

# EMMANUEL'S EPISTLE

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church**  
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**Pastor- Solveig A.H. Zamzow**

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## January 2018

## FROM THE PASTOR

### **LEAN ON GOD**



"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Abide in my love." John 15:9

We have heard and read the word "abide" countless times over the years. It is in the Bible, in hymns and in prayers. I read an article in which the author told of his seminary professor's lesson

on the Greek word for "abide". He said that the word literally means "lean back or put your full weight on an object." The example he used was lying on a bed or sitting in a chair. Well, I can image better images than that – can't you? I have several – actual! – pictures at home that show me or my husband holding one of our sons or grandchildren. As a matter of fact, when you step into my office and look straight ahead, you will see a picture of me holding our granddaughter who is leaning on my left shoulder, sound asleep. I am cradling her with both arms, making sure she does not slip out of my grip and get hurt. Like any grandchild in any grandparent's arm, Victoria is entirely relaxed, resting in the deep assurance that she will be protected from all harm by the very fact of my presence.

We live in a world of stress and turmoil. So often we can be overwhelmed with troubles and

cares. While there are times we are called to action, sometimes all we can do is lean into, put our full weight on God's love. And we know that his strength is trustworthy. Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, we know that nothing is stronger than the hope, forgiveness and love of God.

We're about to begin the year 2018. It is full of unknowns. We trust it will be full of blessings - for that is what we know from our God! Yet, we can almost guarantee that 2018 will have challenges for all of us personally, in our families, in our community and country and around the globe. When we need rest and refreshment – and the day will come when we do need that! - God welcomes us to abide in him, to lean on him and his love.

Brother Bill Withers sang it so well. *"Lean on me, when you're not strong And I'll be your friend I'll help you carry on."* It is important to know that we have friends and loved ones on whom we can lean. What would we be without them, right!? I pray you do have someone who invites you to lean on him or her when the troubles of life set in for you. Yet, even if you would be hard pressed to

**Trusting God is the leaning  
on an Unshakeable Rock,  
but one who is  
as soft as downy feathers.**

**I just need to choose to lean.**

name someone who would provide that kind of security and assurance for you, do not despair for your Lord is calling you to 'lean in'; he has got you; his arms are strong, his resolve is sure, his love for you beyond any love you have seen or experienced.

Lean on the Lord – Lean in so the Lord can hold you tied – Lean back for your Lord has you securely. With that we can face 2018! Be blessed, be safe, be well.

PZ+



*Michael and I wish to thank you for your many cards and thoughtful gifts as we celebrated the birth of our Lord. Please know that we received them in gratefulness. Special thanks to the Church Council for the generous Christmas gift on behalf of Emmanuel and The Women's Council for their kind gift! I was also delighted by some anonymous gifts I found in my office – to the generous giver(s): thank you so very much, indeed!*

*Our holy days were quiet but we enjoyed a few hours with our family and took time to sit by our Christmas tree, listening to wonderful music. Now we are ready to see what God has in store for us – and you – and all of us together. We are looking forward to share the 2018 journey with you.*

*Thank you again, one and all.*

*Fondly – Pastor Z+*



**ANNUAL MEETING – January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 ---**  
**As we are getting ready once again to give an orderly account of our life and work during 2017, we need the written reports of those who are keeping financial records and/or serve as chairpersons of boards/committees and auxiliaries. Please have your information to the church office NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY, January 11<sup>th</sup>.**

**We certainly appreciate and encourage earlier submission but 1/11 is the last day so we can prepare the Annual Report booklet properly. If at all possible, please share your report electronically. Thank you. If you are uncertain as to who from your group needs to submit the report, feel free to call the office. While the Annual Meeting gives us the opportunity to reflect and evaluate what happened last year at Emmanuel, it also surely is a chance for all voting members of Emmanuel to set the course of our ministry for the coming twelve months. Don't leave that decision to your neighbors! Be there – be part of it! Let us work together!**

