



Garden of Reading!

Happenings at Emanuel!

Saturday, May 4—Craft Inn

Friday, May 10—Kidz Kamp

Sunday, May 12—Joyful Noise Offering, Mother's Day

Tuesday, May 7—ROMEO's (and Friends) Meet

Sunday, May 19—Sunday School Teacher Appreciation, Blood Pressure Checks, Church Council Meeting

Monday, May 20—Newsletter Articles Due

Monday, May 27—Ale & the Almighty

Tai Chi each **Monday** and **Thursday** morning at 10 a.m. in the upstairs Youth Center.
Bible Study each **Thursday** at 9:30 a.m. in the upstairs conference room.

*Mission
Statement:
Forgiven
by Grace,
Serving by
Faith*

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



We had great weather for a game of Bandage Tag during our April Kidz Kamp. Our theme for the night was talking about the Good Samaritan. We also made first aid kits. Thank you so much to Amari Johnson for helping! Our May Kidz Kamp (parents night out) will be Friday, May 10th.

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Listen, Learn & Love

It's May and with graduations on the horizon I've been thinking about our youth. Before I came to Emanuel and prepared to leave the nursing home where I was serving, I thought quite a bit about the differences and similarities between the community I was serving and the congregation I was preparing to serve. I felt the most nervous about working with children and youth and especially confirmation. My previous experiences hadn't been good ones. It was my surprise and delight that working with our youth has become one of my favorite parts of my ministry here.

Weeks into my time here coffee hour would see me toting various babies until COVID stopped that. SIGH. Spencer is just now talking with me a bit. As I baptized I imagined later confirming each child, praying over them as they left for college, taking great pride in their accomplishments when they came to visit over the holidays. Emanuel, your children are also my children.

And children, youth, teens, tweens, have such a refreshing perspective on the world that continues to teach me and hopefully make me a little more relevant in our ever changing world. I don't aim to be a "cool pastor" rocking a goatee and strumming a guitar in my ripped jeans and clerical shirt. I aim to be a pastor that knows her flock, and loves them. And more importantly I want my flock to know that I know them and love them. The best way for all of you dear readers to be able to do that is to experience it.

So to that end whether you're 1 or a 101 I'd like to get to know you better. I've beefed up my visitation list and will be calling round regularly. If you'd like to get together for coffee or a meal hit me up and we'll get something on the calendar. I want to hear your ideas, your stories, how you like your coffee, if you even drink coffee...

Together we make up the body of Christ and it's so important to know and care for one another. I so appreciate when someone lets me know if one of our members is ill or facing a difficulty and it allows me to reach out and offer support.

When we love one another it gives us each a chance to experience God's love through others both from us and towards us. What a beautiful thing!

See you in church,
Pastor Cara

MONDAY, MAY 27, 2024

ALE & THE ALMIGHTY

6 PM AT GLORY DAYS
106 W BROADWAY, COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP AND STUDYING SCRIPTURES AND HOW THEY APPLY TO TODAY'S WORLD AND CURRENT EVENTS. THEY HAVE A FULL MENU AND DRINKS IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLAN TO EAT/DRINK THERE DURING THIS TIME.

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2444 N BROADWAY, COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

Faith Like A Child

Submitted by Michaela Lewis

I remember Pastor Prescott giving an example of things he had heard from kids. He talked about a child not understanding communion, and they thought it was an intermission for a snack and drink.

Kids notice things and ask questions, and it is our job as a community of faith to help answer their questions, teach them and provide them with an age appropriate way to explore and inspire their faith.

We have wonderful leaders in our Sunday school classes, but it isn't just Steve and Lori Lynn that kids learn from. They see everything that the adults do (positive and negative) and learn from us. Including them in decisions and living out our faith in action is vital for their faith formation and the future of Emanuel.

One thing we can do is ask them to help. Giving them a task makes them feel important and valued.

So what might that look like during worship? It might mean one of our youth greeting the congregation at the start of the service, or a young reader leading a prayer. It might be younger children holding the basket for communion cups, or helping greeters with their duties.

