

EMMANUEL NEWS

Sunday School: 9:00 (Sept-May)

Divine Service: Sundays at 9:00 am (Memorial Day
through Labor Day)
Sundays at 10:15 am



From the Pastor's Study

Now that we're in election season, there's a steady stream of polls trying to predict which candidate will win the presidency. I think polls can be helpful, to a certain degree. The experts who examine the results understand that each survey and survey taker have certain biases which have to be taken into account. As with politics, there are numerous surveys which claim to reveal the state of the Church. However, as with political polls, these have to be taken with a grain of salt. As I was preparing this article, I looked at quite a few statistics on the church and evangelism, and I determined that not only do results vary from survey to survey, they also don't matter.

They don't matter because they give inconsistent results. One revealed that 80% of unchurched people would consider accepting an invitation to church. However, another survey discovered that 55% of unchurched don't want to be invited to church because they prefer one-on-one conversations. Who knows which is accurate and which is not?

Another reason that statistics don't matter is that Jesus didn't care about statistics or surveys. He didn't ask people if they'd be open to hearing what He had to say, if they'd accept His invitation, or if His words offended them. He simply invited: ***"Come unto me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest"*** (Matthew 11:28). Jesus had one-on-one conversations and He spoke to thousands at one time. Each interaction had the same purpose – to give people forgiveness, eternal life, and all the blessings that come to those who believe in Him.

The last thing Jesus said to His disciples was ***"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."*** This is a pretty straightforward command, right? He's instructing us to teach, invite, and baptize so that all might come to know the joy of salvation. You do this through one-on-one conversations and by inviting people to church. As Saint Paul writes: ***"How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in Him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"*** (Romans 10:14-15) If they don't hear about Jesus, they'll never believe in Him. You have the Good News so don't keep it to yourself – share it!

Continued on page 2

Continued from Page 1

When Gary Thies from Mission Central visited us on February 18th, he talked about the great things the Lord is doing in the mission field. Missionaries in all corners of the world are working tirelessly to share the love of Jesus. They tell people about the Savior who came to help them by saving them from their sins and giving them grace to endure their negative situations.

They're working in faraway lands, many of which are openly hostile to Christianity. We're in America, with many who are openly hostile to Christianity. Do the missionaries stop? Of course not! Should we stop? Of course not.

Let's make inviting people to Easter service a priority this year. We should invite people all the time, but what a great time to do so! Ignore the statistics and just do what Jesus tells you to do! Invite people to service and then help them because it can be very intimidating to attend church for the first time. Offer to pick them up. Introduce them to your friends. Point out those they know in the congregation. Show them Jesus! As Jesus says, cast the Word of God, and let Him worry about the growth.

Easter is a time of rejoicing and celebrating all that the Lord has done for us, don't we want others to know the same joy? So, I challenge you. Pray for God to open a door through which you can invite someone to know what Jesus has done for them. Pray they accept your offer and then pray that God would bring them to faith. This is what we do, let us do it faithfully and in God pleasing ways, and He will bless our efforts.

In Christ,
Pastor

Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council

February 14, 2024

Those present: Pastor, Wes, Lyle, Dave, Deanna, Randy, Jon Frank, Jon Reaman and Sheryl
Minutes were read and approved.

Treasurers Report-Nothing new

Elder Report: Nothing

Evangelism Committee: The soup dinner was successful in raising funds for "quilts of valor"

Trustees Report: Some lights in the Fellowship Hall to be replaced.

Pastor's Report: Pastor reported 15 shut-in visits. He discussed the vacancy and stated it is going well.

Old Business: none

New Business: none Meeting was brief

Closed with the Lords Prayer.

Minutes taken and submitted by Pastor

Mary & Martha Meeting Minutes

Mary & Martha met February 8th with 12 in attendance. Judy led our Bible Study and called the meeting to order. She passed around cards for the shut-ins for all to sign. Minutes and financial reports were given and approved.

Old Business:

8 ladies tied quilts in January.

The soup dinner netted \$1422 plus \$500 Trivent funds for expenses for “quilts of valor” for Emmanuel members.

New Business:

Ash Wednesday lasagna dinner was discussed and finalized.

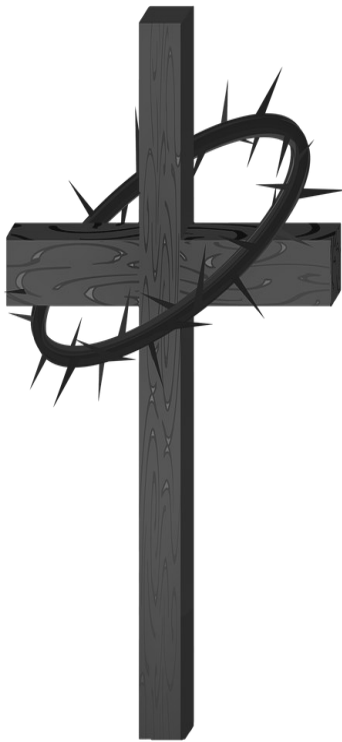
A motion by Karen Van Meveren and seconded by Carol Roth to send \$50 to Can’s for Camp Okoboji.

Closed with Lord’s Prayer and table prayer.

Submitted by Pam Wollesen, Secretary

Daughters of Emmanuel Meeting Minutes

DOES will be holding their next meeting February 27th before Lenten Supper.



