

The GOOD NEWS Newsletter

Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Find us on Facebook!

Church Staff:

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Associate Pastor Ian Boden

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Financial Secretary:

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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

Defining Moments

Psalm 13

¹How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? ²How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? ³Consider and answer me, O LORD my God! Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death, ⁴and my enemy will say, "I have prevailed"; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken. ⁵But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. ⁶I will sing to the LORD, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

On September 11th, we will remember the 25th anniversary of the attacks in our country. I remember like it was yesterday where I was. I was in Old Testament Theology class at Trinity Lutheran Seminary when my police department pager (remember pagers?) when off telling me to call immediately. I bolted out of class, called in and was recalled immediately to work. It was a defining moment for the future. I had been to New York City and Washington DC several times before that day. I have returned several times since then. In fact, I lived in NYC for seven years, and heard the stories of many about that time. It still affects us all as a defining moment of a generation.

I was alive, though very young, when JFK was assassinated. Sixty-plus years later, we still talk about what did or didn't happen that day. A generation can tell you where they were when they heard that news.

It is God that we call upon in these difficult times. It may feel as if we are abandoned, cast aside, or left on our own. But God calls us to continually cry out in those defining moments. And God promises to always answer. The Holy Spirit promises to always be with us. Christ reminds us that we are all included in the greatest defining moment, in his life, death, resurrection and ascension. This defining changed the world and all of history forever!

We are sent out to proclaim this message to a world that needs to hear it now more than ever.

Peace

Pastor Mike



We want to congratulate Rain Siobhan Pryor-Poole for the completion of her second confirmation. She was confirmed in the Moravian Church on Sunday August 9th, 2026. Not only did she have to endure two years of confirmation in the Lutheran Tradition with her Father/Pastor, she also had to endure the same two years going through confirmation in the Moravian Tradition with her Mother/Pastor! She is familiar with this process, as she had to do the same thing when she went through First Communion classes in both traditions. She says it all started when she was baptized by two bishops, one Lutheran and one Moravian! Congratulations Rain!

A Note from Pastor Ian - Faith Formation

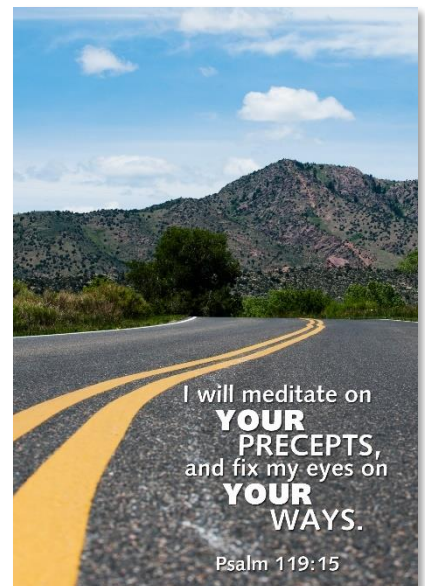
*"I will meditate on your precepts, And fix my eyes on your ways.
I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word."*

Psalm 119:15-16

Faith formation is a lifelong journey and pilgrimage. We never truly arrive at a point where we stop learning more about God or being formed as a follower of Jesus Christ.

We are formed in our faith in different means and ways. Through prayer, the reading of scripture, and corporate worship we are formed through and by these experiences. Through our questioning about God, ourselves, the world, along or with others we are formed by our curiosities that can and do lead us closer to God. Our daily lives are pregnant with moments that point us to God, and we are also united to be intentional about life's lifelong journey/ pilgrimage we call faith formation.

This intentionality can look like attending Sunday school classes, going to camp or on a retreat, taking on a spiritual practice (lexio divina, visio divina, prayer walking, prayer journaling, and so on), meeting with trusted friends to share talk about God, scripture and faith, attending a bible study, or seeking our experiences that resonate with where you hear God's voice calling you. If you feel called to or desire an experience for faith formation that we do not currently have here at Emanuel please consider reaching out to Pastor Mike or myself.