Last month I talked about an area for kids in the sanctuary to help them adjust with Sunday school ending for the summer. We have had some great

suggestions and modified some of the plans based on those. We want our kids to feel welcome at Emanuel. They are not small adults and might need some accommodations to make it through a 60 minute service.

During Synod assembly we also heard from teens who feel isolated and alone because often churches ask them to go through classes and requirements for confirmation but then don't offer a way for them to connect after that. They are expected to be "adults" at church, when they are still on a path of discovering who they are and making choices about their future.

We are working on coordinating with Our Savior's and St. John on developing something for the teens all three congregations to connect on a somewhat regular basis. We want the teens to help lead this, so it will be based on their interests and faith, and we don't know what this will look like yet since this is a new development.

Our children and youth at Emanuel are awesome. They ask questions, are talented, excited and love to help. Let's give them every opportunity to expand their faith and be leaders at Emanuel.




FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024
6 P.M. - 8 P.M.

 **KIDZ KAMP**
(PARENTS NIGHT OUT)

REGISTER ONLINE AT
[VBSPRO.EVENTS/P/D4F1DA](https://vbipro.events/p/d4f1da)

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2444 N BROADWAY, COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

STAFF & VOUNTEERS HAVE PASSED BACKGROUND CHECKS AND COMPLETED SAFETY TRAINING.

Mark Your Calendars!

#HEART OF BBQ

FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY JULY 27

FOUR COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
DUNLAP



BRING A TEAM TO COOK
MAYBE YOUR BEST RIBS OR CHICKEN
WITH TAKE A PRIZE!

SPONSOR A CHILD OR YOUTH
KID'S QUE (AGES 6-15)
GRILLS, MEAT, & FUN SUPPLIED!

ENJOY A DELICIOUS
BBQ PORK DINNER @5PM
COOKED ON SITE
ALL THE TRIMMINGS
AIR CONDITIONED DINING

+ YARD GAMES + AUCTION + BEVERAGES +

SUPPORTS FIRST CALL PASTORS & HUNGER IN THE SYNOD

PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
THE GRADUATION OF
KYLE SORENSEN
May 19, 2024 2-6pm
Council Bluffs Firefighters Union Hall
1827 S 8th St Council Bluffs, IA

Western Iowa Synodical Women's Organization 36th Annual Convention

Intergenerational Faith



*Generation after Generation stands in Awe of your work;
each one tells stories of your mighty acts. Psalm 145:4*

June 15, 2024

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

300 E Bow Dr

Cherokee IA 51012

For more information, contact:

Diane Ohrtman, 800 W 21st, Carroll, IA 51401 712-210-1107

A+

TEACHER APPRECIATION CELEBRATION

May 19, 2024 During Coffee Hour

Help us show our appreciation to our
Children & Youth Leader, Stephen Lewis, and
our talented youth music leader, Lori Lynn!

Feel free to share your appreciation
with a card, note or gift card.

Worship Assistant Schedule

(if unable to serve as scheduled, please arrange a substitute and notify the church office of the change)

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Sunday, May 5 | 9:30 a.m. Service |
| Ushers | Gary & Sherri Stinson |
| Acolyte | |
| Lector | |
| Altar Guild | |
| Communion Assistants | |
| Visual Tech | |
| Sound Tech | Mike Hipnar |
| LiveStream Tech | Michaela Lewis |
| Coffee Hour | Children & Youth Committee |
| Sunday, May 12 | 9:30 a.m. Service |
| Ushers | Gary & Sherri Stinson |
| Acolyte | |
| Lector | |
| Altar Guild | |
| Communion Assistants | |
| Visual Tech | |
| Sound Tech | Mike Hipnar |
| LiveStream Tech | Michaela Lewis |
| Coffee Hour | Children & Youth Committee |
| Sunday, May 19 | 9:30 a.m. Service |
| Ushers | Gary & Sherri Stinson |
| Acolyte | Tayah Nixt |
| Lector | Joann Blum |
| Altar Guild | |
| Communion Assistants | Tayah Nixt |
| Visual Tech | |
| Sound Tech | Mike Hipnar |
| LiveStream Tech | Michaela Lewis |
| Coffee Hour | Children & Youth Committee |
| Sunday, May 26 | 9:30 a.m. Service |
| Ushers | Gary & Sherri Stinson |
| Acolyte | |
| Lector | |
| Altar Guild | |
| Communion Assistants | |
| Visual Tech | |
| Sound Tech | Mike Hipnar |
| LiveStream Tech | Michaela Lewis |
| Coffee Hour | Children & Youth Committee |



