

Emmanuel and St. Paul's

July 2021 NEWSLETTER

Ok, you don't want Grandma's church; You may find you want grandma's faith in God!

It doesn't matter how we do church – only that our gathering honors the relationship God has with us through Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, in its many facets. That is not beyond anyone's reach! As you observe something beautiful, thank God. Be it a newborn baby, a beautiful sunrise or sunset, any of the many wonderful things which cannot be made by human hands, or even advanced robotics. Or Artificial Intelligence. God's gifts inspires human achievement. Please don't let the pace of life prevent you and your family from enjoying this blessing.

Does it matter? YES! When we do not give thanks to God for the goodness and mercy He pours into the world we are attributing that gift and power to some other entity. Perhaps ourselves, neglecting to recognize God's Spirit at work in us. Or the government, business, or institution, neglecting to see the kind people who invest themselves in seeing that the institution serves people rather than itself at the expense of ordinary people. We notice the sad change when people of faith are edged out. Each of us have 'customer service' stories.

In contrast, most of us remember the names of teachers and neighbors, scout leaders, doctors and nurses who saw your personhood and encouraged you to believe in yourself, your goodness. Can you recall what church they went to? Most of us had Sunday school teachers who also served God as such positive influencers. You may continue to serve in some way.

"In the actual world a churchless community, a community where men have abandoned and scoffed at or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid downgrade." President Teddy Roosevelt offered this wisdom in a 1917 interview with Ladies Home Journal.

Even the casual observer notices "cause and effect" is an inadequate explanation for positive society and leads to a downward spiral. Thankfully, there are those among us who say 'no' to such cycles and find joy in contributing their gifts, talents, and resources for the sake of all.

"Church work and church attendance mean the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others (*beyond our family*) and the sense of bracing moral strength, which prevents a relaxation of one's own moral fiber." *Also among the reasons Teddy Roosevelt offered for participating in the life of your church.*

In the recent decades God has heard many prayers regarding declining church attendance and fears the financial support for the ministries of the church has become a critical issue. By faith we believe God will make a way, even through us, for what God wants. We recall we are God's hands and feet, workers in our society. "God help us", "Lord help me," we pray.

One of the ways God has answered my prayers is to tell me to get over my disappointments. Lead with the joy and hope which are ours because we believe in God. I know many stopped attending and giving because of conflicts with others in the church, somehow in church differences of opinion are granted such power.

God has taught me to say, "Come for Jesus". All of us are blessed to practice faith in God the way our grandparents had to. The times of our lives are far better than our grandparent's and great grandparent's. We are beneficiaries of the fruit of their faith and diligently bringing God's goodness and mercy into government, businesses, and institutions. Please take note of that.

Our children will suffer more for the lack of God's mercy and values influencing society than we presently do. Let us replace despair with rejoicing witness of the benefits of knowing God. Let all give the Lord His place within and alongside the activities competing for our family's time in worship. May all joyfully give thanks to the Lord for all the goodness and mercy we benefit from, and durable joy we receive in service of God's presence and purposes for all creation.

Pastor Kurt

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes – May 10, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.

(This Council Meeting was held in-person at the Church)

