition Team Update<br>9:45am Children's music<br>10:30 Bell practice<br>12:30 Table Tennis Tourney<br>4:00 pm Worship @ Bethany<br>6:30 pm Men & Women Book study    | <b>2</b><br>11:00 am Tai Chi                                                                                       | <b>3</b>                                                            | <b>4</b><br>9:30 am Mission Action<br>12noon Lenten Worship<br>6:00 pm Supper<br>7:00 pm Lenten Worship                                              | <b>5</b><br>9:30 am Adult Stdy<br>11:00 am Tai Chi<br>1:00 pm Game Day<br>7:00 pm Choir                   | <b>6</b><br>Office Closed                                | <b>7</b>                            |
| <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS! 8</b><br>8:30am & 11:00 am Worship & Holy Comm<br>9:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>9:45 am Adult Study & Family Sunday Schl<br>10:30 Bell practice<br>4:00 pm Worship @ Bethany<br>6:30 pm Men & Women Book study                              | <b>9</b><br>11:00 am Tai Chi                                                                                       | <b>10</b><br>8:30 am<br>ROMEOs<br>7 pm Council Meeting              | <b>11</b><br>9:30 am Mission Action<br>11:30 am Adult Fellowship at Pizza Ranch<br>12noon Lenten Worship<br>6:00 pm Supper<br>7:00 pm Lenten Worship | <b>12</b><br>9:30 am Adult Stdy<br>11:00 am Tai Chi<br>6:30 pm N Broadway Nghbrhd Assctn<br>7:00 pm Choir | <b>13</b><br>Office Closed                               | <b>14</b><br>10:00am Photo Sorting! |
| <b>15</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>2:00 pm Hazel Schneider 100 b-day reception<br>4:00 pm Worship @ Bethany<br>6:30 pm Men & Women Book study | <b>16</b><br><i>Cookie Crumbs</i><br>11:00am Tai Chi<br>6:30 pm<br>Worship & Music Mtg<br>7:00 pm MS Support Group | <b>17</b><br><i>Cookie Crumbs</i><br>7 pm Children & Youth Min. Mtg | <b>18</b><br>9:30 am Mission Action<br>12noon Lenten Worship<br>6:00 Supper<br>7:00 pm Lenten Worship                                                | <b>19</b><br>9:30 am Adult Stdy<br>11:00am Tai Chi<br>7:00 pm Choir                                       | <b>20</b><br>Office Closed<br>9:30 am Blessings & Brunch | <b>21</b>                           |
| <b>JOYFUL NOISE 22</b><br>8:30am & 11:00 am Worship & Holy Comm<br>9:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>9:45 Family Sunday Schl<br>10:30 Bell practice<br>2:00pm Piano Recital<br>4:00 pm Worship @ Bethany<br>6:30 pm Men & Women Book study                           | <b>23</b><br>11 am<br>Communion at Midlands                                                                        | <b>24</b>                                                           | <b>25</b><br>9:30 am Mission Action<br>12noon Lenten Worship<br>6:00 pm Supper<br>7:00 Lenten Worship                                                | <b>26</b><br>9:30 am Adult Stdy<br>11:00 am Tai Chi<br>7:00 pm Choir                                      | <b>27</b><br>Office Closed                               | <b>28</b>                           |
| <b>PALM SUNDAY 29</b><br>8:30am & 11:00 am Worship & Holy Comm<br>9:30 Fellowship & Coffee Hr<br>9:45 Family Sunday Schl<br>10:30 Bell practice<br>4:00 pm Worship @ Bethany<br>5:30pm Seder Meal                                                                 | <b>30</b><br>11:00am Tai Chi                                                                                       | <b>31</b>                                                           |                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                           |                                                          |                                     |

# Children's Ministry



## Children's Ministry

By Michaela Lewis

**March 1<sup>st</sup>** we will be meeting with Cindy from 9:45 a.m.-10:30 a.m. to practice a song to sing during the 11 a.m. service. Bell choir will be at 10:30 am!



