

February 2024

# The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

Emanuel

Lutheran Church

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Find us on Facebook!

## Church Staff:

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Parish Deacon Ann Thomas

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Children's Ministry

Coordinator: Cindy Rinker

Financial Secretary:

Stacy Hoch

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

## Where Is God Calling Us to Go?

*(Jesus said) "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

*Acts of the Apostles 1:8*

In 2022, we started this intentional process by asking ourselves, "Who Is God Calling Us to Be?" Last year, we focused our attention on, "What Is God Calling Us to Do?" Now in 2024, we will look at "Where Is God Calling Us to Go?"

We hear Jesus in this passage in Acts. He tells those present that they will be his witnesses. Jesus then sends them to four different areas: Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. These are four different areas of influence; four different places; four different types of people; and at least four different ways of completing the mission.

Jerusalem is their local area – the community where they live. Judea is the larger region that includes people who are mostly like them. Samaria is a place that is farther out, people who are not like them, a place that is believed to be filled with people that they may despise, maybe even their enemies. The ends of the earth is just that – all over the world.

Where is God sending us? Where is our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and ends of the earth? Who are our Jerusalemites, Judeans, Samaritans, foreigners? How might our ministries change as we walk with people in those categories?

As we celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> year, we continue to discern what God has in store for us in the next 150 years. Let's keep this question in our minds: Where Is God Calling Us to Go?

Peace,



Pastor Mike

## Seven Deadly Sins – Introduction

Proverbs 6:16-19

There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that hurry to run to evil, a lying witness who testifies falsely, and one who sows discord in a family.

SINS, sins and deadly sins! What ever happened to Sin? We are losing our theological footing. We are losing the ability to talk about SIN as a condition. Culture is reducing “sin” to specific unsavory actions committed by “bad people.” SIN no longer seems to be something that is a part of all of us. We don’t follow criminal trials to discover how people are just like us. We do this to assure ourselves that they are different from us.<sup>1</sup>

We deal with sin by eliminating the sinners. Television and social media give us examples to follow. Criminals are brought to justice as a way of affirming the popular notion that evil rests primarily in evil people, not in the human race. That is what we are up against, the trivialization of SIN by relegating it to “bad acts by bad people”, rather than using it as a description of the human condition. We need to take a greater ownership of our own sinfulness. We also need to have a greater and clearer hope of our own salvation.

Let’s take a stab at defining SIN. What are some of the biblical images of sin: missing the target, wandering the path, straying from the fold, having a hard heart, a stiff neck, blindness, deafness, overstepping the line, failure to reach a goal, a beast crouching at the door, separation (estrangement from God, ourselves, and others), fallen-ness, disobedience against God’s will, brokenness (in relationships with God, self and others), bad or wrong choices, missing the mark, something that deserves blame. At the heart sin is a failure to trust God. This is the essence of it all. Sin is misplaced trust. Sin is the breaking of shalom.

The understanding of shalom is more than just peace. It is the right ordering of all things. Everything is in proper relationship. All of creation, and everything in it, is the way God intended it to be. Anything that is not contributing to the way God intended all creation to be, is breaking shalom.

We also have to look at a couple of different categories. Let’s look at SIN: big “S,” big “I,” big “N,” SIN! This is the universal fact which is the tragedy of human existence. This is what we can’t get away from. Then we have sin and sins: particular actions that result in SIN.

There has been a long tradition of the deadly sins. Remember that the number “7” symbolically means completeness: “3” represents the spirit realm and “4” represents the earthly realm. The first list of sins that we get are the Ten Commandments, found in two places, Exodus 20:2-17 and Deuteronomy 5:6-21. We have the list as found in the Proverbs 6:16-18 reading. The apostle Paul has several vice lists in his writings. The extra-canonical book, “Shepherd of Hermes” (cir. 148ce) gives us a list of 12 sins. Augustine (345-430ce) gives us 15. Evagrius of Pontus, a 4<sup>th</sup> Century Egyptian monk lists 8. Gregory the Great (540-604ce) gives us 8. The church in medieval times settled on 7, to match the number of days in a week. Each day had a corresponding sin: Sunday – Pride (combated by worshipping God on the Sabbath), Monday – Envy (a violation of personal worth and dignity, a continuation of the struggle with pride), Tuesday – Anger, Wednesday – Sloth (being the farthest from Sunday worship with past or coming, most susceptible to spiritual indifference), Thursday – Greed (self-indulgence flowing from the previous day’s loss of spiritual fortitude), Friday – Gluttony, and Saturday – Lust (most self-indulgent, deadliest when effects from previous Sunday’s worship are at their lowest).

