

# EMMANUEL'S EPISTLE

Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
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## AUGUST 2019

### FROM THE PASTOR

## **Tough-Minded or Tender-Hearted, that is the Question**

While I am writing this, our three youngest grandchildren are “horsing around” in the parsonage yard. At the ages of eight, eleven and thirteen (and deeply bonded since they were toddlers), most of the time they get along splendidly. As a matter of fact, I think they all would abandon their best friends in a heartbeat just to be with each other.

But, there are plenty of moments that rub on our grand-parental nerves when they fight, whine, scream and say nasty things to each other.

Therefore, we have had ‘lessons’ on repentance, forgiveness and the

love of a family this summer ☺ To be sure: our four grandkids are delightful; we love them more than life itself and are proud of all their accomplishments. What a gift we have in and through them all. Yet, we try to be realistic in recognizing the struggles that they will bring to others and the struggles that others

will bring into their precious lives.

Spending time with our grandkids between moments of belly laughs and stern words of warning, I am reminded of a story I read about a little Preschool girl named Emily. Emily’s parents were told by her teacher that the little girl was an absolute angel – but:

if she would not learn how to toughen up, she would be eaten alive in her Chicago public school setting. The advice the teacher gave to the parents was clear as well: teach her to hit back when they hit her.

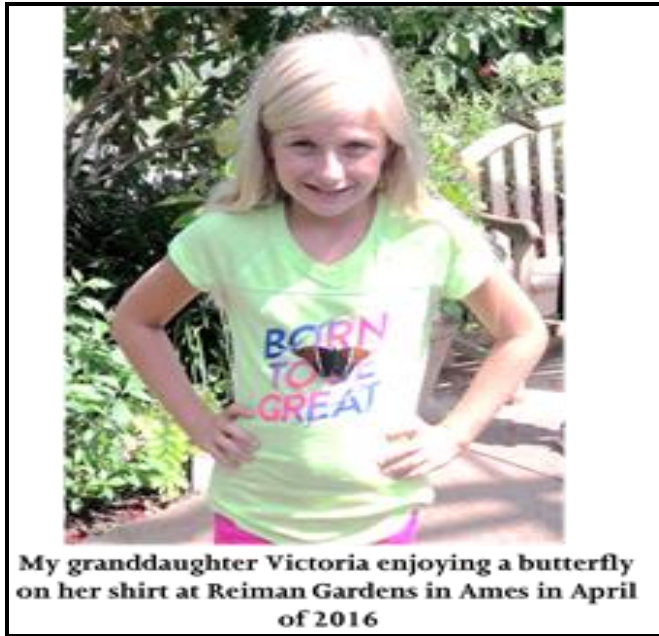
Now, bullying starts indeed in Pre-school and recipes as to how to address it are

various, all the way from ‘ignore’ to ‘beat the living daylights out of them’.

Emily sounds like a girl who will brake for butterflies when she gets her driver’s permit. Perhaps she will grow up to be a security officer like the woman in Viera, Florida who lost her job because



she was “too courteous, caring and giving” for her courthouse security assignment.



Now, I am not advocating for our children to become door mats for their peers. There comes a time when enough is enough and some harsh actions need to take place so our society can remain a place that provides at least a minimum of safety for all. We surely want children like Emily to hang on to their caring personalities and not encourage them to forsake the very quality on which a thoughtful society depends.

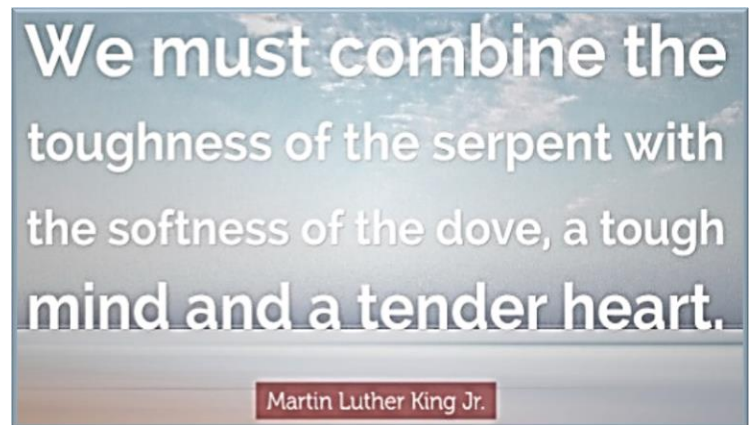


When Jesus sent out his disciples as ‘sheep in the midst of wolves’, he attached some additional words to live by: ‘be wise as serpents and innocent as doves’. It was Martin Luther King, Jr. who

