

The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

Emanuel Lutheran

Church

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Find us on Facebook!

Church Staff:

Pastor Michael L. Poole Jr.

Deacon Kevin Kehn

Administrative Assistant:

Ashley Koehler

Financial Secretary:

Ed Stofcheck

Children's Ministry Coordinator:

Cindy Rinker

Building Supervisor: Carl Jones

Building Maintenance:

Frank Fanello

Child Care Director:

Abby Chase

Door Attendants:

Jim Stroupe, Brian and

Christy Penrod, Pat Thomas

Director of Music Ministry:

Paul Burnside

Assistant Organist: Sandra Becker

Praise Team & Children's

Choir Director: Teri Turner

Emanuel Choir & Bell Choir

Director: Carolyn Fox



Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 14th

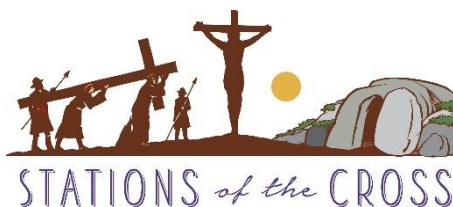
- Worship at 7:00p.m.

Good Friday, April 15th

- Stations of the Cross at 12:00 noon
- Worship at 7:00p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 17th

- "Sonrise" Service at 8:00a.m.
- Worship at 9:15a.m. and 10:30a.m.



A Note from Pastor Mike...

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

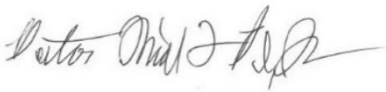
We continue our Lenten journey and move ever closer to the Victory of Easter. We are HOLDING OUR NAILS, asking God to reveal to us who God is calling us to be. As we move through Lent towards Easter, we are also moving more and more out of COVIDtide and into a new understand of ourselves, the church and the world.

Our Lenten midweek services are guiding us through Bishop Daniel's study on the book of Revelation. We are being encouraged to embrace God making ALL THINGS NEW. It is exciting to hear these words fresh once again.

We are making preparations for Holy Week services. We will begin Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion by hearing the dramatic telling of the Passion story as found in the Gospel of Luke. On Maundy Thursday, we will gather around a meal, just as the disciples gathered around a meal with Jesus. On Good Friday, at 12noon, we will have the opportunity to walk the path of Jesus on his final day of earthly ministry, through a version of the Way of the Cross. And then in the evening of Good Friday, we will gather around the foot of the cross, and return our nails to the place from which they belong. On Easter Sunday we will celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord, the 8:00a.m. worship service being a "Sonrise Service". The 9:15a.m. and 10:30a.m. worship services will be the usual formats.

It is through this story that we hear that we are Easter People. We are those who live after the resurrection. We have already been made part of the promise. And we are called to go out into the world to proclaim this Good News in our thoughts, in our words, and in our actions.

Have a blessed Easter Season,



Pastor Mike



Photos from Pastor Mike's Installation on February 20, 2022



For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven
Ecclesiastes 3:1

As I mentioned in my retirement letter, there is indeed a season and a time for every matter and as you know I will begin the season and time for my retirement at the beginning of June this year. Chris and I have no definite plans just yet, but there will be changes coming in our lives; we just don't know when and what yet.

In regards to the seasons and times we have spent with Emanuel Lutheran Church during the past twelve and a half years or so we are eternally grateful. As I began part-time ministry in the fall of 2009, simply fulfilling field experience for my Master's Degree in Lay Ministry, I had no idea that it would lead to a full-time position by January 2010 as the Assistant to the Pastor and then to a call as an Associate in Ministry in June 2010 (then to be renamed later as a Deacon). Even more of a surprise was in store for me as a major part of my ministry was doing the things that an associate pastor may do.

The Holy Spirit was with me as I became more comfortable assisting with worship, preaching, visiting shut-ins and those hospitalized. The Spirit continued to lead me then into funeral ministry and confirmation ministry, though the two seemingly have little to do with each other. Additionally, those of you who have attended studies that I have led know that the Holy Spirit was indeed guiding us as we delved into the Bible, Lutheranism, prayer, and other topics.