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<sup>1</sup> Seven Deadly Sins course, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Brad Binau, December 2000.

How can we possibly understand sin? First, we must remember that sin involves lies, deceit, and the denial of truth. It seems that sin is irrational. Sin and evil are hard to distinguish. The disordering of what God has ordered (shalom) involves perversion, pollution, and disintegration. Sin is a parasite. Sin is glamorous and attractive.

There are two sides to each of the seven deadly sins; full and empty. There are two ditches along the road of faithfulness, one on each side that we can fall into which is called sin. For instance, look at gluttony. It can either be eating everything you see, or you starve yourself by eating nothing. Either way, the in-taking of nourishment into your body, or lack thereof, is the root of sinful behavior. With pride, one can either be over the top with their self-promotion, or one can be totally depraved about their situation. Anger is either explosive or one is totally passive. We find that sin and evil can be placed on a continuum. We can have anxiety (out of control) or shame (certain finitude). We can be either unfaithful (inability to trust God) or have a misdirected trust (placing our trust in something other than God). We have pride (raising oneself to a divine level) or self-negation (breaking ourselves down to the lowest level). We prove our position (self-justification) or deflect responsibility (scapegoating). We allow our animal nature to overindulge in ordinary life or we have an unlimited devotion to limited values. We will either steal power for our own, or align our interests with what we claim are God's interests.

We should look at the seven deadly sins as attitudes. They are not actions or deeds; but they are habits, dispositions or characteristics that influence how we act. They tend to be good things that have gone badly. Pride is a self-confidence gone too far. Sloth is making every day a Sabbath. Gluttony is taking a month's worth of daily bread at one time. Lust is an inappropriate love. Sin doesn't always look bad. What makes behavior sinful is that the good is sought in ways that are hurtful. They are disordered loves. We love the wrong objects, or at an inappropriate depth or at an improper intensity. Shame and guilt come into play with sin. Guilt is believing we have done something wrong or bad. Shame is believing that we ourselves are a bad person. We have shame with sin. Shame is worrying how someone else looks at us or what someone else will say to us. We also have guilt with sin. Guilt is having the knowledge in our mind of what is right or wrong, good or bad, a yes or a no.

What does the Bible teach us about sin? Our order of confession in worship uses the words that we are in bondage to sin, in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We have to take a look at our sin face-to-face, to truly see that hold it has on us. We have to admit and confess our sins. The phrase that comes out of the Reformation is that we are "simul justis et peccator", we are simultaneously sinner and saved. We are called to look at our sins through the cross of Christ, the cross that bore our sins. The blood through which all of our sins are forgiven.



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



- You wonder if the Lutheran Church basement kitchen in heaven will have a gas or electric stove, and who will be in charge of the blown fuses and pilot lights.
- You are pretty territorial about which pew is yours.
- You recognize that a potluck isn't really a pot luck because you know what everyone is going to bring, how many it will serve, and what food you prefer to eat and what you will pass on.

## Sunday School News

### SAVE THE DATE - MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

February 13<sup>th</sup> Fat Tuesday at 5:00 P.M. in the Parlor

This is a fundraiser for our group going to "The Gathering " in New Orleans this July. We are excited to serve you gumbo, pancakes, and king cake. There will be music, a parade to participate in and we'll have beads and masks available for you to purchase as a donation at a \$1.00 each.

Dressing for this event is optional.....we're all dressing in Mardi Gras colors, green, purple, and gold. Please, come and support our youth, enjoy a festive meal and march in our Mardi Gras parade.



### Good Friday Day Camp at Emanuel !!!!!

Friday, March 29 - 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.



