

Good News

A Publication of Emanuel Lutheran Church
Volume XXXI No. 2
February 2006

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.

I believe in being “confrontive”. There is a difference, however, in being “confrontive” and being “in your face”. Most people believe that to “confront” someone, you walk up to them and shake your finger at them and give them a piece of your mind. You scream and yell, if necessary, and tell them why they’re wrong (and why, of course, you are right). You face them to face their problem and, hence, the phrase: “to be confrontive”.

The trouble is, that is not being “confrontive”. That is being “in your face”. You can be “in someone’s face” and certainly get your point across. But that does not help them “confront” what they need to confront. Instead they become defensive and angry and more ingrained than ever in how they are.

The best way to be confrontive with anyone is not to give them a piece of your mind, but rather to reflect Jesus’s love and forgiveness. That takes a lot more understanding, patience, and compassion and care.

I encourage you to be very “confrontive” with everyone with whom you have contact. That does not mean to be “in their face”. It means to find a way into their heart. It means to find a way to get them to understand our common need for our Savior’s forgiveness and love. It takes a lot of patience and work, but it is worth it. And it works!

I look forward to seeing you in church where we can confront the great gift of God’s grace together.

Pastor Castello

Newsletter-by-email

We are sending this newsletter via e-mail to those who have requested it. If you would like to receive your newsletter this way, please notify the church office of your e-mail address. You will need to have Adobe Reader on your computer to read it.

If you have problems receiving your e-mail newsletter, please let us know and we will send you a hard copy.

The newsletter is also posted on our website. Use the “What’s New” button.
(www.emanuelnapoleon.org)

Cookbooks

The cookbooks have arrived. Those who have pre-ordered, may pick them up at Soul Food on Wednesdays or on Sundays between services. Those who would like to purchase one or more may also do so on Wednesday nights or Sundays or by contacting Caren Dille (419.599.2187), Michelle Dille (419.599.1815 or 419.261.5656) or Jody Dille (419.599.1815 or 419.265.JODY).

A big thank you to everyone who has helped put this cookbook together!

Medicare Part D

If you or your family are still having problems with insurance coverage, contact the Henry County Senior Center (419-599-5515). You can also call or visit the Area Office on Aging (419-592-6206) for individual help and information.

From the Congregational Life Board

New Board meets

On Monday January 9, 2006 the Congregational Life Board met with our newly-elected board member, Ryan Hoffman in attendance along with Gayla Yaney and seven auxiliary board members. Plans were made to continue the *Collection/Donation corner*, host a *new member reception* and *Shrove Tuesday meal*, and continue the *Good Word for the Day* with the support of Pastor Castello. Also later in the year, there will be plans to do a new *pictorial directory* of the members of Emanuel, have a *reception for all our couples who have celebrated 50+ years of marriage*, and the 2nd annual *CROP Walk*.

If you'd like to get in on the planning of any of these events or help volunteer your time to any of these projects, please contact a board member or, better yet, plan on attending our next meeting Tuesday, February 7 at 7:00 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Giving/donation corner

Thank you to all for your continued support of the collection/Donation corner. January collection for Luther Home of Mercy continues through the end of the month. The February collections will go to the local food pantries to help them re-stock after the holiday season. Donations of non-perishable food items, paper products and personal hygiene items would be very much appreciated.

Thanks!

Thank you to the congregation for your generous donations and support of all the projects that took place in December ! The Collection/Donation corner collected approximately 35 hats, gloves, scarves and mittens for our friends at The Filling Home of Mercy. Your support helped fulfill the wishes of two local families through the Christmas Care program and the donations towards Christmas Cheer were once again overwhelming! Then, add to these the special collection that was needed of medicines to be delivered to Camp Coast Care by Lila, Sue and Nikki, and you can tell that this congregation truly cares for those in need and is willing to extend its heart and caring outside the walls of Emanuel. Thank you all so very much!

New Members

The eleven newest members of Emanuel will be introduced to the congregation at both services on Sunday, February 19, 2006. The entire congregation is invited to attend a reception to be held during the Sunday School hour that day, to meet and welcome them all into our church family. Please plan to attend and introduce yourselves to these newest members. They include: *Joshua Gerken, Aaron Kolodziejczyk, Eleonora Koppenhofer, Art & Helen Lange, Mark, Angela, Zach, Dylan and Seth Tonjes, and Erin Walker.*

Good Word for the Day

Emanuel's Good Word for the Day broadcasts will be airing on WNDH radio January 30 through March 24 between 6:00 and 9:00 a.m. Pastor Castello will be providing the scripts for Ryan and Andrea Hoffman, Karl Yunker, Jeremiah Bischoff and Dylan Tonjes to present. Make sure to listen for them and start your day off with a good word.