A most important reflection is that the Spirit is alive in you, the members of Emanuel Lutheran Church, and that is what I will miss as I begin a new season and time of my life.

Chris and I thank you all for taking us in as part of your church family. We will miss you and you will always be in our prayers. God's blessings to you all.

Deacon Kevin

Sunday School News

The Children's Sunday School designated March 20th as "Sunflower Sunday"

We started over 25 Sunflower pots that we will plant in and around our playground. We also invited children attending Emanuel's Daycare and Preschool to Sunday School that day.

What a fun morning planting and learning about sunflowers. We spoke to the children about the Sunflower being the national flower of Ukraine. Children were asked to say a prayer for Ukraine's children and families and use the sunflowers as reminders to do so.



Thank you, Daryl Kraner for supplying the soil and planter cups and helping us to plant. He will also care for these starts until ready to plant.



Sunday School will continue through summer this year. We've been apart too long and don't want to lose our momentum. A VBS program is being researched that will include adults as well children. This adventure begins on June 5th. Stay tuned for details!!!

There will be no Sunday School on May 29 and September 4.

We are also planning a family fellowship at McKinley Park and the new playground with plans to end the evening listening to the concert in the park. We will post that date when confirmed.

What's a quilt? Why have quilts held a special place in many hearts throughout the centuries? Remnants of quilts from as far back as the 14th century have been found in Asia and the Middle East. With modern technology, why do people bother with this time-consuming endeavor?

Quilts are more than fabric and thread. They take time to plan, time to ready and prepare materials, and time to execute. The quilter must take time away from other activities such as household chores or fun activities that they would rather be doing. Quilts are important *because* of the time they take. Each stitch is carefully sewn with the final project in mind, a beautiful object of warmth and comfort. Many quilts are made specifically for one person: a new grandbaby, a grown daughter for her wedding, a close friend who needs comfort and warmth. Quilts are a reminder of the love and care put into them. When we wrap ourselves in a handmade quilt, we have the knowledge that someone found it important to meticulously plan, and cut and sew this object. Handmade quilts have a history of all of the hands that had touched it, that no store-bought quilt will ever have.

Emanuel has been making quilts and sending them to people in need for decades. It is hoped that these quilts have provided warmth, peacefulness, and a sense of well-being to those who have received them. To continue this ministry we need your help. We will need donations of fabric, sheets, and other materials. Watch the bulletins for more information on how you can help.



Musings from the Church Mouse...

Have you seen what Pastor Mike is wearing for Communion? What is that thing? I know! I had the same question. It is called a "Chasuble". The Chasuble is one of the vestments worn by a minister, when they preside over Holy Communion. It is supposed to match the color of the day. It is a Eucharistic vestment. No.... it doesn't mean you wear it when you play cards. It means it meant to be worn during services with Communion. Some pastors will wear the Chasuble the whole service. Pastor Mike chooses the more traditional manner, which is to put it on after Passing the Peace, and before the start of Holy Communion. And they typically match the stole that is being worn that day. And they are colorful. Hope that helps.

Church Mouse

Looking back with Alicia Mayes...

Again we are saying goodbye to a dear friend and Deacon of Emanuel. I thought I would review some details about Deacon Kevin and Chris.

Deacon Kevin went to Bowling Green State University and graduated with a degree in teaching in 1979. His wife, Chris, also attended Bowling Green, they met their senior year. Chris also graduated from Bowling Green with a degree in teaching. They were married August 25, 1979 and started their teaching careers. Kevin at North Union Middle School and Chris at Elgin School District. They both spent their 30-year teaching careers in the same school districts and retired in 2009.

Kevin was raised Catholic and turned Lutheran when he married Chris. They moved to Prospect and joined St. Paul's Lutheran Church and were very active.

As I was looking for information to write this piece, I ran across the newsletter piece that I wrote about Kevin in 2014. In it, Kevin told me that he had served as an elder, deacon, Sunday school teacher, and had preached several times. He also served on the internship committee in 2002 at St. Paul's to have an intern. The church could not afford an intern on their own, so shared one with St. Paul's in Waldo and Trinity Lutheran on Smeltzer Rd. Pastor Mark Schuring was serving Trinity Lutheran at that time. The intern that these churches shared was our Pastor Mike Poole. Kevin told me at that time it was Mike Poole that came to him and asked if he might be interested in attending the seminary. Kevin was still teaching at the time and it presented a huge decision for Kevin and Chris to make as to whether he would attend seminary to prepare for a second career after retiring from teaching.