**LMC**  
at HopeWood Pines

Staff from Hopewood Pines LMC will be here to lead us, along with Pastor Mike, Mrs. Rinker and her helpers. We'll spend the day reflecting on what the crucifixion means to us in music, storytelling, crafting, eating, and visiting various workshops set up in the church. This is open to children age 5 and up. Children from Lutheran churches in our area will also be invited. Registration forms will be available at a later date.

More info to come in March Newsletter.

## 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. 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 a group from St. Paul's (Waldo) for this trip. Join us on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> for a Mardi Gras party.

This is the note that Carol Rave, wife of Pastor James Rave, sent to Emanuel regarding our 150<sup>th</sup> celebration:

It will be a special year celebrating 150 yrs. of ministry in Marion, Ohio.

I am pleased to get an invitation to attend the celebration. I will mark September 8, 2024 on the calendar and await more information as it becomes available.

I am making no commitment at this time and will welcome info as it develops.

One thing for certain, don't expect me to preach. I do have many special memories of times and friends and ministry at Emanuel.

Again, thank you for the invitation and many blessings as you plan the celebration.

### *A big "Thank You" to all the people that have given to the Anniversary Fund.*

This is the list of the names we were given:

Sandy Needham  
Eric & Judy VanGilder  
Terry & Sue Rakow  
Chris Bayless-Williams  
Sharon Augenstein  
Sherrie & Rick Haver  
Don Davis  
Janet & Tim Michael  
Sue Sours  
Kenneth Cole  
Dan & Vonda Riddle  
Amy Vanderhoff  
Jean Smith  
Nancy Dunnigan  
Alicia Mayes  
Daryl Kraner

Carol Hoch  
Rex & Carolyn Parrott  
Jerry & Barb Baker  
Deborah Clapham  
Tom & Vikkie Danner  
Don & Connie Shepler  
Ashley & Zach Varga  
Maggie Clark  
Gary & Barb Russo  
Marla Vance  
Ed Baldauf  
Frank & Norma Fanello  
Pastor Mike Poole  
Sandy Becker  
Dick & Janet Bryson

Bill & Elizabeth Van  
Riper  
Bruce & Lou Ann  
Showalter  
Norma Ward  
Deb Cooper  
Donna Thomas  
John Kyle  
Steve & Brenda  
Johnston  
Jean Cochran  
Jack Tidd  
Bryan Wigal  
Peggy Hall  
Tom & Connie Pannett  
Nancy Barker

Bill & Donna Lambert  
Jim & Betty Anderson  
Jean Yake  
Louise Vance  
Carl & June Emigh  
Tom & Cindy Schifer  
David & Stephanie Cook  
Beulah Owens  
Gary & Vicki Tackett  
Jens Studlien  
Myrna Mamaril  
Larry & Elaine  
Merchant  
Steve & Cindy deWeber  
Carson Moore



We want you to know how the money is being used: meals for the visiting pastors and the congregation to eat with and greet through our anniversary year as well as a stipend for coming to preach, the preservation of the Incorporation of Emanuel that was found in a cardboard tube in the safe that is on display in the Gathering Space, paying half the cost of the painting and cleaning of the Gathering Space, Martin Luther/Library, and Parlor (new ceiling tile) along with the Board of Properties, the anniversary day celebration on September 8<sup>th</sup> with Bishop Daniel Beaudoin preaching and we are looking into a commemorative piece that will have the anniversary logo for the congregation. In years past there have been tie tacs, charms, pins, etc. for the congregation to buy.

If you would still like to donate, please feel free to do so.  
These projects are ongoing.

*thank you*

Mike Phillips hard at work renovating the Parlors

## Musings from the Church Mouse...

As I was scurrying around, trying to collect all my New Year's Eve party snacks, I heard that you all drew a watchword. Apparently, a Watchword is a passage of scripture that might challenge, or give guidance, encouragement and focus for the year. Your new Watchword this year is Hebrews 13:5, "Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for God has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.'"

You can pick up a Watchword for yourself or a group from the basket in the Gathering Space. I jump in the basket and mix them up every day, so they have a fresh mix and shuffle.

See ya' at worship!

