

Garden of Readin'



Emanuel Lutheran Church Newsletter

July 2020

Happenings!

Due to COVID 19 indoor services at Emanuel are cancelled until further notice. People may attend a service on Sundays at 9:30 am in the back parking lot. For this service everyone will remain in their cars and practice social distancing. Other than this, meetings and events will not take place at Emanuel until we are able to do so safely. Please connect with us virtually via Facebook, Twitter and our YouTube channel in the meantime.

Sunday, July 5—Worship in back parking lot

Sunday, July 12—Worship in back parking lot

Friday, July 17—Theology on Tap (via Zoom)

Sunday, July 19—Worship in back parking lot

Sunday, July 26—Worship in back parking lot

Mission Statement:
Forgiven
by Grace,
Serving by
Faith

Vision Statement:
To Grow in
Faith, Love,
and Spirit

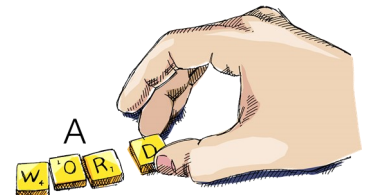


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Ponderings From Your Pastor

BY PASTOR CARA KNUTSON



from the
Pastor

Dear Church-

Greetings on a hot June afternoon. I can personally attest that the shade in the upper parking lot is at its best from sunrise until about noon. So come at 9:30 and enjoy outdoor worship on Sundays! We will be having outdoor worship until the council and I feel it's safe to worship back in the building. A group of members have also drafted a safety plan for the time when we do return to worshipping in the building we can do so as safely as possible.

Please practice proper social distance and if possible wear a mask. If you don't have a mask we have disposable masks available. With some beautiful summer mornings if you want to bring along a chair and sit outside that's great. You may want to consider bringing along an umbrella for hotter mornings.

This is an unusual time and we've had to adjust to doing things in different ways. We'll continue to creatively come together to worship as the family of God and keep us as safe as possible in the process. Kevin, while Da Band was setting up for our first outdoor worship said, "our theme song could be So Happy Together". As I've continued to get to know all of you as your pastor, I've found this to be incredibly true.

For those who choose to worship from their home online, we will continue to offer online worship. You can access the services from the church website under sermons, our church YouTube page, or on Facebook. We also offer a daily devotional called Faith5.

At 11:00 am on Sundays you're also invited to attend Virtual Coffee Hour—bring your own donuts and coffee

Whether you worship in your jammies and slippers at home with your favorite cuppa or join in worship outdoors, you are a valuable and important member of our congregation. If you have any ideas on how to improve our life together as a community please feel free to reach out to me via church phone, cellphone, or email.

Life in the Knutson household continues on. Derek and the tomatoes are growing like crazy and we continue to enjoy the backyard, the turkey gang and occasional deer. We now have a patio table, hammock and soon a grill (as soon as Cindy and I finish putting it together) to enjoy cool summer evenings outdoors. We're planning on at least a camping trip somewhere in the vicinity and perhaps a trip later on to Minneapolis to visit Maja's mom Mary. Mary, by the way, is our newest associate member. She regularly attends Mt. Olivet Lutheran in Minneapolis, but wishes to support our congregation as well.

My sister, Miranda, her husband Paul are studying to join as our first distance members. They live in Honolulu and are excited to be a part of Emanuel virtually. Maybe we can patch her in during a service when we welcome them as members—stay tuned!

May we continue on So Happy Together as the body of Christ and the family of God here in our little corner of the Kingdom, Emanuel Lutheran.

God Bless!
Pr. Cara

Kobie Ferguson's Graduation Party

Emanuel families & friends are invited to join us on Saturday, July 18 for Kobie's graduation party from 3-6 pm at Emanuel for food, drinks, fellowship and fun! RSVP encouraged, but not required to Debbie via text at (712) 310-2492 or email dsfergie3@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!

