The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

Emanuel Lutheran Church

241 S. Prospect Street
Marion, OH 43302
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www.emanuellutheran.net
Find us on Facebook!

Church Staff:

Pastor Michael L. Poole Jr. **Parish Deacon Ann Thomas 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: Brian and Christy Penrod** Pat Thomas, Rob Valentine **Director of Music Ministry: Paul Burnside Assistant Organist:** Sandra Becker **Praise Team & Children's Choir Director: Teri Turner Emanuel Choir Director:** Steve deWeber

Emanuel Bell Choir Director: Carolyn Fox



Please Join us for Worship on Christmas Eve!

We will have one advent worship at 10:30a.m.

Family Worship at 3:00p.m.

Traditional worship at 8:00p.m.

All services will be livestreamed. 10:30a.m. and 8:00p.m. will also air on WMRN.

Rejoice

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:4-7

Advent is a season of reflection, renewal and also rejoicing. We prepare to hear the story of the birth of Christ into this world and into our lives.

The third aspect of this 150th Year is to take time to rejoice! This is a season to rejoice in what our Lord has done for us: as individuals, as a congregation, as the body of Christ, as the world.

We have reflected upon who God is calling us to be. This year, we are renewing ourselves with the ministry God is calling us to do. We rejoice in the future God has for us as we prepare to hear where God is sending us in the world as disciples of Christ.

During the Advent and Christmas season, take time to rejoice in all that God has done. Rejoice!

Peace,

Pastor Mike



You Know You Are a Steadfast Lutheran If....



- ... You realize there is no place in a church kitchen for chairs, but stools may be used to rest your feet.
- ... You don't think that 14 hotdishes and 12 kinds of Jell-O and 6 kinds of pickles spread out on the serving table is overkill.
- ... You don't think it unusual for someone to be specifically assigned to butter rolls and slice pickles.
- ... You know that the Baby Jesus should not go into the Nativity Scene until Christmas Eve.







Board of Fellowship

The Emanuel Birthday Celebration was delightful. Everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship, and the following individuals won the door prizes --

Phoebe Smith -- Favorite Dessert

Kathy Sherman -- Best Decorations

Everly Shay -- Youngest participant

Ed Baldauf -- Most mature participant

Steve & Cindy deWeber -- Newest members

Ed Baldauf -- Longest member

Daryl Kraner -- 2nd longest member



A **BIG thank you** to the music department of Emanuel for providing the entertainment for the evening. Listening to their uplifting music was a perfect ending to the celebration.

Thank you, Board of Fellowship, for organizing this event.







Trip to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering

We are planning on taking a group of youth to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2024. We have had an initial meeting. The group has several ideas for raising funds for the trip. We are also looking forward to getting together to do some group building prior to the trip. We are combining with group from St. Paul's (Waldo) for this trip.

Communication and Evangelism



We need people to help with the audio/visual presentations for Facebook on Sunday mornings. It is not difficult and can be easily learned. You don't have to dedicate every Sunday morning. C'mon, even Martin Luther pitches in when the need arises. You can too.

All is Bright

We're getting closer to our December 9th open house. We need door greeters (in narthex), door greeters (gathering space), floaters, food table people and "Doorman" for rear entrance. We have slots available between 5:00 and 8:00. You can sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Space, or let a member of the Communication and Evangelism team know. If you can donate cookies and other goodies you can add that to the bottom of the sign in sheet. Let's show Marion how warm and welcoming we are. Thanks.

Sunday School News - Dates to Remember

DECEMBER 2nd. 10.00 A.M. CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL

Please meet us in the Sanctuary for practice. Those who don't have a costume by then will be fitted that morning. We are planning to choose costumes during SUNDAY SCHOOL on November 26.

