

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.



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

“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

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Phone: 920-994-9005

Adell, WI 53001

326 Center Ave.

Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church

PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE



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October 2021

# Emmanuel News

“The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.” Isaiah 40:8

## Relationships Count

As we think about all the things that are happening in our society today it’s only natural to ask ourselves the question, “How have we gotten to where we are?” The general acceptance of that which is clearly unbiblical would have seemed unfathomable just a generation or two ago. St. Paul’s words to the Corinthians seem appropriate for our world today. “All things are lawful, but not all things are helpful. All things are lawful, but not all things build up” (I Corinthians 10:23). Of course Paul was specifically speaking about particular Old Testament laws which were no longer required to be followed, but in society today it seems as though all things are becoming lawful, and yet many things which are lawful today certainly are not helpful and do not build up the body of Christ.

As much as our world’s lack of adherence to God’s Word is a result of the fact that so many have taken up the task of deconstructing the Bible, rendering it impotent by questioning its authority and outright denying its truth, we suffer just as greatly from the fact that people simply are not hearing the Word of God as they used to. For those who grew up in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, and even for me toward the end of it, families still valued the teaching of God’s Word and brought their children to church to hear it. Not that we can track which commandments are broken more often than others, but I would venture to guess that “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy” would be near the top of the list. Luther writes in his meaning to the commandment, “We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.”

It should be our joy to gather together around Word and Sacrament and yet fewer and fewer are doing so on a regular basis. We lament the fact that our younger generations are absent from our assembly. Some have even dedicated themselves as a church to attract them by making church what they think the younger generation wants. Too often this approach simply creates a situation where what is being offered is what we think people want, as opposed to what we all need. A study published last year by Concordia Publishing House attempts to get to the heart of the matter by actually speaking to those in these younger generations directly. The 2017 LCMS Millennial Survey is an effort to hear from those who have both stayed in and also those who have left the church to gain a greater understanding of the reasons for each as well as how our church body (and others) can continue to engage those who we see less and less.

The title of the printed work gives a preview of the findings which many of us could have probably guessed. Relationships Count is a nearly 400-page document which I believe will assist us all in engaging those who have left, or never been connected to, the church. I look forward to sharing more with you about this important work and how it may benefit the kingdom of God here on earth through Emmanuel. Look for more information to come on our plan to focus on God’s design for our earthly relationships during our Sunday morning Bible classes in the month of December. We all know that relationships count and most important of those relationships is ours with the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ. May we each be convinced of our unique role in allowing the Holy Spirit to work in us as we do the Lord’s work of bringing the truth of God’s Word to our world and reaching the lost for Christ.

Blessings,

✝ Pastor Marks

## RELATIONSHIPS COUNT



### Inside this issue

Pastor’s Article .....	1
The Unchanged and Unchanging Truth .....	2
Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide. Solus Christus .....	2
Calendar .....	Insert
Schedules & Celebrations.....	Insert
Bible Challenge Bookmark.....	Insert
Mission of the Month.....	3
News, Notes & Numbers.....	3

### Highlights

- Family Event on October 30 from 5-7 p.m.
- German Meal on October 31 at 11:30 a.m.

## Thursday Morning Bible Class

Thursday Morning Bible Class will meet on October 7, 14, 21 and 28 at 9 a.m. in Memorial Hall. We will continue our study of the Gospel of Matthew.

## Sunday School

10/3—Lazarus Raised from the Dead

10/10—Palm Sunday

10/17—The Parable of the Ten Virgins

10/24—Reformation Lesson #1

10/31—Reformation Lesson #2

## Snack Schedule

10/3—Dolezal

10/10—Neumann

10/17—Marks

10/24—Schultz

10/31—Payne

## Sunday Bible Class

Sunday Bible Class meets on Sundays after the Divine Service in Memorial Hall. We are studying the Book of Proverbs.

## Worship Attendance

Week of 8/29 ..... 109  
Week of 9/5 ..... 65  
Week of 9/12 ..... 86  
Week of 9/19 ..... 103

## The Unchanged and Unchanging Truth

The Reformation was not about anything new, but about returning to the unchanged and unchanging truth. So, it is still today. Just a few years ago, in 2017, we celebrated the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. That celebration, along with this year's 504<sup>th</sup> anniversary, are not times for novelty. It is always time to return, to the truth, to the basics, to the foundation.

Do you remember the Small Catechism? Many of us were made to memorize the catechism (or at least part of it) during our Confirmation classes. Some of us might have even enjoyed a public examination covering its contents. We do the same today with our confirmation students because of the importance of Martin Luther's work to teach both pastors and the laity.

How much of that catechism memorization do you remember? Say it with me: "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him..." Can you finish? Do you remember where that is found? (It's in Luther's explanation of the Third Article of the Apostles' Creed.)

