

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 Church.

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

News, Notes & Numbers—Continued

- ◆ **Thrivent Choice Dollars.** 2020 is already half over. Now is a good time to check your Choice Dollar account and distribute them to a designated fund at Emmanuel or your favorite charity. Call Thrivent (800-847-4836) or go online at Thrivent.com to direct your Choice Dollars.
- ◆ **Operation Backpack for the School Year 2020-2021** serves and gives back to our community by helping families in need. You can help by donating school supplies and backpacks (see bulletin board for complete list of needed items). Bring them to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1614 S. 23rd St., Sheboygan WI or contact Rev David Blas 630-229-2455/920-452-8759 or Tim Glocke 920-565-2912. The backpacks will be distributed on Saturday, August 8, 2020 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, with curbside pickup.
- ◆ **Thank you Arlo Neumann** for strengthening and painting the back porch by the chapel. It feels and looks great.
- ◆ **The Memorial Hall doors** are now accessible with your church key. Please make sure the door is locked when leaving.
- ◆ **If you have a church flower container** at home, please return it to church. Thank you.

May God bless our August!

“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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Adell, WI 53001

Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church

PLEASE
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August 2020



Emmanuel News

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Thursday Morning Bible Class

Thursday Morning Bible Class will not be held in August.

Sunday School

NO Sunday School will be held in August.

Sunday Bible Class

NO Sunday Bible Class will be held in August.

Worship Attendance

Week of June 28	**
Week of July 5	52
Week of July 12	43
Week of July 19	47

Chairman’s Message

We have all seen this before on legal documents and on investment prospectuses. But this is how I am feeling about our current pastoral vacancy—left alone with a feeling of abandonment. The front page is blank without a pastor here to write it and guide use through our troubled lives and times, sharing with us the good news of Jesus Christ.

When I look across the pews, which are marked off for safe social distancing, I wonder why? what for? the pews are mostly empty. Why is there no one here? Is it the fear of Covid-19? Maybe, maybe not, Saturdays at Fleet Farm looks like “Christmas in July.”

Is this pandemic a test from God to see how faithful we really are? Just a few voices singing the praises to God in heaven muffled by the masks we must wear to protect ourselves. Yes, I believe it is a test of our faith and the resiliency of our congregation.

Through this call process I did learn that the blank page of our lives can be thrown out, just as a useless piece of paper. I learned from the call committee their unending faith and dedication to fill our vacancy with a man that will throw out that blank page and restore the joy of the Divine Service with the Holy Supper and communing the saints, us. Someone to teach the little children, and like me, a much older child of Christ.

Pastor Mark Birkholz, his wife Amberly and children Zachary and Elizabeth visited Emmanuel on Friday, July 17. I could tell they loved the parsonage as I explained the ongoing improvements. We toured the church, chapel, Sunday School rooms, dungeon, the youth room (which the children especially enjoyed) and, of course, no tour is complete without a visit to Mrs. Miske’s kitchen in the catacombs of our church. They were impressed on how well our facilities are maintained and decorated.

Pastor Birkholz is praying for both us and his current congregation, Faith, as he reflects on our call and asks us to be patient as he deliberates. Pray for him, Emmanuel and Faith as he prays for God’s guidance.

Pastor Birkholz met with the Elders and had some very pointed questions on how our congregation operates. How do we worship, weekday matins, holiday services and do we have family devotions? Do we have an evangelism program? Do we train for evangelism? How do we connect with the community and how do we reach out to them with mercy work? What about our inactive members and reaching out to them? How is our Christian education handled with Sunday School, VBS, confirmation and Bible classes? How many members need pastoral care in nursing homes? Do we perform home visits with blessings and do we hold office hours for “counseling?” What are our missions?

All those questions really made me think and evaluate how we can better perform as a congregation and in our community. How do those questions relate to you?

Andy Schmitt
Chairman of the Congregation

Mission of the Month—August

As college students prepare to begin their classes, we turn our attention to **Luther Memorial Chapel and University Student Center in Shorewood**, our Mission of the Month for August, serving students at UW-Milwaukee, Marquette University, MSOE and Concordia University in Mequon with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Student Ministry at Luther Memorial provides opportunities for worship, study, service, and social activities for the students at church and on campus. *International Student Ministry* carries out the work of friendship and hospitality and tutoring to international students.

Your designated mission gifts in your August weekly envelopes will go to support this important work among our Lutheran students in Milwaukee. Lord knows, on campus, they need the strength of His Word!



Luther Memorial Chapel & University Student Center in Shorewood

The word august means “great, magnificent.” May this month be a very august August in Christ Jesus!

News, Notes & Numbers

◆ \$675 was received for the **June Mission, Lutherans In Africa**. We thank you for your gifts that supported this mission.

◆ **Lutherans for Life** was humbled and heartened to have received our recent \$230 offering. “We covet your prayers and welcome your observations.”

◆ **The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod** on behalf of Rev. David & Jennifer Preus has thanked us for lifting up the bright light of Jesus for others to see and for our gift of \$50.

◆ **Bethesda** has thanked us for our recent gift of \$230 received on June 22, 2020. “Because of [y]our generosity, the people we serve with intellectual and developmental disabilities can flourish. That’s what this is all about—providing opportunities for people we serve to live their lives to the fullest.”

◆ **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.”

◆ **Website**. Our website has been renovated and updated and includes our weekly bulletins and monthly Newsletter. Check it out at: emmanueladell.org

◆ **The congregation continues to be blessed** by our daily Bible reading schedule. Join us for the 31 days of August reading Ephesians and Colossians for our chapter-a-day challenge (use the inserted Bible Challenge bookmark to help you keep track). After reading this month’s challenge, we will have read the entire New Testament.

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Learning from our History

On January 16, 1955, it was Resolved to expand the duties of Miss Zapf to include assistant organist and choir director.

On January 22, 1956, it was Resolved to introduce a weekly envelope system with each communicant member to receive a set; Resolved to call a permanent teacher for Emmanuel’s school, with a salary set at \$3,150 annually.

On May 23, 1956, it was reported that no permanent teacher candidates are available, but a student teacher in the person of Mr. Schnake has been assigned to Emmanuel for the nine-month school term.

On July 17, 1956, a Special meeting was held to consider the call received by Pastor Suelflow to St. Peter’s Lutheran Church in East St. Louis, IL; by rising unanimous vote, the Pastor was asked to decline the call.

On August 5, 1956, a Special meeting was held to consider the call received by Pastor Suelflow to Redeemer Lutheran Church in Racine, WI; a ballot vote unanimously asked Pastor to decline the call.