

Emmanuel Evangelical 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.

News, Notes & Numbers — continued

- Pastor is available for private confession and absolution and counseling the first Saturday of each month, or by appointment at other times. Consider taking advantage of these opportunities.
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."
Have you picked up your 2024 blue church envelopes? They are available in the narthex.
A Cemetery Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, January 8th at 6:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Adell. All Plot Owners are encouraged to attend.
Souper Dinner XXV will be on February 4th at 10:30 a.m. Preparation for the Souper Dinner will be on February 3rd at 9:00 a.m.



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

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.



PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE



Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS
326 Center Ave. — Adell, WI 53001
Phone: 920-994-9005 • website: emmanueladell.org

January 2024

Emmanuel News

And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

Matthew 2:9b-10

Epiphany: A Season of Light

As the season of Christmas winds down and the calendar turns from 2023 to 2024, the Church Year continues on. Having completed the season of anticipation in Advent, which begins the church year, we turn to the joy of the incarnation of Jesus Christ as a baby in Bethlehem, and now we enter into the season of Epiphany which will lead us right into Lent. If we don't stop to look around and see what God is revealing to us in this season it could very well pass us by and Ash Wednesday will be here before we know it. So, this month I wanted to give a brief overview of the season of Epiphany and give you an idea of what to expect during this season.

The season of Epiphany is one of the oldest seasons observed in the Church Year. The only one older is Easter. Epiphany begins on January 6th, and as far back as the first century, the church began celebrating the baptism and birth of Jesus. Modern Christians celebrate this date as the arrival of the Magi, or Wise Men, as they are often called.

The word "Epiphany" means "manifestation" or "appearance" in Greek. The name of the season reminds us that in these weeks we focus on Jesus' manifestation as true God and true man. We see this as we include texts like the baptism of Jesus and the Transfiguration within the season of Epiphany. Texts about Jesus' miracles are also common in this season (like His first miracle at the wedding at Cana), and they bear witness to His identity as God. Another theme in this season is light, which is often reflected in the hymns. Jesus Christ is the Light of the World and during this season we celebrate the Light that overcomes the darkness.

The color for the season of Epiphany is green. Green often depicts growth and fulfillment. Green is also used during the season of Pentecost (which is the longest season of the Church Year). The fact that the color green is used is a reminder to us that Jesus is the fulfillment of Scripture, and that the prophecies about Him, His work, and His coming are accomplished in Him.

The season of Epiphany is one of the seasons in the Church Year that can vary in length. This year, it is about as short as it can be. The ending date of the season of Epiphany is dictated by the date of Easter. With Easter this year being on March 31st, and the season of Lent being a set number of weeks leading up to Easter, this puts Ash Wednesday on February 14th. Epiphany can have as many as nine Sundays, but this year it will have only six.

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Highlights

- Youth Group gathering on January 21st at 4:30 p.m.
Annual Congregational Meeting on January 28th at 11:30 a.m.

Thursday Morning Bible Class

The class continues to meet at 9 a.m. and will meet on January 4, 11, 18 & 25 at 9:00 a.m. We will continue our discussion of end times prophecy from the Book of Revelation.

Sunday School

1/7—Isaac's Birth; Abraham Offers Isaac

1/14—Isaac's Marriage to Rebekah

1/21—Jacob Receives the Blessing

1/28—Jacob Flees from Esau; Jacob's Dream

Snack Schedule

1/7—Dolezal

1/14—Neumann

1/21—Marks

1/28—Popp

Sunday Bible Class

Sunday Bible Class meets after the Divine Service in Memorial Hall. Come and hear what the Lord has to say in His Word.

Worship Attendance

Week of 11/26.....113

Week of 12/3.....140

Week of 12/10.....146

Week of 12/17.....163

Pastor's Article—continued

Now you know a little more about the season, but what should we focus on as we walk together through this time? The Wise Men were given a star to lead them to Jesus. They followed it and did so while *"rejoicing exceedingly with great joy."* Epiphany reminds us that God also sends "stars" to lead us to Jesus. They might not be visible in the night sky, but God's Word helps us to know exactly where our Savior is to be found. He's there in His Word and He's working in His Sacraments. Come, as the Wise Men did with great joy, and the Light of the World, sent to overcome the darkness, will welcome you and bless you in this season of Epiphany.

Blessings,

✝ *Pastor Marks*

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What is "The Epiphany of Our Lord"?

The word "epiphany" (pronounced ee-PIF-uh-nee) comes from the Greek word meaning "manifestation." Jesus was made known to all people simply by being born. If we had been alive back then, we could have actually reached out and touched Jesus! He was real, and the evidence was in His birth!

Why do we celebrate Epiphany?

Epiphany is the third part of the Christmas season. During this special season in the Church Year, we remember the visit of the Wise Men. Traditionally, this visit is celebrated on Jan. 6.



Epiphany also brings to mind many other important events in Jesus' life. For example, we remember Jesus' Baptism, the star that guided the Wise Men, and most importantly, His birth! Wow! There sure is a lot happening after Christmas!



Parents: "God in flesh made manifest" is a hard statement for children to understand. Be sure to remind them that Jesus is real, alive and once walked on the earth for all to see. When Holy Communion is offered, be sure to let your children attend with you. Instruct them that this is where Christ manifests and gives His true body and blood for us.

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Mission of the Month—January

Our two Missions this Month are AbleLight Communities and Lutherans for Life:

- (1) *AbleLight Communities* provides people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with home, career, education and faith resources to live full and empowered lives.
- (2) *Lutherans for Life—equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated witnesses 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.

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



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 28, 2024 AT 11:30 A.M.

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 porch light is on. Monday-Wednesday mornings are generally good for visits, but he will always be happy to see you. Pastor also holds designated hours one Saturday morning per month for individual confession and absolution, counseling appointments, and general visitation. 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.

◆ **November Missions**, *Lutherans in Africa*, raised \$550 and the *Madagascar Mission* raised \$642. We thank you for your gifts that supported these missions.



◆ **Wielandt Kermit Joseph Popp**, son of Russell & Michelle Popp, was baptized on December 17, 2023.

◆ The **Youth Group** had a great time at their Christmas Party. Our next gathering will be on January 21st at 4:30 p.m. Invite your friends.

◆ **Welcome to our New Members.** Dave & Roxanne Taylor, Stephan & Penny Tupper and their children Christian, Anneliese, Ben and Bella and Heidi Tupper.

◆ The **Adell Christmas Parade Porch Party** was held on December 9th and was hosted by the Marks family. "Another wonderful Christmas parade. I think I counted about 35 people in our yard!"



◆ **Emmanuel's Parade Float** was designed and created by Nancy Eberhardt and Chris Born and was an excellent testimony of the Joy of Christmas to our entire community.

◆ **Thank you** to all who trimmed the Christmas tree and adorned our church and narthex so beautifully. The efforts of all the faithful volunteers who serve at Emmanuel are sincerely appreciated throughout the year. From acolytes to ushers, from greeters to altar guild/jr. altar guild, from elders/council/boards to Sunday School teachers, from counters to office volunteers and to those who cook or bake and shovel snow or cut grass, along with all the other things done that no one knows about except the person who did it. **Thank you to all for sharing your precious time and talents!**



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