*Church Mouse*

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## Join us Wednesday Evenings during Lent for Fellowship & Worship

*Lent*  
B E G I N S

Lenten Meals will take place starting at 5:00p.m. on Wednesday evenings followed by Worship in the sanctuary at 7:00p.m. Please plan to join us!

February 21 – Meal provided by Child Care

February 28 – Lasagna provided by Altar Guild

March 6 – Meal provided by Board of Fellowship

March 13 – Beef & Noodles provided by Board of Spiritual Life

March 20 – Open

March 27 – Meal provided by Board of Communications

Please contact the church office if your group or board would like to host the meal on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

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## Communication and Evangelism

Back to School Blessings-Planning committee being formed

The Back-to-School Blessings Event planning for 2024 will begin on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> and we need YOU! We have this event tentatively scheduled For Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our goal is to include more churches, community resources and generally make this a super event. We are starting the planning early, so we can accomplish this goal. If you are interested, contact Dee Rinehart (740-215-0440) or show up at the first meeting (Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at Dee's house). Can't make the first meeting? That's ok. There will be more to come. See YOU there.

## Emanuel LGBT Fellowship Group

**LGBT**  
and Allies

The LGBT & Allies Group meets the first Sunday of each month at 6:00p.m. Upcoming meetings are: February 4 – March 3 – April 7 – May 5

All are welcome! This is a potluck format, so please bring a dish to share. Beverages (iced tea, lemonade, water & coffee) as well as table service will be provided.

Questions? [lgbt.emanuel@gmail.com](mailto:lgbt.emanuel@gmail.com) or call/text 740-262-2655

## 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. In Starting in February, please plan to join us on Wednesday evenings as we take a look at the Seven Deadly Sin.

Future Faith Journey Events:

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

APRIL – BIBLE’S BIG STORY OUR STORY - TBD

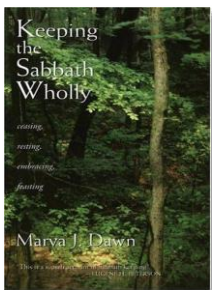
MAY – CONFIRMATION PRACTICE - TBD

JUNE – CONFIRMATION CAMP – TBD

## 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 meet on Sundays from 2p – 4p. We 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 Acts of the Apostles.



### Book Study

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 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. *(Pastor Mike invited Bishop Daniel to join in a conversation!)*

## Welcome Stacy Hoch! Our new Financial Secretary

Stacy has been a member at Emanuel Lutheran her whole life and we are thrilled to welcome her onto our staff! She has a degree in accounting and will be the perfect addition to our office. You may recognize Stacy as a member of both our Bell and Adult choirs. In past years, she enjoyed teaching and performing with Edye Cook’s School of Dance. Before joining our team, Stacy had a 20+ year career and was the current General Manager for Midwest Lettering in Marion. Recently, she acquired dairy goats to add to the growing homestead that she and her fiancée have started on her family’s farm. She is extremely grateful for this opportunity and blessed to be at Emanuel. Welcome Stacy!



Stacy with her daughter, Aubree

## Part 7 of Emanuel's history:

In early 1974 plans continued to make the former church parsonage the new church offices and to remodel the old offices.

Two bids were received for the remodeling of the former offices and lounge into a chapel/library/lounge. Steward Construction Company with a bid of \$18,200 and Clifford Danner with a bid of \$20,875. The contract was awarded to Steward Construction.

A committee was formed for each of the new areas. Decorating Committee: Bill Barnhart, Chairman, Mary Naher, Patsy Howard, and Opal Kline. Library: John Kyle, Chairman, Kay Pennington, Bernice Petrich, Judy Bolinger, Elaine Merchant, and Donna Ruth Fogt. The architect for the project would be Warren Callahan.

In April of 1974 the Marion County Historical Society requested permission to add Emanuel's Church building to their tour to be held on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> to be called "Heritage Sunday". Also, they requested that we provide hosts and hostesses at Emanuel to greet guests and have the Centennial Historical Committee provide pertinent information to present to visitors. We were just included in the tour of churches by Aspire this past December.