Shrove Tuesday

The Congregational Life Board will be hosting a Shrove Tuesday Pancake and Sausage supper on February 28, 2006. Serving will be from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board next to the church office. Please plan to attend.

ANYONE WHO WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP MIX, FLIP, OR SERVE, please contact any board or auxiliary member or let Pat know in the office. Your help would be greatly appreciated. A free will donation will be taken to benefit Emanuel's Good Samaritan Fund.

Membership News

Noah Elijah Yaw was born prematurely on December 29 to Larry & Heidi (Sonnenberg) Yaw. Noah was baptized by Pastor Castello in the hospital. Fourteen days later little Noah was called home to be with Jesus. His funeral was held at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Glenwood on January 14. We pray for God's comfort and blessing on Noah's family.

Braden Joseph was born to Brad & Lisa (Zimmerman) Vajen on January 16. Braden has a big brother, Zachary. We look forward to Braden's baptism.

Macey Uriah Nutter was born on December 26 to Nathan Nutter and Janelle Robbins. Proud grandpa is Jack Robbins.

Please let us know of any family birth announcements, etc. so we can celebrate with you!

Jaycob Paul Celani, born July 6, 2005 to Andrea Weirauch and Paul Celani II, will be baptized at Emanuel on February 26. Jaycob's sponsors will be Brandy Hildebrandt and Matt Detrick.

Pauline Polker passed away on January 17 at the home of her granddaughter. Pauline's funeral was held at the Snyder-Wesche Funeral Home on the 21st.

New Address: **Gary & Jamie Bostelman**, 926 W. Riverview Ave., Napoleon OH 43545

Matt Schwab, 872 East Riverview Apt. 4, Napoleon OH 43545

Graduated: **Erin Jenny** recently received a Bachelor of Arts in Geography from the University of Toledo.

Health Ministry

- Barb Hoffman

Did you know that February 3rd is National Wear Red Day? Heart disease (not breast cancer) is the #1 killer of women. Heart disease claims nearly half a million women each year. "Wear Red Day" helps us remember the important issues of women and heart disease.

Your heart needs your loving care. You cannot change your genetics or age, but there are many ways to protect your heart, including...

1. Review with your health care provider your risks for heart disease and stroke.
2. Quit smoking.
3. Control your blood pressure by exercising, eating healthy, limiting sodium and alcohol, and not smoking.
4. Control your cholesterol by eating healthy and exercising.
5. Eat heart-healthy foods such as fruits, vegetables, and whole grains.
6. Aim to exercise at least 30 minutes per day, every day if possible.
7. Relax - find ways to reduce stress. Prayer is a great way.
8. Avoid being overweight.

Know your scores.

Do you know your blood pressure? _____ Do you know your cholesterol? _____
Do you know your weight? _____

Have your health care provider write down your scores so when different programs within the community have testing, you can compare to see how you are doing.

They are finding that men's and women's symptoms of a heart attack may differ somewhat, so women...learn the warning signs of a heart attack:

1. Chest discomfort. The discomfort may be in the center of the chest lasting more than a few minutes or it may go away and then return. The discomfort may feel like pain, pressure, squeezing or fullness.
2. Discomfort or pain may occur in the upper body, one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.
3. Nausea, lightheadedness, or indigestion-type symptoms.
4. Breaking out in a cold sweat.
5. Shortness of breath may occur before noticing chest discomfort.

Ways to exercise your heart...

Brisk walking and prayer go great together. Carry your own groceries. Park the farthest space from the door. Go dancing. Make extra trips up and down the stairs. Do leg lifts and stretches while working at the computer. Go bowling. Avoid drive-up windows; park and go inside. Wash dishes by hand. Try yoga. Try one of the fitness centers in town. (Resource: Positive Promotions) For more information go to www.goredforwomen.org.

Please contact members of the Health Ministry if you have any questions. "Go Red. Love Your Heart."

Who Does This?

Have you ever wondered what specific people are praying for you, naming your name, when you need help? How do they know about your need? Well, here's how it works:

Someone will call the church office and/or talk to Pastor; and/or that person will call the "Master Link" to state your need for God's help. The requests may be for church members, "extended family", friends, neighbors, co-workers, the world at large—whatever or whatever is on anyone's mind and heart to pray for!

