

September 2024

The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Find us on Facebook!

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Paul Burnside
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Praise Team Director:
Teri Turner
Emanuel Choir Director:
Steve deWeber
Emanuel Bell Choir Director:
Carolyn Fox

Happy Anniversary

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love with your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand.

1 Kings 8:22-24

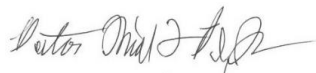
This is part of the prayer that Solomon said at the dedication of the Temple. There is no god like our God. The Lord stretches out across all space and time. Our God continues to keep the promises that God made with God's faithful.

And we are servants who still enjoy these promises. One hundred fifty years ago, God began something new that we now know as Emanuel Lutheran Church in Marion, Ohio. We celebrate our heritage and all of those who have come before us. We have spent this last year remembering where we have come from, and upon whose shoulders we stand.

As we conclude our anniversary celebration, we are able to look to the future of who God is now calling us to be, what God is calling us to do and where God is calling us to go. This is the beginning of a new chapter in the life of Emanuel. There is excitement! There is anxiety. There is some fear of the unknown. Just as Solomon knew when he dedicated the Temple, we are called to trust in the God that has brought us this far. God will not desert us.

As we move forward into our next segment of our journey, we may rest assured that God holds us in God's hands.

Happy Anniversary,



Pastor Mike

PD Ann's Corner - My Anchor Holds

As summer ends, I have a picture of taking a ride on a boat when a storm rises. The waves seem over-whelming. I realize that there is a line from the boat to an anchor on shore. The hymn "My Anchor Holds" came to mind. The hymn goes:

*Though the angry surges roll on my tempest driven soul, I am peaceful for I know, wildly though the winds may blow,
I've an anchor safe and sure that can evermore endure.
And it holds, my anchor holds; blow your wildest then O gate, on my bark so small and frail;
by His grace I shall not fail. For my anchor holds, my anchor holds.
Trouble almost whelms the soul; griefs like billows on me roll. Tempters seek to lure astray;
storms obscure the light of day; but in Christ I can be bold, I've anchor that shall hold.*

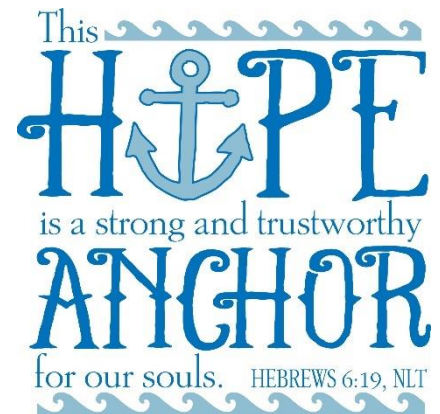
In biblical times an anchor secured the boat to the land to keep it from floating away. Hebrews 6:19 -20 reminds us "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain where our forerunner Jesus has entered on our behalf." When Jesus died for our sins, he tore the curtain away that separated us from God. Jesus is our anchor that keeps us grounded in God the Father. When storms come our way, we can look to him, not to the storm, to keep from drifting away. Whenever you feel the need to be grounded you can use an "anchor prayer." Find a quiet place where you go to pray. Close your eyes and take a deep breath. Use a Bible verse to pray. Use the following to understand how to stay grounded.

Titus 3:5: Inhale and say, "I am washed and renewed"
Exhale and say, "by the Holy Spirit"

Repeat at least 3 times or as many times as you want. Let your mind and body relax and focus on Jesus. Let the Holy Spirit to move in your mind to rest in Jesus.

I Peter 3:5 Inhale and say, "I cast all my anxiety on Jesus"
Exhale and say, "because He cares for me"

Psalms 51:20 Inhale and say, "Create in me a pure heart, O God"
Exhale and say, "Renew a steadfast spirit within me"



Feel the strength of the Holy Spirit (the rope) holding you firm to Jesus (the anchor). He is your hope and your security. He holds you firmly so that you can withstand the storm until he come to take you to be with him in the safe harbor for all eternity.

What Can I Do? (from "Bread for the World" by Arthur Simon)

"You may first need to advise yourself that ordinary people CAN do something about hunger. Each person has special abilities that are needed. Not to use them is to bury your talent, as did the servant in the parable. To use them is to offer yourself to God and reach out to others. Though individual efforts may be difficult or impossible to measure, they make a difference. They are like the little ripples that in combination add up to big waves."



