

Garden of Readin'



Emanuel Lutheran Church Newsletter

February 2016

Happenings!

Sunday, February 7—Mardi Gras from 4 pm - 6pm in the fellowship Hall.

Wednesday, February 10—Ash Wednesday Services at noon and 7 pm.

Sunday, February 14—Healing Service, Confirmation Large Group

Wednesday, February 17—Lenten Dinner hosted by Women of Emanuel at 6 pm,
Kidz Kamp at 6:30 pm and Holden Evening Prayer in Sanctuary at 7 pm.

Wednesday, February 24—Lenten Dinner hosted by Children & Youth at 6 pm,
Kidz Kamp at 6:30 pm and Holden Evening Prayer in Sanctuary at 7 pm.

Saturday, February 27—Western Iowa Synod Leadership Academy: Nuts and
Bolts of Ministry in Atlantic, Iowa.

Saturday, February 27 - Sunday, February 28—Ping Pong Tournament

Sunday, February 28—First Communion Class.

Mission
Statement:
Forgiven
by Grace,
Serving by
Faith

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



Play games at Family Fun Night on New Year's Eve.

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Periodic Pastoral Ponderings

(From a guy who likes alliteration a lot)

BY PASTOR LOWELL HENNIGS

Dear partners in the Gospel,

In 2016, our ministry theme is “Many Gifts, One Spirit.” We focus this year on Paul’s words from First Corinthians 12:7—“*To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*” During Epiphany, we took some time to identify, to explore and to celebrate our spiritual gifts as a congregation and as individual believers. I hope you found that affirming, energizing and challenging!

On February 10, we enter the season of Lent. We will focus on two resources that can deepen our love for God and our neighbor. On Sundays, we will celebrate the gift of the Psalms. We will challenge ourselves to read through the whole book of Psalms during Lent. In addition, our congregational Lenten devotional book will offer us reflections and prayers based on the Psalms.

During our midweek services, we will focus on the gift of prayer. Our theme will be “Scratch Where It Itches!” We will learn and practice the prayer method Martin Luther taught. Luther’s barber, Peter Beskendorf once asked, “Dr. Luther, how do you pray?” In response, Luther wrote his barber a book-length letter. He suggested that Beskendorf would spend time each day on a verse or passage from the Bible. Luther suggested that the barber should spend some time on four questions:



Instruction: What does this verse or passage teach me today?

Thanksgiving: For what does this verse or passage lead me to give thanks today?

Confession: What wrong or fault does this verse or passage move me to confess?

Hope: What does this verse or passage lead me to ask for or hope for?

Perhaps you can see the “i-t-c-h” in those questions. We will take time at our midweek services to practice scratching the prayer itch with various Bible passages. Those services will include Holden Evening Prayer as our liturgy. And we will have midweek worship at both noon and seven p.m.

During our evening time together, we will enjoy a community meal provided by one of our church committees or teams. A new feature of midweek worship this year will be “Kidz Kamp.” Brenda Hennigs and volunteers will lead activities, crafts, music, recreation and study in our upstairs youth center. Kidz Kamp is available for children from kindergarten through fifth grade. The Kamp will be offered from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. on February 17 and 24, and March 2, 9 and 16. Please contact Brenda if you would be interested in helping with this event. Emanuel is blessed with many and marvelous gifts for mission and service. I invite you to deepen your spiritual life and experience so those gifts can be used for even greater love for God and neighbor!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Lowell



New Members

Welcome to Erin Miller and Karl & Lucy Kanne who became members of Emanuel on January 1.

Easter Lilies

We will have Easter Lilies available to order for the Easter services again this year. Look for ordering envelopes shortly or contact the office if you would like to order one.



125th Mission Project

BY PASTOR LOWELL HENNIGS

Our 125th Anniversary Mission Project goal is a gift of \$12,500 to the Igumbilo Girls' School in Tanzania. That's \$100 for every year of faith, hope and love at Emanuel Lutheran Church. On February 14th, Cindy Wells, from our Western Iowa Synod office, will be with us at worship. Cindy coordinates companion synod relationships for our Synod and will share more information about the ministry of the School. We will have a chance to present gifts for the Mission Project at that service, and many of us will do so. Please plan to participate in that wonderful expression of gratitude for all our Lord has done for us in the past 125 years!



Worship Notes

Ash Wednesday worship at noon and seven p.m. will be held in the sanctuary and will include the traditional imposition of ashes as we begin our Lenten journey together. Imposition of ashes and Holy Communion will also be offered at 10 a.m. at the Midlands Living Center for residents, family and friends there.

Worship on February 14th will be a service of Healing and Wholeness. Please prepare in prayer for that service. You will be invited as the Spirit moves you to come forward to the altar rail for laying on of hands, prayers and anointing.