Thank you so much to our mowing crew!

| | |
|---------|----------------|
| May 5 | Chris Sorensen |
| May 12 | Alan Ellis |
| May 19 | Gary Stinson |
| May 26 | Sid Dillon |
| June 2 | Ken Kemmish |
| June 9 | Al Marten |
| June 16 | Mike Winter |
| June 23 | Chris Sorensen |
| June 30 | Alan Ellis |

In a year experiencing tension and disruption, the Church can be a source of peace and unity.

Let's invite our neighbors to a table to feast & focus on the good in our communities.

STIR US UP

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS

God's Love Made Real

FEEDING COMMUNITY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

ACROSS THE
WESTERN IOWA SYNOD

*A day to
gather, bless and
focus on the best.*



A SIMPLE MEAL &
A CHANCE TO LISTEN TO
OUR NEIGHBORS





MAY
Birthdays

May 01
Carly Sorensen

May 11
Gary Stinson

May 23
Desirée Snell

May 02
Abaigeal Plummer

May 12
Chris Sorensen

May 25
Jennifer Clark
Tiffany Pace

May 06
Anna Luther

May 13
Richard Reed

May 26
Ryan Wilson

May 09
Kyle Nordstrom
Matt Solon

May 14
Christi Hauschild

May 27
Jennifer Plummer
Rick Stone

May 10
Alexander Bradshaw
Riley Maxwell
Chris Nixt

May 19
Mike Loos

May 30
Brad Dahlke
Debbie Ferguson

May 20
Kenna Hite

May 22
Garrett Smith



JUNE
Birthdays

June 03
Jeselyn Maxwell

June 16
Judy Heithoff
Kennedy Rickard

June 24
Ian Spangenberg

June 04
Danette Hein-Snider
Bette Juhl
Katrina Nixt

June 17
Ben Heithoff

June 28
Brad Holding

June 07
Connie Solon
Sherri Stinson

June 18
Ken Kemmish
Ryan Nordstrom

June 29
Jeff Wilson

June 10
Heather Linsenmeyer
Nolan Winter

June 21
Kade Holcombe
Porter McSorley

June 30
Connie Edson
Mason Lewis

*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*



Deloris Christensen

Owen Hansen

Sharon Hansen

Norma Heath

Norma Mass

Jane Meyer

Patty Maxwell

Julie Powell

Margie Powell

Melody Schott

Paul Schott

Tommy Schott

Ruth Sullivan

MAY Anniversaries

May 03

Gary & Judy Pleas

May 19

Richard & Darlene Reed

May 29

David & Linda Fietz

May 07

Chris & Crystal Nixt

May 20

Jeremy & Tonia Thielen

May 29

Edward & Nina Reedy

May 08

Cheryl & Gary Rowe

May 22

Stephen and Michaela Lewis

May 30

Ron & Norma Stairs

May 11

John & Glenda Smith II

May 28

Clarissa & Edward Haats

JUNE Anniversaries

June 01

Michael & Carla Hipnar
Kenneth & Char Les Kemmish

June 17

James & Ruth Nelson

June 28

Dennis & Jane Eitmann
Jesse & Jolene Hansen
Gary & Sherri Stinson
Michael & Suzanne Winter

