

The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Find us on Facebook!

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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

Renewing

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

Psalm 51:10-12

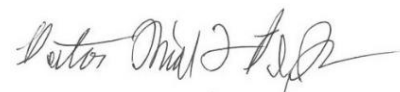
We are now in full swing of our 150th Year celebration, and I feel this will be a renewing experience for us here at Emanuel.

The next aspect of this 150th Year is to take time to renew: We are renewing our commitment to God, to the Kingdom, and to the Church. We are renewing our commitments to ourselves and to our neighbors. We are renewing our participation in the ministry of Emanuel and the Kingdom of God, and renewing our own discipleship moving forward from here.

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. This leads us to go to where God is calling us to go. It is an exciting time to be here at Emanuel, to be part of the church, to participate in the work of the Kingdom, to be a disciple of Christ.

The LORD renews us by creating in us a clean heart. The Holy Spirit renews us by being within us so that we may follow where Christ leads. We are restored with grace and joy in our lives.

Peace,



Pastor Mike

PD Ann's Corner

This summer I visited Quilt National at the Dairy Barn in Athens, Ohio. It is a display of 81 contemporary quilted projects that comes every other year to Ohio. We are not allowed to take photos of the display so, I bought the Quilt National '23 book that has pictures of the 81 quilts. It is interesting to me that the pictures in the book do not fully represent what I saw in person. One of the quilts used LED lights to apply color to the piece. In the picture all you see are the colors of the LED lights which were red, blue, purple, orange, yellow and green. In person, what I saw was white chiffon, white fleece and white muslin hand and machine stitched. This reminded me of the Bible verse I Corinthians 13:12 that says, "For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror that we shall see face to face. Now I know in part, then, I shall know fully even as I am fully known."

Jesus came to show us God the Father. In our generation we have glimpses of Jesus through the written word, in the insight the Holy Spirit gives us and in the people who demonstrate the life of Christ. Someday, we will see Jesus - face to face. Now we see glimpses of Jesus' plan for us and for the world. Someday we will fully understand what Jesus did in our lives and for the world. As you go about your daily life, take time to look for Jesus in the world around you—through reading scripture, spending time in prayer, meeting people who are around you. And, don't forget to look in the mirror at your own image. Do you reflect Jesus?



Home Communion Assistants



I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

Philippians 1: 3-6

In September the Home Communion Assistants gathered at Candlewood for a time of fellowship and renewal. We would like to remind you that Home Communion is available to church members, friends or family who are in a care facility or are home bound. We visit everyone once a month. If you, or someone you know, are interested in having communion, please call either the church office at 740-383-2184 or Parish Deacon Ann at 740-360-3546. It is a joy to offer communion and fellowship to you.

Communion Assistants in the picture are: **Back Row-** Glen Cambell, Betty Anderson, Janet Musser. **Front Row-** Lori Campbell, Janice Campbell, Elaine Merchant. **Taking the picture:** Parish Deacon Ann Thomas. **Not Pictured:** are Michelle Rankin, Linda Hoch, and Judy Lehner

Dear Emanuel Committee & Pastor Mike,

I have carefully pondered your good invitation to share in Emanuel's 150th. First, I have to mention I have aged a bit, just realizing that we had come for the 100th! It was a good time to be with people there and with my family.

My parents have died, and so too Karen, so my life has changed radically. Fortunately, Karen and I had moved to Massachusetts and purchased a house with our son and his family before she became ill, so I am not alone. I bring this up to say traveling to Marion would not be the same.

I take this moment, to thank Emanuel one more time for covering my seminary tuition. I hope you are able to continue that gift to those coming after us. The financial burden might and can be much heavier these years later. That is so even, if the seminary becomes tuition free.

I also want to thank Emanuel one more time for the gift of \$5,800 to King of Kings, Ann Arbor while I was pastor there. I believe it was in the 1980's. We used it for chairs in the sanctuary to replace very noisy furniture. It did create a much quieter atmosphere and helped us grow.

It would be good to see how life at Emanuel has changed and it is my deep hope that you are seeking a future as servants of justice and love in Marion.

