

EMMANUEL'S EPISTLE

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
308 4th Ave., PO Box 282
Grafton, Iowa, 50440

Church Office: 641-748-2736
Email: emanluthch@wctatel.net
Church Kitchen: dial office and press 5
Fax: 641-748-2989
Website: emmanuelgrifton.org



Pastor- Solveig A.H. Zamzow

Office: 641-748-2736
Cell: 641-903-9416
Parsonage: 641-748-2050
Email: pastorZ@wctatel.net

April 2018

FROM THE PASTOR

There is a Reason for THIS Season, too!

“I bet you can’t wait for Easter to be over, Pastor!” I heard that several times within the last few days. Well, if you meant whether I was sort of glad the end of the ten worship services in one week was in sight (I also had four Nursing Home services!), I suppose there indeed was a sense of relief. The advantage of experience is off-set by advancing age –so, life isn’t getting easier! But, if you meant to suggest that Easter is now over: sorry, but I have got a few weeks to go – and so do you ☺ Easter won’t be over until May 19th this year. For you see, Easter is not a day but a season for the church.

Think about it with me: right after Halloween we hear Christmas music in the stores and start decorating our homes to get ready for the season ahead. How often do we not take down the tree until Valentine’s Day or the outdoor lights keep on hanging sadly on a string until it is time to clean out the gutter after a number of Spring storms!? It

can seem as if the season of Christmas goes on and on – at least for some of us.

Easter on the other hand....after we have walked into a lovely sanctuary with all the lilies, the ‘alleluias’ and the Easter breakfast, it feels like we are ready to move on. Mother’s Day is coming, baseball season is at the door and plans for the summer vacation are in order.

But: “Not so fast”, is the cry of the church! Easter is a season, too! This season has fifty days and ends on Pentecost Sunday. During these fifty days we hear readings about the appearances of the Lord Jesus to his disciples and many others. It is the time we remember with particularity what it means to be the followers of a living Lord who overcame suffering and death.

After all: a marriage ceremony is the beginning of a marriage and not the entire marriage, of course. Holding your first baby in your arms is just a foretaste of the meaning of parenthood; parents learn that very quickly.

In the same way Easter Sunday is the great beginning of a time of reflection on the meaning of living as “Easter people”, people who know that death will never have the final word over our lives.

Surely, we live in a broken world and long for happy endings. So,



Easter Sunday fits us just fine, thank you very much. Jesus is Risen, let's get on with life!

The disciples, of course, did not expect a quick and happy ending after the death of Jesus – in spite of the fact that Jesus had given them a heads-up three times that he would have to suffer, die and be raised. Let's be kind: watching his painful crucifixion, perhaps they need to get a pass on pushing these pronouncements out of their minds?!

The church actually calls Easter “The Resurrection of our Lord”. It is a reminder that Jesus went “all in” for us – including a cross and a tomb.

The good news of Easter continues on. The season of Easter can last up to seven weeks – as it does this year. Seven, like the numbers 3, 12 and 144, is a number of completion in Scripture. Because of the seven days in a week and the seven weeks in the season, Easter sometimes is called “a week of weeks”. We just continue to celebrate the goodness of God. I am not sure if there is ever enough time to think about and live out the joy of the chant “He is Risen. He is Risen, indeed.” When I look around and see all the pain in our lives, nation and world – in a way the Easter season had better last 365 days each year.

Yes, I am glad for a little reprieve from preparing and leading special services. Although I love it and am grateful for it, a change of pace will be welcomed. Thank you to all of you who have expressed care and concern over the fact that there hasn't been a ‘break’ in my schedule for a very long time. I do appreciate your Christian kindness very much.

However, I am not ready to say fare-well to Easter quite yet – and I hope you won't either! We are still Easter People! PZ+



Pastoral Acts



Marcella Braun was called to her eternal life on February 24th, 2018. Her funeral service took place on Saturday, March 3rd at Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

Allan Hanson passed away on February 27th, 2018. His funeral service was conducted on Monday, March 5th, 2018 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. May God look with favor upon Allan and Marcella and grant them the joy at the great Banquet Feast in heaven.



On Maundy Thursday, six of our 5th graders received their First Holy Communion after three class sessions. We pray rich blessings upon **Gus Walk, Kenzie Sorenson,**

Camden Trenhaile, Weston Paulson, Sophie Urbatsch and Madison Edwards. May the goodness of the Lord they are tasting in this meal of bread and wine strengthen and preserve them in this life and in the life to come.

