

# *Emmanuel and St Paul's*

## *December 2020 Newsletter*

**Go Tell it On the Mountain!**

### **God sent Salvation that blessed Christmas Morning!**

Continuing pandemic health restrictions and other things like our national Election contribute to stir uncertainty for our future. There is plenty to be anxious about and little to get excited about. Yet amid the darkness there is a light which won't be hidden, a hope beyond reason, a call to not despair ~God won't abandon His own, He will restore. It seems we have becoming familiar with epic Old Testament turmoil not unlike the time into which our Savior was born.

It is my desire that through the chapters of THE STORY this Advent and Christmas seasons we receive assurance God has never forsaken nor abandoned those who believe. Examining the rich context of the Bible we discover basic truths like: Local community is more reliable than national government. Which even today seems disconnected from the role of providing safety and fostering a climate of unity and prosperity. Together we long for a light of hope and peace, reason and compassion, a sign love and joy are not lost in the darkness. This is the role of our weekly worship, in person or online; and assurance also found in daily devotions and prayer.

Each bringing their own imperfect stories we make a community of believers finding life and hope in God's story of pursuing a lasting relationship with His creation through its most outstanding feature: humankind. God does this with each of us personally. Each day of our lives we rejoice, the Lord has given so much to us! The darkness cannot overcome!

<sup>2</sup> The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

<sup>3</sup> You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest.

<sup>4</sup> For as in the day of Midian's defeat, You have shattered the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor.

<sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,  
and the government will be on his shoulders.  
And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.  
He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it  
with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

***The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.*** Isaiah 9:2-7

Praise be to God, despite our human weakness and fear of the Lord, our God, He came as a baby to know us through a life like ours. May we seek to keep God Emmanuel first above all else in our lives, the judge who reigns over all proves to be patient in faithfulness slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The God of the Old Testament is firm, decisive, jealous for our devotion, *and* always making a way for humankind to return and know His mercy.

Why else would he send beloved Son down to earth and cloth him in human flesh and humility? Only the shoulders of the Son of Man, Son of God in one person, can bear on His shoulders a government which is both just and merciful. Make peace with us and give us hope in place of the condemnation all humanity deserves. ***Go tell it on the Mountain!***

*Pastor Kurt*

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes – October 12, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

(This Council Meeting was held via Zoom and in-person at Church)

**Present: (on line)** Kris Sherman, Chuck Richardson, Kim Swank, Dave Wiebold, Council Secretary Linda Wolfe, Deacon Theresa Swank. **(in person)** Jessica Bosley, Mike Koval, Pastor Kurt Hoover. **(on phone)** Marilyn Holmes. **Absent:** Brian Holmes, Becky DeWild. **Call to Order:** Council President Jessica Bosley. **Devotions/Prayer;** Pastor Kurt Hoover.

**Secretary's Minutes:** The September Minutes were reviewed, moved, seconded and approved by the Council. **Treasurer's Report:** The September Treasurer's Report was discussed. It was noted that the Church Auditors completed their "mid-year" audit on October 7 with no problems being found. The Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded and approved by the Council. **Pastor's Report/Deacons Report:** **1)** The Synod Fall Convo. was a virtual event. Pastor explained what went on at that meeting concerning the COVID-19 attendances and the need to adapt when doing the services. **2)** The Swift FiberOptics Company will install the internet on October 28. **3)** Pastor continues to e-mail bulletins to shut-ins and those who are unable to attend church. **4)** St. Paul's continues to have their congregation both inside and outside. **STANDING COMMITTEES – Worship and Music:** **1)** Emmanuel is foregoing the Kyrie for now but still continues with 3 hymns. **Christian Education:** **1)** 7-8 Children in Sunday School/week and is once again held in the basement. **Church Property:** **1)** Chuck Richardson and Becky DeWild wrote 2 versions of the congregational letter concerning the choice for the steeple project. Discussion held. It was moved that Emmanuel send the more detailed letter with the colored pictures to all voting members who are listed in the Blue Yearbook, and seconded; Council approval. Chuck and Linda Wolfe will meet to arrange the mailings. A self-addressed stamped envelope will be sent for return ballots. **2)** Lawn World – snow removal: It was moved to approve the \$110.00/per removal and seconded; Council approval. **Finance and Stewardship:** **1)** Thank you to the auditors for reviewing the finances which found no problems. **2)** The committee will meet on October 26 with St. Paul's to set the 2021 Budget. **Membership Committee:** No report; did not meet. LYO/Youth: No report; did not meet.

**MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEES – Altar Guild:** **1)** The October Altar Committee is Theresa Swank and Melaine Prokop. **2)** The congregational poinsettia letter/form will be in the November NL. **Cookbook, Memorial, Wedding:** No reports; did not meet. **Funeral:** The committee served at the Rosalee Kinnison funeral on Thursday, September 17 utilizing recommended guidelines and social distancing. **Hospitality:** The committee will be taking a dinner to Karen and Byron Erickson – Karen (knee replacement) and Byron (cataract surgery). **WELCA:** The September Meeting was cancelled because of the Kinnison Funeral preparations. The October meeting is scheduled for October 21 with Mary Alice Johnson as hostess. The WELCA will discuss their annual November ThankOffering collection at the meeting. **OLD BUSINESS:** **1)** The "Noisy Offering" for October (The Community Food Pantry) is receiving a good amount. At the end of October it will be sent to the Food Pantry. **2)** Jessica Bosley will again check with the Adopt-a-Family Committee to find out more information on any COVID-19 guidelines for food, gifts, etc. **NEW BUSINESS:** **1)** Once the Swift FiberOptics installs the internet, the Church will be able to live stream the service. **2)** The November "Noisy Offering" is designated towards the "Adopt-a-Family". **3)** Hazel Grace Wiig, daughter of Cara (Burroughs) and Zachary Wiig was Baptized on October 10 with a family dinner following in the Fellowship Hall. **4)** NAMI is cleaning the tables and chairs after each meeting. **5)** Linda Wolfe will be cleaning for Custodians Karen and Byron Erickson during their recuperations from surgery for the month of October. **6)** Eldora Gowing's 103 Birthday is on October 13 and the family is holding a Card Shower for her. **Adjournment and Closing:** There being no other business to conduct, it was moved, second and approved by the Council to adjourn. Pastor closed with a prayer and led the Council in *The Lord's Prayer*. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. by Council President Jessica Bosley.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, Council Secretary

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### Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women (WELCA)

The November WELCA Bible Study/Business Meeting was held at Church with Barbara Hoover as hostess. The Business Meeting was held: Quilting Account \$165.92 and the Business Account \$776.48. The WELCA ThankOffering lock box in the foyer is receiving some offerings. On Thank Offering Sunday (November 22) Linda Wolfe will give a talk during the Worship Service about the ThankOffering and some of the programs that benefit from it. An article was placed in the November NL encouraging all WELCA Members to remember to get their offering to the Church so it can be sent on to the Women's Synod.

As soon as the information concerning the Adopt-a-Family project comes in, the Emmanuel Quilters will be getting the quilts ready to be given to the family members.

"Grandma Rosie's Birthday Bags" Congregational Project will continue and will be managed by the Women. Cake mixes, cans of frosting, candles and some medium Birthday Bags along with some small activity items, i.e. small puzzle books, stickers are all needed so this project by Rosalee Kinnison will continue to help children have a cake on their Birthday. The collection basket is in the Narthex.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, WELCA contact person/Treasurer

# EMMANUEL EVENTS and INFORMATION

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Mark Holmes
- 5 Cathy Ballain  
Jordan Tacker  
Becky DeWild
- 7 Jeff Oestmann
- 8 Lacy Clark
- 11 Melanie Houchin
- 12 Natalie Ray  
Kelly McQueen
- 19 Chuck Larson
- 20 Scott Oestmann  
Ryan McQueen
- 21 Ron Oestmann
- 22 Amber Barton  
Jackson Wigington
- 26 Pastor Ron Nelson
- 29 Mary Alice Johnson  
Lily Wittmer
- 30 Ron Tiemeyer  
Patrick Clark
- 31 Howard Elliott