Thanks to all who participated in the cottage talks and voted at the special congregational meeting. As is often said, change is constant. I often think of a few sayings our parents may have said to us when we were younger. Remember, "What on earth do you think you're doing?" That might have meant we were in trouble. Another saying we used to hear is, "Well, for heaven's sake"

What if we put those two sayings together? "What on earth are you doing for heaven's sake?" Every day we have a change to reflect on what God has taught us in our daily lives. Your daily activities, your daily walk is also your daily witness as to who you are in a Christ centered walk each day.

We all slip up and make a mistake now and again, yet at the end of the day, what have you done for the Kingdom. Your daily walk is not being a high-pressured salesman for what we believe, but simply a reflection of who God wants us to be.

Get up each day and know that the saving grace of Jesus will walk with you each day.

Don Davis, President of the Congregation

New Banners Created to Celebrate Emanuel's 150th Anniversary

There will be lots to take in on Sunday, September 8th as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of our congregation, including a new set of banners in the sanctuary which have been created especially for the occasion.

The banner designs are centered around the themes of reflect, renew, and rejoice and call to mind the work we have been doing to grow as a congregation over the past three years. The motifs of a tree of life and the world held in holy hands represent reflection. Renewal is portrayed by a stained-glass cross design and a dove to convey the Holy Spirit. Our rejoicing is shown in banners representing music and an angel. Throughout each design there are hearts included in both overt and subtle ways.

Each banner was created first with an 8 1/2 by 11-inch colored sketch, then enlarged to fit the finished size of 33 by 45 inches. The individual components of each design were then traced by hand onto fusible web and heat-fused onto many different and thoughtfully selected fabrics. These colorful pieces were then cut out, appliqued onto background fabric and quilted. Once quilted, a binding was hand-applied to finish the edges and hanging sleeves added so they can be displayed.

A committee was formed in July of 2023 to collaborate in developing the themes, motif ideas, artistic design and finally, the creation of the banners. Each committee member participated in the planning, and then contributed to the creation as best fit their talents. Committee members are Ann Thomas (chair), Mackenzie Pryor, William Obenour, Sherrie Haver, Carol Hoch and Lori Campbell.

thank you

Thank you to everyone who worked on the new banners! We can't wait to see them on Anniversary Sunday!

Musings from the Church Mouse...

I hear a lot of chatting about the upcoming Anniversary! I haven't been here for all the 150 years, but my family has been nibblin' on leftovers since the very beginning. Congrats on a wonderful experience. Can't wait for the party. And I look forward to the next 150 years!

I hope to See ya' at worship!

Church Mouse

Anniversary Celebration

*Come Celebrate 150 Years of Emanuel Lutheran Church with Us!
September 7-8, 2024*

Anniversary Weekend Schedule

Saturday, September 7 – Open House from 1pm-3pm Come see all the renovations and work that has gone into the church this past year. Light appetizers will be served.

Sunday, September 8 – One Worship Service at 10:30a.m. led by Bishop Daniel Beaudoin. Several 'vintage' pastors will join us for worship that morning. Worship will be followed by a luncheon for all in the parlors!

Happy Anniversary Emanuel Lutheran Church!

Worship Schedule

We will move to the new worship format on Sunday September 15th: 9am – traditional, 10am education time, 11am – contemporary. The live radio broadcast will be the 9am service. There will be a radio rebroadcast at 7pm on Sunday evenings. September 1st we will have an expanded morning Gathering Space and September 5th we will have a light dinner to celebrate the change to our current worship format.

Faith Journeys

We have started a new cycle of confirmation. Our Faith Journeys program continues. Our next gathering will be on Saturday, September 28th from 9am – 12noon. We will be focusing on the Three Ecumenical Creeds that the Lutheran Church follows in the Book of Concord. Remember that Faith Journey gatherings are not just open to confirmation students, but also includes parents, congregational leaders and all members, visitors and guest who might be interested to continue their own Faith Journeys.

Sunday School News

Thank you Thank you Thank you Mrs. Rinker and her Sunday School class would like to thank Steve and Carol Laird for the gift of a smart TV for our classroom. We are now able to digitally access our lessons, music and games each Sunday. Thank you so much!

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: Jesus League – Sunday, September 8th at 9:15 in the Third Floor Classroom. Ages 3 through 5th grade. Parents and their children are invited to come and visit with one another. You'll get to see the changes and new additions to our classroom. We'll talk about lessons and service projects for the year.

