

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER ~ 2017 GOOD NEWS NEWSLETTER



Now you are the body of Christ,
and each of you is a member of it.

I Corinthians 12:27

Emanuel History Facts:

In 1874 five "Heads of Households" of The Lutheran Church in Marion withdrew over issues and formed a new congregation which they named Evangelical Lutheran Salem Church. The five families were Daniel Yake, John Lust, Philip Retterer, John Heinner and J. Pfiefer. On August 9, 1885 Rev. Hecht made a motion to change the name of our congregation to Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church.



September 8, 1918, at 9:30a.m. Rev. M.C. Hecht (Emanuel's pastor from 1884-1891) preached the final sermon in the old church on the corner of South State and Columbia Streets. Then the congregation marched in procession to the new church. Rev. A.L. Nicklas (Emanuel's pastor from 1891-1896) delivered the dedicatory sermon at the new church building. At this time in history, Rev. J.W. Schillinger was Emanuel's pastor.

On September 10, 2017 we will celebrate the 99th Anniversary of our Church Building.

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\*For our 99<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Sunday, Sept. 10, we are forming a Men's Choir to sing *A Mighty Fortress*. Let's fill the church with beautiful music! Join us in practice on Wednesday, August 30 and September 6 at 6:45p.m. in the Music Room. (2nd floor)

## Emanuel Lutheran Church

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## Church Staff:

Pastor Mark Schuring

Deacon Kevin Kehn

Family Ministry Coordinator:

Tanyce Addison

Office Manager: Darlene Schadt

Financial Secretary: Ed Stofcheck

Office Secretary: Ashley Koehler

Building Supervisor: Carl Jones

Building Maintenance: Frank Fanello

Child Care Director: Abby Reinwald

Night Watchmen:

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

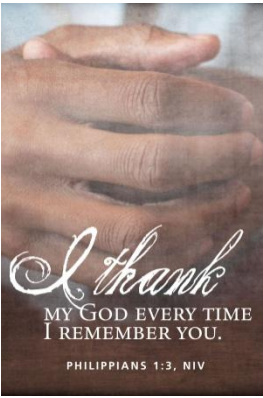
Choir Director: Teri Turner

Bell Choir Director:

Carolyn Fox

Sound Technician: Doug Ross

**Emanuel: God With Us ~  
Loving Christ - Loving Others**



### *A Message From Pastor Mark Schuring*

<sup>3</sup> *I thank my God every time I remember you.* <sup>4</sup> *In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy* <sup>5</sup> *because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now,* <sup>6</sup> *being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.* <sup>7</sup> *It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me.*  
Philippians 1: 3-7

So Paul begins his tome to the Church of Phillipi. In most of his letters he begins with gratitude: gratitude for partnership in the Gospel, for the generosity of the people, and for their faith and love in Jesus Christ.

But it is in this tome that Paul so very deeply identifies with the faithful with a pastor's heart. And I think that this heart so richly identifies what that critical connection is: "*all of you share in God's grace with me.*"

This "sharing" has so deeply been expressed to me and my family upon my 35<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary. Just imagine my joy when the leadership so kindly honored me on June 25<sup>th</sup>! Imagine my surprise as the Adult Choir and Praise Team set aside time to honor me at our various gatherings! Imagine my delight at receiving, what seems to be, an endless stream of cards and gifts and well wishes from members of the Church! Imagine my disbelief as members of the greater community of Marion have expressed their congratulations!

There are simply no words that adequately express the deep gratitude I feel towards you and so many others who have made this anniversary so wonderful. And that expression of thanks simply expresses my heart because I so richly identify with you as a fellow Christian and a blessed Pastor: "*all of you share in God's grace with me.*" It is acknowledgements such as mentioned above that remind me we are in this together: by God's grace. It is the surprise and joy that have come as well that remind me that grace is a gift but which unbidden, still comes. It is moments that my Pastor's heart is moved, as was Paul's, who also wrote "*God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.*"

There are no better words.