Ashley Hipnar Graduation Party

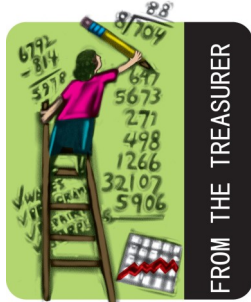
Ashley's graduation party will be Saturday, July 18th from 5-8pm at our home at 652 Arnold Avenue. As this date nears, please call, text or email with any questions or to confirm details of this celebration. Any changes will also be updated on social media. Mike Hipnar (402) 830-7000 / Carla Hipnar (402) 677-1885 / mjhipnar@gmail.com

PPP LOAN

BY CONNIE SOLON, TREASURER

The Church Council asked me to “look into & apply” for a PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loan through the SBA due to Covid-19.

A loan to Emanuel Lutheran Church was approved by the SBA in the amount of \$15,593. It is a two (2) year loan at 1% interest rate. The loan is “forgivable” if at least 75% is used for payroll and the remaining 25% used for utilities within twenty-four (24) weeks.



Emanuel will be able to use 100% of the loan for payroll within the allotted time period.

This is a “win-win” situation for Emanuel Lutheran Church.



Thanks for volunteering to mow the church lawn. We ask that you mow the lawn **sometime** during your scheduled week, preferably by Thursday. If you have a conflict, just trade dates with someone on the list. Mowing consists of the church lawn and the parsonage lawn.

- July 5 Al Marten
- July 12 Larry Hansen
- July 19 Tyler Hansen
- July 26 Mike Winter

We lift up in prayer and express our Christian sympathy to Norma Heath, for the loss of her Grandson Adam in June.





BRING YOUR BEST RED, WHITE AND BLUE DECOR AND SHOW BETHANY SOME LOVE!

Since visitations are still restricted we would like to invite anyone and everyone to participate in a patriotic car parade!

FRIDAY, JULY 3
MEET AT THE PARKING LOT OF EMANUEL CHURCH
12:45PM
2444 N BROADWAY

Feel free to bring chalk cannons, glitter cannons or anything else that will make a wonderful safe addition to the parade. If you would like to get out of your cars to wave you may do so, but keep with social distancing regulations please. If you would like to bring treats for the staff please make sure they are pre-packaged. Thank you!



Join us for virtual coffee Sundays at 11 am through Zoom!

Click on the link in the Facebook event or visit zoom.com and enter the following information. Zoom app also available on apple and android devices.

Meeting ID: **735 8054 9710**
Password: **4dfEST**



Paul Heath
Bob Vergamini

Daralene Smith
Deloris Christensen

Robert Hesseltine
Phyllis Fowler

Esther Bender
Jim Fowler

Birthdays

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| June 03 Jeselyn Maxwell | June 13 Linda Vergamini | June 24 Ian Spangenberg |
| June 04 Danette Hein-Snider Bette Juhl | June 16 Judy Heithoff | June 28 Megan Hansen Brad Holding Chris Wade |
| June 05 Sarah Britson | June 17 Ben Heithoff | June 29 Jeff Wilson |
| June 07 Connie Solon Sherri Stinson | June 18 Ken Kemmish Ryan Nordstrom | June 30 Connie Edson Mason Lewi |
| June 10 Heather Linsenmeyer Nolan Winter | June 21 Kade Holcombe Porter McSorley | |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|--|--|
| June 01 Mike & Carla Hipnar Ken & Char Les Kemmish | June 21 Bob & Esther Bender |
| June 04 Laura & Clayton Kai Steve & Jennifer Plummer | June 24 Eric & Carrie Hansen |
| June 11 Ryan & Tara McSorley | June 25 Brandon & Jennifer Clark John & Jan Husmann |
| June 17 Jim & Phyllis Fowler Jim & Ruth Nelson | June 28 Dennis & Jane Eitmann Gary & Sherri Stinson Mike & Suzanne Winter |
| June 19 Kevin & Rita Epperson | June 29 Chris & Megan Sorensen |