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL HOUR – Starting September 15th we begin at 10 A.M.

At 10:50 we will bring the children down to the Gathering Space to meet their grownups.

Sunday School Fall Service Project

We all see the person or families with a sign asking for food or money behind Applebee's and many other places. Jesus tells us to feed others and to take care of one another. We will be collecting the following items to create blessing bags to keep in our cars to give to those we see struggling or in need: gallon size ziplock bags, toothbrushes and toothpaste, liquid soap, hand sanitizer, new wash cloths, granola bars or small packaged crackers, gift cards.

We will assemble our blessing bags in October. Hopefully each family will have bags for their cars and we'll have extra to share.

Adult Sunday School

WHEN: STARTING SEPTEMBER 15, 2024 – There will be 7 sessions

TIME: 10:00 AM

WHERE: CHURCH LIBRARY/MARTIN LUTHER ROOM

WHAT: SPIRITUAL GIFTS - WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW TO USE THEM" A LIFEWAY BIBLE STUDY BOOK

LEADER: JEAN SMITH

This Bible study examines spiritual gifts biblically, helping us see what the gifts are and are not. This study will comprise of 7 sessions and material will be provided. Register by contacting the Church office by September 6th. ALL ARE WELCOME. Please contact our church Administrative Assistant Ashley Koehler if you plan to join, so we have an idea of how many books to order. Email ashley.koehler@emanuellutheran.net Church Office Phone: 740-383-2184

Calling all High School Students for Luther League – Sundays at 6pm

Since 1948, Emanuel has had a high school youth presence, with Luther League; A thriving youth ministry full of outreach, social gatherings and hosting events. Emanuel has made the decision to reignite the flame that once was, for our youth.

All high school aged individuals, grades 9-12 will meet in the gathering space on Sundays at 6pm. We will have planned activities, bible study, games, crafts and food/beverages.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Anja Merchant, Luther League Advisor. Anjamerchant@gmail.com

Emanuel Early Learning Center – Meet our Preschool teachers!

We recently held our annual preschool open house and it was a huge success. Around 20 preschool families attended and are anxiously awaiting the start of the new school year on September 3rd. The two amazing teachers in that class have been with us for many years and we are excited (and thankful!) to have them co-teaching our preschool class this year!



Tawnya Rankin

Tawnya has worked at Emanuel for over 26 years and has been the preschool teacher for 10 years. Tawnya is married to her husband Jamie and has two children; Tyler and Alyssa. She graduated from The University of Cincinnati with a degree in Early Childhood Education in 2022.



Amy Morris

Amy has worked at Emanuel for over 20 years and has spent the entirety of her career as the lead teacher in our infant room. Amy is married to her husband Randy and has a blended family of 4 children; Logan, Ashley, Kylie & Kierra. Amy earned her

CDA (Child Development Associate) certification in 2021 and is excited for her first year as a preschool teacher!

We pray for our teachers and students to have a wonderful school year!



Social Ministry Updates

The MCI Yarn Donation project is completed for this year. We collected 4 trash bags full of yarn. Thank you

Don Davis arranged the transfer for all the MEDICAL EQUIPMENT stored in our office basement to Epworth Methodist. This is now a combined ministry under the auspices of Aspire Ministry (formerly Love Inc). Donations and requests for equipment loans will go through Aspire Ministries (740) 382-3340. We are looking for a volunteer representative to work with Epworth's team lead, Jeff Ruth. Call Donna Thomas for more information 740-262-0930.

The ELCA's GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS project will kick off in the Gathering Space on September 29th. Watch for bulletin announcements.

Planning for our 25th THANKS AND GIVING event will commence soon. Watch for bulletin announcements.

News from the Board of Communications

Summer Jesus Comes to an end...

All good things must come to an end. As summer turns to fall on September 22nd, we will conclude Summer Jesus. As promised, a meal will close out this evangelism initiative. Breakfast will be served in conjunction with Sunday School at 10:00 on September 29th in the Parlors. Consider this event Sunday School with a meal. Young and old are invited to join us. We will have discussion on our experiences with Summer Jesus and how we can continue this mission in our hearts everywhere we go.

All is Bright

The All is Bright Christmas open house planning is underway. If you are interested in the planning or in helping with any of the projects, watch the bulletin or contact Dee Rinehart. Meeting dates, and project needs will be posted there. This is our opportunity to again reach out to the Marion community with love and acceptance. Let's make this year the best open house yet.

