

June 2022

The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

Emanuel Lutheran

Church

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Find us on Facebook!

Church Staff:

Pastor Michael L. Poole Jr.

Administrative Assistant:

Ashley Koehler

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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 Director:

Steve deWeber

Emanuel Bell Choir Director:

Carolyn Fox



The JUNE edition of the Good News Newsletter is here! Just a reminder, the newsletter will now be published monthly.

If you have something you would like included – a board report, a note of thanks, photos, etc. – please submit it by the 15th of the month, to be included in the following month's newsletter. Use this as a means to **Share the Good News!**

Newsletter articles can be sent to:
ashley.koehler@emanuellutheran.net

A Note from Pastor Mike...

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In our liturgical year, we begin with Advent and a period of preparation for the arrival of the Christ child, as well as preparing for Christ's Second Coming. We hear the story of Christ's birth at Christmas, and have the story of the Magi to bring the Christmas season to a close. We find ourselves at the River Jordan for Jesus' Baptism and a few weeks later, we find ourselves on the mountain of transfiguration. We begin our Lenten journey with Ash Wednesday. We walk that final Holy Week with Jesus. We hear the victory cry of Jesus with Easter and the Resurrection. The season of Easter has encounters of the risen Christ. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descends upon the Church. And then we end the first half of our liturgical year with Holy Trinity Sunday. As we see, this is the story of Jesus, his life and ministry. With the second half of the liturgical year, we turn our focus to the Church. This liturgical season is known as The Time of the Church. The story changes to us, and what is expected from us.

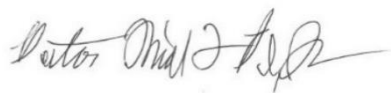
During this first year of our time together, we are focusing on US: individually, as small groups, as our congregation – Emanuel Lutheran Church. This continues on with being the North West Ohio Synod, the ELCA, the Lutheran Tradition, and the church – the body of Christ in the world today.

We began asking ourselves this year's question during Lent with our nails: Who is God calling us to be? As we move through this Time of the Church, we should continue to ask ourselves, "Who is God calling us to be?" We live in a rapidly-ever-changing world. We are being called to be different from who God called us to be 50 years ago, 10 years ago, 2 years ago, even a few months ago. The first part of our process is to be open to hearing God. We should spend intentional time thinking about that for each of us. In every one of our small groups, we should take a moment to talk through who is God calling the group to be. We as a congregation will have some time set aside to discuss who God is calling Emanuel Lutheran in Marion, Ohio to be.

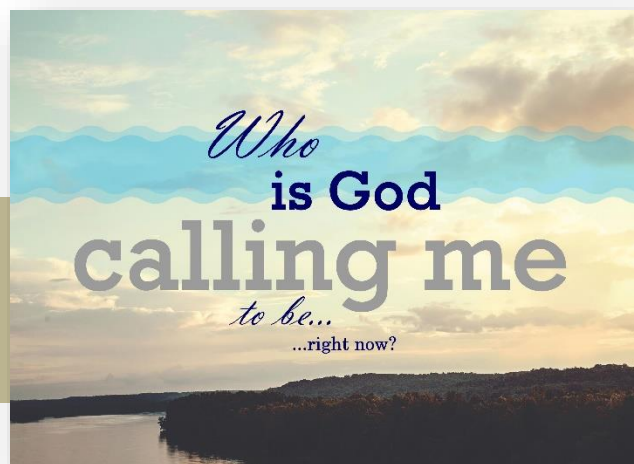
Let's begin by adding the petition to our daily prayers: "Lord, who are you calling me to be now?" It is an exciting time to be able to hear God's voice calling us by name, telling us who God believes we can be, and God trusting us to become the fulfillment of that call.

Wishing you a safe, healthy, and happy beginning to summer.

Peace,



Pastor Mike



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM - CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES



June 5th Please join us on the third floor for the first Jesus League assembly. Just like Jesus did, we are assembling followers to help tell the world about the love of God. We will learn about the first disciples and discover our strengths and talents that can turn us into SUPERHEROES.

June 12th Peter the Bold. Peter was known for being a bold man and we can be bold like Peter, as long as we keep our eyes on Jesus.

June 19th Thomas the Brave. Thomas is most famous for doubting, but the Bible tells us about Thomas' bravery. We learn we can be brave even when we have doubts.

June 26th John the Loved. John referred to himself as the disciple Jesus loved. Jesus gave John his own command to love. We learn we can love others because God loves us.

