

Emmanuel and St. Paul's Lutheran

February 2021 NEWSLETTER

These days we have all sorts of things coming at us, including this *NEWSLETTER*. Some are welcome and some are easy to filter and disregard. Some we open with hopeful expectation. Despite all coming at us, we may still feel empty and lost. I hear tell, within families there is growing a tenuous disconnect between generations, meaningful conversations have become difficult because of implied loyalties. Presumed loyalties we have not chosen or voiced. Grace for one another gets strained. The grace we have from God overlooked.

So I pray that you welcome this letter with hopeful expectation.

Confusing for many, and misunderstood in all of this, is our loyalty to God the Father through Jesus, the Son, and the work of the Holy Spirit. In fact, none of us are able to fully understand or find adequate words to describe the difference faith in God makes in our lives. We have been taught to look for results, the ones we have been told are best. Never-the-less the fruit of faith is evident in the ways we respond to life's trials, difficult situations beyond our control. Somehow, we do not lose hope, we do not lash out when we feel cornered. Oh, we are affected, often distressed and even fearful about the world and society our children and grandchildren will inherit, but not despairing.

A passage and a prayer come to mind. We do not want to live fearful or be conformed to the world; for this Jesus provides us strength and peace. To access these it helps to kneel and pray, asking for God's help ordering our personal desires and turning over to God those things beyond our control. I am grateful for God's help **to keep healthy boundaries**: what is mine to worry about, what is not; what triggers me, and other child of God.

Here is the unabridged version of what is more of a spiritual practice than a formula:

God, give us grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed,
courage to change the things which should be changed
and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.

Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time,
accepting hardship as a pathway to peace,
taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it.

Trusting that You, lord, will make all things right, if I surrender to Your will,
so that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.

-Richard Niebuhr (1892-1971)

And below the Apostle Peter's guidance on living out *1 Corinthians 13:4-7*:

"Love is patient love is kind. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable."

¹ Peter 3:13 Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. **Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you;** ¹⁶ **yet do it with gentleness and reverence.** Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God.

Together we draw nearer to God, to make our way forward finding peace and joy in His will.

Pastor Kurt

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes – December 14, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

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

Present: (on line) Jessica Bosley, Kris Sherman, Becky DeWild, Chuck Richardson, Kim Swank, Council Secretary Linda Wolfe. **(on phone)** Marilyn Holmes. **(in person)** Pastor Kurt Hoover, Mike Koval, Dave Wiebold. **Absent:** Brian Holmes.

Call to Order: Council President Jessica Bosley. **Devotions/Prayer:** Pastor Kurt Hoover. **Secretary's Minutes:** Reviewed, moved, seconded and approved by the Council. **Treasurer's Report:** Reviewed, moved, seconded and approved by the Council. **Pastor's Report/Deacons Report:** 1) Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Holy Communion will be held at 8:00 p.m. with pews taped off and social distancing. The Fellowship Hall will be set up for overflow with social distancing being observed. 2) Thank you to all who helped set up the Christmas decoration on November 28. 3) It was noted that member Donna Currie passed away unexpectedly on December 12 at her home. A private family service will be held. 4) It was noted that member Terri Kruse is in ill health. **STANDING COMMITTEES: Worship and Music:** 1) It was noted that the simple services with familiar music are well received. **Christian Education:** 1) The Sunday School is social distancing with classes in the basement Sunday School rooms. 2) Most children on the roster are attending. 3) Special Thanks to Dan and Jenni Hansen for coordinators the Christmas Program. It was a well executed program describing the Manger Scene and a costumed pageant. **Church Property/Parsonage Property:** 1) The Committee met on December 2 and are continuing to work on the projects around the Church; outside projects on hold until spring. 2) Thanks to Mike Koval for putting up shelves in the Fellowship Hall utility room on the east wall. **Finance and Stewardship:** No report. **Membership Committee:** No report. **LYO/Youth:** 1) Our Adopt-a-Family has 4 children in it. No Congregational food items will be collected; money for food cards will be collected. Thanks to Becky DeWild for making the gift tags for the presents on the snowman Christmas Tree; what is not taken will be purchased by LYO money. **MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEES: Altar Guild:** Rose Walter and Lisa Holmes are the December Altar Committee. Marilyn Holmes continues to work on getting the monthly committee. **Cookbook, Funeral, Hospitality, Memorial, Wedding:** No reports. **WELCA:** No December Bible Study – Business Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for January 20 with social distancing. **OLD BUSINESS:** 1) Jessica Bosley and daughters Maren and Megan are the new custodians. **NEW BUSINESS:** 1) Annual Meeting: It was moved, seconded and Council approval to set the Annual Meeting date for February 14 following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service. 2) Secretary Linda Wolfe will send out reminders to those people who will be making the reports for the Annual Meeting Booklet. 3) 3 Council members will be going off the Council. Announcements for 3 new members will be place in the bulletin/NL. 4) The January Noisy Offering will go to the Community Food Pantry; the container will be on the foyer table for the entire month of January for collection. The February Noisy Offering was moved, seconded, and approved by the Council to go to the Shenandoah Police Department to help purchase a new police dog; the container will be on the foyer table for the entire month of February for collection. 5) Mike Koval will design a graphic poster to be on display when Emmanuel begins the Steeple Fundraiser project.