My prayer for you as we pilgrimage together in this journey of faith formation is that we may all dwell in the prayer and question "God who are you? And who am I?"

Peace and all Good,
Pastor Ian

Bridges Approach

When we look at the topic of family structure among the various social classes, we find that those who live in poverty tends to be matriarchal. Those who find themselves in the middle class tends to be patriarchal. And when it comes to those who live with wealth, it tends to be who has the money in the family structure.

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

Logos: Word

God has revealed himself in many ways. Psalm 119:105 says "Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path. "The prophet Isaiah says "as the rain and snow come down from heaven and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish so that it yield's seeds for the Sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth". It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:10-11) God's word was a light to show us the way and it flourishes and produces fruit. Read John 1:1-3 and 10-14. "In the beginning was the WORD (Logos). John opened his gospel by calling Jesus the Logos (Lo-gos) or the "Word". Logos was a word used in Greek philosophy. John uses it to refer to the one who created the universe by speaking it into existence. Jesus is God's creative life- giving Word. God's Word was a light to show us the way and it flourishes and produces fruit. We are to respond to Jesus, the "Word", with faith and faithfulness, reproducing Christ's life so that the "Word" become flush in us. How hungry are you for the Word of God? Do you spend time reading the word in the Bible? Do you spend time communicating with Jesus, the "Word"? Are you open to hearing the "Word" and practicing the "Word" in your actions?

Rabbi, Rabboni- Teacher

John 13: 12-15. After Jesus washed their (the disciples) feet and put on his outer clothes, he took his place at the table again. Then he asked his disciples "Do you understand what I've done for you? You call me teacher and Lord and you're right because that's what I am. So, if I your Lord and teacher have washed your feet, you must wash each other's feet. I've given you an example that you should follow. In the first century "rabbi" (ra-BEE) used as a term of respect for teachers of the scriptures. After 70 A.D., rabbi was formalized as a title for scribes and theologians trained in the law. During the first century disciples would be bound to the rabbi for life. Eventually they would become teachers. Jesus drew crowds by using questions, discussions, proverbs, symbolic actions, parables, and miracles to teach people the way to live. Jesus became human to teach us how to live our lives. He is the "logos" and our "rabbi". He promised he would send the Holy Spirit to help us learn and live his teaching and his "Word". (John 16:5-7, 12-15)

Prayer: Jesus thank you for being our Rabbi and God's Logos. Help us to hear you and live your word in our daily lives. Help us to teach others about you and God's love and forgiveness. Blessed by your name our Rabbi and Logos. Amen.



God's work.
Our hands.

On **September 13** during the Sunday school hour (10-11:00), we will be working on a service project for Sole Hope. This organization takes denim fabric pieces and turns them into shoes. These shoes are distributed to people in Uganda, to help prevent jigger bites. These bites lead to many issues. For our part we will be using patterns to cut up denim. Everything needed is provided. You just cut up fabric and enjoy other people's company.

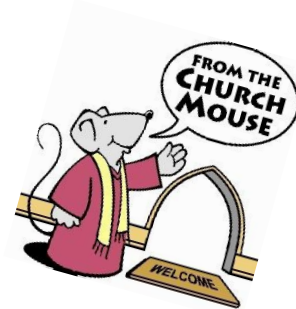
Our project display for the ELCA God's Work Our Hands will be up in the Gathering Space **Sunday August 30**. There are 10 community projects for you to choose from. You may do them individually, as a group or as a family. Simply sign out the card and pick up the instruction sheet for that project.