## DECEMBER ASSISTANTS

- Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes and Becky DeWild
- Altar Committee: Rose Walter and Lisa Holmes
- Acolytes: Evan Holmes and Ali Hansen (6)  
Maren Bosley (13)  
Tyler Prokop (20)  
Ali Hansen (27)
- Readers: Karla Koval (6)  
Jessica Bosley (13)  
Undesignated/Needed (20)  
Undesignated/Needed (27)
- Ushers and Greeters: Undesignated (6,13,20,27)

## JANUARY ASSISTANTS

- Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes and Becky DeWild
- Altar Committee: to be announced
- Acolytes: will be notified (3,10,17,24,31)
- Readers: NEEDED (3,10,17,24,31)
- Ushers and Greeters: Undesignated (3,10,17,24,31)

## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Don and Connie Buesing
- 15 Bob and Jane Gowing Agan
- 27 John and Rose Walters
- 30 Jim and Lucy Clark



This calendar represents the "normal" calendar for December; all gatherings are subject to change. Social distancing will be observed at the Sunday Service; please sit in the un-taped pews where the bulletins are placed. For your safety and the safety of others, adult's and children's masks are available in the foyer.

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church – December 2020

406 East Pioneer Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601 web-site: [www.emmanuel-lutheran.com](http://www.emmanuel-lutheran.com) Kurt Hoover, Pastor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Altar Committee</b> <b>Rose Walter</b> <b>Lisa Holmes</b>		<b>1</b> No NAMI Meeting	<b>2</b> 6:30 p.m. Property Committee Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 9:15am Sunday School NO "Before Worship Coffee" 10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 5:30 pm THE STORY Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall 10 Sunday of THE STORY 2 <sup>ND</sup> Sunday in Advent	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> No NAMI Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9:15am Sunday School NO "Before Worship Coffee" 10:30 a.m. Worship with Communion following 3:00-7:30pm Fellowship Hall reserved for Clover Kids/4-H 5:30 pm. THE STORY Bible Study in the Sanctuary 11 Sunday of THE STORY 3 <sup>RD</sup> Sunday in Advent	<b>14</b> 9:00am Quilting 5:30 pm Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm Council Meeting	<b>15</b> No NAMI Meeting	<b>16</b> NO WELCA Business Meeting/Bible Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:15am Sunday School NO "Before Worship Coffee" 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:30 pm THE STORY Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall 12 Sunday of THE STORY 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent	<b>21</b> 6:00 pm Worship and Music Meeting 7:00pm Membership Comm. Meeting (if needed)	<b>22</b> No NAMI Meeting	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Service (time and type of service to be announced)	<b>25</b>  <i>Christmas Day Office Closed</i>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> NO Sunday School NO "Before Worship Coffee" 10:30 a.m. Worship 5:30 pm THE STORY Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall 13 Sunday of THE STORY 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas	<b>28</b> 9:00am Quilting	<b>29</b> No NAMI Meeting	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	Emmanuel Hours: 9:00-12:00 noon; Mon-Thurs Emmanuel #: 1-712-246-3287 Emmanuel r-mail: <a href="mailto:emmlutheran@yahoo.com">emmlutheran@yahoo.com</a>	

## ST. PAUL'S INFORMATION CONCERNING DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES and EVENTS

A virtual Christmas Eve Program is being planned. There will be no candy collection this year as a Christmas Eve Service WILL NOT be held at St. Paul's on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

We hope to have a 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent Service with Communion on November 29, but a decision will be made closer to that day and once again we are utilizing the to-go cup and wafer combination due to COVID-19.  
Weather will play a factor as well.

**ATTENTION: ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, THE CHURCH COUNCIL MET AND DECIDED TO GO COMPLETELY VIRTUAL BEGINNING ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6. THERE WILL BE NO SERVICE INDOORS OR OUTDOORS.**

### DECEMBER 2020

Sunday, December 6 – St. Paul's taped service will be on the internet; be alert for address.

Wednesday, December 9 – NO Bible Study

Sunday, December 13 – St. Paul's taped service will be on the internet; be alert for address.

Sunday, December 20 – St. Paul's taped service will be on the internet; be alert for address.

Thursday, December 24 – NO Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day/Emmanuel Office Closed

Sunday, December 27 – St. Paul's taped service will be on the internet; be alert for address.

