

Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church

Sunday Divine Service is at 9 a.m.

Sunday Bible Class begins at 10:15 a.m.

Sunday School begins at 10:15 a.m. (September-May)

Wednesday Evening Service is at 6:30 p.m. in the chapel.

Thursday Morning Worship is at 8:45 a.m. in the chapel.

Thursday Morning Bible Class is at 9 a.m. in Memorial Hall.



February 22, 2023

May God continue to reform our Church
to His Word and bless our February!

“And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, And establish the work
of our hands for us; Yes, establish the work of our hands.”

Psalm 90:17 *(Bible reference inscribed on our church cornerstone, circa 1916)*

Return Service Requested

E-mail: pastor@emmanueladell.org

Phone: 920-994-9005

Adell, WI 53001
326 Center Ave.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE



Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church LCMS

326 Center Ave. — Adell, WI 53001

Phone: 920-994-9005 • [website: emmanueladell.org](http://website:emmanueladell.org)

February 2023

Emmanuel News

Imposition of Ashes

As we enter into the season of Lent this month with the observance of Ash Wednesday, we will also be observing a new tradition. Actually, a very old tradition, but one that may be new to many here at Emmanuel. For nearly a thousand years, the sign of the cross has been traced on the foreheads of worshipers with ashes—the Imposition of Ashes, as it has come to be known. During the last half of the 20th century, Lutherans have also begun to make use of this ancient rite. And so, as our catechism is prone to ask: “What does this mean?” Where did this rite come from and how can it be used meaningfully in our congregations today?

The Bible contains a number of references to ashes and dust (Joshua 7:6; 1 Samuel 1:2, 15:32; Job 2:12, 16:15; Jeremiah 25:34). In fact, the Lord’s curse on Adam, “dust you are, and to dust you shall return” (Gen. 3:19) is echoed in the Imposition of Ashes. In the New Testament, Jesus declares: “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.” Thus, in the Bible, ashes carry a two-fold meaning: as a sign of human mortality and as a sign of public repentance.

Tertullian(ca.160-225) describes the use of sackcloth and ashes in the penance of an adulterer before his pastor. Originally, ashes were reserved only for public penitents—i.e., murderers, adulterers and others who had fallen away from the church but desired reconciliation. The beginning of Lent became a primary season of the church year for that to take place. By the 12th century, ashes became associated with the beginning of Lent, thus providing the first day of Lent with its name, Ash Wednesday. By the time of the Reformation, the Imposition was a mainstay of Lenten piety and practice. But Lutherans at the time of the Reformation did not choose to retain the Imposition of Ashes. A contemporary Lutheran understanding of this practice acknowledges our mortality and repentance. By receiving the ashes, the worshiper recognizes that God’s judgment against our sin is right and just. But the ashes are also made in the sign of the cross—the very instrument by which our Lord took upon himself the punishment for our sin, reminding us that we are sinners, and that Christ died for us.

The rite begins the service for Ash Wednesday, with the pastor calling the congregation to observe the holy season of Lent: Dear Brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope...

While our normal celebration of Ash Wednesday will continue with our worship service beginning at 6:30 p.m., you are encouraged, if you so desire, to gather in the chapel anytime between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m. to receive the Imposition of Ashes.

So what happens after you leave the service with those ashes on your forehead? The first thing that happens is that you go out into the world where others will see that cross on your forehead. Your silent witness has been given; you have been marked as one redeemed by Christ crucified. But the other thing that happens is that you will eventually go home and wash those dirty ashes off your face. And doesn’t that water also become a concrete, tactile reminder of the water of your baptism, where your sins were washed away forever? God’s grace abounds!

Blessings,

✠ *Pastor Marks*



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Highlights

- Souper Dinner XXIV will be held on February 5.
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be held on February 21.
- Ash Wednesday Midweek Service will be held on February 22.
- Sunday School Children sing on Ash Wednesday.

Thursday Morning Bible Class

Thursday Morning Bible Class will meet on February 2, 9, 16 and 23 in Memorial Hall. We will continue our study on the Book of Deuteronomy.

Sunday School

2/5—Healing the Paralytic
2/12—The Giving of the Law
2/19—The Transfiguration
2/22 (Ash Wednesday)—Children Sing in Church
2/26—The Temptation

Snack Schedule

2/5—Fischer
2/12—Michaels
2/19—Dolezal
2/26—Neumann

Sunday Bible Class

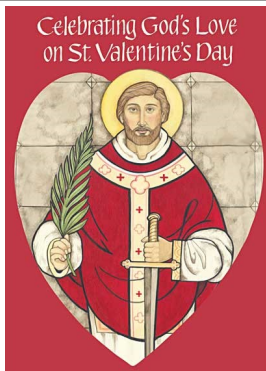
Sunday Bible Class meets after the Divine Service in Memorial Hall. We will be studying the basics of Lutheran theology through a course called "Lutheranism 101."

Worship Attendance

Week of 12/2590
Week of 1/166
Week of 1/898
Week of 1/1592
Week of 1/2281

Who Was St. Valentine?