Synod Leadership Academy

BY MICHAELA LEWIS

The Western Iowa Synod will be holding their Leadership Academy again this year. It will be **February 27th** at St Paul in Atlantic. Registration check-in begins at 8:45 am, with the program starting at 9:15 am. We do need to preregister. This is open to anyone who would like to go. Last year Cindy, Judi and I attended and Pastor Lowell was a precentor at it. The cost should also be lower this year, as we can have five people attend for only \$75!

Right now we already have three people going this year. It would be great to have even more than one car load of people going! They have topics that cover all different areas of ministry. There is additional information on the website at <http://www.wisynod.org>.

“This event is a great opportunity for congregational leaders to come together for a time of learning, sharing, fellowship and being the church together. There will be several workshops offered on the “nuts & bolts” of ministry, however through all of these nuts & bolts items must be guidance and encouragement of the Holy Spirit. Bishop Roger Gustafson, Central States Synod, ELCA, will energize and enlighten us with his teachings on Being a Spirit Filled Leader. He is known for asking good questions and relating ministry to his travels on a motorcycle. Invite others from your congregation and make plans to join us!!”

Please let me know if you are interested in going! .

Pictures and Pastries

February 7, 14 & 21

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Help ID photos in the fellowship hall from Emanuel's past.

 Parenting with
Love and Logic

6 week session

April 6, 13, 20, 27, May 4 & 11

6:45 p.m.—7:45 p.m.

Cost is \$25. Childcare Provided.



In Our Prayers...

Ray Kanger
Betty Ebsen

Daphne Miller
Elizabeth Britton

Glen Fahrenkrug
Viola Anderson

Lucille Weatherill
Deb Hipnar

Leona Carlson
Monte Manser

Happy Birthday...

February 1 Aaron Madsen

February 2 Christina Matuszeski

February 3 Melvin Bird

February 6 Rita Epperson
Bethany Spilde

February 7 Mike Todd
Phyllis Fowler

February 8 Angel McGee

February 9 Jane Meyer

February 10 Julie Holland

February 11 Logan Wilson
Amber Donovan

February 13 Ernie Techau
Carla Hipnar

February 17 Dennis Beckman
Joshua Hubbard
Sandy Smith

February 19 Jay Parker

Taylor Edson

February 20 Esther Bender

February 21 Sarah Dean
LaWayne Andersen

Amy Steensland

February 22 Donna Murray

Ashley Hipnar

February 23 Terry Burns

February 24 Megan Sorensen
Shawn Gallagher

February 27 Donna Nelson

Brett Epperson

Jane Anderson

February 28 Crystal Reedy



Happy Anniversary...

February 5 Sid & Judy Dillon

February 19 Brad & Penny Dahlke

February 28 Matt & Connie Solon



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

Bethany Lutheran Home Annual Meeting Update

BY DIANE CARLON

Bethany Lutheran Home was founded more than 40 years ago by 15 area Lutheran Churches. Each year delegates from our sponsoring congregations come together to elect members of the Board of Directors as well as hear an update regarding both Bethany Lutheran Home and Bethany Heights. We have had several individuals request a copy of Mike Van Sickle, COO/Administrator's report from the annual meeting. We are taking this opportunity to share excerpts from the presentation, due to space.

Nursing homes are the 2nd most regulated business in this country with over 5000 regulations and multiple interpretations on many of them. Nuclear Power is first. When I began as an Administrator in 1983, two State Inspectors came in and spent about 2 days touring the Home, looking at a few resident records, watching food preparation in the kitchen and medication passes. If you had a good procedure or policy they would tell others to contact you. There was a focus on quality of care for the resident.

Today a team of at least 4 State Inspectors will be here for at least a week and may be back the next week. They will go through records with a fine tooth comb. They will tour looking for anything that does not appear to be orderly. The focus is no longer on how well a resident is taken care of, but did you follow the regulation. Our challenges are many. We now have State Nursing Home Inspectors, Federal Nursing Home Inspectors, State Fire Inspectors, State and Federal OSHA inspectors, State Food Inspectors, Fire Suppression Inspections for the kitchen, inspections on our backup generator, fire alarm and sprinkler system inspections and a variety of Insurance Inspectors. Up to five years ago State fines were almost non-existent. Today fines are in excess of \$200,000 a month. Federal fines can range from \$350 to \$10,000 per day or more making nursing homes easy targets for politicians and lawsuits.

To meet all the requirements of our regulations we have 4 staff members for each resident 24 hours a day. We have the equivalent of 5 staff members whose job is to meet required government paperwork at a cost of approximately \$300,000. Quality staff are difficult to come by. Bethany is required to perform extensive background checks before hiring someone: Criminal background, abuse registry, licensure registry, certification registry, professional background check, and personal background check.

Private pay today makes up about 60% of our revenues; Medicare accounts for about 15% of our revenue and Medicaid accounts for about 25% of our revenues. Medicaid also accounts for a loss of \$67,585 for October and November due to the fact Medicaid does not pay the actual cost of care. Our cost of caring for someone is approximately \$236.75 per day per resident and Medicaid pays us (Bethany) about \$203/per day/Medicaid resident. Last fiscal year we were underpaid about \$318,000. This year about \$352,000. The Government sets the rates of payment for Medicare and Medicaid. Private pay individuals are expected, by government, to subsidize the nursing home for the difference between the actual cost of care and what government pays.

