



# Good News

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A Publication of Emanuel Lutheran Church  
Volume XLV No. 7  
July 2020

**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 and Friends of Emanuel,

One of the verses of scripture which I have often asked catechism students to memorize is Psalm 50:15. It is a verse that I personally memorized long ago. It has always been such an important verse in my life. However, today, I find myself daily going back to that verse for comfort, strength, guidance, hope, and reassurance.

“Call upon me in the day of trouble, and I will deliver you, And you will honor me.”

It seems as though every day is filled with some kind of trouble. Just listen to the news or listen to a friend or a member of Emanuel. Another day, more Coronavirus reports, another terrible act of injustice, another accident, more destruction by violence or storm, still more starvation, another day with too much or too little rain, and the list goes on. Someone else has cancer. Another has surgery. Still another has anxieties as he or she waits for test results. Another has been separated from a loved one.

This verse from Psalm 50:15 reminds us that in the midst of it all God is at work, and we need to call upon him because He hears our prayers and will help us. As he hears and answers we honor Him for His faithfulness to us.

A friend of mine put it so well in a poem she sent me following 9/11.

I still see God behind the clouds of smoke and dust,  
Through eyes that burn, filled with tears,  
At sights I never dreamed I'd see.  
He still is there for me to trust.  
I still see God behind the evil acts of those who kill and main.  
Though I don't know how hatred delights in such senseless loss.  
He still is there each soul to claim.  
I still see God amid the tons of debris and rubble.  
Throughout the endless days of searching,  
For the lost, not to be found.  
He still is there, a constant help in trouble. Pat Sellinger

Yes, I would agree with her. I still see God. And I see him at work all around us even in the midst of all that is troubling our days and our world. If you have any troubles this day do not hesitate to trust God. Call upon Him.

I would ask all of us to call upon Him as we begin the move back to “in-person” worship

starting on Sunday July 5th. The Emanuel Church Council, the Northwestern Ohio Synod, the Henry County Health Department, and the Center for Disease Control has put forth a great effort to create a plan to allow us to gather for “in-person” worship and keep one another safe. Church council voted to stop “in-person” worship out of love and concern for one another. Now we can safely resume “in-person” worship if everyone who attends or participates in these services follows the guidelines set before us. Please answer the survey and read in this newsletter how “in-person” worship will begin.

Also a note especially for those over 60 but really for all of us. Be aware of your risk factors when it comes to being exposed to the Coronavirus. We know the virus is still with us even if it is at a minimum in Henry County at this time. You may want to talk to your doctor or health professional so you are truly aware of your risk factors.

We will be continuing with our Facebook live services and will continue to improve and expand this dimension of our outreach and ministry.

May we be safe as we call upon the Lord together,  
Pastor Dennis R. King

## **Emanuel Church Council on Zoom - May 18, 2020**

Barb Hoffman called the meeting to order. All Council members were present except Melinda Dachenhaus. Joe Kohout led with prayer.

April minutes were pre-reviewed by Council members by email. Denise Etzler made a motion to approve minutes as given. Joe Kohout seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report was pre-reviewed. Kelli Burkhardt motioned to approve the treasurer's report as given. Ryan Hoffman seconded. Motion passed. Vanco online payments and donations were explained to Council. It is another option on how someone may give to the church.

### **BOARDS:**

**Board of Education** - Graduation gifts are ordered. Getting ready to contact people to teach Sunday School.

**Property** - Checking into \$1,100 equipment to set up online video in church. \$400 - \$500 for labor, plus hardware. Hope Service will not be able to help Jack due to the COVID-19. Will have few people help with Spring Cleaning outside this year.

**Congregational Life** - Graduates were asked to introduce themselves online after Sunday's service. There was discussion about having “Word of the Day” on the radio again. It was tabled till more information was received. Caring Corner hasn't been possible during the COVID-19.

**Doctrine and Worship** - nothing to report.

Pastor Dennis King stated that worship on Zoom and Facebook is going really good. Outreach is far because more than just the Congregation is watching. The Bible Study is going well.

