

July 2025

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 Michael L. Poole Jr.

Parish Deacon Ann Thomas

Administrative Assistant:

Ashley Koehler

Children's Ministry

Coordinator: Cindy Rinker

Financial Secretary:

Stacy Hoch

Child Care Director:

Abby Chase

Maintenance & Contract

Administrator: Jim Anderson

Door Attendants:

Brian and Christy Penrod

Pat Thomas, Rob Valentine

Organist:

Paul Burnside

Assistant Organist:

Sandra Becker

Praise Team Director &

Multimedia Technician:

Teri Turner

Emanuel Choir Director:

Steve deWeber

Emanuel Bell Choir Director:

Carolyn Fox



Sunday, July 27, 2025

You will soon receive a letter announcing a special congregational meeting the morning of Sunday, July 27th. We will be discussing and reporting on the ongoing and future projects at Emanuel, discussing revisions to our constitution, and also discussing worship opportunities.

All confirmed members of Emanuel are eligible to discuss and vote at the meeting. You must be present at the meeting to vote.

If you do not receive a letter, please contact the church office. Thank you.

Bridges Approach

We cannot continue to support stereotypes and prejudices about the poor.

"Issac planted crops in the land and the same year reaped a hundredfold because the Lord blessed him. The man became rich and his wealth continued to grow herds and servants that the Philistines envied him. So, all the wells that his father's servants had dug in the time of his father Abram, the Philistines stopped up, filling them with earth."

Genesis 26:12-15

All of you have had to deal with plumbing problems in your house at some time. Something happened to pipes bringing water into the house or pipes taking waste away. We have even had to deal with plumbing problems with our pipes in the church kitchen requiring major work to correct the problem. There can be problems with pipes rusting, pipes breaking or pipes being clogged and unable to deliver fresh water. Sometimes pipes can be contaminated with something that can cause illness. In today's Bible story, the Philistines deliberately filled Issac's wells with dirt because they were jealous of the blessings Issac was receiving.

This is an analogy for our relationship with God. God offered us grace which opened up the lines of communication between God and us. He wants to forgive us, talk with us, listen to us, heal us, and love us. He sent Jesus to show us how to relate to him. Jesus is the key to being able to go directly to God. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would be available to help us talk to God when we do not know what to say. What are some of the things that interrupt the flow of living water that comes from Jesus and the Holy Spirit? Sometimes we break the lines of communication by not being open to talking to and listening to God. Sometimes the world interferes and blocks our relationship. Here are some things that block the line: unhealthy attitudes like envy, bitterness, rage, anger, and malice; we make wrong decisions by choosing the wrong friends to associate with or listening to people who do not follow God's ways; We choose the wrong actions like brawling, drunkenness and following the ways of the world; We let doubts, greed, or fear take over. (See Ephesians 4:29-31 and Colossians 3:5-10)

Whenever the plumbing is broken in your house you have to call someone who specializes in repairing and cleaning up the mess. The same is true with our spiritual life. Jesus wants us to ask the Holy Spirit to help us unclog the lines of communication. Jesus said "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." John 1:9. "Come now let us settle the matter, says the Lord, though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." Isaiah 1:8. Once you know the area you need to work on then ask for forgiveness. Spend time reading scripture and in prayer. Listen so that you are open to hearing what God wants for you. Spend time in worship and with other Christians so that when trouble comes you have the support you need to keep the communication lines open. What area do you need to work on? Where is the problem? God is faithful and will not only open the lines of communication, but will provide you with an abundance of blessings. He will give you life.

Last Laugh

"Many native traditions held clowns and tricksters as essential to any contact with the sacred. People could not pray until they had laughed, because laughter opens and frees from rigid preconception. Humans had to have tricksters within the most sacred ceremonies lest they forget the sacred comes through upset, reversal, surprise. The trickster in most native traditions is essential to creation, to birth."

- Byrd Gibbons, professor at the University of Arkansas

Looking Back with Alicia Mayes

In the June Newsletter I told about going through the kitchen cupboards in the church office and some of the things I found. I also found 6 Guest Registries from over the years. We used to have a stand in the Narthex at the front door going into the sanctuary where visitors could sign to let us know when they were at the church and where they were from. The books ranged in dates from November of 1948 through the end of 2003. I thought it would be interesting to let you know where some of these visitors were from. We had several visitors over the years from California. Some other states out west were Washington, Oregon, New Mexico, Arizona, and Texas. Florida and the New England states were the farthest away in the eastern United States.