Bethany Heights Senior Living Facility is once again in the process of being certified by the State to provide Assisted Living Services. This simply means we have actually had to create new jobs.

We continue to offer a Scholarship to assist people to live at Bethany Heights whose funds have run low or who wish to live at the Heights but need financial assistance. (We currently have several apartments available).

What are our future plans? We are working to develop another Independent/Assisted Living facility, however this one will include a 15 apartment Memory Care Unit for individuals with Alzheimer's and other dementias. We are hoping to open this in the summer of 2017

To our Supporting Churches, we continue to offer to assist you with the costs associated with your Vacation Bible School in the summer.

Our success is the result of all the people who work and have worked at Bethany. The Leadership provided by the Department Directors. We are successful because of the dedication and direction provided by the current and past Board of Directors; the time and compassion given by our many volunteers; the Bethany Auxiliary, the Churches, the 4-H kids, the Kirm School Leadership Academy and many more. We are successful because of the willingness of the folks in your church who support Bethany as an ongoing mission. Thank you.

Visiting Our Neighbors

BY LOWELL HENNIGS

The Thursday morning adult study is focusing on the book, *Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith*. We have been studying Islam during our class time. Members of the class and anyone else is invited to gather at Emanuel Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 13th, at 1:30 p.m., to travel to the Islamic Center of Omaha for their monthly open house. The open house includes a brief presentation about Islam followed by a question and answer session. The Islamic Center of Omaha is located at 3511 North 73rd Street in Omaha. If you wish to drive directly to the Islamic Center of Omaha, please feel free to do so and meet the rest of us there at 2 p.m. If you are unable to attend this February field trip, the Islamic Center of Omaha holds such open houses on the second Saturday of each month.

Women of the ELCA

BY CAROL JEPPESEN

AHA! IT'S EPHIANY! Time to go tell it on the mountain! And time to make plans for 2016. Please mark your calendars for the following important dates for our Cluster churches!

Saturday, February 13, 4:30-7 pm St John Lutheran Church, 605 Main St in Mineola is having their Heritage Dinner (whole family invited). Adults \$12, children 5-12 \$6 that includes homemade sausage, rye bread, fried potatoes, green beans, jello salads, and desserts. Take outs and raw sausage available for sale! Check out their website: www.stjohnlutheranmineola.org.

Sunday, February 28, 2 pm. Bold Women Celebration at Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 600 Bluff Street, Council Bluffs, IA. Final plans are being developed but think scrumidocious (maybe even healthy).

Saturday, April 30. Hanna Cluster will be having a program at Exira Lutheran regarding the girls' school in Tanzania with Jan Rosdail-Aegerter as speaker and who made a trip to the school. Contact eveleonapete@hotmail.com.

God's Blessings and Best Wishes for your continuing Faith journey in 2016! Carol Jeppesen, Tabitha Cluster Coordinator, 712-323-1530, caroldenny@cox.net.



BETHANY LUTHERAN HOME / BETHANY HEIGHTS

Bethany News

BY DIANE CARLON

Bethany Heights Apartments Available

Bethany Heights Senior Living Community has several apartments available for seniors. Do you know someone or perhaps even you, who would enjoy the benefits of living in a senior community? Maybe someone interested in living independently or having the benefits of an assisted living community? Bethany Heights offers both independent and assisted living services in apartments ranging in sizes from a Studio to Two Bedroom/Two bathroom. As an individual's needs increase, services are delivered directly to your apartment. Something unique to the area. We'd love for you to schedule a visit and enjoy lunch on us. Small pets are welcome. Some Long Term Care Insurance Policies are eligible for use at Bethany Heights. For more information or to set up a visit please contact Paula Fandry at Bethany Heights 712-328-8228.

Worship At Bethany

Emanuel Lutheran Church is responsible for Sunday afternoon worship in February at Bethany Lutheran Home. Services begin at 4 p.m. and last about 30 minutes. If you would like to assist with those services in any way, please contact Pastor Hennigs at the church office or at emanpas1@gmail.com. Thank you!