DECEMBER 3rd. 10:30 A.M. EMANUEL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

We will meet in the Martin Luther Room at 9:45 to put our costumes on and get ready to tell the story of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

DECEMBER 3rd. 11:30 A.M. CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

This meal is being prepared by Glen and Lori Campbell. They are serving lasagna, salad and rolls. For dessert we will be decorating cupcakes in honor of Jesus birthday. All are welcome to join us, please come and help us celebrate.

DECEMBER 17TH. 9:15 A.M. SERVICE SUNDAY

We're meeting on the 4th floor to make blankets for the families experiencing homelessness. We can always use extra hands to tie knots. We will be serving hot chocolate and cookies too!

DECEMBER. 20th. 5:00 P.M. BREAKING BREAD TOGETHER

Are you worn out from the hustle and bustle of preparations for Christmas?

Are you hungry, but too tired to cook? Still have gifts to wrap? We're here to help! The Board of Education will be serving pizza and salad and we will be decorating cookies for dessert. The students attending The Gathering this summer will be on hand to wrap gifts for you....we're grateful for donations toward our trip. And....Paul Burnside and Miss Teri will lead us in a Christmas sing along. How much fun will this be?

DECEMBER 24th. 9:15. SUNDAY SCHOOL for EVERYONE

This is for children, families and anyone who would like to gather and watch a Christmas movie. Meet us on the 4th in The Three Kings Theater.

Introducing Guest Pastor Tanyce Addison



This month I want to write about Pastor Tanyce Addison. I know a lot of you know Tanyce but since she will be at Emanuel on Thursday, February 11th at 7P, at the Praise Service, I wanted to highlight her this month.

Tanyce Fogle Addison was raised at Emanuel, the daughter of Jane and Dave Fogle. She has 2 sisters and a brother, Jandee, Andrea, and Kit. This newsletter piece was sent me from Tanyce and is her own words:







FOGLE, Dave & Jane

My story of my pathway to Word and Sacrament has been a lifelong journey influenced by life experiences and beautiful people. I graduated in May, 2022, from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Berkeley, CA in the Theological Education for Emerging Ministries. Growing up on a family farm, the importance of faith, community and love of music were important. My family joined Emanuel when I was 11 years old. I went through confirmation classes with Rev. M. E. Hollensen and Pastor James Rave. In 1979, a donation came in to Emanuel for Handbells and I was fortunate enough to be the first director of the Adult and Youth Bell Choirs. One of my fondest memories was having the Emanuel Bell Choir play at my Senior Trombone Recital at The Ohio State University, where I graduated with a degree in Music Education. That same year, they processed down the aisle for our wedding. I served in public education for 35 years teaching music, directing high school marching bands, choirs, musicals and show choirs. After retirement, Diakonia classes were offered in 2015, I signed up and graduated in 2017. I then was installed as a Parish Deacon at Emanuel Lutheran, Marion, Ohio. Along with directing the Adult choirs, I served as Family and Youth Ministry Coordinator and became active on the Disciple Initiative Committee at the Synod. The Church Immersion Trip to England has had a great impact in envisioning new faith communities and equipping disciples. I began the TEEM program at Emanuel 2019 and in July 2020 during "Covid", an opportunity to serve at Good Hope Lutheran Church in Bucyrus, OH, became available. I was ordained and called to serve as their pastor in 2022. Frank and I were married at Emanuel 43 years ago. Our five children, Jami, Valerie, Halie, Lane, and Lathan were all baptized and confirmed at Emanuel. They are all married and have blessed us with eleven grandchildren.

Until next time, Alicia Merry Christmas from the Altar Guild.

This is part 5 of the ongoing history of Emanuel.

June 21, 1959 Harold Denzer, Jr. gave an organ recital at Emanuel. I have a program that tells the details of his recital and it will be on display in December.

June 5, 1960 is when the 8 A.M. service was started to accommodate the growing number of members to our congregation.

November 13, 1960 the North Central Choir Festival was held at Emanuel. I have a program with all the participating choirs and the songs they sang. It will be on the display table in December.