Joys and Sorrows

Our Condolences to the family of Jane Buechele who was called to her eternal rest on March 15th. Her memorial service will be held on April 22nd at 2 pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. May God comfort those who mourn her death.

STEWARDSHIP MUSINGS

The other day I read that the socio-economic divide in America shows up most clearly in giving to charitable causes. If the info I studied is correct, the average American household is giving far less to charity than it did a decade ago. The background to that: over the past 10 years, charitable giving deductions from lower-income donors have declined significantly, at almost the same rate that charitable giving from higher income donors increased. Itemized charitable deductions from donors making less than \$100,000 a year declined by 34% from 2005 to 2015, while the same deductions from donors making \$100,000 or more a year increased by 40%.

There is lots of talk about philanthropy these days. We all know of Bill Gates and Warren Buffet and, I am certain, most of us look at these gentlemen and others in their income bracket as a bit

‘other-worldly’. I am not so sure I see myself as a philanthropist. Lots of pressure there! So, I checked out the meaning of “philanthropy”. The word philanthropy comes from the Greek root words *phil*, meaning “loving” and *anthropos*, which means “humankind,” so it simply means **the love of humanity**.

An article by Jenny Santi, who makes a living as an advisor to philanthropists, however does not sound all that ‘other-worldly’. She suggests that ‘loving humanity’ results in the following:

1. You’ll have fun. People who give to causes about which they are passionate are happier and more fulfilled and less anxiety-

ridden than those who don’t. **2. You’ll meet a lot of interesting people.** Giving back makes your circle of friends and acquaintances much more diverse and interesting. **3. It will help you heal and overcome personal challenges.** As studies of persons going through addiction programs have shown, those who helped others were nearly twice as likely to conquer their own addiction. Helping has a tremendous benefit for those who need it, and for the helpers themselves. **4. You’ll be richer.** In some cases, giving away money has paradoxically caused people to earn more money! **5. You be happier and more satisfied.** Says one philanthropist: “Over the years, the emotional and psychological returns I have earned from charitable giving have

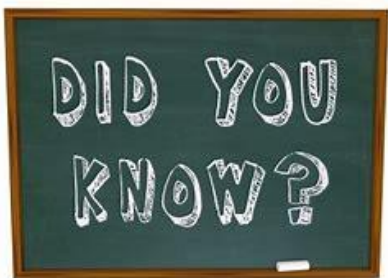
been enormous. The more I do for others, the happier I am. The happiness and optimism I have obtained from helping others are a big part of what keeps me sane.” **6. You will find fulfillment.** To put the need of others ahead of

one’s own needs, is satisfying and helps us to live our true calling in life.

If all of that is true, and I have no reason to doubt the research, as followers of Christ, love of humanity is basically in our DNA, isn’t it? After all, it is us who are the proclaimers that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son to die for us all. To share that love then should not be as hard as we sometimes make it out to be. Are we not all lovers of humanity????

Your fellow philanthropist - PZ+





THANK YOU STEWARDS

... to the **March Hospitality Team:** Jane Dalluge and Julie Schulz, Dean & Mardine Meyer, Duane & Patty Rustad, Tammy Borchardt, Janis Hackenmiller, Ken & Linda Kroneman, Renae Kroneman, Alan & Mavis Stevens, Sam Walk, Marsha Wilde, Janice Nelson and Larry & Carol Dalluge.

... to **Lisa Bartz** for serving on our Altar Guild for the month of March.

... to our **March Counting Team:** Lisa Bartz, Lori Marsh, Darren Marsh and Kim Badker.

...to **all readers!** The task of reading our lessons is an important one and we always are in need of volunteers. Thank you to all who share their gifts by reading the Word of God in our midst.

...to **Doris Ralph and Linda Kroneman** for setting up the Easter cross/display.

...to **Linda Koschmeder** for taking care of "Jane's Bulletin Board" during Holy Week and Easter

...to **Kim Hicken** for continuing the custodial work at Emmanuel while we are seeking a permanent solution. Thanks, Kim, for a fantastic job!

...to **Nicole Cole and Jody Hackbart** for faithfully leading our young people with Bible studies and activities through Logos Legos. Wonderful work!

...that April 15th is our Quilt and Soap Sunday. We will bless the work of busy hands before the quilts are shipped out to provide warmth and hope to those who receive them. We also continue to collect bar soap.

...that on April 29th we will recognize our High School Graduates and after worship the ENALCW will sponsor a reception for the Graduates as well as this year's Confirmands?

...that our Confirmands will affirm their Baptism on May 13th? We will have three students who have attended two years of instructions: Ryan Hackbart, Emma Hicken and Zach Badker. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for that big day of commitment.