22 Dillman Dr, Council Bluffs, IA 51503
Presents
A Sunday Afternoon Recital Series
February 14, 4 p.m.
Cynthia France, pianist

A goodwill offering will be gratefully accepted to support the work of St. Paul's.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



Worship Assistant Schedule

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

Sunday, February 7	9:30 a.m. Communion
Ushers	Ruth Sullivan & Pat Hiller
Acolyte	Alaire Carrier & AaralynnConley
Lector	Jane Meyer
Children's Sermon	John Husmann
Communion Assistant	Alan Ellis
Communion Set-Up	LaWayne & Jim Andersen
Visual Tech	Darlene
Wednesday, February 10	12 p.m. Communion
Ushers	
Lector	Deann Over
Communion Assistant	Oscar Over
Communion Set-Up	
Wednesday, February 10	7 p.m. Communion
Ushers	
Acolyte	Taryn McSorley
Lector	Rosie Spangenberg
Communion Assistant	Brenda Hennigs
Communion Set-Up	
Sunday, February 14	9:30 a.m. Communion
Ushers	Ruth Sullivan & Pat Hiller
Acolyte	Ashley Hipnar
Lector	Kevin Epperson
Communion Assistant	Chris Reed
Communion Set-Up	CharLes Kemmish
Visual Tech	Jane Anderson
Sunday, February 21	9:30 a.m. Communion
Ushers	Ruth Sullivan & Pat Hiller
Acolyte	Tyler Steensland & Owen Hansen
Lector	J. Husmann
Children's Sermon	Elaine Sasso
Communion Assistant	Kevin Epperson
Communion Set-Up	Todd and Jeanine Schademann
Visual Tech	Peggy Jarrell
Sunday, January 28	9:30 a.m. Communion
Ushers	Ruth Sullivan & Pat Hiller
Acolyte	Shae Nickels & Kylie Hansen
Lector	Darlene Jeppeson
Children's Sermon	Sandy Smith
Communion Assistant	Peggy Jarrell
Communion Set-Up	Connie Eyberg & Carol Fahrekrug
Visual Tech	Brenda Hennigs



Flowers

February 7
Brenda & Lowell Hennigs

February 14

February 21

February 28

The flower chart is hanging on the bulletin board at the usher station.



Coffee Hour

February 7

February 14

February 21
Fresh Start

February 28

The coffee hour chart is in the Fellowship Hall.

February 2015 – Emanuel Lutheran Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Joyful Noise! 9:30am Worship & Holy Communion 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee Hour 10:45 am Sunday School 6:30 pm Book Study	11 am Tai Chi 11 am Communion at Midlands	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall 7 pm Boy Scouts in Youth Center 7 pm Daycare Feasibility Study Group	9:30 am Mission Action (Quilters) 6:15 pm Meal 7 pm Table Worship with Communion 7:30 pm DaBand Rehearsal	9:30 am Adult Study 11 am Tai Chi 1 pm Game Day 7 pm Choir Practice 	Office Closed 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall	Mardi Gras Set-Up
9:30am Worship & Holy Communion 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee Hour 10:45 am Sunday School 4 pm - 6 pm Mardi Gras: 	9 am Iowa Cookie Crumbs Sorting 11 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm Worship & Music Committee	8:30 am R.O.M.E.O.S. @ Village Inn East 9 am Iowa Cookie Crumbs Packing 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall 7 pm Boy Scouts in Youth Center 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	9:30 am Mission Action (Quilters) 11:30 am Adult Fellowship at Pizza Ranch 12 pm Ash Wednesday Service 7 pm Ash Wednesday Service	9:30 am Adult Study 11 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm N. Broadway Neighborhood Association 7 pm Choir Practice	Office Closed 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall	13
Healing Service 9:30am Worship & Holy Communion 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee Hour 10:45 am Sunday School 11 am - 2:30 pm Confirmation Large Group 6:30 pm Book study	11 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm 125th Anniversary Committee Meeting 7 pm MS Support Group	7 pm Children & Youth Meeting 7 pm Boy Scouts Court of Honor in Fellowship Hall	9:30 am Mission Action (Quilters) hosted by Women of Emanuel 6:30 pm Kidz Kamp in Youth Center 7 pm Worship in Sanctuary 7:30 pm Da Band Rehearsal	9:30 am Adult Study 11 am Tai Chi 7 pm Choir Practice 	Office Closed 9:30 am Blessings & Brunch	20
9:30am Worship & Holy Communion 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee Hour 10:45 am Sunday School 6:30 pm Book Study	11 am Tai Chi 11 am Communion at Midlands	7 pm Wider Ministries 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall 7 pm Boy Scouts in Youth Center	9:30 am Mission Action (Quilters) 6:00 pm Lenten Dinner hosted by Children & Youth 6:30 pm Kidz Kamp in Youth Center 7 pm Worship in Sanctuary 7:30 pm Da Band Rehearsal	9:30 am Adult Study 11 am Tai Chi 7 pm Choir Practice	Office Closed	27 9 am Western Iowa Synod Leadership Academy: Nuts & Bolts of Ministry in Atlantic, Iowa. 6:30 pm Ping Pong Tournament (Men's Division)
9:30am Worship & Holy Communion 10:30am Fellowship & Coffee Hour 10:45 am First Communion Class 6:30 pm Book Study 12:15 pm Ping Pong Tournament (Women, Youth & Men's Doubles)	11 am Tai Chi 11 am Communion at Midlands	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Fellowship Hall 7 pm Boy Scouts in Youth Center	9:30 am Mission Action (Quilters) hosted by 125th Anniversary Team 6:30 pm Kidz Kamp in Youth Center 7 pm Worship in Sanctuary 7:30 pm Da Band Rehearsal	9:30 am Adult Study 11 am Tai Chi 7 pm Choir Practice	Office Closed	5

Happy Valentine's Day from LSI!