Starting **March 8<sup>th</sup>** we will be studying communion with Pastor Lowell. All ages are welcome! Students who will be receiving first communion need to attend all three sessions (March 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>).

**March 29<sup>th</sup>** will be the Seder Dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by worship where students will receive first communion. Stay tuned to find out how you can help or participate in the dinner! Also on March 29<sup>th</sup> during Sunday School, we will be spreading some Easter cheer at Midlands on March 29.

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** we will have an Easter Egg hunt between services at 9 am for children up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. **BRING FRIENDS!** We will have gift packs for all kids participating! No need to bring baskets. We will need volunteers to spread eggs around outside (or inside if we don't have the best weather).

Thank you to the confirmation students, Brenda and Sharon for leading class and crafts on February 15<sup>th</sup>!

Thank you to Carrie Hansen for planning and organizing crafts at Marti Gras! The kids all had a great time!

## Wishlist



Plastic Eggs! Lots of them!



Wrapped Candy and items to fill Easter Eggs.

*I will put a box near the stairs for people who would like to donate items.*



As you are all aware, plans are in full swing for 8 youth and 3 adults to travel to Detroit this summer for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. While raising the necessary funds is an important part of what we do (be sure to join us at the Lenten Dinners and again for Easter Breakfast), we are also busy preparing ourselves spiritually. Together with our friends from Our Saviors, we have been studying Dying and Rising Up Together. In Lesson One we looked at the Gospel of Mark through new eyes and in Lesson Two we discussed the Theology of the Cross. These lessons are important for those of us heading to Detroit for the Gathering. Detroit has experienced brokenness, oppression, and marginalization at levels many people cannot imagine. It is important for us to see this brokenness for what it is. Not a sign of Detroit's unfaithfulness but a result of the evil and sin-racism, classism, corruption, etc. Not as a sign of God's absence from Detroit, but the very place in which God shows up and brings life out of death. This is the way we will think and act in Detroit. What we need from you is prayerful support as we study and prepare. If you would like to become more connected to us and this trip from a spiritual perspective, we are asking 8 individuals and/or couples to "sponsor" us. You would be assigned to one of the youth attendees and walk this spiritual journey with them through prayer, support, and direct communication before, during, and after the gathering. This is not financial sponsorship (although we won't turn that down), but rather spiritual sponsorship. It will be great for the kids, and great for you too! If you are interested in sponsoring one of the youth, contact Megan or Chris Sorensen ([cmsorensen1@cox.net](mailto:cmsorensen1@cox.net)) or 712-242-6375. We are looking for 8 sponsors so sign up quick!

The attendees are:

Baylee Snyder  
Alyson Sorensen  
Jessica Hipnar  
Haley Holland  
Mattie Nickels  
Will Schademann  
Brendan Ellis  
Marcus McGee

EMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Notes

Tuesday, 02/10/2015

Present: Kevin Epperson, Oscar Over, Mike Winter, Karen McPartland, Charles Kemmish, Matt Solon, Penny Dahlke, Carrie Hansen, Suzanne Winter, Dani Schaal

Absent: Chris Reed

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

Devotions by Keven Epperson including the reading of excerpts from "Devoted". It was noted that there are 14 contributors to the "Devoted" booklet. It was noted that "Devoted" can be downloaded on your Amazon Kindle for .99.