All that said, I feel I ought to decline the invitation.
Thank you and good hope,
Dennis Hacker

Thank you to Sue Rakow and Crew! You put together a delicious meal for our guest pastor, Jill Rowland. We got many wonderful comments about the fellowship and the food! Thank you for all you do for Emanuel. From the Anniversary Committee.

Our next guest Pastor is Jonathon Bull. He will be preaching on Sunday, January 28th.



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

... You know exactly what it feels like when the Jello melts into the scalloped potatoes on a paper plate.

... You know that Jello should always be the liturgical color of the season.

... You get really nervous when the Pastor walks into the kitchen.



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Emanuel Christmas Program

Sunday, December 3, 2023

10:30a.m. in the Sanctuary

Please join us after the program
for a Christmas luncheon in the parlors.

Christmas Program Rehearsal

Saturday, December 2, 2023

10:00a.m.

Please join us in the Sanctuary
for about one hour. We'll practice our music
and places in the program.

Make sure to join us for *Breaking Bread!*

Check out the photos below from our October *Breaking Bread* event and plan to join us next month! Enjoy an evening of fellowship and an evening without having to plan or cook dinner.

Next *Breaking Bread*:

Wednesday, November 15th at 5pm in the parlor!



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.

Updates from Emanuel Child Care and Preschool

We are collecting donations of new children's clothing to assist our families and provide extras when needed. If you would like to donate, items needed include: Winter Coats, fall/winter clothing, and boys' underwear – all sizes 2T-7. Items can be placed in the cart outside of Abby's office. Thank you to everyone who donated last fall – our families really appreciated the gifts!



Social Ministry News....

God's Work, Our Hands is on-going, with all projects to be completed by the end of October. Thank you to all who took the time and energy to complete a project. Don't forget to bring back your reflection form, (look for the envelope marked Reflection Sheets in the Gathering Space), to let us know your feelings about your project. If you were unable to take a project this time there will be other opportunities for service in 2024.

Fresh Food Distribution finishes up 2023 looking for recipes for the following items. In November items are pumpkin, grapefruit and oranges with recipes due by October 27. The December items are cranberries, mushrooms and lentils with recipes due by November 22. Recipes can be placed in the Social Ministry mailbox in the Martin Luther Room or emailed to Barb Russo at russofarm3@gmail.com

Thanks and Giving is coming Thursday, November 23. Sign up to work on that day, help cook or donate needed food items. Look for additional information in this newsletter and weekly bulletins.

Yarn Collection was completed last June and since then the inmates at MCI have been busy. Make sure to check out the photos below of items produced by the Oak Unit Crochet Therapy program. Our donated yarn really made some beautiful items.

Laundry Day is Saturday, December 2 from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Detergent and fabric softener are still in ample supply, but we will again be looking for smiling faced volunteers to work at both Colonial Coin Laundry locations. Have a smile and want to help, the signup sheet will be available in the Gathering Space come November. If you've never worked this event, it is a wonderful experience and we'd love to have you join us.

Medical Device Ministry in conjunction with Aspire Ministries and Epworth Methodist is progressing with our programming work coming together. Word of this much needed resource is already circulating around Marion resulting in donations coming from local organizations and individuals. In addition, a number of our members and friends have made walker/wheelchair bags that will also be distributed to those in need. It is amazing what God can do if we just listen to his guidance.



All is Bright

The Christmas Open House Team is continuing our plans for the upcoming "All is Bright" open house on December 9th, 5:00-8:00. Watch for sign-up sheets in the gathering space, if you would like to participate.

Communication and Evangelism

The year is wrapping up, but we still have lots to do. Here is what Communication and Evangelism Team is planning for the rest of 2023:

- We are going to provide flyers about Emanuel and a small bag of goodies to hand out during Thanks and Giving.
- We are working on “welcome centers” and “swag bags” for visitors.
- We are hosting the “All is Bright” event in December.

Looking ahead to 2024

Many members of the Communication and Evangelism team are completing their term at the end of 2023. We are looking for some excited members who love to show Jesus’ love to the greater community through evangelism and communication. Some of the things this team is tasked with are:

- Improving communication
- Encouraging other members to share the love of Christ with others
- Welcoming visitors and new members
- Running audio/visual equipment

Some activities that we managed in the past year:

- Card ministry
- Prayer room during Lent
- Back to School Blessings
- Extravaganza Barbecue (with the assistance of other teams)
- Christmas open house

These are just a few things that we do. If any of this excites you, talk with Brian Barger, Dee Rinehart, or Steve Andrews. We can’t wait to see what our future team will look like.