suggested that those who want to lead good lives must simultaneously blend ‘markedly strong opposites’ within themselves. “We must combine the toughness of the serpent with the softness of the dove”, Dr. King said. Soft-minded people fear change and hard-hearted people never really learn to love; King insisted.

For us Lutherans that sort of makes a connection to the distinction of Law and Gospel. The Law

convicts us and the Gospel saves us with grace and mercy. We need both. The kid who bullies needs to be stopped. The spouse who is abusive must live with the consequences of the actions perpetrated. The employee who misuses the goodness of co-workers and supervisors needs to be held accountable. And so on and so on....such is the Law, the Kingdom of the Left, as we say. But we need the little (and big!) Emilys of this world as well. We need those who brake for butterflies and do not think twice about turning the other cheek. And, we need to exercise, expect and accept both of those qualities within ourselves and others. Dr. King said that “God is neither hard-hearted nor soft-minded. God is tough-minded enough to transcend the world, and tender-hearted enough to live in it.”



Learning to cultivate such strong opposites might just be what will allow a beautiful little Emily to hold onto her caring self in a rough and tumble world. Reminding ourselves of such opposites will hopefully help all of us to know that our human condition calls for some tricky maneuvering so we do not confuse being touch-minded with being cold-hearted or abdicate one or the other altogether. Our relationships with one another will surely depend on it. And: as we begin a new school year of learning and teaching, let us commit ourselves to making sure all the little Emily’s around us can learn by observing us....

*Pastor Z+*

**P.S. The story about Emily was written up in *Christian Century* and told by Pastor Peter Marty, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 edition, page 3.**

## Pastoral Acts

**Emersyn Marie Schaub**, daughter of Michael and Liz Schaub was baptized on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Her sponsors were Gracie Urbatsch and Eric and Angie Schaub, and her baptismal witness is Sophia Urbatsch. May Emersyn grow into the faith God bestows upon her today.

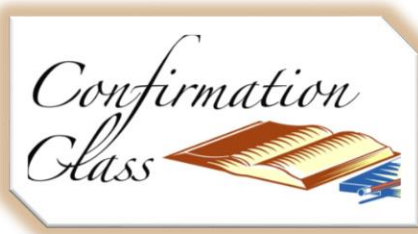
**Janice Wahl Rumbley**, who passed away in November 2017, was inurned on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the Grafton cemetery.

**Charles Schilling** was called to his eternal rest on July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019. His Memorial Service was held at Emmanuel on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. May God comfort those who mourn his death.

## Joys and Sorrows

**Congratulations to Brian and Taylor (Rustad) Huinker** on the birth of their son, Wyatt Jay who was born on June 25<sup>th</sup>. May God bless all who welcome him with love and care.

**Come celebrate** with Dale Schultz his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 18<sup>th</sup> during fellowship. Cards only, please. Dale Schultz, Room 55, 701 9<sup>th</sup> St. N, Northwood, IA 50459



**THE FIRST CONFIRMATION CLASS FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 7 AND 8 WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>. WE WILL GATHER FOR AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING WITH PARENTS AND STUDENTS ON MONDAY, AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM TO DECIDE ON DETAILS.**



**We will kick off our 2019/20 Sunday School year on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> with our Rally Day right here at Emmanuel. Plans are in the works! Be sure to do the following if you are planning on enrolling your child/ren: watch for**

**information in the bulletin and September newsletter as to what we will do for fun on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Check your home mailbox for a registration form – the form must be filled out before the first day of class, please, for the safety of your child and good order in Sunday School! We are looking forward to a good year of teaching and learning. While we will ‘stick with’ our familiar curriculum there may be a slight change here and there and some additional options for families may be added. So, keep your eyes and ears open. Thank you for entrusting your children to us.**

