

# Good News

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**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.**

Dear Members & Friends of Emanuel,

The Apostle Paul presents a tremendous testimony to the resurrection of Jesus. Then he talks about us, "Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed." (I Corinthians 15:51-52) With those words ringing in our ears, let us think about some of those changes.

Before the resurrection the cross was known only as an instrument of horrible death, rough wood soaked with human blood. So terrible was that form of execution that the Roman Empire prohibited the crucifixion of Roman citizens. Crucifixion was only for slaves and enemies of the Empire. But today, on this side of the resurrection, we wear crosses as jewelry, a thing of beauty, for all around the world the cross is seen as a symbol of hope, and a reminder of God's love for us.

Before the resurrection, for most of the world, the grave was looked upon as the final chapter, the end of everything. But because of Jesus' resurrection, we can rejoice today that beyond death is where life really begins, and it will never end. That does make you wonder doesn't it, why we spend so much time worrying and fretting about material things? Dale Evans once said, "I spent most of my life searching for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Then I finally found it at the foot of the cross."

The Bible speaks about the breath of life we have, and then it is gone. There is no promise that when we exhale that we will inhale again. Life is brief! In these days when we hear about the Covid-19 virus, and all the suffering and death that it is causing, death does not seem so far away. It could happen to any of us in a very short time.

That is rather discouraging, isn't it? Time is slipping by. It's going so fast that it's hard to hold on to anything. On one side of the resurrection, time is brief. But on the other side there is Jesus and all eternity, and that changes the whole purpose, meaning and scope of life and our lives from uncertainty, worry, and fear to confident faith, assurance, and peace.

May the Easter message, "Jesus lives!" change your life.  
Let us live "Under the Banner of Christ" together and share His Love and Peace  
Pastor King

YOU are invited to **ZOOM ON IN** and study the Book of Acts.

In lieu of a Thursday evening worship service (since the virtual service from Sunday is available any time), Emanuel is offering a **Thursday evening 6 pm** Zoomed Bible Study. It is being led by Denise Etzler and the Interim Team. The study is open to everyone in the community so if you'd like to invite a friend, you are welcome to do so! This is a *live* event, meaning it is not going to be recorded to be placed on the website or Facebook. It is available only through computer/tablet OR phone. You'll be able to see and hear each other if you connect by computer and be able to hear and be heard if you connect by phone. Each study session will last no more than one hour. We'll be using a study written by our own Bishop Daniel Beaudoin called "The Book of Acts: Participating in God's Mission" as follows:

- April 23 Study #1 Sent, But Never Settled
- April 30 Study #2 Disciples of Jesus Practice What They Preach
- May 7 Study #3 Equipping Leaders for Mission
- May 14 Study #4 Strengthening Parishes
- May 21 Study #5 Launching New Communities
- May 28 Study #6 For the Renewal of the World

To download and print or save the study guide for free, use the direct link below or find a link to the study guide and additional resources on the Emanuel website under "Adult Sunday School":

<https://34lakm2ej73fiw6un31fez81-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/The-Book-of-Acts-Student-Guide-2020-01-27.pdf>

Here's how to find the Zoom meeting from either computer or phone. The meeting room will open at 6 pm:

From a tablet, iphone or ipad:

You will need the FREE Zoom app – go to the App Store for your device & download the Zoom App (It is a white camera with a blue background). After you Download the Zoom app, then at the time of Bible study, enter the webinar ID: 667 007 248

From a phone:

Call 1-312-626-6799

Note: there may be long distance charges depending on your personal phone service.

## **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Our Lord works in mysterious ways. When the pandemic outbreak began in earnest over a month ago and stay at home precautions were put in place, many of us thought that the call process would be temporarily put on hold. This has not been the case. The Call Committee has conducted online interviews with two new candidates during the last two weeks. As of this update we have scheduled a second online interview with one of the candidates and hope to have a second online interview scheduled with the other candidate very soon. Neither the Call Committee nor any candidate can make a decision regarding a possible call until the parties are able to meet in person and really get to know each other. We pray that the pandemic will subside substantially in the not too distant future so that we may continue discussions with these individuals in person. The Call Committee asks that you pray for God's will to be done during these trying times. As always we will keep you informed of any developments. Call Committee: Karri Ashbaugh, Gary Bostelman, Kelli Burkhardt, Beth Jenny, Laura Klein, Holly Mohring, Bill Panning, Brian Plummer, Rupert Schweinhagen, Angela Tonjes.