Update on Heating System Repairs

With the arrival of colder weather, we have fired up the boiler system to heat the building! Unfortunately, all did not go smoothly and repairs will need to be made. We are currently looking into other options for heating, including adding heat strips to the current duct work. This should work to keep the building from getting too cold, but is probably not a permanent full-time fix. Please be patient as we explore our options. It is also never a bad idea to dress in layers on Sunday mornings – it might be a little too warm one Sunday and chilly the next until we get everything resolved. Thank you!

This is part 4 of the history of Emanuel.

Rev. Hollensen continued his pastorate at Emanuel and in 1958 he was presented an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from Capital University. He also wrote a book, “Is It True” that was published in 1958 summarizing his lectures (we would call them new member classes today) on the fundamentals of Christianity. In 1962 the congregation presented Rev. and Mrs. Hollensen with a Holy Land tour in appreciation of their 25 years here at Emanuel.

I have found many bulletins over the years from Rev. Hollensen’s time at Emanuel in boxes all over the church. Some of you may recall that he always wrote a piece in the bulletins that he called, “This and That Department.” He would tell of

things going on in the church and things in his own life. I have included some interesting, I feel, things that I have discovered in those bulletins:

March 13, 1949 Bulletin – A new drinking fountain was installed in the church parlors. It was a gift from the Senior Bible Classes. It is still there today.

April 3 – The radio broadcasts cost \$2600 per year or \$50 each Sunday.

A telephone booth was installed in the parlors. That phone was removed just recently.

Work on the balcony will begin soon. The floor will be elevated and new seats installed. (This answers the question from last months' newsletter that Ed Baldauf was telling me about the new seats being installed in the balcony. It would have been before the educational wing was built.)

August 14 – The Luther League Convention at Pullman, Washington will be held August 23. Bob Johnson and Jim Lytle will represent Emanuel. Some of you might remember these names. The theme for the convention, "Thy Kingdom Come."

October 9 – Ed Baldauf (yes, he's a little older now) had served as acolyte for the month of September. That would make him about 17 yrs. old at that time.

October 16 – The Junior Choir, 4-8th grades, was directed by Wanda McMahan, with Mary Kay Mills, accompanist. I know many of you will remember these ladies.

January 8, 1950 Bulletin – The Harding High School basketball game will be played at the new coliseum on the fairgrounds on Tuesday, February 7th. (A bit of Marion history.)

March 19 – The Luther League is collecting sales tax stamps to make money. (These were stamps as evidence that you paid Ohio sales tax.)

April 30 – The women of the Senior Bible Class are selling Capital Wallpaper Cleaner for 39 cents a can.

April of 1950 is the first that I found anything about Tomi Bacon being the secretary of Emanuel. Many of you may remember her. She was secretary until right after Rev. Hollensen retired. She stayed for the transition between Rev. Hollensen and Pastor James Rave.

September 3 – An exchange student from Germany, Henry Lehmann, has spent a year in the United States. He will speak to the Luther League at Emanuel. A potluck will be September 5th before he speaks. He is 15 and spent the year with the Snavely Family of Marseilles. His family is Lutheran and his father is a physician in Germany.

September 8 – Mary Barkley Stafford has arrived back in Marion from the Philippine Islands for a visit with her family. Keith Stafford operates a coconut grove in the Philippines for a large soap company owned by the United States. Mary served as the office secretary for Emanuel before her marriage. (Mary and Keith came back to Marion and were longtime members. They both died while in Marion.)

Marion had a blizzard on Sunday, November 26, 1950. It was the worst in 37 years. There were 157 people that made their way to church that morning and 98 were in Sunday school.

January 1, 1951 – Greeters on Sunday mornings are all men, no women.

February 11 – Scrap Drive for Luther League – Save your magazines, paper, and scrap. Luther League had a Sales Tax counting party.

