

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—Continued

please provide us with your email address. 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.

- ◆ **Website.** Our website has been renovated and updated. Check it out at: emmanueladell.org
- ◆ **Personal Information Form** is included with this Newsletter. This information is needed to update our data base. A completely updated data base will be very useful to our new pastor. Please complete the form with the requested information and either email it to secretary@emmanueladell.org or return it in the self-addressed, stamped envelope also included with this issue.
- ◆ **The congregation continues to be blessed** by our daily Bible reading schedule. Join us for the 31 days of May as we complete **Revelation** for our chapter-a-day challenge (use the inserted Bible Challenge bookmark to help you keep track).

*May God continue to reform our church to His Word.
God bless your May!*

“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)



Phone: 920-994-9005
E-mail: pastor@emmanueladell.org

326 Center Ave.
Adell, WI 53001

Emmanuel Ev. Lutheran Church

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326 Center Ave., Adell, WI 53001
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May 2020

Emmanuel News

PEACE BE WITH YOU...

We as members of Emmanuel have an opportunity to do something epic. God is giving us a chance to “step back.” Many people think of it as a “lock down.” Others think of it as “oppression” by the government. Such thoughts are so “worldly” and wrong. These kinds of depressing and dark thoughts blind us from seeing an opportunity given to us by our Heavenly Father.

We cannot let these outside forces and depressing thoughts stop us from hearing God’s precious and Holy Word. This Word that God gives us offers *Hope and Light* during these dark times. Think about it... All these years we have been so focused on our phones and computer screens, spending more time looking down instead of looking up that we don’t see the gifts God has set before us. No wonder when tests and trials come our way we immediately think of doom and gloom. If we could only look up to God and realize that nothing can stop us from hearing God’s Word and seeing the Light of Christ.

The present circumstances have caused us to “step back.” Not so we can feel depressed and trapped, but to take stock of *who we are* and *where we are at* in our lives. These times push us into action. The challenge is set before us to get God’s Word out not just to members of Emmanuel Lutheran here in Adell. We have been confronted with a choice... Should God’s Word be caged and locked down... Or do we go world-wide? The Elders of Emmanuel have often wished they could offer Divine Services to those who could not make it to church. They were now given an opportunity to act. As we approached Holy Week and Easter, we knew we had to push the limits of what was possible for our little church.

We found that this Easter was going to be like no other. This Holy Season was a little different from the yearly traditions that we were used to doing. We along with other churches found a way to gather around God’s good news of Jesus rising bodily from the dead. Alleluia!... We did it by using God’s gift of technology. The technology of the Internet, YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter, just to name a few, can be used for more than just “trivial pursuits,” silly cat videos and pornography! These times forced congregations to rethink how they can still hold services and connect with their members.

We used simple means to create these Divine Services and bring them to you, an old iPhone, some free video editing software, a spare bedroom and a willingness to deliver that precious Easter Gospel. Some larger churches were already set up with their thousand-dollar video equipment in their church, so they easily just continued to do their weekly thing. During this process, we have learned that the church is more than just a building... It is God’s people gathered around the Word of God, even if it is remotely.

We started with an audio (voice) service, *The Fourth Sunday in Lent*. We then went to our first video offering on YouTube with *The Fifth Sunday in Lent*.

You can find the videos by searching YouTube for: **Emmanuel LCMS Adell**. Then you can click on the desired service. *You do not need to subscribe to YouTube to see the video* (unless you would like to leave a comment or a thumb’s up).



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Highlights

- Sunday School children sing on May 17.
- Sunday School’s Last Day Celebration TO BE DETERMINED.
- Quarterly Congregational Meeting TO BE DETERMINED.
- **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, May 7, 14, 21 and 28. 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

5/3—Job
5/10—Return from Captivity/Rebuilding the Temple
5/17—Last Day of Sunday School

Snack Schedule

5/3—Leftover snacks
5/10—Leftover snacks
5/17—Last Day Celebration

Worship Attendance

The Week of 3/15 attendance was not taken. No physical services were conducted the weeks of 3/22, 3/29, 4/5, 4/12, 4/19 and 4/26.

Pastor's Article—Continued

By the way... We have had over 100 views of our *Palm Sunday* video, which is a wonderful thing! People have viewed this video from New York, across the USA to California. And... We have made improvements along the way. We have recently started adding interior pictures of Emmanuel so people can associate with a "normal" worship. We have learned that if there is a choice between good audio and video, one should always choose the audio.

Recently we have been adding a stanza of the hymns so people can participate in their own way. Those watching are encouraged to sing along at home. We have been reminded that church is not just the building...

During all of this, *you are being encouraged to mail in your financial offerings or drop them off at the church.* We do realize that this pandemic has brought a great financial impact on people everywhere, including members of Emmanuel. Some have lost their jobs; others have decided to retire earlier than they desired. With that in mind, we realize that if you cannot continue your offerings, we are just thankful that you can continue to support the church however possible.

