

EMMANUEL'S EPISTLE

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

Church Office: 641-748-2736

Email: emanluthch@wctatel.net

Fax: 641-748-2989

Website: emmanuelgrafton.org

Facebook: Emmanuel Lutheran Church



Emergency Pastoral Contact:
Pastor Paul Weeg - 641-381-0675

AUGUST 2021

SPONSORED BY:
Dean & Mardine Meyer

FROM THE CALL COMMITTEE

Update on the Call Process

On June 27th, we had our congregational meeting during which the congregation was able to give input about what we are looking for in our new pastor and the direction of the future of Emmanuel. Using the ideas shared at the meeting, the Call Committee met on July 8th and completed the Congregational Profile. The congregational profile video was also completed and both were submitted to the NALC. We are now at the **wait and pray** part of the process. Our information is available to any pastor seeking a call through the NALC website and is sent out to all pastors in the NALC monthly by Pastor Wendel. When a pastor is interested in our church, the call committee will

review their information and conduct an interview.

After a candidate is found that the call committee thinks might be a good fit, we will likely host the pastor for a weekend visit, where they will get to meet with the call committee and council in person, as well as conduct service for the whole congregation and meet everyone at fellowship hour. After the weekend visit, if the call committee decides to move forward, we would hold a vote with all members of the congregation. As we wait for potential pastors, please keep in mind that this process can take time and the best thing we can do is pray for God's guidance toward the right pastor for Emmanuel. *Submitted by CC Secretary, Brittany Bartz*

A word to the Congregation: (Taken from the NALC Call Process manual): "...the call process is a spiritual process of discernment led by the Holy Spirit. It is God's process, not the congregation's. It will take whatever time God intends, so there will be no rushing to judgment...Calling a pastor is not the equivalent of "hiring an employee." It is much more relational and covenantal. Calling a pastor is much more like a marriage, and the call process more similar to finding a mate for life...Ask that all members be in regular prayer for the call committee and congregational leadership. Ask all to pray that God will be working in the heart and life of the pastor He wishes to call as your next pastor, that the pastor be open to the working of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer will be as essential a part of your call process as everything the call committee

does! ...the call process is about "Waiting for the Lord." "In Psalm 27, the psalmist writes, 'Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!'"



If you are interested in seeing what the Call Committee has submitted, visit the NALC website at thenalc.org and then click on Ministry Discernment, Call Process, Congregational Vacancies. Under the Congregational vacancy list, scroll to Iowa and click on it. You will see the listings and be able to find and view the video that was submitted for Emmanuel and to look at the Congregational profile as well.

Joys and Sorrows

Condolences...to Gregg Urbatsch and family, on the death of his mother, Dorothy Urbatsch in June and his father, Forrest, in July.



...to Josh Steinberg and family on the death of his brother-in-law, Wade Machin.

May God comfort all who mourn!

Thank You Stewards

...to our organists, Charlotte Cole and Donna Schilling for their faithful service and special music.

...to our Share Shoppe volunteers, Katie Bass and Teri Sorenson in June and Myra Dierks in July.

...to our June counters: Gloria Hackbart, Orland Bartz, and Dan Nack; and our July counters: Myra & Duaine Dierks, and Marlin Rosenberg.

...to our Lay Ministry stewards, Duane Rustad and Lisa Bartz.

... to Haley Tourtellott and Doris Ralph, our June Altar Guild stewards; Charlotte Cole and Myra Dierks for serving in July.

...to our PA operators for June: Dan Nack and Josh Rosenbert and in July: Michael Cole and Corrie Kuntz.

...to our June Ushers: Mark Fredrickson, Dick Neeley, Rusty Rustad, Steve McCready, and Gary Schotanus; and July Ushers: Paul Hackbart, Garry Backhaus, Duaine Dierks, Alex Hackbart, and Marlin Rosenberg.

...to Renae Kroneman who manages our website.

...to all who helped in any way, prepare for Pastor Z's farewell on June 13th. It was a fantastic service and send off for her.

...to the members of our Call Committee, who have worked diligently to ensure the process moves forward.

...to the members of the Lay Ministry board for lining up supply pastors/lay ministers until September 1st and unlocking/locking the church on Sundays, meeting with the supply people as well.

...to Linda Koschmeder for donating her time to substitute for Sharon while on vacation and filling in with whatever is needed.