In 1962 the south parking lot was purchased. The fund drive was headed by Carleton Case. The drive resulted in the amount of \$100,000.00.



March 13, 1966 Carl and Irma Campbell (pictured to the left) were chairpersons for the first annual communion service held in the sanctuary for shut-ins. We provided transportation for our members that couldn't come to the church on their own. Carl and Erma were very involved in the church in those years. Carl was the church treasurer for many years and Irma was a Sunday school teacher. I had Erma in first grade Sunday school. Such wonderful people.

On July 17, 1966 there was a special service held at Emanuel to mark the 50th Anniversary of the ordination of our first, "Son of Emanuel" Rev. Merton Baseler and the 35th Anniversary of ordination of Rev. Martin Hollensen the Senior Pastor at Emanuel at the time.

In 1970 pledges totaling \$202,000 were obtained in a campaign headed by Jack Bull for an elevator, parking, redecorating, building repair, carpeting, and protection of the stained-glass windows.

February 10, 1971 it was reported to church council that a parking meter contract with the City of Marion had been signed and a \$70 per year lighting agreement with Hall-Beck Office Supply for the new parking lot across the street. NAPA Auto Supply is in that building now. We still own that parking lot.

In March of 1971, Minnie Ackerman, Emanuel's organist for 56 years retired. Plans were being made by church council to establish a recognition in her honor. A committee was formed consisting of Carl Campbell, chairman, Jerry Doan, choir director and Jim Bentley.

April 14, 1971, the need for an elevator was presented to church council. The architect was Merrill Landis and submitted an estimate of \$49,000.00.

May 26, 1971, a special church council meeting was held to review a proposal by Joe Davis and Carl Campbell to raze a church owned property at 190 Columbia Street to convert the area into 16-18 parking spaces. This proposal was approved. R & D Company that used to be beside that property would be leasing the lot for 5 years at a cost of \$50 per month. Estimated cost of this project was set at \$2,000.00.

June 9, 1971 – Church council met and there were 2 more bids for the elevator had been submitted. One was from Baldauf Construction at a cost of \$29,300.00 for installing a Capitol Elevator and Steward Construction for \$25,000.00. The contract was awarded to Steward Construction for the installation of an Otis Elevator. We still have the same elevator today.

June 14, 1972 – Church council met to discuss black topping of our 3 parking lots. It was recommended that they be resurfaced and a bid of \$3,136.00 by Wyandot Blacktop was submitted. The recommendation for this project was approved. This would be the parking lot beside the church, the one across the street by NAPA, and the one on Columbia Street.

December 3, 1972 – There was a Congregational Call Meeting held after the 10:30 service to hear about the 2 candidates that were selected by the call committee for the congregation to vote. Rev. Hollensen would be retiring at the end of December. The candidates were Rev. James A. Rave, presently at Atonement Lutheran Church in Cincinnati and Rev. Daniel Snider, presently at Messiah Lutheran Church in Reynoldsburg. Ballots were distributed to the congregation and counted. Pastor James Rave would now be our new pastor after Rev. Hollensen's retirement. Pastor Rave accepted the call to Emanuel December 29, 1972.

Rev. Hollensen retired December 31, 1972 after 35 years as Emanuel's pastor.

Pastor James Rave was installed February 4, 1973. A reception was held to welcome Pastor Rave and his family. Bishop Moeller was at Emanuel and preached that Sunday.

March 13, 1973 – Church Council met and the subject of possibly turning the parsonage into the church offices was discussed. Pastor Rave wanted to buy a house for his family and not live in the parsonage.



June 3, 1973 – Church Council met and discussed two possible candidates for the position of associate pastor at Emanuel. The names of these pastors were Rev. David Augenstein and Rev. Walter B. Fohs. The call committee then recommended Rev. Augenstein as their first choice. It was stated that his ability to work with youth as well as other pastoral duties was why he was their choice. A Congregational Call Meeting was held June 24th and a vote was taken. The vote showed that the congregation agreed to call Rev. David Augenstein.