*Pastor Mark*

The Northwestern Ohio Synod and the Toledo Roman Catholic Diocese will together commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation on **Sunday, September 10, at 3:00p.m.**

This afternoon worship service, following the pattern set at Lund, Sweden, will be presided over by both Bishops, and will be held at **St. Michael the Archangel, Findlay** (across from the Synod Office.)

We look forward to several additional local worship services observing the 500th, but this is the only time the fullness of Synod and Diocese will be able to be together. More information will be forthcoming.

## A Message From Deacon Kevin Kehn



*You are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. -Romans 8:9*

The Spirit of God dwells in us. This is our identity as baptized Christians. As we are baptized we are anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. We are called by the Holy Spirit. It is through the Holy Spirit that we can trust in the grace and love of God. It is through water and the Holy Spirit that we are given new birth, cleansed from sin and raised to eternal life. The gift of the Holy Spirit is the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy. Through our baptism we have sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

The world and the church received the gift of the Holy Spirit on the day we celebrate as the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost this year, Cindy Rinker shared a picture book during the children's sermon. The book is entitled, The Day When God Made Church, by Rebekah McLeod Hutto, illustrated by Stephanie Haig. Through simple words and pictures the atmosphere that surrounded that day is captured when *suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house...divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:2-4)*

Some of the words used in this picture book include... *We all gather and wait...we are nervous...everyone is curious...wait...excitement...darkness is gone...something new is happening...our hearts change inside...see old things in a new way...we feel God's love...Jesus has given us a wonderful gift!*

As the Spirit of God dwells in us, let us challenge ourselves to open our hearts and our minds and our actions to that same Spirit and get caught in that same fervor that was present some two thousand years ago as God made church!

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

**-Deacon Kevin**

**Please Note: "Together by Grace" Book Study** will resume on Sept. 11, Oct. 9 and Nov. 13. Meeting times are 10:00 and 6:00. Study guides can be found in the Gathering Space.

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Tanyce Addison, Family Ministry Coordinator

How important is it to you to share your faith with a child? I'm pretty sure most of you would say that it is very important to share your faith with a child. As I was being installed as the new Family Ministry Coordinator, I promised to take my "duties" very seriously. I also realize that this is not a one person task. We need each and every one of you to be a part of this ministry.



*I jumped into getting ready for Vacation Bible School! I am very thankful to Heather Smith who stayed on as Interim Director through this!

*I have been meeting weekly with The Emanuel Childcare kids preparing for a performance on the Popcorn Festival Showcase Stage!

*The ELCA Youth Gathering 2018 in Houston, Texas planning has begun! We had a great youth meeting in planning for the year's activities. We are excited because doing God's work provides purpose in our lives. It does not come without challenges and conflicts. But God's Grace makes all of our trials, time, endeavors, ideas to grow - WORTH IT! That's what makes it exciting!

*I set up a booth at the Marion County Fair "Kids Day" on Wednesday of that week. I had games and a spinning wheel to select the games. The "wheel" had the Fruits of the Spirit on it. Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self Control. When the wheel would land on "Joy", you had to "Feed the Pig" because you have to fill your life with goodness! For "Kindness"- A Rice Krispy Treat that says "Treat others as you would like them to be treated." Love, you had to chew out hate with bubble gum while spinning the hula hoop until you blew a bubble! And so on....Over 200 kids took part in our booth! It was a fun day! But it also brought other opportunities I did not anticipate. I wanted to share this experience with you.



While the kids were playing games, the people in the booth next to me kept walking over and staring at the booth. Finally, the man said, "I have a question." His English was broken, he was from India. He pulled out a chair and said, "Let's talk." He said that he was of the Hindu faith and did not understand the difference between "gentleness" and "kindness". "Why the different words - they mean the same?" This started a beautiful conversation. We talked about our faiths, our commonalities, prejudice in the world, and what is our purpose on earth. All of this happened because, we were there. That was God's work and we took the opportunity!



