

# The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

## Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Marion, OH 43302

740-383-2184

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[www.emanuellutheran.net](http://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**

**Church Custodian:**

**Tabby Keirns**

**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**

## Faith Story Project

A team of people have been gathering Faith Stories from church members. If you would like to participate in sharing your faith story the following is a list of questions to help you share your story with others. The faith stories will be made into a booklet and handed out the beginning of next year. Please answer the questions below and send your responses to the church office – [emanuel1@emanuellutheran.net](mailto:emanuel1@emanuellutheran.net). Thank you for being willing to tell your story.

## Faith Story Questions

You are asked to choose which questions that would help you tell your faith story. You do not need to answer all the questions. You can add to any of the questions that helps tell your story.

1. Who was the first person to help you create a memory of God?
2. Who has been the most influential person in your faith life? Give an example of how they helped you
3. What was a turning point in your life when God was involved?
4. How has your relationship with God affected your decisions?
5. What was a time when you had a crisis of faith? How did you resolve it?
6. What scripture passage is a "life verse" for you.
7. Tell about a time when you felt that God's will was being made very clear to you.
8. If you could broadcast one message to everyone in the world and it was guaranteed they would hear it, what would it be? Why?
9. What challenges do you face in your faith? How does scripture/ faith community of believers help you when you have these challenges?
10. What is your favorite story in the Old Testament? Why? New Testament? Why?
11. If you could have conversation with one person from the Bible who would it be? Why? (not Jesus)

## PD Ann's Corner: Meet Me at the Well

Proverbs 27:19 "Like water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man."

When was the last time you sat by a pond, stream or a river and paid attention to your surroundings? Have you noticed the ripples in the water or the reflection of the sun and shade in the water? Have you picked up the reflection of the trees on the water? Did you notice any fish, frogs or bugs coming to the surface? What sounds did you hear? Have you looked at the reflection of your face in the water? Proverbs compares a reflection of a face in the water and the reflection of what is in a person's heart.

The dictionary defines a reflection as the act of something bouncing back from the surface. The reflection of a person can refer to a literal image of the person as if you were seeing the person reflected in a mirror. A reflection can reveal something about a person's character or attitude. It can indicate what the inner thoughts and beliefs are in a person.

Exodus 34 tells us about Moses having to put on a veil over his face. When Moses was in the presence of God, his face glowed because he had spoken to God face to face. When Aaron and the people saw Moses, they were afraid to come near him, so Moses put on the veil. When you spend time reading God's word, praying, and worshiping God, do people see something different in your face? Do you reflect the love of God in your face? Do people look at you and want to know why you are different?

Ephesians 5:1 says, "Be imitators of God therefore as beloved children. Live a life filled with love for others following the example of Christ who loved you and gave himself as a sacrifice to take away your sins. And God was pleased because that sacrifice was like sweet perfume to him." The more you spend time in the presence of God the more there is a difference in your reflection. You become a sweet perfume to God. Thank God for being in your life and reflecting his presence in you.

### A Note from Don Davis

I had the honor of being part of the 9/11 Memorial Climb with my firefighter/EMT son at the Red Rocks Amphitheater in Colorado. This memorial climb is considered one of the biggest events with participants from twenty-six states.

As the bell tolled and Amazing Grace was provided by the Colorado Emerald Society, the thousands of participants fell silent in remembering that tragic day. Many conversations were heard as I walked the 110-story climb. Some participants were in full firefighter turnout gear, law enforcement officers attended and some people there to be in support of all safety forces.

Continuing the stair climb, I noticed a person with a shirt that said Love People, Love God. As the climb was finishing, I saw a firefighter's helmet with a small sign that said Psalm 6:9, which says, "The Lord has heard my plea for help; the Lord accepts my prayer."

As we left the event, we passed a lady who saw Shannon with his firefighter gear and she said to him, "Thanks for what you do."

Does that not talk to all of us in our daily lives? Can we walk that walk daily so as to love all people as we love God? Are we able to come together and be the strength and support for the challenges that face us in our daily lives? As we know with Christ all things are possible.

Everyone needs a thank you every now and then. Everyone should be respected for being part of the Kingdom. In our personal lives, we all accept Christ as our Lord and Savior. I have often said we take life a step at a time. Sometimes we look ahead and see that 100-story climb that looks impossible. Just always remember with Christ that climb is a step at a time alongside your Lord and Savior to help, comfort, and protect you.