...to Pastor Paul Weeg, Pastor Jack Miller, Mark Borchardt, Merlin Bartz, and Marjean Gordon for providing Pastoral supply in June and July.

...to Orland Bartz, for updating our sign year-round



ATTENTION: We will NOT record worship services except Holy Communion services! Such will be the case until further notice. The next ones will be August 1st and September 5th. For questions, please see a member of the Council.



**VACATION
BIBLE
SCHOOL is
August 3rd -
5th from 5-
7:30 p.m.**

Thank you to Brittany Bartz for preparing and leading it this year. And for those who have volunteered to help in any way.

Thank you Emmanuel

...for celebrating Trixie's baptism with us and welcoming her into the family of God. We are so grateful for the Baptism books and the very cute jellyfish blanket. We will be reminded of all the love from Emmanuel each time we share them with Beatrix. Thanks!
-The Henkles



Alert... School items are now on sale. If you would like to purchase items for the LWR School kits, here are a list of items we use: 70-

sheet 8"x10 1/2" notebooks of wide or college-rule paper (no loose-leaf paper); 30-centimeter ruler, or one with both centimeters and inches; pencil sharpener; blunt scissors; unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); box of crayons (16-24 count); 2 1/2" eraser. Please drop off items in the basket under the front coat rack or bring to the office. If you wish to donate financially, please give money to Clarice Bartz.

Don't forget our Nursing Home residents or those home bound- They would surely enjoy a note or call:

Betty & Gene Rosenberg: Good Samaritan in St Ansgar 713-3238

Coleen Trettin- Good Samaritan in St. Ansgar PO Box 340

Connie Bruesewitz and Clarice Venechuk- Manly Specialty Care in Manly PO Box 460

Dale Schultz- Lutheran Retirement Home, Northwood, Room 55



Do you have a prayer request? We have a prayer

chain in our church that can be activated by a simple phone call to the church office 641-748-2736 or to Laurie Nack Bublitz 641-748-2966. Let us pray for you/others in need!



Have you noticed the addition of the Sago Palms to the west side of the church? They were given to Emmanuel by Pastor Z and Michael for us to enjoy and we thank them for their donation!

Their new address is:
Michael and Solveig Zamzow
619 Elm Avenue # 309
Story City, IA 50248

solveigzamzow@gmail.com 641-903-9416
zamzowm@gmail.com 641-903-9415

Dear beloved brothers and sisters in Christ!



This note is written just hours before my tenure as your Pastor officially comes to a close. It feels like the most opportune time to

express to you my great sense of thanksgiving not only for our mutual journey but also and in particular for the farewell on June 13th. It is difficult to decide where and how to begin and I am already aware of the fact that I will forget to mention someone and/or something. Yet, I shall take that risk and trust your forgiveness and willingness to humor an old lady.

Therefore I start by thanking Linda Koschmeyer who spent many, many hours setting up the retirement display and rejuvenating my 25th Ordination Anniversary video. She did many other things as well – but this one was obvious. Thanks to Sharon Hulshizer for secretly arranging for gift cards and other joyful things. Charlotte Cole and Emi Kuntz and their faithful elves did such a marvelous job with the reception!! Thank you to The Women's Council for the gifts of a certificate to one of my favorite nature places in Ames and for sponsoring a catered dinner for my guests on June 13th. I cannot think of the worship that day without gratitude to Mark Borchardt and the Choir, our organists, Marena, Donna and Charlotte as well as Merlin Bartz for pulling together the Brass ensemble and for writing and dedicating a well inspired and inspiring song for the occasion. This music might not ring in my ears right now – but it sure rings in my heart. As does the song my sons chose and which combined my Confirmation verse with my Ordination Gospel. I recognize that Jeremias 'searched the skies' for it. Of course, I also absolutely loved the song of the children!!! Thanks, Brittany and Will, for the lovely effort. Well done. I thank the Council for the most generous gifts of a certificate to a local florist as well as for the kind gesture of paying for our moving truck. Thank you, indeed!! The move could not have happened without the strong arms and willing hearts of Michael Cole, Darren Marsh, Curt Schaub and Will Bartz who loaded in Grafton (with assistance from Rusty Rustad and Mark Fredrickson) and unloaded here in Story City. Thank you to all who did little or big things here or there from allowing us to use

their dumpsters to burning and discarding those items we could not transport.