June 04

Laura & Clayton Kai
Stephen & Jennifer Plummer

June 19

Michael & Carolyn Andersen

June 22

Jason & Deborah Siebels

June 29

Christopher & Megan Sorensen

June 11

Ryan & Tara McSorley

June 25

Jennifer & Brandon Clark

National Day of Prayer — May 2, 2024

Ascension of the Lord — May 9, 2024

Mother's Day — May 12, 2024

Armed Forces Day — May 18, 2024

Day of Pentecost — May 19, 2024

Victoria Day — May 20, 2024

Trinity Sunday — May 26, 2024







Memorial Day — May 27, 2024










M·A·Y

At Emanuel Lutheran Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|--|-----------------------------|--|
| 28 Church Musician Appreciation Day 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 2 pm SCA meet upstairs | 29 10 am Tai Chi 6 pm Ale & the Almighty at Glory Days | 30 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room | 1 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 3 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi | 3 | 4 10 am Craft Inn  |
| 5  Senior Sunday 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour Meeting 2 pm SCA meet upstairs | 6 10 am Tai Chi | 7 8:30 am ROMEO's (& Friends) meet @ Village Inn East 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room | 8 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 9 9:30 am Adult Bible Study at Village Inn East (first Thursday of the month) 10 am Tai Chi | 10 6 pm Kidz Kamp | 11 |
| 12 Mother's Day 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 2 pm SCA meet upstairs  | 13 10 am Tai Chi | 14 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room | 15 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 16 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi | 17 | 18 Community Room Reserved |
| 19 Sunday School Teacher Appreciation 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour & Blood Pressure Checks with Crystal 11 am Church Council Meeting 2 pm SCA meet upstairs It takes a Big Heart to shape little minds. | 20 Newsletter Articles Due 10 am Tai Chi  | 21 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room 7 pm Church Council Meeting | 22 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 23 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi | 24 | 25 |
| 26 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee Hour 2 pm SCA meet upstairs | 27 10 am Tai Chi 6 pm Ale & the Almighty at Glory Days  | 28 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room 6 pm-8 pm Confirmation | 29 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 30 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi | 31 | 1 10 am Craft Inn  |

JUNE

At Emanuel Lutheran Church

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|---|--|----------------------------|--|
| 2 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee Hour Meeting 2 pm SCA meet upstairs | 3 10 am Tai Chi | 4 8:30 am ROMEO's (& Friends) meet @ Village Inn East 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room | 5 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 6 9:30 am Adult Bible Study at Village Inn East (first Thursday of the month) 10 am Tai Chi | 7 6 pm Kidz Kamp | 8  |
| 9 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11 am Confirmation 2 pm SCA meet upstairs | 10 10 am Tai Chi | 11 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room | 12 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 13 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi | 14 | 15 |
| 16 Father's Day 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee Hour & Blood Pressure Checks with Crystal 11 am Church Council Meeting 2 pm SCA meet upstairs  | 17 Newsletter Articles Due 10 am Tai Chi  | 18 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room 7 pm Church Council Meeting | 19 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 20 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi | 21 | 22 |
| 23 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee Hour 2 pm SCA meet upstairs | 24 10 am Tai Chi 6 pm Ale & the Almighty at Glory Days  | 25 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room | 26 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 27 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi | 28 | 29 10 am Craft Inn |
| 30 9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee Hour 2 pm SCA meet upstairs | 1 10 am Tai Chi 6 pm Ale & the Almighty at Glory Days | 2 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room | 3 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room | 4 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Conference Room 10 am Tai Chi | 5 | 6 10 am Craft Inn  |

Emanuel Church Council Minutes

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Submitted by Lori Lynn Ahrends

Absent: Brittney Smith & Ron Reiff.

The meeting was called to order by President Greg Steensland.

Devotions were given by Connie Edson.

Minute from February were accepted and approved

Capital & Building Accounts

Mike Hipnar moved to accept the capital and building accounts report.

Connie seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Memorial funds Report

Mike Hipnar moved to approve the memorial funds report.

