



The Emmanuel Lutheran

April 2017

Upcoming Events

April 5: Board of Education @ 4:15 p.m.

April 8: Worship Committee @ 8:00 a.m.

April 10: Outreach Committee @ 1:30 p.m.

Board of Elders and Messy Monday meal @ 5:30 p.m.

Messy Monday @ 6:00 p.m.

April 13: Maundy Thursday communion service @ 7:00 p.m.

April 14: Good Friday Tenebrae service @ 7:00 p.m.

April 14-16: Easter Vigil from 8:00 p.m. Friday evening to sunrise on Easter morning

April 16: Easter communion service @ 9:00 a.m.

Easter Brunch @ 10:00 am

April 19: Church Council @ 6:00 p.m.

April 23: Confirmation service @ 9:00 am

April 29: Church Spring Cleanup

Pastor's Pen

Greetings and the best of all who read these words!

Thought I'd write some gentle stuff this month. I'm getting sort of tired of blood and guts, terror and war, liars and deniers.

I was pleased to hear that the youth in confirmation classes "A" and "B" are getting excited about the time of spring and all that they have to do in their lives. Some are into sports, some love music, some are into art, learning a new and difference language, and others are pretty well taken with the matters of fashion and personal appearance.

It gives me no lack of joy when one or another them will ask to recite, read for the class, or even ask a question about the meaning of the Bible. It says to me that parents and guardians are doing a fair amount of encouraging at home and that the older generations are discussing things about life and death and heaven once in a while.

For our Lenten series, I have chosen to listen to the passion history as read by different generations of men. This has not been an accident. Not only is it their privilege and duty, but it's also something that they need to do for themselves. One of our readers commented: "You know pastor, even though I've known these messages all my life, somehow I got new meaning from them for my life after having to go through them a few

times before getting up front to read them to the congregation.”

The preschool children are really a joy to watch and to listen to as well. Depending on their age, they have different ways of looking at things than others. They are curious, they are mirror-like as their attitudes reflect back what they have learned at home as well as in our Joyful Noise Preschool. Just stop in to watch sometime. If you think you want to help sometime just mention it to our teacher and her aides and they will be happy to accept your support.

From time to time things wear out and need repair and/or replacement. So it was with the main furnace that heats our fellowship area of the church. An inspection revealed a gas leak, then a further checking revealed a dangerous furnace condition that had us shut it down for safety reasons. The guys on the church council recognized the importance of safety and maintenance and had the work of installing a replacement furnace done as quickly as possible. Of course, the problem that was brought along with it was how to pay for the new equipment and the labor to install it. We had enough money in special funds to cover the costs, but we had to borrow from ourselves and our special funds to do so. The total expense was a little over \$3,000. We have to remember to chip in to replace those funds so that they may be used as indicated. Please help.

Easter planning is all but finished, but the days and weeks before are going to be filled with special preparations,

practices, and much desk work for me as I want to present to you all some very fresh and clear sermons and Bible studies appropriate to the season.

This is the season of personal memories for me as my father passed on the Saturday before Easter. As I think of how he taught me many things I'm reminded of how he would sit at the piano and have me sit there with him to play and sing hymns. One of my favorites that is shared these days is in our hymnal CW 593. Especially stanza 5:

“Ah, my best and kindest Friend;
You will love me to the end.
Let me love you more and more,
Always better than before.”

Sing the hymn to your children... they will never forget, or that you did!

See you in church.

Pastor Kogler

Thank You

Thank you to the Women of Emmanuel Serving Groups, Confirmation Classes, K.I.C.K., and Youth Group/Ignite for helping with the Lenten suppers.

Children Singing on April 9

The choir and Sunday School children will be singing "One Life/Jesus Loves Me" on Palm Sunday (April 9th). Please meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8:45 a.m. to run through the song.

If you are unable to attend, please notify Mrs. Winkler.

Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation Sunday has been rescheduled from May 14th to April 23rd.

The first quarter Voters Meeting will NOT be on April 23 @ 10:30 a.m. following Fellowship Time. When the new date for this rescheduled meeting is determined, an e-blast will be sent. Please check your e-mail and upcoming service folders so that you may mark your calendar to attend this important meeting with our newly seated 2017 Church Council.