***If we've missed a birthday or anniversary, we apologize. Please let the church office know!
Contact Michaela at (712) 323-9665 or office@emanuelcb.org***

Emanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes June 15, 2020

RECORDED BY MIKE WINTER

Present: Pastor Kara Knutson, Mike Winter, Jane Anderson, CharLes Kemmish, Mike Loose, John Spilde, Alan Ellis, Matt Solon

Absent: Alex Skovgaard, Rosie Spangenberg, Stephen Lewis, Joel Hauschild, Nick Rickard

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by President Mike Winter. Charles Kemmish gave devotions.

Council Agenda:

- Motion by John Spilde, seconded by Jane Anderson, to approve the secretary minutes for the meeting of May 18, 2020. Approved.
- Motion by Alan Ellis, seconded by Matt Solon to approve the Consolidated Funds Report. Approved.
- Motion by Jane Anderson, seconded by Alan Ellis to approve the Treasurer's Report. Approved.
- Motion by Matt Solon, seconded by Alan Ellis, to approve the Capital and Building Accounts Report. Approved.
- Motion by John Spilde, seconded by CharLes Kemmish to approve the Memorial Fund Report. Approved.
- Motion by John Spilde, seconded by Alan Ellis, to approve the pastor taking vacation time from July 6 – July 12, 2020. Approved. Pastor Michells from Bethany will preside over the service on July 7.
- Motion by Alan Ellis, seconded by CharLess Kemmish to approve the Property Committee Report. Approved.
- No other committee reports were available.
- Pastor was to check to see if we had received our refund from the canceled assembly meeting.
- A lengthy discussion was held about reopening the church. There were concerns about what safety precautions would be taken when and if the church is reopened. The church secretary will be asked to email as many members that have email addresses asking for input and to request input in the newsletter. No decision was made as to when indoor church services would be held and we will continue to have outdoor services until indoor services begin.
- Matt Solon reported that the Paycheck Protection Program money had been deposited into the checking account.
- Discussion was held concerning appointing a new board member to replace Alex Skovgaard. Names were mentioned and a final decision will be made at the July meeting.
- John Spilde provided information regarding the Prayer Chain.
- Discussion was held about communion distribution when indoor services begin.
- Discussion was held concerning bequests by the Rudolph and Elizabeth Miller Charitable Trust. Awaiting a response from the finance committee.
- Motion by Alan Ellis, seconded by Matt Solon, to adjourn. Approved.

LSI's Host Homes Program

Each year, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) empowers hundreds of Iowans with disabilities. And despite the COVID-19 pandemic, this year is no different. There is no greater joy for us than seeing an individual develop greater independence, find their confidence, and thrive. And through our innovative Host Homes program, LSI has found a new way to lift up our Iowa neighbors and keep them safe in times of crisis.

Through the program, adults with disabilities (or "mentees") move from a supported community living setting – like a 24-hour, fully staffed home with roommates – and into a private family home with a Host Homes "mentor." LSI collaborates with the individuals we serve and the contracted mentors to ensure each match is the perfect fit and create a shared living opportunity that is beneficial to mentors and mentees. With the extra safety precautions associated with COVID-19, this program is a safe option where participants are in a home setting, interacting with one trusted mentor instead of several staff members.

LSI is seeking compassionate and dedicated caregivers to join us in the mission. If you have room in your heart and in your home, being a Host Homes mentor might be for you! Visit LSIowa.org/HostHomes to learn more. If you are interested in supporting crucial programming like LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

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 www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Bethany Activities Update

A great big hello to all of our amazing supporters! WOW! 2020 has definitely been one for the history books. Bethany wanted to connect back with you to let you all know how we have been doing during Covid-19.

