

Good News

A Publication of Emanuel Lutheran Church
Volume XXXV No. 4
April 2010

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Emanuel's mission is to witness
to the good news of salvation through Christ to individuals, the community
and the world through discipleship and service.**

As this Lenten season continues, I reflect about the paradox of sacrifice and gain. The 40 days and 40 nights Jesus had to fast in the desert. During that time, suffering from weakness of strength from lack of food, Satan offered kingdoms and earthly glory. Jesus refused these temptations so that one day we could read of the dedication of love and encouragement of fellowship in his name. As Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless, not as I will, but as thou wilt," (Matthew 26:39). The Son of God with so much power, performing miracles of all kinds, yet pleading with God for another way to save all of mankind. This passage really makes me see the human aspect of Jesus. Would I ask my father for a less physically painful solution to a problem? Why, yes I would. Jesus's tenacious dedication to God even though physical pain and death would be forthcoming, shows me that Jesus knew that God loved not only his "Begotten Son", but all of mankind. I can't image the psychological and physical pain Jesus endured, while dragging his own cross through the streets of Jerusalem. What about Mary, watching her son holding and dragging the instrument which he would ultimately be

suspended on. Do you think she cried out, "Yeshua, Yeshua", when he stumbled? This time a kiss and a hug would not be the comfort either would get on this day. Did I need the Son of Man's pain to realize the happiness of everlasting salvation? It was not for me to decide. As stated in 1 Corinthians 1:25, "For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men."

I realize that I do take for granted the love bestowed upon me from God, the Son, and Holy Spirit. I have gained so much over the years through the gifts from above, yet have I sacrificed much? I can only pray for continued forgiveness and his blessings. For whatever reason, this Lenten season has made me realize that I also take for granted the blessings this Church has offered not only me, but many members. I do want to acknowledge my appreciation for the sacrifices that many members do weekly for my Christian gain or enjoyment. What about the dedication from the Soul Food Gang, who make Wednesday night meals a true experience of food and fellowship. The men and women who work the video cameras and sound board so others can hear and/or see our church service. The greeters,

ushers, and readers that help create a meaningful service. I want to acknowledge the sacrifice of the Sunday School teachers, Council members, Board members, Choirs (including those little ones whether singing or playing bells), Choir Directors, and additional musicians that add to the church experience and the message of God. I need to thank Pat for the everyday operations of the Church and Jack for keeping the Church in tip top shape. I need to acknowledge my deep respect for Pastor Jim , because he pours so

much experience and thought-provoking aspects into each sermon. Pastor Jim challenges me to address my belief. I also need to acknowledge other members who do little and large things for the church, that may never be brought to my attention. Thanks for the sacrifices.

May God so smile upon you and pour abundant blessings upon your family this season and throughout the year!

Ed Belsot

Palm Sunday Processional

The Sunday School children will be a part of the Palm Sunday Processional at both services on March 28. We will process with palms and sing *We Have a King*. Meet in the basement at 7:50 for the early service and 10:20 for the late service.

Macaroni and Cheese March Madness

Also on March 28 we are going to see how high we can stack boxes of macaroni and cheese. Bring in boxes of macaroni and cheese, and we are going to try to stack them from floor to ceiling in the basement. The boxes collected will be added to the Giving Corner food donations for the month.

