

August 2026

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.

Associate Pastor Ian Boden

Administrative Assistant:

Ashley Koehler

Financial Secretary:

Stacy Hoch

Child Care Director:

Abby Chase

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

Chief Seattle leader of the [Duwamish](#) and [Sugquamish](#) peoples (western Canada and Pacific NW). Baptized around 1850. ELCA Commemorates June 7 (1866). Speech 1854, first published 1887 from peoples notes.

Chief Seattle's Letter

"The President in Washington sends word that he wishes to buy our land. But how can you buy or sell the sky? the land? The idea is strange to us. If we do not own the freshness of the air and the sparkle of the water, how can you buy them?"

Every part of the earth is sacred to my people. Every shining pine needle, every sandy shore, every mist in the dark woods, every meadow, every humming insect. All are holy in the memory and experience of my people.

We know the sap which courses through the trees as we know the blood that courses through our veins. We are part of the earth and it is part of us. The perfumed flowers are our sisters. The bear, the deer, the great eagle, these are our brothers. The rocky crests, the dew in the meadow, the body heat of the pony, and man all belong to the same family.

The shining water that moves in the streams and rivers is not just water, but the blood of our ancestors. If we sell you our land, you must remember that it is sacred. Each glossy reflection in the clear waters of the lakes tells of events and memories in the life of my people. The water's murmur is the voice of my father's father.

The rivers are our brothers. They quench our thirst. They carry our canoes and feed our children. So you must give the rivers the kindness that you would give any brother.

If we sell you our land, remember that the air is precious to us, that the air shares its spirit with all the life that it supports. The wind that gave our grandfather his first breath also received his last sigh. The wind also gives our children the spirit of life. So if we sell our land, you must keep it apart and sacred, as a place where man can go to taste the wind that is sweetened by the meadow flowers. The rivers are our people, and yours, and you must henceforth give the rivers the kindness your would give your people.

Will you teach your children what we have taught our children? That the earth is our mother? What befalls the earth befalls all the sons of the earth.

One thing we know: our God is also your God. The earth is precious to him and to harm the earth is to heap contempt on its creator.

Your destiny is a mystery to us. What will happen when the buffalo are all slaughtered? The wild horses tamed? What will happen when the secret corners of the forest are heavy with the scent of many men and the view of the ripe hills is blotted with talking wires? Where will the thicket be? Gone! Where will the eagle be? Gone! And what is to say goodbye to the swift pony and then hunt? The end of living and the beginning of survival.

What is man without the beasts? If all the beasts were gone, men would die from a great loneliness of spirit. For whatever happens to the beasts, soon happens to man. All things are connected. When the last red man has vanished with this wilderness, and his memory is only the shadow of a cloud moving across the prairie, will these shores and forests still be here? Will there be any of the spirit of my people left?

We love this earth as a newborn loves its mother's heartbeat. So, if we sell you our land, love it as we have loved it. Care for it, as we have cared for it. Hold in your mind the memory of the land as it is when you receive it. Preserve the land for all children, and love it, as God loves us.

As we are part of the land, you too are part of the land. This earth is precious to us. It is also precious to you. One thing we know - there is only one God. No man, be he Red man or White man, can be apart. We ARE all brothers after all.

This we know. The earth does not belong to man. Man belongs to the earth. This we know. All things are connected like the blood which unites one family. All things are connected. This we know: the earth does not belong to man, man belongs to the earth. All things are connected like the blood that unites us all. Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself."

Peace
Pastor Mike

A Note from Pastor Ian

"Jesus called a child, whom he put among them, and said, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." -Matthew 18:2-4

This summer for VBS we had fun, grew in faith, and changed the world as we learned from the parable of the Sower how we can, and do, engage with the world around us as individuals, as a community, and globally. Youth from our Early Learning Center, from the community, and congregants were fed lunch, sang songs, prayed, played games, engaged with recycling and composting, planted seeds, and so much more. Each day they welcomed new friends, did crafts, and learned about God.

What struck me was how excited the youth were to sing about God making hippos and to plant watermelon seeds. I was unsure as to what exactly was so exciting about watermelons, but they were very excited.

Perhaps this a glimpse of a lesson for us in how we are invited to be excited (so much so that we can't sit still sometimes) as we grow in our faith and learn more about ourselves, the world around us, and the Triune God we worship.

VBS is exciting and a lot of work. I want to thank all of the volunteers that worked very hard to make this possible and offer a special thanks to the Board of Education. We are excited to begin looking towards next year already and can't wait to see how many lives we can touch and youth we can share God's love with as we offer this learning opportunity to the community God has called us to serve and love.