Likewise, thank you so very, very much for emails, text messages and cards from many individuals. Thank you to all who wrote a note in my guestbook – some entries made me laugh, some made me cry, some made me scratch my head – and all of them filled me with gladness and thanksgiving! Thank you as well to those who remembered me today on my birthday!

Please know that my heart is filled with gratefulness for these aforementioned gestures and those I am remiss to mention here. We left Grafton with sadness but still convinced that by the grace of God we chose the right time (God's time) for this farewell and a new start for us as a couple and you as a congregation. Michael and I are steeped in trust that God will bless you richly not only with good pastoral leadership but first and foremost – as in the last 138 years – with the light of Christ shining brightly into the joys and sorrows that will cover your way forward. And so we walk away with some pain in our hearts but with even greater confidence that God will use our shared past for the furthering of His Kingdom in the days to come...in Grafton and the surrounding area as well as for us and our family. Thank you, dear friends, for the utmost privilege to be your Pastor. May God bless you richly. With my love in Christ – be blessed, be well, be safe.

Pastor Z+ and Michael

A Fond Farewell....



June 13th , 2021

Photos from Pastor Z



Beautiful Altar Flowers to the Glory of God!



PZ with Riley and Emersyn Schaub



Fellowship with friends and family...



Lovingly prepared and served...



Moving Day, June 23rd

Photos from Charlotte Cole



A beautiful day for a new beginning...



Workers ready and willing...



Many years of memories and possessions...



Heading to Story City for the next chapter...

Many hands make light work...

*Thank you to this crew for all the help...
Michael Cole, Mark Fredrickson, Darren Marsh,
Will Bartz, and Curt Schaub.*



Thank you, Rusty Rustad for the helpful hands...



Everything but the kitchen sink...

*God's richest blessings to Pastor Z and Michael,
as they begin their new adventure in life!...*

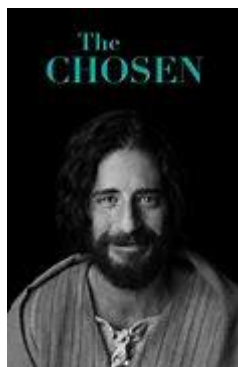


Connection Groups:

After Labor Day, Emmanuel Lutheran will start holding connection groups throughout the year. Many of you may ask what exactly is a connection group, and why should you be a part of it? Well, a connection group is an informal bible study that takes place in a group member's home that serves two purposes. The first is to make connections with other members of our congregation. There are many of us who may know each other's names, but in reality, know very little about each other. These groups will allow us to get to know each other on a deeper level to help truly create a community of believers here at Emmanuel. The goal is to make groups that connect us outside of our normal family and age groups.

The second purpose of a connection group is to help all of us grow in our faith and create a deeper understanding of God's word through this fellowship and study. The more people we have join connection groups the stronger our bonds as a congregation and community of believers will become. Especially as we are in a time without a Pastor to shepherd us, we will need to help one another in our faith journeys.

The format of the connection groups is pretty simple. Either once a week or once every other week the group will get together to share a meal and complete the bible study. We will be centering our study around *The Chosen*, the first multi-season show about the life of Jesus, through the eyes of his chosen followers. We will be watching the show as well as working through its companion group bible study. Each group will set its own meeting dates and times that are most convenient to the group. If you sign up, there is no obligation to attend every week, but it is encouraged to come as much as possible.



Connection groups will start after Labor Day and will run through the year until the summer. If you would like to know more, please talk to Will or Brittany Bartz, and look for sign-up sheets in August. There will be multiple group leaders to choose from. We hope you will join us in this fellowship and help us to continue to make connections within our congregation and beyond.



Marion Lutheran Church of Gunder (rural Elgin), Iowa will celebrate 150 years of ministry on Sunday, August 1 with a Festive Service of Holy Communion at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Christopher Staley, Dean of the Iowa Mission District as the guest preacher. The service will be followed by a Catered Meal. An Anniversary Program will follow at 1:30 p.m. with a time of fellowship and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate 150 years of God's blessings with the Marion congregation!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Marshall Hahn
Marion Lutheran Church

Baby Shower...

For Krissy (Jeremy) Hulshizer
Sunday, August 22nd
12:30-2:30 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall

Registered at babylist.com

Please bring a book in place of a card!



Did You Know...