My name is Amanda Richardson, the new Director at Bethany Lutheran Home. I have worked at Bethany in the Activity Department coming up on 7 years now! I started as an assistant at the Home for 5 ½ years before transferring to the Heights for the last year and now I am back, but as a Director! I love being a part of Bethany and am excited for this new role!

As you all know getting together has been something we have not been able to do since March. Our biggest priority has been and will continue to be our Residents and Community members. Needless to say we have had to get creative in order to be able to keep the same level of activity we have had in the past and to make sure our residents and community member remain engaged and active. Some of our activities have included:

Watch movies and documentaries on our Bethany Channel- We have found that we can take lots of field trips this way. Some residents have even been able to “visit” places they never thought they would!

Walking tours/scenic drives-We have to be able to stretch our legs and get moving.

Bingo-ALWAYS BINGO! Our residents and community members have really been able to hone their skills and get really really good at Bingo. They are excited to get back to group activities, but Bingo in the room has been very successful.

Social Cart-Drinks and snacks- When you can't go to social hour let us bring social hour to you! The residents and community members LOVE social hour day and look forward to all the fun snacks.

Activity Cart-word searches, crossword, Sudoku, magazines, personal items they may need, books- We have been stocking up on activities to take room to room. We encourage all residents and community members to grab an activity off the cart to get their brains moving and grooving while still having fun.

Religious services-Lutheran, Catholic, Bible Study- Making sure the residents and community members are keeping up with religious services is one of our top priorities and we are so proud that we have been able to make the connections for everyone.

Outdoors-Our enclosed courtyard makes the perfect area for us to be able to take folks who would like to go outside and get some fresh air. The courtyard has been full of flowers and sunshine and lends itself to a serene setting.

Online Sunday School for Families

“We hope this series helps...during these challenging times.” -

- 1517 Media/Faith Formation & Sparkhouse School Team

The Augsburg Fortress Sparkhouse Sunday School and 1517 Media Faith Formation Teams are offering Family Sunday School, a free 8-episode at-home series of video lessons.

In the comfort of home, families can enjoy the video Sunday School lessons together without parents having to be the learning facilitator.

Each episode runs about 13 minutes and includes a Bible story from the lectionary, songs and activity ideas.



New episodes are available every Tuesday through Trinity Sunday on June 7, 2020. Churches may need to send families printouts of activity pages.

Families are encouraged to post photos of their Family Sunday School adventures on Facebook pages and send to e-Spirit.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9GjcsO1tRQ&fbclid=IwAR0uRRnoz8RfFYqsHGy6ggjz0p-yszMWPILoc925Nw10AexeHyaQ0VK5dT4>



COVID Recovery Iowa is here to help

- ▶ Counseling will take place via virtual sessions, chat or phone call.
- ▶ People of all ages may join groups online to find support and learn new strategies to cope with the effects of the pandemic in a variety of creative ways

Every Iowan is eligible for **FREE, confidential counseling, group activities, support groups and resources.**

Visit www.COVIDrecoveryiowa.org and complete a contact form and a counselor will get back to you.

Facebook, Instagram and Twitter: COVID Recovery Iowa

Call the Iowa Warm Line, 844-775-9276; to connect with a peer counselor or request to get in touch with a COVID Recovery Iowa counselor.



Comm. 552 (08/20)



**Sundays at 9:30 am
BACK PARKING LOT**

As long as there are not storm warnings or lightening

Pre-recorded services still posted online

Ramblings from the Back Corner



BY CINDY RICHARDS

Dolly Parton once said, “Storms make trees take deeper roots.” Incredibly good point. We do not see the roots, but they are there, supporting the tree above it.

During July many of the hymns included in our worship are about sowing or scattering seeds. As every farmer and gardener knows, putting the seeds in the ground is not the first step in producing a crop. The soil must be made ready first, otherwise that poor seed will not make it. It will sprout and wither.