Council Agenda:

- The following amendments were made to the minutes of January 13, 2015.
  1. Page 2 Second line is amended to say "will be submitting a worship schedule and analysis in the annual report".
  2. Under Committee Reports Stewardship/Finance – last sentence was amended to say "special council meeting" not council member.
  3. Under Property Report, the last sentence was corrected to say "they're working on the unity dirt removal from wall", not "candle wax removal".
  4. Under New Business paragraph 3 – it was amended to say January 25 rather than January 2.
- Motion by by Suzanne Winter, seconded by Penny Dahlke to approve the minutes as revised. Approved.
- Motion made by Oscar Over, seconded by Carrie Hansen to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on January 18, 2015. Approved
- Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by Matt Solon to approve the financial secretary report. Approved.
- Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by Charles Kemmish to approve capital fund report. \$308.33 per month is paid into the capital fund and there remains \$18,734.15 of unspent money from hail damage insurance claim. Approved
- Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by Penny Dahlke to approve the Memorial Fund Report. Approved.
- Pastor's Report was received and reviewed
- Worship and Music report was presented by Kevin Epperson. They are looking into hanging video projectors and talking to Echo regarding lighting and the potential of LED lights and dimmer switches and installing retro kits. Easter lilies and palms need to be ordered
- No report received from Evangelism Committee nor Mutual Ministries

Old Business:

1. Council received a transition team update. Needs to meet with the congregation and provide an opportunity for input.
2. 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update given by Pastor Hennigs. Connie Solon is working on a church history. It was noted in the records that the pastor from the 1900's vanished with no indication of when or what happened to him. Further reported that the former church at 7<sup>th</sup> & Mill in Council Bluffs, Iowa will soon be demolished. There was also some discussion regarding bank bag procedures with consideration given to a drop safe or purchasing a small safe. A safe can be purchased from Able Lock for \$575-\$695 or through Amazon for \$199.99. It was decided that no change would be made for now and the issue was tabled.

New Business:

1. a discussion was held about proceeding with a new church directory to be scheduled in April and a discussion was held regarding placing signs to the Fellowship Hall and the Sanctuary.

Motion by Matt Solon, seconded by Penny Dahlke to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 7 p.m.



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

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

**Game Day**

Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm  
in Fellowship Hall

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

Tuesday March 10<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30a.m. at  
Village Inn East

**Adult Fellowship**

Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30  
a.m. at Pizza Ranch

**Women of Emanuel Blessings & Brunch**

Friday March 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

**Mission Action Committee (Quilters)**

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



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**\* Communion Class! March 8, 15, and 22.**

The class is covered in three sessions, so participants should plan to attend all three Sundays. The class will be capped off by the celebration of a simulated Seder Meal on Sunday, March 29. That meal is a part of the class and will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Young people will then receive their first communions at our Maundy Thursday worship service on April 2 at 7 p.m.



# Ramblings from the back corner....

## Ramblings from the Back Corner

Lent is here. A time to reflect. A time to realign ourselves with God who sent His Son for our salvation. He did it. We've been baptized into it. We're already there but our minds stray. We forget the joy, the ecstasy of living in His grace and glory every moment. But that's because we're human. No, that's not an excuse for the things we do. It's fact. We need help. We need His assistance every moment to stay focused on Him and what our role is in that relationship. We need Lent to help us look inside and work on that relationship.

This year our Lenten theme song is "The Feast is Ready (The Trumpets Sound, the Angels Sing)". This is one of the songs in our hymnal that was written by Graham Kendrick, a British singer-songwriter and worship leader. The others are "Shine, Jesus, Shine" and "Here is Bread".

"The Feast is Ready" reminds us that we already have that relationship with God. We know that Easter has occurred. We have reason for joy, for elation in what God has done for us. Now. Not later. Not after Easter. Not when we die. Now! Now we can live in this feast. God has done this for us. Let us sing joyfully!

The trumpets sound, the angels sing  
The feast is ready to begin  
The gates of heaven are open wide  
And Jesus welcomes you inside

Tables are laden with good things  
O taste the peace and joy he brings  
He'll fill you up with love divine  
He'll turn your water into wine

Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight  
Come and revel in heaven's love and light  
Take your place at the table of the King  
The feast is ready to begin  
The feast is ready to begin

The hungry heart he satisfies  
Offers the poor his paradise  
Now hear all heaven and earth applaud  
The amazing goodness of the Lord.