

February / March 2022

# The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

## Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Find us on Facebook!

## Church Staff:

Pastor Micheal 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  
Organist: Paul Burnside  
Assistant Organist: Sandra Becker  
Praise Team & Children's  
Choir Director: Teri Turner  
Emanuel Choir & Bell Choir  
Director: Carolyn Fox



## Lenten Worship Schedule

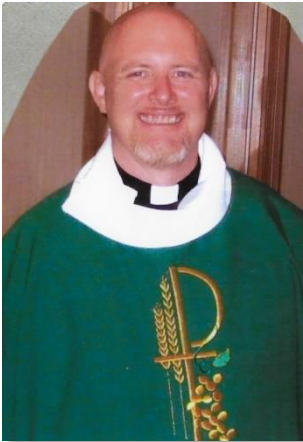
We are excited to announce that we will have in-person worship on Wednesday evenings throughout Lent. Please join us in-person for worship at 7:00p.m. in the sanctuary. At this time we do not feel it is safe enough to resume Lenten meals. Wednesday evening services will also be streamed on our website and Facebook pages.

- Ash Wednesday service is March 2 at 7:00 p.m.
- Midweek Lenten services will be on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
- Maundy Thursday service is April 14 at 7:00 p.m. and
- Good Friday service is April 15 at 7:00 p.m.

As a reminder, there will be no Thursday evening services during Lent.



# Welcome Pastor Mike!



Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I sit here at my desk, in my office, at Emanuel Lutheran Church – Marion Ohio, on my very first day! This is the culmination of six months of conversations with different groups to bring us to this moment.

And today starts a new segment in ministry for me, and for you. As we stand at the threshold of our time together, the possibilities of what God has in store for us are unlimited! The possibilities of what the Holy Spirit will stir us up to do is unlimited! The places we find ourselves, following Christ are unlimited!

And just like starting anything, there is uncertainty, anxiety, maybe a little fear and trepidation. And that is natural. Over these initial days, weeks and months, we will begin to get to know each other. And we will begin the process of determining who God is calling us be now; what the Holy Spirit is calling us to do now; and where Christ is calling us to go now.

I am very excited about the unlimited possibilities that are in store. I fully trust the Triune God we worship has called us together at this time, for such a time as this. I rest assured of the words we find in scripture when humanity comes into contact with the heavenly and divine: “Fear not, favored one(s).”

Hear the words of the Lord saying to us all, “Fear not, favored one. I am with you.”

Looking forward to journey together,

Peace,

Pastor Mike

## Pastor Mike's Installation Service

**February 20, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.**

(there will be no 8:00 or 9:15 service that morning)

We are pleased to welcome Pastor Michael Poole as Senior Pastor to Emanuel Lutheran! Pastor Mike's first day in the office was February 7<sup>th</sup>. His Installation service will be Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 10:30a.m. Bishop Daniel Beaudoin will lead us in worship and we will have only one service that morning.

*And the one who was seated on the throne said,  
"See, I am making all things new." - Revelation 21:5a*

The first words in the Book of Genesis read, *In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.* These words and the words that follow tell us that God is the Creator. God created the world from a *formless void* and God continued creating as God formed the earth, the seas, the sky, the sun and the moon, the very seasons, vegetation of all types, living things from sea monsters to birds and cattle and then finally *God created humankind in his image.*

As we recall the majestic story of the creation of the universe let us remind ourselves that God continues creating every single day. New life, new experiences abound every day in our world and let us not forget about our baptismal theology as God gives us a new birth everyday *as God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ.*

So now we are reminded of God being our Creator as we read the memory verse from the very last book of the Bible as we celebrate the Year of Vision in the Northwestern Ohio Synod; *And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."* The writings in the Bible bring us full circle as we begin with creation and end with creation. In John's last vision in the Book of Revelation we are told that a new heaven and earth will replace earlier counterparts. This is difficult for us to imagine as we more often think of our death as the dying of our earthly bodies and then being swept away to be with our Creator in heaven.

