

EMMANUEL'S EPISTLE

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May 2017

FROM THE PASTOR

A Gem among the Sweeping Richness

Toward the end of our time serving in Germany, Michael went through one of his most frightening experiences: "The Parish Visitation". It simply was the turn of the four-point parish he served to host the event. This "Visitation" set the teeth of pastors on edge as the Dean (with significantly more power than in this country) and all ordained clergy of the synodical conference descended upon the parish and the resident clergy had to lead a worship service, preach, teach a Confirmation class, show the visitors the particularities of the locale and engage in a lengthy discussion and examination regarding the past, present and future ministry of the parish. This was a two-day deal and pretty much had the entire congregation up in arms – perhaps none more than the Women's group who felt that their cooking and baking reputation was at stake! I was tasked with having all four churches and the Parish Fellowship Hall sparkling clean. For the record: The Visitation turned out wonderful!

Well, the nervous pastors had to thank nobody but Martin Luther himself for this stressful undertaking. It all began in 1526, less than a decade after the initial Reformation events, that committees visited congregations

to survey the prevailing conditions of parish life. And the result was not pretty, to say the least. The congregations had been neglected for many years and the turmoil of the Reformation had brought with it additional difficulties and disruptions. There were problems aplenty with pressure to remedy such. Nobody was more upset than Dr. Luther himself and the result of these visitations are what we now know as the Small (1528) and Large Catechism (1529).

To understand Luther's level of disgust with what he found in the parishes, one must read the introduction to his work; here it is:

The deplorable, miserable conditions which I recently observed when visiting the parishes have constrained and pressed me to put this

Therefore, dear brothers, for God's sake I beg all of you who are pastors and preachers to devote yourselves sincerely to the duties of your office, that you feel compassion for the people entrusted to your care, and that you help us accordingly to inculcate this catechism in the people, especially the young.

Martin Luther

catechism of Christian doctrine into this brief, plain, and simple form.

How pitiable, so help me God, were the things I saw:

the common man, especially in the villages, knows practically nothing of Christian doctrine, and many of the pastors are almost entirely incompetent and unable to teach. Yet all the people are supposed to be Christians, have been baptized, and receive the Holy Sacrament even though they do not know the Lord's Prayer, the

Creed, or the Ten Commandments and live like poor animals of the barnyard and pigpen. What these people have mastered, however, is the fine art of tearing all Christian liberty to shreds.

Oh, you bishops! How will you ever answer to Christ for letting the people carry on so disgracefully and not attending to the duties of your office even for a moment? One can only hope judgment does not strike you! You command the Sacrament in one kind only, insist on the observance of your human ways, and yet are unconcerned whether the people know the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the Ten Commandments, or indeed any of God's Word. Woe, woe to you forever!

Therefore, dear brothers, for God's sake I beg all of you who are pastors and preachers to devote yourselves sincerely to the duties of your office, that you feel compassion for the people entrusted to your care, and that you help us accordingly to inculcate this catechism in the people, especially the young. If you cannot do more, at least take the tables and charts for catechism instruction and drill the people in them word for word...

While the Large Catechism is a significantly more extensive writing and meant primarily for clergy, the Small Catechism is a collection of questions and answers on six topics: the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Communion and the Office of the Keys (Absolution and Forgiveness). It was originally meant to be used by the head of the household to teach the family the Christian faith. Which, immediately, of course, begs the question: how did that work out for Luther?!

It is no secret that this task Luther envisioned for individual families, has long falling into the lap of the church. Some of you may remember learning the Catechism word for word by heart (as did I) and are fond of its message having penetrated and guided your life. Others will remember it with horror and perhaps with a sheepish smile recall how you

played more tricks on your Pastor than attended to the words of wisdom in your Catechism...

The shape of the Catechism is the shape of the Christian life: Repentance (Ten Commandments), Faith (Creed), Prayer (Lord's Prayer), Forgiveness of Sins (Baptism, Absolution, Lord's Supper).