...that the Memorial Service for Jane Buechele will take place on Sunday, April 22nd at 2 pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church?

...that we will return to our summer hours on April 15th? The church building will be open from 8:00 am until 9:00 pm Mondays through Saturday and from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm on Sundays. If you need to enter at other times, please call the office ahead of time.

...that the ENALCW Bible Studies for April, May and June will only take place at 7pm and not at 10 am? Based on who is able to attend when, the decision was made in March. With the weather hopefully not causing any more difficulty, this appeared to be a prudent decision.

Upcoming COMMUNITY EVENTS

Bridal shower for Ashley Petersen, bride-elect of Kyle Hulshizer, originally scheduled for March 24th, has been rescheduled for Saturday, April 7th from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall here at Emmanuel. There will be a short program beginning at 9:30am, followed by a light luncheon. Please bring a favorite recipe to share.

Annual Omelet Breakfast at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Manly on Sunday April 8 from 9am – 1pm.

Annual Spring Dinner at Queen of Peace Church in Lyle on Sunday April 8 from 4 – 7pm.

FIRST COMMUNION

From Left to Right: Camden Trenhaile, Pastor Zamzow, Gus Walk, Weston Paulson, Kenzie Sorenson, Madison Edwards and Sophie Urbatsch.





Congregational Council Minutes- February 20, 2018

Meeting called to order by: Darren Marsh- VP

Attended: Pastor Zamzow, Merlin Bartz- Evangelism, Paul Hackbart- Property, Ben Tweeten- Stewardship, Christa Larson-Secretary/Treasurer, Nicole Cole- Youth, Amy Edwards- Christian Ed.

Absent: JC Dawald, Sharon Hulshizer

Devotions: Merlin Bartz, "Testing the Waters"

Education Segment: "Intro to Church Council Work" and a Robert's Rules of Order handout.

Agenda review: M/S/C to approve agenda as corrected. *Next meeting date- March 13th

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

Bills to be paid / Treasurer's Report: M/S/C to receive Bills to be paid. M/S/C to receive the treasurer's report as corrected *End of month balance \$7,155.37 and total funds \$54,557.90

Pastor's Report: By mistake, a member was left on the Education committee when their 4yr term was done. They will come off the committee since the bylaws are fulfilled with the current number of members, no action is needed. Council agreed to use Pollard's services for pest and lawn control for 2018 at the Church and Parsonage.

Pastor Zamzow is owed \$550 towards her pension. M/S/C to approve payment of \$550 to Thrivent Financial for Pastor Zamzow's pension.

Board Highlights:

Property- Met February 19th to update and inform new members. They submitted applications to the WCDA for two separate grants to repair sidewalks and replace eaves on the Church. Discussed lighting changes in the sanctuary.

Evangelism- Picked nights for Simple Supper.

Lay Ministry-

Stewardship- Met end of January to discuss Lenten offering to go to Water Mission specifically to Puerto Rico. Easter offering would stay at ELC.

Youth and Education- Discussed the cost of

"Campership"; options to reimburse the Youth committee and the idea to add "Campership" to the 2019 budget. M/S/C to transfer \$967 from SS. Savings to Youth Savings for Campership reimbursement.

Membership review: After discussion, as she did not indicate her desire to remain a member, M/S/C to remove Cindy Mausehund from membership.

Unfinished business:

a) **Audit Committee-** Will meet next Tuesday evening. This is the 2nd year for the committee.

b) **Custodial Position-**

New Business:

c) Next meeting date and time is (Tuesday, March 13 @ 7:00 pm)

d) Next meeting devotion's preparer: Ben Tweeten

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

TREASURY REPORT

Financial Balance Information for
January 1-30, 2018

Current Fund

Beginning of month Balance: \$10,548.70
(\$10,476.50 Offering, \$72.20 Reimbursements)

Interest: \$4.79

Deposits: \$8,058

Expenses: \$11,456.12

End of month Balance: \$7,155.37

Benevolence Fund

Beginning of month Balance: \$1.94

Deposits: \$197.00

End of month Balance: \$198.94

Building Fund

Beginning of month Balance: \$19,030.60

Deposits: \$437.00

Expense: \$72.20 (Thank you Ad, Touch up Paint)

End of month Balance: \$19,395.40

Gifts and Memorials

Beginning of month Balance: \$27,501.95

Deposit: \$1,049 (Campership and Youth Group Reimbursements)

Expense: \$742.76 (Poinsettias and Organ Tuning)