Present: Chuck Richardson, Marilyn Holmes, Mike Koval, Dave Wiebold, Dan Hansen, Steve Jensen, Council Secretary Linda Wolfe, Treasurer SuanneT. **Absent:** Becky DeWild, Kim Swank, Pastor Kurt Hoover. **Call to Order:** Council President Marilyn Holmes. **Secretary's Minutes:** The April minutes were reviewed: moved, seconded, Council approval. **Treasurer's Report:** Suzanne noted that we were behind in offerings versus where we should be at this time. The April finances were reviewed, moved, seconded, Council approval. **Pastor's Report:** Pastor was attending the Moses Project at Grandview University. His written report was discussed. **1)** He will officiate at the Kenneth Swanson Gravesite Service on Saturday, May 15th at the Rose Hill Cemetery, Shenandoah. **2)** He will officiate at the Neva Meek Memorial Service on Saturday on Saturday, May 15 at Emmanuel. **3)** He is returning to home and Care Center visits. **4)** The Emmanuel Constitution Task Force is beginning to review our Constitution. **5)** Hymnals have been returned to the social distancing pews. **STANDING COMMITTEES: Worship and Music:** No report. **Christian Education: 1)** No summer Sunday School. **2)** Ecumenical VBS was called off for this summer. **3)** The dehumidifier will run in the basement this summer. **Church Property and Parsonage Property: 1)** The front stairway wall will be scraped, sealed and repainted. **2)** The Committee will conduct a Parsonage Walk-thru. **3)** The permit to place a slightly taller steeple on the Church has been approval. **4)** No news when the steeple will arrive. **5)** The Church and Parsonage lawns were weeded and fertilized. **6)** Linda Wolfe will check on the history of the suspended cross over the Altar. **Finance and Stewardship, Membership and LYO/Youth Committees:** No meetings/no reports. **MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEES: Altar Guild. 1)** The Easter Lilies lasted through April and then given to those who were willing to replant them. **2)** May Altar Committee: Teresa Roberts and Rose Walter; June Altar Committee: Tammy Grebert and Katie Jensen. **Cookbook, Hospitality, Memorial, Wedding:** No reports. **Funeral:** Neva Meek Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, May 22, 2021 with a dinner following. **WELCA:** The May 19 @ 2:00 p.m. Bible Study, Business Meeting will be held at Church with Karen Erickson as hostess. **OLD BUSINESS: 1)** The Gowing family Thanked the Church Council for allowing them to meet in the Fellowship Hall for a family dinner on May 10, 2021 and also Thanked the Quilters for changing their quilting time to accommodate the lunch. After lunch, the family moved into the Church for an Organ Recital by Steve Richardson. **NEW BUSINESS: 1)** Jessica Bosley (LYO Advisor) has requested to be removed as LYO Advisor and to take her name off the LYO Checking Account. Linda Wolfe will see to this. **2)** Noisy Offerings were set up: May/June – Holly's Hope, July – summer Food Program for the School; August – Sleep in Heavenly Peace, building beds for youth. **3)** Karen Erickson has agreed to fill the vacant seat on the Council. **Adjournment/Closing:** It was moved, seconded and approved by the Council to adjourn and closed with the *Lord's Prayer* led by Marilyn Holmes.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, Council Secretary

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women (WELCA)

The Wednesday, June 16, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m. WELCA Bible Study and Business Meeting was held at the Mary Schumacher home. The Pastor led the 3rd Lesson from the "Pleasing God" Bible Study book by Jack Kuhatschek from Romans 12:1-8 (Offering yourself to God). The WELCA finances were reported and although I couldn't attend, I heard a luscious cobbler and ice cream was served by Mary. **During July and August, there will be no WELCA Bible Studies; the September 15th, 2:00 p.m. WELCA Bible Study/Business Meeting will be hosted by Mary Alice Johnson where we will continue with Chapter 4, Living by Faith.**

The Quilters will be packing up the quilts which were made this past year for Lutheran World Relief and taking them to Clarinda on July 20 to be trucked to the Minneapolis warehouse where they are bundled and sent overseas where needed. On **Sunday, July 18 the quilts will be on display at the front of the Church** and Pastor will bestow a blessing on them. Please take the time to go up front following the service to see the work your quilters do. Also on display will be quilts made for local emergencies and for the Christmas Adopt-a-Family program. This is truly a dedicated group of women who are doing outstanding work. Got a few minutes??? Stop in at Church on the 2nd and 4th Mondays @ 9:00 a.m. and try your hand at tying a knot. Presto...you are a quilter. Need an enticement? They also have a coffee time.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, WELCA Treasurer/Contact Person