The decision was made that Kevin would start summer classes at Trinity Seminary on the road to becoming an A.I.M. (Associate in Ministry was the title at that time). It took him 6 ½ years to get a 2-year Master's Degree taking night and summer classes. In this process he was still teaching. It was a long process and Kevin told me that Chris needs to be commended for supporting him through this process.

In 2009 Cathy Schibler, assistant to the bishop, talked with Kevin because he needed field experience for graduation. Pastor J. Weston Jones had just retired from Emanuel and Pastor Mark Schuring had no one to assist him, so Kevin came to Emanuel to get the field experience he needed. His first day in our church office was September 28, 2009. He worked here 20 hrs. a week while still taking 2 classes at seminary.

Kevin graduated from Trinity Seminary in 2010 with a Master's Degree in Lay Ministry. He told me at my writing in 2014 that all the years he was taking classes at the seminary, St. Paul's Prospect was very much a part of the path he took.

Kevin was officially called to Emanuel and was installed as A.I.M. Kevin Kehn on his birthday, June 5, 2010. He thought at that time that he would be in the capacity of our Christian Education Coordinator or Youth Minister. Emanuel needed someone to visit our members that are shut-ins at home, nursing home and assisted living residents. Kevin has served in that roll and served these folks very well in his

years here. I have had many of these folks tell me over the years that it means so much to get a visit from Kevin.

In 2017 Kevin's title was changed from Associate in Ministry to Deacon by the ELCA.

Things have certainly come full circle as Kevin stated in a sermon recently. Pastor Mike encouraged Kevin to start on this path and is here as Kevin prepares to start a new path in retirement.

Kevin and Chris have 3 children, Dan and his wife, Stephanie, Kirsten and her husband, Peder, and Steve and his wife, Sierra. They are very proud grandparents of Grace, Rhett, Owen, and Everett.

We have been so blessed to have Kevin and Chris here for the past 12 ½ yrs.

I wish you both a wonderful retirement to spend time with family and just enjoy life. I know that you, the congregation, wish them the best also.

Facts about Kevin's time here: As I was researching to write this piece, I found that none of our Associate Pastors or Visitation Pastors have served Emanuel as long as Deacon Kevin. Pastor Henry Seibert served the longest which was 7 yrs. as Associate Pastor and Pastor Arnold Wulff served as Visitation Pastor 10 yrs. Deacon Kevin has served Emanuel a little over 6 months as an intern and 12 yrs. after his installation June 5, 2010. Kevin has lead confirmations classes and confirmed 55 young people. As of this writing he has conducted 150 funerals. He also baptized 2 children between the time Pastor Mark retired in December and the time Pastor Mike came.



Sunday, May 29, 2022

We will have one 10:30a.m. service for Kevin's farewell. The service will be followed by a reception line to say farewell.

If you would like to make a contribution the retirement gift the church is giving, please submit a check with "retirement" in the memo line by May 20th.



Happy Retirement
You will be Missed!



Your Communication and Evangelism Committee has been working behind the scenes to make Emanuel a great place for Christian community and worship. We are in the process of purchasing a new sound system which will include things such as mics and speakers. This improvement will help both in the live worship services and virtual services. This system will be installed as soon as all the ordered parts come in. We are also working to improve the video system with the equipment that we currently have. This will make for a better Facebook live worship experience. Our other big project is the pictorial directory. The directory format has been laid out and sent to the company. Once we get the draft copy back, we will edit it and return it. We are hoping that we can get these into your hands by late spring, early summer. Lastly, we are trying to improve internal communication throughout the church. We are working to improve our Facebook page and website, so that members who are online can stay in touch with each other and see what's going on in church. We have other projects in the works and will share more in the next newsletter.