Craig R. Koester from Luther Seminary wrote this concerning our memory verse for the year and I hope it helps you to better understand the mystery of God making all things new. He wrote:

*...God saying "I make all things new" (21:5). God's future includes the resurrection of the dead but does not stop there. When death is vanquished creation itself is made new.*

*God's future is pictured as a city with a garden at its center. The human world and natural world are reconciled here. The tree of life stands within the city with its gates of pearl. These pearly gates are not guarded by Saint Peter as in the popular imagination. Rather the gates stand open all the time in order to invite people into the presence of God. Here the rivers that give life flow, the tree of life has leaves to heal the nations, and the radiant presence of God illumines the city. This is the future that beckons people everywhere. Those who are gripped by such a vision in turn ask how such scenes of life might shape a way of life now. To live in anticipation of New Jerusalem is to embrace its way of life and to bear witness to the purposes of God, whose work as the author of creation and new creation is ultimately life.*

As baptized children of God, we are then called to embrace this vision and as Koester states, we are to embrace its way of life, bearing witness to the purpose of God as we live in anticipation of New Jerusalem. God *will* make all things new and as the Body of Christ in this world, we are called to live in this very vision.

Until next time, may the peace of our Lord be with you.

---Deacon Kevin

## Looking back with Alicia Mayes...

As I have poured through many letters, reports, bulletins, etc. I have found that in the past 103 years in our present building Emanuel has had only 5 senior pastors.

Rev. J.W. Schillinger was pastor of Emanuel in 1918 when the walk was made from our old church building on the corner of S. State St. and Columbia St. to our present church building. Rev. Schillinger served Emanuel from 1909 until 1937.

In 1937 Emanuel called Rev. Martin Hollensen to serve. He was pastor from 1937 until his retirement in 1972. Pastor James Rave was called and he served from 1973 until 1986. Then a call went out to Pastor J. Weston Jones in 1986 and he served Emanuel from 1986 until his retirement in 2009. Pastor Mark Schuring was called in 2005 to be associate pastor serving with Pastor Jones. Upon Pastor Jones retirement we then called Pastor Schuring to fill the senior pastor position. As we all know Pastor Mark just retired in December and in January we voted to extend a Term Call to Pastor Michael Poole, which he began in February.

We have been truly blessed over these 103 years to have so few pastors. In fact, as I was reading, our first call for an associate pastor for Emanuel didn't come until 1973 when we called Pastor David Augenstein. He served until 1975. We have had 7 associate pastors after Pastor Augenstein.

We are also blessed to have Deacon Kevin Kehn serving Emanuel. He was installed June 5, 2010. As I said, Emanuel has been blessed over the years and I pray that Emanuel will continue to thrive and grow in the years ahead.

Alicia Mayes



### LGBT & Allies 2022 Schedule Second Sunday @ 6:00p.m.



- February 13
- March 13
- April 10
- May 8

- June 12
- July 10
- August 14
- September 11

- October 9
- November 13
- December 11

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](mailto:LGBT.Emanuel@gmail.com), calling or texting 740-262-2655 or calling the church office at 740-383-2184.



## Sunday School News

Our classes are small, but well attended. We look forward to the day when everyone is comfortable returning, when we're not wearing masks, when we can see each other smile and we can hug one another again.

In the meantime, our God is good every day and we celebrate his love for us with one another. We are learning from the Gospel about the parables Jesus told and what they mean. The kids love hearing about the miracles performed by Jesus. Our elementary class is learning about the seasons of the church and look forward to changing our altar for the appropriate season. We're talking and learning about all kinds of ways to pray. And.....we're having fun!



## Sharing Our Love...

For Service Sunday on Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup> we put together bags for Amy Vanderhoff to share with Marion students experiencing homelessness. We collected prepackaged snacks, including small bags of chips, smaller candy bars, fruit roll ups and juice boxes. Thank you to everyone who donated items. The Sunday School students really enjoyed putting these bags together and sharing God's love with those in our community.

We are also working on fleece blankets and Valentine cards for our home bound members.

On March 20....the first day of Spring...we will plant flower seeds for Easter arrangements. More information will be posted on additional projects that day.

## Reminders:

- If Marion County is under a Level 2 or higher snow emergency then all activities and services are cancelled for the day
- Men's Prayer Breakfast will not be meeting in February
- In-person home and hospital visits are temporarily on hold until until we get into a healthier forecast



Pastor Mike and his wife Tracy operate a non-profit called Earth & Cup to help people transform their bodies, minds and souls. They offer various workshops, book studies, and workout classes.

Learn more at [www.earthandcup.com](http://www.earthandcup.com)



- Joan Chapman celebrates her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday February 11.
- Nellie Cahill celebrates her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday February 18.



- Maxine Marshall celebrates her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday March 8.

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

\*Return Service Requested.

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