At the church council meeting December 11, 1974 Pastor Augenstein answered questions in regards to his call from St. Paul Lutheran Church in Evert, Michigan. He asked for prayers for a decision and said he would announce his decision in two weeks. At the January 8, 1975 council meeting Pastor Augenstein announced that he had accepted the call from the congregation of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and reported that Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup> would be his last day at Emanuel. It was decided to have a reception for Pastor Augenstein following the 8A and 10:30A services on January 19<sup>th</sup>.

As I was looking through the year-end report for 1974 and then looked at the one for 2022 for the utility budgets, it is astounding the differences. Here is a sample: electricity, \$4,000 budgeted for 1974 and for 2022, \$18,000. Water, \$500 budgeted for 1974 and \$2,100 for 2022. What a difference but we must remember inflation over 48 years. We can see that in our own homes. These are facts I find interesting.

It was decided in February of 1975 to hire Dennis Proux as an assistant pastor through May, 1975 to help with duties at the church after Pastor Augenstein's departure. Dennis accepted the position of Student Assistant and would serve two days per week through May. The Call Committee would be working to decide who best to call as permanent associate pastor to present to the congregation.

Also at the February meeting Church Council accepted the resignation of Elizabeth Curren, part-time bookkeeper.

At the February 19<sup>th</sup> council meeting it was reported that a Call Committee be formed to decide the wording of the Call for a new associated pastor. Special consideration should be given to the Youth Ministry in that call.

At the April church council meeting the Call Committee presented a printed resume of the two pastors who were candidates for the position of Associate Pastor for Emanuel. Those pastors were, Rev. Jeffrey K. Kimpel and Rev. Henry C. Seibert, plus a verbal report on Seminary candidate, Roger S. Lawrence of Fremont, Ohio. It was decided that the Call Committee was to make their decision and present it to Church Council for approval at a special meeting to be held in one week, April 16<sup>th</sup> and then present to the congregation for approval at the special meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

At the Special Council Meeting April 16<sup>th</sup> Pastor Rave reported that he had interviewed all three candidates for 3 or 4 hours and the Call Committee had visited the congregations of both pastors. It was decided that the call should go to Rev. Henry C. Seibert. The recommendation would now go to the congregation for approval at the meeting Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.





The Special Congregational Meeting was held Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. John Lodwig, chair of the Call Committee presented for congregational approval the unanimous choice of the committee to issue the call to Henry Seibert, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Coldwater, Ohio. The congregation voted unanimously to call Rev. Seibert.

In May of 1975 Church Council was shown by the Board of Trustees models of stained glass window and door glasses for the chapel prepared and designed exclusively for Emanuel by the Franklin Art Glass Studios in German Village in Columbus. The window model depicts the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and the door windows depict ways of serving the Lord in Worship, Jobs, and Sharing and Helping our Fellow-man. Franklin Art Glass will celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

Rev. Seibert was installed, Sunday, June 22, 1975 at the 10:30 service. He was introduced at the 8A service and a reception was held after each service. The installing pastor was Tom Von Fischer, assistant to the District President and preached at both services.



One of Rev. Seibert's first duties would be to attend the Bethel Bible Series Training Workshop in Madison, Wisconsin. Many of you might remember that series.

There was an organ committee formed in July 1975 for selecting an organ for the new chapel that would be finished soon. Jack Lewis was chairman of that committee along with Beverly Quaintance (the organist at that time) and Junior Denzer, members.

Also in July 1975 it was announced at the Church Council meeting that Ed Littleton had resigned as janitor and Dwight Dutton had been hired by the Trustees.

It was reported at the August 1975 Council Meeting that an organ had been found by the organ committee for the new chapel. The Rogers organ was valued at \$5,700 and we were given a special price of \$4,700. The purchase of the furnishings for the new library, lounge, and chapel along with the purchase of the organ were approved.

Pastor Rave announced at the September Church Council meeting that there was a group of traveling young musicians, "The New Kingsmen" who were touring the country for the Evangelism Department of the American Lutheran Church giving their testimony for Jesus Christ. He asked that council consider having them come to Emanuel and present a Saturday evening concert on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. That request was approved by council. Some of you may remember that concert.