*We are on the radio at WNDH 103.1 FM at 10:30 a.m.
each Sunday in April.*

Giving/Donation Corner

THANK YOU to all who donated to our last two months' collection for local food pantries. Through the month of April, we will be collecting items for Wernle Youth and Family Treatment Center in Richmond, Indiana. From Wernle's Mission Statement: "Wernle is a family focused, child centered agency providing opportunities for the growth and development of troubled children and their families – individually, interpersonally, and socially – through caring programs and healing relationships which are reflective of God's love revealed in Jesus Christ." Wernle is an affiliated social ministry agency of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, Southern Ohio Synod, Northwestern Ohio Synod, and Northeastern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Wernle provides comprehensive treatment in a residential setting to approximately 57 boys ranging in ages from six to twenty-one – the average age being 15. All of the children at Wernle have been the victim of some type of domestic violence, physical abuse, neglect, or sexual abuse. The majority of our children suffer from depression, have assaulted their peers, have an attachment disorder, have hyperactive attention deficit, display inappropriate sexual behavior, have improper boundaries, have learning problems, and are verbally aggressive to peers/adults. Many come from families that either have a history of abuse or are significantly dysfunctional. On average, Wernle is a child's thirteenth placement. Wernle children have special academic needs including special education and the need of individualized education plans with academic instruction in alternative, non-traditional school settings. The majority of our children receive a high school diploma or GED. 95% of our children avoid returning back to the court system. A Board Certified Child Psychiatrist closely monitors each child's program. And, they receive both individual and group therapy.

Wernle Needs List:

Clothing

Most of our residents wear men's sizes. Many of them are over 5'10: Men's L to XXL are the most common sizes. The school continues to require plain, solid colors (no stripes, no logos).

- 1 jeans (loose or boot cut jeans) - waist 30 to 40; inseam 32 to 36 (34 and 36 are in the highest demand)
- 2 plain sweatshirts (hooded & zip-up fleece and sweatshirts) - sizes L to XXXL (XL and XXL in highest demand)
- 3 socks - ankle socks or no show socks most popular. Black socks are also in demand - size 6½ (a few residents need the 13/15 size)
- 4 plain t-shirts and pop shirts (no pockets) - sizes L to XXL (XL & XXL are most popular)
- 5 sweat pants and jogging pants (without elastic at ankle) - sizes L to XXL (L and XL are most in demand)
- 6 belts - black and brown (plain) - sizes 34 to 44
- 7 winter gloves - men's sizes
- 8 coats - plain dark colors; sizes XL to XXXL in demand
- 9 suitcases - all sizes

In addition to the attached list of needs, we always need personal hygiene items such as **Shampoo, Bath soap, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Holders for all, Deodorant, Hair brushes, Hair gel, African-American hair products** ("Blue Magic" hair oil, "Pink" oil moisturizer)

Time & Talent Sheets

Last call for "Time & Talent" sheets! Thank you to each of you who have already returned your completed sheet. Extras are still available at each entrance to the church. Please place your completed form in the offering plate or leave with Pat at the office.

Congregational Life Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board will be at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 5. You are more than welcome to attend. The more ideas we have to benefit our "Congregational Life", the better we can serve you.

P....R....A....Y....E....R.....C....H....A....I....N

The Prayer Chain is "connected" again! If you would like to be added as a "link" or if you have a prayer request, simply call Carol Castello at 592-0847 OR e-mail her at cjcast@yahoo.com. Thanks for your caring and "prayer-ing"!

Great Food for All

In partnership with Country Chapel Christian Church, Emanuel is now serving as a "satellite site" for Great Food For All. We are at a terrific downtown location in Napoleon, and the folks from Country Chapel have graciously agreed to take care of all of the paperwork involved. Ordering will take place at Emanuel on the 3rd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and pick-up will be the following month on either the 3rd or 4th Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (the pick-up date will be given when you order). Payment must accompany orders, and cash, food stamps, and money orders are accepted.

Great Food For All is available to anyone who likes to eat. The Basic Box anchors the program and is loaded with enough food to assist in feeding a family of four for about a week or a single person for almost a month. This box, with a retail value of \$60-80 worth of food, is provided for only \$30. The menu changes each month in order to provide a variety of items, and there are specialty boxes such as Senior Meals (7 Heat & Serve meals), Kids Box, Breakfast Box, Dessert Box, and others, ranging from \$17-30. If you have any questions, please contact Kelli Burkhardt, Carol Castello, or Terri Sedam or visit the website at www.greatfoodforall.com.

SPECIAL THANKS to those who "sponsored" a food box for Easter for our "adopted families" from Christmas! We were able to purchase 8 boxes and will probably try again mid-summer to ask for "sponsors" of food boxes for the remaining 5 families.