Adjournment and Closing. There being no other business to conduct it was moved, seconded and approved by the Council to adjourn. Pastor Hoover led the Council in *The Lord's Prayer*.

The Council President closed the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, Council Secretary.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Woman (WELCA)

On Wednesday, January 20 @ 2:00 p.m., the WELCA Meeting with 4 ladies and the Pastor attending, was hosted by Marcella Heaton (who served a luscious cream pie covered with coconut, nuts, chocolate and coffee) with the Bible Study being led by Pastor Hoover on Dealing with Fears; how appropriate for what is happening world-wide.. The WELCA Finances are: Quilting Account (\$237.66); Business Account (\$757.48) and the Birthday Bags Fund (\$148.26). The next WELCA Meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 17 at 2:00 p.m. at Church** with Mary Schumacher as hostess. The Bible Study will be Chapter 9: Lifelong Trust in the *Growing Older & "Wiser* Study Book. As this is the last Study in the book, a discussion will be held on what to study next. Ideas for the next Bible Study...let the Pastor know.

The Quilters have been busy quilting on their regular days (the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 9:00 a.m.) They are continuing to quilt some of the quilt tops made by Rosalee Kinnison. Due to medical issues, a couple of the ladies have been unable to attend (we hope to see them soon) but with social distancing and masks, the Quilters manage to continue to quilt. Special Thanks to St. Paul's for donating material to our Emmanuel Quilters.

The WELCA Bible Study is open to all women at Emmanuel. The lessons are centered around a Bible passage and the discussion questions give insight on how they pertain to us today. You don't need a book, just come and enjoy the fellowship and learn a little more about the Bible each month. Hope to see everyone on February 17.

Linda Wolfe, WELCA Contact Person/Treasurer

EMMANUEL EVENTS and INFORMATION

February Birthdays

- 2 Stacy Erickson McCarthy
Jeanette Harington
Martha Tiemeyer
Gary Reed
3 Nathan Peterson
6 Jakob Sherman
7 Charlie Richardson
8 Tom Erickson
10 Erin Atterberry
12 Trent Tiemeyer
Candace Alvestad
Hazel Grace Wiig
19 Wayne Holmes
Steve Richardson
20 Brian Holmes
Gene Houchin
22 David Hogue
26 Rose Walter
28 Craig Holmes
Pastor Kurt Hoover



February Anniversaries

- 7 Michael and Morgan Pedersen
22 Kim and Theresa Swank



February Assistants

- Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes and Becky DeWild
Altar Committee: Carla Morrow and Becky DeWild
Acolytes: Evan Holmes and Ali Hansen (7)
Tyler Prokop (14)
Lilly Wittmer (21)
Maren Bosley (28)
Readers: Karla Koval (7)
Jessie Bosley (14)
Undesignated: (21)
Undesignated (28)
Ushers and Greeters: Undesignated (7,14,21,28)

March Assistants

- Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes and Becky DeWild
Altar Committee:
Acolytes: Tyler Prokop and Lilly Wittmer (7)
Maren Bosley (14)
Ali Hansen (21)
Evan Holmes (28) Palm Sunday
Readers: Karla Koval (7)
Jessie Bosley (14)
Undesignated (21)
Undesignated (28) Palm Sunday
Ushers and Greeters: Undesignated (7,14,21,28)