Connie Edson 2nd and the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Pastor reported that the Synod Assembly will be held April 19 and 20 in Council Bluffs at the Hoff Family Arts and Culture Center. Steve and Michaela Lewis will be delegate for Emanuel. Connie Edson moved to approve registration fee for each to attend synod assembly. Richard Reed 2nd. Motion carried.

Vacation Request for Wednesday. April 3rd and Thursday, April 4th. This leaves 22 days remaining in Pastor's vacation days.

LoriLynn Ahrends moved to approve vacation request. Richard Reed 2nd. Motion carried.

Pastor requests council approve \$750 allowance as recommended by the synod, and Pastor to contribute \$250 for first call continuing education allowance as recommended by the Synod.

For continuing education opportunities found, Pastor would present them to the council for approval.

Richard Reed moved approve the request. Connie Edson 2nd. Motion carried.

Property

John Spilde reported having trouble keeping up with cleaning new floors. Council would like to hear more from John, but decided property committee can take care of this.

Children and Youth

Kids Kamp flier was shared.

Mutual Ministry

Committee is working on establishing goals.

Starting in April, we will return to the practice of collecting prayer requests for pastor to include as appropriate.

New Business:

Mike moved that we approve \$445 registration for Cindy to preregister for Musicians Conference in Valparaiso, with subsequent funds to be addressed. Richard Reed 2nd. Motion carried.

Council agreed that one committee will be responsible for coffee hour each month. April will be the property committee.

Meeting adjourned.

After the meeting, council had an open discussion about Emanuel's future with Deacon Eric Haitz, with the Western Iowa Synod.

Next meeting will be April 21st.



Formalwear

The non-profit CARES organization is hosting a prom event in June for their clients and are looking for donations of gently used formal dresses, men's suit coats and dress shirts. Please bring to church and Wider Ministries will take to CARES.

Our teens will also be hosting a game table at the event as well as a way to donate back to the community.

Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Minutes for April 21, 2024

Submitted by Michelle Rowe

Members Present: Pastor Cara Knutson, Mike Hipnar, Greg Steensland, Richard Reed, Ron Reiff and Michelle Rowe

Members Absent: Lori Lynn Ahrends and Connie Edson

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by President Greg Steensland.

Monthly devotion given by Pastor Cara Knutson.

Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Mike Hipnar to approve the council minutes from March once they are amended. Discussion held. Approved.

Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Mike Hipnar to accept February Treasurer's report. Discussion held. Approved.

Motion by Mike Hipnar, seconded by Richard Reed to accept February Consolidated Fund Activity report. Discussion held. Approved.

Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Mike Hipnar to accept March Treasurer's report. Discussion held. Approved.

Motion by Mike Hipnar, seconded by Richard Reed to accept March Consolidated Fund Activity report. Discussion held. Approved.

Motion by Mike Hipnar, seconded by Michelle Rowe to accept the Capital and Buildings Account Fund report for March. Discussion held. Approved.

Motion by Mike Hipnar, seconded by Michelle Rowe to accept the Memorial Fund report for March. Discussion held. Approved.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Cara reported on opportunities for continuing education, re-cap of the Synod Assembly held in Council Bluffs, pastoral goals for the 2024-2025 year and vacation request.

Motion by Mike Hipnar, seconded by Richard Reed to approve \$250 to participate in the MOSES project for continuing education. Discussion held. Approved.

Motion by Mike Hipnar, seconded by Richard Reed to approve \$99 for the Festival of Homiletics online continuing education to be credited against the education account. Discussion held. Approved.

Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Mike Hipnar to approve vacation time of May 12-May 14. Pastor Inba Inbarusu to cover worship on May 12. Discussion held. Approved.

Children and Youth

- Michaela Lewis (Children and Youth committee) reported on upcoming events.
- May 5th is Senior Sunday, recognizing our senior students.
- Friday May 10th from 6-8 p.m. is the next Kid's Camp (Parent's Night Out). The theme is "Faith of a Mustard Seed."
- May 19th is teacher appreciation Sunday for Lori Lynn Ahrends and Steve Lewis AND the last day of Sunday school.
- Working on establishing Vacation Bible School dates.
- The Children and Youth confirmation class will work the CARES Prom at Mid-America Center in June.