EMMANUEL EVENTS and INFORMATION

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Lucy Clark
Andy Fick
- 3 Matt Barr
- 5 Samantha Prier
- 7 Dan Walter
- 10 Mary Ann Thornton
- 12 Abby Polich
Sandra Swope
- 13 Patrick Richardson
Josie Rengstorf
- 14 Tyler Prokop
- 16 Kristen Kaminski
Ron Orme
- 20 Eileen Carlson
Tiffany Hanson
- 23 Jenni Hansen
Melaine Prokop
Joe Wolfe
- 24 Ashley Ward
- 26 Amy Fick
Barbara Hoover
- 27 Randy Carlson
Linda Wolfe
Brian Swank
- 28 Kyle Swank
- 29 Marlin Tillman
Patrick Houchin
- 30 Tim Hogue



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 6 Brian and Lisa Holmes
- 7 Nathan and Crystal Wittmer
- 16 Tom and Linda Erickson
- 19 Russ and Deb Burroughs
- 26 Pastor Kurt and Barbra Hoover

JULY ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes and Becky DeWild
Altar Committee: undesignated
Acolytes: Tyler Prokop and Megan Bosley (4)
Lilly Wittmer (11)
Evan Holmes (18)

9:00am Joint Service @ St. Paul's (25)

Readers: **undesignated (4)**
Karla Koval (11)
Teresa Roberts (18)

9:00am Joint Service @ St. Paul's (25)

Greeters: **undesignated (4, 11, 18)**
Ushers: **undesignated (4, 11, 18)**

AUGUST ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Becky DeWild and Marilyn Holmes
Altar Committee: undesignated
Acolytes: 10:30 am Worship at McComb Park (1)
Evan Holmes and Lilly Wittmer (8)
Maren Bosley (15)
Tyler Prokop (22)
Megan Bosley (29)

Readers: **undesignated (1) at McComb Park**
Karla Koval (8)
undesignated (15, 22, 29)

Greeters: **undesignated (1, 8, 15, 22, 29)**
Ushers: **undesignated (1, 8, 15, 22, 29)**

The **BOLD** dates are when READERS, GREETERS and USHERS are needed. If you can be an assistant on any of these dates, please fill in your name (the sign-up sheets are on the foyer table) OR contact the Church Office @ 246-3287 OR emmlutheran@yahoo.com to reserve your date. Thank You!

OFFERING vs. BUDGET: As we enter the summer months, we are a "tad" behind where we need to be "budget-wise". What is considered a "tad"... about a month of budgeted offerings behind. Emmanuel's bills run about \$8,000.00/month or about \$2,000.00/week. When we take our yearly Budget (\$100,613.00) and divide that by 52 (Sundays) it comes to \$1,934.87/week which is needed to make the 2021 Budget. We haven't had any trouble, so far, paying all the bills, but summer vacations, etc. are upon us and we might not think about the Church bills which have to be paid, just like when you pay your bills at home. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Your Church never closed and the staff continued to work to provide stability in your lives. Your Church was and will continue to be here for you, so please...be here for your Church.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church – July 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Committee				1	2	3 Star Spangled Shenandoah Celebration (details on KMA and in Newspapers)
4 9:45am Before Worship Coffee 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion <i>Independence Day</i> <i>6th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	5	6 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for the National Alliance on Mental Illness Support Group (NAMI) <i>National Fried Chicken Day</i>	7 <i>World Chocolate Day</i>	8	9 <i>National Sugar Cookie Day</i>	10
11 9:45am Before Worship Coffee 10:30am Worship with Communion following 3:30-7:30pm Fellowship Hall reserved for Clover Kids/4-H Club <i>7th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	12 9:00 am Quilting 6:30 pm Council Meeting	13 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for the National Alliance on Mental Illness Support Group (NAMI)	14 <i>National Mac/Cheese Day</i>	15	16	17
18 9:45am Before Worship Coffee 10:30am Worship with the Blessing of the Quilts <i>National Ice Cream Day</i> <i>8th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	19 6:00 pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting 7:00pm Membership Committee Meeting	20 Quilts taken to Clarinda 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for the National Alliance on Mental Illness Support Group (NAMI)	21 NO July Bible Study <i>National Hot Dog Day</i>	22	23	24
25 NO Coffee 9:00 am Joint Worship Service AT ST. PAUL'S with coffee following <i>National Hot Fudge Sundae Day</i> <i>9th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	26 9:00am Quilting	27 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for the National Alliance on Mental Illness Support Group (NAMI)	28	29	30	31