Some requests may be quite detailed and specific; some may be quite general. Sometimes it is helpful to have a little 'background' of a request; sometimes people would rather not give any specific details. Thankfully, our gracious God knows all of our needs and He will listen and understand.

The "Master Link" calls the first person on each of the three phone prayer chains. That person

calls the second and so the message is passed down till all are telling God about your need. Here are the members of these phone chains: Carol Dille, Sue Schink, Gwen Hendricks, Nancy Schink, Martha Young, Shirley Casteel, Denelda Rohrs, Janice Rohrs, Paula Heuer, Nanette Schwab, Diana Zachrich, Jack Robbins, Ann Campbell, Kim Dickmann, Cheryl Daman, Sandi Borstelman, Minnie Meineke.

People on the e-mail prayer chain are Angela Sosebee, Barb Hoffman, Barb Nye, Caren Dille, Carol Gerken, Cheryl Hershberger, Charlotte Wangrin, Ed & Tiffany Biederstedt, Doug & Judy Hoffman, Emily Jordan, Heidi Bostelman, Jay & Darlene Bostelman, Jeannie Wiechers, Joan Collier, Julie Mt.Castle, Karen Rohrs, Kathy Bostelman, Kathy & Kevin Gerken, Laura Ellis-Kruse, Mary Cousino, Pastor, Pat Mohring, Pat Updegraff, Phyllis Kloos, Rachel Castello Dunn, Rachel Sosebee, Sheila Sosebee, Shelly Storch.

Who is this "Master Link"?

(Answer on page 16)

Adult Choir

Practices continue throughout February on Wednesdays at 6:30. We now have childcare available in the preschool room. If you have a young child or grandchild, please consider joining us in the sanctuary while they have fun with Susan!

SCHEDULE

8:00 February 5 Day by Day
10:30 February 12 The Whisper of My Heart
8:00 February 19 Shout Amen!
10:30 February 26 Shout Amen!

Cherub Choir and Rainbow Ringers

Cherub Choir will be singing in church on February 26 at 8:00 and also at the beginning of the 10:30 service. We are learning all kinds of new songs with motions, sign language, and bell parts.

The Rainbow Ringers have been busy practicing some new music. Thank you to the After School Club for buying four new songs for us to play!

A Simple Way to Pray

In 1535 Luther advised his barber, Peter, to pray in a four-fold way. An easy way for us to remember Luther's four-fold way is with the acronym ACTS:
Adoration - Praise God on the basis of what you have learned from His Word.

Confession - Confess to God how His Word has not had its way with you.

Thanksgiving - Thank God for the gift He has given you in His Word.

Supplication - Ask God to bless you through His Word.

Living Spirit

We need your voice!

- Did you make a New Year's Resolution to become more involved?
- Does hearing Contemporary Christian music move you?
- Do you have a passion to sing?

Then we need you!!! We are looking for more voices to fill the Living Spirit choir! Young and old, single and married, talented and the less talented, we want you all!

Practice is at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights in the chapel.

College Students!

If you would like to join us for your time at home, please let us know! We would be glad to keep you informed of when and what we sing! You can contact Julie Mt.Castle at 419-592-1382 or julie_mtcastle@campbellsoup.com or Holly Mohring at 419-592-3661 or hollymohring@yahoo.com.

God so lo V ed the world,
That He g A ve
His on L y
Begott E n
So N
T hat Whosoever
Believeth I n Him
should N ot perish,
but have E verlasting life.

John 3:16

Church Council Chat - January 16, 2005

- The first council meeting of 2006 met on January 16 with all members present.
- The Treasurer asked that, when turning in a bill, please write what board it is for and what line item specifically.
- Doctrine & Worship Board has scheduled Ash Wednesday, all Lenten Services, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services for 7:30 p.m. Easter Sunday services will be at 7:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and a breakfast served by the Bell Choir at 9:00 a.m.
- Property Board has received estimates for replacing the basement door and windows. Some of these windows are now over 50 years old.
- Congregational Life has designated the following contributions January - Luther Home of Mercy, Williston; February - FISH and other local food banks; March - Wernle Children's Home, Indiana.
- A new member reception will be held on Sunday, February 19 for 11 new members joining Emanuel Lutheran Church.
- A Shrove Dinner is scheduled for February 28.
- Board of Education will be working on organizing and broadening the materials in library.
- Finance Board noted the counting space is very limited.
- President, Pat Dille, has formed a 125 Committee. Emanuel Lutheran Church will be celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
Darlene Bostelman

Soul Food

Menu for February

February 1 Lasagna
February 8 BBQ Beef Sandwiches
February 15 Poor Man's Steak & Mashed Potatoes
February 22 Macaroni & Cheese & Hot Dogs

Serving is from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. There will be a free will donation for the meals. If you would like to share a dessert or a salad, we would appreciate that very much. Be sure to sign up by Tuesday each week and bring a friend!

