

Emmanuel and St. Paul's *June 2021 NEWSLETTER*

Reopening, check. Getting back to the ways things were before? I believe you have heard it too – *"Things are not going to be the same."* To which perhaps you've responded like me: "Yes, but why be sad or fearful, why not build on the best of what we were doing before, seasoned by what the pandemic taught us. And what is it that is going to restrain us?"

What we have heard from nationally broadcast experts/officials appears to me to have produced fear and implies foolishness on our part. But we can think for ourselves and eventually the guidance catches up with our common sense. If you are vaccinated for the flu you are not likely to catch it or transmit the flu. I haven't been shown evidence that COVID-19 is different. But, let us step away from that rabbit hole, I am writing to you about our life together as church, the body of Christ in our locations, and these time in which we live.

The mission Jesus entrusted to His church rises above social and cultural strife. And offers its own guidance for being the church in all circumstances. So let us discern together the best God serving and glorifying things we did before. And let us look again, listen anew to God's Word in the context of all we have gone through. Embrace the joy of our Christian identity.

Along this line of discernment this quote, along with the Holy Spirit, gave me some food for thought regarding our priorities as the body of Christ going forward.

"What if church invited people to come and tell what they already know of God instead of to learn what they are supposed to believe?"

"What if it blessed people for what they are doing in the world instead of chastening them for not doing more in church?"

"What if the church's job were to convince people that God needs them working in the world more than God needs them sitting in the pews?"

~ Barbara Brown Taylor

Barbara Brown Taylor presumes her readers have faith that God is active in all aspects of their lives and take seriously the call to testify with their lives of God's love and good will for the world. Luther wrote about this naming it "Christian vocation." That as believers redeemed from sin's power by the Grace of God, we should approach work and all aspects of life with a grace informed perspective. And see co-workers, and all others as also glorifying God as they bring their best according to the gifts and spirit provided by God. It may not be that they don't know this, rather they may not know in Christian fellowship we celebrate all the good God is accomplishing in the world through ordinary people. Pew time is an important aspect too.

Before I came across this quote, God had convicted me to not preach to you what you ought to believe; you're already attending church. Rather affirm the faith working in you and lift up how our Lord and master is blessing the world and our lives through our obedience to His good will.

We come to worship and are glad to be a part of a church which has Christian education for the children and serves others in many ways including funeral dinners and making quilts.

I invite you to ponder and pray about additional ways God is calling us to be the body of Christ together in these times. Let us not be restrained or divided by external worldly ideas, rather freely live in the new life we have in Christ, preparing us for the life to come.

BTW, if you have read this, don't keep your thoughts to yourself, pray and visit with others in our church family, and beyond, and bring the best fruit of those conversations to the table.

Paster Kuel

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes – April 12, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.