Pastor Augenstein was installed as associate pastor of Emanuel August 26, 1973. He was called from St. John's Lutheran Church at Lakeville, Ohio. He and his wife, Phyllis, and children Jeremy and Wendy moved to Marion.

In 1973 the Hall Beck building, now NAPA, was sold to Karl Bechtel owner of Hall Beck Office Supply. The parking lot is still owned by Emanuel.

June 13, 1973 council meeting: A letter of resignation was read from the position of Director of Emanuel Choir, Jerry Doan. He had accepted the position of Assistant Professor of Music at Adrian College, Adrian, Michigan. His resignation was effective August 31, 1973.

At a meeting held July 11, 1973 Carl Campbell, chairman of the Music Committee, asked to accept Keith Becker (pictured to the right) as the new choir director. There was a vote by council members and Keith was accepted as the new choir director. At the August 8, 1973 meeting of council, it was reported that Keith Becker accepted the position.

At the church council meeting September 13, 1973, it was stated that using live Christmas trees in the chancel area were a violation of the city fire code. You have seen from the pictures in the display in the Gathering Space that live trees had always been used before that time. Prices would be secured for artificial trees.

At this same meeting Pastor Rave informed council of two requests for funds from Emanuel. The first was from the Marion County Ministerial Service to help finance their proposed project of putting a full-time chaplain on staff to cover Marion General Hospital and Community Hospital. The second request came from the Marion City Council on Alcohol and Drugs. They requested funds to help operate a Half-way House. The annual commitment for Emanuel would be \$300.00. It was stated that these two financial requests go to the Budget Committee for a decision.

October 10, 1973 church council accepted the resignation of church secretary, Tomi Bacon, after 26 years of dedicated service. It was decided to present Tomi with a 3-year golf membership at the Whetstone Golf Club as a gift from the congregation. Whetstone Golf Club in Caledonia opened in 1971 and is now permanently closed. At this same meeting it was suggested that the entire year 1974 be known as the Centennial Year since Emanuel would be turning 100. Here we are 50 years later in the midst of another anniversary year celebration.

More history to come, Alicia

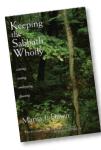
Musings from the Church Mouse...

Doesn't the sanctuary look awesome with all the Advent / Christmas decorations? The pews were recently polished. And we are starting to see some sprucing or greening up of the whole building. Take a moment to look around and enjoy.

See ya' at worship!

Church Mouse

Book Study



We have completed the fall book study on "Giving to God – The Bible's Good News About Living a Generous Life," by Mark Allan Powell. We had fantastic conversations about Stewardship! Bishop Daniel has stated 2024 will be the Year of Rest. To join in this process, we will work through "Keeping the Sabbath Wholly – Ceasing, Resting, Embracing, Feasting" by Marva J. Dawn. This book is more about living a holistic spiritual life, and goes far beyond just keeping Sabbath. We will be working through this book for most of 2024. We are looking at starting in the middle of January. We will have in-person gatherings on Thursdays at 11:30a and 5:30p. We will also have a virtual session on Sunday nights at 6:30p. If you would like the zoom link for the virtual session, send an email to Pastor Mike.

Journey Through the Bible Together

Pastor Mike still has a Bible study on Sunday afternoons. We are taking time to read the entire Bible together, from Genesis to Revelation, from cover to cover. It is interesting that the vast majority of Christians have not actually read the entire Bible once. This is the book that we confess to be the rule, source, guide and norm of all that we think, say, and do. Maybe we should actually read it.

We began with Genesis and will take one to three weeks working through each book, depending on the discussion and conversation. Pastor Mike has notes and handouts to guide us through this journey. This has always been an enjoyable journey for Pastor Mike in all his congregations. We have about 17 people gathering for this study, but there is still more room for you to join us.