Emmanuel Office Hours: 9:00-12:00 noon; Monday - Thursday
Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com

Emmanuel Telephone #: 1-712-246-3287

ST. PAUL'S JULY INFORMATION and EVENTS

(ST. PAUL'S RETURNED TO INDOOR SERVICES AS OF SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2021.)

Services begin at 9:00 a.m. at St. Paul's each Sunday.

JUNE

Coffee was served after Church on Sunday, June 27 by the Mission Action Committee, with Kymm Bredensteiner and Blu Dow in charge.

JULY

Sunday, July 4 – 9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, July 11 – 9:00 a.m. Worship with the WELCA Meeting following

6:30 p.m. Semi-Annual Meeting/bring desserts to go with ice cream

Sunday, July 18 – 9:00 a.m. Worship

Sunday, July 25 – 9:00 a.m. Joint Service with Emmanuel at St. Paul's/Both the Mission Action and Mission Community Committees will host a coffee following the Service.

BIBLE STUDY WILL NOT MEET DURING THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST.

AUGUST

Sunday, August 1 – 10:30 a.m. Joint Service at the McComb Park on Anna Crose Hwy. Shenandoah hosted by Emmanuel with a pot luck picnic following. More information will be forthcoming.

John and Cheryl Whipple truly appreciated the cards they received for their 50th Anniversary, as well as the 50th Anniversary Crystal Ornament St. Paul's sent them.

Plans for the dedication of several projects which have been completed at St. Paul's are currently being formulated.

St. Paul's has received a gift of new purple and green parament sets purchased by the family of Terry Rolf in his memory.

Thank You to the Altar Committees for providing flowers for the Altar. Please be aware of your responsibilities for reading, acolyting, cleaning and Altar Committee. It takes the collective efforts of our entire church Family to keep St. Paul's alive and flourishing. God be with each of you as spring moves into summer. **REMEMBER...no water on the new flooring – Swiffer or vacuum.**

JULY ALTAR COMMITTEE: Toni Comstock and Kerra Ratliff.

JULY CLEANING SCHEDULE

Kerra Ratliff (3)
Toni Comstock (10)
Carole Hamilton (17)
Jill Gilbert (24)
Dallas Prather (31)

JULY ACOLTYE SCHEDULE

Shannon Gilbert (4)
Shannon Gilbert (11)
Shane Bredensteiner (18)
Shane Bredensteiner (25)

JULY READER SCHEDULE

Sharon Gilbert (4)
Kathy Athen (11)
Kathy Athen (18)
Deb Ratliff (25)

PLEASE REMEMBER HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO SUPPORT ST. PAUL'S DURING THIE TIME CHURCH

SERVICES ARE CANCELLED. The Council encourages you to continue to give your offerings. Please consider prayerfully your giving. The monthly budget of St. Paul's is \$2,844.00. Yes, we have savings that can be tapped into to make up differences, but it would be nice to keep those funds intact for emergency needs in the future. The address for sending your offerings is P.O. Box 71, Hamburg, Iowa 51640.