## Sunday School News

We had a wonderful start in Sunday School in September! Please join us at 10 AM for one of the following classes:

- Ages 3 through 5th grade meet in the classroom on the 3rd floor.  
(We ask that an adult attend with your 3-year child. )
- 6th grade and up meet in the 4th floor classroom.
- Adults are invited to the Martin Luther Library on the 2nd floor for book study and discussion.

## Creative Expression and Movement Program

**Chair Yoga** *Fridays, October 3-31<sup>st</sup> (not meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>) at 11:00am in the Parlors*

These are classes for anyone wanting to feel more comfortable in their body. Perfect for seniors of any age and no yoga experience necessary. If you feel stiff, have difficulty getting up and down from the floor or being on your knees, then these classes are for you.

If you have a yoga mat, please bring it with you, we will have some mats available. Mats will be used for chair stability and optional relaxation poses. Freewill donations will be accepted.

**Knitting and crochet** have begun, feel free to join us on Thursdays through October 23 at 6 PM in the lounge.

**Save these dates...**

**November 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM**

**Cooking Class** - Scott Inskeep will offer a cooking class. Watch the bulletin and November newsletter for more information.

**November 30th from 11AM-3PM**

**Family Advent Camp** – This event begins with Worship together as a family or class followed by a meal together in the parlors. We are planning service projects, crafts, and much more. The November newsletter will have a schedule and details for this First Sunday in Advent. This will be an awesome start for the Advent Season.

## Hike and Seek

Have you seen God's messages in nature? Do you like spending time outdoors? Join Heather Smith and friends from Emanuel for a nature walk at the Marion Tallgrass Trail on Sunday, **October 5**. We will meet by the main trailhead at 12:30PM to grab a bite to eat, pray, and then walk on the trail together. The trail is paved so wheels (walkers, strollers, etc.) are welcome. You may pack your own lunch or call the church office to let Cindy know to bring a sandwich for you. We hope to see you on the trail!





## Updates from The Board of Social Ministries

### Halloween Event – Feast of Abundance!

Halloween Event - Emanuel has received a FEAST OF ABUNDANCE GRANT from the ELCA. The terms of the grant are that we produce a community event (not an extension of a current ministry ) and complete it by December. Social Ministry and The Evangelism/Communications Boards are combining to create an indoor event on Trick or Treat night (October 31 5-7:30 pm). We plan to recreate the “Maze in the Parlor” that we offered a few years ago. Our plans are in the early stages and soon you can help. We will need Spooky but not Scary decorations that you may donate or loan for the celebration. We will need a crew to set up the maze, and decorate. You will be welcome to help with your ideas, watch the Sunday Bulletin for more information.



### Bridges Approach

When we look at how each of the different socio-economic classes value money, we find that those who live in poverty, believe money is to be used and spent. For the middle class, money is meant to be managed. And for those who have wealth, money is to be conserved and invested.

### Helping others in our Community!

Please take a look at the advertisement below to see if you might be able to provide items for the Heart of Ohio Homeless Shelter:

## Donations Needed

- Printer Ink (HP 936)
- Stamps
- Envelopes
- Copy Paper
- Gift Cards  
(Walmart, Meijer, Office Depot)
- Coffee
- Sugar
- Creamer
- Box Meals (Hamburger Helper, Mac-N-Cheese, Pasta, Sides, Etc.)
- Pasta Sauces
- Spices
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- 13-Gallon Trash Bags
- Spray Cleaners
- Floor Cleaner (Pine-Sol, Fabuloso, Pine Glo, Mr. Clean, Etc.)
- Laundry Detergent
- Dish Soap
- Cleaning Wipes

Cash donations  
also accepted



venmo



## Faith Journeys

We are working with the HERE WE STAND curriculum from Augsburg Fortress. As in previous years, we are encouraging parents and family, congregational leaders as well as all members to join us on this year's journey. We will begin the Here We Stand on Sunday October 19, 2025 from 12noon – 2pm. There will be a light lunch served. You are more than welcome to purchase the Student Book from Augsburg to join us, or just come and join the conversation.

### Upcoming Events

September 26-27	Confirmation Retreat (at HopeWood Pines)
Sunday October 19, 2025	12p-2p Here We Stand
Saturday November 15, 2025	9a-3p Bible Overview (Here We Stand – Crossways)
March 2026 (TBD)	Confirmation Retreat at HopeWood Pines
June 2026 (TBD)	Confirmation Camp at HopeWood Pines

## News from the Board of Properties

First, we want to thank the Congregation for your vote of confidence on the work we are beginning to undertake. The concrete work was finished September 12<sup>th</sup> with new aprons and sidewalks along Prospect St. and the sidewalk along the south side of the church. The removal of the curbing along West Pleasant and the slanting of the concrete from the glass doors to the street will make it safer for individuals with mobility issues.