EMANUEL GOOD NEWS, a monthly publication of the Emanuel Lutheran Church
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www.emanuelnapoleon.org
Pastor - James L. Castello (419-592-0847) jameslcastello@yahoo.com
Missionaries to Hong Kong - Pastor John & Barbara LeMond
Congregation President - Patrick Dille
Women of the ELCA President - Carol Dille
Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847 or cjcast@metalink.net)
Worship & Music Coordinator/Organist - Angela Tonjes
Bell Choir Director - Hugh Schink
Chime Choir Director - Bill Panning
Living Spirit Director - Marv & Julie Mt.Castle
Parish Secretary - Patricia Mohring
Sunday School Superintendent - Laura Ellis & Michelle Dille
Altar Guild Chairman - Mary Jo Moden
Good News Preschool Director - Judith Demmel
Custodians - Michelle Dille, Caye Schroeder, Jack Robbins

Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

WELCA News

Make sure these dates are on your calendar:

WELCA General Meeting - February 2, 2006, 7:30 p.m.

Speaker for the evening will be our own Carol Castello on The Hunger Appeal. Martha Circle is in charge of refreshments.

Lenten services start with Ash Wednesday on March 1, and we will be serving cookies and coffee beginning March 8. Check your booklet for the date your circle is in charge.

The Maumee Valley Spring Assembly - April 1, 2006, at St. John's, Paulding

Our sewing group is always in need of your extra fabric and old sheets, etc. Leave these items in the basement marked for the Sewing Group.

Campbell Soup labels are still being collected for the Filling Home.

The Henry County Red Cross bloodmobile dates for February are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. If you haven't taken the time to give lately, please consider doing so. You would be appreciated!

Our shut-ins can always use a visit - you will find our nursing home residents listed in this newsletter.

Until next month,
Carol Dille for the WELCA Board

Community News

Furniture Bank

LSS Furniture Bank of NW Ohio has had the honor of serving thirty-four households throughout Henry County since opening November 15, 2005, by providing them with necessary items for daily living. They have had 55 Henry County households and merchants donate 247 items, and with the help of 24 volunteers, 108 of those items have been re-distributed. Thank you volunteers and donors!

With the growing number of people in need, the LSS Furniture Bank of NW Ohio remains in need of beds, dressers, sofas, kitchen tables and chairs and working appliances such as washer, dryers, stoves and refrigerators.

To make donations of used but useable furniture and good, working appliances, please contact LSS at 1-800-577-8629. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Henry County Coordinators at 419-592-3747 or 419-592-1992.

“But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving.” (2 Corinthians 8:7)

Soup and Pie Luncheon

You are invited to the Annual Winter Soup & Pie Luncheon sponsored by the Lutheran Home Auxiliary on Sunday, February 5, at 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the multipurpose room at Alpine Village at the Lutheran Nursing & Rehab Center. Proceeds will benefit the residents of Lutheran Nursing & Rehab Center and Alpine Village. On the menu: vegetable soup, chili soup, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches, crackers, beverages, pie.

2005 Projects completed by the Lutheran Home Auxiliary

In 2005 the Auxiliary completed various projects for the residents in the Lutheran Home in Napoleon. They purchased the following items for Alpine Village: digital camera, Kitchen Aid mixer, one table storage cart. The following items were purchased for the Lutheran Home: one table storage cart, validation books for Alzheimer patients, 6 CD's, DVD player, CD player, 5 CD stereos, 2 glider rockers, and paid for ½ of a digital hymnal, all totaling \$3,422.38.

We wish to thank the community for their support throughout the year.

Auxiliary Board members include:

Rupert Schweinhagen, President

Florence Mitchell, Treasurer

Nancy Schink, Secretary

Nanci Westhoven, R.N., Lutheran Home Representative

Give the Gift of Life

The Henry County Red Cross bloodmobile will be at the following sites in February:

Saturday, February 4, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Harley-Davidson Sales & Service

Tuesday, February 7, 12 p.m. - 7 p.m. - Widewater Retreat Center

Thursday, February 16, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. - NW State Community College

Wednesday, February 22, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Red Cross Chapterhouse

Monday, February 27, 1 p.m. - 7 p.m. - VFW

Monday, February 27, 12 p.m. - 6 p.m. - New Bavaria at Sacred Heart Church

Hospice of Henry County

Hospice of Henry County is planning a fundraising bazaar on Thursday, May 4 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Napoleon. Due to decreases in hospice coverage from insurance benefits, they are seeing an increasing need for fundraising to assist the Henry County hospice patients and their families. The monies raised would be used to defer costs of medication, medical equipment, and respite care for their patients.

