Emmanuel and St. Paul's June 2020 NEWSLETTER

Is there a correlation between having more questions than answers, is it FAITH?

With June we begin the growing season of the church year, Pentecost. Growing in the truth and guided by the advocacy of the Holy Spirit. I am grateful that you are taking time to read these words and weigh their merit for you and yours in these troubling times throughout the world.

God has called you through His Word and the Holy Spirit, or your curiosity would have waned. With divine mercy God has called you to give you life with hope and peace the world cannot give. We cannot even give this powerful hope and peace to each other yet we can help others come to know Christ Jesus. The one in whom we have faith and assurance despite (and reigning above) all the unanswered questions.

Are you feeling tethered to the earth and unable to rise to the possibilities of such lofty truth? This is not uncommon, we are first comfortable with what is familiar and what we feel we have control over, or at least predict. Yet God, who holds eternity, calls us personally to let go of those life lines and trust our lives entirely to the divine nature Christ Jesus revealed, sustained Him in living, dying, and life beyond the grave. Trust this nature of God working in our hearts and minds.

⁶ And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. ⁷ Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on Christ Jesus. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.

⁸ Don't let anyone capture you with empty philosophies and high-sounding nonsense that come from human thinking and from the spiritual powers of this world, rather than from Christ. ⁹ For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. ¹⁰ So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority. *Colossians 2:6-10 NLT*

I am glad you are still reading, this life in Christ is not a once and done thing. It is a life we grow into, often shedding ideas we previously learned or are presently promoted to us by the world. Perhaps you have heard it said 'faith frees us to daily crucify flawed desires so that *with* Christ you may have life in wholeness, or abundance (which by the way, the world cannot give you).

The future of your faith and our church is at a fork in the road. One path trusts experts to tell us what to do and when to do it. The other path takes us deeper into trusting our Lord of mercy and grace who helps us discern what to do in response to trials. The ways of abundant life we can have even in the midst of turmoil and disease. Think of the Fruit of the Spirit God works in our lives: ²² But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! *Galatians 6:22*

Our perspectives are being changed. More than challenged by the new circumstances, some perspectives we have long held are no-longer appropriate. Worldly ways people have long held to are now known to be deceptions of reality. Mostly we are being refined by undeniable truth and the image of God in us being stronger than identity the world imposes on us. A transformation God promises, the New Testament describes, and we know of as 'life by faith'.

Whether we gather with precautions or remain a part due to health concerns, we are eternally connected in Christ Jesus. And in him, are with each other sharing the Good News through word and deed, clear conscious and service.

Pastortuto

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes – April 13, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

