

The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

Emanuel Lutheran Church

241 S. Prospect Street

Marion, OH 43302

740-383-2184

emanuel1@emanuellutheran.net

www.emanuellutheran.net

Find us on Facebook!

Church Staff:

Pastor Mark Schuring

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

Music Minister: Allan Lust

Assistant Organist: Sandra Becker

Part-Time Organist: Paul Burnside

Praise Team & Children's

Choir Director: Teri Turner

Bell Choir Director:

Carolyn Fox

Sound Technician: Doug Ross

... but they who wait for
the LORD shall

renew their strength;

they shall mount up
with wings like eagles;

they shall run and

not be weary;

they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 40:31

Thursday Evening Eucharist

In May we resumed our 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion Worship on Thursday evenings in the sanctuary. This is a great alternative to Sunday worship. This service is a bit briefer than on Sunday, but includes all of the key elements of Lutheran worship. Please plan to join us on a Thursday evening in the sanctuary!

...then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.

Genesis 2:7

As I prepared my sermon for Pentecost this year, one of the commentaries I read described the Holy Spirit as the "Go-between God"; the God who connects past and future in a present that is full of meaning. It seems as though we often have a difficult time understanding the Holy Spirit. God the Father, though far away from us, is relatively easy to understand as the Creator. Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, our Lord and Savior, is easier to connect with since we have four gospels written about him. Then there is the Holy Spirit, often represented by that wind that filled the house where Jesus' followers were gathered.

In John's gospel we hear much about the Holy Spirit. In his farewell discourse Jesus says, "...the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you" (John 14:26). I think it is crucial for us to realize that God is still with us, still teaching us, and reminding us of how God was revealed to us through Jesus.

A song that helps me grasp the presence of the Holy Spirit is *O Breathe on me, O Breath of God* by Edwin Hatch (1835-1889).

O breathe on me, O breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love the things you love,
And do what you would do.

O breathe on me, O breath of God,
Until my heart is pure;
Until my will is one with yours,
To do and to endure.

O breathe on me, O breath of God,
My will to yours incline,
Until this selfish part of me
Glows with your fire divine.

O breathe on me, O breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with you the perfect life
Of your eternity.

As we heard on the Day of Pentecost, may our mighty God breathe life into us and may the Spirit bring truth to the world, transforming us by God's truth and giving us language to proclaim the gospel through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Until next time, may the peace of God be with you all.

Deacon Kevin





Hike and Seek by Heather Smith

In the midst of a pandemic, we couldn't connect with others in the usual ways. Worship was different; the church was dispersed. Outdoor settings became important as safe places to gather. Hiking became important to our family as a way to spend time with loved ones. In a search for daily ways to connect to God in the company of other people, Hike and Seek began to emerge.

Hike and Seek is an intergenerational ministry that fosters an enthusiastic love of God and of nature. Grounded in Scripture, we seek God's divine inspiration while we hike. For example, one hike began with several readings from the book of Romans centered on hope. With that interpretation of the word, "hope" in mind, we set out to find hope at Mt. Gilead State Park. Along the trail, we chatted about all kinds of topics as the kids traipsed ahead and the naturalists among us identified the spring ephemeral flowers. Our chatter was occasionally interrupted by someone pointing out hope in a trout lily, a mayapple growing through a dry leaf, a spring delivering life-giving water, or children holding the hands of their recently-immunized grandparents. We lingered for a while after finishing the trail to enjoy each other's presence and to give the kids some time on the playground. Afterwards, the hikers were invited to post pictures of hope on the Hike and Seek Facebook page, where others joined in and added images of hope from their own journeys.

Hike and Seek is not a traditional church program; it doesn't take place within church walls or on Sunday mornings and is therefore accessible to both people who are generally involved and comfortable in a church setting and those who are not.

This ministry recently received an Imagining Renewal Microgrant through the synod to expand the ministry, providing educational and interactive experiences (like raising butterflies, planting native plants, feeding birds, and reducing waste) with the hope of bringing forth a deeper understanding of our beautiful and beloved role within God's wonderful creation.

If you would like more information about Hike and Seek (or if you have ideas for it), please email Heather Smith at diaconalheather@gmail.com. You can also find the Hike and Seek page on Facebook for information on upcoming hikes. We'd love to see you on the trail!

Congratulations to Emanuel Child Care Staff and to our Preschool Graduates!

As we end another year of preschool and prepare for summer fun, I feel like it's a great time to recognize our amazing staff and the accomplishments of our center.

Within the last year we have become 3 Star Step Up To Quality rated and have met every goal we set for ourselves in the process. We recently had our classroom assessments which evaluate everything from our curriculum to our learning environment. It lasts around 3 hours and is very comprehensive. The evaluators came 3 times over 4 days and recently came back to share the results with me. I'm so excited to report that we scored extremely high! Not only did we show improvement from last year, we exceeded all expectations and truly shined. Our evaluator stated that we "are undoubtedly a 3 star center that consistently does 3 star things." She was very impressed and we are so proud!

I would also like to recognize our 9 preschool graduates that make up Emanuel Preschool's class of 2021. We are so proud of all of our graduates and we know they will do great in kindergarten!

Abby Chase



Looking back with Alicia Mayes...

While looking through the box of old bulletins I found one from January of 1978. Our radio broadcasts had been on the air 35 years, it has now been broadcast 78 years! The bulletin I found was printed the same time we had the blizzard. The church was closed due to the blizzard and the service was only on WMRN. Pastor James Rave was our pastor at this time. The bulletin reads as follows:

Dear Friends in Christ,

We celebrate another special occasion in Emanuel's life and history this morning. Of course, as a congregation 103 years old, many significant Sundays will just happen because a lot of milestones are reached. And, what makes this Sunday unique is the completion of 35 years of consistent broadcasting of our Sunday morning worship services on the radio.