...that Lutherans from throughout North America will gather Aug. 2-6 in Corpus Christi, Texas, for Lutheran Week 2021 around the theme, "God the Father Creates." Lutheran Week is the annual gathering of the North American Lutheran Church. The NALC's 2020 Vision will be the focus of much of the business of the convocation. The convocation will also consider two significant recommendations flowing from the 2020 Vision. Delegates will consider a proposal to create four geographic regions for the NALC and to call four part-time assistants to the bishop to serve those regions. They will also consider affirming the Executive Council's decision to establish a central NALC office in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, area. *



...that the Rev. Dr. Amy C. Little, pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Monroeville, Ohio, has accepted a call to serve as general secretary of the North American Lutheran Church. "The first 11 years of the NALC have been incredible, and I give thanks to those who helped to form and shape it in its infancy and younger years. We owe a great debt to those faithful leaders - Bishop Paull Spring, Bishop John Bradosky, Pastor Mark Chavez - and the remaining staff and leaders of the NALC. They gave us a great foundation," Pastor Little said. "Now we are moving into the teen years of our blessed church, and we have the joyful task of working through the growing pains and providing greater support to the increasing number of congregations, pastors and ministries. I am excited to get started and look forward to serving Christ and his people in this position," she said. *

**excerpts taken from the NALC News July 2021*

...that the benches in front of the church, the bench and table in the courtyard, and the Jesus and children statue in the nook of the Narthex, were all purchased with memorial money given by the family of Olive Trettin? Take some time to look at them; sit, and relax for a bit. Thank you to those who served on the task force to choose the items. They are a lovely addition to Emmanuel.



Attention College Students:



A reminder that your applications for the Erna Pagel Grant are due by August 31st. You may pick up a form at the office or find one online at the church's website Emmanuelgraffton.org.

Contact Lisa Bartz with any questions.

STEWARDSHIP MUSINGS

As many of you know, summer is a busy time of year, especially when it is followed by a year of the unknown, being challenged by COVID19 in a way that affected each and every one of us in new and different circumstances. For most of us, it affected our travels, shopping, every day living, church attendance. And when we did venture out, it meant wearing a mask, sanitizing our hands, standing six feet apart, always being vigilant. Even a trip to the grocery store or for a few items at a discount store turned into a longer process than we may have liked. Going out to eat meant waiting in long drive-through lines. Or going out at all meant weighing the pros and cons... Fast forward to summer 2021. People are able to gather together. Traveling is once again a "normal" activity. And, as happens, church attendance drops. In the July 2021 *NALC News*, Rev. Dr. David Wendel has written an article titled, "One More!" In it he talks about church attendance and some interesting facts he learned. The following is from that article:

"According to Sam Rainer, founder and CEO of Church Answers, in 2018, the median size of all congregations in the United States was 75 people, while most congregations are less than 100 average worshipping attendance. At the same time, the median age of church members was 73 years old.

He points out in a separate research study that much of the attendance decline is the result of a drop in frequency of worship attendance. A congregation may have the same number of participants, but they are worshipping less frequently, which lowers the average worship attendance. Rainer writes: *Stated simply, the number one reason for the decline in church attendance is that members attend with less frequency than they did just a few years ago. Allow me to explain. When membership becomes truly meaningful, our churches will become an unstoppable force for the Kingdom and glory of God. If the frequency of attendance changes, then attendance will respond accordingly. For example, if 200 members attend every week the average attendance is, obviously, 200. But if one-half of those members miss only one out of four weeks, the attendance drops to 175.*

Did you catch that? No members left the church. Everyone is still relatively active in the church. But attendance declined over 12 percent because half the members changed their attendance behavior slightly. This phenomenon can take place rather quickly in an individual church. And leaders in the church are often left scratching their heads because the behavioral change is so slight, almost imperceptible. We really don't notice when someone who attends four times a month begins to attend only three times a month. Nor do we typically catch it when the twice-a-month attendee becomes a once-a-month attendee. This is an insight that most of us have missed.

We see worship attendance decline over time and assume it is loss of members. Sure, some congregations are losing members, but Rainer's research indicates that 'the number one reason for the decline in church attendance is that members attend with less frequency than they did just a few years ago.'

The good news in this statistic is that to reverse the trend and perhaps increase worship attendance, we need no exciting, high-powered evangelism strategy, no marketing campaign and no influx of new members. Indeed, to increase congregational worship attendance, it takes only members making a commitment to attend worship one more Sunday than usual! (*emphasis mine*) ... And what impact does increasing worship attendance make in a congregation? Why will it matter?