Present (via Zoom): Jessica Bosley, Brian Holmes, Kris Sherman, Becky DeWild, Chuck Richardson, Kim Swank, Marilyn Holmes, Mike Koval, Dave Wiebold, Pastor Kurt Hoover, Secretary Linda Wolfe, Deacons, Theresa Swarik and Ron Oestmann. Absent: None. Call to Order: Council President Jessica Bosley. Devotions/Prayer: Pastor Kurt Hoover. Jessica Bosley requested that when a motion was made and seconded, that whoever was speaking to please state your name for the minutes. Secretary's Minutes: March's Minutes were sent to each Council Member to review before the meeting. Moved, seconded and approved by the Council. Treasurer's Report: Financial Report was sent to each Council Member to review before the meeting. Moved, seconded and approved by the Council. Pastor's/Deacons Reports: 1) Deacons thanked Pastor Hoover for all he is doing to get our Sunday Services to the congregation; 2) Pastor thanked Bob Iske (web-page), Jessica Bosley (Facebook) and Barb Hoover (Technical Producer) for all their work in getting the Sunday Services on line for the congregation. 3) Deacon Theresa Swank thanked everyone for helping to raise the Matching Funds for the ELCA Grant - \$1,250 will be sent to the Shenandoah School for the Backpack Program. 4) Pastor continues to do the weekly Abundant Fields Conferences and Synod Conference via Zoom. STANDING COMMITTEES: Worship and Music: No meeting was held. Thanks to Steve Richardson (Organist), Barb Hoover (Technology Producer) and all the volunteer Readers who are helping to get the Sunday Services on line and out to the congregation. Christian Education: 1) Due to the COVID-19 virus, no Sunday School has been held; 2) No Ecumenical VBS Committee Meetings have been held. 3) Thank you to the Church Office for sending out the weekly Children's Bulletins. Church Property/Parsonage Property: Chuck Richardson reported on the Parsonage: 1) The upper cabinet over the refrigerator has been adjusted to fit the larger refrigerator. 2) The kitchen flooring has been installed. 3) Clean Cut Lawn Care, Clarinda has been hired to do a fertilize/weed package application and mow the parsonage lawn.4) Thanks to all who participated in the Church and Parsonage exterior clean-up day. Finance and Stewardship: No meeting was held. It was noted that we are about \$1,000 down in our offerings. Membership Committee: No meeting was held. LYO/Youth: No LYO Easter Sunrise Service or Breakfast Fundraiser was held. MISCELLANEOUS COMMITEES: Altar Guild, Cookbook, Funeral, Hospitality, Memorial, Wedding: No reports. WELCA: The March Bible Study/Business Meeting was cancelled. The April 15 will be cancelled and possibly the May 20 Meeting. OLD BUSINESS: 1) No Audit Meeting was held to review the Council recommendations from the last meeting. 2) Still working on assembling the Constitution Committee to review the Emmanuel Constitution. 3) Noisy Offerings: The current schedule of recipients will be on hold for the time being.4) Front Marquee: The project is tabled until the May Council Meeting where it will be revisited with the final cost of the project. 5) The Jensen Baptism and Membership are postponed due to the coronavirus for now. NEW BUSINESS: 1). Weekly Offerings: It was suggested to put an article in the NEWSLETTER with ways to continue donating the congregational offerings. 2) 2020 Yearbook: Secretary Linda Wolfe will mail out the out-of-town Yearbooks at a cost of \$.70 postage plus envelope costs. Kris Sherman and Becky DeWild offered to deliver the in-town ones. 3) Elm Heights Care Center: Jessica Bosley and daughters Maren and Megan stood outside the window and sang to the residents at Elm Heights. A High School girl played the trumpet and the girls rang bells. Everyone enjoyed the impromptu concert organized by Mary Beth Gowing. 4) Prayer Chain: The current Prayer Chain is being looked at. A need to include praying with those in need of prayer is being considered. 5) Pastor will see about placing our web-page information on the KMA web-site. 6) Pastor would like feedback on the taped Sunday Services. He has improved the camera and lighting since he began the taped services and explained the costs of these improvements. Pastor will be reimbursed for the costs incurred. 7) Pastor will check into sending out a bulletin with his sermon included.. 8) 10 people gatherings: Discussion on having people attend the Sunday tapings. It was decided that the smaller the better for now. If live streaming becomes available, it was noted that Pastor needed to slow down the responsive readings and The Lord's Prayer. Adjournment and Closing: There being no other business to conduct, it was moved and second to adjourn; Council approval. The first "Zoom" Council Meeting closed at 8:00 p.m. with The Lord's Prayer led by Pastor Hoover.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, Council Secretary

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women (WELCA)

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the March, April and May Bible Studies/Business Meetings were cancelled. Treasurer Linda Wolfe sent out notifications and the WELCA Financial Statement to each Bible Study participant.

Even though you can't attend the Sunday Services, you can still safe your Box Top for Education coupons, your pop tabs and your unused ink cartridges and when the Church re-opens for services, bring them in and place in the box beneath the Narthex mailboxes and they will be taken to the Middle School to redeem. As the shelves in the stores are a bit down in supplies, that means a lot of you are buying items that need to be baked, etc. Check your boxes for coupons. With many at home working, I am sure you are using a lot of ink cartridges. When this is all over, I expect to see the collection box filled with used ink cartridges to redeem. Put them in a sack to save and bring them on the first Sunday Emmanuel holds a service.

