

Emanuel Lutheran Church

241 S. Prospect Street

Marion, OH 43302

740.383-2184

Email:

emanuel1@emanuellutheran.net

Website:

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Church Staff:

Pastor Mark Schuring

Deacon Kevin Kehn

Family Ministry Coordinator:

Tanyce Addison

Office Manager: Darlene Schaadt

Financial Secretary: Ed Stofcheck

Office Secretary: Ashley Koehler

Building Supervisor: Carl Jones

Building Maintenance: Frank Fanello

Child Care Director: Abby Reinwald

Door Men:

Bob Coffman & Jim Stroupe

Music Minister: Allan Lust

Assistant Organist: Sandra Becker

Part-Time Organist: Paul Burnside

Adult Choir Director:

Tanyce Addison

Praise Team & Children's Choir

Director: Teri Turner

Bell Choir Director:

Carolyn Fox

Sound Technician: Doug Ross

Emanuel: God With Us ~

Loving Christ - Loving Others

June - July 2018 Good News Newsletter

**Vacation Bible School
@ Emanuel June 11-14
9:00a.m. - 11:30a.m.**



SHIPWRECKED! Rescued by Jesus!

Hours: 9:00a.m. - 11:30a.m.

**Join us as we venture to an uncharted island
where kids discover the truth that Jesus
carries them
through life's storms.**

**We will travel through the island with Bible
stories, science experiments, games, music,
and mission!**

**Register now OR at the door.
Registration Forms are available in the
Gathering Space.**

**Kids age 3 (Potty Trained) thru 5th Grade
join us on this awesome Adventure!**

Lunch will be served @ 11:00a.m.

A Message From Pastor Mark



I want to invite you to take hold of a wonderful truth. Think of it as an anchoring principle around which the whole universe revolves and upon which all life depends.

The truth is this: God is good!

The basic ingredient of Christian faith is the goodness of God.

Stories of God's goodness appear on every page of the Bible. A man and a woman make a terrible choice and their world falls apart. Eden is a paradise no more. But God makes clothes for the man and woman, and then goes to work figuring out how to restore to them the dignity with which they were created. Hebrew people find themselves living in slavery and under the torturous weight of oppression and hopelessness. God hears their cries, and so calls and empowers Moses to set the people free.

You see, the true narrative of scripture finds its way into the lives of people and nations and all creation. And this is the story: God is good!

Everything God creates is good. God seeks good for the people of the earth.

God is in the goodness business.

But, if this is true - that God is good - some will ask why bad things happen - like what happened one day to old Fred...

One Monday morning, old Fred overslept. He wanted to blame his wife Marge for it, but she was off visiting her sister. He'd simply forgot to set the alarm, and now he was late. He had an important meeting with a client down at the office to seal an important deal, so old Fred hustled as fast as he could to get washed and dressed. Gulping down a Krispy Kreme donut left over from dinner last night, and swigging on a cup of coffee, Fred jumped into his car and sped off to work. By the time he got to work, the client was gone, and so was the deal. Fred smacked the intercom button on the telephone and shouted for his sales manager: "Larry, get in here!"

Now, Larry was a first-rate manager who'd worked for Fred for twenty-three years. But recently, sales were off. "Larry, you couldn't have held those people here for a few extra minutes? Look what you've done! We've lost a sale! I'm sick and tired of your poor production and pitiful excuses. You're dragging this company into bankruptcy. I expect you to whip your sales staff into shape, and if you can't turn things around, then I'll hire someone who can and I don't care how long we've been together. Do you hear me?!"

Old Fred was pretty upset. But if you think Fred was upset, you should've seen Larry!

Larry walked out of Fred's office with steam coming out his ears. "That no good sorry excuse for a boss! Where does he get off threatening me after I've worked so hard for him all these years? I've made him what he is. Without me, he'd be nothing! We've seen rougher times than this before. All this abuse, just because of a few bad months? What a jerk!" As he sat and stewed about this the phone rang. Larry picked it up and shouted at the secretary: "Hold all my calls! If you were any kind of decent receptionist, you would know that I'm busy! Just remember... you can be replaced!"