"We love because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19



Lutheran Services in Iowa's (LSI) mission is about love: responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. We give thanks for all the ministry partners of both individuals and congregations who help share this love for Iowa children, families and adults!

We see this love in newly adopted children and their families, in teens who learn to trade self-harm for self-worth, in refugee farmers who share their love of the land with the Des Moines community, in struggling parents who learn positive ways to build love and trust with their children and in so many other moments of hope every day. Thank you for the love you share and create through LSI.

Happy Valentine's Day!

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

A Nurturing Heart

Megan thought it sounded crazy.

Her Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) Families Together worker, Gaylene, had told her about the Nurtured Heart Approach, a strategy that could help Megan address the behaviors of her young children.

"I thought, 'This will not work on my kids,'" Megan said.

Guess what? It works!

Nurtured Heart Approach® (NHA) is one of many strategies LSI staff share with families. NHA is a philosophy that helps people create healthy relationships with each other. For parents, it is a way to focus their energy on creating opportunities for their children to succeed and helping children build positive inner worth.

"Everyone should do it," Megan said. "It's benefited my kids so much. Before there was more screaming

or yelling. Now there is more trust and a better relationship."

As a young mom, Megan first learned about LSI's Families Together program at her local public health clinic. With her fiancée Alberto often traveling for work, Megan is usually home alone all day with three children under age three. Now LSI is helping Megan build a support system of resources and strategies, so Megan doesn't have to do it alone.

"These are big steps for me," she said. "Since I've been meeting with LSI, I've been doing things I never would have done."

Megan has accomplished so much already, and she is building her community connections, too, by helping with a local parent nutrition group.

Now that's truly linking "Families Together!"

Helping Others

BY JAN HUSMANN

Thank you to everyone who donated items for the people in need in our community.

We were able to take several bags to:

- Phoenix House
- Mohm's
- Micah Hourse
- Heartland Family Services
- Sequels

Girl Scouts collected many things with the help of their leader, **Chasity Christie**.

We will continue to collect and deliver as the need doesn't stop when winter ends.

Wider Ministries Committee-contact person, Jan Husmann

Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Minutes for 1/12/2016

SUBMITTED BY MIKE WINTER

Present: Kevin Epperson, Carrie Hansen, CharLes Kemmish, Chris Reed, Matt Solon, Ruth Sullivan, Mike Winter, Oscar Over, Pastor Lowell Hennigs

Absent: Penny Dahlke, Karen McPartland, Danielle (Dani) Schaal, Suzanne Winter

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Kevin Epperson.

Devotions: Chris Reed

Council Agenda:

The minutes of December 8, 2015 were corrected. Page 2 was changed from the New Years Even Potluck to the New Years Evening Potluck and the last bullet point was changed to say "Year end reports for 2015 must be submitted no later than January 10, 2016. During the church council meeting on January 12, 2016, the finance committee's proposed 2016 budget will be presented and reviewed. The council will authorize the proposed budget to be submitted to the congregation at the annual meeting on January 24, 2016." After making those corrections, motion was made by Oscar Over and seconded by Matt Solon to approve the minutes. Approved.

The financial secretary's report was presented by Oscar Over. He presented two scenarios with one before transfers are made and one after transfers were made from special accounts as highlighted by a document prepared by Richard Reed. Motion made by Oscar Over, seconded by Ruth Sullivan to approve the transfers documented by Richard Reed. Approved.

Chris Reed moved and Matt Solon seconded a motion to approve the financial secretary's report after transfers have been made. Approved.

Oscar Over moved and Chris Reed seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report after the transfers. Approved.

Matt Solon moved and Ruth Sullivan seconded to approve the Capital Fund Report. Approved

After correction was made to the Memorial Fund Report changing the words schrebs to shrubs, motion made by Matt Solon, seconded by Carrie Hansen to approve Memorial Fund Report. Approved.

Pastor's written report was submitted. Among the 14 points raised by the report were the following:

1. Our next new member reception will be held on Sunday, January 17, 2016. Erin Miller is to be admit-

ted by affirmation of faith and Lucy and Karl Kanne are to be admitted by letters of transfer. Motion made by Oscar Over, seconded by Ruth Sullivan to approve the admission of new members. Approved.

2. Kim Over-Egner has been exploring the possibility of launching a faith based daycare center at Emanuel Lutheran Church. Motion made by Carrie Hansen, seconded by Matt Solon to establish a daycare exploratory group to look in to pursuing this enterprise.

3. Pastor plans to register for the training session to be held in Indianapolis from February 24 to February 27 regarding training and certification as a redevelopment pastor in the ELCA. The total cost will be \$789.70. Motion made by Oscar Over, seconded by Matt Solon to take \$782.12 from the call expense fund and the balance from the redevelopment funds account to cover this expense. Approved.