Don't Miss This

BACK TO SCHOOL SPLASH at BROOKSIDE POOL

Friday, August 18th 4:00 p.m. Calling all kids! We will pay for the Sunday School child and adult to come and swim and eat at 6:00! Put this on your calendar for a fun time with friends! See you there!

*Sunday, August 27 - It's Back To SUNDAY SCHOOL! We will be continuing in our Spark Curriculum with the musical opening on the 3rd floor! We will be preparing for our Rally Day Celebration, September 17th which includes a skit and will include every child in Sunday School! Come join us Sundays at 9:15!



*Confirmation Kickoff will take place on Sunday, September 17. Kickoff will be part of the Sunday School Rally Day. Deacon Kevin Kehn will have more details later.

*What's new at Emanuel? A Childcare Choir! Come see them perform on the Popcorn Showcase Stage, Thursday, Sept. 7th at 11:30 a.m.

*Luther League - We are preparing for the ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2018 next summer in Houston, Texas! It will be held June 27 - July 1! Financial assistance opened July 15. If you are interested in more details, please contact Tanyce Addison 740 360 0124! Watch the bulletin for more events!

*In September, we will be starting Luther League/ Jr. Lutherans/ Adult League. We are starting a "CARE SQUAD"! I got this amazing idea from Heather Smith, Interim Family Life Ministry Coordinator who has experience with the "Care Squad"! "We get to" create this at Emanuel! Each month will be given a theme for a service project; and, during this process, we will learn, we will laugh, we will build our faith, and we will be doing God's purpose - serving and being disciples! Watch the bulletin for details!

So many times we say "WE HAVE TO" when as Christians we should be saying "WE GET TO". We are so guarded of our time, our feelings, our commitments. - We actually may be cheating ourselves out of the most wonderful opportunities of our lives. In my journey through Diakonia, so many questions were posed that helped me grow my faith. It also made me realize how important it is to take that initiative to seek ways to grow my faith.

Tanyce





Update Regarding Constitution & Bylaws ~ Matt Primmer

We are in the process of updating Emanuel's constitution and bylaws. The goals that have been established are:

1. Update the constitution to include the most recent changes following the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, as approved by the ELCA in 2016.
2. Attempt to reduce the number of required members for each board and/or combine boards (those with similar objectives). Over the past several years, we have had difficulty finding enough people to serve on the nine different boards in addition to the officers (executive committee). Currently each board is required to have six members. Including the officers, we need nearly 60 people every year to fill the positions. (*6 members x 9 boards = 54 + 4 officers = 58 members of the congregation*)
3. Review the constitution and bylaws to make sure there are no contradictions.
4. Review and condense the bylaw language to reflect what is actually being done by each board. Also, look at each board's responsibilities with the goal of making them clear to prospective board members what is expected, what the board actually does, and that it is possible.
5. Differentiate between standing committees and ad hoc committees. Standing committees would include Executive, Nominating, Audit, Altar Guild, Worship, etc. These are committees that are needed every year. Ad hoc committees may include Reformation/Anniversary, Human Resources, Fund Raising, etc. These are committees created by the executive committee or senior pastor for a specific function and dissolved upon completion.
6. Address any other concerns since the last revision.

Each board has been asked to review their objectives and to update the short paragraph describing what their board does. The boards were also asked if they thought their board or responsibilities could be combined, and could their board function with fewer members. We are in the process of compiling this information and hope to have a first draft to Parish Planning Council for the next meeting. If approved, a congregational meeting would be called to approve the changes.

If you have any questions or concerns about this information, contact Matt Primmer at primmer714@gmail.com or 740-262-2655. You may also speak with any other Executive Committee member: Harlan Needham, Rex Parrott, Betty Anderson.