Oh, Larry was upset! But if you think Larry was upset, you should've seen the receptionist!

"Why, the nerve of that prima Dona!" thought the receptionist. "Who does he think he is?" And for the rest of the day, whenever anyone called, instead of a pleasant "Thank you for calling our company. How can I help you?" the caller was met with a gruff, "Hello, what do you want?"

Well, when the receptionist got home that evening she was upset and angry. She stomped toward the kitchen and noticed Ellis, the family cat. Ellis was lying on the floor with a little cat-like smile on his face, purring away, minding his own business in the middle of the den. "You lazy, good for nothing cat!" she muttered. Then she wound up her leg and kicked that cat clear across the room. THUMP!

Well, in my mind, this day from hell raises three important questions:

1. Wouldn't it have been a whole lot easier if when Fred left home that morning he had just driven directly over to the receptionist's house and **KICKED THAT CAT HIMSELF?**
2. Have **YOU** been kicking any cats lately? Something to think about.
3. Can you see how this story is the story of the world?

Multiply old Fred by the 7.6 billion people who inhabit this planet, transform Fred's office into corporations and nations and governments, include among the kicked cats children, women, people of color, or disability, or poverty - even nature itself - and perhaps you can see why the world is the way it is.

Theologians describe it as sin.

What they mean is that we human beings, for some reason none of us completely understands, turn away from God and God's goodness. We want to be our own gods, masters of our own fate, general managers of the universe. So we turn from God to ourselves, and from God's ways to our ways. And, in so doing, we end up kicking cats...and dogs...and people...and destroying relationships...and wrecking our health...and polluting the earth...and waging war...and dehumanizing each other...and making a mess of the world and our communities and our families and ourselves.

So if YOU were God, what would you do about a situation like this?

Some wish this rebellious world of ours would be destroyed. But that's not what God does. You see, God is good.

God loves this world and every Fred in it. God loves you, and God loves me. And so God reaches out to us with a gracious goodness that is hard to imagine. We see it most clearly in the life of Jesus who lived his life touching peoples' lives with the goodness of God. He feeds the hungry. Forgives sinners. Heals the broken. Welcomes the rejected. And in the most amazing way, Jesus comes to the end of his life among us by taking our sins upon himself and laying down his life for us on the cross.

Yes, all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Yes, we have made a mess of the world and our lives. Regardless, God reaches out to us with goodness. And in receiving the goodness of God in Jesus Christ, we are given the ministry of goodness. And this is the ministry that can heal the world.

Our church would be in the goodness business!

It's members would use words, actions, time and resources to accomplish good among each other and in the world around us. We would measure our behaviors around the question, "Will this produce the goodness of God in my life and in the lives of others?" And that question would govern our speech, our ways of relating to each other, and our involvements in the world. And even more, goodness would become the measure of our success as a church. No longer would membership numbers or size of budget or beautiful facilities define our value. The measure of our success would be whether or not we are growing in the ministry of sharing God's goodness with the world.

God is good! And God's church is in the business of gracious goodness.

I dare say that if only one of the people in old Fred's life that day had been committed to God's goodness, things would have turned out a whole lot different. If only one person had been committed to forgiveness, if only one had been committed to cutting other people a little slack when they're having a bad day, if only one was committed to building people up rather than tearing people down, if only one person had been willing to absorb and suffer the insult in order to stop the cycle, if only one person had spoken the truth in love rather than just expressing their anger, ol' Ellis the cat might still be purring away!

What if YOU were that one person?

What if WE were such a church?





A Message From Deacon Kevin

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." Philippians 4:6

As I have journeyed through the *Year of Prayer* I have been exposed to many different prayer practices. The Daily Examen is one of the disciplines that I have found to be interesting. The following is how it is described on the IgnationSpirituality website. If your prayer life needs added structure or you have difficulty relating your prayers to your life this may be an avenue that you may want to explore.

A great way to pray is to look for God's presence in your life. More than 400 years ago St. Ignatius Loyola encouraged prayer-filled mindfulness by proposing what has been called the Daily Examen. The Examen is a technique of prayerful reflection on the events of the day in order to detect God's presence and to discern his direction for us. Try this version of St. Ignatius's prayer.