We're probably all aware that Valentine's Day is a celebration that bears the name of St. Valentine. But who was this St. we celebrate in the middle of February with chocolate and flowers? Actually, there are three men all named Valentine whose martyrdoms all occurred on the same day in different years. First, a priest and physician in Rome was beaten with clubs and beheaded in 270 A.D. under the persecution of Emperor Claudius II. Second, the Bishop of Terni was scourged and beheaded at the order of Prefect Placidus, also during the persecution of Emperor Claudius II. A third suffered martyrdom in Africa with several companions. Pope Gelasius in 469 A.D. officially marked the day as the celebration of their martyrdom.



Legends arose that St. Valentine secretly married couples so husbands wouldn't have to go to war. Another variation of the legend of St. Valentine says he refused to sacrifice to pagan gods, was imprisoned and while imprisoned he healed the jailer's blind daughter. On the day of his execution, he left the girl a note signed, "Your Valentine." So few concrete details are known about the men that the Catholic Church removed the day from the Sanctoral Calendar in 1969.

Regardless of the origins of the day, it is always appropriate to consider the love that our Lord Jesus Christ has for us. Love generated by the flesh is selfish, egotistical, unforgiving, insincere, and fades as quickly as the sunset of February 14th giving way to the 15th. Today's society makes a mockery of marriage, but St. Paul shows us in Ephesians 4 that the true picture of the love of husband and wife is not physical attraction (which can wax and wane over the years) but the mystery of the unconditional love Christ has for His bride the Church. A love existing beyond emotion, that is honored and matures to last a lifetime.

Emmanuel Receives Rev. Edwin S. Suelflow Mission & Mercy Micro-Grant

In October of 2022, Emmanuel applied for and received a grant from the South Wisconsin District of the LCMS in the amount of \$1,200. This grant was for the increase of community exposure for our Advent and Christmas activities during the 2022 season. Funds were used to purchase materials for Advent dinner activities, signage advertising the Advent and Christmas events and services, and for mailings to increase awareness of Emmanuel's worship opportunities throughout the season. The grant is named for the Rev. Dr. Edwin S. Suelflow, Emmanuel's pastor from 1949-1956 and South Wisconsin District president from 1988-1994. We are extremely grateful to the district for this grant which has been a blessing to our ministry.

Ash Wednesday is
February 22, 2023

Mission of the Month—February

Our Mission this Month is *Sheboygan Lutheran High School*. For over 40 years, Sheboygan Lutheran High School has been dedicated to its mission of Preparing Christian Leaders—One Student at a Time. It is a school that specializes in faith-based education, values Christian leadership principles, and provides a transformational and well-rounded education taught by a caring and talented staff in a family atmosphere.

A representative from Sheboygan Lutheran High will be at Emmanuel on February 5.

We support this mission through our gifts on the mission line of our February envelopes.



Souper Dinner XXIV is February 5, 2023

News, Notes & Numbers

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
Join us. . . .

Tuesday, February 21
5:30-7:00 PM

Pancakes, Sausage, Juice & Coffee
and more served by the Bd of Ed and Youth
Free Will Offering will support
Confirmation Camp—Summer 2023

♦ **Isla Dorothy Friede**, daughter of Joseph & Kara Friede, was baptized on January 7, 2023. We welcome Isla to our Emmanuel family.

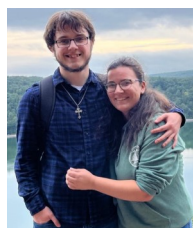
♦ The **Ladies' Aid Christmas Party** was held on January 7 and attended by 34 people. Good food was served and fun games were played.



♦ **Pastor Marks** can be reached at the church office or at (920) 400-0425 and is available for any pastoral needs that you might have. Feel free to reach out to him to schedule a visit or just stop by when the porch light is on. Also, let Pastor know if you are in the hospital, having surgery or a procedure, or simply desire prayer for any reason. He can also be reached by email at pastor@emmanueladell.org.

♦ **December Mission, Lutheran Hour Ministries**, raised \$600. We thank you for your gifts that supported this mission.

♦ Concordia—Wisconsin students **Andrew Harrill & Lorraine Cook**, who have become active participants in Emmanuel's ministry, became engaged on Sunday, January 22, 2023. They intend to enter into the holy estate of matrimony on August 12, 2023. We wish them God's richest blessings on their future together and their continuing time with us at Emmanuel.



♦ The **freewill offerings for the last three Advent Meals** totaled \$225. These funds will be used to support our Youth programs.

♦ The calendar and Rental Application forms for **Renting Memorial Hall** are now in the Church Office to aid in keeping track of the requests. Please see Pastor if you would like to rent the hall.

♦ **Inclement Weather Information**. For weather-related closings, turn to television station WTMJ 4, Fox 6 Storm Center or WISN-12 for information about cancellations at Emmanuel. If you have internet access, you can find the closings on these channels' websites, or download their app for notifications.

♦ A **Game Night** is being planned for Friday evening, February 24th. Board games and other activities for all ages will be available during this informal gathering. Come when you can and stay as long as you like. The event will begin at 6:00 p.m.