

Emmanuel and St Paul's

May 2020 Newsletter

Opening church:

Weeks ago we imagined a re-opening church with a party like gathering and meal at church. We miss in person participation and imagined opening church again could be like the Easter Sunday we missed. I have even thought and prayed Pentecost Sunday May 31st could be that Sunday. That still small voice I listen to helped me see many people, who also would love such a gathering of the church, will continue to be restrained by the wise advice to limit their person to person contacts even while practicing social distancing. To slow the spread of the virus, we bless one another by continuing to follow the healthcare guidelines and practice social distancing. There will not be a one size fits all solution therefore let us consider the meaning of our gatherings.

There is something Easter has done for us no virus or health precaution can separate us from!

Romans 10:19 And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven's Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. ²⁰ By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. ²¹ And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, ²² let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

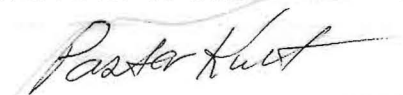
²³ Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep his promise. ²⁴ Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Let us Hold tight to the one thing which is more sure than even death, life in Christ! We shall one day enter through Christ into the Most Holy Place, the glories of heaven 😊. In the meantime, we are witnesses and ambassadors for God in and through these present circumstances. By our faithfulness in worship, devotion, and service to one another we reveal to all the world Christ is our eternal hope. We are not alone, God is with you and yours.

The victory over Sin and Death marked by Easter is the strong truth God has provided for our navigating these uncertain and confusing times. Rather than an exile imposed by a conquering army, to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we are keeping a self-exile by limited circles of personal contact. Not until there is an effective vaccine, and treatments, will those with underlying health conditions be safe from infection.

Held secure in God's grace we practice patience and flexibility, discerning and holding fast to the life-giving presence of God in all places. We long to see one another and worship together, Yet I am inspired by your outreach over the phone and other ways of keeping connected and sharing encouragement with hope and kindness. With love and regard for all we have adapted to new ways of being connected and uplifting, celebrating Sunday worship, and the life we have in Christ every day. And, I pray, you are also taking up traditional forms of home worship: Letting daily devotions speak God's redeeming love into our lives, reading sections of the Bible, and keeping a quiet time for prayer and meditation.

While your church leaders are considering the recommended safe practices for reopening church I will be reaching out with opportunities for online interaction in Bible Study and faith practices. Let us each hold fast to the hope and life Christ purchased for us with His precious blood.



Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes – March 9, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

(NOTE: Some gatherings were changed/cancelled because of the COVID-19 virus after this meeting was held.)