It's time to return. Luther wrote the Small Catechism for the instruction of laypeople. Luther intended the Small Catechism to be used at church and in the home to instruct children in the faith and to reinforce the faith in the hearts and minds of adults. And it's always a good time to review the catechism. Read it for yourself. Refresh the theology in your mind. Pray the catechism daily. Memorize it.

But even more, teach it. If you are a parent, teach it to your children. As you have opportunity, share it with your friends and peers. The catechism teaches the fundamentals of the Christian faith: the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, the Sacrament of Baptism, the Sacrament of the Altar and the Office of the Keys and Confession. This small book is well worth your time and study.

It's time to return. But not just a return to the catechism. Even more so, a return to God's Word. Martin Luther valued Scripture, as do we, as the highest authority. We believe and teach from the catechism because it is an accurate exposition of God's Word. The Scriptures are ultimately what guide us. And so, we celebrate this anniversary of the Reformation because it was focused on a return to God's Word. May this year's celebration of the anniversary of the Reformation be a time when we also return to the Word and Sacraments, when we turn to Christ and His love.

## Sola Scriptura, Sola Gratia, Sola Fide. Solus Christus.

Latin. Ironic, isn't it? A movement that resulted in the liturgy and the Bible in our language (not Latin) is remembered by Latin phrases. By Scripture alone, by grace alone, by faith alone. Through Christ alone. Alone. Without your help. Without human tradition. Without anyone's assistance. God acts alone through Jesus. Scripture. Given by God. Through which we receive Christ. Grace. Given by God. Through which we receive Christ. Faith. Given by God.



## Mission of the Month—October

Imagine trying to understand Scripture in all its richness without the benefit of Luther's *Small Catechism*, or trying to teach young children basic Bible stories without Sunday School materials. For Lutheran churches around the world, these situations are reality. They don't have the basic books so vital to understanding the Lutheran faith, because no one has translated them into their languages. Through the mission gifts of people like you, *Lutheran Heritage Foundation* translates, publishes, distributes and introduces books that are Bible-based, Christ-centered and Reformation-driven.

LHF has published the catechism in more than 80 languages with dozens more requested. Thousands of people have come to faith in Christ because they've been able to read books like *The Good News About Jesus* or Luther's *Small Catechism* in their own languages. In the past decade, LHF has published and distributed nearly 3 million Lutheran books to pastors, seminary students, missionaries and churches—all at no cost to them.



LUTHERAN  
HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION

Help guide unbelievers to Jesus Christ. Any gift on the mission line of your weekly envelope in October goes toward this important mission.

# Reformation Service and German Meal on October 31, 2021

## News, Notes & Numbers

◆ **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 office light is on.

◆ **August Mission, Luther Memorial Chapel & Student Center in Shorewood**, raised \$710. We thank you for your gifts that supported this mission.

◆ Watch for **Pastor's Monday Minute** in your email each Monday to receive the link to the Sunday service on YouTube. If you're not receiving this message or the Friday email with the bulletin and announcements, please send your email address to [secretary@emmanueladell.org](mailto:secretary@emmanueladell.org).

◆ Are you interested in **electronically depositing** your weekly contribution instead of writing a check? If interested, please email the church secretary at [secretary@emmanueladell.org](mailto:secretary@emmanueladell.org).

◆ **Every Member Visitation.** Pastor Marks will continue his visitation of all members throughout the fall. If you have a preferred time or place for your visit, please reach out to pastor to schedule your time together.

◆ **The congregation continues to be blessed** by our daily Bible reading schedule. Join us for the 31 days of October reading the second half of Ezekiel (chapters 25 thru 48) for our chapter-a-day challenge (use the inserted Bible Challenge bookmark to help you keep track).

◆ **Family Event**—Families come in all shapes and sizes. With kids or without, single or married, we invite you to join your Emmanuel Family for an exciting event on **October 30** from 5-7 p.m. (after the Adell Village Trick or Treating). Watch for more information on this event as it is planned.

◆ The sign-up sheet for the **Fall Clean Up** is in the narthex. Please consider helping with a project or two.

◆ The sign-up sheet for the **German Meal** is in the narthex. Please consider bringing a side dish to pass.

### Received from Aaron Schultz

*Dear Emmanuel Lutheran Church,*

*My name is Aaron Schultz from Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne. I am writing to you to thank you for your financial support while I study for the Holy ministry. It is amazing to me how God's people will rise up and support one another in time, prayer, and financially. Know that I will keep thinking of you in my prayers as I pursue this task. Thank you for everything you do here in Fort Wayne and in Wisconsin!*

*"Joy  
MEANS YOU  
ARE SITTING IN  
THE PAIN, YOU  
CAN TAKE A  
DEEP BREATH  
AND SMILE  
BECAUSE GOD  
GAVE YOU ONE  
MORE BREATH  
TO LIVE."*

*~DAWN BARTON,  
AUTHOR*