I want to personally thank everyone who participated in this year's Back to School Blessings Event. Some volunteers met month after month on planning (since February!), some completed small projects to support the event, some donated socks, money and prayers, and some helped out on the day of the event. I won't mention names because I will leave someone out by mistake. I also want to thank our barber/hairdresser partners. They were also instrumental in making this event a smash hit. This was a team effort and every person who participated was a blessing. It couldn't have been a success without YOUR support! Back to School Blessings numbers: 1,200 Hot dogs served, over 600 book bags given out, 600 Sno Cones served, 2,000 plus people in attendance Praise Jesus!

Dee Rinehart

You Know You Are a Steadfast Lutheran If...



... Your child doesn't know that "original" sin means one that preceded all others; they think it means one that is new and unique and spends most of their time trying to come up with some.

... Change means wearing your brown suit instead of your blue suit to worship.

Pirate Potluck & Worship

September 19th is International Talk Like a Pirate Day! So on Thursday, September 19th, we will embrace our pirate natures! We will begin with a Pirate Potluck meal at 5:00pm. Bring your favorite pirate dish to share with your mateys! We can all dress in a pirate best (or worst). We will play some pirate games. And we may even have a Pirate Walk-the-Plank fashion show. We will then have a Pirate worship. Many years ago, a Lutheran pastor took the time to translate the entire liturgy into Pirate! And now, there is even a Pirate translation of the Bible, that we will use in worship that night. So, pull out your hook hands and eye patches. Chase down your parrot, and put your boots one for w fun time.



Part 14 of Emanuel's history

Congratulations!! We are coming to the end of our 150th Anniversary Year. On September 8th we will be celebrating the 106th Anniversary of our present church building and 150 years as a church family. Bishop Beaudion will lead the service and we have several former pastors and young men that left Emanuel to become pastors as our guests who will be robed and be part of the processional. Of course, Pastor Mike and Parish Deacon Ann will be part of the festivities, as well. God has truly blessed this congregation.

I started writing these pieces for the "Anniversary Year" in July of 2023. I am up to 1985 in Emanuel's history and will go on through the years starting next month. This month I will just review some of the history starting with the early beginnings of Emanuel.

Marion was founded in 1822. Not long after, the first Lutheran congregation was organized. A good portion of the Lutherans in Marion were German Lutherans and the German language was used. In 1843 the old brick Lutheran church on North State Street was built. That old church was originally owned by the Lutheran and Reformed Church in partnership. They used the church on alternating Sundays. Eventually it passed entirely into the hands of the Lutherans. For more than thirty years that building served as the Lutheran house of worship.

Eventually a portion of the congregation began to realize that the welfare and progress of the church demanded services also in the English language. The other issue for the old Lutheran Church the doctrinal differences concerning the saloons and the lodge question which were not consistent with the Word of God and the Confessions of the Lutheran Church. That is when the five families broke away from the earlier Lutheran Church and started using English in their services.

The families of Daniel Yake, John F. Lust, Philip Retterer, John Heinner and J. Pfeiffer started the new congregation in Marion. They had no idea back then that 150 years later we would still be here.

We have had only 3 church buildings of our own in 150 years. The original church building on North State Street was the first. Emanuel outgrew that smaller church and God blessed the congregation with the construction of a new larger building on State and Columbia Streets. It was dedicated on May 16, 1886. As the years went on that building became too small as our congregation grew. God blessed us again with an even larger church, our present church, dedicated September 8, 1918. If you haven't noticed September 8 falls on a Sunday this year and our celebration falls on the very day that our present church was dedicated 106 years ago.

At first, we were a struggling church and it was served by Rev. Humberger, Hoffman and Simon of the Prospect congregation.

Later, the church became a part of the Marion County charge served by Rev. Mueller, Sutter. Then in 1884 Rev. M.C. Hecht was called from the seminary in Columbus to become our first full time pastor of the Marion charge. This charge consisted of the Trinity congregation in Pleasant Township, St. Paul's in Richland Township and the newly organized Salem Evangelical in Marion, as our congregation was first called. Under Rev. Hecht's leadership Emanuel's congregation prospered greatly.