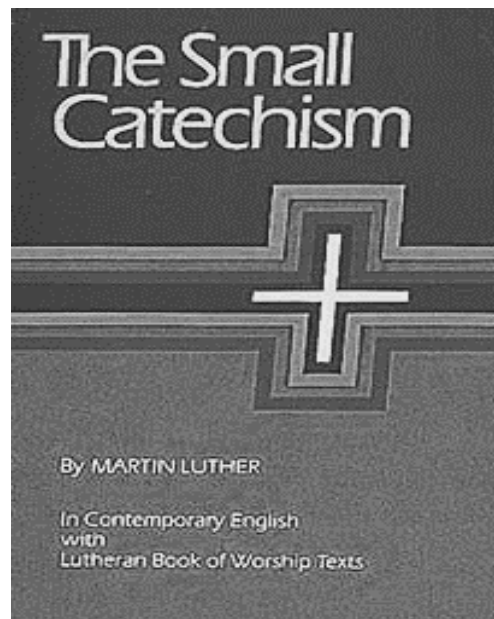
The Catechism helps us understand God's Law, which shows us our sin, and how we are to live as His people. It also beautifully articulates the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus'

life, death and resurrection for our salvation. Luther realized that the truth of God's Word, summarized by the Catechism, were matters of eternal life and death. It is unfortunate when people think they no longer need them/it.

When I first started in ministry in 1988, I insisted that my students learned the Catechism (with explanations) by heart. Since then, I have 'strayed' and only attempt to the best of my ability to instruct kids on the spirit of the individual

sections. I know that memorization becomes more and more difficult. And yet, we are still able to do it! I am amazed at how many pop songs my granddaughter can sing from memory! Is it because she hears and plays them over and over again? When was the last time we read thru the Catechism over and over again? It is profoundly true: we need to learn to speak the language of our faith before we can understand it. If my experience with my granddaughter applies more broadly, our children should be able to know the explanation to the third article of the Creed as well as the latest song by Taylor Swift. But you know I am a realist! ☺

Aside from all pros and cons of learning the document by heart and applying it to our faith life, it is a gem in the midst of the many writings Luther left for us. While his sermons were often very lengthy and his essays not always easy to digest and while he was a man



of his time with ideas often strange to us, Luther did us a tremendous favor with the Small Catechism. With few and simple words, Luther shows us the basics of our faith. Nobody needs a Ph.D. in Theology to understand “we are to fear, love and trust God above anything else”. Now, we might not be able to follow suit, but we know what it means!

I encourage you to use this year of Reformation celebration as a stepping stone to familiarize yourself – and your family! – once more (or for the first time) with the plain words of Luther as he attempts to show us the minimum parameters of our faith. It is always worth your time. As Luther asks over and over again in the Catechism: what does that mean? Well, let’s find out.....

Pastor Z+

PASTORAL ACTS

Nora Ann Stiles, daughter of Ryan and Brooke Stiles was **baptized** on April 30th. Her sponsors are Bridget Badker and Matthew Stiles and her baptismal witness Zach Badker. We pray blessings upon Nora as she grows in the ways of her Lord.

Kaelee Hicken came to the table of the Lord for the first time on April 30th. We pray rich blessings upon Kaelee as she continues to hear the invitation of the Lord to ‘come, eat and drink’ and receives the Body and Blood of the Lord for the forgiveness of her sins. Be blest, Kaelee!

STEWARDSHIP MUSINGS

The Seminary of the North American Lutheran Church

Christ is Risen, we shout with joy through the Easter Season. The Lord is Risen, indeed!

We speak this aloud during these Easter weeks, but we also hear it in our hearts through the whole year. This cry of victory is at the center of every sermon, of every liturgy, of every time of fellowship. Daily we give thanks to God that our North American Lutheran Seminary students are being well-prepared to go out and continue this glorious proclamation.

Our church needs strong and brave proclaimers of God’s love for the world through

Jesus Christ. **The NALS is committed to preparing the next generation of pastors who will be bold in their proclamation, wise in their judgments, and merciful in their relationships with their neighbors.** Our graduates will be ready to pass on the faith in the congregations and mission outposts in which they are called to serve.

We are your seminary, the seminary of the NALC, and we thank you for your generous support through your prayers and faithful stewardship. We come to you during our Annual



Seminary Appeal to continue in your patterns of giving and to increase such giving as you are able.

The church is always in need of orthodox, confessional, evangelical Lutheran pastors, and the NALS is here to form them in Christ’s name, and on your behalf.

Please give generously and joyfully so that the proclamation, Christ is Risen! will be heard throughout the land.

Members and friends of Emmanuel will have an opportunity to make a special donation starting on May 14th.

Please see the vessel in the narthex for your donations. You also may mail your donations directly to: NALC – 2299 Palmer Drive, Suite 220, New Brighton, MN 55112-2202 – please be sure to mark your checks clearly!!

