

Good News

A Publication of Emanuel Lutheran Church
Volume XXXI No. 1
January 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.

My mother had this wonderful line that she used on us when we would moan and groan about getting up for worship services on Sunday morning. She would say something like, "That's ok, stay in bed. If God didn't do anything for me this past week, I would stay in bed, too." The guilt trip usually worked, as it very well should have.

So far at least, God's many blessings for us have not stopped. He daily provides for our needs and even throws in opportunities for a lot of wants, too. Those gifts and blessings are so plentiful that they would be impossible to list. Chief among them all, of course, is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ... freely given grace through the cross and love abounding to see us through this world and carry us into the next.

As a small token of our understanding of this bounty, we have our "Giving/Donation Corner" which benefits a different organization or group each month.

We also have opportunities to offer gifts of love in donations at the door for various worthwhile causes and, of course, our weekly offerings and tithes. That is not even to mention our opportunities of service in our daily lives.

If you feel that God has done nothing for you, I would suggest that you stop any charitable giving at all. If, however, you feel as I do, that I could never even begin to give in accordance to what I have received, then join me in looking for new opportunities to show that gratitude. Join with me in trying to see this not as a burden, but as a privilege to be able to reflect some of the love we receive.

Thanks for all you did in 2005. Thanks for your donations of time, money, and goods. Thanks for your prayers. Thanks for sharing a part of who and what you are.

Now comes 2006. My best guess is that God's generosity will continue. So must ours. God's blessings for me in 2005 were abundantly clear. May I be clear in my response to him.

See you in church and out in our mission fields.

Pastor Castello

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Thank you! Danke shoen! Merci beaucoup!
Muchas gracias! Domo arigato! Asante sana!
And thank you again!

No matter how many ways I say it, those two words – “*thank you!*” – just don’t seem adequate at expressing our gratitude for all of your many kindnesses, cards, gifts, goodies, and well-wishes for us during the Holidays. It is all so gracious of you, and we appreciate your thoughtfulness. Most especially, we appreciate the ministry we share here at Emanuel with you, our Church Family. May God bless you each and all in the New Year ahead!

In His love,
Pastor and Carol

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Final CROP Walk Totals
(drum roll, please!)....\$2,636

which equals \$659 to be returned to Henry County for:
Christmas Cheer
St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry, Napoleon
FISH Food Pantry, Napoleon
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon Twp.
Broken Bread Food & Clothing Pantry, Church of the Nazarene, Napoleon
Shalom Food Pantry, St. John’s United Church of Christ, Holgate
Caring Cupboard, Liberty Center

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Updating Web page - 2006

Please check our web page for your area (groups, boards, committees, clubs, etc.). Send updates and corrections to Ed Panning, Julie Kohout, or to Pat Mohring in the church office. Pictures are welcome, too. If you need pictures taken, please contact Douglas Hoffman.

www.emanuelnapoleon.org

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Health Ministry

- Judy Hoffman

As you look forward to the New Year - 2006 - you may want to include a look at the New Food Pyramid.

One size doesn't fit all

USDA's new MyPyramid symbolizes a personalized approach to healthy eating and physical activity. The symbol has been designed to be simple. It has been developed to remind consumers to make healthy food choices and to be active every day.

More information will be shared in the coming months, or you can go to: MyPyramid.gov for your individual diet and activity suggestions.

January is Cervical Health Awareness Month

Cervical cancer, when detected early, is nearly 100% curable. All women are encouraged to see their health care provider for regular pap smears. Early detection saves lives. Talk to your doctor or health practitioner about cervical cancer, risk factors, prevention, symptoms and early detection.

Comfort Wraps

Comfort wraps continue to be shared with our ill and recovering members. If you have the gift of making a wrap – knitted, crocheted, or sewn – bring it to the church office or place it in the basket in Pastor's office.

You can also contact Nancy Lange or Judy Hoffman to donate yarns or materials for the making of more of these wraps.

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News from Angela Tonjes, Worship & Music Coordinator

Thanks to all the families who helped with our Advent candle lighting. You added a special touch to our services.

Adult Choir

Wow! What an amazing Christmas season we had here at Emanuel. Thank you to the choir for their hard work during December. Also, a personal thanks to all of you for the cards, gifts and well wishes during this past month. You are a blessing to me and your church.

Adult Choir will be singing again on January 8 at the 10:30 service: "Fit for a King".

Cherub Choir and Rainbow Ringers

Thank you for all your hard work this past year. You are so full of life and enthusiasm. You did an awesome job caroling and ringing at the Lutheran Home and Filling Home, and you added a bright spot to each resident's day. I look forward to learning new music next year!

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The Christmas Cantata, which was presented by our Choirs on December 18, was recorded and will be broadcast on WNDH radio at 10:00 a.m. on Christmas morning.