On Sunday, August 9, 1885 Rev. Hecht made a motion to change the name of our congregation from Salem Evangelical Lutheran to Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran. On December 9, 1889 it was decided to have Emanuel incorporated and a new constitution was adopted. Emanuel received their article of incorporation from the legislature of the State of Ohio under the name "Emanuel's Evangelical Lutheran Congregation on August 5, 1890. The incorporation document is on display in the Archive Cabinet in the Gathering Space.

I was reading a letter from Rev. Hecht (Emanuel's first pastor) that is in the 50th Anniversary booklet that was written in 1924. That was 100 years ago. I would like to put it here for you to also read:

Greetings,

As you are celebrating your golden jubilee anniversary in this year of our Lord 1924, permit me, as one of your former pastors, to extend to you, my congratulations.

How swiftly time upon its untiring wing bears us on. Just forty years ago, when I entered the work of the ministry you were given into my charge. At that time, you were ten years old, weak, and wandering, without a church home. When I left you about six years later, you under God's blessing, had grown stronger and were housed comfortably in a modest, neat little church. (The church at State and Columbia.) In this your golden jubilee year, at the age of fifty, you have a beautiful and handsome house of worship. (Our present church.)

Having enjoyed God's richest blessings for half a century, being in possession of the means of grace at the present time and having the sure promise of God's favor in Christ Jesus for the future, you have good reasons to be grateful, joyful, and hopeful.

God grant that you continue upon the foundation of the apostles and the prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone. May He enable you to retain His Word and Sacraments in their truth and purity, and to continue "to show forth the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light."

Mindful of the word of the prophet, "Rejoice ye with Jerusalem and be glad with her all ye that love her" and ever ready to "rejoice with those who do rejoice," I am glad to be a participant in the joy of pastor and people of Emanuel's congregation celebrating their golden jubilee anniversary.

Cordially,
M. C. Hecht

The words of Rev. Hecht would still apply today.

Over these 150 years we have had only 9 senior pastors, Rev. M.C. Hecht (5 yrs.), Rev. A.L. Nicklas (5 yrs), Rev. E.F.W. Stellhorn (13 yrs.), Rev. J.W. Schillinger (38 yrs.), Rev. Martin E. Hollensen (35 yrs.), Pastor James A. Rave (13 yrs.), Pastor J. Weston Jones (13 yrs.), Pastor Mark Schuring (12 yrs.), and Pastor Michael Poole (present Intentional Interim Pastor). This is amazing since I read that on average churches in the U.S. change pastors every 5-7 years.

We have had 8 Associate Pastor's. The first being Pastor David Augenstein in 1973, then Pastor Henry Seibert, Pastor Arnold Wulff, Pastor Robert Carlson, Pastor Robert Gordon, Pastor Dawn Donato, Pastor William Maki, and Pastor Mark Schuring. Pastor Wulff retired from being our full time Associate and became a Visitation Pastor for our shut-ins. He was in this position for 10 years until he retired completely. Pastor Robert Heuter then served as our Visitation Pastor, then Pastor Jack Moore.

Molly King was our first Associate in Ministry that came to Emanuel and helped Pastor Schuring for a year. Kevin Kehn came to Emanuel to get the field experience he needed while taking classes at Trinity Seminary. His first day in our church office was September 28, 2009. He worked at Emanuel 20 hrs. each week. Kevin graduated from Trinity Seminary in 2010 with a Master's Degree in Lay Ministry. He was installed as an A.I.M at Emanuel on his birthday June 5, 2010. His title was changed to Deacon in 2017 by the ELCA. Kevin visited our shut-ins and did everything an ordained minister would do except weddings. He retired in June of 2022.

Tanyce Addison and Ann Thomas started Diakonia classes in 2017, a two-year course. Tanyce then started seminary classes and was installed at Emanuel as a Vicar and was sent to Good Hope in Bucyrus since they had had no permanent pastor for so long until she finished seminary. She was then given a call from Good Hope to be their official pastor. She was ordained and installed at Good Hope August 27, 2022. Ann interned at Emanuel for Parish Deacon one year after Diakonia. She then was set apart as a Parish Deacon for Emanuel February 10, 2019.

She has that part-time position today. Her responsibilities include: Hour of Prayer, coordinating Home Communion visits, making hospital visits, giving communion, preaching, and assists Pastor Mike with worship services.

There have been 19 young people that left Emanuel to become ordained pastors over the years. Some of them will be at Emanuel September 8th.