Out of the country we had visitors from Inga in Finland, Dodoma in Tanzania, Latvia in Northern Europe, Harenberg and Langgongs in Germany, Kondra in India, Kilmarnock in Scotland, Japan, a missionary from South America and from Canada, Vanderhoof and Vancouver in British Columbia, Quebec and Ontario.

We also had a few unusual visitors over the years. In 1979 John Doe, Saint Peter from Vatican City and Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson from London, England were here. In 1983 Santa Claus, Superman, Snoopy (was here twice), and Mickey Mouse from Disney World were here. We also had Peanut here in 1984. The Easter Bunny was here in 1985. In 1987, The Monkees, the singing group from Los Angeles, with all their names, Peter Tork, Micky Dolenz, Davy Jones, and Michael Nesmith. As you can see we have had a wide range of visitors over the years.

I also ran across a package of postcards that were made around 1953 when the Educational Building was completed. It says on the postcard that the church was built in 1918 at a cost of \$75,000. It also states that the Educational Building was completed in 1953 at a cost of \$225,000. There is a picture of the church with the educational building without the house. It states on the front of the card under the picture that, the Parsonage in front of the wing at the left is not shown. It says you should place on the card a 2 cent stamp. That really dates the card. Postage for a postcard today is 56 cents. As I was looking through old binders I ran across a flyer advertising our first Thanks and Giving Dinner. It was November 26, 1998.

In the June Newsletter I told about Emanuel giving \$25,000 to a Mission Church, New Creation Lutheran Church, in Ottawa, Ohio. In the minutes of Parish Planning Council for May of 2000 it stated that Emanuel received a Westminster Chime Clock from New Creation an appreciation gift for our donation.

I remembered seeing a clock in the library. I went in to take a look and it is the Westminster Chime Clock. It has to be the one that New Creation gave us as a gift. That was 25 years ago. (See photo on next page)

In 1999 there were many discussions as to Emanuel hiring a Parish Nurse and for hiring a new Visitation Pastor.

On Sunday, May 28, 2000 there was a special Parish Planning Council Meeting to discuss and vote to hire Carol Cumber as Emanuel's Parish Nurse. It was decided to hire Carol and she began her duties June 5, 2000.

Another special Parish Planning Meeting was held Sunday, August 18, 2000 to discuss and vote whether to hire Pastor Jack Moore as Emanuel's next Visitation Pastor. It was decided to hire Pastor Moore.

Amy Dennis was voted as Emanuel's Director of Youth and Education at the semi -annual congregational meeting held May 6, 2001.

On July 29, 2001 Amy Dennis, Jack Moore, and Carol Cumber were installed by Assistant to the Bishop, Kathy Schibler, into their positions as Director of Youth and Education, Visitation Pastor, and Parish Nurse.

A reception followed the services for the three that were installed. Many of you remember Carol Cumber, Amy Dennis, and Jack Moore. In the Pastor's Report in the minutes of Parish Planning Council dated June 12, 2001 it was stated that letters had been sent to the nursing care facilities in Marion about communion being brought in for the residents that are members of Emanuel. That is the first report I have read about letters being sent to start this process.

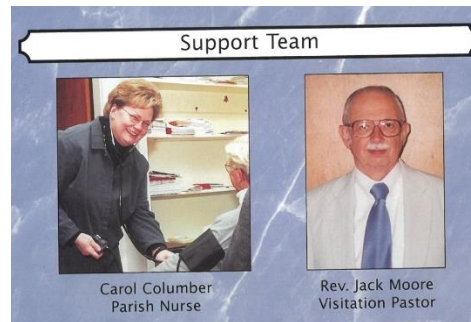
In the same June 12 minutes the Board of Properties reported that the fans in the sanctuary were going to be replaced. They were ordered at no charge since the first ones had never worked correctly. Maybe you have never looked up and noticed that there are fans in the ceiling of the sanctuary that are on all the time.