Feel free to learn more about our seminary at www.thenals.org

THANK YOU STEWARDS

...to the March Hospitality Team -Judy & Earl Trenhaile, Kyle & Amy Edwards, Steve McCready, Mike & Mari Momberg, Rachel Rosenberg, Ben Tweeten, Duaine & Myra Dierks, Pat Clark, Liz & Michael Schaub, Coleen Trettin, Todd Trettin, Jamie & Brandon Trenhaile, Cory & Kim Hicken

... to the April Hospitality Team –Doris & Albert Ralph, Suzanne Walk, Caren & Curt Bartz, Raechel & Luke Fossey, Paul Hackbart, Carol Koschmeder, Sheila Lundon, Luella Pagel, Josh & Anna Rosenberg, Sharon Walk, Jay & Jeannie White, Opal Diedrich

...to Doris Ralph and Linda Kroneman for their special efforts and work preparing for various needs during Holy Week and Easter as members of the Altar Guild

...to the Choir and all of their regular and ad hoc singers for adding to the beauty of our worship services during Lent, Holy Week and Easter

...to Linda Koschmeder and Linda Kroneman for 'training' Christa Larson in her new position as Secretary/Treasurer. Please know that your efforts are very much appreciated by the Council, Pastor Z and Christa!!

...to Orland Bartz, Michael Cole, Clarice Bartz, Lisa Bartz and Connie Rosenberg for helping with our Money Counting task during a busy month of April.

...to all who donated Easter Lilies to decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Vacation Bible School will take place from June 19-23 at Bolan. Parents, we will snail-mail you registration forms in mid-May and arrange for a car pool for those who need it.

THANK YOU EMMANUEL

Thank you to Myra Dierks and Laurie Nack Bublitz for donating the door prizes for the Soup Supper. I was a lucky recipient of one of the prizes!
Judy Trenhaile

Thank you to those of you who have remembered me with cards and notes, I want you to know that I think of you fondly also.
Mary Rohlfson

JOYS AND SORROWS

Pastor Al Hermeier, formerly of First Lutheran Church, Northwood, died unexpectedly on Tuesday morning. For the past eleven years, he faithfully served a small congregation near Decorah and currently was a member of the District Council of the NALC Iowa Mission District. The family has requested that all memorials be directed to Lutheran World Relief. May God comfort his grieving family and congregation with the promise of the Resurrection.

Congratulations Abbie and Josh Steinberg on the birth of Vera Ann, 7lbs 7 oz, 21", April 13th.

Congratulations to Brandon and Jamie Trenhaile on the birth of their son, Brock Brandon who was born on, Maundy Thursday, April 13th.

Blessings to Janice Nelson on the birth of her grandson Everett Nelson Ryan.

Happy Birthday to Ellen Glassel who turned 80 on April 28th, greetings can be sent to Ellen at PO Box 101, Washington, IA 52353.

Congratulations to the Hulshizer kids on their college accomplishments: Noelle will graduate with her AA degree from NIACC on May 5th and plans to transfer to UNI in the fall, majoring in Communications and Public Relations; Marissa will graduate from Minnesota State University-Mankato with a Master's in School Counseling on May 6th; Kyle will graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Human Physiology from the University of Iowa on May 13th and will begin his Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program at Iowa this July; and Jeremy will receive his Master's in Education Administration from Creighton University in Omaha on May 13th, he will continue teaching physics and math and coaching at St Albert Catholic Schools in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

(We would love to hear from other graduates!)

PARSONAGE UPGRADES



Michael and I would like to thank all of you, and in particular the Council and the Property Committee, for all efforts which led to the re-siding of the parsonage. The siding as well as the new doors, basement windows, soffits, gutters and garage door not only add to the looks of the parsonage but hopefully will also contribute to its longevity and be advantageous for heating and cooling.

A very sincere and special 'thank-you' goes to Michael Cole and Jason Hackbart who tirelessly made plans, secured the Grant and oversaw the project.

We know it was not as easy as it looked but the result is wonderful. It is our hope that not only the two of us but many future pastors and their families will enjoy the fruits of these efforts and call Emmanuel's parsonage 'home'.