April 15 – Emanuel's Luther League will entertain a number of Luther League members from St. Paul's Lutheran Church from Toledo. Their pastor is Rev. Herman Meyer. They asked to come to a league meeting at Emanuel when they were informed that our league was rated one of the "Model League's" in the Ohio District.

May 20 – Rev. Hollensen was asked by the senior class at Harding High School to deliver the sermon at their Baccalaureate Service May 27th at Epworth Methodist Church.

August 12 – Ground breaking for the educational building is today, August 12th. It will be at the end of the regular morning church service. Pictures will be taken by Karl Stewart (Maggie Clark and Carolyn Parrott's father).

September 23 – Starting the 1st Sunday in October the cost of our radio broadcast will go up from \$50 per week to \$55.50 per week.

November 18 – Babysitting Service – Luther League members are willing to babysit whenever you need help. Twenty-five cents per hour to take care of kids for any church function and 35 cents per hour for babysitting at your home. Ten percent of the earnings will go to the Luther League.

December 9 – There was a thank you note sent to Emanuel from Rev. Don Hochstettler, pastor of the First Evangelical United Brethren Church. He was thanking the church for flowers sent to his church for their dedication. A little history of the United Brethren Church-The Evangelical United Brethren Church merged with the Evangelical Church in 1946 to form a new denomination known as Evangelical United Brethren Church (EUB). Then in turn merged in 1968 with the United Methodist Church (UMC). This is the Oakland United Methodist Church as of 2023 on Bellefontaine Ave. here in Marion.

December 16th – The Luther League had a monthly paper, its name, “The Belfry Bat”. It was edited by members of the Luther League. We all have heard stories about bats over the years and the Luther League put the pesky critter’s name to good use as a paper.

January 27, 1952 Bulletin – It was announced that Fred Baldauf would be the contractor and Charles Oborn the architect for the building of the new educational building.

In the bulletin on March 2, 1952, it was stated that if you called the church office and couldn’t reach the secretary you can call her at home and gave her phone number. I wonder what Ashley thinks about that.

February 10th – Norman Fogt is the Boy Scout Scoutmaster for the churches Troop #15.

April 6th Bulletin – There was a wedding in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 13, 1952 at 3:30PM.

April 20th Bulletin-The cornerstone for the new educational building was laid on that day. The inscription on the cornerstone reads, “The Fear of the Lord Is the Beginning of Wisdom.” (Proverbs 9:10). The contents of the copper box which will be sealed in the cornerstone after the laying of the stone is as follows: The Holy Bible; an alphabetical list of all the communicant members of Emanuel Lutheran Church; Church bulletins for April 20th, Easter, and for August 12, 1951, the groundbreaking service, a Booklet containing the Order of Services for the Dedication of Emanuel Lutheran Church on Sunday, September 8, 1918; a Booklet entitled, “The 50th Anniversary of Emanuel Lutheran Church 1924”; the 75th Anniversary Directory of the membership of Emanuel Lutheran Church and the bulletin for December 4, 1949, when the 75th Anniversary of Emanuel congregation was celebrated; the Brochure of our Building Fund Campaign conducted in November and December of 1950; the Lutheran Standard for March 18, 1939, whose cover carried a picture of our church building and the Lutheran Standard for December 20, 1941, the cover of which carried a picture of our Christmas Candlelight Service in the sanctuary. These records, they felt at the time, would give a brief history of Emanuel congregation to those who, in the coming generations, may have it fall to their lot to open the box in the cornerstone.

May 8th Bulletin: Lutheran Memorial Camp was then owned by the American Lutheran Church. Camp manager at that time was Rev. W.F. Bittikofer, Cardington, Ohio. The camp is still owned by what is now the ELCA. The name changed over the years from American Lutheran Church to Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. As we learned recently from Pastor Sara Cogsil, that visited Emanuel, the name of the camp has changed to HopeWood Pines. Pastor Sara is the Associate Director of the camp.