We meet on Sundays from 2p - 4p. We will meet most Sundays. You don't have to be at every single week to get benefit from the study. We will let everyone know where we are in the Bible from week to week. So, join us when you are able. We have just started the New Testament. So, if you'd like to join us for the second half, feel free! We are currently in the Gospel of John.

Faith Journeys

One of the disciplines that God calls us to do is continue our Faith Journey. We all need to keep on this learning journey. Our Faith Journey events are meant for all ages.

Future Faith Journey Events:

- Thursdays 11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21 Advent Worship
- Saturday, January 6th 9a-12noon Film "In God's Name". Look at the major religions of the world.
- Lenten Midweek services 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27, 3/28, 3/29, 3/31 Seven Deadly Sins
- Saturday, March 2 10am Bible 3:16
- Friday Saturday, March 15-16 Confirmation Retreat

Pastor Poole's Pins

Lutheran World Federation and Lutheran World Relief are two organizations that allow us to be in contact and ministry with people all around the world. Many years ago, LWF was selling these pins that were bottle caps that had been hand painted by youth around the world.





Welcome to Our Monthly Music Notes!

And the leaves that are green turn to brown.

As I write this, I'm waiting for the last of the leaves on our Norway Maples to finally drop so I can finish mulching them and winterize my mowers. This would be round 4 of mulching, as the various trees around our property shed their leaves at different times. The Norway Maples are the last to go, and their leaves are big and beautiful as they change color, but all that's left now are dirty yellow and brown hangers-on and bunches of seedlings. Maybe they're anticipating Christmas, like the rest of us!

Speaking of Christmas, on Sunday December 3rd we will have a single service, at 10:30 AM. It will be our annual Children's Program, with participation from all of Emanuel's music ensembles and the Sunday School kids! So mark that date on your calendar to come at 10:30, the First Sunday of Advent, and be sure to stay for lunch following the service!

Also, Saturday evening, December 9th, is the Marion Christmas Open House from 5:00-8:00 PM, where the downtown churches will be opening their doors for visitors to view the decorated interiors of their sanctuaries. I'll be providing "background" Christmas organ music, and we will also have special music by the Marion Recorder Consort, the Marion Flute Ensemble (both of whom rehearse at Emanuel!), and our very own Bell Choir. This is always such a nice event, and it's a great time for the community to learn who we are and what we are about at Emanuel.

I was perusing last year's December Music Notes, where I discussed one of my favorite childhood Christmas memories, of my family gathering around the piano singing "O Little Town of Bethlehem," which was written by my ancestor and my father's namesake, Phillips Brooks (1835-1893), the great Episcopal Bishop. In my research into Brooks, I discovered that this was not the only Christmas song or carol that he wrote. In fact he wrote several other Christmas and Easter carols that have been published in a few hymnals over the years.

One lovely Brooks carol that did not achieve widespread popularity is "The Sky Can Still Remember", also known as "Constant Christmas":

- 1. The sky can still remember The earliest Christmas morn, When in the cold December The Savior Christ was born. No star unfolds its glory, No trumpet wind is blown, But tells the Christmas story In music of its own.
- 2. O never-failing splendor!
 O never-silent song!
 Still keep the green earth tender,
 Still keep the gray earth strong,
 Still keep the brave earth dreaming
 Of deeds that shall be done,
 While children's lives come streaming
 Like sunbeams from the sun.
- 3. O angels sweet and splendid,
 Throng in our hearts and sing
 The wonders which attended
 The coming of the King;
 Till we too, boldly pressing
 Where once the shepherds trod,
 Climb Bethlehem's Hill of Blessing,
 And find the Son of God.

Although the poetic language may be a bit archaic to us today, the images in the text are still familiar. We are reminded that the glory of the first Christmas Morn is still present, and by keeping Christ in our hearts, we will achieve, like the Shepherds, the climb up "Bethlehem's Hill of Blessing."

