

Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church

Sunday Divine Service is at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Class begin at 10:30 a.m.

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

Thursday Morning Bible Class is at 9:15 a.m. in Memorial Hall.

News, Notes & Numbers

◆ Our **February Mission** was for Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and Seminarians Grant Sorenson and Joshua Benish. \$670 was received for this mission. *Thank you for your support.*

◆ **Stay Connected** with your fellow members. Spread love, joy and concern by calling a fellow member today.

◆ **Offerings.** Please consider that ministry must continue here at Emmanuel, as well as in our Synod. **We need your regular offerings to continue that ministry here in our congregation and beyond.** Please mail your monthly or weekly contributions to **Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 326 Center Ave., Adell, WI 53001**, using the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided for your convenience.

◆ **Contact Information.** Recently, we asked for your contact information and preferred method of contact. In order to get information to our members quickly and efficiently during this trying time, we had to ignore your preferred method of contact. In the future these preferences will be honored. If you have not given us your email address, please send an email to secretary@emmanueladell.org with that information. We want to keep you informed and up to date with what is happening at Emmanuel Lutheran. Please note that this contact information will never be shared.

◆ **Facebook.** Facebook is another opportunity to get up-to-date information with what is happening at Emmanuel Lutheran. Like us at “Emmanuel Lutheran Church-Mo Synod.”

May we rejoice this Easter of the life that God won for us in Christ!

“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)



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326 Center Ave.
Adell, WI 53001

Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church

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April 2020

Emmanuel News

EASTER... STILL??

Easter is not a day, but a season. It is a period of fifty days in the life of the Christian and the church year. The Easter season begins on Easter Sunday, continues throughout the Sundays of Easter, reaches a high point on the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord—the fortieth day—and closes with the Feast of Pentecost when the power of the Holy Spirit gave boldness to the preaching of the crucified and risen Christ.

If Easter is just a day we celebrate, and we move on... then as St. Paul said... we are to be pitied above all people. The good news of Easter... the resurrection of Jesus... is for each day of our lives. But we should especially focus on Jesus physically rising from the dead during these great 50 days as we sing and celebrate with our liturgy, hymns, and alleluias, giving great glory and praise to Jesus for his victory over sin, death, and the devil.

So, you might ask, what’s the big deal about Easter? In Scripture we are told that not only was the death and resurrection of Christ prophesied in the Old Testament, but that the Words of Jesus and his prophecies came true! If Christ is not raised from the grave, our faith is in vain and we are still in our sins (*1 Corinthians 15*). There is no reason for our church to exist if Christ is not raised. If the body of Jesus is still in the grave, or somewhere else, rotten and decayed, all is in vain and we are pathetic people. The point is not to argue about whether Christ rose or not, though we might do that, but our concern ultimately must be the truth of knowing with certainty we have forgiveness of sins, for that is God’s concern for us.

CHRIST IS RISEN. HE IS RISEN, INDEED. ALLELUIA!! Consider your life and your eternal future, as you know for certain the forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and salvation that Christ has given you in the means of grace, His Word and Sacraments.

The paschal candle (Christ candle) that is lit during the forty days of Easter symbolizes the visible presence of Christ, as he taught and showed himself to his followers, preparing them for his Ascension and the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The white paraments of the Easter season remind us of the purity and righteousness of Jesus, our Lord, who gives us wonderful gifts in Holy Baptism and clothes us in the robe of purity as we are washed in the blood of the Lamb.

Easter is not a day; *Easter is our life.* We celebrate this life each Sunday, as we receive the gifts of Christ in Word and Sacrament. He gives us His life-giving gifts that bless our daily lives and give us the certain hope of resurrection to life eternal. The Holy Spirit is the Lord and giver of life who indwells us and teaches us to know Christ and to live in His kingdom each day.

Pr Schellein



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Highlights

- The Sunday School children will join the Adult Choir singing on Easter Sunday.
- Note times of services during Holy Week.
- Support our Easter Breakfast!
- Sarah Mitchell, Logan Michaels, Allyson Neumann and Miranda Mumme will be confirmed on April 19.
- Quarterly Congregational Meeting on April 26.
- **ALL DIVINE SERVICES, EVENTS AND MEETINGS ARE CANCELED UNTIL THE GOVERNOR’S “SAFER AT HOME” ORDER IS LIFTED.**

Thursday Morning Bible Class

Thursday Morning Bible Class will meet on Thursday, April 2, 16, 23 and 30. The class begins at 9:15 a.m. and is led by Pastor Chris Gillespie. Come join us as we study God's Word and support each other.

Sunday School

4/5—The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace
4/12—No Sunday School
4/19—Daniel in the Lion's Den
4/26—Esther

Snack Schedule

4/5—Mumme
4/12—No Sunday School
4/19—Payne
4/26—Fischer

Worship Attendance

Week of 2/16..... 66
Week of 2/23..... 115
Week of 3/1..... 100
Week of 3/8..... 100

Trying Times Message

"The Lord is my strength and my song." We flee to God's Holy Word and Sacrament for all our needs for this body and life. We rest in our Holy Baptism, the forgiveness that is ours because of Christ and the covenant God has made with us there. We always have His Holy Word near to remind us of God's promises and the good news of Jesus' forgiveness for us. Holy Communion forgives our sins and strengthens our faith. These three do what they are intended to do for the family of God. All can work together and separately.

I have to give the Elders a lot of credit when it comes to their concern and ideas to be able to get the Gospel message to the members of Emmanuel during these trying times. We should use all the technologies that God has gifted to us to feed God's people. I will work with the Elders to see that this important work is done. Even if physical contact is forbidden or difficult. An audio file with the sermon and prayers for March 22 was emailed to members whose email addresses we have. Future sermons and prayers will be recorded on YouTube and the link will be shared with you.