1. Increasing, rather than declining, worship attendance generates excitement, a positive attitude and hope for the future.

2. Increasing worship attendance uplifts and encourages pastors and will, over time, improve preaching.

3. While we may wish it were not the case, many members still give financially only when they attend worship. Increasing worship attendance always increases giving. (*emphasis mine*)

4. Weekly worship attendance, like so many aspects of faith, is a helpful spiritual habit. The more regular we are in worship, the more we develop the habit of weekly worship...

Setting such a goal may be especially helpful as many have gotten out of the habit of regular, in-person worship during the pandemic. Sam Rainer estimates worship attendance post-COVID-19 will be 20 percent lower than before the pandemic. Getting back to worship will take intentionality on the part of all of us. And it will benefit you, your pastor and your congregation!" (*To read the rest of the article, visit thenalc.org and look up the July newsletter.*)

We have been fortunate at Emmanuel, that we have been blessed with those who continue to attend and/or give, even during these challenging times. Maybe we can take the "one more" challenge at Emmanuel and make an impact. Thank you for your continued support!



**Congregational Council Minutes
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
May 11th, 2021**

Meeting called to order by: Mark Fredrickson - President

Attended: Pastor Zamzow, JC Dawald- V President, Marena Henkle - Stewardship, Belinda Borchardt-Evangelism, Emi Kuntz-Lay Ministry, Abbie Steinberg-Christian Education, Will Bartz-Youth, and Sharon Hulshizer, Secretary/Treasurer.

Absent: Michael Cole- Property

Devotions: Sharon Hulshizer

Education Segment: NALC news: Call Process during COVID-19 by Rev. Dr. David Wendel

Agenda review: M/S/C to accept agenda as written.

Review Printed Minutes: M/S/C to accept minutes from prior two meetings as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report received.

Pastor's Report: 1) Book repair for Altar Service Book and Organist's Hymn book: Pictures were sent to a place in Wisconsin and a reply with quotes for repair was received. **M/S/C to send the Altar Service Book in for repairs. M/S/C to purchase 2 liturgy hymnbooks for the organ.** 2) Christa Larson has volunteered to serve as representative from Emmanuel for the Manna Board. **M/S/C to appoint Christa to be Board representative for Manna of Worth County.** 3) Confirmation, graduation, a Memorial Service, and a burial are some of the many Pastoral acts that PZ has been busy with this month. 4) PZ has been working on administrative tasks as well. 5) The last two weeks in May will be used for visitations.

Board Highlights:

Stewardship- none

Lay Ministry- none

Evangelism- none

Y&E: 1) A concession stand was held during the Grafton Craft Fair as a Campership fundraiser, remaining bars/goodies were sold after church the following Sunday. Other remaining food will be purchased and used by the Sunday School. 2) The trial "connection group" is winding down on its Bible Study with the hopes to be able to start more groups in the Fall, using the same curriculum and movie series, "The Chosen".

Property- 1) Kitchen remodeling grant that was submitted has been approved. Cabinet work has begun and a request for a down payment was made by the contractor. Appliances will be purchased as well. **M/S/C to fund a down payment of \$5000 to Arne Luckason and the cost of appliances from the General Fund Savings with the intention to replace the funds with the Grant money when received.**

Membership review: **M/S/C to remove Matt Hackbart from our Membership list by personal request.**

Unfinished business:

a) Call Committee: will be installed on Sunday, May 16th. On Monday, May 17th, both the Call Committee and the Church Council will meet with Dean Staley in the Fellowship Hall.

b) Coronavirus/Worship decisions: 1) **M/S/C to discontinue printing liturgical and hymn text in bulletins.** 2) Fellowship hour and masks were discussed: **M/S/C that on June 6th, the mask mandate will be removed, as well as, Fellowship resumed, subject to COVID positivity rates increasing.** 3) Discussion on recording of services and how to proceed. **M/S/C that post-June 13th, only Communion services will be recorded.**

New Business:

a) Administrative decisions: Discussion on Secretary/Treasurer duties after PZ leaves, as well as substitutes for both positions in case of emergency/illness or vacation, along with other concerns on how to respond to calls for Pastoral care. Sharon will contact persons to fill in on an as-needed basis. Pastoral concerns to be discussed with Dean Staley at the meeting on the 17th.

b) Farewell reception: Discussion on PZ's last day which will be Sunday, June 13th. There will be a reception following the Worship service on the 13th in the Fellowship Hall-bars and drinks will be served by the ENALCW, all congregation members and guests are welcome.