Soul Food “Stirrings”

With our outreach now from our connection with the Great Food For All program, we are reaching further to the community with an open invitation to our weekly “Soul Food” meals. We have already welcomed those members from Country Chapel Christian who have coordinated the order-taking, and you may see even more new faces as more people learn of our site for ordering. This is a wonderful outreach for us! Let’s all remember our church sign on Scott Street and be a welcoming place for people to “Come Unto the House of the Lord.”

As always, volunteers to help are always welcomed with these weekly meals – with shopping, cooking, salads and desserts, serving and/or cleaning up! “Soul Food” is for everyone, and no sign-up is required, so come and enjoy a weekly supper that’s good for you, body and soul!

K.F.C. (Kids For Christ)

April is “Keep Ohio & Henry County Beautiful Month”, and April 22 is the 40th annual celebration of Earth Day, so...we’re going to take a few small steps in reducing our carbon footprints by taking part in the 13th Annual Henry County Litter Round-up. On Sunday afternoon, April 25, we’ll meet at the Castelllos’ (Q317 Co Rd 15) at 1 p.m. to clean a stretch of county road; gloves and bags will be provided, and everyone will need to sign a waiver form to participate. Afterwards, we’ll “recycle” our energies with snacks at Castelllos’.

Defiance County Furniture Bank serving Defiance, Henry and Paulding Counties

Several years ago, the Lutheran Social Services Western Region decided to discontinue the LSS Furniture Bank. Thus, St. Mary Catholic Community of Defiance took leadership of the newly formed Defiance County Furniture Bank. The goal is to provide basic furniture, beds, bed linens, electrical appliances, and housewares to families in need in the Defiance, Henry and Paulding County area. Eligibility is determined by the local social service agencies who then request assistance by faxing the Defiance County Furniture Banks Referral form.

This past year, the Furniture Bank has distributed over 3,800 pieces of furniture and served approximately 744 clients from the three-county area. To date, between 40-50 volunteers have contributed 3,400 hours of service and nearly 9,000 miles have been logged on the volunteer's vehicles and the delivery truck to make this ministry such a success.

Watch for additional information coming soon as to how you can help by the donation of needed items, volunteering of your time, and/or making a cash donation to the Furniture Bank.

Confirmation

April 18, 2010

The following young men are ready to affirm publicly the baptismal covenant God made with them in Jesus Christ and to take on greater responsibility with us in the mission of the church. The Rite of Confirmation will take place on Sunday, April 18 at the 10:30 service. Holy Communion will be offered as well. Please keep these young men in your prayers that they will continue to grow in faith in the Spirit as witnesses of new life in the crucified and risen Christ.

Chandler Burken

Henry Elling

Nathan Rohrs

Jacob Skeens

BIG Thank You!

Thank you to Emanuel for the Angel Throw; this has become a favorite, especially with the grandchildren, so I am “sharing.” Thanks also to Joan Collier for her Christmas wishes and delivery of the blanket.
-Janis Dachenhaus

**The Church Office will be
closed on Monday, April 5.**

Membership News

Transfer Church Council has approved the transfer of membership of Ed, Alice, and John Janick from Emanuel to Trinity Lutheran Church, Malinta.

Congratulations and God's blessings to Jamie & Allison Davis on the birth of a son, Tatum Shaheen Davis, on Sunday, February 21, 2010. Grandparents are Barb Butler and the late Timothy Davis. Great grandparents are Keith Ziegler and Maurice & Georgie Davis.

WE APPRECIATE HEARING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY NEWS (BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES, ETC.).

We would like to include your family's birthdays in our birthday prayers on Sundays, in which case we would need those names and dates.
We would also like to know the names of all those family members serving in the military.

Statistics — from 2/17 through 3/14

Total attendance	Communed	Offerings
8:00 428	130	15,829.60 *
10:30 433	106	(Lenten offerings) 2,300.50
Wed. (Lenten service) 526	Ash Wed. 151	

* includes:

1,055.00 Building Fund
42.00 World Hunger
325.00 Good Samaritan Fund
14.00 14 for Christ

WELCA News

Presidente, Rita Schweinhagen for the Board

Have you made it to the Circle meeting this year? We will be working on Session 8, “Holy Hospitality”, the month of April. So check out the calendar and find one you might like to attend.