Thank you and God bless – Pastor Z and Michael

DID YOU KNOW

.... **that our Sunday School and Logos Legos** distributed 50 **May Baskets**, insulated mugs with candy and an inspirational greeting, to local farmers as they are beginning the planting season? The idea started with the Evangelism Committee and the kids implemented it. Special thanks to Neil Hackbart, Amy Edwards, Mary Jo Urbatsch, Nicole Cole, Jody Hackbart, and Chris Paulson.

...**that the NALC has a new website face?** Check it out at www.thenalc.org

...**that we will soon have another Movie Night** in our courtyard soon? **June 10th** is the day you need to reserve for a movie, popcorn, root beer floats and lots of fun. Start time is 8 pm!

...**that Pope Francis** has urged **Egypt's embattled Christian minority** to show extremism only in forgiving those who wrong them and to avoid

the temptation of acting like a "Pharaoh" by ignoring the needs of their neighbors? Francis focused his attention on the country's tiny Catholic population. But the specter of brutal attacks against the Catholic and Coptic believers who total just 10 percent of Egypt's 92-million strong population loomed as the pontiff reiterated the message.

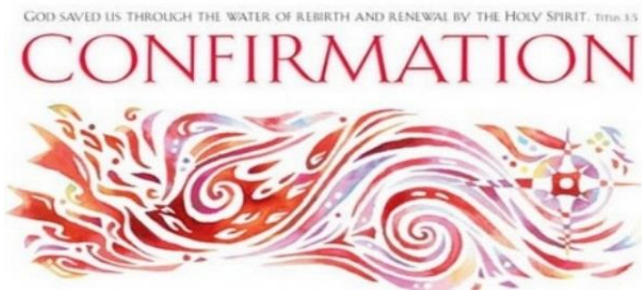
...**that in a country where 82 percent are Christian**, halal, the dietary standard in Islamic law, is finding greater acceptance? **Kenya** is now home to a modest 100 halal-compliant food industry businesses, offering Muslims a choice of offerings and convenience, but that market may be growing. In addition to the country's estimated 4 million Muslims (out of 42 million), halal is finding favor among Christians as well. Halal, which means "lawful" or "permitted" in Arabic, requires that meat such as beef, lamb, goat and poultry be raised and killed humanely and that a blessing be said at the time of slaughter. Non-halal foods include carnivorous animals and birds of prey, as well as pork and products derived from pork such as gelatin. Fish, vegetables, fruits, nuts and grains are permitted.

FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE



Don't miss out on our next **Family Worship Service on May 21st!** Our music will be accompanied by the same great band we enjoyed in March. Again, the worship will look and 'feel' a bit different than usual. We hope to fill our pews on that day with members and friends. Invite your neighbors – really!!! – even for Lutherans it is okay to invite someone to worship! May 21st is also the last day of Sunday School and the teachers are planning some fun activities for the kids. Be sure to be with us on **May 21st at 9:30 am** and for the duration of the morning. Remember what they told you in March: you should have been there ☺

RITE OF AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM



Please join us on May 7th celebrating with three Confirmands as they affirm the promises their parents and sponsors made on their behalf at their Baptism. We pray rich blessing upon *Ryan Cole*, son of Michael and Nicole Cole; *Brooklyn Hackbart*, daughter of Jason and Jody Hackbart; and *Gracie Urbatsch*, daughter of Gregg and Mary Jo Urbatsch. All three have been faithful students and participants in our faith community already for many years and it is with great joy and hope for their futures that we gather with them on this momentous occasion in their faith lives. Join us for their Confirmation Worship Service on May 7th.

GRADUATE RECEPTION

May 7th, we will also recognize Emmanuel's Graduates. Please help us to honor these young people and their families in their milestones.

This year's Graduates are *Bridget Badker* and *Kayleigh Trettin*.

Congratulations to Bridget and Kayleigh on their upcoming High School graduation. Rich blessings as you venture out into the world.

MISC

New bulletin box labels are in the works. In the near future, we will do some long-needed updating and organization of the name tags and spacing between boxes. Be patient with each other as we relearn our location. If there are any errors, or if you have any special requests, please contact the office.

Do we have your EMAIL Address? Are you missing out on important news from Emmanuel just because we do not have your email address? Pastor Z likes to email out an occasional update on things that are of general

interest/information. We have sent out weather-related messages and cancellation notices and reminders for busy families of upcoming events. We do not give your email to persons outside of Emmanuel and we do not send jokes, chain letters, advertisements or forwarded messages. You will not end up on any outside mailing list as a result of your email being shared with us. If we may add your name to our list, please email it to us at emanluthch@wctatel.net or to Pastor at PastorZ@wctatel.net – either way it will be recorded. Thank you!