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

Present: (in person) Chuck Richardson, Kim Swank, Marilyn Holmes, Dave Wiebold, Dan Hansen, Steve Jensen, Council Secretary Linda Wolfe, Pastor Kurt Hoover. **(via Zoom)** Mike Koval. **Absent:** Becky DeWild. **Call to Order:** Council President Marilyn Holmes. **Devotions/Prayer:** During Pastor's Report. **Secretary's Minutes:** March 8 Minutes reviewed, moved, seconded; Council approval. **Treasurer's Report:** March 8 Treasurer's Report and WELCA Financial Report reviewed, moved, seconded; Council approval. **Pastor's Report: 1)** Discussion held on last month's questions on the focus and priorities for the year ahead. Following the discussion, Pastor offered a devotion and prayer. **2)** Looking for 2 Deacons to replace the outgoing ones. **3)** Pastor officiated at the April 2, 2021 Allen Holmes Funeral. **4)** Pastor attended the April 12, 2021 Dennis DeWild Funeral. **STANDING COMMITTEES: Worship and Music – 1)** The Church attendance has been consistent during the in-person Church Services. **2)** On Easter Sunday, the pews were spaced at every other row. **3)** The Hymnals and Bibles will be replaced in the pews that are open. **4)** Larry Cowherd (Gideons) will present the April 18, 2021 Service during the Pastor's vacation. **Christian Education: 1)** May 2nd is the last day of Sunday School until fall. **2)** Vacation Bible School has been cancelled for the summer. **Church Property and Parsonage Property: 1)** Steeple Project. The steeple has been ordered and should arrive in June. Mike Koval will be contacted when the exact date is known; the Property Committee will be present when it arrives to unload the crate. Nick Rengstorf will install the steeple. **2)** The basement stairway wall will be repainted. **3)** A walk-thru of the Church and Parsonage will be scheduled. **4)** The steeple cross will be saved and plans are underway to place it on the new front sign. **5)** Chuck Richardson will mow the Church lawn and Clean Cut Lawn Service the parsonage. **6)** Kim Swank will make sure a permit (if needed) is in place for the Steeple Project and the Front Sign Project. Mike Koval will get an electric bid for the front sign. **Finance and Stewardship:** No meeting held; no report. **Membership Committee:** No meeting held, no report. **LYO/Youth:** No Easter Sunrise Service or breakfast held this Easter. **MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEES: Altar Guild: 1)** Congregational Easter Lilies used during April. **2)** Karen Erickson and Linda Wolfe are the April Altar Committee. **Cookbook, Hospitality:** No report. **Funeral: 1)** Allen Holmes Funeral held at the Hackett-Livingston Funeral Home (no lunch served). **2)** Dennis DeWild Funeral held at the Elks Lodge (no lunch served at Emmanuel) **Memorial: 1)** The Allen Holmes family requested their Memorial Funds to the Emmanuel Church. **WELCA: 1)** The April 21 Meeting will be held at the Mary Alice Johnson home with the new Bible Study; *Pleasing God*. **OLD BUSINESS: 1)** 1 more member is needed on the Church Council; Marilyn Holmes is in contact with a member. **2)** The Constitutional Committee Task Force is beginning to meet to review the Emmanuel Constitution: Mike Koval, Steve Richardson, Steve Jensen and Pastor Hoover. **NEW BUSINESS: 1)** The Council decided to bring back Greeters using no contact/social distancing welcoming. **2)** Pastor attended the Western Iowa Synod Assembly virtually on April 9 and 10. Pastor was elected to attend the Church Wide Assembly in August (Cleveland, Ohio). **3)** Dave Wiebold and Steve Jensen volunteered to count the congregation on Sundays. **4)** Mary Beth Gowing asked to have a family dinner in the Fellowship Hall on May 10; Council approval. **5)** The May 10 Council Meeting will be held at Church with no Zoom as Pastor Hoover will be in Des Moines attending the Moses Project Seminar. **Adjournment and Closing** There being no other business to conduct, it was moved, seconded and approved to adjourn. Pastor Hoover led the Council in *The Lord's Prayer*; meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, Council Secretary.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women (WELCA)

On Wednesday, May 19, 2021 @ 2:00 p.m. WELCA was held at the Church with Karen Erickson as hostess. Pastor Kurt Hoover led the 2nd Lesson from the "Pleasing God" Bible Study books by Jack Kuhatschek. The WELCA Financial Report was presented along with the notice of the Women's Convention held in Algona, Iowa. Mary Jo Tillman and Rosamond Tillman joined with the ladies for the Study. Following the study, Karen served a luscious cake topped with whipped cream and coconut, peanut clusters and coffee. All in all it was a great study, food and visiting. Everyone is invited to come to the Bible Study, books can be shared and this Bible Study is especially meaningful. The next Bible Study and Business Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 16 @ 2:00 p.m. with Mary Schumacher as hostess. We will meet at Church @ 1:30 or so and car pool to her home right outside of Waubonsie State Park.

The Western Iowa Synodical Women's Organization Convention is on June 19, 2021 @ First Lutheran Church, 226 N. Putnam Street, Algona, Iowa with Bishop Lorna Halaas as the Keynote Speaker. If you are interested in attending, let Linda Wolfe know so a registration form can be sent in. See you at the next Bible Study!

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, WELCA Treasurer/Contact Person

EMMANUEL EVENTS and INFORMATION

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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 Mathew Nelson
21 Don Buesing
23 Craig Lundgren
26 Merrill Malmberg
Amy 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
30 Richard and Linda Sorensen



Congratulations to Emmanuel's 2021 High School Graduates:

*Carter Houchin, son of Patrick Houchin on May 16 in Shenandoah
Trey Houchin son of Matt and Melanie Houchin on May 16 in Maryville*

The Quilters made special graduation Quilts geared toward Carter's and Trey's likes and hobbies: Hunting camouflage for Carter and a sports themed one for Trey. We pray for their continued success as they move forward in their lives to the careers they choose. Carter will be attending South East Community College and Trey will be attending North West Missouri State College.

One of our beloved members passed away on April 25 at the age of 91 years after a brief illness. Neva Meek enjoyed life and passed that on to not only her children but to many of her Emmanuel family and her many friends over the years. Neva will be greatly missed at Emmanuel; if something was needed that she was able to do such as Greeting or bringing food for an event, you could be sure she volunteered to help. Neva's Celebration of Life Memorial Service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 22 at Emmanuel with a dinner following. Our sincere sympathies to her children, Louis Meek (Cheryl), Katie McQueen (Jim), Barb Bosley (Gary) and their families.