Next meeting devotion's preparer: Marena Henkle
Next meeting date and time is Tuesday, June 8th at 7:00 p.m.

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

-Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

**Call Committee/Council Meeting
with Dean Staley
May 17, 2021**

Pastor Christopher Staley, Dean of the Iowa Mission District of the NALC, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. In attendance for the Council was Marena Henkle, Emi Kuntz, JC Dawald, Mark Fredrickson, Belinda Borchardt, Will Bartz, Abbie Steinberg and Sharon Hulshizer. Absent: Michael Cole. Those in attendance for the Call Committee were Darren Marsh, Mary Jo Urbatsch, Phil Hackbart, Dan Nack, Emi Kuntz, and Brittany Bartz.

Dean Staley talked about the Call process, recommending that the Call Committee read through the NALC Call Process Manual. There was discussion regarding finding someone to cover Emmanuel's Pastoral needs after Pastor Z is gone. The Church Council is to find someone to cover this, possibly using a pastor for emergencies and lay persons to do home visits.

The first step in the Call process will be that of setting up a conference call between the Call Committee and Pastor David Wendel, assistant to the Bishop of Ministry and Ecumenism for the NALC. This will place via Zoom as Pastor Wendel is located in Florida. Eventually, a Congregational profile will be submitted to Pastor Wendel and he will send out the information to potential candidates for ministry.

After the conference call, there will be a Congregational Workshop at Emmanuel with Dean Staley. This will be a Bible study and brainstorming session to discuss the history of the church, future desires, priorities, worship styles, etc. It was suggested to have it on a Sunday and serve a lunch so that as many congregation members as possible can attend. The larger number of people, the better.

A potential date of June 27th, following Worship, was discussed for this workshop. Once the workshop is completed, a 5-8 minute video promoting ELC will be made and the Congregational profile would be completed and sent to Pastor Wendel. A financial profile will also be put together with the help of the Council.

After all other steps have been completed, Emmanuel waits for a response and continues from there. The average call process after the Congregational profile is submitted is 8 ½ months. The congregation will be kept notified of the Call process along the way, but needs to remember that it is not a hasty process. After the meeting adjourned, the Call Committee gathered to choose a Chair and Secretary and discuss their next step. Each member received a copy of the Call Process Manual.

-Council Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

**Electronic Meeting Minutes
Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council
May 2021**

On May 26th, 2021, The Church Council voted electronically:

**M/S/C/to make Pastor Z the Emergency Contact
Pastor through June 22nd.**

-Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

**Treasurer's Report
Financial Balance Information for
May 1-31, 2021**

General Fund

Beginning Balance: \$28,349.79

Interest: \$7.29

Offering Revenues: \$10,297 (excludes 5-30 offering)

Reimbursement of PZ computer: \$200

Dividend from WCTA: \$399.88

E-giving Revenues: \$270.00

Total Revenues: \$11,174.17

Total revenues + Beginning balance: \$39,523.96

Expenses: \$11,931.26

End of month Balance: \$ 27,592.70



**Congregational Council Minutes
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
June 8th, 2021**

Meeting called to order by: Mark Fredrickson - President

Attended: Pastor Zamzow, JC Dawald- V Pres., Marena Henkle - Stewardship, Belinda Borchardt- Evangelism, Emi Kuntz-Lay Ministry, Abbie Steinberg-Christian Education, Will Bartz-Youth, Michael Cole- Property, and Sharon Hulshizer, Secretary/Treasurer.

Devotions: Marena Henkle

Education Segment: A chance for the Council to ask any questions of Pastor Z before she retires. PZ encourages Emmanuel to focus on Worship/SS/Outreach, to continue in fellowship as a Congregation and within the Community, and to look for administration that will focus on the Word, Sacraments, and People.

Agenda review: M/S/C to approve agenda as amended: under Old Business - c) 1.

Locking/unlocking the Church and under New Business - b) Interim Pastor.

Review Printed Minutes: M/S/C to approve prior three meeting's minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report received.