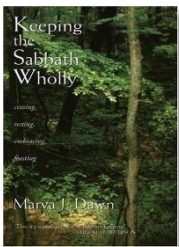
There are written records and computer records that confirm that Emanuel has seen thousands of baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and funerals over the past 150 years. We have had many ups, downs, and bumps in the road but God has seen us through and we are still here. We are a truly blessed congregation.

Enjoy the celebration of our 150th Anniversary.

More history to come,
Alicia

Emanuel's LGBT Fellowship Group

The LGBT & Allies Group is taking a break for summer! Plan to join them again monthly starting Sunday, October 6th at 6:00p.m. in the Parlor.



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 Poole's Pins

These are Emanuel Anniversary pins that have been found. If you are able to find yours, lets all wear them on September 8th for the Anniversary!



Stretch and Pray Retreat

Pastor Mike and Tracy will be leading a Stretch and Pray retreat at HopeWood Pines at LMC on September 13-15. In a world that moves all too fast, it's time to slow down. It's time to make time for you to align your spirit and your body. It's time to Stretch and Pray. Set in the 420 acres of HopeWood Pines, this event will empower you with renewing practices that you can utilize long after the event ends. We will lead a workshop suitable for people of all spiritual expressions, teaching both principles and techniques that you can adapt and apply to your own practices. Engaging all five senses, you will find rest and rejuvenation for spirit and body alike. Come experience a weekend of relaxation and recreation co-hosted by Earth and Cup and HopeWood Outdoors. We will lead you in times of yoga and Tai Chi. Stretch your body and spirit in a relaxing setting of beautiful nature. You will stay in the Priebe Retreat Center or Spring Run Cottage. For more information and/or to register [Stretch and Pray Retreat – HopeWood Outdoors](#) contact HopeWood Outdoors.



Welcome to this month's Music Notes

*Open now Thy gates of beauty, / Zion, let me enter there,
Where my soul in joyful duty / Waits for Him who answers pray'r;
Oh, how blessed is the place, / Filled with solace, light and grace.*

Do you believe in ghosts? You may remember that I asked this question a year ago in the October 2023 Music Notes. "Ghosts" that just kind of pop into our lives here and there, in our dreams and memories, in feelings of *deja vu* or, as in my case a year ago, as the feeling of a presence that you can't see or hear, but you know is still there and very real.

One early evening in a quiet Emanuel sanctuary, I opened a hymnal that we used in 1918, the year we moved into our present church building. I felt a wave of emotion come over me, and I felt a presence that I sensed was that of those who came before. As I explained at the time, "it wasn't eerie, scary, or disconcerting. It was comforting. For just a fleeting moment, I felt that I knew them, and they knew me. It was a reminder of the common bond we share with those in the past, and in the future." I have to wonder if Miss Matilda Augenstein was with me in the "empty" church that evening. When I opened the hymnal her name was written on the endsheet, dated December 25, 1909.

Over the last year I've enjoyed perusing the "Order of Services" for the week-long "Consecration of Evangelical Lutheran Emanuel's Church," held the week of Sept. 8, 1918. The morning began with a final service at the old church, located at the corner of S. Main St. and Columbia, opening with the singing of the hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy." After a short service, which included a choir anthem and bass solo, and ended with the singing of the hymn "The Church's One Foundation," the congregation marched to the new church, which we call home today. What an amazing sight the march must have been! Beginning with the Ministers, then the Building Committee, the Vestry, the Choir (!), the Sunday School, then the Congregation!

The service at the new church began, after prayer, with the hymn "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty," an important tradition which we carry on today. Interestingly, this was sung *outside* the church on the front steps, with the doors closed and locked. So the hymn was sung *a capella* on the steps, sidewalk, and most likely, spilling onto the street outside the church. What a joyful noise that must have been! Appropriately, following the procession into the church to spoken Psalm 122, was an Organ selection! Now, I don't know if this was placed there in the service as a "Prelude" or to fill time during the processional, but it's nice to see how highly organ music was valued, given such a place of honor!

Emanuel's organist in 1918 was Miss Minnie Oesterle, who became Minnie Ackerman, and remained the organist at Emanuel for many years. It's a testament to Emanuel that there have only been four senior organists for over a hundred years!