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Soul Food

Menu for January

- January 4 - Beef Stew
- January 11 - Baked Potato Bar
- January 18 - Meatloaf & Hamloaf
- January 25 - Hot Chicken Sandwiches

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!

NOTE: Someone has mistakenly left their Westbend Crockpot and taken home one of the church's Rival Crockpots. Please check your cupboards.

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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
Altar Guild Chairman - Mary Jo Moden
Good News Preschool Director - Judith Demmel
Custodians - Michelle Dille, Caye Schroeder, Jack Robbins

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Church Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Welca News

Welcome to new board members, Rita Schweinhagen , Donna Peper and Ami Allison. Thank you for saying yes to committing your time for the next two years.

Our sewing group is always in need of fabric pieces and old sheets to continue making their quilts for Lutheran World Relief. They meet once a month on a Wednesday morning - check the church calendar for the dates - they can always use a few more helpers. Al Duquette continues to keep the ladies in squares for their quilts.

Our next general meeting (weather permitting) will be February 2, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Carol Dille, for the WELCA Board

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Community News

Give the gift of life...

Here is the Henry County Bloodmobile Schedule for January:

Monday, January 2 - St. John UCC, Holgate

Tuesday, January 3 - Curves, Napoleon

Wednesday, January 11 - Deshler Lions Club at the American Legion

Saturday, January 14 - Napoleon Moose Lodge

Furniture Bank Needs Your Help!

Lutheran Social Services has opened a furniture bank here in Henry County and is looking for help to deliver furniture. The deliveries usually take place between 9:00 and noon on Saturday mornings.

If you are interested in helping out one or more Saturdays, please contact Ryan Hoffman at 419/335-5482.

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Thank you!

- Dear friends from Emanuel, Thank you for my little angel. She is so sweet from the cross to the bottom of her feet. Thank you all so much. Anyone come see me when you can. My phone number is 785-3536. Thank you again with all my heart and love. Love to all and a Merry & Blessed Christmas.
-Pauline Polker
- We greatly appreciate everything you have done for us! Your cards and prayers and words and acts of kindness have touched us in a deep way. Thank you all so much. -Al & Norma Duquette
- Thank you to Pastor Castello for all his visits and prayers during our recent illnesses.
-Pete & Arlene Miller
- Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer blanket. I greatly appreciate it! -Eileen Huber
- A special thanks to the Christmas carolers, for their visit and pleasing music they provided. Also, to the Sunday School, for the tree decorations. It's all very much appreciated.
-Mrs. Burnice Agler
- Thank you so much to Christmas carolers for your beautiful music. Thanks also for the ornaments. We appreciated it very much! -Mel, Marg, and Vanessa Lanzer
- The Christmas Eve Sunday School program was lovely and I truly appreciate everyone who made it a success:
Angela Tonjes for your wonderful musical talent
The Sunday School teachers: Juanita Clausen, Sandi Weirauch, Julie Kohout, Sue Kruse,
Tiffany Biederstedt, Julie Mt.Castle, Michelle Slee, Doug
Elling, Christa Burken,
Caren Dille, Caye Schroeder, Joleen Brubaker and Kim Dickmann
Adult readers: Shelly Storch, Mark & Angela Tonjes, Gayla Yaney, Doug Elling, Karl &
Julie Yunker and Pastor Castello
Sound board: Marv Mt.Castle
Baby Jesus: Jaycob Celani
A huge thanks to Pat Mohring for typing up the bulletins
and especially...
All the children who prepared faithfully and delivered such a beautiful message to
praise and honor the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
May God bless you all in the new year and always!
-Darlene Bostelman

Poinsettias

Thanks to all the people who ordered the 37 poinsettias to help beautify our sanctuary this Christmas!

Burnice Agler - in loving memory of her husband, Russell

Ed & Tiffany Biederstedt - in honor of Blake & Alexandria

Jamie & Gary Bostelman (5) - in loving memory of William & Jeanne Rogers (Jamie's parents), Susan Rogers Cox (Jamie's sister); in honor of Wilfred & Velma Bostelman (Gary's parents), Christine & Greg Kerr, Kim & Elizabeth Bostelman

Norm & Kathy Bostelman (2) - in loving memory of Harold Bostelman and Otto Hahn

Chad & Jo Brubaker - in loving memory of Keith Tonjes & Steve Brubaker

Irene Cordes - in honor of Linda Smith

Harold Delventhal - in loving memory of Mary Delventhal

Dille Family (2) - in loving memory of Charles R. (Dick) Dille; in honor of Keegan, Trey, Cecilia, Matthew & Michelle

Ruth C. Eickhoff - in loving memory of Norbert Eickhoff

Tom & Barb Hoffman (4) - in loving memory of Robert & Lulu Arps and Art & Estella Hoffman; in honor of Ryan & Lauren