During a plant’s lifetime there are stressors that affect it like wind, drought, excessive heat, floods, insects, disease, or lack of nutrients in the soil. Some of those stressors can deepen the roots or increase stalk strength. There are others that will decrease the harvest or kill the plant. Gardeners tend to their plants to decrease the stressors, to make them stronger and more fruitful.

As we remember the words to these hymns, “Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”, “On What Has Now Been Sown”, “We Plow the Fields and Scatter”, and “For the Fruit of All Creation”, let’s pray and be thankful that God is giving us deeper roots and supporting us during our physical distancing.

Attendance & Offering

| Week of: | Attendance: | Offerings: |
|----------|-------------|------------|
| June 7 | 59 | |
| June 14 | 47 | |
| June 21 | 47 | \$1,194.00 |
| June 28 | n/a | n/a |

Finance Team Update Income & Expenses Monthly and YTD

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| May Income: | \$9,440.00 |
| May Expense: | \$11,539.16 |
| May Balance | -\$2,099.16 |

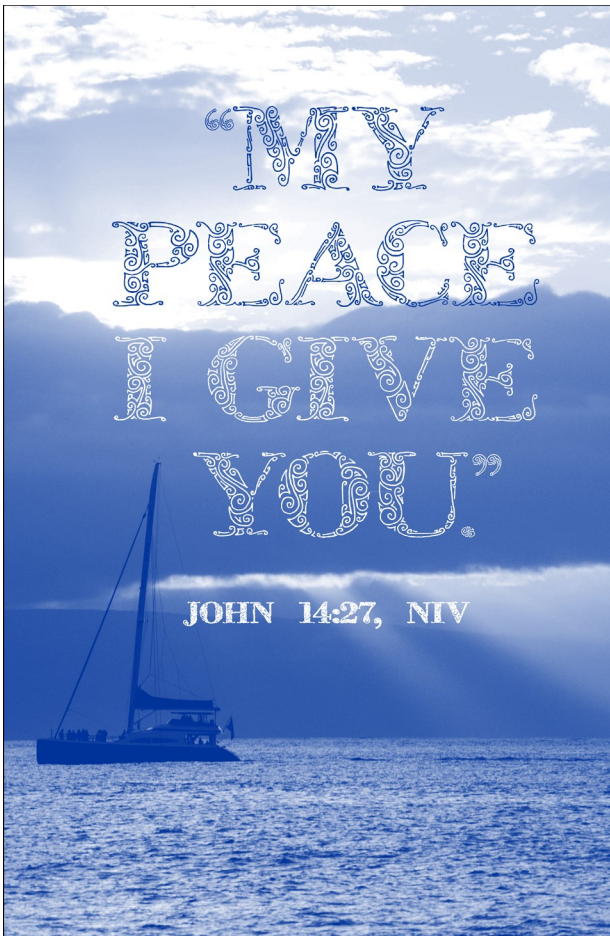
| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| YTD Income: | \$72,039.05 |
| YTD Expense: | \$67,149.76 |
| YTD Balance | \$4,889.29 |
| Plus Carryover | \$16,983.29 |
| General Budget Fund | \$21,872.58 |



Emanuel Lutheran Church

2444 North Broadway
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0499

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Mission Statement: Forgiven by Grace, Serving by Faith
Vision Statement: To Grow in Faith, Love, and Spirit

Contact Us

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(712) 323-9665 Emergencies: (712) 314-0085
office@emanuelcb.org
Like us on facebook: facebook.com/emanuellutherancbia
Visit us on the web at: www.emanuelcb.org

Worship Services:

Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the back parking lot
Virtual services posted each Sunday on YouTube and
our Facebook page

Staff:

Pastor Cara Knutson (pastor@emanuelcb.org)
Director of Music Ministries, Cindy Richards (music@emanuelcb.org)
Parish Assistant, Michaela Lewis (office@emanuelcb.org)
Kidz Kamp/Activities, Stephen Lewis (youth@emanuelcb.org)
Financial Secretary, Darlene Reed