Information for the monthly NL...send it to Mary Beth Bredensteiner (marybeth@tarkio.k12.mo.us) before the 15th of each month OR get it to Nancy or Penny. You can also text 660-623-0093.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – July 2021

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 Toni Comstock Kerra Ratliff				1 BIRTHDAYS Mike Hamilton Pat Athen	2 ANNIVERSARY Kerra and Ty Ratliff	3 Church Cleaner Kerra Ratliff BIRTHDAY Katelyn Long
4 9:00am Worship with Holy Communion R: Sharon Gilbert A: Shannon Gilbert BIRTHDAY: Terry Ratliff <i>Independence Day</i> <i>6th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	5	6 BIRTHDAY Marlin Tiemann	7	8	9	10 Church Cleaner Toni Comstock BIRTHDAY Abby Athen
11 9:00am Worship R: Kathy Athen A: Shannon Gilbert WELCA Meeting following the Worship Service 6:30pm Semi-Annual Meeting – bring desserts to go with ice cream BIRTHDAY: Patty Bredensteiner <i>7th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	12	13 ANNIVERSARY Blu and Tommy Dow	14 ANNIVERSARY Toni and Dustin Comstock	15	16 BIRTHDAY Sloane Snyder ANNIVERSARY Gayle and Gary Moody	17 Church Cleaner Carole Hamilton
18 9:00am Worship R: Kathy Athen A: Shane Bredensteiner ANNIVERSARY: Kristine Middaugh & Arvind Karwan <i>8th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	19	20	21	22 BIRTHDAY Shane Bredensteiner	23	24 Church Cleaner Jill Gilbert
25 9:00am Joint Service with Emmanuel as guests R: Deb Ratliff A: Shane Bredensteiner BIRTHDAYS: Kristine Middaugh Colby Bredensteiner Coffee following/both Comm. <i>9th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	26 ANNIVERSARY Pastor and Barbara Hoover BIRTHDAY Barbra Hoover	27 ANNIVERSARY Kymm and Shane Bredensteiner BIRTHDAY Sharon Gilbert	28	29	30	31 Church Cleaner Dalias Prather

NOTE: Bible Study will not meet in July and August. The next Bible Study will be held in September!

NOTE: August 1, 2021, 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's is invited to the "Joint Worship Service with Emmanuel at McComb Park", Anna Crose Hwy., Shenandoah. If inclement weather – Worship will be held at the Emmanuel Church

July 2021, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

God's work. Our hands.

As a social ministry organization of the ELCA, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) is so thankful for your partnership in ministry! Thanks to you, we are able to provide education to parents of young children, empower Iowans with disabilities, and offer critical mental health care to community members of all ages. This month, we would like to give special thanks for those of you who have made LSI a focus on your congregation's "God's work. Our hands." project.

On a planned day in September, each congregation is encouraged to reach outside of the church and do good deeds in the community by participating in a project for "God's work. Our hands." This is a perfect opportunity to combine community projects with a special project for nonprofits like LSI, whether it's raising money or contributing in-kind gifts.

We thank you for your service! If you are interested in supporting the Iowa children and families served by LSI or would like to get involved in a "God's work. Our hands." project with LSI, 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](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

Hali's New Life

Hali grew up in a home surrounded by addiction. Her own struggle with substance use and trauma continued for more than 20 years but when she learned she was pregnant with her son, Apollo, she knew she needed a change. After giving birth, Hali entered treatment and when she was ready to return home, LSI Early Childhood Services were there to provide support and walk alongside her.

Her LSI worker, Gretchen, provided parenting education and resources, all while empowering Hali and making sure Apollo had a healthy home. Gretchen helped Hali keep track of Apollo's growth to ensure he hit all his important developmental milestones.

More than a year later, Hali is thriving. She is now in college and is also a sponsor to other women who are on the same path to recovery. At home, Hali is busy keeping up with Apollo as he is learning to walk, and she is excited to see him continue to grow.

"Gretchen has given me a lot of hope. She's always had my back," Hali says. "She's my go-to person for any resource and it's nice to have her in my corner."

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
406 East Pioneer Avenue
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

Yes, the Emmanuel Lutheran Church e-mail address list got HACKED but all is OK. We are secure, thanks to my son, my tech “go-to-guy” who fixed the problem and got me through all the procedures. To all who contacted me, I did so enjoy hearing from you, some of whom I haven’t talked to for quite some time; it was old home week. As one of you said...it was so RUDE to hack a Church!!!