The sound system in the church sanctuary was being reviewed in an effort to have a proper sound level was reported at Church Council in September 1975. They were looking into the purchase of a Lavalier Microphone (lapel mic) for the pastors.

Also at the September 1975 council meeting it was reported that Mike's Roofing was putting a new roof on the north tower of the church. Items for the 1976 budget would include a new roof on the church sanctuary and remodeling the church parlor.

With the gifts and memorials received from the congregation and the money left in the Galen Carter Estate the new Chapel/Library/Lounge plans were financially sound. Total cost was \$40,690 and the total income from the Carter Estate, memorials and honorariums was \$42,382.

The Dedication Service and Open House for the Chapel/Library/Lounge was October 26, 1975.

It was reported at the December 1975 Church Council meeting that Ron Steward was in the process of ridding the sanctuary of pigeons and would install heavy screening over their entrance site. There you have it, we have had pigeons AND bats in the sanctuary.

Also at the December meeting it was announced that the Bethel Bible Series Study would be starting on January 13, 1976. This was for the members that wanted to lead the series. These leaders would complete the study in October of 1977 and then be ready for participants from the congregation to start the series.

It was also reported that the Senior Bible Class was now meeting in the new chapel on Sunday mornings. If you remember that class met in the chapel and then the lounge for many years.

More history to come. Alicia

## *Introducing Guest Pastor Jonathan D. Bull*

Jonathan Bull was born February 3, 1965. His parents are Glada and Jack Bull. Many of you remember Glada and Jack. Jack died November 4, 2023 and Glada, February 23, 2014. Jon was raised at Emanuel with his brother, Joe, and his sister, Jane. Jane died September 28, 1974 at the age of 13.



He was baptized March 21, 1965 by Rev. Martin Hollensen and confirmed April 22, 1979 by Pastor James Rave. His confirmation picture will be on the display table in the Gathering Space.

Jon married Terry Krueger on May 27, 1989. Jon and Terry have 2 adult children, Michael Bull practices law in Hilliard, Ohio and Sarah works for the ELCA Mission Investment Fund. She is engaged to Isaac Samuelson and will be married February 15, 2025.

Jon graduated from Capital University with a BA in Business Administration in 1988. He then went to Trinity Lutheran Seminary and graduated in 1992 with a Master of Divinity degree. He was ordained on June 28, 1992 by Bishop James A. Rave. It is good to see he was confirmed and ordained by the same person.

Pastor Bull has served Zion Lutheran in St. Marys from 1992-1996, St. John's in Fremont from 1996-2000, David, Canal Winchester from 2000 to 2001, First in Bellefontaine from 2001-2015, and in 2015 went to St. Paul Lutheran in Westerville where he still presides.

Pastor Jon serves on the Southern Ohio Synod Finance Committee and Global Mission Task Force. He is a member of the Westerville Area Resource Ministry Board of Directors and, on behalf of the Westerville Division of Fire and Police, serves as Chaplain Coordinator for the Westerville Safety Service Chaplains.

The rest I will write in Pastor Jon's own words: I have fond memories of Emanuel Lutheran Church. Emanuel played an essential role from Sunday School and VBS to Luther League, the Youth Gathering, and many life events.

One year during VBS, we played kickball in the west parking lot. Why the adults had us playing with a soccer ball, I do not know. I was at the plate and kicked a beautiful ball that sailed and broke the second floor window of the house directly north. Carl Campbell owned that house. He commented that the window needed to be replaced.

Chad Bollinger, Jack Rowland, and I used to leave worship (8 AM) after communion and walk to Huddle's bakery. We missed a good portion of Sunday School. We always brought donuts back to everyone. This gesture, I am confident, saved us from being in trouble.

Emanuel has been a place where my family has felt God's love as we said goodbye to my sister, grandparents, and parents.

Pastor Jon is taking part in our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year celebration and was here at Emanuel January 28<sup>th</sup>.

Until next time, Alicia





## Welcome to the February Music Notes!

Great day! God's going to build up Zion's walls!  
Great day! Great day, the righteous marching;  
Great day! God's going to build up Zion's walls!