The front steps have been realigned and caulked along with new mortar on the coping stones on the steps. Our front doors have been sanded and stained. The south bell tower steps have been redone. The blacktop should be done in a couple weeks.

The flooring in the kitchen was finished September 15<sup>th</sup>, and B & B Mechanical started the hot water heat piping on September 16<sup>th</sup>. We had to change the spouting on the south side of the office as the drain on the southwest corner was run through the retaining wall against the concrete sidewalk that was put in 35 years ago! The water was coming through the sidewalk causing it to disintegrate.

As you can see, the Board of Properties has been very busy the last few weeks and the results are beginning to show.

**A word on safety** -- We have doors that don't always latch. Please make certain that doors close and latch when entering and leaving the parking lot doors!

Below are some before and after pictures of the stairs leading into the back of the church office.



The Board of Properties would like to officially welcome new staff!

Jim Anderson is our Maintenance and Contract Administrator.

Tabby Keirns is our Church Custodian.

Welcome to Jim and Tabby!

## Looking Back with Alicia

I'm always looking through boxes of old pictures and papers and found 2 copies of Confirmation Certificates. One for Jacob Bootscher, born October 27, 1876 and confirmed May 8, 1892 by Rev. A. L. Nicklas and Albert Bauchman, born July 22, 1884 and confirmed May 21, 1899 by Rev. E.F.W. Schillinger. These services would have been at our old church at the corner of State and Columbia Streets. They are in good shape for as old as they are. I will have them displayed in the Archive Cabinet so you can take a look at them.

In my search through more boxes, I ran across a single sheet of paper with predictions for the next quarter century. It was in with papers from 1979. These predictions are from the book, "You Can Help Make It Happen" by author Wilfred Bockelman. The book was originally published in 1971. I found it very interesting. See what you think:

- The church will interest only people whose "psychological age": is about forty-five years and up.
- Total church membership will decrease, but those remaining will be more knowledgeable and committed.
- More people – not all necessarily Christians – will believe that the Christian's primary concern is with social action.
- There will be no more denominational Christian education programs.
- There will be no more projects for building huge church plants.
- Integration of all minorities will become a fact in the churches.
- The churches will give up their tax-exempt status.
- Foreign missions will be less emphasized, probably replaced by Peace Corps types of action.
- Theology will shift from transcendence (describes God as being separate from and sovereign over His creation, possessing holiness and power) and immanence (describes God's intimate presence and active involvement within creation and human history through the incarnation of Jesus) to pantheism (which holds that God is everything).
- Sermons are cut, and so are the Sunday morning worship services.
- College students and young adults will show increasing interest in religion and specifically in Christianity.
- Fellowship devices will be less help in attracting new members to local churches.
- There will be less interest in separate men's and women's programs, and some people will belong to more than one church.
- Breakdown of authority, both personal and doctrinal, will be more evident.
- The Church A.D. 2000 will not be recognizable to anyone today.

The author of these predictions, Wilfred Bockelman, was from Minneapolis and died at the age of 92 in 2013. His funeral was at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Minneapolis.

I found a bulletin dated September 9, 1956 stating that there had been a congregational meeting held in March to vote as to proceeding with the installation of an air conditioning system in the church. The piece went on to say that the air conditioning has not only added to the comfort of our services, but also the beauty of our services as well. Since it is no longer necessary that we open the windows, we are not distracted by the noise of outside traffic as we had been in the past.

In the Parish Planning minutes dated Tuesday, June 12, 2006, Craig Ciola from the Board of Properties told that the flooring for the kitchen and hallway was ready to be installed. As I am writing this piece, the flooring in the kitchen is being replaced. So, the last it was replaced was in 2006, almost 20 years ago. There is a lot of wear and tear on that floor from all the meals prepared over the years with the Learning Center every weekday and all the meals prepared for the many functions of the church.

In 2007 Pastor J. Weston Jones, our Senior Pastor at that time left for a sabbatical on July 15<sup>th</sup> and returned October 17<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Jones stated that this would be to recharge self, spirit and emotion, study issues of poverty and biblical response of poverty, poverty of children in the United States, and visit an HIV/Aides clinic. He would also spend three weeks in Tanzania.