They are hoping that church members and groups would be willing to assist in this fundraising by either donating items for the live or silent auction, craft items or baking items for the day of the bazaar. Those interested may contact Sharon Coholich or Janelle Cline at (419) 599-5612 Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Abraham Lincoln's spiritual wisdom During the Civil War, a delegation came to confer with him about the conflict. Sometime during the meeting a minister said to President Lincoln, "I hope that the Lord is on our side." The President amazed the group with his response. "I don't agree with you," he said to the pastor. "I am not at all concerned about that, for we know that the Lord is always on the side of the right. But it is my constant anxiety and prayer that I and the nation should be on the Lord's side." -Carl Sandburg in *Abraham Lincoln, The War Years (III)*

Thank You!

- Bob & I wish to thank you for our gifts from the church. Also thanks to Nancy Lange for making the lap robe and Pastor, we can't begin to thank you. God's blessing to one and all.
Bob & Dee Showman
- Thank you all so much for honoring us with your beautiful lively music. We really appreciated it! Thank you too for the great Christmas tree ornaments from the Sunday School. They smelled so good.
Bless you all, Herman & Ann Campbell
- I would like to thank Emanuel for the lovely clock I received as a Christmas gift and those who remembered me with Christmas cards. Have a blessed new year! Christine Rath
- Thank you to the carolers of Emanuel. We enjoyed that very much. Thank you too Emanuel Sunday School for the gift bag of Christmas ornaments. Very nice! Happy new year to everyone!
Love, Mel & Margaret Wachtmann
- Thank you to the Sunday School children for the special Christmas tree ornaments they sent with the carolers who sang some special Christmas music for us in a surprise visit to our home. Also a thank you to Emanuel for the lovely Christmas gift we received this year. Ed & Betty Panning
- Thank you so much for the beautiful Christmas gift from the church.
Irene Cordes & Norb Brandt
- Thank you for the clock with the God's Promise verse. I have the clock setting on the stand in the living room. We appreciate our friends at Emanuel thinking of us this Christmas season.
Alfred & Rita Prigge
- A sincere thank you for the porcelain clock and poem. It has been put to good use in a special spot. Also many thanks to Julie Kohout and Ryan for their delivery service and a nice pre-Christmas visit.
Fondly, Donnie Daman
- Thank you so much for the beautiful clock. We especially appreciate the lovely verse on it. We always enjoy the Yaney family visit. God's blessings for a great 2006. Ed & Alyce Oberhaus
- A sincere thank you to the carolers for their visit and songs. Also for the Christmas ornaments, a gift from the Sunday School they gave me. Another thank you for the beautiful God's Promise Clock from the church and for the carolers. And thank you to Pastor & Carol for their wonderful Open House. I count you all a blessing from God. Lois Gerken
- We want to thank the carolers who came to sing for us, the Sunday School children for the fragrant tree decorations and Gary and Jamie Bostelman for delivering the lovely and unique Christmas gifts last year and this year. Thanks to all of you and may God bless you in this new year.
Marvin & Janice Rabe