### School Supplies Needed for Kits

- 70 sheet- Wide or college ruled Notebooks
- Ball Point Pens (no gel ink)
- Rulers
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Crayons
- #2 pencils and Scissors

**If you would like to donate supplies or money towards school supplies please contact Clarice Bartz.**



# STEWARDSHIP MUSINGS

*Oh, the Lord is good to me. And so I thank the Lord for giving me the things I need, the sun and the rain and the apple seed: the Lord is good to me. Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, A.....MEN*



The kids at Emmanuel who have attended Riverside Camp (and some of you adults with really good memories!) will know that song. It is one that is used for 'singing Grace' at camps. It usually is a favorite because it is short and easy to remember. This "Johnny Appleseed" song is not overly profound at first glance – and that is probable what makes it particularly profound when we actually pay attention to the words.

'The Lord is good to me' is often turned around to say, 'Why is the Lord not better to me' or 'I wish God would pay attention to my prayers'.

As I said in a recent sermon: we always focus on what we still desire rather than on what we already have. Indeed, 'The Lord is good to me' can be a tough statement to make when we are in the midst of personal struggles with our health, our finances or our loved ones. Oh yes, the Lord is good to me – even if it feels like my world is falling apart once again.

When you sing the "Johnny Appleseed" song you declare that you know that the Lord gives us the things we need: the sun and the rain and the apple seed. When is the last time you gave thanks for either one, let alone all three of those? It sure has been awhile for me! I expect the sun to come

up! I usually complain that it rains too much or too little, depending on how my flowers and plants are doing. And no, I really can't say I have thanked God for the seeds in the apples I have purchased lately. I do, however, thank God that one now can buy Mangos in Iowa...that I will admit to!

I have not sung the "Johnny Appleseed" song in quite a while. Perhaps I should start to add it to my repertoire of the songs I sing when I am driving my car and talk radio gets too boring. It is never too late to remember the endless generosity of God – generosity that comes our way whether we realize it or not. And so I thank the Lord! Are you with me? PZ+

Dear Friends,

I am glad to send you greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Over here I am okay with all my family members. I am very grateful to God to have you in my life, in addition I am happy to thank you for the letter I received from you. May the almighty Lord be with you always.

I assure you that I am still trying hard in school so as to achieve my goal of becoming a police. As you pray remember me so that God may help me. My favorite activities are playing sports. I like eating rice and beans. My favorite scripture is John 3:16.

Bye bye, till we meet again,  
Lawrence Emojong



## THANK YOU STEWARDS

...to the June Hospitality Team: Earl & Judy Trenhaile, Kyle & Amy Edwards, Pat Clark, Myra & Duaine Dierks, Steve McCready, Jaime & Brandon Trenhaile, Liz & Michael Schaub, Rachel Rosenberg, Coleen Trettin, Troy/Yvonne/Nicole and Haley Tourtellott, Todd Trettin, Suzanne Seleskie, Cory & Kim Hicken.

...to the July Hospitality Team: Doris and Albert Ralph, Suzanne Walk, Luella Pagel, Caren and Curt Bartz, Raechel Fossey, Sharon Walk, Sheila Lundon, Carol Koschmeder, Jay and Jeannie White, Opal Diedrich, Marena Henkle, Paul Hackbart, Josh and Anna Rosenberg.

...to Doris Ralph and Haley Tourtellott for serving on our June Altar Guild. To Charlotte Cole and Myra Dierks for serving on our July Altar Guild.

...to our June and July Counting Team: Gloria Hackbart, Dan Nack, Orland Bartz, Myra Dierks, Duaine Dierks.

...to our June Ushers: Mark Fredrickson, Richard Neeley, Duane Rustad, Steve McCready and Gary Schotanus.

...to our July Ushers: Paul Hackbart, Alex Hackbart, Garry Backhaus, Duaine Dierks, Marlin Rosenberg.

...to Dan Nack, Josh Rosenberg, Mike Cole and Corrie Kuntz for operating the P.A. system.

...to Doris Ralph and Duane Rustad for serving on our Lay Committee for the months of June and July.

...to Carol and Linda Koschmeder for decorating our Fellowship Hall several times per year. It always looks lovely!