Worship & Music

Mike Hipnar (Music and Worship committee) reported:

- Cindy Richards has booked continuing education at Valparaiso University (church musician's workshop conference) in June.
- Tentative dates of August 16-17 for the annual church garage sale.
- Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Michelle Rowe to approve use of the music fund to pay for Cindy's continuing education. Mike moved to table discussion until May council meeting.

Children and Youth committee will do coffee hour for May.

Michelle Rowe (Property committee) will do devotions for May.

May council meeting will be on Sunday May 19th at 10:45 a.m.

Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Mike Hipnar to adjourn meeting at 12:00 p.m. Approved.

The Gathering Place

A HUB OF COLLABORATION, SUPPORT, AND PROGRESS



Nourishing Bodies and Souls: A Gathering Place of Hope

CURRENT DONATIONS NEEDED

FOOD ITEMS

- BREAKFAST BARS
- SUGAR & CREAMER PACKETS
- CONDIMENT PACKETS
- SALAD DRESSING
- BBQ SAUCE
- FRUIT CUPS
- APPLESAUCE
- APPLES
- ORANGES
- BANANAS
- YOGURT/GOGURT
- GRANOLA BARS
- INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED PASTRIES, MUFFINS, ETC.
- FROZEN FAMILY SIZE ENTREES

PAPER PRODUCTS

- FREEZER BAGS - ALL SIZES
- STORAGE BAGS
 - SANDWICH SIZE
 - GALLON SIZE
- FOOD CONTAINERS (ALL SIZES - PORTION CUPS TO FAMILY MEAL SIZE)
- PAPER LUNCH SACKS
- PLASTIC SILVERWARE
- PAPER PLATES
- FOIL SHEET WRAPS
- HEAVY DUTY FOIL
- FOIL PANS
 - 8"X8"
 - 9"X13"
 - HALF STEAM PAN

OTHER

- LARGE TOTES
- EXTRA-LARGE COOLERS
- SMALL BEAN BAG CHAIRS
- CHILD SIZE TABLE & CHAIRS
- POWER STRIPS
- PHONE CHARGERS

To Volunteer or
Ask Questions
Call 712-542-7904



Drop-Off Site:

The Gathering Place

A HUB OF COLLABORATION, SUPPORT, AND PROGRESS



All items listed will be used to support NAMI Southwest Iowa's efforts at The Gathering Place in Neola to support meals being transported to Minden and to provide a nurturing space to find resources and begin the process of healing.

202 S. 2nd Street, Neola, Iowa

LIST UPDATED: 05/01/2024

Joyful Noise

In honor of May being Military Appreciation month the Joyful noise offering will be for New Visions on May 12th. New Visions will be providing information on the veterans programs they support .

INTER-FAITH RESPONSE, INC.

April Blessings/Challenges

It is wonderful to begin to experience the miracle of spring as the world around us returns to its proper green. April 1st also marked the end of the winter energy moratorium. Many households in our community are struggling with high gas and electric bills, and are facing large past due bills and scheduled disconnections.

The month is starting off with a bang for us, with lots of people needing help. There appears to be less aid available. This is a cyclical issue in our line of work. Our clients are the ones that have to survive in an ever changing environment with rising prices and rents, and ever fewer resources with which to pay them.

We, as always, are helping the person in front of us to the best of our ability. There are times when our clients tell us that our community partners are out of money. This may not be exactly true, but is certainly what clients believe they have heard. We absolutely do not want that to happen at Inter-Faith. We work hard with our balancing act: Pay enough to be genuinely useful while at the same time making sure that we remain able to do our part as a helping agency.