At a special meeting of Parish Planning June 12, 2007 Pastor Charles Steward was introduced and would be filling in to help Pastor Mark Schuring while Pastor Jones was on sabbatical. The money to pay Pastor Steward was funded from the Lily Foundation Grant for assistance of 20 hours per week during Pastor Jones absence. Many of you remember Pastor Steward. He and his wife, Lucille attended Emanuel for several years after Pastor Jones returned. He had served First Lutheran Church in Upper Sandusky for 40 years when he retired. Pastor Steward died November 28, 2020.

In the May of 2007 Newsletter, there was a story about Pastor Arnold Wulff and his wife Ruth. It told that they had one son, two daughters, three in-laws, nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. It went on to say that Pastor Wulff during his pastoral career had baptized their three children, all nine grandchildren and the eight great-grandchildren. Ruth was so proud that 16 of the babies wore her baptismal gown that was handmade by her maternal grandmother. Ruth was baptized on July 20, 1924. It brought to mind the fact that Pastor Wulff was born on July 20, 1923. My birthday is also July 20<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Wulff and I talked about our birthdays many times.

Pastor Wulff also had the privilege and responsibility of uniting in marriage their three children and four grandchildren at that time. The piece I read was written at that time because Pastor and Ruth were getting ready to celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on June 14, 2007.

Pastor Wulff served at Emanuel as our Associate Pastor from 1982-1998. He died March 2, 2016 and Ruth died 4 months later on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

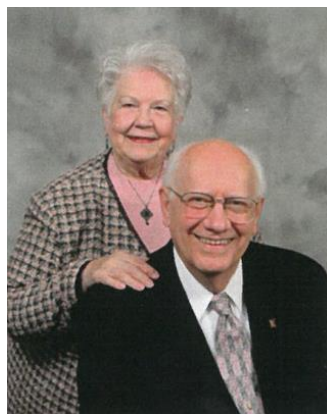
In the June 2007 Newsletter there was a piece written about the Prayer Shawl Ministry that had just started at Emanuel. Our Parish Nurse, Carol Columber, at that time was the one that gave many of the shawls to members of the congregation for prayer during an illness, death of a loved one or for any reason it would give meaning to their prayer life. She had a few ladies that donated their time and talent to make these shawls. The yarn was donated also.

We still have prayer shawls for anyone that would like to have one or to give to someone you know that it would have meaning to them. There is a notebook in the gathering space with a note on the front to sign the book and then ask Ashley in the church office for one. You can look at the binder to see if the person you would like to give a prayer shawl hasn't already been given one. Then sign in the binder the person's name.

Until next time. Alicia



Pastor Steward & Lucille



Pastor Wulff & Ruth



Carol Columber



## Steeple Sightings



"Protect and Serve" is the motto for many departments across this country and it has also been the very essence of this month's highlighted member: Kevin Davidson has personified it in many ways.

Born and raised in Marion, Kevin attended the Marion City schools, and played trumpet in the band. After graduation he worked at Sway's Trophy House, eventually becoming the owner. He enjoyed the interaction with organizations and schools which served him well in his future endeavors.

"To Protect...": In 1986 Kevin attended the police academy, which at that time was run by the sheriff's department, but is now based at Marion Technical College. He became an auxiliary deputy under then Sheriff John Butterworth and joined full time in 1988. During his 35 years there he was assigned to the county jail and the communications divisions before retiring.

"...and Serve": This year Kevin was elected as county commissioner, which gives him the opportunity to further advance the local communities by bringing growth, saving money, and attracting new industries.

Retirement has allowed him to concentrate more on his many other interests including volunteering for church meals, the Salvation Army, clothing/food/pantry drives, and supporting the Big Brothers/Big Sisters organization. He also spends time enjoying the more relaxing lifestyle of outdoors living and yard work (aka just getting dirty). Entertainment is found in watching professional baseball, attending concerts, and being a member of the Marion Palace Theater.

Kevin has been a lifelong member of Emanuel and has served on the boards of Spiritual Life and Social Ministry. He has assisted with Feed the Need, ushering, communion, and Thanks and Giving, where he has helped in the dining room, delivered meals, and pitched in wherever needed.

He looks forward to new challenges. May the Lord provide him with the wisdom, courage, strength to succeed in all of them.