That's 1,820 consecutive Sunday broadcasts and I have a hunch it's a record which ranks somewhere near the top of any national statistics which might be kept on this sort of thing. But, to me, records matter little when compared to the privilege given us to provide the communication of the Word of God to shut-ins, the ill and infirmed, hospitalized, and lonely people in a 50 mile radius of our church. It is a privilege God has given us and a responsibility to which I pledge my continued support.

As we consider our ongoing challenges to provide this ministry for so many who have come to depend upon it, I thought you might be interested in looking back for a few moments to review how it all happened. As is always the case God's guidance worked through dedicated Christian people. And, I talked with those most closely involved and share their comments with you now:

"It all happened because of the interest of Raymond Roecker who in 1943 gave the first \$500 to pay for the initial broadcast....It very quickly grew into the finest home mission opportunity we could have....It's a real missionary project....In the early days, after we got started, people would buy Sundays in honor of loved ones and that's how we financed the broadcast....As I recall the costs ranged somewhere between \$35 and \$50 for each broadcast." Carl Campbell

"WMRN went on the air in 1940 and it was just three years later that Raymond Roecker and I went to visit with Bob Mason who was owner and general manager of WMRN at that time....He expressed interest in our broadcast but wanted assurance that no plea for money would ever be made over the air....That, of course, was already our intent....Raymond was a member of Vestry (church council) at the time and one day came to me with \$500 to pay for the first broadcast....It paid for the first 13 Sundays....We had a Gentlemen's Agreement with WMRN instead of a written contract and that, too, was a unique situation for broadcasting." Rev. Martin Hollensen

"Raymond was singing on an afternoon broadcast on WMRN each Sunday and was very interested in the radio....In fact, Minnie Ackerman was his accompanist on those programs, and they would perform at 1:00 each Sunday afternoon....It was a half hour program, not all sacred numbers, and I believe that is how he first became so interested in radio and thought about broadcasting the services....It wasn't long after Rev. Hollensen came that he gave the \$500 gift and, in fact, it was done before I knew about it....Raymond often did things on this own....And, he continued to support the broadcast off and on through the years after his initial gift." Mrs. Raymond Roecker

This is the first half of the newsletter piece about our radio broadcasts. It is so long I will have the second half next time.

Alicia



Emanuel's LGBT Fellowship Group



*“Love
each other
as I have
loved you.”*
JOHN 15:12, NIV



Our last meeting was Sunday, March 8th, 2020. At that time, we had no idea that we wouldn't meet again for well over a year, due to the pandemic. However, we kept in touch throughout that time by delivering seasonal treats, along with informational updates, including Emanuel's online and in-person worship schedule.

In preparation for meeting again we have reached out to each person that has previously attended in order to confirm their vaccination status. Once we found out that everyone had been vaccinated, we began planning our return. The first meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 13th.

This will be a potluck format as before, so please bring a favorite dish to share.

If you are LGBT or an ally, and you have been fully vaccinated, please RSVP by email at LGBT.Emanuel@gmail.com, calling or texting 740-262-2655 or calling the church office at 740-383-2184, by 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 10th.

Ramping Up!

First Communion Instruction will resume in the fall as we continue to ramp up. Families will be notified of plans.

Confirmation classes will resume in the fall. Tentatively we are planning on confirming the four second-year students on October 31, Reformation Day. The new confirmation class will include seventh and eighth graders and will meet on Sundays during the Sunday School hour. More details later.

Pastor Mark and Deacon Kevin have resumed shut-in visits. Please call us if you would like a visit.

Beginning in June Emanuel will offer TWO in-person worship services each Sunday, the contemporary at 9:15 and traditional at 10:30. Services will continue to be available online and radio as they have been. We have also resumed Thursday evening worship at 7pm in the sanctuary.



Thank you to my Emanuel Church Family for all the beautiful birthday cards. I really appreciate them. God bless you all.

Joann Blank

Waldo Fresh Food Distribution

The next two distributions will be June 4th and July 2nd 10:00a.m. – 1:00 p.m. They will be collecting toothbrushes & toothpaste and deodorant & bottled water respectively. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to Jackie Price by calling 740-361-5373.



Betty Miller celebrates her 92nd birthday June 23rd.
Peggy Caserta celebrates her 92nd birthday June 26th.



Naomi Duprey celebrates her 95th birthday July 31st.

Memorial Service to be held at Emanuel for Bishop James Rave

On Saturday, July 17th at 1:30 p.m. there will be a memorial service held in the Emanuel sanctuary for Bishop James Rave.

Bishop Rave was installed as pastor at Emanuel Lutheran in 1973 and served until 1986, when he left to become Bishop of the Northwestern Ohio Synod until his retirement in 1998.

Choir Announcement: It has been asked that a choir sing at Bishop Rave's memorial service. Anyone interested should contact Carolyn Fox before June 19 at (740) 223-7115.

Non-profit Organization
PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #116
Marion, OH 43302

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

*Return Service Requested.

Prepared Especially For:

A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God
This summer
In whatever you do
Wherever you go

Walking with God means...
Walking with honesty
And with courage,
Walking with love
And respect

And concern for the feelings of others

May you talk to God
This summer
And every day and
In every situation

Talking with God means...
Praying words of praise
For the beauty of creation
Saying prayers of thanks
For friends and good times,
Asking God's help
In all your decisions
Expressing sorrow
When you have failed

May you talk with God
Every day. Amen.

- *Author unknown*