## Emanuel Church Council Minutes for March 16, 2020

President Elect Carey Plummer called the meeting to order.

Melinda Dachenhaus led us with a devotion "Do Not Be Afraid", and also with prayer.

Joe Kohout read minutes from February 17, 2020. Denise Etzler made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Ryan Hoffman seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer Julie Kohout presented Council with the treasurer's report. Also Julie reported on an offer from VANCO (Simply giving) with an 800 # to call to make donations to Emanuel during this period of social distancing. Joe Knepley made a motion to approve the report and put a notice in the newsletter about VANCO. Mel Dachenhaus seconded. Motion passed.

### **Boards:**

**Board of Education** - Motion to approve (2) \$200 Scholarships to Summer Camp by Joleen Brubaker. Ryan Hoffman seconded. Motion passed.

**Finance** - nothing to report.

**Property** - Earl Elling Plumbing and Heating ready to start work on replacing furnace. There is another bid for the kitchen update. Still working on more quotes for the project. Hope Services cleaning is working out well. On hold until virus crisis passes.

**Congregational Life** - Care Corner donations for April will go towards A Renewed Mind. Emanuel collected 150+ items for food pantry last month.

**Doctrine and Worship** - Need to roll with the crisis. More complaints about length of service - 4 songs instead of 3 agreed to. Pastor King said it is congregation problem not an Angela problem. We need to figure out how to make it work. Motion by Julie Kohout for Pastor King and D & W Board to review worship service. Denise Etzler seconded. Motion passed. Continuing changes with Communion (table vs. continuous) causing problems. Latest was table communion for choir at last minute. Pastor King asked if bell choir could get Communion in place.

**Old Business** - Phones are still an issue.

**New Business** - Angela's computer wouldn't restart after an update. Power supply replaced. Carey and Brenda Plummer to Back up Ed and Tiffany Biederstedt at annual meeting. Discussion about Education Board member's phones being hacked because newsletter posted on our website had their phone numbers listed. Suggestion made that people use e-mail addresses instead of phone numbers as they are better protected. Need to get with Holly Mohring to check if Facebook is scam proof.

Pastor King reported Call Committee is revamping our profile to separate us from other similar congregations. ELCA had 45 graduates last year to serve 65 synods. Bishop asked for 2 (one for Emanuel), but got none.

Website needs to be updated. Discussion about how to get Sunday School materials out during lock down. Need a secure way for people to donate online. Motion by Denise Etzler to have Kyle Miller look into updating website, or to suggest someone else if he can't. Julie Kohout seconded. Motion passed. Joe Knepley and Joe Kohout to get with Kyle Miller. Lengthy discussion about what to do about Coronavirus. Whether or not to cancel services – if so for how long. Whether it was possible to hold services electronically. Need to lock down building so Maxine doesn't have visitors. Motion by Denise Etzler to lock down building through Palm Sunday, with Council to meet electronically on March 30<sup>th</sup> to see if lock down continues. Joleen Brubaker seconded. Motion passed.

Ryan Hoffman made a motion to cancel Seder Meal and Easter Breakfast. Joe Kohout seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion about what to do about funerals during shutdown – no visitation, gravesite only, delay until crisis passes. No decision made.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by Joe Kohout, Fill-in Church Council Secretary



### **2020 Church Council**

*President* - Barb Hoffman

*President-Elect* - Carey Plummer

*Secretary* - Lorelee Jones

*Treasurer* - Julie Kohout

*Doctrine & Worship Board* - Melinda Dachenhaus & Joe Kohout

*Congregational Life Board* - Gayla Rohrs & Denise Etzler

*Board of Education* - Joleen Brubaker & Deanna McCabe

*Properties Board* - Ryan Hoffman & Joe Knepley

*Finance Board* - Kelli Burkhardt & Maxine Eickhoff

**THANK YOU!**  
*THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!*  
**THANK YOU!**

◆ Thank you to our Emanuel family for the cards, prayers, and words of kindness at the passing of our Mom, Grandma, and Great Grandma, Delora Winkelman. God bless you! Ted & Joyce Rohrs & family.

◆ A huge thank you to Pastor King's daughter Cory Hughes, for coordinating all our online services. We appreciate the time and effort it takes to make worship happen in our unusual circumstances.

◆ A huge thank you to Kyle Miller for working hard to keep our webpages current.

◆ To Douglas Hoffman for putting our worship services on YouTube.