# DID YOU KNOW?



...that Christmas is not over yet? There are 12 days to the Christmas celebration and here are a few of the people and events who significantly influence the Body of Christ: December 26 – St. Stephen is honored as the first Christian martyr; December 27 – St. John is remembered not only as a writer of his Gospel and letters but as the one who stood at the cross and took responsibility for Mother Mary; December 28 – The Martyrdom of the Holy Innocents recalls the brutal murder of small children by King Herod in his effort to squelch the importance of Jesus whom he saw as a danger to his throne; December 29 – King David- the ancestor of the Baby Jesus was blessed to lead Israel to its greatest height. David was a sinner for whom Jesus was born and died; January 1 – the circumcision and naming of the Christ-child; Jesus now ‘officially’ receives the name the angel told: “the one who will save his people from their sins”; and finally, January 5 – the last day of the Christmas tide and the day that leads into the beginning of the Epiphany season.

...that lamenting “the winds of war” blowing around the world, Pope Francis in his traditional Christmas message called for a two-state solution to find peace in the Middle East and prayed that confrontation can be overcome on the Korean Peninsula. The pope took particular aim at areas of global tension where President

Trump is playing a critical role...”The winds of war are blowing in our world and an outdated model of development continues to produce human, societal and environmental decline,” the pope said on Christmas Day in his traditional “Urbi et Orbi” (“to the city and to the world”) Christmas message and blessing from the central balcony overlooking St. Peter’s Square. As Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, the pope depicted suffering reflected “in the faces of little children,” citing war and other tensions in the Middle East and Africa. He asked for peace for Jerusalem and the Holy Land and prayed “that the will to resume dialogue may prevail between the parties and that a negotiated solution can finally be reached, one that would allow the peaceful coexistence of two states within mutually agreed and internationally recognized borders.”

...that Reading the Word of God, a daily Bible reading guide, has been prepared for Lutherans to use over the next three years? The guide was conceived and prepared as a result of ongoing discussions between representatives of the NALC, the Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC), and the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). The guide includes monthly calendars with daily readings starting in January 2018. As a companion to the daily Bible reading guide, 52 suggested readings are offered from the book, “Luther and the Scriptures” by Johann Michael Reu (1869–1943), a German-born American Lutheran theologian who taught at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa, from 1899 until his death. Reading the Word of God — the daily Bible reading guide and the monthly calendars — are available online at [www.thenalc.org](http://www.thenalc.org).





**Calling all Readers:** We are always in need of readers who are willing to read the first and second lesson within the Sunday liturgy. Printed copies of the lessons are on the kiosk in the entry and there is a sign-up sheet for clarity and convenience. It would be much appreciated if you could sign up by the Wednesday before the Sunday in question so we avoid confusion and 'scrambling' at the last minute. On Sundays you will find your reading – enlarged! – in the white binder on the lectern. Your service to the Lord and Emmanuel Lutheran is received with gratefulness. Teenagers are particularly encouraged to read and grown into this task!



**How can you help?** There are always various needs at Emmanuel that 'pop up'. Some are very small, some are larger. If you are looking to make a donation toward gifts in kind or wish to apply a Memorial gift – feel free to call and ask what is needed. And, we are always happy to receive gifts of stamps and copy paper as some of you have kindly offered up in the past. It is always most appreciated. If you are unsure what brand/kind/size we need, just call the office and we will be glad to assist. Thank you!