Financial Giving Statements have been distributed for the quarter. If you have any questions please contact Clarice Bartz at 748-2384.



Building Hours

We have started our summer hours for the opening and closing of the church building.

The church will be unlocked from 8 am until 9 pm Mondays thru Saturdays and from 6 am until 6 pm on Sundays.

Special events will be accommodated as needed, of course.

If you must get into the building outside the hours listed, please call Pastor ahead of time and she will assist you.

Welcome to Christa Larson, our new Secretary - Treasurer.

Her office hours will be Monday - Thursday, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm. Please stop by and introduce yourself.



Quilts and Kits

Our heartfelt “Thank You” to everyone who helped in any way, large or small, to make and prepare the items delivered to LWR. Many quilts were made and personal care kits, school kits, and baby layettes were assembled, along with our soap collection. With great joy and gratitude to our congregation for their support, 28 boxes were prepared for shipment. We are thankful to the men who helped to load and unload these boxes onto the trailer supplied by Dean and Mardine Meyer. All of the boxes were taken to Manly on Saturday, April 29th and loaded with other neighboring congregation’s items to be transported to St Paul, MN. These will be shared with those less fortunate in countries such as Peru, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ukraine, Georgia, Serbia, India, West and South Africa, Thailand, Pakistan and others. Over 500,000 beneficiaries will receive needed items through Lutheran World Relief and we are so grateful to be a small part of that. The total summary of our items is included in our report to show how God has blessed us to bless others. Again, Thank you to one and all!

Items for Lutheran World Relief

- 50 Quilts
- 9 Blankets
- 98 Activity Kits
- 24 Layettes
- 22 Personal Care Kits
- 27 Pounds of Soap

Quilts Given to the Charities in Our Area

- 10 Bremwood/LSI- Waverly
- 10 Women’s Shelter- Mason City
- 5 Men’s Shelter- Mason City
- 6 Salvation Army- Mason City
- 5 Crisis Intervention- Mason City
- 6 VA- Mason City
- 1 Oulman Family (fire)
- 2 Graduates
- 1 Lutheran Retirement Home- Northwood
- 13 Hanging quilts and those reserved for emergencies in the community

WOMEN’S NOTES

Next TWC Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 16th at 9 a.m.

Bible Study for Women will be on Monday, May 22nd at 2 p.m.

WOMEN’S OUTING

Sign up by May 15th

The Women of Emmanuel are planning an outing to the **Galleria de Paco in Waterloo on Thursday, June 29th**.

The owner of this restaurant is originally from Sarajevo in the Balkans. He has decorated his restaurant with vibrant colored images from the Sistine Chapel.

One of the reviews said it is a “Feast for the Eyes and Palate”.

There are tours available and the cost will depend on whether we choose the luncheon or dinner menu, transportation, etc. We will have a sign-up sheet available in the church entry if you are interested.

Please let us know by May 15th. Contact Emi Kuntz at 641-420-2598 for additional information.



Galleria de Paco in Waterloo

Logos Legos Youth Group has been busy this last month!

Easter Breakfast Fun - A great big thanks to everyone who helped with and attended the Easter Breakfast! We served over 125 people and had a super time sharing laughs and smiles, some funny stories, tackling a few spills and cleaning up lots of dishes.

A special thanks to Sam and Shelly Venechuk for sharing their talents with us by donating the food -- always so good!! To Jody, Jason and the rest of the LL group for making some pretty awesome waffles and serving everyone! To Kara and Joe Walk and Kim and Corey Hicken for washing dishes, cleaning up pans and figuring out where everything goes. Who else made this a huge success?? Kim and Jon Badker, Candi and Dave Feldt (well mostly Candi - ha!), Liz Schaub, Pat Clark, Amy Edwards, Julie Schultz and Tammy Borchardt. I'm sure there's a few I forgot, but know if you helped and aren't listed -- you did make a difference!

With the free will offering collected, we're planning a fun outing with the LL group to celebrate our hard work, confirmation and graduation! For the rest of the money, we're already planning for our next community projects/acts of evangelism to share the blessings with others.