End of month Balance: \$27,808.19

Total of all funds in Emmanuel Lutheran Church: \$54,557.90



Upcoming Dates

- 1) TWC will meet on Tuesday, April 17th at 9 a.m.
- 2) Women's Bible Study will be on Tuesday, April 24th at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.
- 3) Soap and Blanket/Quilt Sunday will be on Sunday, April 15th. Anyone willing to help set up the display is asked to come on Saturday, April 14th at 9 a.m. Soap will be collected also, any new regular bath-size soap in packaging will be accepted.
- 4) The ENALCW invite you to celebrate with our three confirmands and two graduates and their families at a Recognition Celebration on Sunday, April 29th, following worship service, in the fellowship hall. All are invited to participate in this event to honor these important milestones.

TWC (The Women's Council) March 20, 2018

Devotions were shared by Emi. She focused on "Let it go to the Lord", focusing on worry and anxiety and reminding us that each day has enough troubles of its own and how we need to pursue a close walk with the Lord to help us in those troubled times. Meeting of TWC was opened with the reading of the purpose. Secretary's minutes from February were read and amended, then approved as amended. Treasurer's report was given. Checking account has \$4,569.07 in it, with some outstanding bills

and deposits to be paid and recorded. No correspondence was received.

Old business: 1) Soup Supper: Went very well, serving over 150, very little food left. Profit from the supper will go towards purchasing new coffee servers, a few dozen more short glasses and some heat resistant ladles and spoons. Emi, Charlotte and Clarice will price these items. 2) LWR projects: 8 quilts are to be completed for this year, making the total number of quilts for the year about 100, and a few more layette kits will be assembled prior to packing for LWR in April. 3) Yearbooks: covers have been ordered and are here, need to recheck the draft for any changes and then have them printed and assembled for distribution. 4) Kitchen cleaning: volunteers have been asked for to help clean the refrigerators, but we will wait until the repair work in the kitchen area has been completed.

New business: 1) Quilt Sunday: Will be Sunday, April 15th. Setup will be on Saturday, April 14 at 9 a.m. The basket for soap will also be set out to collect soap for LWR. Sharon will put reminders in the bulletin. 2) Packing day for LWR: Dean and Mardine Meyer have been contacted for help with loading and transporting to Manly on the 28th. We will begin packing items on Tuesday, April 17th at 12:30 p.m. 3) Confirmand/Graduate Recognition: Will be on Sunday, April 29th. There are three confirmands and two graduates. The graduates will receive quilts. Sharon will send out invites.

Upcoming dates: Bible study for March: Tues, March 27 at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Soap and Blanket Sunday, April 15; TWC on Tuesday, April 17 at 9 a.m.; LWR delivery date to Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Manly on Saturday, April 28 between 8-11 a.m.; Confirmation/Graduation Sunday April 29; Bible Study on Tuesday, April 24 at 10a.m. and 7 p.m. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer





April 2018

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ORGANIZATION
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Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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

308 4th Avenue
PO Box 282
Grafton, Iowa 50440

Address Service Requested

---April 2018---



SERVE ONE
ANOTHER
IN LOVE.

GALATIANS 5:13, NIV

April	Greeters	Organist	Acolytes
1- Sun @ 7:00 am	Chris & Teresa Braun	Marena Henkle	Ryan Hackbart
1- Sun @ 9:30 am	Keven & Sandy Bruesewitz	Marena Henkle	Harmony Clark
8- Sun	Chrystal Braun	Donna Schilling	Lily Walk
15- Sun	Connie Bruesewitz	Charlotte Cole	Zach Badker
22- Sun	Holly Bruesewitz	Marena Henkle	Gabe Walk
29- Sun	David & Debby Bublitz	Donna Schilling	Ryan Cole

Share Shoppe – April 26

Gloria Hackbart

HOSPITALITY TEAM

Team Leaders: Lisa and Merlin Bartz

Ryan & Ashley Trousdale	Marcy Hyde
Betty & Gene Rosenberg	Laurie Nack Bublitz
Dick & Ruth Neeley	Donna & Chuck Schilling
Crystal Braun	Connie Bruesewitz
Brett & Alex Trenhaile	Ardis Hanson

ALTAR GUILD

Doris Ralph
Linda Kroneman

LAY MINISTRY

Kristy Arzberger

COUNTERS

Orland Bartz
Teresa Braun
Kim Badker
Gloria Hackbart

USHERS

Mark Fredrickson
Richard Neeley
Duane Rustad
Steve McCready
Gary Schotanus

PA

Orland Bartz
Garry Backhaus