1. **Become aware of God's presence.** Look back on the events of the day in the company of the Holy Spirit. The day may seem confusing to you—a blur, a jumble, a muddle. Ask God to bring clarity and understanding.
2. **Review the day with gratitude.** Gratitude is the foundation of our relationship with God. Walk through your day in the presence of God and note its joys and delights. Focus on the day's gifts. Look at the work you did, the people you interacted with. What did you receive from these people? What did you give them? Pay attention to small things—the food you ate, the sights you saw, and other seemingly small pleasures. God is in the details.
3. **Pay attention to your emotions.** One of St. Ignatius's great insights was that we detect the presence of the Spirit of God in the movements of our emotions. Reflect on the feelings you experienced during the day. Boredom? Elation? Resentment? Compassion? Anger? Confidence? What is God saying through these feelings? God will most likely show you some ways that you fell short. Make note of these sins and faults. But look deeply for other implications. Does a feeling of frustration perhaps mean that God wants you to consider a new direction in some area of your work? Are you concerned about a friend? Perhaps you should reach out to her in some way.
4. **Choose one feature of the day and pray from it.** Ask the Holy Spirit to direct you to something during the day that God thinks is particularly important. It may involve a feeling—positive or negative. It may be a significant encounter with another person or a vivid moment of pleasure or peace. Or it may be something that seems rather insignificant. Look at it. Pray about it. Allow the prayer to arise spontaneously from your heart—whether intercession, praise, repentance, or gratitude.
5. **Look toward tomorrow.** Ask God to give you light for tomorrow's challenges. Pay attention to the feelings that surface as you survey what's coming up. Are you doubtful? Cheerful? Apprehensive? Full of delighted anticipation? Allow these feelings to turn into prayer. Seek God's guidance. Ask him for help and understanding. Pray for hope.

St. Ignatius encouraged people to talk to Jesus like a friend. End the Daily Examen with a conversation with Jesus. Ask forgiveness for your sins. Ask for his protection and help. Ask for his wisdom about the questions you have and the problems you face. Do all this in the spirit of gratitude. Your life is a gift, and it is adorned with gifts from God. End the Daily Examen with the Our Father.

More information, including a video, can be found at IgnationSpirituality.com.

Until next time, may the peace and healing of God be with you all.

Deacon Kevin



Thank you to all of the Sunday School Teachers, Substitutes, and Leaders that came in on Service Sundays to share and tell God's story. The gifts of your time and talents have been invested in the lives of our children forever. May we continue to grow and look for new ways to expand our reach. See you on the Third Sundays of the Month!

Thank you to all the members of the Emanuel Choir and our accompanists! Your commitment and dedication to enriching our worship with music is truly appreciated! Enjoy your summer!

A Big "Thank You" to the Christian Board of Education members for providing and serving the food at the Confirmation Breakfast! It was wonderful to have the friends and families of the confirmands and representatives of our Parish Planning Council join in the celebration of these four young men; Austen, Carson, Andrew and David. **Congratulations!**

On June 24 - Emanuel Mission Trip Begins! 8 people will load into a van and head for Benton Harbor, Michigan for the Youthworks Mission Trip! Katie Vela, Lauren Crouch, Aaron Pirstill, Lane Craig, Austen Valentine, Rachel Harbaugh, Kevin Strohl and myself will spend six days meeting other students from across the country with the mission of serving poverty stricken areas in this city. We will be working in a Boys and Girls club, a senior center, and improving some community area projects during the day. In the evenings, we gather to worship and have some fun. This is far from a luxury vacation! We will cook our meals, clean our lodging area, sleep on the floor, and shower 13 miles away from the church where we are staying. It's a challenge we have been preparing to engage. I'm so very proud of these young people for stepping out of their comfort zones and having the courage to do this! We thank all of the people who have helped make this possible with donations, prayers and support! We will tell our story when we return, June 29!



Look for **Summer Opportunities For Emanuel Families!** We will be planning activities - so be sure to watch the bulletin!