Present: Jessica Bosley, Kris Sherman, Becky DeWild, Chuck Richardson, Kim Swank, Marilyn Holmes, Mike Koval, Dave Wiebold, Linda Wolfe – Secretary, Pastor Kurt Hoover. **Absent:** Brian Holmes. **Call to Order:** Council President Jessica Bosley. **Devotions/Prayer:** Pastor Kurt Hoover. **Secretary's Minutes:** Reviewed by the Council. Moved, seconded and approved by the Council. **Treasurer's Report:** Reviewed by the Council. Moved, second and approved by the Council. **Pastor's/Deacons Report:** 1) Pastor is working on the Lenten Services, LYO Sunrise Service and the Easter Service; 2) As he has a cold, Pastor is telephoning the shut-ins; 3) The Deacons are each taking a month to find Greeters and Ushers for each service; 4) Discussion on how we can serve others – Outreach suggestions. **STANDING COMMITTEES: Worship and Music:** 1) Meeting to set Lent-Easter Services with Pastor; 2) Hope to have the children sing occasionally; 3) Discussed having the choir sing at the beginning of the service. **Christian Education:** 1) 4-6 children each week; 2) VBS is scheduled for the 1st week of August. **Church/Parsonage Property:** 1) The cabinet by the parsonage refrigerator will be modified to accept the larger unit; 2) Pat Athen has ordered the material for the parsonage kitchen floor replacement; 3) The Marquee Committee is finalizing the cost; 4) Will continue to find someone to mow the parsonage lawn. **Finance and Stewardship:** No report. **Membership:** No report. **LYO/Youth:** 1) Jessica Bosley has contacted the LYO members about the Sunrise Service/Breakfast. 2) Church Camping funds are available for those who wish to attend camp in Iowa (Lutheran Lakeside) and Nebraska (Carol Joy Holling). **MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEES: Altar Guild:** Congregational Easter Lilies will be used at the Sunrise/Easter Services. **Cookbook, Funeral, Wedding:** No reports. **Hospitality:** No meals taken. Brian Holmes is recovering from his recent back surgery. **Memorial:** Money for the parsonage appliances (excluding the dishwasher – St. Paul's paid for it) will come from Memorial Funds and Pie Sale Fund. **WELCA:** Meeting March 18 – Hostess: Mary Alice Johnson. **OLD BUSINESS:** 1) Mike Koval has volunteered to be on the Constitution Committee which will review our Constitution and update where needed. More volunteers are needed – contact Pastor Hoover if you would like to do this. 2) No one has volunteered to attend the May 1-2 Western Iowa Synod at Spencer, Iowa. **NEW BUSINESS: Audit Committee Recommendations:** 1) Council President Jessica Bosley and Vice-President Becky DeWild will sign new signature cards at Bank Iowa to allow them to write checks and review/initial all invoices before payment. 2) Financial Secretary Kris Sherman will continue counting the Sunday Offering with no changes to the way it is done. 3) The "Noisy Offering" is counted at church and again at the bank; no changes are needed. 4) Special event money is currently counted by two individuals; no changes are needed. 5) Audit Committee did not audit the Sunday School or WELCA as they were not told the date/time it was to be done. Suggestions included putting the Sunday School monthly balance in the monthly financial report much like the WELCA does. 6) Suggested combining some of the accounts in the Consolidate Fund. The Council was unsure exactly what the auditors meant; Kim Swank will meet with them for clarification of this suggestion as each account has a specific purpose for that account. **ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS:** 1) Pastor discussed the Synod's Congregational Planning Checklist for pandemic on procedures; it was decided to stop the Greeting of One Another handshakes for a few weeks. 2) Discussion on members who have not been in church lately as to health, etc. **Adjournment/Closing:** Moved and seconded to adjourn; Council approval. Closed with *The Lord's Prayer* led by Pastor Hoover. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, Council Secretary

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women (WELCA)

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the March 18 Bible Study/Business Meeting was cancelled. The April 15 Bible Study and Business Meeting was cancelled. The Bible Study members were sent the WELCA Financial Statement and were encouraged to self-study the lessons. The next scheduled meeting will be May 20 @ 2:00 p.m. at Church – Linda Wolfe, hostess. If we are still unable to hold it, the Bible Study members will be informed.

Continue to clip your Box Top for Education coupons and hold on to them until we are able to hold a Church Service then bring them to Church along with the pop tabs and used ink cartridges. As reported in last month's NEWSLETTER, the ½ fill Lenten Table with items for the Food Pantry was boxed and taken to the pantry for those who need the food now. The Food Pantry was grateful to receive the items.

There was a slight mix up with the Congregational Easter Lilies and the flower shop delivered our lilies instead of cancelling the order. The Altar Committee and volunteers quickly made a beautiful arrangement which was the background for Pastor's taped Easter Service. Thank you to all who purchased the lilies; it is so important to show our church is continuing on through the taped services and we Thank Pastor Hoover, Techno support by Barb Hoover, Organist Steve Richardson and those who volunteered to read the lessons. Watching the on-line service is comforting. Stay healthy...drink lots of fluids and remember the social distancing/mask wearing. Linda Wolfe, WELCA Contact Person.