## ***Poinsettia Gifts***

### ***Given by . . .***



Sheila Lundon- To the Glory of God

Clarice Bartz- In memory of Loved Ones

Bonnie & Viri Deal- To the Glory of God

Chris Braun Family- To the Glory of God

Crystal Braun- In memory of Everett Braun

R.J. Glassel Family- In memory of Doris Glassel

Jeannette Neeley- In memory of William Neeley

Earl & Judy Trenhaile- In memory of Loved Ones

The Dalluge Families- In memory of Robert Trettin

Jane Dalluge & Family- In memory of Steve Dalluge

Phil & Gloria Hackbart- In memory of Loved Ones

Charlotte Cole & Family- In memory of Loved Ones

Lowell, Virginia & Nancy Walk- In memory of Loved Ones

The Fredrickson Family- In memory of LaVerne Fredrickson

Darren & Lori Marsh & Family- In memory of Joanne Marsh

Mike & Teri Sorenson- In memory of Bob & Louise Sorenson

Allan & Ardis Hanson- In memory of our parents, A.C. Hanson & C.W. Seuser

Pastor Solveig & Michael Zamzow- In memory of Neil Zamzow and Alfred & Gertraud Draeger

Families of Laurie Nack Bublitz- In memory of Loved Ones,  
In memory of Kuper Dean Malmin- Love you!!

Connie & Marlin Rosenberg Family- In memory of Harper Grace Putz, In honor of Olivia, Madelynn, Nolan & Leighton

***Thank you to all who shared plants!***



## STEWARDSHIP MUSINGS

Although you will be able to see and study the following numbers in your Annual Report booklet, in case you don't, here is some information regarding our Benevolence giving for the year 2017. How did we do? Well, of course, it would be too flippant not to suggest that there is room for improvement. There is – lots of it.

On the other hand, we could have done much worse and we can be glad that we will be able to bless various agencies and para-church organizations with our benevolent financial gifts. For those we say a collective 'THANK YOU' to all who contributed through marking their weekly envelop accordingly. I think it helps to point out once in a while that our general budget (Current Fund) does not provide for these gifts to places outside our community. Unless your envelope indicates an amount toward 'Benevolence', none of your contributions go to the places you see below. That is often a surprise for those who newly join our community as, indeed, most congregations incorporate their benevolence designation (often via percentage of total giving) at the beginning of a new year and budget.

In other words: at Emmanuel we as individuals have to put forth the effort. The amount to the NALC and our Mission District as well as the percentage of the individual gifts are determined by the Stewardship Committee at the end of each year and brought to a vote at the Annual Meeting. Although we have seen some changes over the last years, in many ways we continue to support well-known agencies.

**Benevolence**  
Taking Care of God's Family

### **Here are the gifts we are sharing at the end of 2017:**

North American Lutheran Church - \$2,000.00  
NALC - Iowa Mission District - \$350.00  
Northern Lights Alliance - \$337.00  
Crisis Intervention Services - \$337.00  
Share Shoppe - \$337.00  
Bremwood Lutheran Children's Home - \$337.00  
Riverside Bible Camp - \$168.00  
Mitchell County Foodbank - \$84.00  
Manna of Worth County - \$84.00

### **In addition to these, we also share the interest monies from our Stewardship Estate Fund. This year our contributions were as follows:**

Hospice of North Iowa - \$300.00  
Lutheran Military Veterans and Families - \$300.00\*  
Northern Lights Alliance - \$300.00  
Orchard Place (Des Moines, serving young people  
with mental health issues) - \$150.00  
Special Olympics of Iowa - \$100.00  
One Vision (formerly Opportunity Village) - \$100.00  
KCMR Radio - \$50.00

\*Their chaplain will be our Mission Fest speaker in  
November of 2018

Last but not least we offered up \$350.00 to the  
North American Lutheran Seminary and \$2,688 to  
our 2017 Mission Fest recipient, Food for the Poor,  
and exactly \$2,000.00 in groceries and cash to the  
two local Food Banks!

**Thank you one and all for your generosity  
and kindness which helps us as a  
community to bless these various  
charitable organizations.**

## THANK YOU STEWARDS

.... to the **December 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, Jaime & Brandon Trenhaile, Cory & Kim Hicken

....to **Candi Feldt** for serving on our Altar Guild for the month of December and for providing our “live” Advent wreaths. Thank you!

... **Mark Borchardt and the Choir** for the wonderful sounds of Christmas music they shared with us in December. What a delight!! ☺ We also thank our organists, **Charlotte Cole, Marena Henkle and Donna Schilling** for their tremendous contributions to our special worship services during this festive season.