May all of you have a Blessed Christmas, filled with Family, Friends, Food, and Music! Until next time, Soli Deo Gloria!
Paul



Dec. 7 - Robert Brown celebrates 91!

Dec. 14 - Mary Hoover celebrates 91!

Dec. 26 - Winona Fogle celebrates 94!

Let's remember Robert, Mary and Winona with our cards and prayers! Contact the church office for addresses.

Steeple Sightings



Ah, December. It's that time of the year when the nights start earlier (I can eat sooner) and get colder. I really appreciate the church's heating system during the extra holiday activities. But with so much more going on nowadays, who keeps everything organized and running smoothly? None other than our dedicated administrative assistant-- Ashley Koehler.

She was born in Akron and raised in Stow with an older brother, younger sister, and a 4-H horse named Royal. Her parents are still in northeast Ohio.

She met her future husband Mark while in college: Ohio Dominican for her and OSU for him. They were married in Emanuel with Pastor Wes Jones officiating. Now they make their home in Nevada where Mark works the family farm and are the proud parents of Lily and Luke.

Ashley started working at Emanuel about eight years ago, learning the office ropes under Darlene Schaadt, then taking over the reins after Darlene's unexpected passing. More than one congregation member has benefited from Ashley's computer expertise, her willingness to assist anyone who enters her realm, and her endless supply of forgiveness when deadlines aren't met (as Pastor Mike would say: "Testify!").

So as this year is ending, all of us up here in the highest towers say thank you to Ashley and wish everyone a **very Blessed Christmas.**

Batina Belfry

Scholarship Information

Scholarship Opportunities: High school seniors and current college students are encouraged to apply for the Robert and Margaret Mather Scholarship Fund, Agnes Baldauf Scholarship Fund, and The Hollensen/Dennis Fund if you plan to attend or are already attending an accredited ELCA college or you are pursuing a career in Christian ministry or social services. This scholarship is open to any young and confirmed Emanuel Lutheran Church member. The Rita Herbst Scholarship Fund is now available and it is open to any Emanuel member furthering their education in any field or at any educational institution. Applications may be picked up at the church office. The application and other support information are due no later than Friday March 1, 2024 to the chairperson, Rae Andrews at 379 Brightwood Dr., Marion, OH 43302. 740-387-5432



Emanuel LGBT Fellowship Group

2023 Schedule: First Sunday Each Month At 6PM December 3rd



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, you are welcome to attend. Questions: email at LGBT.Emanuel@gmail.com, calling or texting 740-262-2655. We will not be meeting in January 2024. Enjoy the holidays and see you in February!

>>> December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
					Fresh Food Distribution	Laundry Initiative
3	4	5	9	7	8	6
ONE SERVICE		8:30 Quilters	9:30 Bible Study			
10:50 – Christmas Program 12pm Luncheon	5nm Bellowehin	6pm Xmas Open House Mtg.	6.00 C&A Choire			5-8pm Christmas Church Tours Onen
6pm LGBT & Allies	6pm Communication	7pm Marionaires	7:00 Bell Choir	7pm Worship		House
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:00a.m Worship 9:15 - Worship 9:15 - Sunday School		8:30 Quilters	9:30 Bible Study	11am Staff Lunch		
10:30 – Worship 12 Mutual Ministry 2pm Bible Study	5pm Hour of Prayer (Church Parlor)	6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	6:00 C&A Choirs 7:00 Bell Choir	7pm Worship	7pm Childcare Christmas Program	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:00a.m. – Worship 9:15 - Worship			9:30 Bible Study			
9:15 - Sunday School			boom Durillian During			
10:30 – Worship 2pm Bible Study	7pm PPC	6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	opin breaking bread 6:00 Adult Choir 7:00 Bell Choir	7pm Worship		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:15 Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 3pm Family Service 8pm Christmas Eve Service	Merry Christmas!	7pm Marionaires		7pm Worship		
31	1	2	3	4	5	9
8:00a.m. – Worship 9:15 - Worship 10:30 – Worship						

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