Volunteering with Love - On Good Friday, we took those who could go to share our love for critters! We had raised \$250 more from our last pizza event and decided to donate that to the North Iowa Humane Society. We spent 1 1/2 hours cuddling, walking, talking and playing with the cats and dogs who didn't have a forever home yet. This was the 2nd time we volunteered and we left there with our hearts full -- knowing that we've made a difference, even if it's only for a few hours, in the lives of those cuties! Then we went to fill our bellies -- Godfathers pizza and the ultimate pop mixing machine!

What's next? Well, we're already planning our next projects! Look for some things this summer to help out those less fortunate. We're also planning to spend some time at the Community Kitchen and other more local activities to help our own community and congregation.

Thanks for your continued support and blessings! Jody and I always have such an enriching experience with the group -- and the laughs and memories we make will last a lifetime.

Jody and Nicole with the rest of the LL gang and Youth Committee members





Sunday School kids are getting ready to sing on Palm Sunday



Delivering May Baskets



TWC (The Women's Council)

April 18, 2017

Charlotte shared devotions from Mark 16:1-7, entitled, "Easter's Rolling Stones." The question was raised of what our "tombs" are and that Jesus, through the new life of Easter (resurrection), rolls away our tombs of guilt, resentment, discouragement, and death. TWC was called to order with the sharing of the purpose. Secretary minutes were read from March and with a few minor numbering and spelling changes, were approved. Treasurer's report shows \$6,056.35 in savings and \$3,929.87 in checking. Advertising bills have been paid for the soup supper and our profit was over \$1225. There was no correspondence.

Old Business: 1) LWR Projects: Quilt and Soap Sunday will be on April 23rd. The display will be set up on Saturday at 9 a.m. Quilts will be packed on Monday, the 24th at 9:30 a.m. The time for loading the LWR items into Dean Meyer's trailer is yet to be determined. 2) Spring Outing Event: We are still gathering information to possibly go to the Galleria De Paco restaurant in Waterloo sometime the last week in June. Once all information is gathered, we will let women know dates, times, and costs involved. 3) Confirmation/Graduation recognition reception: Will be on Sunday, May 7th, following worship service. We will serve various jello cakes along with the cheese and crackers normally served. No new business. Upcoming dates: Quilt Sunday, April 23rd; Quilt packing on April 24th at 9:30 a.m.; Bible Study on Monday, April 24th at 2 p.m.; LWR pick-up at Manly on Saturday, April 29th; Confirmation/Graduation recognition on Sunday, May 7th; TWC on Tuesday, May 16th at 9 a.m.; May Bible Study on Monday, May 22nd at 2 p.m. Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

Council Minutes- - ELC

February 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order by: Vice President Darren Marsh

In attendance were: Pastor Zamzow, Merlin Bartz-Evangelism, Neil Hackbart-Property, Amy Edwards-Education, Jane Dalluge-Stewardship, Sharon Hulshizer-Lay Ministry, and Nicole Cole-

Youth.

Absent: President-JC Dawald

Devotions: Given by Pastor Z

Education Segment: Introduction to Council Work

Agenda Review: M/S/C to approve agenda as presented.

Minutes: M/S/C to approve January minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report: Given by Pastor Z, who received the information from outgoing Treasurer, Linda Kroneman via checking account. *There is a January 31st balance of \$1,596.96 in the checking account after all January bills were paid. There were larger bills paid for insurance and LP needs last month. To remain in the black for the next month, Sunday offerings will need to be slightly higher. *Darren is our check signer, with Curt Schaub as back up until a new treasurer is hired. At that time, council will decide whose signatures to keep on file at the bank. Until such time, with all members of 2017 Council in agreement, Pastor Z will write out checks, Darren will sign, and copies will be made of all transactions and kept as record.

Bills to pay: M/S/C to pay the bills for February.

Pastor's Report: * Shrove Tuesday: a pancake supper will be served by the men of the church, headed by Duane Rustad. Men have been asked to sign up to work and community churches have been invited to participate. *Lenten Simple Suppers: will be served on Wednesdays during Lent, before church service. Each committee is asked to take a week. March 8th and 15th are covered. Free will offering will be collected.

* Insurance issue with serving room remodeling: has been addressed and the insurance company will review the issue.* Bulletin box volunteer needed: Connie Rosenberg currently folds bulletins and places them into the boxes, she will continue until a replacement is found.