All students will receive a SUPERHERO tee shirt. Please let Mrs. Rinker know your child's size. Look for July Jesus League lessons and announcements in the July newsletter.

Also....No Sunday School in August, we will begin again on September 11

Teachers Needed!!!!

Please prayerfully consider helping to teach Sunday School this summer. No experience needed except to love the Word, love your Lord and love Emanuel's children. Please call Mrs. Rinker for questions and details.

Summer Service Project for Sunday School

We are collecting items for The Marion County Humane Society and Homeless to Home Animal Rescue & Cat Sanctuary. Items always appreciated: Any cat or dog food, puppy or kitten food, treats, tennis balls, toys, kitty litter and cleaning products, gift cards are also helpful. These items can be placed in the Blessings Basket by the first floor elevator.

Our Sunday School class will deliver our donations to the Humane Society on **July 9th at 10:00 A.M.** We will then move on to the Exploratorium for fun, fellowship and lunch. There will be no expense to families for this adventure.



From the Treasurer



I want to take this opportunity to give the members of Emanuel an update on our congregation's financial status through the first third of the year. In a nutshell we are doing OK, so far. By this I mean that we are positive by \$1,569 (incoming dollars exceeds expenses) through the month of April.

There are some warning signs that present concern. Congregational giving, what we as members give, is down 9.5% from budget, and down 13% from the same time last year. The reasons we are positive are essentially twofold. First, our staff personnel costs are under budget primarily because of the timing of Pastor Mark's retirement at the end of last year and Pastor Mike's arrival in February. The second reason is that many boards have not yet begun spending at budgeted rates due to our emergence from Covid restrictions.

There are also some potential dark clouds on the horizon. 36% of our Congregation's incoming dollars comes from distributions from funds given to Emanuel by past members, the Albers, Jerews and many others. These funds are held by either the Columbus or Marion Foundations and we receive an annual distribution from each fund. The amount we receive each year is a formula that is based on a rolling average of each fund's balance over the past three years. As everyone knows, the stock market is not doing well this year and if this continues to be the case, we will likely not see an increase in our distribution next year, or we could even see a slight decline. This would of course be a hurdle to overcome.

We've also received word that the work to repair the roof and bell tower has exceeded previous estimates by about \$27,000 which will come from the Building Fund. The Emergency Fund has been almost depleted following the initial payments for the Roof and Bell Tower as well as the project to make repairs to our sound system.

The Board of Finance and the Parish Planning Council will of course continue to monitor this situation and make any necessary course corrections.

I would ask all of the members of our congregation to prayerfully consider their giving to Emanuel.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 740-360-3632.

Rex Parrott, Treasurer

A BIG thank you to Daryl Kraner for donating and planting all the flowers for the cross, and around the church office and sign this spring! They are beautiful.



Hello From Emanuel Childcare and Preschool!

Thank you to everyone who came out to support our Emanuel Preschool Class of 2022! Some of these kids have been with us since they were in the infant room. It is a joy to see them grow and learn as we prepare them for kindergarten. Two members of the congregation, Isla Barger and Luke Koehler, were among those who graduated! Congratulations kids...We know you'll do great things in kindergarten!



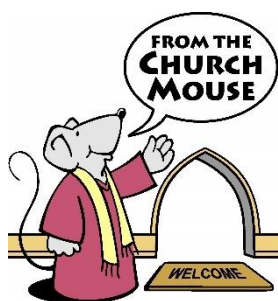
And also a HUGE Thank you to everyone who supported our Parking Lot Sale! We rented out a record number 21 tables for this year's sale! With the final tally in, the event raised \$1662.75! This is truly a group effort from our board members who help work the concessions and bake goodies to sell and the congregation members who come to buy items and share the event with friends. Thank you.



On Sunday May 22nd, at the 9:15 a.m. worship service, Brooklynn Parrish made public Affirmation of her Baptismal Vows. We remember Brooklynn in our prayers as she continues her Christian Journey.

The Confirmation Class Gift is the children's book, *"Our Father in Heaven, A Lord's Prayer Pop-Up Book"* by Agostino Traini, for the Church Library.





Musings from the Church Mouse...