**Call Committee update** - have a prospective minister for Council to meet. Set May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 6:00 pm on Zoom for Council to meet with the Call Committee with any questions about the prospective minister. All will meet together with the minister at 7pm.

Council discussed where we are with opening the church. Will take baby steps. Will monitor cases and need to see a decline. Communication is vital.

Communion - will try on June 7<sup>th</sup> after the service in the vestibule by the elevator. It will be set up for no contact and social distancing.

Carey Plummer made a motion to continue virtual church service through the month of June. Denise Etzler seconded. Motion passed.

Julie Kohout made a motion to adjourn. Denise Etzler seconded. Motion passed. Council closed with the Lord's prayer.

Submitted by Lorelee Jones, Church Council Secretary

## **Guidelines for "in person" worship**

As we continue to navigate through this unusual year, we have decided to open church for those that would like to attend. Please note that we will continue to hold services virtually. So, those of you who feel more comfortable worshipping in your own homes, please continue to do so. Please realize this is a starting point and please be patient as we move forward. Our major emphasis is on the care and wellbeing of others. For those of you who wish to come into the church for worship, we ask that the following guidelines be observed:

1. There will be one service on Thursday night and one service on Sunday morning. If you choose to attend, we ask that you please choose one service.
2. When entering the church, please come in the North door next to the parking lot and proceed up the stairs to the Sanctuary. The elevator will be available for use. At the end of the service, we will exit to the back of the Sanctuary and out the doors on the South side of the church. Please realize you may not be sitting where you used to sit. Only 40-60 people at a service.
3. To obtain proper social distance, we will be seated in every third pew. Bulletins will be placed in the pews that are to be used. Please ONLY sit in a pew with a bulletin. For the first few weeks, ushers will be available to help guide you to open seats.

The balcony will be closed off, except for the families of those operating the sound board and the camera.

4. There will be no acolytes.
5. Masks are required when entering and exiting the church and during vocal responses during the service.
6. Hymnals, pencils, and children's busy bags will be removed.
7. Offering plates will be set out in the back of the church for you to give on your way out.
8. There will be no singing of hymns. You may hummm! This is based on recommendations from Henry County Health Department(HCHD) of the safest route is no singing and the HCHD video they posted on Facebook showing the difference between masking/non masking; the ELCA document on "Resuming Care-filled Worship and Sacramental Life During a Pandemic" pages 16-32; "Singing and Music" <https://thehymnsociety.org/covid-19/> and National Association of Teachers of Singing.
9. If there is a children's sermon, children will remain in the pews with their parents.
10. The only bathroom that will be available will be the one next to the church office and the drinking fountain will be turned off.
11. Wipes and sanitizer will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own.
12. If you feel sick or have a temp or cough, we ask you to please stay at home and worship virtually.

# Upcoming Events

## Sunday, July 5

9:00 a.m. Worship in person or online

Holy Communion immediately following the virtual service.

Communion will be available until 11 a.m.

## Sunday, July 12

9:00 a.m. Worship in person or online

10:30 a.m. Congregational Meeting following the virtual service at Napoleon High School student parking lot.

## Sunday, July 19

9:00 a.m. Worship in person or online

## Monday, July 20

6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting

## Sunday, July 26

9:00 a.m. Worship in person or online



# 2020 Graduate

Gods blessings to

## Zachary Skeens

as he enters the next chapter in his life!



I am Zach Skeens, I will be graduating from Napoleon High School. Graduating in 2020 is definitely one to remember. No one knew that this was going to be our way out of high school. Not being able to see my friends and classmates everyday has been difficult but graduating with such a supportive family, community and school means a lot to me. After graduation I will be entering the work force to continue my passion for mechanics.

## *Membership News*

### Release:

Scott & Ella Sonnenberg is being released to Napoleon Church of the Nazarene.

### Baptism:

June 26 Sullivan Jack, son of Anthony & Erica Godsey, was baptized at Emanuel. Sullivan's sponsor is Ryan Kohout.