DECEMBER ALTAR COMMITTEE – Penny Bredensteiner and Jean Bredensteiner

Below are the scheduled assistants for St. Paul's. Please check with Penny Bredensteiner as to cleaning the church or reading for the taped services.

DECEMBER CLEANING SCHEDULE	DECEMBER ACOLYTE SCHEDULE	DECEMBER READER SCHEDULE
Carole Hamilton (5)	Shannon Gilbert (6)	Undesignated (6)
Jill Gilbert (12)	Tim Bredensteiner (13)	Undesignated (13)
Dallas Prather (19)	Shane Bredensteiner (20)	Kymm Bredensteiner (20)
Deb Ratliff (26)	Shane Bredensteiner (27)	Kymm Bredensteiner (27)

The October 25 Mission Fest Sunday was quite successful this year with the offering coming within \$239.00 of our Benevolence Goal. Thank everyone for their generous contributions.

**CONGRATULATIONS and BEST WISHES** to Abby Athen and Jason McGuire. Abby and Jason were united in marriage at Waubonsie State Park on Saturday, October 10, 2020. The ceremony was small with only a few family members and close friends in attendance, but the backdrop of the park was extremely fitting. In a thoughtful tribute, Abby wore her mother's re-designed wedding gown; Jason wore a suit which had belonged to his grandfather. Following a trip to the Grand Tetons/Yellowstone National Park, the couple returned to their home in Colby, Kansas. Wishing them our best!

**Peg Griffey celebrated her 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday** last month on November 4. It's never too late to send her cards, so if you would like to do so, her address is: Peg Griffey, 14100 W. 90<sup>th</sup> Ter., Apt. 216, Lenexa, KS 66215.

**For a number of years**, the Church has participated in Adopt-a-Family in Shenandoah as a Christmas Project. Rather than purchase items for a specific family, the past few years we have collected money to donate for use as the project sees fit. This year WELCA voted to collect funds for the project, but to split the funds between Adopt-a-Family in Page County and the Reserve Deputies Christ for Children in Fremont County. If you have managed to miss St. Paul's deadline, feel free to donate at either of the two designated locations.

**This year, Our Food Drive** went to the Atchison County Food Pantry. We would like to THANK everyone for their generous contributions.

**Waddy Coffman** has been convalescing at his daughter's home in Shenandoah after a stay in the hospital due to health issues. We truly miss his presence at St. Paul's and hope to see him again soon. If you would like to send him a card, please send them to: Waddy Coffman, 103 W. Grant, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

**PLEASE REMEMBER HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO SUPPORT ST. PAUL'S DURING THE TIME CHURCH SERVICES ARE CANCELLED FOR WHATEVER REASON.** You can send your offering to: Nancy Middaugh, P.O. Box 71, Hamburg, Iowa 51640.

**ATTENTION: The Church Council met on November 22 and decided to go completely virtual beginning on Sunday, December 6. There will be NO SERVICE indoors or outdoors.**

## ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – DECEMBER 2020

3055 – 410<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Northboro, Iowa 51647 Kurt Hoover, Pastor 1-515-850-7670 [kurtshoover@gmail.com](mailto:kurtshoover@gmail.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Altar Committee</b> Penny Bredensteiner Jean Bredensteiner		1	2	3	4	5 CHURCH CLEANER Carole Hamilton
<b>6 On line taped service; be alert for the address</b> R: Undesignated A: Shannon Gilbert <b>5:30pm THE STORY Bible Study @ Emmanuel</b> <b>10 Sunday of THE STORY</b> <b>2<sup>ND</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>	7	8 BIRTHDAY: Waddy Coffman	9 <i>(an announcement will be made about Bible Study start-up date when that decision has been made)</i>	10	11	12 CHURCH CLEANER Jill Gilbert
<b>13 On-line taped service; be alert for the address</b> R: Undesignated A: Tim Bredensteiner <b>5:30pm THE STORY Bible Study @ Emmanuel</b> <b>11 Sunday of THE STORY</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>	14	15	16	17	18	19 CHURCH CLEANER Dallas Prather
<b>20 On-line taped service; be alert for the address</b> R: Kymm Bredensteiner A: Shame Bredensteiner <b>5:30pm THE STORY Bible Study @ Emmanuel</b> <b>12 Sunday of THE STORY</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b> BIRTHDAY: Jean Bredensteiner	21	22	23	24 NO Christmas Eve Program	25  <i>Christmas Day</i>	26 CHURCH CLEANER Deb Rattliff
<b>27 On-line taped service, be alert for the address</b> R: Kymm Bredensteiner A: Shane Bredensteiner <b>5:30pm THE STORY Bible Study @ Emmanuel</b> <b>13 Sunday of THE STORY</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas</b>	28	29 BIRTHDAYS: Natalie Gilbert Nichole Gilbert	30	31	<b>Emmanuel Hours: 9-12 noon; Mon-Thurs</b> <b>Emmanuel #: 1-712-246-3287</b> <b>Emm. e-mail: <a href="mailto:emmlutheran@yahoo.com">emmlutheran@yahoo.com</a></b>	