During the Summer Months Sunday School will be held on the Third Sunday For Service Sunday: Mark your calendars and join us at 9:15 in the parlors on June 17; July 15, and August 12. We will have a lot of projects for all ages to take part in.



Congratulations 2018 Confirmation Class
Austen Valentine; Carson Rife;
Andrew Kollas; David Stanforth



Look for VBS Information
on the first page of the newsletter
Hope to See You June 11-14!



Activities currently being planned to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our church building. Your help is needed!

Church ANNIVERSARY

- Design and construction of a float to be exhibited in the Popcorn Festival Parade and also to be used on Sunday morning, September 9 to commemorate the original march of the congregation from the old church building to our current location (contact Tanyce Addison);
- Landscaping project to spruce up and beautify the front of the church (contact Matt Primmer or Bobb Davies);
- Production of a booklet highlighting the last 25 years of this congregation's ministries, progress and development (contact Alicia Mayes or Kevin Strohl);
- Celebration Worship Service (one service at 10:30 a.m.) on Sunday, September 9, being coordinated by the Board of Spiritual Life;
- Celebration Luncheon immediately following worship service on September 9 (contact Dee Rinehart or Carolyn Parrott);
- An Anniversary Banner is being created (contact Ann Thomas);
- An organ recital by Paul Burnside on October 7;
- An appearance by Martin Luther (portrayed by Ken Hammontree) in October (contact Alicia Mayes or Kevin Strohl).

If you have any questions or wish to volunteer your time and talents, please contact any Anniversary Committee member: Pastor Mark; Kevin Strohl; Jack Bull; Tanyce Addison; Alicia Mayes; Dee Rinehart; Ann Thomas; Matt Primmer.



If you have not signed a fabric square, that will be part of the 100th Anniversary Banner, you may go to the church office between Thursday, May 30 & Friday, June 8, 2018. Hours 8-5.

The Northwestern Ohio Synod Assembly will be in session June 8 & 9 in Bowling Green, Ohio. Pastor Mark, Deacon Kevin, Matt Primmer, Ed Stofcheck, Tanyce Addison & Donna Thomas are our voting members.

The Cardinal Chorale will be in Concert at the Prospect Street UMC on Saturday, June 16 at 7:30p.m. You won't want to miss it!

The July 12 Fellowship Lunch will be held at 11:30a.m. Watch the bulletin for more information.



Happy 90+ Birthday Wishes!

Naomi Duprey will celebrate her 92nd birthday on July 31! (223 Elm Street, Marion)

Margarete Schwaderer will celebrate her 97th birthday on July 31! (Marion Manor, 195 Executive Dr. Marion)

Let's remember Naomi & Margarete with our prayers & cards!

??? Does the church office have your birth date? We don't want to miss anyone! Please forward the information to the Church Office. Thanks!



I thought I would give you information this time about funerals at Emanuel that some of you may not know.

There are forms in the church office you can fill out with your wishes for your funeral. There are several questions, if you want a church funeral or at the funeral home. There are questions about what scripture you would want and what hymns for a church funeral. Also, names of family members, etc. This is really nice if you want to make the plans yourself and your wishes known. If you choose, you can give a copy to the funeral home.

In years past when a member of Emanuel dies the church sent a planter to the funeral home in memory of the member. Recently, the church started sending a throw with the Lord's Prayer on it. I have been told by many family members how much it means to have these throws given from the church. It is something they can keep.

More and more members want to have their funeral at the church instead of the funeral home. The viewing can also be at the church if you choose. Many have the viewing in the Gathering Space right before the funeral.

We have 3 funeral palls that drape the casket for funerals at Emanuel. There are two adult size palls that cover the closed casket during the funeral. We have one smaller pall for a child. In the 16 yrs. that I have served on Altar Guild I have never seen this pall used, that is a good thing. When a member chooses to be cremated we also have a small pall that covers the urn that the ashes are in for funerals in the church.

Funeral meals are also offered for members of Emanuel whether you have a church funeral or a funeral in the funeral home. We have a large group of women that provide food and serve the meals.