- Thank you to the congregation for the beautiful God's Promise clock. And thanks to the Yaney family for their visit when delivering it! Virginia Dillon
- Thank you so much for the Christmas gift clock. Thanks also to the Sunday School for the tree ornaments! Min Meineke
- Thank you for the beautiful Christmas gift. It was very thoughtful of you. Dorothy Vasher
- Thank you for the beautiful music by the carolers, and thank you for the beautiful gift of the God's Promise clock. And we appreciate very much the visit by the Yaney's when they delivered the gift. Walter & Julia Arps
- Thank you to all the carolers, to the Sunday School for the tree ornaments, and to the church for the Christmas gift. It was all very much appreciated. Lavern Lanzer
- Thank you very much for the beautiful clock I received from the church. Eileen Huber
- Thank you to the congregation for the gift of the beautiful God's Promise clock for Christmas. Miriam Smith
- Thank you to the Sunday School for the Christmas tree ornaments; thanks to Emanuel for the gift of the clock; and to all for your cards and prayers. God bless every one. Lu Alexander
- A special thanks to the Christmas carolers; I enjoyed their singing very much; also to the Sunday School class for the tree decorations. Gertrude Schuette
- We want to say a special thanks to Pastor Castello for his prayers and many visits to see Art in the hospital. Also to members of the congregation for their prayers. We appreciate the carolers who came to our house and the nice clock from the congregation. Art & Denelda Rohrs
- Thank you so much for the beautiful Christmas clock. Hazel Eickhoff
- Thank you for the wonderful support in the OPERATION: Christmas Care project sponsored by the local churches. We made our mission statement come true again with our outreach to the community! This year, Emanuel sponsored 2 families' Christmas. Each family was invited to join us in worship and fellowship in the month of December and in the future. Next year, we can sponsor more families due to the outpouring of love we have shown. Thank you on behalf of the OPERATION: Christmas Cheer Committee. Phyllis Kloos
- Just a little note to tell you how much your gifts are appreciated! And to say thank you oh so much for everything. Your kindness overwhelms us. The kids are gonna love everything! Again thank you!
The Slone family, Angie, Chris, Corey, Chase, and Jasmine
- Thank you to my church family for your prayers and get well wishes. Thank you, also, to Pastor Castello for his support at the hospital. Jamie Bostelman

Lost and Found

The following items are still in the Lost & Found box in the basement. If they are not claimed by Sunday, February 26, we'll be taking the items to Goodwill.

- Size 13 Juniors black polyester "Cleveland Street" pants with cuff
- XL "Worthington Essentials" cream zippered sweater
- Campbell Soup Napoleon, Ohio ball cap
- Duffey Concrete black & orange stocking hat
- "Old Navy" Size 10 hooded lite blue basketball sweatshirt
- XS "Aeropostale" grey w/lite blue lettering hooded zippered sweatshirt
- Child's XL 2-tone blue "Wilson" nylon jacket
- Girls white straw Easter bonnet with pink ribbon
- Men's brown "Black & Warner Knox Custom" dress hat
- black gloves
- 2 rain bonnets
- Justice League pencil case
- peach bath towel
- round snowman face plastic serving dish
- round Santa tin serving dish
- Westbend Crockpot (mistakenly took the church's Rival crockpot instead)

There is also still a pair of men's glasses/bifocals in the church office.

(Who does this? Carol Castello)

Statistics

Date	Attendance	Communed	Offerings
December 24 7:00 p.m. 11:00 p.m.	? 239	212	6190 (includes 20 Bldg Fd)
December 25	132	120	4079.95 (includes 500 Bldg Fd; 50 Bell Choir; 1,000 Roof Fd; 30 World Hunger; 15 Preschool)
December 31	67		2407.00 (includes 155 Bldg Fd; 500 Roof Fd; 2 Preacher Pounding)
January 1	152	56	3772.00 (includes 285 Bldg Fd; 5 World Hunger)
January 8	264		4937.28 (includes 445 Bldg Fd; 5 Wrld Hngr)
January 11		2	
January 15	288		4176.95 (includes 175 Bldg Fd; 15 Wrld Hngr)
January 22	281		4441.73 (includes 240 Bldg Fd; mem to Bldg Fd: 40 Noah Yaw, 150 Pauline Polker; 15 World Hunger)

*Remember in your prayers our members in nursing homes
and assisted living facilities*

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

Margaret Fahy

Marie Heuer

Laura Rohda

Marge Gathman

Irma Overhulse

Alfred "Petey" Ruetz

Eugenia Gerken

Hildegard Reiser

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

Christine Rath

Miriam Smith

Reim Eickhoff

Carl Bockelman

Cincinnati (c/o Steve Wittenberg, 7225 Camargo Woods Dr., Cincinnati OH 45243)

Esther Wittenberg

Worship participants in February

Ushers

8:00 Ron Dachenhaus, Richard Landversicht,
Len Sonnenberg, Ron Wiechers

10:30 Tom Jenny, Lavern Lanzer,
Ron Meyers, Shelley Higbea

Lay assistants

8:00 Jack Robbins

10:30 Gary & Jamie Bostelman

Altar Guild

Mary Dewit & Shelley Higbea

Acolytes

8:00 Emily Schwab & Stephanie Ruby

10:30 Alison Storch & Jenni Schink

Altar Flowers

February 5 - Nancy Lange's birthday
- Blake Biederstedt's 11th birthday

February 12 - Karl & Oneta Wiechers - 56th wedding anniversary on 2/5

February 19 - Virginia Dillon in loving memory of her husband, Bud, and parents, Jacob & Mary Hahn

February 26 - Nancy Schink in loving memory of Ron Schink

Open dates:

March 5, 26

September 10

November 12

June 4, 18

October 8

December 31

August 20

Altar flowers cost \$20. This amount should be placed in the offering plate and designated for altar flowers. Flowers are automatically ordered from Cattails. If you have a special flower, color or container request, Cattails can customize your arrangement. Price of the arrangement can be increased also. If you wish to make your own arrangements, you should notify the church office a couple weeks ahead of the designated Sunday.