The week-long celebration in ended, fittingly, with an Inaugural Organ Recital on Friday evening, September 13th. The organist was Prof. Frederick C. Mayer of Woodville Academy and Normal. Now, here's where things get confusing. The school, located in Woodville, Ohio, was associated with the Lutheran church. But Frederick C. Mayer was the organist at West Point from 1911 to 1954. So was there another organist with the same name in Woodville? Regardless, the selections performed were typical of organ recitals of the time, ending with a rendition of "The Star Spangled Banner." I'm sure the church was packed for this event, not just for its Inaugural significance, but organ recitals in the early 20th century were community affairs, and could attract hundreds of people! Those were the days!

I will leave you this month with the final verse of the hymn "We Are Your People" by Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr, which we will sing on Anniversary Sunday, September 8, 2024.

*Christ, be the truth by whom our feet are led;
Christ, be the bread by whom our hearts are fed;
Christ, be our life, our strength through years ahead.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Until next time, Soli Deo Gloria!
Paul Burnside

Steeple Sighting



Hello-o-o down there! Batina up here after eavesdropping on a board meeting concerning football and deer. Maybe I might have misinterpreted something since the subject was bucks. Naturally, with the weather changing and schools resuming, my little bat brain conjured up my latest meeting with John Hoch.

John was born and raised right here in Marion County close to his current home and attended the Pleasant Local Schools. After graduation he attended the Marion branch of the Ohio State University for 2 years before going to the main campus, studying agricultural economics and rural sociology. During a fundraiser, he met Linda. Strangely enough they both had been members of Emanuel here, but never connected due to different services and seating arrangements. They married 44 years ago and eventually raised 2 daughters.

John has maintained his love for farming, even through being offered positions construction which would require relocations from Marion. Throughout his agricultural career, he has served as presidents of the Marion County Fair Board, and the Pleasant Young Farmers organization. Finally, he retired 12 years ago, enjoying his long musical tenure in the Marionnaires and our choir here. He also has stage appearances on his resume : "Jesus Christ, Superstar", "42nd Street" (in Mansfield), and "Christmas at the Palace" with the Marionnaires.

At home he and Linda enjoy their music and family which includes one very dominating tabby cat, as well as some gardening. Yep, true farmers just can't get away from the dirt.

A staunch OSU alumnus, it's no wonder I thought of him when the Board of Finance spoke about "Go Bucks" (or was it "bucks going"?)

John, you're a blessing to us.

May God continue blessings to all in His Love!

Batina Belfry

HAPPY
Birthday

Bobb Davies celebrates his 91st birthday on September 23rd and Joan Coutts celebrates her 93rd birthday on September 30th.

Let's remember Bobb and Joan with our cards and prayers! (contact the church office for addresses)

September 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:00a.m. - Worship 9:15 - Worship 10:30 - Worship	2 <i>Labor Day</i>	3 8:30 - Quilters 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	4 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need 6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bells	5 11:30 Book Study 5pm Light Supper 5:30 Book Study 7pm Worship	6 Waldo Fresh Food Distribution	7 1-3pm Open House
8 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 - Anniversary Worship 12pm Luncheon	9 6pm Spiritual Life 6pm Properties Mtg.	10 8:30 - Quilters 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	11 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need 6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bells	12 10am Staff Mtg. 11:30 Book Study 4:30 Com. Meal 5:30 Book Study		14
15 9 - Traditional 10 - Education 11 - Contemporary 6pm Luther League	16	17 8:30 - Quilters 1:30 Finance Mtg. 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	18 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need 6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bells	19 11:30 Book Study 5:30 Pirate Potluck 7pm Pirate Worship		21
22 9 - Traditional 10 - Education 11 - Contemporary 12 - Investors Lunch 6pm Luther League	23	24 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	25 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need 6pm Education Mtg. 6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bells	26 11:30 Book Study 5pm Joyce's Angels 5:30 Book Study		28 9am Faith Journey's - Creeds
29 9 - Traditional 10 - Summer Jesus Breakfast 11 - Contemporary 12 Mutual Ministry 6pm Luther League	30 11 Anniversary Mtg.	1	2	3		5



Celebrate 150 Years with Emanuel Lutheran Church!

Saturday, September 7 – Open House from 1pm-3pm Come see all the renovations and work that has gone into the church this past year. Light appetizers will be served.

Sunday, September 8 – One Worship Service at 10:30a.m. with Bishop Daniel Beaudoin preaching. Several 'vintage' pastors will join us for worship that morning. Worship will be followed by a luncheon for all in the parlors!

Happy Anniversary Emanuel Lutheran Church!

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

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