As you can see Emanuel does all that it can to provide for the needs of our members for funerals.



The Cardinal Chorale Returning To Marion! Through the combined efforts of Prospect Street United Methodist Church and Emanuel Lutheran Church, The Cardinal Chorale, under the direction of Mr. Charles Snyder, will be returning to Marion for a concert as part of their Summer Tour. This year the concert will be at **Prospect Street UMC on Saturday, June 16**, at 7:30 p.m. **Host Families** are needed Saturday night after the concert for 50 youth singers and 5 staff members. Please consider opening your home to these youth after the concert, providing them a snack and an opportunity to visit with them; a bed, shower and breakfast in the morning before returning them to the church for their next performance. Please contact the church office, 740.383-2184 if you are able to help with housing. Thank You.

Waldo Fresh Food Distribution will be held on June 1 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waldo. We will collect toilet paper and toothpaste & toothbrushes.

Food distribution will begin at 11:00 and finish up at 2:00; workers need to report around 9:30/10:00. A signup sheet is posted in the Gathering Space. We collect toilet paper every month, along with: **July 6** - Deodorant; **August 3** - Soap (dish, body, bar.) A basket is located in the first floor Elevator Lobby for your donations.





Neighborhood Outreach: Emanuel will join Prospect Street United Methodist and First Presbyterian Churches to hold the

Annual Neighborhood Outreach
Saturday, July 28, 2018
from 11:00a.m. - 1:00p.m.

The event will take place on the grass and parking lot areas between Emanuel and Prospect Street United Methodist Church. One backpack for each school age child as well as food, games, free books, hair check and coupons, and more will be provided to neighborhood children.

Backpacks for the event are being purchased with budgeted and donated monies. Preschool children will also be given a tote bag with coloring book inside.

The school supplies we collect are given directly to McKinley Elementary School to distribute to children in need. The goal for Emanuel is to collect 75 school supply sets. You will find the list below. McKinley uses all the supplies that are donated by Emanuel Congregation each year and are very appreciative of our generosity.

Shopping bags with school supply list will be available in the Gathering Space for you beginning June 25 and collection will go through Sunday, July 29. Collection boxes will be available in the Gathering Space. If you wish to make a monetary donation, please make your check out to Emanuel Lutheran Church and write Neighborhood Outreach in the memo.

Please consider volunteering at the event with set up, serving food, distributing backpacks or clean up. A signup sheet will be in the Gathering Space beginning June 25.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about this event you may contact Betty Jo Lill at 740-225-4531 or email at bjlill@me.com. Thank you in advance from the Board of Social Ministry.

Items Needed:

24 Pack Crayola Crayons; #2 Pencils; 8 or 12 Pack Colored Pencils; 4oz. School Glue; Scissors (Right and Left Hand Type No Blunt Ends); Pocket Folders with 3 Hole Clasps; Spiral Notebooks (College and Wide Rule); Monetary donation of \$13.00 accepted to sponsor school supplies. **THANKS!**

Prayer Group: In July Ann Thomas, Parish Deacon Intern, would like to start another prayer group who will pray for Emanuel Lutheran Church Council and Board Members each month from July- Jan. This project requires praying during your regular prayer time at home. A Prayer Orientation is scheduled for Monday, June 18 at 10:00a.m. meeting in the Lounge and Thursday, June 28 at 6:00 p.m. in the Library. If you are interested please contact Ann Thomas at 740-360-3546.

Happy Father's Day



All Women of Emanuel are automatically members of The Women's Groups. As Women of Emanuel we are also a part of the Women of the ELCA, South-eastern Conference. The

President/Vice President meeting of our conference will meet here at Emanuel on January 19, 2019.

The Southeastern Conference will have a Fall Retreat on October 13 @ St. John Lutheran, Cardington. In the meantime, under the direction of Norma Ward, we will hold our Annual Luke 14 Dinner on August 28.