Church Mouse

I am hearin' talk about Stewardship. Us mice were talkin' as well about how we live our faith out as we scurry around. Someone asked me what I thought Stewardship was. There was a Bible on the table, so I looked through it and found this:

PSALM 16

Protect me, God for I turn to you for help.
I profess, "You are my Lord, my greatest good."
I once put faith in false gods, the idols of the land.
Now I make no offering to them, nor invoke their names.
Those who chase after them add grief upon grief.
Lord, you measure out my portion, the shape of my future;
You mark off the best place for me to enjoy my inheritance.
I bless God who teaches me, who schools my heart even at night.
I am sure God is here, right beside me.
I cannot be shaken.
So my heart rejoices, my body thrills with life, my whole being rests secure.
You will not abandon me to Sheol, nor send your faithful one to death.
You show me the road to life: boundless joy at your side forever.



See ya' in Worship!
Church Mouse

Creation Care – Marion City Recycling Program



You may have heard that the City of Marion is no longer picking up recycling curbside. However...Emanuel is still recycling! Please continue to place bulletins and paper in the basket in the Gathering Space and there are large blue bins in the parlor. We want to give a BIG THANK YOU to Don Davis for volunteering to collect and deliver Emanuel's recycling to the City's drop-off location. If you'd like to help with this ministry, please reach out to Don.

Hospitality Helpers

The Spiritual Life Committee would like to introduce you to two new brochures they have created to help visitor's; guests and new members learn about Emanuel Lutheran Church. The first brochure helps people navigate the church building. The second brochure introduces people to our Faith programs and services. It covers worship times; Sunday School, Bible and book studies; music and service project opportunities; the Learning Center and the Marion Area Pregnancy Program. We encourage all members to hand out these brochures to visitor's, guests and new members. The brochures will be available the second Sunday in September.

Comfort Quilters

The Comfort Quilters are beginning to use crochet thread to tie quilts instead of yarn. This is to meet the requirement by Lutheran World Relief. If you are interested in taking any of the yarn you have until Oct. 1 to choose the yarn you would like.

We are also in need of flat cotton sheets that are any color. We can take prints as long as they do not have religious or military symbols on them.

Book Worm

Worship is an integral portion of our faith life. Christians worship in a vast array of ways. A good book to look at the basics is *Christian Worship: 100,000 Sundays of Symbols and Rituals* by Gail Ramshaw. It is published by Fortress Press.

Looking Back with Alicia

In looking through the minutes of Emanuel's Church Council back in the early 1900's I read in the October 1918 minutes that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Axthelm and their sons Walter and Milton joined the church. Some of you might remember Kathryn and Walter. I looked up information on them and found that Walter was born in 1895 and died in 1982. Kathryn was born in 1899 and died in 1981. If I remember right Mr. Axthelm had a men's clothing store on North Main St. Please correct me if I'm wrong.

I did find an obituary for their son, Charles. It said he was born in Marion, Ohio to Kathryn and Walter. He died in 2022 at the age of 93 in Alexandria, Va. He was married to Peggy for 69 years and had 4 children. The obituary said that when Charles was a teenager he ran off to join the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus.

After graduating from Ohio State he joined the Navy and retired with the rank of Commander after 30 years of service.

His funeral was in Peace Lutheran Church in Alexandria, Va. and he is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

I found it very interesting that Kathryn and Walter were members of our church and raised their children in Marion. Good to read about Charles life journey.

They also had a son, David. I found a picture of David, his wife, Nancy, and daughter, Cathy in the 1974 directory. I looked to see if I could locate them. I found (if the information is correct) that David and Nancy live in Roseville, California, David is 88 and Nancy is 84. Cathy now lives in Columbus, Ohio and she is 67.

In February of 1920 Rev. Schillinger, Emanuel's senior pastor at that time, had a call to serve a Lutheran Church in St. Marys, Ohio. The congregation vote was unanimous to return the call and keep Rev. Schillinger in Marion. I looked up the church in St. Marys and it was Zion Lutheran Church established in June of 1849. That is the same church that Pastor Bill Maki that served as Associate Pastor at Emanuel from 1999-2004 retired as their Senior Pastor in June of 2024 after serving 20 years.