-Pastor Ian



PD Ann's Corner - Our Journey Through God's Name

Our Journey through God's name continues with the image of a country scene with sheep browsing on rolling hills. There is a stream meandering through the hills. In the distance there is a shepherd and his dog watching over the flock. In John 10:11, Jesus says, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep." The word for good shepherd is Poimen Kalos. In the ancient world, the role of the shepherds was to provide three things: food/water, protection and guidance. A good shepherd would seek the right kind of pasture that had food and water. When predators attacked the flock of sheep, the shepherd would defend the sheep. When traveling from one pasture to another the shepherd would find the way through the valleys and mountains. When the sheep were sick or injured, the shepherd would take care of the sheep. If a sheep was lost, the shepherd would search for and rescue the sheep. The prophet Isaiah gives us a poignant image of God. "He (God) tends his flock like a shepherd. He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young." (Isaiah 40:11) Jesus showed us the length he would go to care for us. He died on the cross for our sins. One of our favorite passages in the Bible is Psalm 23. It describes the life of the Paimen Kalos (good shepherd). Water and food are provided to the flock; there are places of rest; when the sheep are ill they are nursed to good health; predators are dealt with; the flock is led through dark areas to greener pastures; a banquet is prepared for the flock in the prescience of enemies; the flock is cared for all the days of their life; the flock can rest forever in the good shepherd's care.

There is more than Jesus looking after us. Jesus' life showed us how to be good shepherds. Peter lost when Jesus was arrested, and went to trial. Three times he denied that he knew Jesus. After Jesus resurrection, Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" Peter said, "Yes." Then Jesus said, "Feed my sheep." Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love me?" Peter said, "Yes". Jesus asked Peter again, "Do you love me? Peter said, "You know that I do." Jesus said, "Feed my Sheep." (John 21:18-19) Not only was Jesus the good shepherd, but he admonishes us to be good shepherds. We are to take care of people who are in our care. We are to go out in Jesus' name and minister to each other. We are to go out in Jesus' name and minister to people in our community. Jesus says to us, "Do you Love me? Feed my sheep. Do you love me? Feed my sheep. Do you love me? Feed my sheep." What is your response to Jesus' question? What kind of shepherd will you choose to be?



Bridges Approach

When we look at the topic of world view among the various social classes, we find that those who live in poverty see the world in terms of local settings. Those who find themselves in the middle class sees the world in national settings. And when it comes to those who live with wealth, they see the world from an international view.

Book Worm

As we continue to figure out how to live together in a shrinking world, with people of different religious beliefs, we have world religious leaders speaking out on how we can come to understanding. The Dalai Lama wrote, "Toward a True Kinship of Faiths – How the World's Religions Can Come Together", as an attempt to help us all along this path.

Mental, Emotional, and Spiritual Support (MESS) Training

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Dublin, Ohio is hosting a three-day program provided by [Lutheran Disaster Response](#).

Monday, November 16, 2026 | 8:00 - 4:30 p.m. (lunch provided)

Tuesday, November 17, 2026 | 8:00 - 4:30 p.m. (lunch provided)

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 8:00 - Noon

Course Description: MESS (Mental, Emotional, and Spiritual Support) training is an interfaith **skills-based disaster program designed for clergy, lay leaders and community responders** - people who may encounter and provide care for individuals in crisis or distress from conventional disasters or disasters of everyday life. This skill-based training helps equip the community to care for one another in times of crisis.

Attendees will learn to confidently support individuals facing mental, emotional, and spiritual distress using a 6-Part Protocol rooted in compassion, curiosity, and connection. This highly interactive course equips participants with practical skills for both supportive conversations and crisis stabilization—without the pressure to “fix” or offer quick solutions. No prior experience is required. Participants only need an empathetic spirit and a desire to walk alongside those who are hurting. This training is offered in partnership with MESS Ministries, Inc., the creators of the 6-Part Protocol.

Attendees will learn:

To **Show Up** with compassionate, guiding presence.

To **Lean In** with deep listening, appropriate asking, and further exploration.

To **Listen Out** to identify immediate needs and critical concerns.

To **Provide Care** through crisis stabilization or supportive acceptance and empowering action.

To **Kindle Hope** by encouraging perseverance and inspiring possibility.

To **Follow Up** through planning and/or refer to next-level care.

Course Logistics

Duration: 2.5 Days (20 hours)

Format: In-person or online via Zoom

Cost: The cost of this training is \$25.00 and includes lunch on Nov 16 and 17

Class Size: Minimum of 10 participants for an in-person class; maximum of 40 people

Visit <https://princeofpeacedublin.org/care/mess-training/> for more information. Emanuel Lutheran Church will cover the \$25 registration fee for those interested in attending this workshop.

Join us for a Conversation on the ELCA's Social Statement

In 2009, the Churchwide Assembly adopted the social statement, “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust”. The ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 2025 voted to continue the process of re-evaluating the social statement as to how it speaks to church and the world today. The church has the ability to review the document and make recommendations to the task force for consideration. We will gather on Saturday August 29th from 9am-3pm to engage this conversation. We will also be able to make recommendations individually or collectively to the task force prior to the September 30th Deadline.