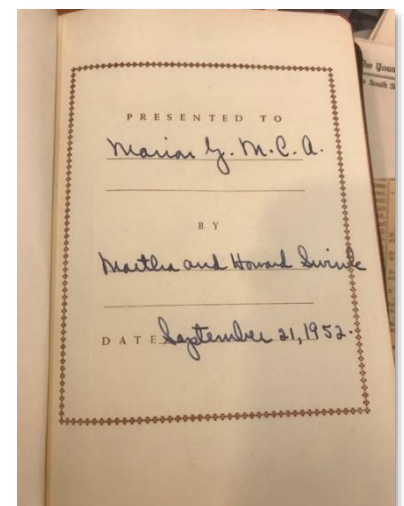
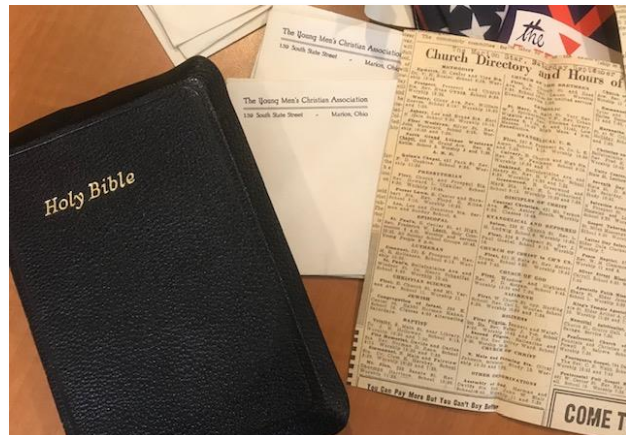
August 17th 1952 Bulletin – A new church directory, no pictures just names, addresses, and phone numbers was made. It was put together on the new Multilith Machine (or Lithograph is an offset duplicating process that requires either chemically fixing copy on a metal sheet or preparing a paper like master copy by typing, printing or drawing) recently purchased to replace the Mimeograph Machine (uses a stencil consisting of a coated fiber sheet through which ink is pressed). Look how far we have come.

September 21st 1952 Bulletin – A letter was sent to Rev. Hollensen and the congregation from Al Kette, President of the Board of the YMCA, inviting all to the cornerstone laying of the new YMCA on East Church St. Sunday, September 21st. Rev. Hollensen was asked to place a copy of the Bible in their cornerstone.

Matt Primmer gave me the pictures with this piece. He is on the YMCA Board. The cornerstone of the old YMCA was opened and Matt was able to take pictures of the contents from our church.

I hope you are enjoying reading these pieces as much as I am enjoying writing them.

More history to come. Alicia



Looking Back with Alicia



Rev. Martin Hollensen was the longest serving pastor of Emanuel. He served 35 years beginning November 1, 1937. He retired December 31, 1972.

He was born November 14, 1906 in Chicago, Illinois, the son of Mathilda (Behn) and Hans Hollensen. He attended Capital University in Columbus, Ohio from 1924-1928. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree and then went to what is now Trinity Lutheran Seminary and graduated in 1931 with a Bachelor of Divinity Degree. Martin was ordained June 14, 1931. Six days after his ordination he married Ruth Boyer on June 20. Ruth was born July 16, 1906 in East St. Louis, Missouri.



His first call was to Grace Lutheran Church in Eaton, Ohio. He served from July of 1931 to October of 1937. Rev. Hollensen was then called here to Emanuel and installed November 1, 1937. On May 26, 1933 Ruth and Martin had their first daughter, Dorothy Ruth. On April 10, 1938 their second daughter, Carol Jean was born.

It was during Rev. Hollensen's time at Emanuel that the first live broadcast of the 10:30 AM Sunday service on WMRN radio. That was January 31, 1943, 80 years ago and still broadcasts today. Also, during his time here the educational wing was built and the parking lot just south of the church was added.

June of 1958 Rev. Hollensen received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from what is now Trinity Lutheran Seminary. He wrote the book, "Is It True?" in 1958 and it was published by The Wartburg Press in Columbus. It is about what Lutherans believe.

Rev. Hollensen and his family lived in the house that is now our church office until his retirement in 1972. Upon his retirement he and Ruth were given use of a house on Bordeaux Ave. and they lived there until their deaths. A friend of mine bought the house and still lives there today.