...to the Zamzow grandchildren, Victoria, William and Lucas, for donating the profits of their 2019 Lemonade Stand to our Campership Fund - \$100.71. They also get credit for pulling weeds alongside the church building!

...to everyone who helped with our Brat Stands at J-Mart in June and July! We collected a total of \$ 1,217.50 for a grand total of \$1,318.21 for the summer of 2019 if we include the Lemonade Stand. Thanks to all for that gracious help.

...to Doris Ralph for taking care of the lovely geraniums in front of our church doors.

...to Linda Koschmeder for helping with locking and unlocking the church building during Pastor's absence in July and for keeping our Bulletin Board in the lower narthex so nicely updated.

...to the Property Committee for organizing the purchase and installation of new furnaces and Air Conditioners throughout our facility and the tuck pointing and power washing of the building. Please note how wonderful the stones are looking and we hope, with the change of the East Wall cover, we indeed have solved our endless water problem. Thank you to all who had 'a hand in the game' in making these tremendous improvements for Emmanuel.

## THANK YOU EMMANUEL

**Thank you to all who sent a card**, shared a kind word, or upheld our family in your prayers during the time of Randy's sister- Teri Bishop's unexpected death. This has been a most difficult time for the Hulshizer family and we appreciate your continued support.

*The Hulshizer Family*

**Thank you to Pastor Z** for her words of comfort and visits to the hospital and nursing home during Chuck's illness. The support of our Christian family at Emmanuel was so helpful as we received words of faith and solace from you. I wish to express my love and appreciation to all of you who have sent thoughts, calls, cards, and food this past month. These acts of kindness helped ease the sorrow felt at this difficult time. God bless, and be with you all.

*-Donna Schilling*

**Thank you** to all who remembered me on my 65th birthday with kind greetings and good wishes. I certainly appreciated all of them.

*Yours in Christ, Pastor Z*

### **Erna Pagel Grant**

Applications are due on August 31<sup>st</sup> and applicants must fill out new application each year. Please turn in to Lisa Bartz or the Church Office.

# Women's Ministry

## Upcoming dates:

- 1) Women's Painting Event at *Painted Horse Studio*- September 5<sup>th</sup> with a deadline of sign up August 26<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) September is our volunteer month at the Northwood Lutheran Retirement Home. Fridays are Bingo days (Sept 6, 13, 20, 27) and the third Thursday (19th) is our day to host the monthly birthday party. We can always use volunteers for these events.

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## **TWC (The Women's Council) June 18, 2019**

Charlotte shared devotions based on Isaiah 25:1-9. The "Blinding shroud" refers to how our sins blind us to God's word. The meeting began with the reading of the purpose statement. Secretary minutes from May were approved as read. Treasurer's report shows \$3,232.97 in checking, savings remains the same as last month. Church secretary, Christa Larson spoke with us about the need for another changing table in the church and discussed options of tables and locations. A thank you was shared from Riverside Bible Camp.

Old Business: 1) LWR Projects: Clarice has applied for Thrivent funds for batting and been approved. When it arrives, quilts will be finished up. Layettes will also be assembled. 2) Kitchen Report: all items needed have been replaced. Thank you to Judy Trenhaile for cleaning the new refrigerator. 3) June Event: Thailand Presentation: will be presented by Charlotte on June 26<sup>th</sup> and is open to men and women from our congregation and others. 4) Update of Olive

Trettin CD: not sure where the money given was supposed to go. After visiting with family, it was determined to use part of the money for an outdoor planter and the remainder for kitchen repairs. A plaque will be purchased and displayed in memory of her gifts.

New Business: Painting event in September with Valerie Foss: A date will be chosen and advertising will be done for those interested to sign up. Each person will need to choose their signs/designs to create.

Upcoming dates: June 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.- Thailand Presentation. No TWC in July or August. August 11-13<sup>th</sup> will be Emmanuel VBS, need help with meals. September 17<sup>th</sup> will be next TWC Meeting at 9 a.m. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

## Women's Sign Painting Event



The deadline to sign up for the All women's painting and stenciling event is Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. The event will take place at Valerie Foss's *Painted Horse Studio* on Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. You may drive yourself or we will gather at 6:45pm at Emmanuel and car pool. The outing will cost approximately \$40 per person. We hope to see you there!