Emmanuel Events and Information

May Birthdays

3 Adrianna Holmes
5 Brian Kirchert
6 Matthew Vrbsky
9 Ann Atterberry
Tammy Grebert
12 Dan Holmes
13 Alexander Holmes
14 Ali Sherman
15 Gene Sturm
17 Blake Wilson
Michael Pedersen
Dave Monahan
19 Stacy Kirchert
Mitchell Morris
Niki Richardson
20 Marcella Heaton
24 John Walter
Mick Walter
25 Theresa Swank
26 Shirley Willard
30 Michael Cox



ANNIVERSARIES

4 Merrill and Linda Whitehill
20 Dennis and Tammy Grebert



May Assistants

Altar Guild: Becky DeWild, Miriam Houchin, Marilyn Holmes
Acolytes: Evan Holmes and Ali Hansen (3)
Tyler Prokop (10)
Maren Bosley (17)
Evan Holmes (24)
Ali Hansen (31)
Readers: **Undesignated (3)**
Jessie Bosley (10)
Karla Koval (17)
Marcia Johnson (24)
Undesignated (31)
Greeters and Ushers: **Undesignated (3,10,17,24,31)**

June Assistants

Altar Guild: Miriam Houchin, Marilyn Holmes, Becky DeWild
Acolytes: Tyler Prokop and Maren Bosley (7)
Evan Holmes (14)
Ali Hansen (21)
Tyler Prokop (28)
Readers: **Undesignated (7)**
Jessie Bosley (14)
Undesignated (21)
Undesignated (28)
Greeters and Ushers: **Undesignated (7,14,21,28)**

The above names are the "normal" May and June scheduled Assistants. Due to the COVID-19 Virus, if there are no services at the Church, the acolytes, greeters and ushers are not needed. However, if you are scheduled as a reader, please contact Pastor Hoover to see if you are still able to read for the taped services; the lessons will be sent to you.

The Church Office and the Pastor's Office are still open during this unsettling time. Please don't hesitate to call if you need something. The 2020 Yearbook is in your Narthex Mailbox but plans are to deliver the local ones; you will be contacted when yours will be delivered to keep the social distancing recommendations. The out-of-town Yearbooks will be mailed. Office: 246-3287 OR Pastor: 1-515-850-7670

Please remember how important it is to support Emmanuel during this time we can't be together for our Church Services. The Council encourages you to continue to support your Church with your offerings. You can write a weekly check like normal and send them as a group or one for the month. Please mail your offerings to the Church (406 E. Pioneer Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601) and they will be placed on your end-of-the-year report. Thank you for supporting your Church during this difficult time.

Thank you to everyone that contributed to the ELCA World Hunger's Daily Bread Matching Grant. With your support, we raised \$745.00 and we will also reactive a \$500.00 grant from ELCA World Hunger. Together we are working to make an impact and to provide daily bread for some of the kids in our community. Thanks again for your support.

"Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12:13

This calendar represents the “normal” May schedule; due to the COVID-19 Virus, all gatherings are subject to change. Contact the Church before you plan to attend any gatherings scheduled to be held at the Church.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church – May 2020

406 East Pioneer Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601 web-site: www.emmanuel-lutheran.com Kurt Hoover, Pastor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:15am Sunday School? 9:45am Coffee/Fellowship 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>	4	5 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	6	7	8	9
10 9:15am Sunday School? 9:45am Coffee/Fellowship 10:30am Worship/“Noisy Offering/Comm. after service <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	11 9:00am Quilting 5:30pm Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Council Meeting	12 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	13	14	15	16 <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
17 9:15am Sunday School? 9:45am Coffee/Fellowship 10:30am Worship <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>	18 6:00pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm Membership Committee Meeting	19 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	20 2:00pm WELCA Bible Study/Business Meeting at Church Linda Wolfe	21 <i>Ascension Day</i>	22	23
24 9:15am Sunday School? 9:45am Coffee/Fellowship 10:30am Worship 3:30-7:30pm Fellowship Hall reserved for Clover Kids/4-H <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	25 9:00am Quilting <i>Memorial Day</i>	26 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	27	28	29	30
31 9:15am Sunday School? 9:45am Coffee/Fellowship 10:30am Worship <i>“PLEASE WEAR RED” Pentecost Sunday</i>	Emmanuel Hours: Monday-Thursday; 9:00-12:00 noon Emmanuel Telephone Number: 712-246-3287 Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com Pastor Kurt's contacts: kurtshoover@ymail.com 1-515-850-7670					

St. Paul's Information and Events

Information concerning Church Services at St. Paul's...