Ruth died April 7, 1991 and Rev. Hollensen April 14, 1998. Their two daughters survived them. Dorothy (Tom) Baughman of Crawfordsville, Indiana and Carol (Louis) Heid of Stuart, Florida. In my research I found that their daughter Carol Heid died December 7, 2004 in Northport, Alabama. Dorothy (90) and her husband, Tom (89) live in Sarasota, Florida.

On a personal note, I was baptized and confirmed by Rev. Hollensen.
Until next time, Alicia

Musings from the Church Mouse...

Have you been checking out all the stuff in the Gathering Space? There is a lot of history out there. I have been here for a long while, but there is stuff that even I didn't know. Take a moment to look at all the material to see where we have been.

See ya' at worship!

Church Mouse



Emanuel LGBT Fellowship Group



2023 Schedule: First Sunday Each Month At 6PM
November 5th 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

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 Matthew.

Book Study

We are focusing on stewardship with the fall book: "Giving to God – The Bible's Good News About Living a Generous Life," by Mark Allan Powell. Mark was one of Pastor Mike's seminary professors. 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.



Faith Journeys

We have just finished our journey through the Ten Commandments during Thursday evening worship. We have started a new session of Confirmation. Join the youth in continuing our Faith Journey!

Future Faith Journey Events:

Thursdays 10/5, 10/12, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2, 11/9 – Worship

Wednesday Nov 22nd at 7pm – Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Thursday Nov 23rd – Thanks and Giving

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.

Kilted 50 for Charity



During the spring of 2013, I was inspired by a guy on Facebook (his name is Rick Baldwin) that decided to wear a kilt every day, from his 50th to his 51st birthday. And I thought this would be a great idea, and I could post photos and blog and..... But he already did it. So, I did it for charity. I turned 50 in November 2013. I wore a kilt every day until my 51st birthday. I spent the year raising awareness, advocacy, action and funds for ELCA World Hunger and the American Cancer Society.

I decided to continue keeping Kilted 50 For Charity going. Kilted 50 For Charity is now the fundraising branch of Earth And Cup, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit organization. We support organizations, groups and individuals who are working to change the world and make it a better place. In 2014 we initially gave over \$5,000. In 2015, I gave away over \$2,000 spread among 27 organizations; in 2016, over \$3,000 among 20 agencies; in 2017, over \$3,200 among 15 agencies; in 2018, over \$1,500 among 10 agencies; in 2019, over \$4,100 among 16 agencies; in 2020, over \$15,700 among 18 agencies; in 2021, over \$14,200 among 11 agencies; and in 2022, over \$12,000 to 21 organizations. We offer financial support, as well as assistance with awareness, action and advocacy.

2023 brings my 60th birthday! So, I am going to do it again: Kilted 50 (at 60) for Charity! I will be putting all my pants away for another year!!

There will be many opportunities for everyone to participate. To find out how to get involved, you can follow the Facebook page: Kilted 50 For Charity, email me at kilted50forcharity@aol.com or follow me on Twitter @Kilted50.

Peace, Pastor Mike

Changing the world one kilt at a time!

Pastor Poole's Pins

Pastor Mike is an avid kilt wearer. At present he has thirty-two of them! His first kilt was a solid green that is worn by the Shamrock Club of Columbus Pipes and Drums, which is where Pastor Mike learned the pipes. He has continued to pick up a variety of kilts along the way.



Results of Stewardship Sunday on October 1, 2023

Thanks to everyone who participated in Stewardship Sunday's activities. Much planning and work goes into this event every year.

Results were lower this year than in the past. Last year's estimate of giving cards (for 2023) brought in \$25,578.00 in new pledges.

Estimate of giving cards taken in this year for 2024 totaled \$9,320.00 in new pledges.

If you have not turned in your Estimate of Giving card for 2024, please do so as soon as you can. The budget process is well under way, and part of that process is the Estimates of Giving.



Welcome to Our Monthly Music Notes!

*You saw me crying in the chapel.
The tears I shed were tears of joy.*

It's all your fault, dear Emanuel congregation. I'll admit that I'm a softie, a sensitive guy. Ask my wife. Most musicians and other artistic types are sensitive souls. It comes with the territory. Emotion is what we draw upon to create and communicate our art. A machine can be programmed to play technically correct notes all day long, but if there's no warmth or feeling – no humanity. It's not music. It's just notes. Emotion is what drives the artistic temperament.