Who is the world Pastor Mike praying for in worship?? That is a good question. Pastor Mike uses a variety of resources to broaden those for whom we pray. There is a format for the Prayers of the People in worship. It is: an introduction, prayers for the church, prayers for creation, prayers for the world, prayers for those in need, prayers for the congregation, prayers of remembrance for those who have gone before us, and a closing. These prayer petitions often have a connection to the scripture passages assigned for the day. During the prayers for the world, Pastor Mike uses the Ecumenical Prayer Cycle of the World Council of Churches. Countries are assigned for every Sunday. Over the course of the year, every country is prayed for by everyone around the world. In the prayers for the Church, Pastor Mike cycles through the list of all the churches that are part of the World Council of Churches. When praying for people in need, it is appropriate to just use the Christian (or first name) when praying. In the prayers of remembrance, Pastor Mike offers up the commemorations listed for that day, as found in our hymnals. The date of someone's commemoration is typically their heavenly birthday (which is another way of saying the date of their death). We do not pray for the dead, but we remember their earthly witness to inspire us. Pastor Mike also uses the resource Prayer Ventures from the ELCA. Each month, a prayer is assigned for each day. And Pastor Mike also adds his own contributions. So, now you know who is the world Pastor Mike is praying for!

Church Mouse

MIA Members

The Communication and Evangelism Committee has been tasked with bringing back members who we have lost touch with since the COVID-19 lockdown. We have identified 93 families who we have lost touch with! That's stunning and worrisome. The team has been working on finding ways to reach out to these members and see how we can make connections with them. So far, we sent the 93 families a flyer to let them know that we miss them and would love to hear from them. We are planning a Welcome Back event in July and possibly some mailing in the fall. We can't do this alone! Reach out to someone you haven't seen in a while. Check on them. Just let them know that we miss them and that they always have a church family here at Emanuel.

Pastor Poole's Pins



Some of you may know that Pastor Mike collects pins. He has for a while and has a nice collection. One of the first pins he collected was the one he wore on Easter Sunday. In July 2003, Pastor Mike was an intern at three congregations here in Marion County. Those congregations combined their youth going to the National Youth Gathering in Atlanta with those of Emanuel! And Pastor Mike went as an adult leader with the group. In Atlanta, he stopped in the Hard Rock Café because he had seen this awesome pin of Jesus playing a guitar with the banner Atlanta 2003 on it. The pin was made specifically for the NYG being in the ATL! Pastor Mike has worn that pin on Easter morning every year since. So, Emanuel has been part of all of his Easter

mornings the last 19 years. The other members of Emanuel on that trip were: Kiersten Anderson, Julie Kauffman, Kynlyne Chambers, Sarah Mash, Cindy Rowland, Jeremy Bradshaw, Justin Kauffman, Jordan Joliff, Tom Ballard, Colin Hahn, Tim Fogle, Kirk Gordon, Ashley Puckett. The other adult leaders were: Deb Bradshaw, Mike Mutter and Pat Thomas.

Looking back with Alicia Mayes...

You have probably read by now that we have "Spring Cleaning" going on at Emanuel. In looking through areas of the church 2 candelabras were found on 4th floor that haven't been used for years, you can tell by the dust and dirt on them. Looking closer I found that they are engraved. That is when I started my research and came up with the story behind them.

The engravings read as follows: "In memory of Lowell Leffler by Mother and Brothers" and the other reads: "In memory of Richard Leffler by Mother and Brothers". If you remember I had the "Scroll of Honor" displayed for Veterans Day in November in the Gathering Space. Both of these men's names are on that scroll serving during WWII. They are brothers and were the sons of Harrison and Sofia Leffler. They all were members of Emanuel.

Richard Leffler was born in 1915 and graduated from Harding High School. He then joined the Army Air Force in March of 1942 and did his training at what is now Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton. He then went for training in aircraft engines

and then trained at Hamilton Propeller School in Vandalia, Ohio and became a propeller specialist. Richard became ill and was ill for many months. He finally had surgery which revealed he had cancer. He was then discharged from the Army Air Force because of his health in 1943. He died January 3, 1944 at the age of 28. He was married to Laurel (Hanley) Leffler. Some of you might remember Laurel. Richard and she married August 8, 1942 and she died at the age of 90, July 13, 2003. From her obituary she never remarried after Richard's death.

Richard's brother, Lowell Leffler, was born in 1919. He graduated from Harding High School in 1937. Lowell joined the military in 1942 and trained as a chemical warfare specialist. He then went to Aviation Cadet training. He received his commission in March of 1943. He had the rank of 2nd Lt. and was a pilot of a B-24 Liberator. He then went overseas in November of 1943. In March of 1944 he became a 1st Lt. and was assigned as a B-24 pilot with the 27th Bomber Squadron. Lowell and his crew took off on a bombing mission from Eniwetock in the Marshall Islands in the western Pacific Islands. They successfully completed the bombing mission and upon returning from the mission the B-24 exploded for unknown reasons. The crew was lost and all

were declared missing in action. Lowell's date of death is recorded as April 10, 1944. He was 25. Lowell was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster and the Purple Heart. Both men are remembered on the Honor Roll at the Veterans Memorial Park here in Marion, the west wall of the Marion County Courthouse, on the WWII Veterans Memorial Wall at the Marion

Cemetery, as well as a family memorial in the Marion Cemetery.