Our Spring Assembly will be held on Saturday, April 17 at St. Martin’s Lutheran Church in Archbold. We will begin with Registration and fellowship from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. and will be finished after lunch. Registration fee is \$6.00 due by April 12. Theme Verse is “Truly I say to you, just as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me,” Matthew 25:40. Speaker will be Laura Stellhorn - Work of Lutheran World Relief in El Salvador. Registration forms are on the bulletin board next to Pat’s office. Let’s have a good turnout from Emanuel. We can carpool from the church at 8:00 a.m.

Holy Week is almost here. Think and pray hard through this week and make yourselves ready for a blessed Easter.

Dates to remember:

Spring Conference - April 17
Next Board Meeting - May 10
Next General Meeting - June 3
Next Circle Meeting - every month

If you have any comments or complaints concerning the Women of the Church, give me a call at 419-592-4606.

News from around the Synod and the Community

Red Cross Bloodmobile —

Saturday, April 3, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Harley-Davidson Sales & Service

Wednesday, April 7, 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Hamler Community @ Patrick Henry HS

Monday, April 19, 1-7 p.m. Battle of the Badges @ Napoleon Amvets

Wednesday, April 28, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Henry ARC Mini @ Chapterhouse

Lost and Found Concert

LOST AND FOUND will be in concert at Trinity Lutheran Church in Wauseon on Sunday, April 11 at 4 p.m. (Doors open at 3:30.)

LOST AND FOUND is the musical duo of Michael Bridges and George Baum. They have a unique style all their own. Their concerts are a humorous dialogue of stories and songs all about faith, life, and relationships. Lots of people have said, “You really have to see these guys in concert to ‘get it.’” Tickets are available through the Trinity church office for \$10 each or 5 tickets for \$40. Please call at 419-335-5651. More information about the band and samples of their music can be found on their website: www.speedwood.com.

The investor

Two old friends met one day after many years apart.

One man asked, “How has everything been going with you?”

“Well, I used to be as rich as Bill Gates,” replied the second man.

“Wow! How did you manage that?” asked his stunned friend.

“One day I opened the Bible at random, closed my eyes and dropped my finger on a word.

The word was ‘oil.’ So I invested in oil, and boy, did the oil wells gush! Then another day I dropped my finger on a different word in the Bible, and it was ‘gold.’ So I invested in gold, and those mines really produced!”

“Amazing! But you said you ‘used to be as rich as Bill Gates.’”

“Yeah, I lost it all. One day I closed my eyes and pointed at a page. When I opened my eyes, my finger rested on the words ‘Chapter Eleven.’”

Notes from Angela

- Angela Tonjes

Adult Choir

Thank you to the choir for all your special songs during the last few weeks. We are blessed by your music! Beginning on Wednesday, April 7, choir practices will be held at 6:30 through the month of May. We still have much music to prepare for the rest of the season.

After School Club/Rainbow Ringers

Thank you for the many songs you presented during the Lenten worship last month. You have been working hard to learn the music every Wednesday afternoon!

We are tentatively planning to present a closing program during the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, April 25. This will highlight some of the things we have been working on all year.

Our last day for After School Club will be Wednesday, April 28. Weather permitting, we will go to the park. There will be NO After School Club on Wednesday, April 7, due to Napoleon spring break.

Maundy Thursday

The worship service on April 1 (Maundy Thursday) will be held at 7:30 p.m. Plan to join us for a time of remembrance before the crucifixion of Jesus. There will be a variety of special music presented by many of our musicians.

Good Friday

The worship service on April 2 (Good Friday) will be held at 7:30 p.m. This service will include special music, a hand mime, and a theme of "We Can Only Imagine." Plan on joining us on this evening to remember the suffering and death of Jesus.

Easter

On Easter Sunday we will have worship at 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. with communion at both services. We would like you to enter the church in silence at the 7:00 service and remain quiet until the start of worship.

Confirmation

On Sunday, April 18 our eighth graders will be confirmed at the 10:30 service. Please say a prayer for them at this very special time of their lives.