So...what exactly is your fault, Emanuel congregation? Well, you literally brought tears to my eyes. Not in a bad way. In a joyous way. There's nothing more fulfilling for a church organist than leading a full congregation in the singing of hymns. And there was a perfect moment during the combined service on October 1st.

"Longing for light, we wait in darkness...Longing for peace, our world is troubled...Longing for food, many are hungry...Longing for shelter, many are homeless...Christ, Be Our Light! Shine in your church gathered today." The song/hymn by Bernadette Farrell, embodies the sacrifice of stewardship to which we are called, to serve our neighbors, our community, the world around us. The beauty of 100+ voices singing, the message of the hymn text resonating in our church, moved me like never before. So there I am, at the organ bench, wiping away tears. I wasn't embarrassed, as who isn't moved by a beautiful piece of music? It was just unexpected. I hope it happens again.

"Christ, Be Our Light" brings to mind another hymn text by Brian Wren, "Here Am I." It is not yet in a Lutheran hymnal, but it is gaining in popularity. I've performed this with a soloist in the past, and, like "Christ, Be Our Light", the text communicates a message that is difficult for us to hear. We're reminded, in descriptive terms, of Jesus's presence among those who are less fortunate or are suffering. He is with them, but are we there as well? In a world full of injustice, pain, and distress, both hymns challenge us to be the Light, to live as Christ taught, to "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with God." (Micah 6:8)

Here am I, where underneath the bridges
in our winter cities homeless people sleep.
Here am I, where in decaying houses
little children shiver, crying at the cold.
Where are you?

Here am I, with people in the line-up,
anxious for a handout, aching for a job.
Here am I, where pensioners and strikers

sing and march together, wanting something new.
Where are you?

Here am I, where two or three are gathered,
ready to be altered, sharing wine and bread.
Here am I, where those who hear the preaching
change their way of living, find the way to life.
Where are you?

So where are we? We sing the words and hear the message, but where are we? Where am I? Nine years ago, when I became disabled, the life I knew changed in an instant. Like others who experience a tragic event or loss, it caused me to reflect on my life and focus on what is truly important, to steer my life onto a new path. This road, being rocky and crooked, is not always easy to follow, and is constantly filled with potholes and detours. I can't help but question sometimes if I am on the right path, heading in the right direction. Truly, it's moments like the one I experienced in October that led me to believe I am indeed on the right path.

Thank you, dear Emanuel congregation.

Until next time, Soli Deo Gloria!

Paul Burnside

Steeple Sightings

Hi from on high.

I am so thankful that heat rises. Since summer is definitely history, it gets pretty chilly up in these heights at night. Being nocturnal, I don't get to see as much of the fall colors as you humans do, though I keep hearing how pretty it is outside. Fall is the time for something called football, which is enjoyed by many either playing or watching on television at home or at a gathering place (aka pub, sports bar, brewery). Thought I would check out a local establishment just to get the vibes and ended up in one called the Marion Brewing Company. Must have been a busy night since it was so loud my sense of hearing was erratic. Then I saw a familiar face---Rick Lyon. Oh happy squeaks. Now I had someone to talk to (sort of) since I can tap into brain waves. He was really receptive to the fuzzy thoughts invading his subconsciousness.

Just to warm things up, I asked about his growing up and learned he was born and raised in Marion County, attending River Valley School District. He played saxophone in the band. More on that later. He then attended Marion Tech's Engineering program; earned a Bachelor's degree in Engineering from Franklin University; and finally an MBA in Engineering from Ashland. WHEW! All that studying paid off with a career at GTE, going up the corporate ladder (or was it a pole) reaching the office of Director of Engineering before retiring on 2017.

Probing further, he informed me that he had been a member of Emanuel previously, then left to later return in 2005 with wife Terry and stepson Kyle. At Pastor Mark's invitation he joined the young Praise Team playing guitar.

Music is a big part of his life now. Besides the Praise Team, Rick joined the Marion Concert Band in the saxophone section. As many have said before, music groups have provided friends and fellowship to those who participate. He has also participated in service to the Lord and Emanuel through serving on the Stewardship and the Spiritual Life boards and assisting with the carryout of meals during the Thanks and Giving event.