◆ To Holly Mohring for keeping Emanuel's Facebook page current.

◆ To the Sunday School Teachers for sending out lessons to our Sunday school children.

We appreciate each one of you for your time and effort to make this happen.

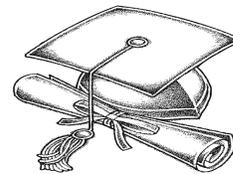
### *Membership News*

#### Birth:

Congratulations and God's blessings to Anthony & Erica Godsey on the birth of Sullivan Jack on Thursday, March 5, 7 lbs. 1 oz. Proud grandparents are Joe & Julie Kohout.

### **2020**

### *Graduating Seniors*



Gods blessings on you, graduates, as you enter the next chapter in your lives!

**Ryan Kruse  
Zachary Skeens  
Haydon Speaks  
Audrey Wade**

## *Notes from Angela*

- Angela Tonjes

### *Thank You*

A great big thank you to all the musicians and assistants of Emanuel who really went the extra mile to provide special music for services in April. We did the best we could with what we had, all while battling low internet speed, high internet traffic, and computer glitches. You were awesome, and our congregation appreciates you!

Thanks also to Cory, who has remarkable tech skills and is a knowledgeable and patient teacher for those of us who have no skill at all.

### *Good Shepherd Sunday*

Good Shepherd Sunday occurs on the fourth Sunday in the Easter season, May 3. The name comes from the gospel reading for the day, which is taken from John, chapter 10. In this reading, Jesus is described as the "Good Shepherd" who lays down his life for his sheep.

Psalms 23 is also read, its comforting verses a favorite of many Christians. Do you know it by heart?

### *National Day of Prayer*

The National Day of Prayer was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of Congress, and signed into law by President Harry Truman. In May of 1988, the law was unanimously amended by both the House and Senate and signed into law by President Ronald Reagan, designating the first Thursday of May as a national day of prayer. Every president since 1952 has signed a National Day of Prayer proclamation.

On Thursday, May 7, Americans are encouraged to give thanks and to turn to God in prayer and peaceful meditation.

### *Mother's Day*

Mother's Day was established by Anna Jarvis, in honor of her mother. In 1914, the second Sunday of May was designated as Mother's Day by presidential proclamation. This year, Mother's Day falls on May 10.

### *Ascension*

Ascension Day is kept on the fortieth day of Easter and falls on Thursday, May 21. There are several references to forty in the Bible and in the church including: forty days and nights on the ark, forty years in the wilderness for Israel, Jesus fasting for forty days/nights, and the forty days of Lent. Forty is used to designate important time periods. How do you count to forty?

The ascension of Jesus is one of the five major events in his life which also include his baptism, transfiguration, crucifixion, and resurrection. It is a great day of celebration in the Christian church year, with white as the color on the altar.

### *Graduates*

Congratulations to the graduating seniors of Emanuel. May you plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit. Commit to the Creator whatever you do.

God bless you in your future.

## *Memorial Day*

Memorial Day, or Decoration Day as it is sometimes called, began as a patriotic holiday to honor the memory of those who died in the Civil War. Since then, it has become a day to pay tribute to all who have died in the wars.

Memorial Day is Monday, May 27.

## *Pentecost*

Pentecost is celebrated on Sunday, May 31, and is the last day of Easter. Pentecost is when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples in the form of flames, fifty days after Easter. Some Christians consider this day to be the birthday of the Christian church.

Everyone is encouraged to WEAR RED!

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. -Joshua 1:9



Remember our members in nursing homes and assisted living facilities in your prayers and with cards, letters, but no visits at this time:

**Lutheran Home** (1036 S. Perry St., Napoleon)  
Marg Lanzer  
**Alpine Village** (1032 S. Perry St., Napoleon)



**Glenn Park Assisted Living** (2429 William Diehl Ct, Defiance, OH 43512)

**Laurels of Defiance** (1701 S. Jefferson Ave. Defiance, OH 43512)

**Van Crest Health Center** (600 E Joe E Brown Ave, Holgate, OH 43527)

**Orchards of Northcrest** (240 Northcrest Drive Napoleon, OH 43545)



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Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning  
Living Spirit Director - Holly Mohring, Angela Tonjes  
Parish Secretary - Maxine Eickhoff  
Sunday School Superintendent -  
Altar Guild Chairman - Julie Callaway  
Custodian - Janitor Jack