Thank you for your service, Kevin!  
Blessings to all... Batina Belfry



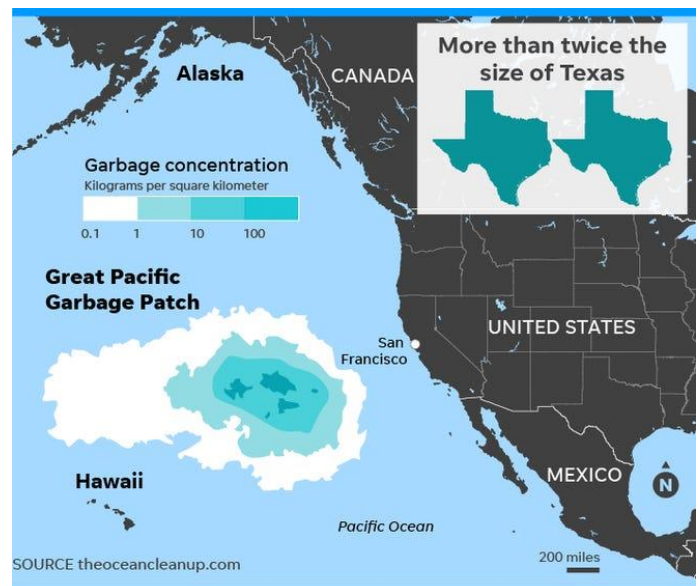
### *Creation Care* (From the Evangelical Environmental Network)

You may be shocked to learn that each year at least 14 million tons of plastic trash end up in God's oceans.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch, which is located between Hawaii and California, covers 1.6 million square kilometers, an area twice as big as Texas. This garbage patch contains an estimated 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic, which weigh almost 90,000 tons. This does not even account for the plastic in landfills.

The things we label as "trash" are really failures of stewardship, failures to treat God's creation as He does, which is our calling as images of God's will here on Earth.

But even small changes can have a big impact. Say no to single use plastic, skip the straw at restaurants, recycle when you can. Together, we can make a difference and care for God's creation.





# >>> October 2025

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
			9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need  6pm Cottage Mtg. 6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bell Rehearsal	11:30 Book Study  5pm Joyce's Angels 6pm Crochet/Knit	Waldo Food Distribution  11am Chair Yoga	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9 - EWL Service 10 - Education 11 - Praise Worship 12:30 Hike & Seek at Tallgrass	10am Bd. Fellowship  6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	8:30 - Quilters  6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need  6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bell Rehearsal	10am Staff Mtg. 11 Staff Lunch 11:30 Book Study 4:30 Community Meal 6pm Crochet/Knit	11am Chair Yoga	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9 - EWL Service 10 - Education 11 - Praise Worship		8:30 - Quilters  5pm Comm/Ev Mtg. 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need  6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bell Rehearsal	11:30 Book Study  6pm Crochet/Knit	11am Chair Yoga	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9 - EWL Service 10 - Education 11 - Praise Worship 12pm Faith Journeys	5pm Hour of Prayer	8:30 - Quilters  1:30 Bd. of Finance 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need  6pm Bd. of Ed Mtg. 6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bell Rehearsal	11:30 Book Study  6pm Crochet/Knit		
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9 - EWL Service 10 - Education 11 - Praise Worship	7pm PPC Meeting	6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionaires	9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need  6pm Choir Rehearsal 7pm Bell Rehearsal	10am Learning Center Trick-or-Treat 11:30 Book Study	11am Chair Yoga  Feast of Abundance	

# Essential Oils & Our Emotions

October 25 from 1:30 PM-3 PM

**Where:**

Earth and Cup Studio - Church of the Redeemer  
3883 Summit View Rd. Dublin, OH

**To Register Email:**

tracy@earthandcup.org

\$20 suggested donation covers supplies  
cash, check or paypal giving (scan QR code below)



Tracy is a certified yoga therapist and essential oils educator

# Essential Oils and Our Emotions

**Christ Lutheran Church Bexley and Earth & Cup**

**Where:** Christ Lutheran Church 124 E. Main St. Bexley, Ohio

**When:** Wednesday, October 22 from 6:30-8:15 PM

**What:** Exploring the mind, emotions, and essential oils. Each participant may develop a personal intention and craft an essential oil blend that aligns with fostering positive emotional shifts.

**To register:** email Deacon Diane at  
dschwiger@christbexley.org by Wed. Oct. 15  
\$20 donation is suggested

Tracy is co-founder of Earth & Cup ([www.earthandcup.org](http://www.earthandcup.org))  
Essential Oils Educator & Certified Yoga Therapist

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

\*Return Service Requested.

**Prepared Especially For:**



**Please Recycle this newsletter when you're finished. Thank you.**