There is not much news in and around Emmanuel. So far all Church Meetings are cancelled along with Synod-wide meetings including all WELCA Conventions. Work for Pastor Hoover and I continue at almost the same pace as before the pandemic. Regular hours are in force so if you need something, don't hesitate to call or e-mail the church. Stay healthy...drink lots of fluids...wear a mask when gong out...social distance. Linda Wolfe, WELCA Contact Person/WELCA Treasurer

Emmanuel Events and Information

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Cory Markut
- 3 Toni Oestmann
- Shawn Iske
- 6 Kathy Wiebold
- 8 Dave Wiebold
- 10 Erin Holmes
- 11 Nathan Wittmer
- 12 Keira Nelson
- 18 Crystal Wittmer
- 19 Byron Erickson
- 20 Matthew Nelson
- 21 Don Buesing
- 23 Craig Lundgren
- 26 Merrill Malmberg Amv Konrade
- 28 Julie McQueen
- Ali Hansen
- 29 Suzanne Tysor
- 30 Monica Morris

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

2 Brian and Andrea Swank Jamie and Amy Konrade

- 8 Michael and Abby Polich 16 Dan and Jenni Hansen
- Jason and Keely Bouska
- 23 Ron and Bev Oestmann 28 Mark and Marcia Johnson



JUNE ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Miriam Houchin, Mariyn 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)

JULY ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes, Becky DeWild, Miriam Houchin Acolytes: Maren Bosley and Ali Hansen (5) Tyler Prokop (12) Evan Holmes (19) Joint Service at St. Paul's at 9:00 a.m. (26) Readers: Undesignated (5, 12, 19) Joint Service at St. Paul's at 9:00 a.m. (26) Greeters and Ushers: Undesignated (5, 12, 19) Joint Service at St. Paul's at 9:00 a.m. (26)

The above names are the "normal" June and July schedules assistants. If there or no services at the Church, you will not be needed. However, if services are held at the Church, the duties will be as scheduled with parental approval if acolyting. If you are a Reader, please check with Pastor Kurt to be a reader in the on-line services and your lessons will be sent to you.

Everyone experiences a need to change at some time in their life, it isn't always easy...professional services can help! Via the nightly news, we have been reminded of the problems that we are all facing that can bring about financial and mental concerns. Several resources are available in the southwest lowa area. "Hope 4 lowa" and "Southwest lowa Familes, Inc." are just two. If you are in need of counseling, contact Pastor Kurt – 1-515-850-7670 or <u>kurtshoover@ymail.com</u> and he can connect you will any help you might need. You can find more information on-line; just type in "Hope 4 lowa" or "southwestiowafamilies.com" and you will be directed to the appropriate site.

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.

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 and send it to the Church (406 East Pioneer Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601) or a monthly offering. They will be placed on your end-of-the-year report. Thank You for supporting your Church during this difficult time. This calendar represents the "normal" June schedule; due to the COVID-19 Virus, all gatherings are subject to change. Contact the Curch before you plan to attend any gatherings scheduled held at the Church.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church – June 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 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	3	4	5	6	
9:45am Coffee/Fellowship	8 9:00am Quilting 5:30pm Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Council Meeting	9 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	10	11	12	13	
Holy Trinity Sunday							
 14 No Sunday School 9:45am Coffee/Fellowship 10:30am Worship/"Noisy Differing"/Communion follows the Worship Service 	Committee Meeting	16 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	17 2:00pm WELCA Bible Study and Business Meeting; location to be announced		19	20	
Flag Day 2 nd Sunday of Pentecost						1st Day of Summer	
21 No Sunday School 9:45am Coffee/Fellowship 0:30am Worship	22 9:00am Quilting	23 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	24	25	26	27	
Father's Day 3 rd Sunday of Pentecost							
8 No Sunday School	29		Emmanuel Hours: Monday-Thursday; 9:00-12:00 noon				
9:45am Coffee/Fellowship 10:30am Worship		Hall reserved for NAMI	Emmanuel Telephone Number: 1-712-246-3287				
			Emmanuel e-mail: <u>emmlutheran@yahoo.com</u>				
			Pastor Kurt's Contacts: <u>kurtshoover@ymail.com</u> 1-515-850-7670				
4th Sunday of Pentecost							