God bless us all as we remain united under the shadow of the cross and the assurances that it offers.

+ Pastor Scheblein

Holy Week Schedule

- ◆ Thursday, April 9—Maundy Thursday — **The Feast**
- ◆ Friday, April 10—Good Friday — **Dead End??**
- ◆ Sunday, April 12—Easter Sunday — **The Glory of Easter**
- ◆ Easter Breakfast served by the Youth following the service

An email with instructions on how to access Pastor Scheblein's prayer service for each of the above services will be sent to the members. If we don't have your email address, please contact us at secretary@emmanueladell.org with that information.

Easter Traditions, written by Pastor Seifferlein, Easter 2019 (part 2 of 2)

Why a crucifix on Easter? While it might seem strange to process in with the crucifix on Easter, the crucifix is actually the emblem of the greatest victory. Christ, by means of His death, has trampled on death, destroyed it, and brought life and immortality to light. Through the cross we have life, forgiveness, and resurrection. While we bear crosses in our life, the cross on Easter is a reminder that soon life never-ending will be ours. By bringing in the cross on Easter, we live out what Paul said in Galatians 6:14, *"God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

Where does the name "Easter" come from? German and English speakers call the day of Christ's resurrection "Easter." Christians in other countries refer to Easter by some form of the name for Passover. While the origin of the name of Easter is disputed, some believe that it comes from the German word for resurrection or the German word "east." The women went to the tomb when the sun had risen. As we gather in our churches during the early morning light, the sun rising in the east proclaims the light of Christ which rose from the dead on Easter.

Where does the phrase "He is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!" come from? The angels proclaimed **this** greeting to the women who arrived at Jesus' tomb (Matthew 28:6). The women were then sent by the angels to speak these very words to the disciples (Luke 24:9). The disciples also began to speak these words to one another (Luke 24:34). The followers of Jesus continue to speak the Easter greeting even to this day. The greeting is more than a report. It is a proclamation of the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation to all who are condemned by sin and death. In this way we participate in that first announcement of Easter. We proclaim to one another that death has been swallowed up by the death of Jesus, and we shall live forever because Jesus is risen.

Mission of the Month—April

The Mission of the Month is for *the Preus Family in the Dominican Republic*. Their family of 10 has now lived for four years as missionaries in this country. David preaches, conducts services, visits congregational members, makes evangelism calls, and teaches classes at the seminary which has been open for two years.

In addition to work and study, the family enjoys outings around town for shopping and visiting cultural sites, enjoys the local cuisine, and is blessed to be surrounded by good people. David writes, *"God has given us a tremendous opportunity to feed the people of Palmar Arriba with his everlasting Word, the food that endures forever (John 6:27). While, it is true that we have more to do than is possible, we commend all things to God for whom nothing is impossible (Matthew 19:26)."* We support the Preus Family in the Dominican Republic through our gifts on the mission line of our April envelopes.



"The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." 1 John 1:7

Questions & Answers about Pastor Calls

Q1) Why do pastors get calls to other congregations?

A) Pastors get calls because churches have vacancies. The Holy Spirit works in the Church at large to fill these vacancies. Church members are given the opportunity to submit names. Other names are obtained from the district office. Getting a call, then, is often unexpected. Sometimes everything is quiet. A pastor doesn't get a call for years. Then suddenly he has three at once. It is the Holy Spirit at work here and not necessarily that a pastor wishes to leave.

Q2) How is the Holy Spirit working if a pastor gets a call and he returns it? This seems rather pointless.

A) A call causes the pastor and his congregation to take a step back and evaluate the present situation. This is good. It wakes everyone up a bit. They also learn to appreciate each other. When a pastor returns the call and stays, it is saying that the Holy Spirit has led the pastor to stay and continue his work there. It is saying that the pastor's gifts are best suited to be used where he is presently called. In many cases this invigorates both pastor and congregation.

Q3) How is the Holy Spirit working if a pastor accepts the new call? This doesn't seem positive at all.

A) No doubt there is a sense of loss in this case both for the pastor and his congregation. Understand again, though, it is the work of the Spirit to lead a pastor where he should be. It is not the thinking: "He must think their church is better than ours." The pastor has been led to another church because his gifts are needed there, and for the church which becomes vacant, unrecognized needs can be identified and addressed which was previously not possible.

Q4) What if the pastor leaves? Won't we be without a pastor?

A) A pastor's departure is not immediate. There will be a period of transition and a final service date. In the meantime, the process of calling another pastor will begin. Plans are made to obtain a vacancy pastor who will serve until a new pastor is found. Churches also go through a period of self-study to help identify the needs there. Churches are never left without pastoral care. In time the Holy Spirit will lead a new pastor there – someone eager and equipped to continue the work already begun.

Learning from our History

September 11, 1946: Resolved to hold one German service per month, with an evening English service.

February 20, 1947: Resolved to raise Pastor's salary to \$2,000 per year.

June 24, 1947: Unanimous vote asking Pastor Laabs to decline call to St. John, Plymouth.

August 28, 1947: Resolved to pay the teacher a salary of \$150 per month.

January 8, 1948: Majority vote asking Pr. Laabs to remain at Emmanuel; ballot vote on question of keeping school open: 21 yes; 23 no.

January 13, 1948: District Superintendent of School, Mr. Schumacher, was present to discuss future of school. A vote was taken to reconsider vote of January 8, 1948: 38 yes; 18 no. Vote to continue school: 35 yes; 21 no. Resolved to increase Pastor's salary to \$200 per month.

February 15, 1948: Resolved to lower the pulpit and make other changes in the chancel.