## Congregational Council Minutes

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Meeting called to order by:** Darren Marsh- President

**Attended:** Pastor Zamzow, Mark Fredrickson- Vice Pres., Merlin Bartz- Evangelism, Sharon Hulshizer- Lay Ministry, Christa Larson-Secretary/Treasurer, Kim Badker- Christian Ed., Nicole Cole- Youth

**Absent:** Paul Hackbart- Property, Marena Henkle- Stewardship

**Devotions:** Merlin Bartz

**Education Segment:** 2019 Convocation arrangements and a review of the NALC's four core values.

**Agenda review:** M/S/C to accept agenda

**Review Printed Minutes:** M/S/C to accept the Minutes as corrected, \*Pastor's Report should read "A NALC colleague" not college.

**Treasurer's Report:** M/S/C to receive the Treasurer's report

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor sent a greeting letter to Jon Dolan as he will be ordained into ministry. She then spoke about a Disaster Relief Coalition meeting for those interested. She strongly urged the council to put aside some money saved from her health insurance to be used towards insurance payments for the next pastor. She informed the council of her plans for using some of her vacation time.

**Board Highlights:**

**Property-** Absent

**Evangelism-** The Highway sign is ordered and the dates for the directory photo shoot will be June 19-22.

**Lay Ministry-** Electronic meeting where summer services were discussed and Pastors' vacation time.

**Stewardship-** Absent

**Youth-** No Action needed

**Education-** No action

**Membership review:** None

**Unfinished business:**

- a) **Thrivent Investment-** Potential use of money for banners like the wedding, funeral and baptism

banners which are over 36 years old. The Altar Guild and the Lay Ministry Committee will be consulted for their recommendation. M/S/C- Lay ministry will be directed to look into and explore possibility of banners with portions of the Thrivent investment from Jane Buechele. After discussion, the council decided to table the issue of the remaining money in the second investment contract with Thrivent.

- b) **Flood Offering-** The May offering will be used to purchase gift cards

**New Business:**

- a) **Baby Changing Station – M/S/C to use money from Undesignated Memorials to pay for a baby changing station.**
- b) **Walk CD-** After discussion the council decided to table it until next month.
- c) **July Council Date-** Dated moved to July 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- d) Next meeting date and time is (Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm)
- e) Next meeting devotion's preparer: Nicole Cole
- f) **M/S/C- Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer**

*Secretary/Treasurer, Christa Larson*

## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

### Financial Balance Information

May 1-31, 2019

#### Current Fund

Beginning Balance: \$2,177.58

Revenues: \$10,457.32

Expenses: \$10,403.08

**End of month Balance: \$2,231.82**

#### Benevolence Fund

Beginning Balance: \$2,800.09

Revenues: \$585.00

Expense: \$0

**End of month Balance: \$3,385.09**

#### Building Fund

Beginning Balance: \$11,197.84

Revenues: \$23,323.54

Expense: \$24,111.73

**End of month Balance: \$10,409.65**

**FSB – Checking Ending Balance for May 31<sup>st</sup>  
\$74,211.07**





## Congregational Council Minutes

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Meeting called to order by:** Darren Marsh- President

**Attended:** Pastor Zamzow, Mark Fredrickson- Vice Pres., Sharon Hulshizer- Lay Ministry, Kim Badker- Christian Ed., Paul Hackbart- Property, Marena Henkle- Stewardship, Christa Larson-Secretary/Treasurer

**Absent:** Merlin Bartz- Evangelism

**Devotions:** Nicole Cole- Youth

**Education Segment:** Why "Spiritual but not Religious" Doesn't Help Much

**Agenda review:** M/S/C to accept agenda

**Review Printed Minutes:** M/S/C to accept the Minutes as presented

**Treasurer's Report:** M/S/C to accept the Treasurer's report presented

**Pastor's Report:** Pastor has been making arrangements for her vacation as well as the Lifetouch Photo sessions. The beginning of June was busy with VBS in Bolan and sending out Emmanuel's VBS registration forms. M/S/C- To send \$1,123 to the NALC- Disaster Relief, which includes the \$98 remaining from the St. Patrick's Day Dinner. Pastor informed us of three weddings coming up. There are volunteers for the June Brat Stand but we still need people for July and August. Pastor is officially on Medicare and the church saved money on her health insurance in May as expected. After discussion, M/S/C- to reimburse Pastor \$415 for her health insurance prescription program.