St. Paul's Information and Events

This Sunday, the May 31 @ 9:00 a.m. Service will be held outside weather permitting! If there is a change in these plans, there will be a notification sent out.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Pastor Kurt for his Sunday messages and the daily devotions he has been posting. He has spent much time and effort in acquiring and preparing all of the electronic materials needed to video the messages which have been posted online during the time the church has not been meeting on the premises. And once again we would like to express our sincere gratitude to those members of St. Paul's...Penny Bredensteiner, Carole Hamilton and Barbara Hoover...who have assisted Pastor Kurt in his endeavor. It also must be noted that he has been sending out mailings to those members of the congregation who don't have access to the videos. Children's Bulletins and Activities have also been sent to the congregational children.

Church Services at St. Paul's begin Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to join in Worship each week. The Church Service on May 31, 2020 will be an **outdoor Service** rescheduled from April 19 when we were unable to observe the "Tractor Blessing Sunday" because the Church Service at St. Paul's had been cancelled indefinitely. At the Service on May 31, the congregation will recognize this year's graduating High School Seniors, Natalie and Nichole Gilbert. **JUNE:**

Sunday School is held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month immediately following the Church Service.

Sunday School does not meet during the summer months but will resume following Labor Day, 2020. Bible Study: There will be NO BIBLE STUDY during the summer months but will meet again beginning September 9, 2020. WELCA will meet Sunday, June 14 immediately following the Church Service.

Father's Day will be recognized on June 21 during the Church Service.

After Worship Coffee will be held on June 28; the Mission Community Committee hosting, Co-chairs: Dallas and Nancy.

IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GROUNDS: The Church has purchased 7 Blue Point Junipers that will go on the north side of the Church, 6 Arborvitae trees to replace the Spirea at each corner of the Church and a Lilac bush which will be planted east of the porch IN HONOR of Mabel Baker.

St. Paul's is making special plans to recognize **Mabel Baker's 107th Birthday**. Mabel will be celebrating her Birthday on May 30. She has been a member of St. Paul's for the past 95 years. Cards for Mabel would be greatly appreciated and can be sent to: Mabel Baker, 3059 E. Avenue, Northboro, Iowa 51647. A very special recognition for her Birthday will be a Drive-by at the Northboro Community Center from **2:00-4:00 p.m. on May 30** so be sure to gas up your car, head down to the Center and honor Mabel on her special day.

We would like to THANK Sharon Gilbert and Kathy Athen for their time and efforts in providing a new Altar Cloth; it is certainly appreciated. Patti Rolf is also working on New Paraments for the Altar.

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

JUNE ALTAR COMMITTEE: Carole Hamilton and LoAnn Beran.

June Cleaning Schedule Blu Dow (6) Nancy Middaugh (13) Penny Bredensteiner (20) Kathy Athen (27)

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June Acolyte Schedule Steven Middaugh (7) Nichole Gilbert (14) Natalie Gilbert (21) Tim Bredensteiner (28)

June Reader Schedule Steve Bredensteiner (7) Kathy Athen (14) Kathy Athen (21) Deb Ratliff (28)

PLEASE REMEMBER... how important it is to support St. Paul's during the time 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, Iowa 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 <u>marybeth@tarkio.k12.mo.us</u> 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" June schedule; due to the COVID-10 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 – June 2020