...to the **Dalluge family** for setting up our Christmas tree and to **Jason Hackbart** for fixing our burned-out fuses just in time for the Christmas program!!

...to everyone who was involved with the preparation and presentation of our Live Nativity. Although the ‘crowd’ that gathered to hear and see the story was small compared to other years, we had fun with one another and it was a great opportunity to let the light of Christ shine brightly. Many thanks to the **Women of Emmanuel** for the lovely reception and a tremendous ‘thank-you’ to **Myra Dierks** who organized the costumes and did much of the set-up and clean-up of the market, assisted by her husband **Duaine** as well as **Mavis Stevens and Laurie Nack Bublitz**. The men of Emmanuel did a super job setting up: **JC Dawald, Merlin Bartz, Philip Hackbart, Alan Stevens, Michael Cole and Darren Marsh**. Our cast was again outstanding: **Philip Hackbart, Amy Edwards,**

**Randy and Sharon Hulshizer, Linda Schotanus, Sheila Lundon (great solo!), Sophie, Gracie and Gregg Urbatsch, Val and Brianna Bork, Merlin Bartz, Julie and Curt Schaub, Alan and Mavis Stevens, Darren and Lori Marsh, JC Dawald, Chuck Schilling, Charlotte Cole, Tammy Borchardt, Christa Larson with Camden, Tegan and Logan Trenhaile, Laurie Nack Bublitz, Doris Ralph, Myra Dierks, and our organist, Donna Schilling.** Thank you one and all for a job well done!!!

## THANK YOU EMMANUEL

I’d like to thank the congregation, Church Council, ENALCW and Pastor Zamzow for the Christmas gifts I received. It was very thoughtful, and sincerely appreciated.

– Christa Larson, Secretary/Treasurer

**Thank you, Church Council and Pastor Z for the Christmas gift.** Also, thank you to the ENALCW for the gift card. Both were thoughtful and very much appreciated!

–Anna Rosenberg

**To the Congregation of Emmanuel Lutheran-** “I Thank You” can’t begin to express how much I appreciate your donation of 12 more quilts to the Share Shoppe. God Bless you all!

–Mona Pierce, Manager





## **Congregational Council Minutes**

### **November 14, 2017**

**Meeting called to order by:** JC Dawald- President

**Attended:** Pastor Zamzow, Merlin Bartz- Evangelism, Neil Hackbart- Property, Sharon Hulshizer- Lay Ministry, Nicole Cole- Youth, Jane Dalluge- Stewardship, Christa Larson-Secretary/Treasurer, \*One visitor attended.

**Absent:** Amy Edwards- Christian Ed.

**Devotions:** Nicole Cole

**Education Segment:** "Small is Big Again: Reclaiming Small Church Ministry" by Pastor Zamzow

**Agenda review:** **M/S/C to approve agenda as amended-** Under New Business add line item g) **2018 Budget-** and line item h) **Nominating Committee-**.

**Minutes:** **M/S/C to accept Minutes as corrected-** Under New Business- a) **Sanctuary wall leak** was noticed by Pastor Zamzow On Friday, Oct 6<sup>th</sup> not Friday Oct 13.

**Treasurer's Report:** **M/S/C to approve treasurer's report as commented on-** Create a blank line for the 2018 Budget to go on.

**Bills to be paid:** **M/S/C to approve the bills to be paid.**

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor Zamzow discussed the possibility of NALC and ELC Pastors doing a "round robin" for Lenten services on Wednesday nights. There was a positive outlook on this topic from the council.

Pastor Zamzow also spoke about the idea of getting a new projector. Our current projector is used for educational purposes and is not functioning properly.

**M/S/C to purchase a new projector for educational purposes with money from an estate fund in the Sunday School Savings Account.**

**Board Highlights:** Budget for 2018 to be done by each

committee. There was a great "thank you" and compliments to the Property committee for all their hard work.