Dee Rinehart, Janet Musser, Laurie Wise, Daryl Kramer (guest team member)

Do you know someone who likes egg hunts? **The Board of Education is going "egging,"** surprising folks with Easter eggs to spread some joy and can use your help! We want to surprise 25 households with a yard full of eggs that carry treats and messages about Jesus. If you would like your house to be "egged" or know someone in the Marion area who would like this, please sign up in the Gathering Space by April 10th. We hope this will be a fun and meaningful reminder (or introduction) of the Easter story for the congregation, childcare, and neighbor recipients. If you have questions or would like to help deliver the eggs, please contact Heather Smith 814-464-6683.



LGBT & Allies meet every Second Sunday @ 6:00p.m.



• April 10

• May 8

• June 12

These will be a potluck format, so please bring a favorite dish to share. Beverages (iced tea, lemonade, water & coffee) as well as table service will be provided.

If you are LGBT or an ally, and you have been fully vaccinated, you are welcome to attend.

Questions: email at LGBT.Emanuel@gmail.com, calling or texting 740-262-2655 or calling the church office at 740-383-2184.



Welcome to the new music page of the Emanuel Good News Newsletter! As music is a vital part of our worship experience, I would like to provide a regular forum with news, information, and interesting tidbits to help keep you informed about what is going on musically at Emanuel and to bring awareness of the heritage and rich tradition that is Lutheran music.

I am humbled to be your new full-time Organist and Director of Music Ministries at Emanuel. It is an honor to serve you, the congregation, and follow in the tradition of musical excellence that Emanuel has enjoyed for so many years. Although I am no stranger here, I look forward to getting to know you even better and to become more involved in short- and long-range worship planning. I am blessed to play and be the conservator of the magnificent Casavant organ and Baldwin piano in Emanuel's beautiful sanctuary! These are possibly the finest church instruments in Marion, and we are so fortunate that they are available to us as we worship every week.

As we are headed to the Easter season very soon, I want to highlight a favorite Easter hymn of mine, "Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia" (ELW 364). This is a Tanzanian hymn written in Swahili by Rev. Bernard Kyamanywa while he was in seminary, and is sung to what is a traditional Tanzanian Haya tune, here titled "Mfurahini, Haleluya (Rejoice, Hallelujah)". It is an exuberant telling of the Easter story in East African call-response style. I hope you will enjoy singing it as much as I enjoy playing it, and that we will shake the rafters with our voices! It is a hymn that will keep you uplifted throughout your entire day, and will be a fitting closing hymn which we will sing on Easter Sunday!

*Let us sing praise to him with endless joy.
Death's fearful sting he has come to destroy.
Our sin forgiving, alleluia!
Jesus is living, alleluia!*

Until next time, Soli Deo Gloria!
Paul Burnside

Needed — Emanuel Adult Choir Director — The Board of Spiritual is looking to hire a director for the Emanuel Adult Choir. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please contact Betty Anderson @ 740-244-1661 or andrsnjb@gmail.com, for more information.



Spring Laundry Initiative Day is Saturday, April 23 at both Colonial Laundromats (587 N Main and 610 Bellefontaine Ave.) in Marion from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. We need 3 volunteers for each hour. Signup sheets for all shifts at both locations can be found in the Gathering Space beginning April 3. Please prayerfully consider volunteering; required skills are a friendly smile, the ability to pour detergent/fabric softener and swipe the money card. Training will be provided.

Questions on this project can be directed to any member of the Social Ministry Board: Becky Sloat, Matt Primmer or Barb Russo. Thanks again to the congregation for sharing and caring about the Marion community as none of this work can be accomplished without your involvement.

Do you want even more "Good News"??

Starting in June, the Good News Newsletter will be produced monthly! All content should be submitted by the 15th of the month for the following month's newsletter.

Please let Ashley in the office know if you would like to receive the newsletter by email, rather than print. Thank you!