As I do every February, in celebration of Black History Month, I will play organ music based on Spirituals and compositions by black composers. I hope that you will enjoy this special month of music, and that it will serve as witness that we are All God's Children: One People, Created in God's Image. Many Spirituals are familiar, as we have sung them or heard them since we were children. Or perhaps we have grown up singing, "Let Us Break Bread Together" or, "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" in Church or Sunday School, perhaps not realizing they were Spirituals!

Interestingly, according to the Library of Congress, "the term 'spiritual' is derived from the King James Bible translation of Ephesians 5:19: 'Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.'" Spirituals are religious folksongs associated with enslaved African people in the American South, and proliferated from the final decades of the 18<sup>th</sup> century until emancipation. I don't have the space here to give a history of spirituals, but there are many wonderful books, websites, and other resources available for more information.

One name that you will see frequently in the Prelude Notes in the Sunday bulletin in February is the African American composer Adolphus Hailstork (b. 1941). He is one of the most prolific American composers working today. Best known for his band, choral, and orchestral works, he has also written song cycles, chamber works, and compositions for solo piano and organ.

His organ works are rhythmically complex, but accessible. Based mostly on familiar hymn tunes or spirituals, the melody is sometimes "implied" rather than explicit. His interpretations can be powerful and challenging, while others are melodic and fragile. They are modern with light dissonance, but also traditional in form and structure. Those of you who regularly read my Music Notes know that I am interested in music that challenges the mind and the senses. Hailstork's music satisfies this criterion, and is always interesting and fun to play. I hope you enjoy listening to his music as well.

There is one piece of important business that I have been remiss to mention previously. A couple months ago the Emanuel Music Department was pleased to welcome the donation of a new piano! Many years ago, Jim and Kathy Stroupe donated a wonderful piano to St. Paul's Lutheran as a memorial, which I enjoyed playing during my years there. With the closing of St. Paul's, Kathy generously agreed to donate the piano to Emanuel. The Stroupe piano has replaced the rehearsal piano in the choir room, and it sounds and plays great! A special "Thank You!" is in order to Mike Phillips and his crew for transporting the piano to Emanuel!

So, if you, or anyone you know, is interested in the former choir room piano, please let me know. We still have it, but will be disposing of it in the next couple months. Just let me know, or contact the office and they will pass on a message. It is free, but transport arrangements would need to be made.

I will leave you this month with the first two verses of the Spiritual, "Great Day!."

Chariot rode on the mountain top,  
God's going to build up Zion's walls!  
My God spoke and the chariot did stop,  
God's goin' to build up Zion's walls! [Refrain]

This is the day of jubilee,  
God's going to build up Zion's walls!  
The Lord has set His people free,  
God's going to build up Zion's walls! [Refrain]

Until next time, Soli Deo Gloria!

Paul

## Steeple Sightings

As the carol goes: "In the bleak midwinter"... we definitely have that now! So glad for the Law of Physics that decrees heat rises, and although I'm not at the highest part of the steeple, it's so much better than outside. I know humans need doors to go in and out of here, so that's why I'm highlighting one of our members who literally mans the doors---Pat Thomas, Jr.

A lifelong native, Pat attended the Marion schools playing violin in elementary school and bass in middle school. He turned his attention to the guitar at the age of 13 and never looked back since. After a very brief attendance at OSU, he traveled to Lilburn, Georgia to formally begin his career in luthiery. Nope, that's not Lutheran as in seminary, but the construction and repair of stringed instruments (think *lute*).

Returning to Marion he worked repairing instruments from the many music programs before accepting a job offer at the Musicians One Stop music store in downtown Marion. Now, after over 15 years, he is occasionally making a foray onto the sales floor.

Besides guarding the church doors, Pat serves Emanuel in the Praise Team by playing bass for well over a decade. One of his beautiful accomplishments is the guitar he made and presented to Pastor Mark for his retirement.

Not the one to go traveling, Pat is purrfectly content with his 2 cats, Orville and Peanut, and his 2-legged family members.

Thank you for your service to Emanuel and our Lord!

Keep the cold air out and His warm love around you  
Batina Belfry

## Pastor Poole's Pins

As the Youth plan on traveling to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July, and since we are having a Mardi Gras party, let's take a look at Pastor Poole's New Orleans pins. He tries to pick one up every trip. Three are from the Hard Rock Café; one is from the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, when he spent time at one of their Katrina work camps, and one he caught in a Mardi Gras parade.