**Property-** Did not have a formal meeting but have met on several occasions to handle issues at the church.

**Evangelism-** Met on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. They discussed: 1) New member luncheon to be on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. 2) A new member directory. The last one was done in 2013; the new directory photos are scheduled for June 2019. 3) Live Nativity to take place on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

**Lay Ministry-** Had a good Mission Fest and plan to meet to discuss the 2018 budget.

**Youth-** Did not meet.

**Education-** Met and discussed new material.

**Membership review:** One family of four will be joining the church: Yvonne and Troy Tourtellott along with their adult children, Nicole and Haley Tourtellott.

**Unfinished business:**

- a) **Update on wooden doors-** The check was mailed to Wunderlich Woodworking. There is some money left in the account to be used on refinishing the sides of the door.
- b) **Update on kitchen wall repair-** The Women's group is giving a \$1,000 contribution to repair the kitchen walls.
- c) **Bylaws-** Board of Evangelism- Changed the wording from "Be concerned" to "Be involved."  
Board of Stewardship- On page 8 there is a typo to correct: Changed the word "board" to "It is".

**Continuing Resolution-** The council discussed the continuing resolution that was to be presented at the Special Congregational Meeting.  
**M/S/C for the council President to be directed to call for a unanimous consent to withdraw motion based on additional information provided.**

**New Business:**

- a) **Hardwiring of Ethernet Cable-** **M/S/C to run ethernet cable to Fellowship Hall and the farthest Sunday School Room.**

- b) **Year-end Contribution Dates-** Discussed the last day in 2017 that members are able to give contributions.
- c) **Database-** Discussed the need for a Church Member Database
- d) **New Checks-** Discussed changing the process by which the Treasurer prepares all checks.
- e) **Next meetings devotion's preparer-** Sharon Hulshizer
- f) Next meeting date and time is (Tuesday, December 12 @ 7:00 pm)
- g) **2018 Budget-** Each committee is to have their 2018 budget done by the December council meeting.
- h) **Nominating Committee-** There are two members who will be going off of the council in 2018; those members will serve on the nominating committee.

**M/S/C- Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.**



*Women of the Church*

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

- 1) TWC will meet on Tuesday, January 16 at 9 a.m. We will be discussing the soup supper in March and other items of upcoming importance. Please join us as this is open to all women.
- 2) ENALCW Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, January 23rd at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. We will continue our "Living the Chocolate Life" study. Bring a friend and join us in learning how to taste and savor God's gifts to us as Women of God.

## **TWC (The Women's Council)**

**December 19, 2017**

Sharon led with devotions about helping others while learning about the true meaning of giving and ended with a Christmas poem by Helen Steiner Rice. The business meeting was opened with the reading of the purpose. Secretary minutes from November were read and approved. Treasurer's report shows \$4,506.51 in checking and \$6,061.06 in savings. There are a few fellowship deposits to add and bills to be paid to Myra Dierks and the J-Mart.

Old business: 1) Update on LWR projects: Need to set up a few quilting days to finish up quilts after the first of the year. 2) Thank you for Jeff Jessen: For all the donation of coffee throughout the year. Motion was made and carried to get him a gift certificate at Gobbler's Roost. 3) Yearbooks: Changes were made, Sharon will meet with Christa at her convenience to get the new information printed/bulletin covers ordered. 4) Soup Supper 2018: Date has been set of March 4th to have our annual soup supper, more discussion in January.

New Business: 1) LRH Christmas gifts: Have been purchased by Mavis Stevens and we thank her for taking care of that. 2) Distribution of yearly budget items/ end of year donations to local families/charities: Motion made and carried to give \$1,350.00 to designated people/charities as determined by the TWC.