Hauling Hope is the furniture ministry of Love In the Name of Christ. This ministry was put on hiatus a few years ago because there was no longer a place to store the furniture that was donated. A new storage facility has been acquired; part of the old Probst Supply building on West Center Street. We have run into another problem though; the box truck that we use is in need of repairs and we are waiting on parts to arrive to complete the repairs. So, we are on hiatus again. Hopefully soon the truck will be ready and Hauling Hope can resume ministry. Currently there are three congregations, including us, who take care of this ministry. We take turns with each church taking a month at a time during the year, so that each congregation mans the ministry four months. During each of our months we schedule two Saturday mornings to pick up furniture and deliver furniture. Usually, we make just a handful of stops on the Saturday mornings we are scheduled. Love INC gives us all the contact information that we need. Deacon Kevin has been the one that coordinates this ministry here at Emanuel, but since he is retiring at the end of May we are in need of a new coordinator. If you are interested in getting involved in this ministry at any level, please talk to Deacon Kevin as soon as possible. Thanks for your support!



Hello From Emanuel Childcare and Preschool!

Childcare has been busy with visits from the Marion Police Department and their dog Chip, Pastor Mike and his bagpipes, and even a sneaky leprechaun they couldn't quite catch on St. Patrick's Day. The warmer weather has also meant more time on the playground!

Plans are underway for the **Annual Parking Lot Sale** to take place Saturday, May 7th from 9am – 2pm. Space is available to rent for \$20/table. You set up items of your own to sell and keep the profits from your table. Contact Ashley in the church office if you'd like to reserve a spot. If you do not have anything to sell, you can still support Childcare through this event by stopping out that day to grab a bite for lunch!

We are also happy to announce that Emanuel Lutheran Childcare and Preschool was awarded the 2022 Child Care Provider of the Year by YWCA Child Care Resource and Referral. Providers are nominated for their work in increasing the quality of care provided within their programs, as well as increasing staff education, and star rating. Congratulations Emanuel Childcare!

Volunteer Opportunity! Emanuel Childcare would love some volunteers to provide comfort care in the infant room, rocking babies, reading to toddlers, playing games and preparing lunches (menu and food provided by childcare).

You can also help by donating some items from Childcare's wish list: foam plates (3 sections), plastic spoons, canned fruit. See the complete list on our website. Any questions, contact Sue Rakow, Child Care Board Director at 740-389-4943; Abby Chase, Child Care Director at 740-341-4988, or call Child Care directly during the week at 740-382-0257.

All Things New is the bible study that we have been using for our message during our Wednesday Lenten services. This study of the Book of Revelation was written by Bishop Beaudoin and others in the synod office. We began the study with an introduction packet that was available to you at the entrances to the church. There are 7 lessons included in the study and we only have 5 midweek services; so, the last two lessons will be made available to you with a packet that will be at the entrances to the church again. These packets will probably show up sometime around Holy Week. We hope you have been enriched and have enjoyed this study.

Ascension Day Service – Thursday, May 26th Emanuel Lutheran Church will host an Ascension Day Service in the Sanctuary at 7:00p.m. Other area Lutheran churches are invited to attend. Please plan to join us as we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I began with the very best of intentions. My intention was to show my appreciation to you by handwriting thank you cards for your generosity to me and my family for all the gifts and well wishes given to us upon my retirement.

To this end, the office staff provided me with a list of names of those who donated funds for my pastor's purse. The list did not list donation amounts. I honestly had no idea just how many would donate. In addition to this list, I saved a large box of cards sent to me by those who chose to donate independently of the church's fund or gave other gifts.