4. Pastor explained that next year another session will be held which will include the pastor and two members of Emanuel and that cost is expected to be around \$2,500.

5. After consultation with Kevin Epperson, council president, Connie Solon was asked to write a check for \$300 from the Special Needs Fund to a member family who had experienced numerous financial setbacks.

6. On January 26, a meeting will be held of the Western Iowa Synod Mission Team at 7 p.m. at Our Savior's to discuss potential ELCA cooperative mission efforts in our community. Pastor Hennigs plans to attend and has invited Jeff and Sandy Smith as well. Other council members are invited to join.

7. Again this year, day camp, and other events will be done in conjunction with Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

Oscar Over presented the Stewardship report and was pleased to announce that pledges for 2016 exceeded those of 2015.

Carrie Hansen presented the 4-page Youth and Children's Ministry Report showing that a meeting was held on December 15, 2015 at 7 p.m.

Pastor Hennigs spoke on the Fellowship and Support indicating that the Wednesday evening service has actually been operating at a profit.

No Wider Ministries Report was presented. .

Kevin Epperson reported on the Worship and Music Committee and indicated that the new paraments (alter coverings) will cost about \$2,500.

Pastor Hennigs reported that before Christmas, 1,100 targeted mailings to our local neighborhood were sent out to mailboxes at a cost of 8 cents per mailing. These mailings told of future scheduled events at Emanuel.

Mutual Ministries did not have a meeting.

Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on January 24, 2016 followed by a special congregational meeting. This will include lunch.

Oscar Over drafted a proposed facilities and ground use policy and forms which the council is to review and comment at future meetings before the new policies and forms will be adopted.

Discussion was held concerning church council member terms. Motion was made by Carrie Hansen, seconded by Matt Solon to allow John Husmann to complete the unexpired term of Chris Reed's. Approved.

Motion made by Chris Reed, seconded by Carrie Hansen to approve Bob Vergamini fulfilling the unexpired term of Karen McPartland. Approved.

Council reviewed the 2016 budget proposal. Motion by Oscar Over, seconded by Matt Solon to present the proposed budget to the congregation at the annual meeting. Approved. It should be noted that in the year 2015, Emanuel took in \$6,848.55 more than it spent.

The Council Bluffs Community Development Department sent notice to Emanuel that Bethany Lutheran Home has requested the rezoning of the property located immediately to the south of Emanuel's property so that Bethany Lutheran Home can construct a senior "life care facility" on the property. Council members appeared to be in favor of allowing the rezoning. Motion made by Chris Reed and seconded by Matt Solon to adjourn at 8:32 p.m. Approved.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 7 p.m.

Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Minutes for 1/24/2016

SUBMITTED BY MIKE WINTER

Present: Kevin Epperson, Suzanne Winter, Connie Solon, CharLes Kemmish, Patty Maxwell, Oscar Over, John Husmann, Judi Malloy, Peggy Jarrell, Bob Vergamini, , Mike Winter

Motion was made by Suzanne Winter and seconded by CharLes Kemmish to reappoint the same officers as in 2015 for 2016. Approved.

Council members shared their telephone number and email contact information.

Motion made by Suzanne Winter, seconded by Judi Malloy to adjourn. Approved.

Confirmation Reunion Weekend **April 23-24**

Activities include a meal and concert by the Ambassadors on the 23rd. Celebration Worship on the 24th with reception following.

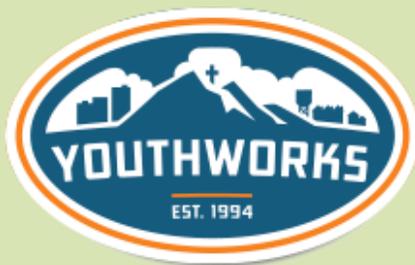
Lenten Dinners & Worship

**February 17, 24,
March 2, 9 & 16**
Dinner at 6 pm
Worship at 7 pm
(Kidz Kamp at 6:30 pm)

2016 Summer Mission Trip

BY LOWELL HENNIGS

Mission trip plans have begun! Save July 17-22, 2016, for a mission trip to Rapid City, South Dakota. Pastor Lowell and Brenda will take the first ten youth—sixth through twelfth grade—who pay a \$60 deposit. The trip is organized through YouthWorks, a nationally known organization that puts such trips together across the Midwest. Pastor Lowell and Brenda have taken this trip to Rapid City once before, and it is AWESOME! Participants will serve during the day in a variety of settings with economically challenged folks or with developmentally disabled folks or with the elderly. In the evenings, activities will include games and events with the trained counselors on site as well as sight-seeing and educational opportunities in the area. Cost for the trip will be about \$350 per person for the week (including transportation and meals). At least some of the costs for the trip will be covered by fundraising efforts through our Youth Committee. Please contact Pastor Lowell or Brenda as soon as possible if you are interested.



Lakeside staff, helpers and campers gather in the sanctuary during the 2015 day camp.