In accordance with Chapter 10, (Congregational Meeting) C10.01 and C10.03 of the Emmanuel Lutheran Constitution, the Church Council has set **Sunday, February 14, 2021 following the 10:30 a.m. Worship Service** as the date for the Emmanuel Lutheran Annual Meeting. This meeting will be in-person and a Zoom Meeting, which will be held simultaneously in accordance to the Model Constitution, Chapter 10 (Congregational Meeting) C10.08 and adopted by the Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council by Consent Agreement. Social distancing and masks will be observed. Contact the Church Office or Pastor Hoover for the Zoom address.

The 2021 YEARBOOK is now being organized. If you have any changes such as: address, telephone number, no land line, cell phone number, family members changes, e-mail address, etc. PLEASE let the Church office know so any changes can be placed correctly in the YEARBOOK.

The February "Noisy Offering" collection can will be placed on the foyer table for all of February to collect your "pocket change" or "purse change" to go to the Shenandoah Police Department to help in the purchase of a new police dog.

We still have 1 open spot on the Church Council for a 3-year term. Contact Jessie Bosley, Council President if you can volunteer to serve your Church.

Thanks to a generous donation, we are assured of having the funds for the Steeple Project. The Steeple Fund is now open to collect funds to replace the existing disintegrating steeple which is causing water to enter the Sanctuary. A collection can for the steeple and the replacement of the Church Sign due to water damage can be found on the foyer table. **Envelopes designated Church Sign or Steeple Fund are by the collection can for your use. Thank You.**

Your 2020 Church Donations are in your Narthex Mail Box. If there are any questions concerning your donations, please contact Financial Secretary Kris Sherman 245-1215.

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 and childrens masks are available in the Church foyer.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church – February 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Committee Carla Morrow Becky DeWild	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:15am Sunday School 9:15-10:10am Days lessons discussion with Coffee & social distancing in the Fellowship Hall 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion <i>5th Sunday after Epiphany</i>	8 9:00am Quilting 5:30pm Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Council Meeting	9	10	11	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>	13
14 9:15am Sunday School 9:15-10:10am Days lessons discussion with Coffee & social distancing in the Fellowship Hall. 10:30am Worship with Annual Meeting following 3:00-7:00pm Clover Kids <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i>	15 6:00pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm Membership Committee Meeting (if needed) <i>President's Day</i>	16	17 2:00pm WELCA Bible Study/Business Meeting at Church Mary Schumacher, Hostess 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service with Communion and Ashes <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	18	19	20
21 9:15am Sunday School 9:15-10:10am Days lessons discussion with Coffee & social distancing in the Fellowship Hall 10:30am Worship with new Council Installation <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i>	22 9:00am Quilting <i>Washington's Birthday</i>	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:15am Sunday School 9:15-10:10am Days lessons discussion with Coffee & social distancing in the Fellowship Hall . 10:30am Worship <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i>	Emmanuel Hours: 9:00-12:00 noon, Monday thru Thursday Emmanuel Telephone #: 1-712-246-3287 Emmanuel E-mail address: emmlutheran@yahoo.com					

The Church Council met on November 22 and decided to go virtual; any changes – you will be notified.

The assistants listed are the regular scheduled ones for February – if you would like to read/acolyte on your Sunday, contact Penny Bredensteiner.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – February 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Committee Sharon Gilbert Kymm Bredensteiner	1	2	3	4	5 Birthday Chris Rolf	6 Church Cleaner Nancy Middaugh Birthday Jill Gilbert
7 On-line taped service; be alert for You-Tube viewing times R: Jill Gilbert A: Deb Ratliff <i>5th Sunday after Epiphany</i>	8	9	10 An announcement will be made about Bible Study start-up date when that decision is made.	11	12 Birthday Candice Alvestad <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>	13 Church Cleaner Patty Bredensteiner
14 On-line taped service; be alert for You-Tube viewing times No WELCA Meeting R: Jill Gilbert A: Deb Ratliff <i>Valentine's Day</i> <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i>	15 Anniversary Deb and Terry Ratliff (35 yrs) <i>President's Day</i>	16 Birthdays Tim Bredensteiner Deb Weiss	17 The Church Council and Pastor Hoover will be working on a Virtual Ash Wednesday Worship Service. <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	18	19	20 Church Cleaner Penny Bredensteiner Anniversary Deb and Dean Weiss (50 yrs)
21 On-line taped service; be alert for You-Tube viewing times Holy Communion observed R: Sharon Gilbert A: Shane Bredensteiner <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i>	22 <i>Washington's Birthday</i>	23	24	25	26	27 Church Cleaner Sharon Gilbert Birthdays Carole Hamilton Toni Comstock Anniversary Carole & Mike Hamilton (49 yrs)
28 On-line taped service; be alert for You-Tube viewing times R: Sharon Gilbert A: Shane Bredensteiner Birthday: Pastor Kurt Hoover <i>2nd Sunday in Lent</i>	If there was a February 29: Birthday Deb Ratliff	Emmanuel Hours: 9-12 noon; Monday thru Thursday #712-246-3287 emmlutheran@yahoo.com				