As a side note about the fans, the Altar Guild started using oil in the Eternal Candle beside the pulpit several years ago instead of the wax candles we used before. At first in the winter the flame only lasted 4 or 5 days and in the summer it lasted a full 7 days with the oil. We tried to understand this weird problem we were having. We were filling the vessel with the same amount of oil each week and had to refill before the week was over in the winter. Then we were told that the fans in the ceiling go one direction in the winter to pull the heat down and the other direction in the summer. This change in direction was causing the candle to use more oil in the winter. Maybe some of you understand how this works. The Altar Guild only knows that we have to fill the candle more often in the winter.

More history to come,
Alicia



*Dennis, Amy



Happy Birthday to you! Beulah Owens celebrates her 92nd birthday on July 10th! Let's remember Beulah with our cards and prayers. (contact the church office for address)

Faith Journeys

Congratulations to our Confirmation Class of 2025 – Genevieve Kollas, Phoebe Smith, and Katie Valentine!

Confirmation is open to all youth entering 6th grade or above. If you know a youth interested in starting Confirmation this fall, please contact Pastor Mike at: pastormike@emanuellutheran.net or call the church office – 740-383-2184.



Sunday School Schedules – Children's Sunday School plans to meet throughout June and July. They will take a break in August. Adult Sunday will meet July 13th, August 10th and then resume weekly meetings in September.

Ice Cream Social – Sunday, July 13th at noon in the Parlor. The board of Fellowship will provide a light lunch and ice cream with all the toppings! All are welcome!



Back Pack Blessings Event -

Socks and more socks The Back-to-School Blessings team is once again collecting socks for our community youth. The socks should be new and in sizes that children wear. We need both girls' socks and boys' socks. Please put them by the elevator in the marked area. We are collecting these up to our Aug 2nd event, so you have plenty of time to donate some socks. Thank you.

Steeple Sightings



Ever hear the phrase "hiding in plain sight"? Being a bat I count on it, which is one of the reasons I patrol the sanctuary at night, just to keep an eye on things. There is a member of our Emanuel congregation who works behind the scenes even though she is always there in plain sight, of course. This month's bat light is focused on Carol Hoch.

Born/baptized and raised/confirmed right here in Marion/Emanuel, Carol was a Lutheran long before being born due to her parents' memberships at Trinity and Emanuel Lutheran Churches.

She played basketball at Pleasant before graduating and attending (the) Ohio State University, earning her Bachelor's degree in textiles and fabrics. Returning home she worked in doctors' offices as a med tech among other duties.

Being a very busy gal, Carol has appeared in many groups: choir, quilting, Altar Guild, Feed the Need, funeral and anniversary dinners, and banner work with Ann Thomas. Though preferring to serve in the background, she has sat on the Fellowship, Building, and Child Care Boards.

Making use of her degree, she enjoys sewing, quilting, knitting, and puttering in the garden (a.k.a. weeding). If there is a project that involves sewing, she is THE resource person, having patterns for almost everything.

Her companion cats are Squeaky (indoors) and Boo (outside) with occasional visits from area wildlife.

Carol is such an asset to Emanuel, and although she doesn't seek recognition for all she does, we really appreciate her faithfulness to our Lord and church.

Blessings from the heights,
Batina Belfry

Congratulations to Dave Clark and Rhonda Johnson on their marriage, June 4, 2025! May their union be blessed with love and joy, and may God's grace guide them as they build their life together.



>>> July 2025

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29 9 - EWL Service 10 - Education 11 - Praise Worship	30	1 5:30 Flute Group 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	2 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need	3 Office Closed 11:30 Book Study	4 Independence Day (No Waldo Food Distribution)	5
6	7	8 5:30 Flute Group 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	9 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need	10 10am Staff Meeting 11:30 Book Study 4:30 Community Meal	11	12
13 9 - EWL Service 10 - Education 11 - Praise Worship 12pm - Ice Cream Social & Transition Team Mtg.	14 11:30 Spiritual Life Meeting	15 5:30 Flute Group 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	16 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need	17 11:30 Book Study	18	19
20 9 - EWL Service 10 - Education 11 - Praise Worship	21	22 5:30 Flute Group 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	23 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need	24 11:30 Book Study	25	26
27 9 - EWL Service followed by Special Meeting	28	29 5:30 Flute Group 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	30 9:30 Bible Study 11am Feed the Need	31 11:30 Book Study	1	2