Yearly we collect items for Lutheran World Relief. The collection will be held July, August, and September. Watch for items needed in future bulletins and on the Women's Bulletin Board in the Parlor and the Elevator Lobby Bulletin Board. Other Projects include: preparing Funeral Meals, and delivering Altar Flowers to shut ins. Volunteers are always needed for this. Help is also appreciated in cutting & tying fleece blankets for LWR. Watch the bulletin for dates and times. All are invited to join us!

-Joyce Baumgartner



Thank you Emanuel for all the cards, messages of hope, prayers, calls and all other acts of kindness shown to my wife during her illness. Each one brought her certain feeling of peace. Thank you also for the beautiful prayer blanket! A special thanks to Deacon Kevin for his prayer visits and for bringing communion to Joyce. The funeral service conducted by Kevin was perfect. A special thanks to the ladies of Emanuel who provided a delicious meal following the service. There was indeed a lot to be thankful for even during a time of sadness.

Thank you, from the family of Joyce Bendle.

You folks are awesome. You sure know how to make a person feel all fuzzy on the inside. The very first day I started receiving 90th birthday cards, I received five. They were all from members of Emanuel that I did not know. They keep coming. Thank you so much, they will make me more mindful of others. Thank you very much you are so kind and God Bless you one and all, Joan Chapman

To all of my Emanuel Church Family, on behalf of the Tubbs family, I wanted to extend our sincere thanks to all for the many prayers, kind expressions of sympathy and visits during mom's recent illness and passing. And to the women of the church who prepared the delicious meal after the funeral service. A special thanks also to Pastor Mark for his support and the beautiful funeral service.

To all, many thanks and blessings. Rich Tubbs.

Thank you sincerely for sharing our sorrow. Your kindness is deeply appreciated and will always be remembered. The family of Jacqui Taylor.

Thank you for the many Birthday cards I received on my 94th birthday. May God bless you all, Mary Stafford.

Church Members & Staff, thank you for the beautiful throw. Our church family has been so good to us. Without the help of Pastor Schuring, Deacon Kehn, the ladies of the church, and all our friends at church it would have been much more difficult. Thank you for your support and well wishes. The family of Virginia Leffler: Ron, Brenda, & Elaine.

To my Emanuel Family thank you so very much for all the prayers, cards, and help during this time with my health problems. You are all a true blessing to me. God Bless you and keep you in His care, Jeanette Mawer



Message From Treasurer, Rex Parrott

In recent bulletin announcements we asked you to consider the Building Fund if you might be in a position to consider additional contributions above and beyond your normal annual giving. First of all, thanks to the many of you who have already done so as the Building Fund is back to nearly \$10,000. Second, you might ask why is this important, and will continue to be important. This is because the Board of Properties has been diligently monitoring the condition of our 100-year-old building and the many pieces of equipment it contains. They have identified the following categories of

expenditures that will eventual need addressed, although the timing of each is not yet known.

Additional Air Conditioning Replacement: \$ 50,000 (Gathering Space and Education Bldg.)

Building Exterior Repairs: \$ 100,000 (Sidewalks, Steps, Windows, etc.)

Other Misc. Projects: \$ 30,000 (Flooring, Tile, Carpet, Electrical)

These are general areas of expenditures and are not prioritized. What we do know is that eventually all of these areas, and likely some additional areas not even yet known, will require attention. Again, please keep the Building Fund in mind!

**Emanuel Lutheran Church
241 South Prospect Street
Marion, Ohio 43302-3921**

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Join us in Worship:

Thursday Worship - 7:00p.m.

Sundays: 8:00 & 10:30 Traditional

9:15 - Contemporary



From The Board of Fellowship:

**Our Annual Ice Cream Social is
July 15, at 5:00 in the Parlor.**

It will feature Bruce Showalter's famous
ice cream on National Ice Cream Day.
We will play "Emanuel Historic Trivia".
Watch for more information!



THANKS

A special Thank You to all
our Choirs, Directors and
Accompanist for sharing
your gift of music. We look
forward to enjoying your
music again in September.

Thanks to: Bobb Davies,
Bill Lambert & Daryl Kraner
for designing and planting
the beautiful flower bed
between the office and
church.

Thanks also to Carol Hoch
for planting flowers by the
Church sign.