ST. PAUL'S FEBRUARY 2021 INFORMATION CONCERNING CHURCH SERVICES AT ST. PAUL'S.

ST. PAUL'S HAS RETURNED TO VIRTUAL SUNDAY SERVICES. WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR PATIENCE AND HELP THROUGH THE PANDEMIC AS WE ADJUST OUR SERVICES.

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

The "Basement Floor Project" is finished. It was decided to go ahead with the project using the following funds:

- with permission from the family members - Memorial monies of Steve Bredensteiner, Pat Hall, Max & Harriett Griffey;
- part of the donation Gerry and Sharon Morin had made In Honor of Mabel Baker;
- money donated in lieu of family gift exchanges by Jo and Mel Eyberg In Honor of Penny, Mike & Carole and by Penny and Shana and family In Honor of the Eybergs;

Because of these generous donations and Memorial monies, it was not necessary to use any money from the General Fund. The flooring is a significant improvement to the basement and we are deeply Thankful for the Memorials and donations which made it possible. We THANK Pat Athen who did an excellent job and we more than welcomed his recommendations and expertise in replacing woodwork that needed attention. (**NOTE:** When cleaning the floor in the basement, the following care instructions are important. Please **DO NOT** wet mop the floor. If necessary, use Swiffer Sweeper or Swiffer Wet Pads. The vacuum works great on the floor, also.)

Penny, Carole and Deb R. deserve a huge "THANK YOU" for the hours they spent cleaning and putting all of the basement and bathrooms back in order. We recognize the extra time these three ladies have devoted on various tasks during the pandemic and truly appreciate their efforts.

THE ANNUAL MEETING was held on Sunday, January 17, 2021. Highlights from the meeting are as follows:

1. There were reports from the Pastor, WELCA and Sunday School;
2. A consent agreement for virtual meetings (if necessary) was approved;
3. The Budget was approved for 2021;
4. Election of Officers: Vice-President: Shannon Gilbert and Secretary: Dallas Prather;
5. A Work Day will be scheduled to spruce up the Church grounds and clear out and organize items in the barn.

THE CEMETERY BOARD MEETING was held on Sunday, January 17, 2021.

1. There are several holes around the Cemetery grounds (created by various and sundry vermin) that need to be filled in this spring;
2. Clinton Allen Monuments will be contacted about repairing and straightening some of the headstones;
3. Due to limited funds, the Cemetery Board has re-evaluated the cost of mowing and decided to take bids each year for mowing the Churchyard and Cemetery. **BIDS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE 2021 MOWING SEASON AND MAY BE MAILED TO SHANE BREDENSTEINER, 1103 N. 5TH STREET, TARKIO, MO 64491 OR E-MAILED TO fshhrd@gmail.com. BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL MARCH 15, 2021. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL SHANE BREDENSTEINER @ 660-744-4895.**

FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday, February 7 – NO Worship Service at Church. You are encouraged to watch the You Tube Service each Sunday.

Wednesday, February 10 – An announcement will be made about Bible Study start-up-date when that decision is made.

Sunday, February 14 – NO Worship Service at Church. The WELCA meeting has been postponed for the time being.

Sunday, February 21 (The First Sunday in Lent) – NO Worship Service at Church. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be observed during the taped service.

Sunday, February 28 – NO Worship Service at Church.