**Board Highlights:** No Action Needed

Property-

Evangelism-

Lay Ministry- See Board Highlights

Stewardship-

Youth-

Education-

**Membership review:** M/S/C to reinstate the membership of Crystal Wilde and to remove Annie Michaels from membership as she attends another

church.

### Unfinished business:

- Banner Update-** Doris Ralph will head up the exploration committee.
- Walk CD Update-** Will table the issue until the council gets more clarity on family wishes.
- Cerro Gordo/Worth Disaster Coalition-** Pastor Z and Merlin Bartz attended the meeting. Pastor summarized the meeting and stated that before she can recommend this to our congregation there would need to be more structure to their program.

### New Business:

- Bishop's Retirement Gift-** The executive council asked for funds to help support the Bishops work in Discipleship. M/S/C- to donate \$250 to the Rev. John F. Bradosky Scholarship Fund and to be paid out of Undesignated Gifts and Memorials.
- Next meeting date and time is (Thursday, July 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm)
- Next meeting devotion's preparer: Marena Henkle
- M/S/C- Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

*Secretary/Treasurer, Christa Larson*

## THE TREASURER'S REPORT



### Financial Balance for June 1-30, 2019

#### General Fund

Beginning Balance: \$2,231.82

Revenues: \$19,820.49

Expenses: \$ 10,089.98

End of month Balance: \$11,962.33

#### Benevolence Fund

Beginning Balance: \$3,385.09

Revenues: \$605

Expense: \$0

End of month Balance: \$3,990.09

#### Building Fund

Beginning Balance: \$11,197.84

Revenues: \$80

Expense: \$0





End of month Balance: \$11,277.84

**FSB – Checking Ending Balance for June 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**\$60,104.26**



# August 2019

# Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<b>4</b> <b>8<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost</b> 9:30 -Worship 10:30 -Fellowship	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Pastor is attending the NALC Convocation in Indianapolis				
<b>11</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost</b> 9:30 -Worship 10:30 -Fellowship 5:30 - VBS 	<b>12</b> <u>5:30Pm -VBS</u> 	<b>13</b> <u>5:30Pm -VBS</u> 	<b>14</b> <u>7:00pm -Council Meeting</u>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <u>5:30pm -Wedding Rehearsal</u> 	<b>17</b> <u>4:00pm -Rustad and Dunn Wedding</u>
<b>18</b> <b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost</b> 9:30 -Worship 10:30 -Fellowship (with Birthday celebration)	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>25</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost</b> 9:30 -Worship 10:30 -Fellowship	<b>26</b> <u>6:30pm -Confirmation Meeting</u>  Sign up deadline for the Women's Event at Painted Horse Studio	27	28	29	30	<b>31</b>  Erna Pagel Grant application are due

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# August 2019



**This Newsletter is printed in color on purpose. Please let us know how you like or dislike this change.**

## 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

<u>August</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Organist</u>
<b>4th - Sunday</b>	Zach Badker	Gary & Linda Schotanus	Marena Henkle
<b>11th - Sunday</b>	Kaelee Hicken	Jeff Schultz	Marena Henkle
<b>18th - Sunday</b>	Brooklyn Hackbart	Julie Schultz	Charlotte Cole
<b>25th - Sunday</b>	Gracie Urbatsch	Gary Schuttler	Donna Schilling

### Hospitality Team

Team Leaders: Debbie & David Bublitz

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

### Counters

Lisa Bartz  
Connie Rosenberg  
Michael Cole

### PA

Mark Fredrickson  
Gregg Urbatsch

### Share Shoppe

22<sup>nd</sup> -Clarice Bartz

### Altar Guild

Tammy Borchardt

### Ushers

Mark Borchardt  
Belinda Borchardt  
Ken Kroneman  
Calvin Thompson  
Troy Tourtellott