In preparation for this conversation, you should become familiar with our current social statement. There are a series of podcasts addressing this process. Summaries of the task forces work can also be found. All resources for this process may be found at elca.org/resources

Looking Back with Alicia



ACKERMAN, Minnie William

I have continued reading the minutes of Vestry (Church Council) in the early 1900's of Emanuel and noticed that the secretary that was writing the minutes was William Ackerman. Looking back that is the same William Ackerman that his wife, Minnie, was our church organist for over 50 years. I'm sure many of you remember Minnie and Bill.

As I was reading Minnie Oesterle was mentioned in the minutes. That was in February of 1916 and that was before she and Bill married. Since in the last Newsletter I mentioned that I had read about the Vestry deciding not to let anyone but the organist use the organ. Minnie must have been the organist because in the list of bills paid that month Minnie was paid \$15.00. Minnie died July of 1982 and William died November 16, 1985.

At the February 1st Special Congregational meeting of 1916 a motion was made to dispose of the land that had originally been purchased at the corner of Mt. Vernon Ave. and Vine St. that the church had bought for the building of Emanuel's new church building.

At that same meeting a motion was made to dispose of the church building that housed our church at the corner of S. State St. and Columbia St. An offer to buy Emanuel's church was made by St. Paul's English Lutheran Church for \$7,500 with the specification that we vacate the building by January 1, 1917. It was later decided not to sell to the St. Paul's English Lutheran Church.

The February 20, 1916 meeting of Vestry a "Building Committee" was named. That is when the church found the property of our present church. It was found to be more suitable than the property on Mt. Vernon Ave. and Vine St. The names of the committee were: J.F. Lust, G. Thibaut, A. Baldauf, Ed Evans, and Al Fetter. The Vestry also stated that \$300 of the cash balance on hand in the "Church Treasury" be turned over to the "Church Building Fund".

At a "Special Congregational Meeting" on February 21, 1916 for the congregation a vote to approve the names of those on the "Building Committee" and buy the property on S. Prospect St. that is now our present church.

At the same meeting the congregation was asked to pay for 2 tons of coal for a member of the congregation that was destitute and needed coal to heat their home. The congregation voted, "yes" to pay for the coal, the bill was \$7.00.

At the August 7th Vestry meeting in 1917 it was decided to carry \$15,000.00 worth of insurance on our present church building.

At the May 7th Vestry meeting in 1918 it was decided that the church and property of our old church on S. State St. and Columbia be put in the hands of a real estate dealer to sell. The price would be \$7500 with the stipulation that it not include the organ or bell.

At the September 22, 1918 Vestry meeting it was decided to discontinue services done in the German language during the period of WW1 but authorized the pastor to hold devotional services in private homes during the period for the benefit of the German members.

It was voted to change the salary of Rev. Schillinger to \$1500 per year to go into effect January 1, 1919.

As I was reading through bills paid each month I ran across a bill paid to Thibaut Mautz Brothers for a total of \$100.00. That was a lot of money back then since none of the other bills were quite that much. I looked up Thibaut Mautz Brothers in Marion's history and found that it was a major fixture in Marion in the 1910's and 1920's. They sold hardware, hunting and athletic gear, and appliances like the Perfection Oil Cook Stoves. Also, horse blankets, robes and paints. It was first located at 109 E. Center St. opposite the County Court House and then moved to 147 S. Main St. The records I found shows that it was located where the Center Street Corner Market is now located. The S. Main address is where the Way We Were Antique Shop is now located.

It has become more difficult to read the minutes since the first ones I read from 1913 into the 1917 minutes were typed. After that there was a new secretary that wrote the minutes, George Long. His handwriting is difficult to read so I have recruited some help with figuring out the wording.

More history to come,
Alicia

Aspire Book Study Opportunity!

Jenni from Aspire reached out to let us know they will be starting up a book study on "Toxic Charity" starting on Tuesday, Aug. 18. This is the book our study group covered last year. If you didn't get to participate and are interested in joining Aspire please reach out to them at 740-382-3340.

They will be meeting on Tuesdays for a 6 week study from 12-1pm. More details are available on their website at: <https://www.aspiremarion.org/events/toxic-charity-book-study>

Aspire has books available for \$10 if anyone needs one.

Monthly Ministry Mission – Hauling Hope

Speaking of Aspire Ministries! They are going to be our focus for the August Ministry Mission – Specifically their Hauling Hope program. Emanuel Lutheran recently had to disband our volunteer team since we did not have enough people to pick-up and deliver furniture, but we still want to help!

First and foremost, please share with other about this important ministry. If you have furniture that no longer serves you, please consider donating to Hauling Hope.