Joe & Julie Kohout (2) - in honor of Erica & Ryan

Shirlee Mires (2) - in loving memory of Melle & Ray Landversicht and Phil & Lisa Mires

Maggi & John Mohler (4) - in loving memory of Marcella & Daris Mohler, Suzanne Lange, Hermenia Reiser, Mary Hoeffel; in honor of Marie & Florian Sauer

Randy & Debbie Nation - in honor of their parents, children and grandchildren

Arleta Panning - in loving memory of Walter Panning

Rog & Deb Rex - in loving memory of Norb Eickhoff

Jack Robbins (2) - in loving memory of Lester & Wilma Robbins

Mark & Loralee Rohrs - in honor of their children and grandchildren

Rupert & Rita Schweinhagen - in honor of Sandy, Tammy & Brett, Eric, Melanie & Olivia

Charlotte Wangrin

Ron & Jeannie Wiechers - in loving memory of Tom Spieth

Mike, Gayla, Jessica, Laura, Sarah & Carl Yaney - in honor of Art & Denelda Rohrs

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Statistics

Date	Attendance	Communed	Offerings
November 23	148		6449.01 (includes 5,000 Bldg Fd; 280 mem to Bldg Fd-V.Rohrs)
November 27	247		3704.98 (includes 120 Bldg Fd; 20 mem to Bldg Fd-V.Rohrs; 31 Preacher Pndg; 36 World Hunger)
December 4	256	130	6822.45 (includes 365 Bldg Fd; 2,070 mem to Bldg Fd-V.Rohrs; 59 mem to Roof Fd-J.Pullen; 296 poinsettias)
December 5 (band concert)	130		
December 11	293	114	4640.23 (includes 120 Bldg Fd)
December 14 (2:30)		6	
December 18 (8:00) (10:30) Cantata	111 239		7114.81 (includes 235 Bldg Fd; 80 mem to Bldg Fd-V.Rohrs; 300 mem to Roof Fd-F.Gerken; 1000 mem to Roof Fd- J.Pullen; 40 World Hunger)

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*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

Hildegarde 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

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Worship participants in January

Ushers

8:00 George Kryder, Jack Ruby (exc. 1/1)
Dr. Ray Manahan, Ted Rohrs

10:30 Gary Bostelman, Rupert Schweinhagen,
Rita Schweinhagen, Norm Bostelman

Altar Guild

Sue Kruse & Betty Panning

Acolytes

8:00 Jakob & Sam Elling

10:30 Konner Gerken & Clayton Burken

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Altar Flowers

January 1 - in memory of Phil Mires and Lisa Mires

January 8 - OPEN

January 15 - Min Meineke

- Ken & Nancy Lange, wedding anniversary

January 22 - Douglas & Judy Hoffman, wedding anniversary

- in memory of Ray Landversicht

- in honor of Alison Storch's 13th birthday

January 29 - Chris Walters

Open dates:

February 19

May 21, 28

August 20

November 5, 12

March 5, 19, 26

June 4, 18, 25

September 3, 10

December 31

April 2

July 23, 30

October 1, 8

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.

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Opportunities for Growth from the Synod

Let the Music Play ... and the People Sing

You are invited to a Very Special Workshop on Music and Worship hosted by the Lay Academy for Mission on Saturday, January 21, 2006, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Zoar Lutheran Church in Perrysburg. The day will be filled with worship, workshops, fellowship and opportunities to rejoice in and to renew and refresh the music and worship ministries of your congregation. Individual workshops on Designing Worship Services, Building Lay Led Worship, A Music Practicum and Launching a Praise Service will be hosted by Pastor Tim Philabaum, Eric Dickey, and the praise and worship teams of St. Luke's, Curtice, and Advent, Sylvania. This workshop is designed for churches of all sizes. The cost is \$40 per person by Friday, January 6 and \$45 per person by Friday, January 13. The registration includes lunch and materials. For more information check the NWO Synod website at www.nwos-elca.org or contact Bonnie Kinschner at 419-841-6506 or bkinschner@aol.com.

A Look at Martin Luther

A Look at Martin Luther is the theme for the Lay Academy for Mission Weekend Retreat on January 27-29, 2006 at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center in Fremont, Ohio. The Rev. Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, chair of the Wartburg College religion and philosophy department, will be the seminar leader and Jean Wise, who has been through the Synodically Authorized Ministry program and is currently working on an AIM degree and finishing her third and final year in a Spiritual Formation/Director program, will be the spiritual director. The weekend begins Friday evening and concludes at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday. The cost is \$110 for overnights and meals and \$55 for commuting and meals. For more information check the NWO Synod website at www.nwos-elca.org or contact Bonnie Kinschner at 419-841-6506 or bkinschner@aol.com.