FEBRUARY ALTAR COMMITTEE – Sharon Gilbert and Kymm Bredensteiner

(more St. Paul's information can be found on the following page)

The following is the schedule when the Church is once again having in-person Worship Services:

FEBRUARY CLEANING SCHEDULE

Nancy Middaugh (6)
 Patty Bredensteiner (13)
 Penny Bredensteiner (20)
 Sharon Gilbert (27)

FEBRUARY ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Deb Ratliff (7)
 Deb Ratliff (14)
 Shane Bredensteiner (21)
 Shane Bredensteiner (28)

FEBRUARY READER SCHEDULE

Jill Gilbert (7)
 Jill Gilbert (14)
 Sharon Gilbert (21)
 Sharon Gilbert (28)

Happy "belated" Birthday to Faye Rolf. Her Birthday was on January 13. If you would like to send Faye a card, we're sure she would appreciate it. Faye's address is: 1385 – 250th Street, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601.

Griffin Thomas Fulk was Baptized on Thursday, January 7, 2021 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Griffin is the son of Maracella Marlene Shearer and Kalen Dean Fulk and the Great-Grandson of Peg Griffey and the late Harold Griffey. Griffin's sponsors are Karlie Leseberg and Katherine Shearer.

We would like to keep the family of JoAnn Liebfort Finley in our prayers. JoAnn passed away December 26, 2020 in Hastings, NE. She has been a faithful supporter of St. Paul's for many years, having grown up in the Church and was married to her husband, Galen Finley, at St. Paul's in 1948. She had a strong awareness of her heritage and her loyalty to the Church, knowing that four of her grandparents were among the founders of St. Paul's.

Prayers are also request for:

Bob and Lisa Spears Saunders. Lisa has been fighting COVID for two weeks and Bob is recovering from it. They are both at home in Carroll.

Waddy Coffman and Jill Gilbert as they continue to recover from their health issues.

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. Cards can be sent 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 BEING HELD VIRTUALLY AND WE ARE NOT ABLE TO HOLD IN-PERSON CHURCH. The Council encourages you to continue to give your offerings. Often, it is less on our minds and in our actions when we are not at St. Paul's sitting in the pews. Please consider prayerfully your giving as we head into 2021. The monthly Budget of the Church is approximately \$2,844. Yes, we have savings that can be tapped into to make up difference, but it would be nice to keep those funds intact for emergency needs in the future. The address for sending your offerings is: Nancy Middaugh, 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. (refer to the St. Paul's calendar for the Emmanuel Church office hours, telephone number with an answering machine and e-mail address if you need contact Emmanuel directly.)

JUST IN...

THE 18TH ANNUAL CLARINDA LUTHERAN SCHOOL carry-out German Dinner will be held on Sunday, February 7, 2021 from 10:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. This is a benefit dinner for the operational expenses of the educational ministry of Clarinda Lutheran School. The cost of the meal is a free will donation. They are unable to have their Silent Auction this year. For reservations, go to: www.clarindalutheranschool.com and click on the German Dinner Reservation link at the top of the page OR call 712-542-3657 to make your food/pick-up time. You will need to choose your dessert and specify your pick-up time from the listing of available time slots. Pick-up order at: Clarinda Lutheran School, 707 W. Scidmore, Clarinda, Iowa.

MENU:

Marinated Pork Loin...Hot German Potato Salad...Green Beans with Bacon & Onions
Choice of Dessert: German Chocolate Cake OR Banana Rum Cake.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
406 East Pioneer Avenue
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

18th Annual Clarinda Lutheran School

Carry Out German Dinner

Sunday, February 7, 2021

10:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Menu

Marinated Pork Loin

Hot German Potato Salad

Green Beans with Bacon & Onions

Choice of Dessert:

German Chocolate Cake or Banana Rum Cake

For Reservations:

Go to: www.clarindalutheranschool.com

Click on the German Dinner Reservation link at the top of the page. You will need to choose your desert and specify your pick-up time from the listing of available time slots.

Pick-up Order at:

Clarinda Lutheran School

707 W. Scidmore

Clarinda, Iowa

This is a benefit dinner for the operational expenses of the educational ministry of Clarinda Lutheran School.

Cost of the meal is a free will donation.

We are unable to have our Silent Auction this year.

You can also call 712-542-3657 to make your reservations.