Not being able to commune and share Holy Communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ is heartbreaking. Some denominations have dared to hold a communion service on video as people brought bread and wine near the TV while at home. These elements were blessed over the air and then those at home shared when the word was given. This was quickly noted as a wrongful use of the Sacrament by our Synod, Seminaries, Circuits and pastors of the LCMS. You see, this kind of practice "cheapens" and ignores the idea of "communion" with God and with one another. This Holy Supper is a communal meal. Given personally by Christ through the hand of the pastor directly to you. Thank God, we have the other *TWO MEANS OF GRACE* (Baptism and the Holy Word) that sustains us until we can once more gather together.

One of the most popular sentences of the Bible is, "**Do not be afraid!**" We can either choose faith in God, and His promises to never leave us or forsake us... Or we can choose fear. True, we are missing the personal connection that comes with being together physically. With all the positive feedback received, we will continue to offer these recorded services to you until we can all come "home" once more to Emmanuel. We know and trust that God is in control. God bless our family of Emmanuel!

+ Pastor Scheblein

Liturgy Parts — LCMS Worship

The meaning of Liturgy Part: Kyrie

In this world of sin and death, Christians have plenty of opportunities to join in the brief, yet all-encompassing prayer of the Kyrie: "Lord, have mercy."

All around us we see the results of hatred, envy, lust, and greed. Surely, the world is in need of God's mercy. It's no wonder that the church, in her worship, pleads before God on behalf of the whole world. It's a prayer that no one else is going to pray.

Yet, when we cry out, "Lord, have mercy," there is confidence in our voices because we know that God is indeed merciful. He desires to bring relief to the suffering that is all around us.

Our prayer may not always bring an immediate response — at least, not the response that we are seeking — but even then, we commend ourselves and the whole world to a merciful God.

Like the confession of sins, however, our cry for mercy will be silenced in heaven. There we will see the results of God's mercy, as before the throne and in front of the Lamb will stand all the redeemed — not one of them worthy of the honor.

Mission of the Month—May

Our two Missions of the Month:

- (1) *Lutherans for Life—equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated witnesses for Life.* Lutherans For Life strives to give a Gospel-motivated witness to the Church and society regarding legalized abortion-on-demand, assisted suicide and euthanasia, and other related issues such as chastity, post abortion healing, and family living. They call God's people to compassionate action and foster life-affirming alternatives for those facing difficult situations. See its website for great information on these issues.
- (2) *Bethesda Lutheran Communities.* Bethesda provides people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with home, career, education and faith resources to live full and empowered lives.

We support these two missions through our gifts on the mission line of our May envelopes.

"The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." MATTHEW 20:26

News, Notes & Numbers

◆ \$490 was received for the **March Mission, A Place of Refuge Ministries of South Wisconsin.** We thank you for your gifts that supported this mission.

◆ **Concordia Seminary** sent a letter of thanks for our wonderful gift of \$335.00. The letter went on to say, our "donation is a special blessing to Concordia Seminary, advancing its mission of preparing faithful shepherds to go out into the world and boldly proclaim the love of Jesus Christ with the all-important message of eternal salvation through faith in Him!"

◆ **Grant Sorenson** sent a letter personally thanking us for our continued prayers and support. Because of the support he has received, he has been able to remain debt free this year while at the Seminary. Additionally, he is finishing his Seminary studies in May and will be sent out to serve a congregation. Again, he thanked us for our thoughts, prayers, encouragement and support throughout this time.

◆ **Stay Connected.** Reach out by calling a fellow member to let them know you care.

◆ **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.

◆ **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."

◆ **Contact Information.** We have been emailing members a weekly link to Pastor Scheblein's YouTube service along with the bulletin. If you would like to receive the link and bulletin,

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Learning from our History

On April 28, 1948, it was Resolved to have ushers for the church services. On August 25, 1948, it was Resolved to hold a rededication service on September 19, 1948 with the German service at 9:00 am and English service at 10:15 am, inviting Rev. Oswald, the D.P. or Rev. Beversdorf, the stewardship exec for the district; Rev. Laabs to serve as organist, and Rev. Tornow (Town Scott) to give a short address in the evening and dedicate the organ. On November 26, 1948 Rev. Laabs presented the two calls he had received. By a vote of 31 to 3 he was granted release to accept the call extended by the Lutheran Hour, effective December 15, 1948; Rev. Krueger, St. Stephen's Batavia asked to serve the vacancy; Resolved to call a Pastor between the age of 30 and 40 years. On January 17, 1949, Pastor Koepke was called to serve Emmanuel (he declined). On March 7, 1949, it was Resolved to expand age requirement of new Pastor from 25 to 47. Pastor Edwin Suelflow elected (at the time he was 24).