Pastor's Report: 1) Visits were done the end of May. 2) Parsonage phone will be transferred to Emmanuel by Michael so that we may continue to use the same phone number. 3) Moving day will be on June 23rd; PZ's office will be cleaned out by the 30th. 4) Paraments (Altar hangings): With the purchase of new banners, we have none for the Holy Spirit (Red) or Pentecost (Green). There is money from Jane Buechele that is available to use to purchase them. **M/S/C to purchase four banners- two red for the Holy Spirit and two green for Pentecost and the current Pastor helps to choose.**

Board Highlights:

Stewardship- Will meet this summer to discuss Mission Fest and special offerings for Thanksgiving, etc.

Lay Ministry- Met with PZ to discuss protocol for locking and unlocking the church.

Evangelism- none

Y& E: Education: 1) Last day of SS, the kids tie-dyed t-shirts. 2) VBS will be coming up this summer. 3) SS teachers will be needed for next year. **Youth-**no report.

Property- Kitchen remodeling – looking for ways to use existing funds or to raise money to move forward with the electrical and plumbing needs to make the kitchen functional. There is some money available from the Building Fund and the ENALCW. A grant will most likely be applied for this Fall for the flooring. Still waiting on a few bills for the kitchen wall repair and painting.

Membership review: none.

Unfinished business:

a) Call Committee: met on June 3rd with Pastor Wendel. On Sunday, June 27th, following Worship, there will be the Congregational workshop led by Dean Staley. There will be a Bible Study, a Q & A time, and a feedback component from our members. Lunch will be served by the ENALCW.

b) Coronavirus/Worship decisions: Prior month's decisions stand.

c) Administrative decisions:

1. Locking/unlocking door: Linda Koschmeder will help, as needed, with this.

2. Secretary substitute: **M/S/C to hire Linda Koschmeder for \$12.50/hour for a maximum of 20 hours per week as a substitute, or as needed.**

3. Treasurer substitute: Have not spoken yet with potential candidate.

4. Time sheets: will need to be signed by the President or V President.

a.) Job reviews: For both Sharon and Jeff are due in August.

5. Pastoral Emergency Contact: need to establish someone to be in place after the 22nd.

6. Good Samaritan Fund: funds available to those in need, who request assistance. Sharon will keep the money to be used as needed, it may need to be replenished in near future. Before funds are given out, the President or Vice President will be contacted for approval.

7. Computer: the church owns a laptop- Sharon has taken some time to look it over as PZ has purchased her office computer. May need to have the laptop checked by someone to make sure it is in sufficient working condition for Supply pastors/interim, if needed.

New Business:

a) PA System: PZ microphone is working, but there are some issues with the volume dropping; possible mixing board issues, volume issues on the handheld mics, possible wireless interference or something affecting the faders. **M/S/C to establish a Task Force to look into updating the sound system, including the carillon.**

b) Interim Pastor: A suggestion was given to the Call Committee by Pastor Wendel of a possible Interim Pastor. Mark will contact Pastor Wendel and get more information.

Next meeting devotion's preparer: Michael Cole.
Next meeting date and time is Tuesday, July 6th at 7:00 p.m.

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

-Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

Congregational Workshop June 27th, 2021

Pastor Christopher Staley, Dean of the Iowa Mission District of the NALC, began the workshop at 10:38 a.m. 28 persons were in attendance. Dean Staley talked briefly about the Call Process, referring to the Call Process manual from the NALC and emphasizing that it is not meant to be a fast process. He then explained the purpose and the schedule of the workshop.

The first part of the workshop was spent in Bible Study. The group broke up into smaller groups of 3-4 people, each was given a specific Bible verse and six questions to answer. After this portion was completed, there was a lunch break. After lunch, a recording secretary was appointed to write down each group's response to the questions. After a short break, the next portion of the workshop involved making a list of Emmanuel's strengths and weaknesses, along with discussion of those. The lists will be kept by the Call Committee for future use.

Lastly, a discussion and list was written down of the qualities of what Emmanuel was looking for in a Pastor. Of the list created, each member of the group was given a ballot to write down their top five qualities and submit the ballot to the Call Committee. All of the information written down and discussed during the workshop will be used by the Call Committee to create a Congregational Profile for Emmanuel to be submitted to the NALC and posted for potential pastors to view. The workshop ended with the Lord's Prayer at 3 p.m.

Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

Financial Balance Information for June 1-30, 2021

General Fund

Beginning Balance: \$27,592.70

Interest: \$7.10

Offering Revenues: \$12,640.00 (includes 5-30 offering)

Petznick Estate \$1030.53

Reimbursement (Legion) \$75.00

E-giving Revenues: \$295.00

Total Revenues: \$14,047.63

Total revenues + Beginning balance: \$41,640.33

Expenses: \$ 10,689.00

End of the Month Balance: \$30,951.33



**Encouraged:
Sponsors for future Epistle newsletters.
\$90/month-Thank you!**



The Emmanuel Epistle is your newsletter, Emmanuel Lutheran members- a way to reach out to others both in and outside the Congregation and Community. If you are interested in writing or sharing an article, pictures, helping with the “Stewardship Musings” or “Did You Know” section, please contact the office. Pastor Z has set the bar high for our newsletter, but we will continue to use it to “spread the Word” to those around us.

Please submit any dates or events needing to be added to the calendar or any information to be used by the 20th of the month. This way, I can organize the newsletter to send out during the last week of the month.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the church office: 641-748-2736 or e-mail emanluthch@wctatel.net. We will embrace this time of transition and continue to be a beacon in our part of the world.

-Acting editor, Sharon Hulshizer



*Women's
Ministry*

**TWC
(The Women's Council)
June 15th, 2021**

Opening devotions were given by Sharon. “Rooted in Love” was the title of the devotion and it was based on Ephesians 3:17-18. The meeting was called to order with the reading of the purpose. Secretary minutes were read and accepted from May. Treasurer reports \$2,069.75 in checking. There are a few outstanding bills. Correspondence included a Thank you from Kaelee Hicken.











Old Business: 1) LWR Projects: Clarice has ordered 2 rolls of batting and thread and sheets with the Thrivent Funds received. 10 quilts have been completed and more are being made. 6 health care kits have been assembled. 2) Kitchen Remodeling Project: Arne is working on the cupboards, Johnny will be working on the electrical. Michael Cole will be getting a new bid from Nick Bublitz for plumbing. New appliances have been ordered and will be in the store at the end of June.

New Business: 1) Funeral coordinator position: it is getting more difficult to find people to help with funerals, will need to reevaluate the guidelines for the future. 2) Congregational Workshop: will be on Sunday, June 27th, following worship service. Discussion of how many people to plan for and what to serve as a meal. It was decided to serve maid rites, chips, and bars. 3) LRH Fall Bingo/Birthday party: in September. Will need to call and see if they are going to be doing this in order to line up volunteers.

Upcoming dates: Congregational workshop on June 27th, following worship. No TWC meeting in July or August. September TWC will be on Tuesday, September 21st at 9 a.m. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Sharon Hulshizer

August 2021 (All Events subject to COVID 19 Restrictions)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship w/Holy Communion Pastor Paul Weeg 10:30 Fellowship	2 	3 ELC-VBS 5-7:30 p.m.	4 ELC-VBS 5-7:30 p.m.  Sharon out of office	5 ELC-VBS 5-7:30 p.m.	6	7 
8 11 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Merlin Bartz 10:30 Fellowship	9	10 Church Council 7 p.m.	11	12	13 	14
15 12 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Pastor Porisch 10:30 Fellowship	16 	17	18 	19	20	21 
22 13 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Mark Borchardt 10:30 Fellowship	23	24 	25	26	27 	28
29 14 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Pastor Paul Weeg 10:30 Fellowship	30 	31				



August 2021

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Emmanuel Lutheran Church

308 4th Avenue
PO Box 282
Grafton, Iowa 50440

641-748-2736
Address Service Requested

<u>August</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Organist</u>
Sunday, August 1 st	Kaelee Hicken	Dick & Ruth Neeley	Marena Henkle
Sunday, August 8 th	Zach Badker	Janice Nelson	Donna Schilling
Sunday, August 15 th	Jaxon Edwards	Kayla Pappas family	Marena Henkle
Sunday, August 22 nd	Aundraya Paulson	Chris Paulson family	Charlotte Cole
Sunday, August 29 th	Gus Walk	Albert & Doris Ralph	Donna Schilling

Hospitality Team II: Clarice Bartz

Ushers: Mark Borchardt, Belinda Borchardt, Ken Kroneman, Calvin Thompson, & Troy Tourtellott.

Lay Ministry: Janice Nelson

Counters: Lisa Bartz, Connie Rosenberg, and Michael Cole

Altar Guild: Tammy Borchardt

Share Shoppe Volunteer: Donna Schilling

PA Operators: Mark Fredrickson & Gregg Urbatsch