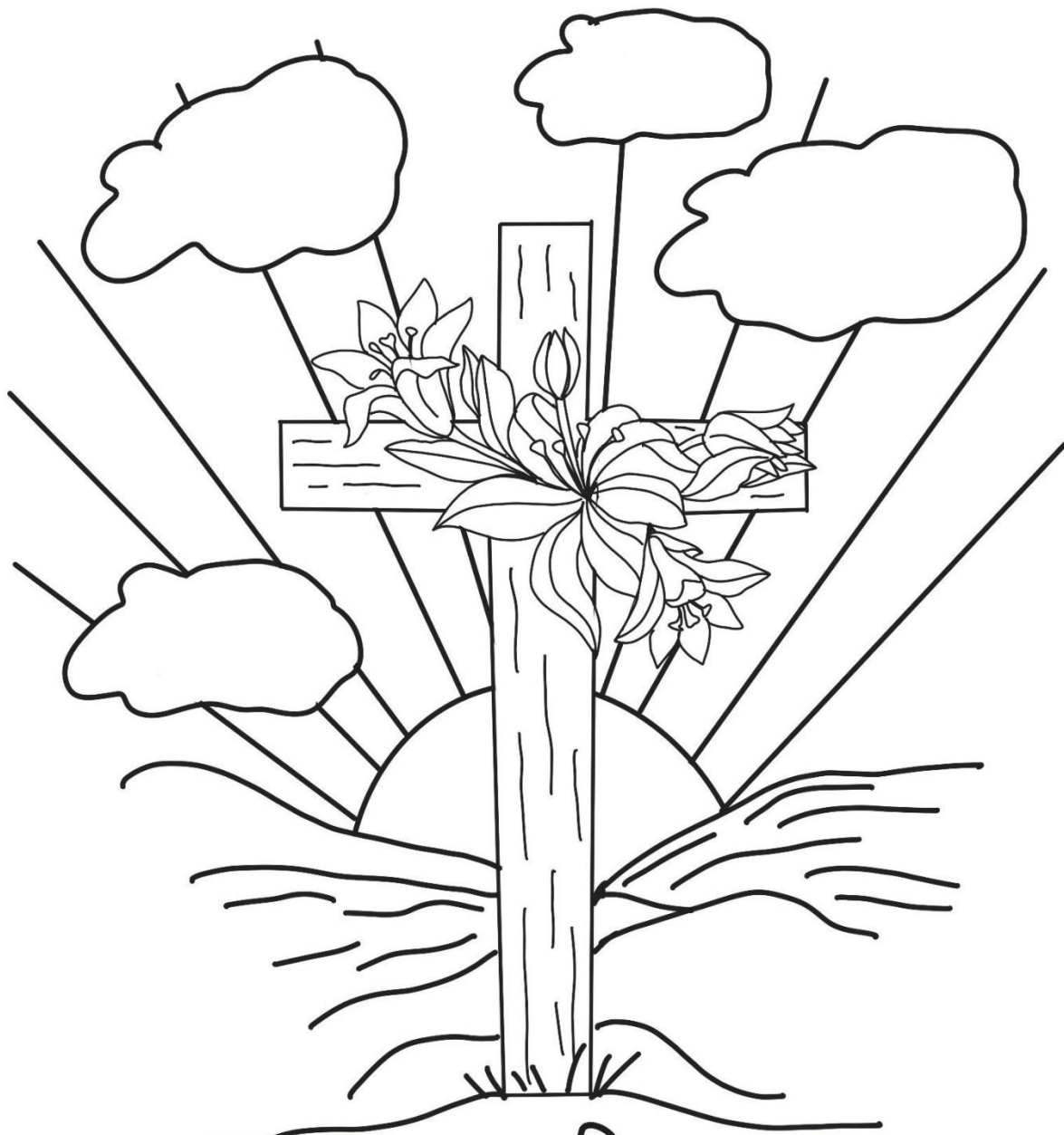
I say all of this not to brag, but to explain why I am conveying my thanks to those who donated to the church fund through the newsletter.

To say that I was overwhelmed by your generosity is an understatement. It took me some time to fully appreciate what you did for us. I am so grateful. We will use the money to take an extended RV vacation this summer. Originally, we intended to head out West, but have trimmed our expectations to visiting Civil War battlefields. The money you gave will make it possible for us to take an extended trip, which would not be possible if not for you. It will be delightful to vacation without worrying about cost.

I will remember with deep fondness our time together. This is not to say that there weren't painful times. This is not to say that there weren't mistakes. But this is to say I never felt you gave up on me and I never gave up on you. The best any of us can hope for is unconditional support. I believe I received that. Your donations verified this for me.

Thank you for all your kindnesses. Thank you for your well wishes. Thank you for your prayers. God bless Emanuel with a bright future in serving Jesus.

Because he lives,
Pastor Mark



He is Risen



Nancy Mash celebrates her 92nd birthday April 25th



JoAnn Blank celebrates her 93rd birthday May 3rd

Dewey Yake celebrates his 93rd birthday May 6th

Jean Roecker celebrates her 93rd birthday May 9th

Shirley Jerew celebrates her 90th birthday May 16th

William Van Riper celebrates his 94th birthday May 19th

Donna Key celebrates her 95th birthday May 30th



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