Upcoming dates: TWC on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 9 a.m.; Bible Study on Tuesday, January 30th at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer





## TREASURY REPORT

Financial Balance Information for  
November 1-30, 2017

### **Current Fund**

Beginning of month Balance: \$ 1,305.31

Interest: \$ 4.41

Deposits: \$7,828.14

Expenses: \$ 8,744.12

**End of month Balance: \$ 393.74**

### **Benevolence Fund**

Beginning of month Balance: \$ 3,525.88

Deposits: \$4,063.50

Expense: \$3,760.50 (Lutheran World Relief,  
Food for the Poor)

**End of month Balance: \$ 3,828.88**

### **Building Fund**

Beginning of month Balance: \$ 20,269.46

Deposits: \$6,610

Expense: \$13,891.66 (Wunderlich  
Woodworking, Morton Building)

**End of month Balance: \$ 12,987.80**

### **Gifts and Memorials**

Beginning of month Balance: \$ 26,382.86

Expense: \$242.91 (Altar Guild, ENALCW)

**End of month Balance: \$ 26,139.95**

**Total of all funds in Emmanuel Lutheran  
Church: \$ 43,350.37**

## Sunday School Christmas Program





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## 2017 Live Nativity

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Emmanuel's Epistle

# January 2018

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Year's Day	2	3 4:15 pm- Confirmation 7pm- Choir	4 9:30 am- Bible Study	5	6
7 <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b> 9:30- Worship with HC 10:30- Fellowship 10:40- Sunday School	8 7 pm- Evangelism Committee	9 7 pm- Council Meeting	10 4:15 pm- Confirmation 7pm- Choir	11 9:30 am- Bible Study  All Annual Meet- ing Reports due	12	13
14 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b> 9:30- Worship 10:30- Fellowship 10:40- Sunday School	15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	16 9 am- TWC	17 4:15 pm- Confirmation 7pm- Choir	18 9:30 am- Bible Study	19	20
21 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b> 9:30- Worship 10:30- Fellowship 10:40- Sunday School <b>10:40- Hymn Committee</b>	22	23 10 am & 7 pm ENALCW Bible Study	24 4:15 pm- Confirmation 7pm- Choir	25 9:30 am- Bible Study	26	27
28 <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany</b> 9:30- Worship 10:30- Fellowship 10:40- Sunday School	29	30	31 4:15 pm- Confirmation 7pm- Choir			



# January 2018

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
ST. ANSGAR, IA  
50472  
PERMIT NO. 11

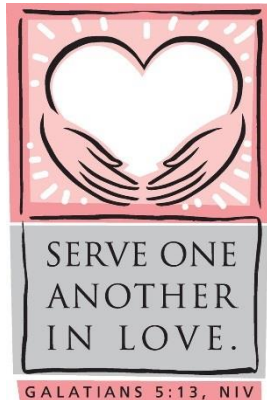
## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Pastor Solveig A.H. Zamzow  
641-748-2736

308 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
PO Box 282  
Grafton, Iowa 50440

Address Service Requested

## January 2018



January	Greeters	Organist	Acolytes
7	Steve & Kristy Arzberger	Marena Henkle	Ryan Hackbart
14	Elizabeth Backhaus	Donna Schilling	Lily Walk
21	Garry & Angela Backhaus	Charlotte Cole	Harmony Clark
28	Jon & Kim Badker	Marena Henkle	Gracie Urbatsch

### HOSPITALITY TEAM

**Team Leaders: Doris & Albert Ralph**

Suzanne Walk	Caren & Curt Bartz
Raechel Fossey	Paul Hackbart
Carol Koschmeder	Sheila Lundon
Luella Pagel	Josh & Anna Rosenberg
Sharon Walk	Jay & Jeannie White
Opal Diedrich	

### ALTAR GUILD

Val Bork  
Brianna Bork

### LAY MINISTRY

Phil Hackbart

### COUNTERS

Myra Dierks  
Duaine Dierks  
Laurie Bublitz  
Michael Cole

### USHERS

Kevin Bruesewitz  
John Bork  
Phil Hackbart  
Sawyer Dalluge  
Val Bork  
Jason Hackbart

### PA

Michael Cole  
Corrie Kuntz