Summer Worship

During the summer of 2010 we will be having ONE worship service every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Join us Memorial Day through Labor Day for this new venture!

Church bulletin Board

Please remember to check the church bulletin board in the hallway by the office for notices of special events in and around our community. We cannot possibly publicize every event that we receive info about in the mail, and there are many worthwhile things that you may want to attend. It changes on a weekly basis, so check it out!

We are on the radio at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday in April.

My final thought...

When praised for his organ playing skills, Bach said, *There is nothing very wonderful about it; you have only to hit the right notes at the right moment and the instrument does the rest.*

REMEMBER OUR MEMBERS IN NURSING HOMES AND ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES WITH PRAYERS, CARDS, VISITS.

Lutheran Home (1036 S. Perry St., Napoleon)

Marge Gathman Paul Panning

Alfred "Petey" Ruetz Ted Titgemeyer

Alpine Village Assisted Living (1032 S. Perry, Napoleon)

Ruth M. Eickhoff (#410) Minnie Meineke (#306)

Country View Haven (R858 Co Rd 15, Napoleon)

Julia Arps (mailing address: 8271 Co Rd T Liberty Center, OH 43532)

Otterbein Portage Valley (Avalon by Otterbein, 3533 Rivers Edge Dr Rm 106, Perrysburg OH 43551)

Hildegarde Reiser

Church Office Hours

8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday - Thursday

8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Friday

EMANUEL GOOD NEWS, a monthly publication of the Emanuel Lutheran Church
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Pastor - James L. Castello (419-592-0847) jameslcastello@yahoo.com

Missionaries to Hong Kong - Pastor John & Barbara LeMond

Congregation President - Ed Biederstedt

Women of the ELCA President - Rita Schweinhagen

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847 or cjcast@yahoo.com)

Worship & Music Coordinator/Organist - Angela Tonjes

Bell Choir Director - Hugh Schink

Asst. Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning

Living Spirit Director - Holly Mohring, Marv & Julie Mt.Castle

Parish Secretary - Patricia Mohring

Sunday School Superintendent - Laura Ellis-Kruse

Altar Guild Chairman - Barbara Hoffman

Custodian - Jack Robbins

Thursday night services

Thursday evening services (7:30 p.m.) will be held from April 8 through November 18. Holy Communion will be offered the 3rd Thursday of the month.

Worship participants in

Acolytes

8:00 Henry Elling & Sarah Yaney
10:30 Neil Storch & Chandler Burken
April 1 - Henry Elling & Chandler Burken
April 2 - Jacob Skeens & Nathan Rohrs

Ushers

8:00 Ed Peper, Don Mitchell,
Theo Heuer, Ruth Hershberger
10:30 Karl Wiechers, Tom Jenny,
Marv Mt.Castle, Ken Lange

Altar Guild

Peggy Snyder & Mary DeWit

Lay Assistants

8:00 Jack Robbins
10:30 Carol Castello

Altar Flowers

April 4 - Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mohring in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary
April 11 - Ben & Judy Michaelis in loving memory of Barbara Michaelis
- Mel & Marg Lanzer in celebration of their 62nd wedding anniversary
April 18 - Maurice & Georgie Davis in loving memory of Timothy Davis
- Irene Cordes in loving memory of Tom Cordes
- In celebration of the 12th birthday of Alexandria Biederstedt by her family
- the Confirmation Class
April 25 - In celebration of Ken Lange's birthday
- Alan & Shelly Storch in celebration of Neil's 14th birthday
- Ed & Tiffany Biederstedt in celebration on their 20th wedding anniversary

To reserve altar flowers...

Simply sign up on the flower chart in the narthex or call the church office. Our flowers are done by Ivy League Floral & Design Studio on West Washington Street. The cost is \$20. If you have *special* orders for your flowers (certain colors, a larger arrangement, etc.), they will be happy to serve you. Please contact Cori Ratliff at Ivy League for these special orders. If your order is beyond the \$20, please pay the shop directly.

Open Dates for 2010:

May 16

October 10

We are going to recycle the used plastic containers that the altar flowers come in. They can be put in Angela's office.