Happy Birthday!

Nellie Cahill celebrates her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 18<sup>th</sup>

Galen Teel celebrates his 91<sup>st</sup> birthday on February 21<sup>st</sup>

Elsie Mitchell celebrates her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Let's remember Nellie, Galen and Elsie with our cards and prayers!  
(Contact the church office for addresses)

# February 2024



| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY  | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY                      |
|---|---|---|--|--|---|-------------------------------|
| 28  | 29  | 30  | 31   | 1  | 2   | 3                             |
| 8:00a.m. – Worship<br>9:15 - Worship<br>9:15 – Sunday School<br>10:30 – Worship<br>2pm Bible Study<br>6pm LGBT & Allies | 6:30 Bd. of Fellowship Mtg.                     | 8:30 – Quilters<br>6pm Praise Team<br>7pm Marionnaires                                  | 9:30 Bible Study<br>6pm Back 2 School (offsite)<br>6:00 C&A Choirs     | 10am Staff Mtg.<br>11:30 Book Study<br>4:30 Com. Meal<br>5:30Book Study<br>7pm Pastor Tanvce | 11:30 Book Study<br>5:30Book Study<br>7pm Worship | Waldo Fresh Food Distribution |
| 4   | 5   | 6   | 7  | 8  | 9   | 10                            |
| Pastor Milner<br>9:15 – Sunday School<br>10:30 – Worship<br>12pm Guest Meal<br>2pm Bible Study                          | 12  | 8:30 – Quilters<br>5pm Mardi Gras/Breaking Bread<br>6pm Praise Team<br>7pm Marionnaires | 9:30 Bible Study<br>6:00 C&A Choirs<br>7p Ash Wed Service              | 11:30 Book Study<br>5:30Book Study   |   |                               |
| 11  | 12  | 13  | 14   | 15   | 16  | 17                            |
| 8:00a.m. – Worship<br>9:15 - Worship<br>9:15 – Sunday School<br>10:30 – Worship<br>2pm Bible Study                      | Childcare & Office Closed<br>5pm Hour of Prayer | 8:30 – Quilters<br>6pm Finance Bd Mtg<br>6pm Praise Team<br>7pm Marionnaires            | 9:30 Bible Study<br>5pm Lenten Meal<br>6:00 C&A Choirs<br>7:00 Worship | 11:30 Book Study<br>5pm Joyce's Angels<br>5:30Book Study                                     |   |                               |
| 18  | 19  | 20  | 21   | 22   | 23  | 24                            |
| 8:00a.m. – Worship<br>9:15 - Worship<br>9:15 – Sunday School<br>10:30 – Worship<br>2pm Bible Study                      | 7:00 PPC  | 6pm Praise Team<br>7pm Marionnaires   | 9:30 Bible Study   | 11:30 Book Study   |   |                               |
| 25  | 26  | 27  | 28   | 29   | 1   | 2                             |
| 8:00a.m. – Worship<br>9:15 - Worship<br>9:15 – Sunday School<br>10:30 – Worship<br>2pm Bible Study                      |   | 6pm Praise Team<br>7pm Marionnaires   | 9:30 Bible Study<br>5pm Lenten Meal<br>6:00 C&A Choirs<br>7:00 Worship | 11:30 Book Study<br>5:30Book Study   |   |                               |



**Reminder: All events  
at the church will be  
cancelled if Marion  
County is under a  
Level 2 Snow  
Emergency.**

*Our 150<sup>th</sup> Year Celebration Continues  
with the following Guest Pastors:*

February 8<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Tanyce Addison

February 11<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Todd Milner

March 10<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Mark Schuring

May 5<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Jim Fogle

As a reminder, when we have a guest pastor on a Sunday morning there will be only one service at 10:30a.m. followed by a fellowship meal for the entire congregation.

Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> we will host the community meal before service, followed by a light dessert.

**Plan to join us as we celebrate our history and the years ahead!**

Prepared Especially For:

\*Return Service Requested.

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