2017 Mackinac Bridge Walk:

Once again this year Lutheran Men in Mission will participate in the Bridge Walk held on Labor Day, September 4. The goal is to raise money to be divided between Luther Home of Mercy and Filling Home. Walkers and people to pledge for the walkers are needed. Contact Bob Coffman or Jack Bull for more information. Look for them in the Gathering Space.

Two Fellowship Lunches in August: The theme of the **August 3, 11:30a.m.** lunch will be the *Roaring Twenties*. Feel free to wear your flapper dress or your *Great Gatsby* outfit. The menu will include spaghetti, tossed salad, garlic bread, and dessert. The speaker will be Dave Claborn, director of Development and Community Relations at the Marion Campus of The Ohio State University. **The theme for the August 31** lunch will be a *Carnival*. There will be carnival games & atmosphere. Menu: brats, German potato salad, and apple dessert. The speaker will be Angela Carbetta, Director of the Marion County Recycling and Litter Prevention Program. (No Luncheon in September because of the conflict with the Popcorn Festival.)





I thought I would give some background about two of the many ministries that we have here at Emanuel, the Prayer Shawl and Baby Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Prayer shawls have been given out for a long time. When my husband, Larry, died I received one and that's been over ten years ago. This ministry was started when our former Parish Nurse, Carol Columber, was here. It was Carol, Pastor Mark,



Prayer Shawl Ministry

and Deacon Kevin that distributed them.

Now you may have noticed that there is what is called our "Blessing Corner" on the west wall of the Gathering Space. There are prayer shawls available to anyone that you feel would be blessed by having one.

The prayer shawls are made by two very talented ladies in our congregation. They are then blessed by Pastor Mark and are ready for the *Blessing Corner*. There is a binder at the "Blessing Corner" with the names of the people that have already received a shawl. Add the person's name that you will be giving a shawl to.

This has been working very well. The names are there to keep track of who is receiving a prayer shawl as to not repeat someone being blessed by a second one.

These two ladies also make baby prayer shawls for Infant Baptisms. The shawls are also blessed and given to the family on the babies Baptismal Day.

These are just two of the many ways Emanuel shows God's Love.

Waldo Fresh Food Distribution is held on the first Friday of the month now through October. Every month we collect **toilet paper** beforehand at the entrances to the church. In addition we will be collecting: **August-toothbrushes and toothpaste**; **September-laundry detergent**. Each month we also need contributions of **cookies/brownies/cupcakes**. These can either be brought down on the day of the distribution or dropped off in the office. If you have the time please consider participating in this ministry; workers begin around 9:30/10:00 with food distribution beginning at 11:00 and finishing up at 2:00. A volunteer sign-up sheet is posted in the *Gathering Space*. Thanks in advance for your support.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink..." Matthew 25:35

YOU CAN HELP



On average, this time of year the Emanuel Lutheran Church's Food Pantry has prepared 37 orders of food for people in need in the Marion Community.

However, as this newsletter goes to print, **we have already prepared 105 orders in 2017 - almost tripling our average level of assistance!** The Food Pantry works as a partnership and provides food to people in need through referrals from Love In the Name of Christ or Love INC.

The Food Pantry's shelves are stocked through both in-kind and monetary donations from the congregation, specifically on Care & Share Sunday when items can be dropped off during church services Sunday morning. A list of current needs is printed in the announcements each 3rd Sunday, the week before Care & Share.

If you would like to help with Emanuel's Food Pantry simply bring donated food items during Care & Share, drop items off at the church office or make a monetary donation to the Food Pantry to be used for groceries!

Food Pantry Items:

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Pasta | Canned Veggies | Canned Fruit |
| Rice | Spaghetti Sauce | Tuna Helper |
| Tuna | Instant Potatoes | Canned Soups |
| Baked Beans | Macaroni & Cheese | Peanut Butter |
| Cereal | Canned Beef/Chicken | Crackers |



Notes of **THANKS**

Donna Key wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards and greetings on the occasion of her 90th Birthday.