We are also going to be raising funds for Hauling Hope to help them fill their gas tank for pick-up and deliveries! If you feel called to support this ministry, please make a notation on your giving envelope or check memo for Hauling Hope.

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

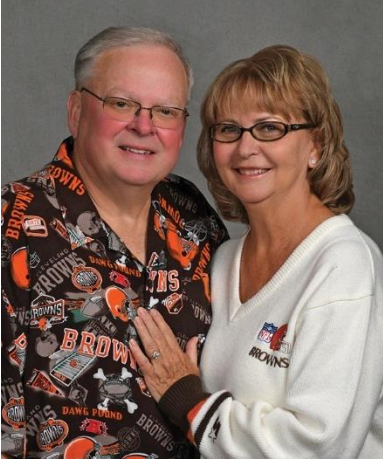
"I just wanted to let you know the guys delivered my mattress and frame and set it up. They were absolutely wonderful. I can't tell you how much this is blessing my life. My little air mattress finally blew up and I had nothing and here they come with this nice set. So, I just wanted to tell you how much I appreciate your ministry and once I'm on my feet, I'd like to support you in some way. So, thanks again."

– a Marion County Senior Lady

HAPPY
Birthday

Ed Baldauf celebrates his 94th birthday on August 2nd!
Peggy Hall celebrates her 97th birthday on August 6th!
Norma Fanello celebrates her 98th birthday on August 9th!
Rozella Wilkes celebrates her 92nd birthday on August 14th!
Bill Lambert celebrates his 91st birthday on August 15th!
Patsy Howard celebrates her 90th birthday on August 18th!

Steeple Sightings



Summer is really in full swing here at Emanuel. It gets pretty quiet in the evenings with the Emanuel Choir and the bell choir taking well-deserved breaks and their directors lining up music for this coming church year. But there's still plenty of time to enjoy all the events offered here and that, of course, includes food! My Aunt Betty Belfry once told me about Ice cream socials and got me wondering what an "ice cream social" was. Seems that the church would gather after services for an outdoor picnic with ice cream as the featured dessert. Who would know better than our very own ice cream maker—Bruce Showalter.

Bruce was born and raised in Marion and successfully attended Harding High School (a.k.a. Graduated). As a Prexy he ran track. During his senior year he began to learn life's lessons working at Sears in retail and retail management. After working there after graduation, he then moved to Mansfield in trainee management.

Wanting a change he went into automotive services as an advisor and manager in Columbus at Firestone, then Goodyear which sent him to Bucyrus in management. Eventually he left to go to Honda in 1990, married LouAnn in 1996 and retired in 2013. His family consists of 2 children, 5 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandkids, several of whom he managed on the youth baseball teams.

Bruce has been a lifelong member of Emanuel and has served on the Board of Properties, been director of same, and President of the Congregation. He has been active in the Thanks and Giving program and specialized in the deliveries aspect until the COVID pandemic. He has been one of our most faithful ushers since the age of 18. WHEW! Oh yes, can't forget the delicious Ice Cream he provides that was his Grandmother Steward's own recipe

At home he works in the yard and on home repairs, and enjoys watching the Cincinnati Reds and the Cleveland Browns; he has fond memories of family trips to both cities to watch his teams in person. Occasionally he ventures to local bowling lanes to "strike" fear into some of the pins.

Not an avid traveler, he and LouAnn often visit Ohio's Amish Country. And when it's time to settle down for the night, he indulges in light reading (ask him about Archie comic books).

Emanuel has always been his home church and basks in the beauty and freedom every time he crosses the thresholds.

We appreciate your faithfulness (and ice cream) to our Lord and His church.

Blessings!

Batina Belfry

Chair Yoga resumes Friday, August 7th at 11am. Join us each Friday in the church Library!

>>> August 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	3	4 8:30 - Quilters 1-3 FTN Prep 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	5 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need	6 11:30 Book Study 6pm Loop Troupe	7 11am Chair Yoga	8
9 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	10 5pm Bd. of Fellowship	11 8:30 - Quilters 1-3 FTN Prep 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires 7pm Special Worship	12 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need	13 11:30 Book Study	14 11am Chair Yoga	15
16 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	17 1pm Comm. Bd. Mtg. 5pm Pray & Study	18 8:30 - Quilters 1-3 FTN Prep 1:30 Stewardship 5pm Worship Bd. 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	19 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need 5pm Education Bd.	20 11:30 Book Study	21 11am Chair Yoga	22
23 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	24 7pm PPC Meeting	25 8:30 - Quilters 1-3 FTN Prep 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	26 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need	27 11:30 Book Study 5pm Joyce's Angels 5pm EELC Open House	28 11am Chair Yoga	29 9am-3pm Social Statement on Human Sexuality Conversation
30 RALLY DAY 8:45 - EWL Service 10am Sunday School 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	31	1	2	3	4	5

**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.