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, CHURCH SERVICES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.

The NEWSLETTER will continue as scheduled allowing the congregation to know what will be happening when our services resume.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Pastor Kurt for his Sunday messages and those members of St. Paul's, Penny Bredensteiner, Carole Hamilton and Barbara Hoover, who have assisted him in his endeavor.

Church Services at St. Paul's begin every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to join in Worship each week.

MAY:

Sundays, May 3 and May 17 (immediately following the Worship Service) – Sunday School is held the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Wednesday, May 6 – 12:00 noon – Bible Study will be hosted by LoAnn Beran.

Sunday, May 10 – Mother's Day

Sunday, May 10 (immediately following the Worship Service) – WELCA will meet

Sunday, May 31 (following the Worship Service) Coffee to Honor the Graduates. The Mission Action Committee will host the coffee. Co-chairs: Blu and Kymm.

Our congregation will continue to pray for those who have suffered from the coronavirus, for those in nursing homes and all those in the world, hoping they will be able to cope with the obstacles that face them.

"I am leaving with a gift—peace of mind and heart.

And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid." John 14:27

ALTAR COMMITTEE: Blu Dow and Ida Van Scyoc

MAY CLEANING SCHEDULE

Deb Ratliff (May 2)

Patti Rolf (May 9)

Deb Weiss (May 16)

Mary Beth Bredensteiner (May 23)

Kathy Athen (May 30)

MAY ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Kathy Althen (May 3)

Kathy Athen (May 10)

Andy Rolf (May 17)

Andy Rolf (May 24)

Steve Middaugh (May 31)

MAY READER SCHEDULE

Blu Dow (May 3)

Kerra Ratliff (May 10)

Kerra Ratliff (May 17)

Sharon Gilbert (May 24)

Sharon Gilbert (May 31)

PLEASE REMEMBER HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO SUPPORT ST. PAUL'S DURING THE TIME OUR CHURCH SERVICES ARE CANCELLED. The Council encourages you to continue to give your offerings. You may want to write a weekly check like normal and send them as a group or write one check for the month. Those who prefer to give cash might keep an envelope of weekly tithes and put it in the offering tray when we resume Sunday Services. If you wish to send your offerings to Nancy Middaugh, her address is P.O. Box 71, Hamburg, IA 51640.

Information for the monthly NEWSLETTER will be sent to Emmanuel by the 15th of each month. If you have anything you would like in the NEWSLETTER, please contact Mary Beth at marybeth@tarkio.k12.mo.us before that date or get the information to Nancy or Penny so they can forward it on. You can also text 660-623-0093.

This calendar represents the "Normal" May schedule; due to the COVID-19 Virus, all gatherings are subject to change.

Contact your Church before you plan to attend any gatherings scheduled to be held at the Church.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – May 2020

3055 – 410th Avenue, Northboro, Iowa 51647 Kurt Hoover, Pastor 1-515-850-7670 kurtshoover@ymail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Committee Blu Dow Ida Van Scyoc					1	2 Church Cleaner Deb Ratliff BIRTHDAY Pat Hall
3 9:00am Worship Reader: Blu Dow Acolytes: KathyAthen Sunday School follows BIRTHDAY: Jay Bohling <i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>	4	5	6 BIRTHDAY Keely Bredensteiner 12:00 noon Bible Study LoAnn Beran, Hostess	7 BIRTHDAY Blu Dow	8	9 Church Cleaner Parri Rolf
10 9:00am Worship Reader: Kerra Ratliff Acolyte: Kathy Athen WELCA Meeting follows Mother's Day <i>5th Sunday of Easter</i>	11	12	13	14	15 BIRTHDAY Alise Snyder	16 Church Cleaner Deb Weiss <i>Armed Forces Day</i>
17 9:00am Worship Reader: Kerra Ratliff Acolyte: Andy Rolf Sunday School follows <i>6th Sunday of Easter</i>	18	19 BIRTHDAY Kerra Ratliff	20	21 <i>Ascension Day</i>	22 ANNIVERSARY John and Cheryl Whipple	23 Church Cleaner Mary Beth Bredensteiner
24 9:00am Worship Reader: Sharon Gilbert Acolyte: Andy Rolf <i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	25 <i>Memorial Day</i>	26	27	28	29	30 Church Cleaner Kathy Athen BIRTHDAY Mabel Baker
31 9:00am Worship Reader: Sharon Gilbert Acolyte: Steven Middaugh Coffee follows to Honor Graduates; Mission Action Co-chairs. Blu Dow and Kymm Bredensteiner Pentecost Sunday	Emmanuel Hours: Monday-Thursday; 9-12:00 noon Emmanuel Telephone Number: 1-712-246-3287 Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com					