Board Highlights: Stewardship: *Has met and determined that the Lent and Easter offerings will be given to the church towards the water repair project (Building fund).*There are several Cd's at the bank with original signers still on. At some time, we will need to change those. Matter tabled.* M/S/C to convert the church savings account to a HI FI savings account. Property: Waiting on one other contractor to look at the

East wall. Possibility of applying for a grant to help pay for water issue solution once an action is determined. Evangelism: Met 1-23-17

*Progressive dinner is upcoming. * In March, will be meeting with the Youth and Education boards to plan future activities-May day/blessing of tractors/ movie nights in June and August.

Lay Ministry: Met 1/18/17 * divided up months to line up readers and communion assistants. * Found a replacement for Albert Ralph on the PA schedule * Jon Schindler, who had performed at Emmanuel two years ago, would like to come in April for another performance. Trying to find suitable date. * Piano tuning-determining who to have tune the piano for best consistency.

Membership Review: M/S/C to release Darrel Hartman from membership as he has joined another congregation.

Unfinished Business:

- a) Review of Annual Meeting- minutes were reviewed, no changes were made
- b) Auditing Committee Update-Brett Trenhaile and Sandy Thompson will do the auditing this year.
- c) Constitution Review Update- NALC issued a statement on marriage to be reviewed for the constitution. A committee has been established to review all of the constitution and by-laws, with recommendations in March or April to be presented to the council.
- d) Secretary/Treasurer positions: 2 interviews were conducted, 1 person was offered the position of secretary and treasurer, but declined at the last minute due to a change in personal circumstances and another job opportunity. We will readvertise the positions.
- e) Update-laptop: No update at this time, but will wait to purchase software until a new treasurer starts.

New Business:

- a) Insurance/Estate concern- Emmanuel is the beneficiary of a Life Insurance Policy of a current member. Due to the decreasing actual value of the policy, over the next several years, Emmanuel will need to add small amounts of funds in order to maintain the death benefit at the designated level. The insurance agent for this policy is willing to meet with the Council to discuss any questions or concerns. Council needs to be mindful of this issue in the future

to keep the intended benefit at the level it was given.

- b) Devotions for next meeting will be given by Darren Marsh
- c) Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 14 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Acting Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

Council Minutes-ELC

March 14, 2017

Meeting was called to order by: President- JC Dawald

In attendance were: Darren Marsh-VP, Pastor Zamzow, Merlin Bartz-Evangelism, Amy Edwards-Education, Jane Dalluge-Stewardship, Neil Hackbart-Property, Sharon Hulshizer-Lay Ministry, and Nicole Cole-Youth

Absent: None

Devotions: Given by Darren Marsh

Education Segment: Article on "How to Revive a 'Dead' Church."

Agenda Review: M/S/C to accept agenda as presented

Minutes: M/S/C to approve February minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Pastor Zamzow. A few items were slightly higher this month (Lp gas and health insurance, because not billed in December) The land rent check was put into the checking account and will keep the balance in the black after March bills are paid.

M/S/C to accept Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion was made to have 3 authorized signatures at the bank, requiring the treasurer and one officer signature on all checks, unless the treasurer position is vacant in which 2 officers may sign. M/S/C to make this effective when the treasurer position is filled.

Bills to Pay: M/S/C to pay the bills for March.

Pastor's Report: It has been a very busy time with various things going on. Pastor Z wishes to let the congregation know that she is never too busy to answer calls or take care of things for which she is needed.

Board Highlights: Evangelism: * Progressive supper went well, a small group met and had a good time. * Has met with the Youth and Ed boards to plan outreach projects in the spring, including May baskets to be delivered on April

30th. Youth: Has met to discuss Easter Breakfast and Lenten Simple Supper. Property: Waiting on one final bid/option for repairing East wall to make a final recommendation. Lay Ministry: Has met with Property board to discuss Lenten Simple Supper.

Membership Review: None

Unfinished Business:

a) Auditing Committee Update: Auditing has been completed by Brett Trenhaile and Sandy Thompson. All records found to be in good order.

b) Constitution Review Update: Will wait to continue with this until after Easter.

c) Secretary/Treasurer Positions: Two candidates have applied and been interviewed, both wishing to do combined positions. Second interviews will be conducted and a decision will be made for hiring.

New Business:

a) No new business

b) Devotions for next meeting will be given by Sharon Hulshizer

c) Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 11 at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Acting Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Salad Luncheon, Sat., May 6, 11 am – 1 pm, Bethany Lutheran Church, Kensett. Bake sale, quilts, greeting cards, plants, misc. Free will offering.