It amazes me reading the bills that were paid in March of 1920 that the Marion Gas Company bill was 90 cents. We have to remember the church heated with coal but still, 90 cents.

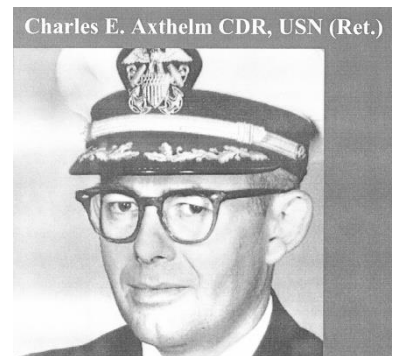
In June of 1920 Rev. Schillinger received another call, this time from the Woodville, Ohio Normal School to be its principal. It was a private Lutheran institution that operated from 1880 to 1924 serving as a preparatory school and seminary that trained teachers and parish pastors. Rev. Schillinger again returned the call and stayed at Emanuel.

In the May 2, 1921 minutes of the Vestry meeting it stated that Emanuel paid a bill with the sum of 90 cents to the Monarch Printing and Supply Company. Monarch was located in Marion and did printing, manufacturing of books and bindings.

At the same meeting it was said the church owed \$4.15 to Millard Hunt Company. I remember a Millard Hunt Company in my lifetime. I looked up the company in the 1920's and said the company supplied wholesale and retail fuel like coal and heavy construction supplies and was located on North Prospect St. It went on to say that it later expanded into concrete and mechanical equipment.



AXTHELM, Kathryn Walter E.



Charles E. Axthelm CDR, USN (Ret.)



AXTHELM, Nancy Cathy David W.

In the June 7, 1921 minutes a bill totaling \$6.00 was paid to Hackerman Piano Company (it is clearly written Hackerman). When I looked it up it was explained that there was no Hackerman Piano Company in Marion, Ohio, the name was Ackerman and Lowe Piano Company. The company also built a line of pianos under the, "Marion Piano" brand name. The business was started in Marion around 1900. Around 1916 The Jesse French Piano Company assumed ownership of the company. Jesse French continued to build the Ackerman & Lowe brand name until the early 1930's when the company went out of business due to the Great Depression.

In the September 6, 1921 minutes of vestry it was stated that Mr. John Baldauf was instructed to supply and install screens in the church kitchen windows as requested by the Ladies Society. I called Ed Baldauf told me that John Baldauf and his family had Baldauf Construction.

Also, in the September 6 minutes it was written that an amount of \$208.73 was paid to Baldauf and Schlentz Company here in Marion. Ed also told me that Baldauf and Schlentz was on Greenwood St. at that time. It was a cousin of his. It has been good for me to know Ed and can call him and get some of these details. He has a very good recollection of the Baldauf family businesses in Marion.

More history to come, Alicia

Monthly Ministry Mission – Luke 3:11 Ministries

Amy Parker, founder of Luke 3:11 Ministries, will be joining us on September 27 to share about the ministry's work in Marion and surrounding communities. Luke 3:11 Ministries takes its name from Jesus' instruction in Luke 3:11: *"Whoever has food must do likewise."* Through programs including the Peanut Butter Jelly Truck, Lumpy Loads of Laundry, I Wish for Prom, the PBJ Truck Garden Challenge, and the Community Garden at Sawyer Ludwig Park, the volunteer-powered nonprofit puts that teaching into action by serving neighbors with dignity and compassion. Working alongside local churches, small businesses, schools, nonprofits, civic organizations, and dedicated volunteers, the ministry addresses food insecurity and other practical needs throughout the community. Current priority needs include jelly, brown paper bags, gas cards, and operating funds that



help keep programs running throughout the year. To learn more, volunteer, or make a donation, visit www.luke311ministries.org.