Lenten Worship Schedule 2024

Meals at 6:00 and Service at 7:00

Wednesday (Feb 28th) – Emmanuel

DOEs serving Walking Tacos

Wednesday (March 6th) – Peace Youth

Youth Serving Maidrites, Potato salad

Wednesday (March 13th) – Emmanuel

Youth serving Maidrites, Cheesy Potatoes

Wednesday (March 20th) – Peace

Peace Elders - Fish Fry

Maundy Thursday – Peace

Good Friday – Emmanuel

Easter Sunrise (7:00 am) – Peace

Easter Late (10:15am) – Emmanuel

Stewardship Devotion

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do no destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:19-21).

Becoming Rich

Through the working of the Holy Spirit, Christians understand that riches do not consist of money. In fact, riches have nothing to do with money. We can have very little money and be very rich or be very wealthy and be impoverished. True riches have to do with a right relationship with Jesus Who brings us happiness, satisfaction, joy, love and peace. Material possessions do not constitute real riches.

Material things are transitory. What we possess materially is subject to loss in a variety of ways. Our wealth can be lost in the stock market or through rust, obsolescence, and thievery. No matter how much money we may have, we have no way of guaranteeing that it can be kept safe and secure. Money can be lost, stolen, or its purchasing power lost through inflation. Investments can decline in value and businesses can fail. Our property can be burned or robbed. All material things can be gone quickly. Even if our material things stay with us, we will eventually leave them, because, at the end, we can take nothing with us.

So, if we want to be rich, it cannot be on the basis of material things. Things of this world are much too precarious a foundation on which to build a life. If we are to be rich, we have to turn away from material things and turn toward Christ. In our Scripture reading, Jesus tells us to *“store up for yourselves treasures in heaven.”* If we want to get really rich, we have to start storing up riches in heaven.

In order for us to store up treasures in heaven, we first need to love God with all of our heart, soul, and strength and love our neighbors as ourselves. To store up treasures in heaven, we need to loosen our grip on things of this world. We need to learn to be content with what we have rather than always wanting more worldly things.

Through faith, we are rich. As Christians, we receive the riches of eternal life with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Discussion Thoughts:

1. Why do people worry so much about not having enough money?
2. Why don't material things provide lasting happiness?
3. Why is it important to remember that the only thing that we take to heaven is ourselves?

Prayer:

Lord, You are the provider and controller of all things. Help us to put our trust and faith in You rather than in worldly things. We thank You for Your wonderful love that was shown through Your Son, Jesus. In Your precious name, we pray. Amen.

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00 am Men's Bible Study	2
3 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	4 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	5 7:00 pm Evangelism Meet- ing	6 3:45 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Peace Youth serving Maidrites	7 7:00 pm at Peace Maundy Thurs Service	8 7:00 am Men's Bible Study	9
10 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	11 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	12	13 3:45 Confirmation 6:00 pm Youth serving maidrites 7:00 pm Lenten Service Council Meeting after	14 1:30 pm Mary & Martha meeting	15 7:00 am Men's Bible Study	16
17 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Worship	18 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	19	20 3:45 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Supper at Peace Fish Fry 7:00 pm Lenten Service	21	22 7:00 am Men's Bible Study	23
24 9:00 am Sunday School 10:15 am Service	25 7:00 pm Ladies Bible Study	26	27 3:45 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm DOES meeting	28 7:00 pm at Peace Maundy Thurs Service	29 7:00 pm Good Friday Service	30
9:00 am Sunday Sch 10:15 Emmanuel 7:00 am Peace MASTER						

Birthdays

Name	Date
Brianna Garms	03
Dianne Barry	04
Lori Tegels	05
Laryn Sharp	06
Mollie Scott	07
JoDee Sharp	10
Christian Reaman	11
Wuanita Tegels	12
Charles Bohm	12
Carter Huegerich	13
Vanessa Swenson	14
Kiersten Carroll	14
Gina Schlepp	17
Emmett Hemer	17
Carson Rudd	19
Julie Reaman	22
Jean Mohrhauser	23
Stuart Bohm	23
Ryan Barry	23
Barb Bundt	24
Joani Vohs	25
Jennifer Peterson	27
Jon Reaman	31

If your birthday or anniversary is not on our list, please contact the church office so we can add you to our list.

Anniversaries

Reggy & Faye Rohrbeck	48 years
Craig & Jackie Wallace	43 years
Gary & Myrna Kruse	48 years
Jon & Brigit Frank	15 years

Serving in God's House

Elders:

March 3: Marlin Johnson (712)210-0879
 March 10: Dave Woltman (712) 660-3532
 March 17: Lyle Tegels (712) 830-7151
 March 24: Marlin Johnson (712)210-0879
 March 31: Dave Woltman (712) 660-3532

Acolytes:

March 3: Jacob Huegerich, Carter Huegerich
 March 10: Emmett Hemer
 March 17: Braxton Graff, Talon Graff
 March 24: Macy Monahan, Katie Ryan
 March 31: Evan Brockman, Konnor Snider

Counters:

March 3: Brigit Frank, Karen Van Meveren, Lucas & Kalyn
 March 10: Christina Caton, Amber Hadden, Julie Reaman
 March 17: Judy Miller & Dale & Lynda Wiebers
 March 24: Brigit Frank, Karen Van Meveren, Lucas & Kalyn
 March 31: Christina Caton, Amber Hadden & Julie Reaman

Greeters:

March 3: Lannie & Judy Miller
 March 10: Reggy & Faye Rohrbeck
 March 17: Wes & Kim Drost
 March 24: Lyle & Linda Schuknecht
 March 29: Donna Smidt
 March 31: Sheryl Husienga & Joyce Bettin (10:15)

Contact Us

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