## Additional Emmanuel Information:

November 10, 2020

Members of Emmanuel Lutheran Church:

Emmanuel recently conducted a Congregational Meeting by mail to address the condition of the Church Steeple necessitating repair and/or replacement.

149 letters and ballots were mailed to members of the Congregation. The returned votes have been Tabulated; 61 ballots were returned with the following outcome:

Option 1 – Remove the steeple – 23 votes

Option 2 – Re-skin the existing steeple – 5 votes

Option 3 – Replace the steeple with a new fiberglass unit – 32 votes

Abstained – 1

Based on this congregational vote, the Church Council voted to move forward with the steeple replacement with a new fiberglass unit.

The Church Council also voted to establish a fundraiser and separate financial account to fund this project. Progress for this project will be on display in the Church and reported in the monthly NEWSLETTER.

Our goal is to raise \$14,000 by springtime of 2021 so we can get the steeple replaced to minimize further roof damage to the Church.

We are grateful for those that came before us who provided a Church building of such beauty and strength.

We take our responsibility to maintain the beauty and structural integrity of this building very seriously and hope that we can raise the funds and proceed with the project as soon as possible. Thank you for your support and contributions.

The Emmanuel Lutheran Property Committee

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### Emmanuel's 2020 Adopt-a-Family Congregational Project

**THE INFORMATION FOR OUR ADOPT-A-FAMILY HAS ARRIVED!** Our family has 4 children. We are family # 53. Usually we have a table set up in the Narthex to place purchased food and personal items for the family. Because of the COVID-19 virus, this year the procedure will be different. Instead of several people handling the items, money (cash would be preferable as opposed to checks) will be collected to purchase grocery store food cards (ones not allowing alcohol, tobacco products or lottery tickets) for the family to purchase food. Whatever you spent in previous years on your food donation to this project, instead tally up that amount and place in the marked box on the foyer table. We had great success last year with the "Snowman Christmas Gift Tree" where you picked a tag to purchase an item for the children and our November "Noisy Offering" has also be designated towards this project. With quilts and gifts not chosen purchased by the LYO (despite not being able to hold a fundraiser Easter Sunday breakfast for this project), it is hoped that our Emmanuel congregation will once again help make a Christmas for this family.

**Age 16: male** – pant size: 38 waist; shirt size – men's XL; shoe size – men's 10.5

Needed items: jeans, shirts, gym shorts and socks

Wish items: fishing gear, car supplies, i.e. cleaning supplies, air fresheners, emergency kit, etc.

**Age 14: male** – pant size: 34 waist; shirt size: men's medium; shoe size – men's 11

Needed items: socks, underwear, gym shorts

Wish list: new basketball, fishing gear, like football

**Age 9 – female** – pant size: 10/12; shirt size: 10/12; shoe size: 4

Needed items: pants, shirts, pus, any clothes

Wish items: art/drawing, dolls, volleyball, books, make up and dress up clothes

**Age 5 months – female** – pant size: 9 or 12 months; shirt size: 9 or 12 months

Needed items: warm clothes, diapers size 3; wipes

Wish items: any toys

**All items have to be delivered on December 8 so PLEASE, the money and gifts need to be in by DECEMBER 6 so the committee can get them wrapped and bagged up on the following Tuesday. Thank you for your support.**