Thank you to the ladies for such a wonderful luncheon in our mother's name. Everything was so delicious. A special thank you to Pastor Mark. His eulogy was so special, especially coming from someone who knew her. Can't thank you all enough. The family of Margaret Reeder.

We appreciate your support in our time of need. Thank you again, the family of Ed Roberts.

Virginia & Charles Klingel wish to thank everyone who remembered us with cards and greetings for my 90th birthday. Thank you, Virginia Klingel.

Thank you so much for the beautiful throw of the Lord's Prayer, and the wonderful meal. The families of Charles Baker.

Thank you to all who offered prayers and condolences upon the death of my dad. The kind words, hugs, cards, notes, phone calls, texts, emails, visits, flowers, chimes, and memorials are much appreciated.—Deacon Kevin and Chris Kehn.

Thank you to "The Church Family" of Emanuel Lutheran Church for their outpouring of Christian hospitality to The Cardinal Chorale Tour and Concert on June 19. Thank you for planning, advertising, housing, feeding, serving, giving and listening to this amazing group of high school/collegiate singers. Our church was filled with a welcoming and appreciative audience! We made use of every minute the Cardinal Chorale was in our church building Monday and Tuesday. We were well prepared to serve the Cardinal Chorale, but we experienced that it is in the giving that we received. God's grace was in our presence as the CC sang the table grace in the parlors; when they performed their "Let There Be Peace" in the balcony and as they sang to the Childcare Tuesday morning. It was a beautiful witness to see our Childcare kids handing water bottles to the singers before they boarded their bus. A rainbow even filled the sky Monday night! Thank you Emanuel.



Let's remember the following members with our prayers and cards:

Judith Stroble will celebrate her 91st birthday on August 7

Jane Laucher will celebrate her 91st birthday on August 14.

Mary Porter will celebrate her 92nd birthday on August 14.

Mary Danner will celebrate her 95th birthday on August 20

Earl Key will celebrate his 93rd birthday on September 9.

Lucille Barkley will celebrate her 97th birthday on September 19.

Virginia Leffler will celebrate her 96th birthday on September 19.

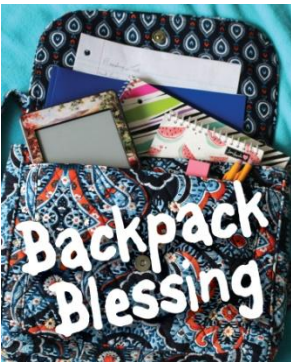


God's Left Hand: A 6-year-old and his grandma went for a walk one autumn day. "Look at the gorgeous leaves!" Grandma exclaimed. "Just think, God painted each one of them just for us!" "Yep," said her grandson, "and he did it left-handed." Perplexed, Grandma asked, "Why do you think God used his left hand to create all this beauty?" "Because," said the boy matter-of-factly, "we learned in Sunday school that Jesus sits on God's right one."

Emanuel Lutheran Church
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Lord Jesus, as our children begin a new school year, bless them. Fill them with excitement as they think about all the adventures you have in store for them. Keep them safe. Guide their learning. Help them be

examples of your love for their teachers and classmates. Help them always remember they belong to you. Amen.



Watch for us at the Popcorn Festival Parade, September 7!

Support our Youth by parking in our Lot during the Festival.

Join us as we sing praises to our Lord!



Children's Choir: under the direction of Teri Turner is for children age 3 to 6th grade. Join her in the Gathering Space on Wednesday's at 6:30p.m.

First Rehearsal will be August 23.

Adult Choirs:

Emanuel Choir, under the direction of Tanyce Addison, will meet for the first time on August 30 @ 6:00p.m. (Music Room-2nd floor)

Bell Choir, under the direction of Carolyn Fox, will meet on August 30 at 7:00p.m.



College Students: Make sure you give the church office your college address. We want to keep in touch!