New Life for Your Prayer Life!

Plan to attend a *New Life for Your Prayer Life* seminar on Saturday, January 21, 2006, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Olivet Lutheran Church, 5840 Monroe Street, Sylvania (419) 882-2077. Dr. Mark D. Roberts, Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Irwin, CA and author of the book No Hold Barred: Wrestling with God in Prayer, will give three presentations which will invite you into a deeper, truer and bolder relationship with God as he explores the depths of honest prayer found in the Psalms, including asking, praising, silence, complaining and even prayer for vengeance.

Registration is \$15 (lunch is included). Deadline is Tuesday, January 17.

Three ways to register: fill out the form on our bulletin board and send it to Olivet; call their church office at 419-882-2077; or visit their website www.olivetsylvania.org and click on Prayer Seminar.

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The

Savior's Signal

A newsletter for Emanuel's youth

Volume 12, Number 1

January 2006

*There will be
NO Sunday School on
December 25
or January 1.*

Baptismal Birthdays - January

*Kristin Bacon
Connie Beltz
Richard Bertz, Jr.
Joshua Bischoff
Brenda Bishop
Daniel Bostelman
Jamie Bostelman
Cass Boulton
Dianne Bowen
Jayce Brubaker
Nathan Brubaker
Daniel Bruns
Julie Callaway
Leo Clausen, Jr.
Paul Cousino*

*Brad Daman
Scott Daman
Caren Dille
Rachel Dunn
Rudy Eickhoff
Laura Ellis
Kim Evans
Melody French
Ray Fretz
Arlene Hershberger
Jennifer Hill
Tom Hoffman
Cathy Houck
Donnie Kruse
Ron Kruse*

*Terry Lacy
Patsy McGinnis
Roger McGinnis
Minnie Meincke
Donna Meyers
Maggi Mohler
Jeff Mt. Castle
Alexi Nashu
Wendy Nashu
Irma Overhulse
Laura Rohda
Ted Rohrs
Susan Schink
Mark Schroeder*

*Andrew Schwab
Steve Schmiebert
Jim Sosebee
Shelly Storch
Norma Strayer
Dorothy Vasher
Don Walters
Kenneth Wanemacher
Shauna Wanemacher
Michael Ward
Brenda Weis
Samuel Wesche
Carl [Yancy]
Larry Zachrich*

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Church Council Chat - December 19, 2005

-Barb Hoffman

- This meeting marked my last meeting as Church Council President. I have enjoyed serving the congregation and I hope you have found it helpful to read Council Church Chat and read what council discusses at its meetings.
- We welcomed three new Council members to our meeting: Darlene Bostelman, Laura Ellis, and Ryan Hoffman.
- Doctrine & Worship reported the 2006 Hymn Committee will consist of Burnice Agler, Marsha Bostelman, and Joan Collier. Memorial funds from the Vernon Rohrs family will be used to purchase green paraments. The Properties Board and Doctrine & Worship Board will help to coordinate the decorating and “de-decorating” along with the families who have been doing the project for upcoming years to assist in the beautiful efforts at Christmas time. This year the “de-decorating” will occur Saturday, January 14 at 9 a.m.
- Congregational Life has completed many projects including Christmas Care and plans are being made to continue monthly efforts to do outreach. Only 40 “Time and Talent” sheets have been completed and they hope more members will return their forms as Pat will be compiling the findings, and boards will contact interested members to assist and share their talents. The Good Samaritan Fund received \$111 from the Poinsettia sale and since there has been a great demand to use the fund, there will be additional efforts this coming year to collect for this very important fund. Christmas caroling was a huge success with many members hearing the Emanuel Carolers. The Board has set goals for 2006.
- Properties Board has purchased a snowblower. There has been concern that the Church has been left unlocked and lights on long after the last person leaves, especially on Sundays. Discussion followed on whose responsibility it is, i.e. janitor, ushers, or board members, and also a reminder to all of us to take time to check doors and turn off lights.
- Education Board has done a great job to keep the Preschool within budget. The youth have had many activities to reach out to others within our Church and the community.
- Finance Board feels members of Emanuel are doing well at giving to the Church and hope that it will continue.
- Council voted to accept the transfer of Eleonora Koppenhofer to Emanuel from Peace Reformed Church.
- Pastor thanked the Council for all of its hard work and efforts.
- Reminder to members that they can receive the newsletter by e-mail. It is also on the Emanuel website. Thanks to Julie Kohout, Ed Panning, and Pat Mohring for all of their efforts to make this possible to save paper and postage and to keep up with modern technology. Members can still sign up by the office if they prefer e-mail.

- Council members divided up the Christmas gifts and will deliver them to members 70 and over. The next Council meeting will be January 16.