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

Sun ALTAR COMMITTEE Carole Hamilton LoAnn Beran	Mon 1	2 BIRTHDAYS: Dan Weiss LoAnn Beran	Wed 3	Thu 4	5 BIRTHDAY: Tommy Dow	Sat 6 Church Cleaner Blu Dow		
 7 9:00am Worship Reader:Steve Bredensteiner Acolyte: Steven Middaugh No Sunday School Holy Trinity Sunday 	8 BIRTHDAY: Trey Ratliff	9	10 NO Bible Study	11 ANNIVERSARY: Tim and Patty Bredensteiner	12	13 Church Cleaner Nancy Middaugh		
14 9:00am Worship Reader: Kathy Athen Acolyte: Nichole Gilbert WELCA meets after Worship <i>Flag Day</i> 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost	15	16	17	18	19	20 Church Cleaner Penny Bredensteiner BIRTHDAY: River Dow 1st Day of Summer		
21 9:00am Worship Reader: Kathy Athen Acolyte: Natalie Gilbert No Sunday School Father's Day 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	22 BIRTHDAY: Nora Lundquist ANNIVERSARY: Steven and Nancy Middaugh	23	24	25 ANNIVERSARY: Eddie and Mary Beth Bredensteiner	26 ANNIVERSARY: Shannon and Alise Snyder	27 Church Cleaner Kathy Athen		
28 9:00am Worship Reader: Deb Ratliff Acolyte: Tim Bredensteiner BIRTHDAY: Kymm Bredensteiner ANNIVERSARY: Ben and Cassidy Kelly	29	30	Emmanuel Hours: Monday-Thursday; 9:00am-12:00 noon Emmanuel Telephone #: 1-712-246-3287 Emmanuel e-mail: <u>emmlutheran@yahoo.com</u>					
4 th Sunday after Pentecost								

June 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Happy Father's Day!

At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we strive to build up and empower Iowa kids and families. For us, Father's Day is a time to celebrate all the fathers and male role models we see every day.

Through our Early Childhood Services, young men are learning to become dads. They're becoming confident and active in their child's life, and they are creating loving, bright futures for their families.

Many Iowa children entering foster care need a positive male role model in their lives. And through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, our licensed foster dads are there to help guide them.

This is only possible through your support of LSI! If you would like to make a gift, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at <u>Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org</u> or 563-676-2065.

Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service!

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the Iove 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.

Creating Her Community

Paulynn had a dream of what she wanted in life: lots of friends, a job she loved, a healthy lifestyle, and a sense of community.

But it was difficult for Paulynn to leave the apartment she shared with her dad, Lee. Though Lee had dedicated his life to serving as his daughter's primary caregiver, they didn't have reliable transportation that could accommodate her wheelchair. And Paulynn's risk of seizures meant she always needed to be accompanied by her dad.

Despite the obstacles, Lee was determined to give his daughter the life she dreamed of. He enrolled her in LSI's Services for People with Disabilities.

Fifteen years later, Paulynn's dream has become a reality.

Through LSI, Paulynn's team provides transportation that allows her to travel to and from her apartment with ease. While Paulynn is out, Lee is able to take a well-deserved break from his caregiving role.

With support from LSI, Paulynn is able to give back to her community. Each week, she helps package meals for individuals in need. She has created a community of her own through her volunteer work. And for every moment, her LSI team is there to support her.

"We're very grateful for LSI," Lee says. "They've been really great supporting my daughter."

Emmanuel Lutheran Church 306 East Pioneer Avenue Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

Lutheran Lakeside Camp

With the current COVID-19 problems, children throughout western lowa cannot attend the Lutheran Lakeside Camp this year which for some who have attended for years, are so disappointed. But the camp has given them and us the opportunity to "still attend camp" through the magic of the internet. To spread joy to those at home, they have started the "Camp Corner". Everyone is invited to enjoy songs, crafts, nature hikes, games and more. You can participate live on Facebook or watch the fun videos on their website. The Camp Corner will be available all summer! For 60 years, summertime at Lutheran Lakeside Camp has been a season marked by spirited singing, raucous laughter, profound faith formation, reflective moments surrounded by the beauty of creation. Go to: <u>www.lutheranlakeside.com</u> to attend a virtual camping experience.

Congregational Survey

By now, everyone should have received their survey, either by e-mail or mail concerning your opinions on holding Church Services at the church building. Please take time to read the survey and reply to the church. It is a survey with pertinent information concerning safety issues and what your Church will be doing to protect all who wish to worship with the congregation. Your opinions count so please, read the survey and let us know your preference and concerns. E-mail the church <u>emmlutheran@yahoo.com</u> **OR** call the Church Office 1-712-246-3287 **OR** mail: 406 E. Pioneer Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601).