Now what would you expect a retired engineer to be doing in his "spare" time? Building things, of course.

Which includes repairing things at home and the Brewery. Perfect places to enjoy the pleasures of football, whether the Bengals or the Buckeyes and in the off-season the Reds.

Uh-oh, the waves of information are weakening my receptors, so I better hurry back to the church and get recharged with a nice meal to get ready for more evening flights.

Blessings to you all! 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

Comfort Quilters

The Comfort Quilters have completed 435 quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Saturday, we packed 145 boxes into a U-Haul that Bruce Showalter rented for us to transfer to Ohigro in Waldo. The quilts from this region will be shipped to a warehouse in Maryland where they will travel all over the world to help people in need.

We receive a lot of help from many people in order to complete this project. This year I would like to thank the following: The estate of Betty Orr (a local quilter) for fabric and quilting supplies; Midwest lettering for a donation of boxes to store the quilts for shipping; Cheryl Bayless who brought quilts up from St. Peters Lutheran Church on Pawleys Island, South Carolina; Pastor Mike for writing the blessing for Sunday and Bill Lambert and his daughter Vicki who boxed the quilts in the sanctuary; the regular quilters - Cindi Bentley, Nancy Barker, Shirley Campbell, George and Janice Click, Carla Campton, Norma Fanello, Carol Hoch, Elsie Mitchell, Lori Campbell and Norma Ward. Everyone who has contributed sheets, fabric, quilting supplies and given financial support are demonstrating the stewardship which God has asked us to do. Thanks be to God for this opportunity to help people all over the world.



Bill Barnhart celebrates his 91st birthday on November 27th! Let's remember Bill with our cards and prayers. (contact the church office for address)

24th Annual Emanuel Lutheran Thanks & Giving



**Join us in the Church Parlor for a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner!
Our gift to the Marion Community
Thursday, November 23rd Serving from noon to 3:00p.m.
Dining Room Only - Open to the public**

The following items are needed for the dinner: (14 needed) Turkey - cooked, carved, and frozen; (6 needed) Boneless Ham- cooked and sliced; (1 needed) #10 size can Green Beans; (10 needed) #10 size can Sweet Potatoes; (22 needed) Pumpkin Pie; (17 needed) Cherry Pie; \$ Monetary Gifts

Canned items can be dropped off in the Church Kitchen anytime. Pies, Turkey and Ham need to be delivered closer to the event. Listen for Temple Talks about this in November. Volunteers are needed! Watch for the Signup Sheet coming soon to the Gathering Space!

>>> November



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
8:00a.m. – Worship 9:15 – Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 2pm – Bible Study 6pm LGRT & Allies	6:00 Spiritual Life (offsite)	8:30 Quilters 6pm T&G Mtg. 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	6:00 Education Bd 6:00 C&A Choirs 7:00 Bell Choir	5:30 Book Study 7pm Worship	Waldo Fresh Food Distribution	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:00a.m. – Worship 9:15 – Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 2pm – Bible Study 6pm LGRT & Allies	8:30 Quilters	9:30 Bible Study	10:00 Staff Mtg. 11:30 Book Study			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:00a.m. – Worship 9:15 - Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 12pm Worship Team 2pm Bible Study	5pm Hour of Prayer (Church Parlor)	8:30 Quilters 6pm T&G Mtg. 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	9:30 Bible Study 5:00 Breaking Bread 6:00 C&A Choirs 7:00 Bell Choir	12pm Childcare Thanksgiving Feast 7pm Worship		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:00a.m. – Worship 9:15 - Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship	10am Anniversary Committee Mtg.	9:30 Bible Study	7pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social	Thanks & Giving 12-3:00p.m.		
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
8:00a.m. – Worship 9:15 - Worship 9:15 – Sunday School 10:30 – Worship 2pm Bible Study		6pm Finance Bd Mtg 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	9:30 Bible Study	5:00 Joyce's Angels 7pm Worship		



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Prepared Especially For:

*Create in me a
clean heart,*



*and renew a
right spirit
within me.*

Psalm 51:10, ESV