Simply Giving Update from the Congregational Life Board

Dear fellow members of Emanuel,

Simply Giving through Thrivent Financial became available to Emanuel as an automated giving program in May of 2004. We currently have 6 members enrolled.

Steve and I have chosen *Simply Giving* as our weekly offering way of being consistent with our donation to the church. We have a certain amount drawn out of our checking account each week. That amount is reflected on our monthly checking account statement as a debit. We have split our weekly amount between the General Fund and the Building Fund. We can increase or decrease the amount as we see fit; we can discontinue the program as we see fit. We have chosen to have our donation withdrawn weekly, but you can have it withdrawn semi-monthly, monthly or you can pick the date you want the transaction(s) to occur. This can be done through any bank. And Thrivent will not send you any correspondence to get you to do anything else like buy insurance, etc.

We chose the *Simply Giving* program because it is our “regular” way of giving to Emanuel, even if we are not in church to put in our offering envelope each week. We don’t write 52 separate checks every year either! This is a painless way to become good stewards, and it is a true way of giving “first fruits” to the church. We know that the church will consistently receive our weekly offering, even if we are gone. At first, it felt “funny” not putting in a weekly offering envelope, but you can give a separate weekly offering in a different envelope each week to so many other worthy causes like the ELCA World Hunger Appeal, The Gideons, Building Fund, Memorial Fund, Good Samaritan Fund, etc. if you feel the need to donate while you are at church. What a great way to help other charitable causes! Also, you can still use your weekly offering envelopes and put them in the offering plate with a *Simply Giving* sticker attached to indicate that is how you donate. But the bottom line is, what and how you give your offering is between you and God. No one else needs to “see” you place your envelope in the offering plate each week.

This is a completely safe way to make your charitable contribution to church through electronic funds transfer. You can sign up anytime to enroll by picking up a brochure at the tables at any entrance, completing the form and placing it in the offering plate or the church office. If you need assistance completing the form, I would be glad to assist you!

Please consider *Simply Giving* as a consistent form of donating to Emanuel.

Thank you,

Phyllis Kloos

Auxiliary Member of the Congregational Life Board

Opportunities for Growth from the Synod

Young Adult Ministry

Bishop Marcus Lohrmann invites your adults (ages 18-30, single or married) of the Northwestern Ohio Synod to a gathering on Sunday, February 12 at 3 p.m. at the synod office in Findlay. They will engage in conversation about strengthening ministry to young adults in our area. Supper will be provided. Contact Carol Dille for your reservation.

The Gift Season Isn't Over

Actually, with God, the gift season is never over. You are invited to a special *LifeKeys* workshop on giftedness, one that is designed to help you discover your gifts, who you are and what you are called to do. *LifeKeys* is a book workbook, program that helps people discover who they are, why they're here and what they do best. This material is a comprehensive way to discover your talents, spiritual gifts, passions, values and personality – all that God made you to be. Through *LifeKeys*—discover the richness of all that God made you to be.

February 11, 2006, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Emanuel Lutheran, Marion

\$45 includes lunch, *LifeKeys* workbook and all materials.

To register, please contact Bonnie Kinschner, Director of the Lay Academy, at 419-841-6506 or bkinschner@aol.com,

Summer Program for Teens at Trinity Lutheran Seminary

Do you know what a Samplarian is?

1. A high school sophomore, junior or senior who samples the life of a seminarian.
2. A teenager who explores ministry and leadership possibilities.
3. One who enjoys a smorgasbord of activities including classes, service projects, worship, recreation, and time with mentors.
4. One who spends time discerning God's will for his/her life.

Experience the Summer Seminary Sampler, a three-week residential program for high school sophomores, junior and seniors. Check out the flyer on the bulletin board near the secretary's office.