## Notes from Angela

- Angela Tonjes

### *Patriotic Sunday*

On Sunday, July 5, the organ solos will be arrangements of the national hymns from our hymnal. We are thankful and joyful to live in a country that we cherish, and we recognize that God blesses other nations of the world as well. We hope to see your red, white, and blue!

The modern motto of the United States of America, as established in a 1956 law signed by President Eisenhower, is "In God we trust." The phrase first appeared on U.S. coins in 1864. A phrase similar to "In God we trust" appears in the fourth(!) verse of "The Star-Spangled Banner." Written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key, the song contains these words: "And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.'"

"With God, all things are possible," is the motto of the state of Ohio. Taken from Matthew 19:26, it is the only state motto from the Bible, and was adopted in 1959. Currently, it is one of 46 phrases printed on the license plates introduced in 2013, and is located in the center-left of the design.

### *Thank You*

A special thank you is extended to all the singers and instrumentalists who added a wonderful musical touch to our online services in June. Your dedication to your church during difficult circumstances is remarkable. I truly appreciate you.

Thank you to Laura Ellis-Kruse for assuming the altar duties in May!

### *From "Portals of Prayer," May 30, 2020:*

Martin Luther wrote that music is only second to the Word of God. He considered the combination of language and music a gift of God to be used in worship. The words speak to the mind, and the music touches the heart.

The Lutheran Church has been called the singing church since it began. No longer did the congregation just listen to the choir chant, but the Word of God was written in their language and placed in hymns.



◆ I am thanking God for you and for the faithfulness in ministry that is evident in so many ways at Emanuel; it is the Holy Spirit at work in your midst. In particular, I want to thank you for your recent gift of \$351.80 to the Napoleon Ministry of Genacross Lutheran Services.

-To God be the Glory, Dr. Jim Dumke

◆ Dear Emanuel Lutheran Church Members, Thank you for the donation of your Lenten offering to PiLLars of Success. It was very generous and thoughtful of you. Your donation will touch lives. Thank you!

◆ Thank you for your ongoing support of Filling Homes ministry. Your gift impact the lives of many!  
-Jean Cohrs

◆ Special Thank You's to Pastor King, S.A.M. Jeannine, Maxine, and Barb Hoffman for your prayers, and calls before and after my recent hip replacement surgery and continuing recovery. For the get well wish cards, I Thank You ALL, TOO! May all the love and joy you share with others return tenfold to you! Thank you, again, for the kindness you've shown me!  
Sandi Weirauch

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)



EMANUEL GOOD NEWS, a monthly publication of the Emanuel Lutheran Church  
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SAM Jeannine Grimm (419-261-6480 or jeanninegrimm@yahoo.com)  
Congregation President - Barb Hoffman  
Women of the ELCA President - Dora Titgemeyer  
Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Phyllis Kloos (419-260-6582 or phyllis\_kloos@yahoo.com)  
Worship & Music Coordinator/Organist - Angela Tonjes  
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

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### **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

## IN-PERSON SURVEY

As we move to in-person worship we need to realize that with social distancing we can only have 40 - 60 people in the church at one time. Council needs to find out from the congregation if they plan to attend in-person worship because obviously if there are more than 40 - 60 people we will need to have a second service on Thursday nights and then move the Bible Study to another time.

Please check your preference for worship and how many people would be attending if you wish to attend "in-person" worship.

1. \_\_\_\_ Will remain at home and continue worshipping through Facebook Live
2. \_\_\_\_ Will remain at home and use the written service I receive by mail
3. \_\_\_\_ Will attend the 9am Sunday worship and how many in attendance \_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_ Will attend the 7pm Thursday night worship and how many in attendance \_\_\_\_

Please return this survey by mail to Emanuel Lutheran Church, PO Box 501, Napoleon, OH 43545. You may also drop off at the church using the black lock box. For those who received this survey electronically and by mail please only answer once.