JUNE ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Becky DeWild and Marilyn Holmes
Altar Committee: Tammy Grebert and Katie Jensen
Acolytes: Evan Holmes and Maren Bosley (6)
Lilly Wittmer (13)
Ali Hansen (20)
Tyler Prokop (270)
Readers: Ron Oestmann (6)
Karla Koval (13)
Steve Jensen (20)
Undesignated (27)
Greeters: Undesignated (6, 13, 20, 27)

JULY ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes and Becky DeWild
Altar Committee: Undesignated
Acolytes: The July-December schedule is in progress
Readers: Undesignated (4, 11, 18, 25)
Greeters: Undesignated (4, 11, 18, 25)

The **BOLD** dates are when READERS and GREETERS are needed. If you can be a READER or GREETER on any of these dates, please fill in your name (the sheet is on the foyer table) OR contact the Church Office @ 246-3287 OR emmlutheran@yahoo.com to reserve your date. Thank You!

The Quilters will continue to quilt during the summer on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 9:00 a.m. each month. If you would like to come and see what it is all about, you are more than welcome. If you can tie a knot, you can quilt.

All gatherings are subject to change. Social distancing will be observed at all services. Please sit in where the bulletins are placed.
If you would like, Adult and children's masks are available in the foyer.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church – June 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Committee Tammy Grebert Katie Jensen		1 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserves for the National Alliance on Mental Illness Support Group (NAMI)	2	3	4 <i>National Donut Day</i>	5 2:00-4:00pm Open House at the Northboro Community Building IN HONOR of Mabel Baker's 108 th Birthday.
6 9:15am Lesson discussion with Coffee 10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion <i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	7	8 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	9	10	11	12
13 9:15am Lesson discussion with Coffee 10:30am Worship with Communion following 3:30-7:30 pm Fellowship Hall reserved for Clover Kids/4-H <i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	14 9:00 am Quilting 6:30 pm Council Meeting to be held at Church <i>Flag Day</i>	15 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	16 2:00 pm WELCA Bible Study/Business Meeting Hostess: Mary Schumacher (at her house)	17	18	19
20 9:15 am Lesson discussion with Coffee 10:30 am Worship <i>Father's Day</i> <i>1st Day of summer</i> <i>4th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	21 6:00pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting 7:00 pm Membership Committee Meeting	22 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	23	24	25	26
27 9:15 am Lesson discussion with Coffee 10:30 am Worship <i>5th Sunday after Pentecost</i>	28 9:00 am Quilting	29 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI	30	Emmanuel Hours: 9-12:00 noon; Monday-Thursday Emmanuel Telephone #: 1-712-246-3287 Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com		

ST. PAUL'S JUNE 2021 INFORMATION CONCERNING CHURCH SERVICES AND CHURCH NEWS

The Sunday Service at St. Paul's are both in-person in the Sanctuary AND an outside Parking Lot Service is provided for those who do not feel comfortable worshipping inside.

The St. Paul's Church Service begins every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to join in Worship.

MAY

May 30 (following the Worship Service) Coffee to Honor the Graduates and also to Honor Mabel Baker's 108th Birthday. The Mission Community Committee is in charge of serving refreshments. Co-chairmen are Nancy Middaugh and Dallas Prather.

JUNE

Saturday, June 5 – 2:00-4:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to a Community Open House **TO HONOR** and **HELP CELEBRATE** Mabel Baker's 108 Birthday at the Northboro Community Building.

Sunday, June 6 – 9:00 a.m. Worship (inside/outside)

Wednesday, June 9 – NO BIBLE STUDY UNTIL FALL.

Sunday, June 13 – 9:00 a.m. Worship (inside/outside)/WELCA Meeting immediately following Worship.

Sunday, June 20 – 9:00 a.m. Worship (inside/outside) Father's Day and the 1st Day of Summer

Sunday, June 27 – 9:00 a.m. Worship (inside/outside) Scheduled Coffee after Church – Mission Action
Co-chairs Kymm Bredensteiner and Blu Dow

We have currently returned to inside and outside services. Thank you to the Altar committees for providing flowers for the Altar. Please be aware of your responsibilities for READING, ACOLYTING, CLEANING and ALTAR COMMITTEES. 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.

JUNE ALTAR COMMITTEE: Carole Hamilton and LoAnn Beran

JUNE CLEANING SCHEDULE

Patty Bredensteiner (5)
Penny Bredensteiner (12)
Sharon Gilbert (19)
Kymm Bredensteiner (26)

JUNE ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Andy Rolf: (6)
Steven Middaugh (13)
Steven Middaugh (20)
Tim Bredensteiner (27)

JUNE READER SCHEDULE

Blu Dow (6)
Kerra Ratliff (13)
Kerra Ratliff (20)
Sharon Gilbert (27)

PLEASE REMEMBER HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO SUPPORT ST. PAUL'S DURING THIS TIME. The Council encourages you to continue to give your offerings. Please consider prayerfully your giving. St. Paul's monthly Budget is \$2,844.00. Yes, we have savings that can be tapped into to make up any differences, but it would be nice to keep these funds intact for emergency needs in the future. The address for sending your offering is Nancy Middaugh, 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 Bredensteiner before the 15th at marybeth@tarkio.k12.mo.us or get the information to Nancy Middaugh or Penny Bredensteiner so they can forward it on. You can also text 660-623-0093.