May 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the strong, loving women in your life. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we see thousands of Iowa moms through their journey to build the brightest future for their children.

We see moms turning to LSI's Behavioral Health Intervention Services to ensure their child is receiving the coping skills and behavioral supports they need to thrive. In our Early Childhood Services, we see first-time moms who are eager to join our parenting education classes and support groups. In 2019, LSI's Early Childhood programs provided support to 1,282 parents of young children. We are so inspired to hear their stories and see their hard work pay off as they raise our next generation.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember how many Iowa moms are being empowered because of your support. If you are looking for a way to honor your mother this year, please consider making a gift in her name to LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and Facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Raising Healthy Families

As a child, Morgan had endured trauma no one should experience. Addiction, divorce, and difficult family relationships all surrounded Morgan in her childhood home. When she found out she was pregnant for the first time with her daughter, Sophia, Morgan was determined to never repeat the past she grew up with.

She decided to enroll in LSI's Early Childhood Services.

Every week, her LSI worker, Ashley, would bring age-appropriate toys and games for Sophia to play with. She provided Morgan with educational resources to help her track Sophia's development and make sure her daughter was hitting all her important milestones. When Morgan welcomed her second child, Nolan, Ashley was with her every step of the way. It was Ashley who noticed that Nolan had developed a speech delay, and she helped Morgan connect with a speech therapist to correct it early.

Sophia is now in preschool and loves telling her mom about her teachers, friends, and the new songs she learned at school. Nolan is an active two-year-old who is learning new words every day. Morgan is currently finishing her Registered Nursing degree, and she dreams of working in emergency care at a hospital after graduation. And all the while, Ashley has been there to cheer them on.

"She's been more than a worker, she's been a friend when I've needed someone the most," Morgan says. "Being a new mom is hard. Having that extra person there, who doesn't judge you, who doesn't see your flaws, who is just there to help you – you can't put a price on that."



The Altar Lilies are from The **WELCA IN MEMORY** of the past
WELCA Members and **IN HONOR** of the present WELCA Members;
Tom and Linda Erickson **IN MEMORY** of Paul and Vivian Erickson;
Steve and Genee Fienup **IN MEMORY** of Charles and Sophia Fienup
and **IN MEMORY** of Don and Phyllis Fienup;
Marilyn Holmes **IN MEMORY** of Bob Holmes and **IN HONOR** of my
Grandchildren: Ali, Matt, Audri, Alex, Andy, Austin and Samantha;
Wayne Holmes **IN MEMORY** of Mary Lou Holmes;
Gene and Miriam Houchin;
Mark and Marcia Johnson **IN MEMORY** of Howard Johnson;
Mary Alice Johnson **IN MEMORY** of Howard Johnson and **IN**
MEMORY of Harold and Bettie Johnson and **IN HONOR** of my
Children, Grandchildren and Great-grand children;
Terry and Marcene Johnson **IN MEMORY** of Penny Sievers;
Neva Meek;
Kim and Theresa Swank;
Shirley Lundgren Willard **IN MEMORY** of Stanley and Lois Edgar
and **IN MEMORY** of Gordon Lundgren;

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
406 East Pioneer Avenue
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601