Bridal Shower honoring Marissa Hulshizer, bride-elect of Taner McClure. It will be held here at Emmanuel on **Sunday, May 7** from 2:00 – 4:00 pm, everyone is invited. They are registered at Target and Amazon.

You are invited to an Open House for **Kayleigh Trettin** at the Grafton Community Center on **May 14th** from 4:30-7:00 pm to celebrate her High School graduation.

Senior's Bingo, Mon., May 15, 1:30 pm, Good Samaritan Center, St. Ansgar.

Guest Night, Wed., May 17, 7 pm, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Manly. 'Paper Dolls' presented by Barb Ruiter.

Veterans Recognition, Fri. May 19, 10 am, St. Ansgar Good Samaritan nursing home. Coffee

and cookies will be served. A program in honor of our local Veterans.

Memorial Day Services will be held at the Grafton cemetery on **Monday, May 29th** at 10 a.m. In case of inclement weather, the service will be inside the Grafton Community Center. Join us in honoring those that have given their lives in service to our country, as well as those who continue to serve for our freedom.

TREASURY REPORT

Financial Balance Information for March 2017

Current Fund

Balance 2/28/2017: (\$3,154.90)

Sunday Offerings: \$12,331

Land Rent: \$4,275

Interest: \$3.56

Total Deposit: \$16,609.56

Expenses: \$10,826.82

Balance 3/31/2017: \$2,627.84

Benevolence Fund

Balance 2/28/2017: \$587.00

Deposits in March 2017: \$157.00

Balance 3/31/2017: \$744.00

Building Fund

Balance 2/28/2017: \$10,004.03

Deposits in March 2017: \$2553.00

Balance 3/31/2017: \$12,557.03

Gifts and Memorials

Balance on March 1/2017: \$24,902.51

The following was added in March: \$275 Organ Instruction Fund; \$749 Altar Guild; \$81 Camper-ship; \$1,120 Undesignated Memorials for a total of \$2,225.

Balance 3/31/2017: \$27,127.51

May 2017

Emmanuel Lutheran Church - Grafton, Iowa

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>April 30</p> <p>3rd Sunday of Easter 9:30am – Worship with Holy Communion 10:30am - Fellowship 10:40am - Sunday School</p>	<p>May 1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7:00 pm - Choir</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30 am - Bible Study</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>4th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am - Worship with Holy Communion 10:30 am - Fellowship 10:40 am - Sunday School</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 pm Council</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:00 pm - Choir</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:30 am - Bible Study</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>5th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am – Worship with Choir 10:30 am - Fellowship 10:40 am - Sunday School</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 am TWC</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30 am - Bible Study</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>6th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am -Family Worship 10:30 am - Fellowship 10:40 am - Last Day - Sunday School</p>	<p>22</p> <p>2:00 pm ENALCW Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Ascension of Our Lord 9:30 am - Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>7th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am - Worship 10:30 am - Fellowship</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>June 1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Pastor Solveig A.H. Zamzow

641-748-2736

308 4th Avenue

PO Box 282

Grafton, Iowa 50440

Address Service Requested

May 2017

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50472
PERMIT NO. 11

----- May 2017 -----



May	Greeters	Organist	Acolytes
7	Marcy Hyde	Donna Schilling	Harmony Clark
14	Darren & Lori Marsh	Charlotte Cole	Ryan Cole
21	Sheila Lundon	Marena Henkle	Lily Walk
28	Carol & Linda Koschmeder	Marena Henkle	Gracie Urbatsch

HOSPITALITY TEAM

Team Leaders: Debby & David Bublitz

Teresa Sorenson	Rufus Glassel
Katie Bass	Kayla Pappas
Marlin & Connie Rosenberg	Kara & Joe Walk
Sam & Shelly Venechuk	Clarice Venechuk
Katie Venechuk	Nicole Venechuk
Larry Diedrich	Jon & Kim Badker
Calvin & Sandra Thompson	Lowell & Virginia Walk

ALTAR GUILD

Linda Koschmeder

LAY MINISTRY

Val Bork

COUNTERS

Connie Rosenberg
Marlin Rosenberg
Belinda Borchardt

USHERS

Mark Borchardt
Belinda Borchardt
Mitchell Cole
Linda Koschmeder
Ken Kroneman
Calvin Thompson
PA
Mike Momberg
Darren Marsh