That is how Emanuel received the candelabras in both men's memory from their mother and brothers. Their brothers were Charles and Harrison, Jr. Their father Harrison, Sr. died in 1922 at the age of 48. Their mother, Sophia, died in 1980 at the age of 98.



Welcome to the June 2022 Music Notes! This month I would like to welcome our new Choir Director, Steve deWeber! Steve officially joined us at the beginning of May, and we are delighted that he and his wife Cindy have chosen Emanuel as their new church home. Steve brings many years of experience, primarily at First Church of the Nazarene in Marion, where he was an Associate Pastor. You may know him from the "How Great Thou Art" productions that Steve directed at the Palace Theater for a number of years. Steve is a

native of California, and attended college in Oklahoma. Besides Ohio, Steve, Cindy and their family have also lived in Idaho and California, but if you ask him, he will tell you that Marion, Ohio is where they call home. If you are unable to hear the choir in person at the 10:30 service, be sure to check them out on Facebook or the radio on Sunday mornings. Also, check the Church's Facebook page, as there are a couple videos of the choir posted there as well! Please take a moment to welcome Steve and Cindy when you see them on Sunday morning!

A heartfelt THANK YOU to Carolyn Fox for serving as interim choir director! Carolyn did a great job and the choir certainly made a joyful noise unto the Lord under her expert direction. Carolyn recognized the need to keep the choir active, and how important their role is in our church life. Carolyn will continue to bless us with her talents as the director of the Bell Choir, and as an occasional soloist!

As the church liturgical calendar winds down with Pentecost and Trinity Sundays, we look forward to 22 more weeks of the season of Pentecost, or "Ordinary Time," culminating with Christ the King Sunday on November 20th. This time, especially during the summer months, may seem "ordinary," as there are no big celebrations, events, or feast days to anticipate. However, musically it will be anything but "ordinary." Your music staff will be enjoying vacations, recovering from surgery, auditioning music for recital or Sunday morning use, and just recharging as we prepare for the busy months to come. We will be enjoying Special Music by guest soloists or ensembles throughout the summer months, until the choir reconvenes in September. We will praise God through the singing of hymns, old and new, as we explore the LBW, and perhaps we will draw on other resources, such as With One Voice and All Creation Sings, the new hymnal supplement. As another writer has stated, "Ordinary time roots us in faith, providing the needed stability to remain strong throughout the year." Indeed, for the church musician, this time is extra-ordinary!

One final note: I would be remiss if I do not mention that the Cardinal Chorale will be performing on June 11th at Prospect Street UMC. If you have not had the experience of seeing them perform, I strongly encourage you to attend, as they are sure to put on a fantastic, meaningful performance.



Until Next Time, Soli Deo Gloria!
Paul Burnside

Communication and Evangelism Report

Your Communication and Evangelism Team have been hard at work. Here are some things that we have been working on:

- Communication
 - We have refreshed the bulletin boards and will continue to improve them, so that they are informative.
 - Our Facebook page has new information daily. Because of this, we have increased our reach by 32% this month (reaching 2,950 people)! Everyone, continue to like and share our Facebook page. Let's be known throughout the community.
 - We are adding more information to the Sunday morning announcements, so that members/visitors know what is going on.
 - Our pictorial directory has been edited and mailed back to the company. (Thank you, Matt Primmer for your careful editing). Please be patient. It's a process.
 - We have a small but mighty crew who work the audio/visual every Sunday. (Teri Turner, Carolyn Fox, Ed Stofcheck, Matt Primer, Kelli Hundley, David Gibson, Darren Rinehart, Dee Rinehart) The new sound system should be installed during the month of May.
 - Evangelism
 - We have created a flyer that will advertise the church as a welcoming place. This flyer was given out during the Child Care Yard Sale, and at the LGBTQ potluck. We are trying to reach more people with our "Welcome".
 - We purchased children's books with Christian themes to give away. The first event we distributed these books was the yard sale. We are looking at other events to distribute children's books.
 - We have created and mailed out flyers to welcome members back to church. More about this in the article MIA Members on page 6.
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Happening at Emanuel



It is not too late to join **Pastor Mike's summer book study!** The group reviews a chapter of "11 Indispensable Relationships You Can't Be Without" each week. **Studies are Thursday** at 11:30a.m. or 5:30p.m. and there is a virtual study available on Sundays at 4:00p.m. Reach out to Pastor Mike for more information!