Save the Date for Day Camp!

BY LOWELL HENNIGS

Thinking about a summer camp for your kids? Don't forget the Emanuel Lutheran Church Day Camp here at church on August 1 through 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Day Camp will be led by trained bible camp staff from Lutheran Lakeside Bible Camp. The camp is open to children kindergarten through fifth grade. And we will need both youth and adults to serve as camp helpers and assistants. Cost for the week will be less than \$40 per camper. And camp scholarships will be available, especially for families with multiple children at camp. **You can't get a better deal than this!**



Lakeside staff, helpers and campers make greeting cards during the 2015 day camp.

January Attendance & Giving

January 3	87	\$3,977.00
January 10	72	\$4,306.00
January 17	90	\$1,337.00
January 24	119	\$3,204.00
January 31	N/A	N/A

Finance Team Update

Income & Expenses Monthly and YTD

December Income:	\$21,500.68	YTD Income:	\$144,620.07
December Expense:	\$10,793.22	YTD Expense:	\$137,771.52
December Balance	\$10,707.76	YTD Balance:	\$6,848.55

New Opportunities

BY MICHAELA LEWIS

We have been working with kids identifying their spiritual gifts during Sunday school and how they can use those gifts to help others. The Mission Action ladies have helped us with a project, where the kids have started to make quilt blocks identifying their spiritual gifts, and they will come together to make a quilt.

An exciting addition to programming in the next few months is Kidz Kamp, which will be held on Wednesdays during Lent from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm. Special thanks to Brenda Hennigs who will be planning and leading activities, crafts, music and bible studies during this time. We would love volunteers to help with this exciting program for children from kindergarten through 5th grade.

There will also be first communion classes starting February 28th.

We plan on having an Easter Egg hunt for Easter again this year, so if you would like to donate plastic eggs, candy or trinkets, please let me know!

After Easter, Brenda will also be teaching "Parenting with Love and Logic." It will be a six week a class that will begin on April 6th. It will be a one hour class on Wednesday evenings beginning at 6:45 pm, with childcare being provided for that time. This class is not only for parents, but for caregivers of children of any age. It is highly regarded among counselors and teachers. Cost will be \$25 per workbook. There is limited space and you must pre-register.

We do have plans to have Vacation Bible School with Our Savior's Lutheran Church again this year. It will be held June 12-16. We also plan to participate in the Celebrate CB parade on May 21.

Thank you so much for your support!



KIDZ KAMP
Emanuel Lutheran Church,
Council Bluffs, Iowa

Wednesdays During Lent
6:30 pm—7:45 pm

Dear members of Emanuel,

Just like Brett mentioned in the January newsletter, I would like to thank you so much for the care package. I have been touched by your continued love and support and I thank you for keeping me in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult adjustment from high school to college.

*Thank you and God Bless,
Will Schademann*

First Communion Classes



BY PASTOR HENNIGS

Pastor Hennigs will offer First Communion Class for children and their parents on February 28, March 6 and March 13. Students need to attend all three sessions of the class. This is for children in second grade or higher who have not yet taken the class and who wish to participate in Holy Communion. The class will conclude with a Seder Meal here at Emanuel Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 20, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Congregation members are also invited to attend the Seder Meal, but we will need you to sign up if you plan to attend. Please contact Pastor Hennigs if you have questions.

Ping Pong Tournament

February 27-28

February 27th, 6 pm—Men

February 28th, 12:15 pm—lunch

followed by women, youth and men's doubles



In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

Sympathy to Angel McGee, Barry Larson and families at the death of their stepmother.

We also extend our Sympathy to the family of Leona Carlson, who passed away on January 24.

Leona Carlson, age 96, of Council Bluffs, Iowa, passed away on January 24th, 2016, at the Hospice House in Glenwood.

Leona was born in Hildreth, Neb., on September 6th, 1919, to the late George & Fannie (Schmidt) Harms. Leona married Swan Evert Carlson on October 19th, 1940. She worked at Council Bluffs Savings Bank in the real estate division for 28 years, retiring in 1980. She was the past president of CB Business Professional Women and Woman of the Year in 1975-1976, past president of the General Federated Women's Club, past president of the Quota Club, member of the VFW Auxiliary, and volunteered at Amelia Place, Salvation Army and Bethany Nursing Home. Leona is survived by her sons, Robert E. Carlson



(Marjorie), David L. Carlson (Irma) of Laramie, Wyoming, Daryl E. Karlsson of Council Bluffs; daughters, Joann L. Carlsen (James) of Tacoma, Wash., Margaret A. Bridgwater of Houston Texas; 11 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren; brother, Mervyn Harms of Ellsworth, Kansas; and sister, Elaine Stuehm of Kearney, Neb.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Swan in 1993; infant son, Carl Evert in 1950; parents; brother, George; and sister, Darlene.

The family would like to say a special thank you to everyone at the Hospice with Heart in Glenwood, Iowa for their courteous and caring staff.