Those that we just absolutely cannot help, either because we have helped them within a calendar year, or because they live outside of Pottawattamie County, just break our hearts. We continue to strive to help as much as we can, especially with households facing immediate eviction and/or utility disconnections.



Lifting Others Up by Lifting Boxes

The pantry at Our Savior's Lutheran Church can always use help unloading deliveries on Wednesday mornings from about 9 am—Noon. Mason Lewis did this all last summer and plans to after school gets out. If you are able to help, it would be greatly appreciated!

Give a Gift to LSI: Support Mothers across Iowa

Submitted by Joyce Williams

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 12. Did you know LSI brings hope and healing to mothers in each of our service lines? Here are just a few examples:

The Child Care Business Development program in our Immigrant and Refugee Community Services prepares women, often mothers, to run an in-home childcare business. This small business opportunity allows them to provide for their family and ensure their children receive culturally appropriate care.

Many mothers benefit from our Foster Care and Adoption services, whether they be mothers who are blessed with a child through adoption or foster mothers who provide love and guidance to children from all paths of life.

Early Childhood Services prepares mothers-to-be for birth and raising a child. Additionally, home visitation programs help ensure a strong support system for young parents across the state.

These are just three examples of how LSI serves mothers in Iowa. This Mother's Day, we encourage you to give a gift in honor of your mother or motherly figure to ensure mothers around the state receive the care and support they deserve.

Donate online at lsiowa.org/donate or send a check to Lutheran Services in Iowa, PO Box 848, Waverly, IA 50677-0848.

For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's 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.



Ramblings from the Back Corner

Submitted by Cindy Richards

Can You Feel the Seasons Turning? This is one of the hymns we used for the Sunday right before Earth Day. We will be using it again. The lyrics are very thought provoking.

Can you feel the seasons turning,
Winds and waves grown wild and strange?
Can you feel creation groaning,
Fearful of the coming change:
Icecaps melting, oceans rising,
Homes and habitations lost?
Can you feel the seasons turning?
Can you count the bitter cost?

Can you hear the creatures crying-
Lynx and otter, wolf, and whale?
Can you hear the Spirit sighing
As her children grieve and fail?
Nature's poor, the first to suffer,
Pay the price of human greed.
Can you hear the creatures crying,
Begging us to stop and heed?

Can you feel the seasons turning?
Storm clouds gather in the skies.
All around us signs of warning
Bid us open frightened eyes.
Called by God to serve as stewards
Till earth's garden greens and thrives,
Can we learn in time to listen?

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Can we turn and change our lives?

Mary Louise Bringle, who wrote the above hymn, was born in Tennessee and grew up in Greensboro, North Carolina. She studied French and religious studies at Guilford College and got her PhD in theological studies at Emory University. She had a research fellowship from the Alliance Française de New York at the Institut de Sciences et de Théologie of the Institut Catholique de Paris. She taught at St. Andrews Presbyterian College and now teaches environmental theology at Brevard College. She began writing hymns in 1998, has won international hymnwriting competitions, and was recognized as an emerging text-writer by the Hymn Society. She has more hymns in our new supplement hymnal, *All Creation Sings*, than any other writer.

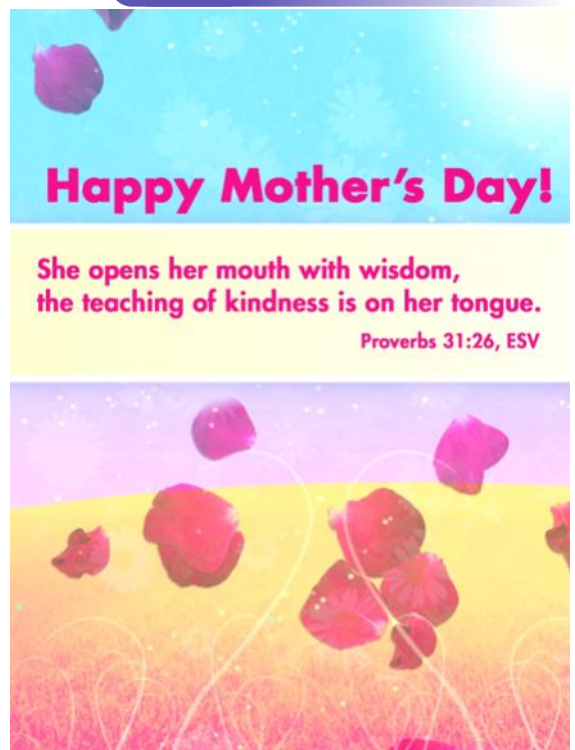
Green Mountain College in Poultney, Vermont, asked Mary Louise to write a hymn to accentuate the institution's commitment to environmental sustainability. Since they are a Welch heritage college, they asked her to find an upbeat Welsh hymn tune to use. Bringle says this of her hymn:

"I began searching for Welsh tunes not already overused and was taken by LLANSSANNAN. With its rather mournful air, however, I knew it would not work for an 'upbeat' text. I kept hunting. The tune would not let me go. The more I listened to it, the more words started taking shape: 'Can you feel the seasons turning, winds and waves grown wild and strange?' The rising cadence on the third melodic line seemed to cry out for 'ice caps melting, oceans rising...' I teach environmental theology at Brevard College and look with some frequency at lists of endangered species whose 'homes and habitations' have been threatened by human activity. Such lists include the 'lynx and otter, wolf and whale.'

The more I tried to pull myself away from these endangered creatures and focus on a theme of converted and responsible humans, the more mental blocks I encountered. I simply could not write the requested eco-happy hymn until I had worked through the suffering of nature, which, as environmental theologian Sallie McFague writes, has become 'the new poor,' the first to pay the price for our greed and wastefulness. Just as not a sparrow falls but God is aware of the loss, so I feel sure the Holy Spirit grieves and sighs when any one of Her creatures suffers.

In the final stanza of this text I found myself shifting from the literal 'turning' of meteorological seasons as a result of climate change to a hoped-for or metaphorical 'turning' or transformation of human behaviors as we begin to own up to our responsibilities. I have written a few different versions of this closing stanza, the most recent in response to a request from John Ambrose for a text to use as part of the 2015 Hymn Society festival in New Orleans, titled 'When the Storms of Life Are Raging,' including a commemoration of the tenth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. This revised version [the one here in ACS] is now my preference for the text."





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IN PERSON

ONLINE

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

| Week of: | In-Person Attendance: | Online Views: | Total Attendance: | Offerings: |
|----------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|
| April 07 | 60 | 0 | 60 | \$3,032.00 |
| April 14 | 70 | 14 | 84 | \$1,902.00 |
| April 21 | 65 | 15 | 80 | \$1,433.00 |
| April 28 | 54 | 36 | 90 | \$926.00 |

Finance Team Update

Income & Expenses Monthly and YTD

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| March Income: | \$8,514.00 | YTD Income: | \$45,222.12 |
| March Expense: | -\$14,231.14 | YTD Expense: | -\$46,657.66 |
| March Balance: | (\$5,717.14) | YTD Balance: | (\$1,435.54) |
| | | Plus Carryover | (\$576.26) |
| | | General Budget Fund: | (\$2,011.80) |



Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0499

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*Office Hours: Monday 9 a.m.—1 p.m.,
Tuesday –Friday 9 a.m.—3 p.m.*

Worship Services:

Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the worship center followed by coffee hour in the community room. Services are streamed live on YouTube, Facebook & Twitter

Children's Ministry:

Children will be dismissed to Sunday School after the Gospel reading during the Sunday worship service (*September—May*)

Staff:

Pastor Cara Knutson (pastor@emanuelcb.org)
Director of Music Ministries, Cindy Richards (music@emanuelcb.org)
Parish Assistant, Michaela Lewis (office@emanuelcb.org)
Children & Youth Programming, Stephen Lewis (youth@emanuelcb.org)
Financial Secretary, Darlene Reed
Treasurer, Connie Solon (finance@emanuelcb.org)