FOCUS is searching for an Executive Director

Family Outreach Community United Service, in interfaith non-profit agency, seeks a full-time executive director to lead its established and emerging services promoting hope and dignity to those in need by providing steps to economic and social stability. For more information:

<http://www.focustoledo.org/Employment.htm>

Christmas Letter 2005 from John & Barbara LeMond, missionaries to Hong Kong

Dear Friends,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for your support throughout this past year, both financially and through prayer. We have been blessed in so many ways, and we give thanks along with you for the continued promise of grace and peace through our Lord Jesus Christ. Attached to this email, please find our 2005 Christmas letter, written by Barbara. We look forward to hearing from you, also. Please write and let us hear how things are going. Joy to the World, John and Barbara LeMond

December 13, 2005

I am sick today, exhausted and battling a cold that is winning the fight. And yet, I know somewhere in this cupboard there are leftover Christmas cards purchased over the last few years But I did not expect to find:

A plastic bag of memories dated Christmas 1999
Nestled around a letter never sent
Announcing a move untaken;
To friends and family-many since passed away
To death or dementia or unbroken sleep.

Written by an optimistic LeMond
As yet un-mutilated by the surgeon's scalpel
Who believed she had the strength to survive
Life's vicissitudes
Without wrestling against the power of despair.

The 20th century woman,
Embraced a simple faith
In a father God
Who would lead her family
Into a new tomorrow of hope.

She no longer exists
In her past incarnation.
But has been transformed,
Through coming face to face
With an unbidden reality.

Re-formed through surgery,
Embracing dementia
In the form of her beloved mother
Who now exists, a physical shell
Of comatose unknowing.

By children, no longer adolescents,
At least in years,
Becoming independent
Living private lives in which
She is only a distant bystander.

One calls her wise while another
Philosophizes about dysfunctional

Families, of which they are a part,
Reassuring her that it is only
Normal to be such.

She does not wish to be thought
Dysfunctional, but must consider the
Twenty-something reality of the
Psychology student daughter,
Wondering if she can handle the daily drudge
Of dogs and cats and Middle School challenges
Along with adult diapers
And dreams put on hold
Until the end . . .

Which comes each day
for those around the world
Who watch their war ravaged loved ones
Dig out from underneath a deluge
Of destruction.

Scrounging for enough to eat
In a desert land of desolation
Where charity has exhausted itself
Through tsunami, hurricane and quake
While she prospers.

In a relationship of 30 years
with one she still calls friend
Whose words of grace still reach her ears
Through Sunday messages
And daily acts of love.

And on this overcast December afternoon,
Wearing a red nose, bearing aching joints,
Tucked up in an antique Chinese bed
She remembers to give thanks
To the incarnate God who comes . . .

May the spirit of this season inspire your faith, Barbara, for the LeMonds lemond@tfsc.org

The

Savior's Signal

A newsletter for Emanuel's youth

Volume 12, Number 2 February 2006

*Will you be mine?
-A Valentine's Day Bash-*

The Sunday School is having a Valentine's Day Bash on Sunday, February 12. The children will be inviting a loved one or two to Sunday School on the 12th.

We will be taking pictures, making crafts and celebrating God's great love for us.

*Sunday School children 3 years old through Kindergarten
will sing at 10:25 on February 5.*

Val-O-Grams

Club Christ will do singing Val-O-Grams again this year on February 12. The cost is \$10.00, and funds will be matched by Thrivent. Call Pat Dille or one of the high school youth to order.

Baptismal Birthdays - February

*Abby Allison
Blake Biederstedt
Phyllis Bischoff
Mike Borstelman
Alan Bostelman
Brian Bostelman
Marsha Bostelman
Joleen Brubaker
Clayton Burken
Aleigh Busch
Nate Busch
Jonathan Callaway
Kim Casteel*

*Sue Cooper
Bryant Dachenhaus
Kenti Dachenhaus
Adam Degler
Nicholas Degler
Neil Demmel
Tonya Druhot
Reimund Eickhoff
Jakob Elling
Kevin Gerken
Greg Gray
Sally Greenham
Shelley Harris*

*Theo Feuer
Chad Hockley
Andrea Hoffman
Jeff Kieffer
Joe Kohout
Julie Kohout
Lori Middleton
Cindy Miller
Derek Mohring
Laura Moser
Margaret Nashu
Gale Nye*

*Paul Panning
Alfred Prigge
Mary Rohrbaugh
Denelda Rohrs
Sandy Rohrs
Bob Showman
Sean Slec
Andy Sonnenberg
Leonard Sonnenberg
Dora Titgemeyer
Crystal Ward
Kristin Weirauch*