Wider Ministries

BY JUDI MALLOY

As I sit here watching it snow I'm reminded of all the coats you have donated for us to distribute. Thank you so much for your generosity. As a parent I can remember how quickly children outgrow coats and how expensive it can be to replace them. John and Jan Husmann delivered them to several locations last week and I know that they are already keeping people warm and dry. We will continue to collect coats and other winter wear such as hats, scarves, gloves, etc. all winter. In fact, if anyone has any unused snow boots for children or adults, bring those to church, too, and we will see that they're given to someone who needs them. All winter gear is needed and appreciated but MOHM's Place and the Care and Share House are really in need of warm coats for men.

As I was watching the news last weekend when it was so cold I was also reminded that there is a great need for blankets and pillows. The shelters in Omaha and Council Bluffs were filled to capacity and that means more blankets and pillows were needed. So if you're cleaning out closets consider bringing unused

blankets and pillows to church and we will see that they get delivered wherever they are needed.

Remember to check the bulletin board for a current list of needs for Phoenix House. Our community is very fortunate to have this service in our community providing a safe, nurturing place for women and children who so desperately need their help. Besides the things on the list, they can always use bedding and towels. We will see that your donations are delivered, but you can also drop them off yourself. I brought towels and washcloths there last week and it gave me a chance to tell them thank you for all that they do.

The Joyful Noise Offering for February will be for Our Savior's food pantry. They are usually in need of everything this time of year so please also consider bringing food items at any time.

Thank you for always being so kind and generous.



Ramblings from the Back Corner

BY CINDY RICHARDS

The Psalms are true gifts of song that we have been given. They take us from great depths of despair to ecstatic joy. All ranges of emotion are portrayed so that we can go to them during any circumstance in our life and see that those feelings have words before God.

There are several psalms that have been categorized as penitential psalms. They are 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, and 143. We often use these during lent, especially psalm 51 on Ash Wednesday.

1. Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love.
Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins.
2. Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin.
3. For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night.
4. Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight.
You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just.
5. For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.
6. But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there.
7. Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.
8. Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me— now let me rejoice.
9. Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt.
10. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.
11. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.
12. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.
13. Then I will teach your ways to rebels, and they will return to you.
14. Forgive me for shedding blood, O God who saves; then I will joyfully sing of your forgiveness.
15. Unseal my lips, O Lord, that my mouth may praise you.
16. You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering.
17. The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.
18. Look with favor on Zion and help her; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.
19. Then you will be pleased with sacrifices offered in the right spirit—
with burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings. Then bulls will again be sacrificed on your altar.

Psalm 51, Bible: New Living Translation

This psalm has been transcribed in many forms. In the ELW we have several "Create in Me, O God" songs. "The Heart of Worship", "Change My Heart O God", "Give Us, Lord, a New Heart", "Give Me a Clean Heart", "Have Mercy on Me O God", "Lord Teach Us How To Pray", "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now", "Renew me, O Eternal Light", "To you, O Omniscient Lord of All", "Turn Thy Face from my Sins", and "Heal this old heart" are several of the songs that are in a variety of hymnals we use. It is a psalm that conveys feelings we all have at one time or another. During this Lenten season, as we think more about the psalms, we can remember how wonderful it is that they are so universal; that they still convey our emotions, our praise, our reflection, and still give us instruction.

Raise Your Voice!



As part of your Lenten journey, we invite you to join the choir throughout lent and Easter.

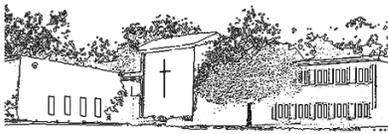
Please contact Cindy, or come to choir practice on Thursday nights to help praise God in song!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Feed February 9th

5:30pm-7:30pm

St Paul's Episcopal Church
(22 Dillman Dr, Council Bluffs, IA)
Bring an item to donate to
Midlands Humane Society





Emanuel Lutheran Church

2444 North Broadway
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0499

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Game Day

Thursday, February 7th, 1:00 pm
Fellowship Hall

R.O.M.E.O.'S

(Retired Old Men Eating Out)
Tuesday February 9th, 8:30 am
Village Inn East

Adult Fellowship

Wednesday, February 10th
11:30 am
Pizza Ranch

Blessings & Brunch

Friday, February 19th, 9:30 am.
Fellowship Hall
All women are welcome!

Mission Action Committee
(Quilters)

Wednesdays, 9:30 am
Fellowship Hall

Mission Statement: Forgiven by Grace, Serving by Faith
Vision Statement: To Grow in Faith, Love, and Spirit

Contact Us

Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Visit us on the web at: www.emanuellutherancbi.wix.com/emanuel

Worship Services:

Sunday at 9:30 am, followed by fellowship

Wednesday at 7:00 pm, preceded by a meal at 6:15 pm

Staff:

Pastor Lowell Hennigs

Director of Music Ministries, Cindy Richards

Parish Assistant, Michaela Lewis