St. Paul's Worship Services are in-person in the Church and also Parking Lot Church. If there are any changes, you will be notified. This calendar represents the scheduled events found in your Yearbook.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – June 2021

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Committee Carole Hamilton LoAnn Beran		1	2 BIRTHDAYS Dan Weiss LoAnn Beran	3	4	5 Church Cleaner Patty Bredensteiner BIRTHDAY: Tommy Dow 2:00-4:00pm Open House at the Northboro Community Building IN HONOR of Mabel Baker's 108 th Birthday.
6 9:00 am Worship R: Blu Dow A: Andy Rolf 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost	7	8 BIRTHDAY Trey Ratliff	9 NO BIBLE STUDY UNTIL FALL	10	11	12 Church Cleaner Penny Bredensteiner ANNIVERSARY Tim and Patty Bredensteiner
13 9:00 am Worship R: Kerra Ratliff A: Steven Middaugh Scheduled WELCA Meeting after Church 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	14 <i>Flag Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19 Church Cleaner Sharon Gilbert
20 9:00 am Worship \$: Kerra Ratliff A: Steven Middaugh BIRTHDAY: River Dow Father's Day 1 st Day of Summer 4 th Sunday after Pentecost	21	22 BIRTHDAY Nora Lundquist ANNIVERSARY Steve and Nancy Middaugh	23	24	25 ANNIVERSARY Ed and Mary Beth Bredensteiner	26 Church Cleaner Kymm Bredensteiner ANNIVERSARY Shannon and Alise Snyder
27 9:00 am Worship R: Sharon Gilbert A: Tim Bredensteiner Scheduled Ooffee - Mission Action Co-chrs: Kymm Bredensteiner and Blu Dow 5 th Sunday after Pentecost	28 BIRTHDAY Kymm Bredensteiner ANNIVERSARY Ben and Cassidy Kelly	29	30	Emmanuel Telephone #: 1-712-246-3287 Emmanuel Hours: 9-12:00 noon; Monday-Thursday Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com		

June 2021, 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 Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org 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 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).

Finding Paradise

Perseverance is a familiar quality for Mon, who after spending decades living as a refugee from an early age was recently able to place roots in Iowa and succeed in building a life for his family.

After living in a Nepali refugee camp for almost 24 years, Mon's family was able to resettle in the U.S. When they arrived in Iowa, they moved directly into a tiny apartment. But the single room was not sufficient for their family – especially once their youngest daughter was born. They stayed in the apartment for four years, but Mon was determined to create a better home for his family.

Mon secured housing for his family through the Habitat for Humanity program, and through LSI Refugee and Immigrant Services, he was able to get on track and save and earn money towards his goal of homeownership. With guidance from staff in LSI's Match and Save financial program, he was able to open a savings account and develop a monthly savings plan.

Mon and his family moved into their new home last year, and he said LSI and Habitat for Humanity were critical steps in helping him learn about U.S. finances and savings – lessons that will pay off during his journey as a homeowner.

"I felt very sad when I left my country," Mon says. "I felt as if I lost my paradise. But when I got the key and when I entered my house, I felt that I regained my lost paradise. So that was the happiest moment in my life and right now, I, my family, and kids are super happy to live in this new house."

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
406 East Pioneer Avenue
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

Here's an idea, a place to start.

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday is Sunday, September 12, 2021. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday provides an opportunity to serve our neighbors in new ways and with new partners. It also provides an opportunity to gain new insights, to be renewed in faith and to gain fresh strength for serving in all our daily callings. This resource offers suggestions for small group discussion and individual reflection that explores the relationships we have when we are baptized into Christ's life. Loving, liberated service to others is more than a one-time or even ongoing activity.

Being baptized into Christ's life creates a whole new world of relationships — with God, with others and even with ourselves — that is characterized by loving, liberated service.

The goal of these suggestions for study and discussion is to explore the relationships that we have in Christ as loving, liberated servants. Listed below are some suggestions for thinking and talking with others, grouped by the number of people involved. Each grouping includes a variety of suggestions to fit your personal interest or local needs.

- A quick dip suggests a few questions or prompts for a brief exploration of this activity as part of a whole baptismal life filled with loving service. You can do one briefly while you travel to a work location or at the beginning of your activity.
- Wading in suggests some possibilities for 30-60 minutes of conversation before or after the service activity on the same day.
- Diving deeper suggests some possibilities for in-depth reading and discussion of a short book as a whole community in two to three sessions. (these sessions can also be adapted for small group or individual uses.)