Emanuel's LGBT & Allies group meets the second Sunday of each month at 6pm in the Parlor. The focus of this group is fellowship for LGBT people and Allies. Bring a dish for the potluck. Beverages (*bottled water, lemonade, iced tea, and coffee*) and table service will be provided. **The next meeting is Sunday, June 12th.** Contact LGBT.Emanuel@gmail.com or 740-262-2655 for more information.





The Board of fellowship is hosting a **Family Game Night** on **Sunday June 5th** at 6p.m. in the Parlor! Snacks will include Cookies, Fudge, Rice Crispy Treats, there will be 'Words in the Bible' & 'Made in Marion' Bingo, as well as Olympic Games set up in the Yard. Join the fun!

Community Happenings

The Cardinal Chorale Emanuel Lutheran Church & Prospect Street United Methodist Church will host the 2022 Cardinal Chorale in concert **Saturday, June 11th** 7:30pm At Prospect Street United Methodist Church. This is a free concert. A freewill donation will be collected to help defray the cost to bring this concert to Marion.



Trinity Lutheran Church provides a Community Breakfast the 1st Sunday of each month from 8a.m. - 11a.m. and St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waldo provides a drive-thru Dinner for the neighborhood the 4th Tuesday of each month from 4:30p.m. - 6:00p.m. Everyone is welcome at these events! Come and be fed!

The Waldo Fresh Food Distribution is held the first Friday of each month from 10a.m. – 12p.m. Please reach out to their church office if you would like to volunteer. They are also collecting toilet paper, first aid and personal care items. Items can be brought anytime to St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waldo and placed between the two back doors.



Earth & Cup hosts a Stretch and Pray session each Sunday morning at 8:30a.m. This is a virtual event. Contact Pastor Mike if you would like the link to participate or visit www.earthandcup.com.

Join us for Worship!

Thursday

7:00p.m.

Sunday

8:00a.m.

9:15a.m.

10:30a.m.



Shirley Clark (90) – June 13th
 Richard McDannel (90) – June 16th
 Betty Miller (93) – June 23rd
 Peggy Caserta (93) – June 26th



He only is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.
Psalms 62:6

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>5</p> <p>8:00am – Worship 9:15 – Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 6:00pm – Game Night</p>	<p>6</p> <p>6pm – Properties 6pm – Communications 6:30 – Spiritual Life</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8am – Quilters 6:30 – Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study 6pm – Adult Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30 – Book Study 5:30pm – Book Study 7pm – Worship</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Synod Assembly Walido Food Distribution</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:30pm – Cardinal Chorale</p>
<p>12</p> <p>8:00am – Worship 9:15 – Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 6:00pm LGBT & Allies</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5pm – Hour of Prayer (Tallgrass)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8am – Quilters 6:30 – Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7am – Men's B.S. 9:30 Bible Study *July Newsletter Articles Due</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30 – Staff Meeting 12:30 – Book Study 7pm – Worship 7:30pm – Book Study</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19</p> <p>8:00am – Worship 9:15 – Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7pm – PPC</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8am – Quilters 6:30 – Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:30 – Book Study 5:30pm – Book Study 7pm – Worship</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>8:00am – Worship 9:15 – Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 11:30am Mutual Ministry</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 – Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study</p>	<p>30</p> <p>11:30 – Book Study 5:30pm – Book Study 7pm – Worship</p>		

Puzzle!

Solve this cryptogram puzzle, using the clues R=I
and M=T, to complete Psalm 111:10, NIV.

MYL CLOQ ZC MYL
PZQN RV MYL
H L D R F F R F D ZC G R V N Z U
OPP GYZ CZPPZG
YRV BQLTLBMV
YOKL DZZN
JFNLQVMOFNRFD
MZ YRU HLPZFDV
LMLQFOP BQORVL
PSALM 111:10, NIV



The power of kindness

No kind action ever stops with itself. One kind action leads to another. Good example is followed. A single act of kindness throws out roots in all directions, and the roots spring up and make new trees. The greatest work that kindness does to others is that it makes them kind themselves.

—Amelia Earhart

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Answer: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise. Psalm 111:10, NIV