Emanuel Lutheran's First Annual Oktoberfest! Saturday, September 19th from 5pm-7pm

Join us for an evening celebrating our German heritage! Tickets are \$20 for an all-you-can eat meal (\$10 for kids), Drink tickets are \$6 and we also have Commemorative Beer Steins for \$50 that include two drinks. The menu will be: Pork schnitzel, Bratwurst with or without sauerkraut, Hot Dogs, Homemade Potato Salad, Homemade Pretzels, Chips, Cream Puffs. Pop and Water are included with the meal price.



Steeple Sightings



Lately I've been wondering during my wandering flights if it wasn't getting noisier around here in the evenings or just my "batty"magination. So I checked out some unusually noisy places and realized that the church is returning from the summer break. I also noticed how clean the building is. Remembering Grandma Belfry's favorite saying: "Cleaning is something nobody notices unless it's not done", this lil' ol' bat would like to correct that by thanking Tabitha Keirns for doing more than just cleaning—she cooks, too! (Of course I have to recognize the awesome power of food makers, being a bat.)

Born and raised in Marion county in the Blanton family, Tabitha graduated from the River Valley school system in 2013 and began working in the McDaniel Automotive Service department, rising to the level of assistant body shop manager until 2024 when she left to cook for our Child Care Center and then added cleaning duties in 2025.

She married Brandon in 2018 and they have a daughter, Sydnie. During their free weekends they go to all levels of motor racing from IndyCars and NASCAR to go-karts and dirt track competitions. They have traveled to Michigan and are looking forward to a trip to Las Vegas. In her "spare" time she has been known to frequent local bowling centers.

Although her main focus in life is her family and work, she has begun a little garden of wildflowers.

Having attended Emanuel as a child, note the above-mentioned Blanton family, she certainly feels that this is her home congregation.

We are proud to call you one of our own and give a special thanks for your good work and faithfulness.

Blessings to all y'all! Batina Belfrey

Grandma Belfry, too, would also be proud of you, T., but church mouse and my family would also appreciate just a few more crumbs left behind BB

Batina Belfry

GOD'S WORK ...OUR HANDS

Shoe Cutting Party for *Sole Hope*

JOIN US!

SEPTEMBER 13

10:00-11:00

IN THE PARLORS

HOW CAN I HELP?

- JOIN US IN THE PARLORS
- TRACE AND CUT OUT SHOE PATTERNS

September 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	31 EELC & Office Closed	1 8:30 - Quilters 1-3 FTN Prep 6pm Praise Team T&G planning Mtg. 7pm Marionnaires	2 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need 6pm Choir 7pm Bells	3 11:30 Book Study 6pm Loop Troupe	4 EELC Closed 11am Chair Yoga	5
6 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	7 EELC & Office Closed	8 8:30 - Quilters 1-3 FTN Prep 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires First Day of PKI	9 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need 6pm Choir 7pm Bells 7pm G&R Theology	10 11:30 Book Study 4:30 Community Meal	11 11am Chair Yoga	12
13 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	14 9:30 - EELC Mtg.	15 8:30 - Quilters 1-3 FTN Prep 5pm Worship Mtg. 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	16 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need 6pm Choir 7pm Bells	17 11:30 Book Study 6:30 Cub Scout Orientation	18 11am Chair Yoga	19 5-7pm Oktoberfest
20 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	21 5pm Pray & Study Picnic	22 1-3 FTN Prep 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	23 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need 6pm Choir 7pm Bells	24 11:30 Book Study	25 11am Chair Yoga	26
27 8:45 - EWL Service 11:15 - Praise Worship 7pm Worship	28 7pm PPC Meeting	29 1-3 FTN Prep 6pm Praise Team 7pm Marionnaires	30 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Feed the Need 6pm Choir 7pm Bells	1	2	3

Marion Area Lutherans

Theology

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Good Theology, Good People, Good Time

Wed. Sept. 9th

The GNR

103 N Marion St, Waldo, OH

7pm

Bring your questions and freinds!

Questions?
See your pastor.

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.