Spring Cleanup

Please make plans to come and help with the Church Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 29.

Joyful Noise Notes

Spring has arrived. Everything around school says it is spring, from the decorations to the warmer weather.

Letters W, X, Y and Z will be our focus this month. During Bible Time, the children will be learning about the events that took place during Holy Week and after Easter.

There will be no school on April 14-17 to observe Easter. Parent-Teacher Conferences are being held April 18-20 during the afternoon and evenings.

The last Messy Monday of the school year will be April 24th. The children will also have a vacation day on April 28th, so Mrs. Sternisha and I can attend an Early Childhood Conference at UW-Stout in Menomonie. – Ann Winkler

K.I.C.K. (Kids In Christ's Knowledge)

Thank you to the huge turnout of people for serving waffles and pancakes for the Lenten Supper. It was a big success, despite a hint of smoke smell coming from the kitchen. Everyone enjoyed the banana pancakes and waffles with strawberries and whipped cream. There was even real maple syrup! The event sure filled the stomach and the soul.

We are working on scheduling a date to go bowling. Keep your eyes open for more details.

Also, as a reminder, Camp Croix early bird registration ends April 1. Find more information at campcroix.org.

If you have any questions about the K.I.C.K. program, please speak with Christina Dobberstein. Thank you.

Outreach Committee

Currently, we meet the 2nd Monday of each month @ 1:30 p.m., but are open to meeting on a different day/time.

New committee members are needed to join as we discuss outreach ideas and methods of communication.

If you are interested in helping by being on this committee to share your ideas, please talk with Pastor Kogler.

Women of Emmanuel (WE)

WE is organizing the Easter Brunch. There is a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you'd like to bring something.

This month WE will also be serving cake, during fellowship time, in honor of Confirmands on April 23rd, Confirmation Sunday.

If you have any questions about WE please speak with Janet Kogler, Leslie Stelling, or Sarah Dahlke.

Adult Forum & Weekday Bible Class

The Adult Forum meets in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. following the fellowship time. We are studying The Gospel of Mark.

The weekday Bible Class meets in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday @ 10:30 a.m. Please join us as you are able. (On hiatus during Lent; starts back on April 19th.)

Both the Adult Forum and Bible Class are open to members and friends of the congregation. You may bring your electronic Bible readers, iPads, laptops, or whatever means you prefer to help compare translations and do research on the "Net."

Bible Information Class

Pastor Kogler began leading a Bible Information Class in September. This class instructs those interested in becoming new members here at Emmanuel. The book used for class is WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Please contact Pastor Kogler if you interested in or have any questions about this class.

Confirmation Classes

There are 10 young people enrolled and taking Confirmation Class this school year.

Pray for our children! Pray for our families! Pray for our Pastor to have wisdom and good health!

April CC Schedule & Lessons

April 3 – Confirmation Class B at 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: Two Main Teachings

Catechism Questions 13-17

April 5 – Confirmation Class A at 3:00 p.m.

Lesson: Two Main Teachings

Catechism Questions 13-17

HOLY WEEK – April 9-15 (no classes)

April 19 at 3:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: Giving of the Law

Catechism Questions 18-33

April 23 – Confirmation Sunday

April 26 at 3:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: First Commandment

Catechism Questions 34-40

Choir

Dear friends who love to sing!

We're going through a little rearranging process with regard to the church choir. Sarah Dahlke will accompany as Rebecca Huth has run into time limitations due to her practice teaching schedule. Ann Winkler will continue to direct, however, the rehearsal time will be immediately after the Sunday worship service and last only a short time. The music will be simplified, and pastor will work hard at keeping the service within the hour long time period.

Sunday School and Adult Forum will meet at 10:45 a.m. The extra fifteen minutes of adjustment should allow us to fit everything in and make it possible for greater participation.

Thanks...

Hope to see you where ever you are most comfortable.

Pastor Kogler

Greeting Cards

Seasonally we exchange greeting cards, especially to those who aren't able to be with us. Our congregation has access to greeting cards (in blue card boxes in Fellowship Hall) at a substantial reduced price.

You're invited to take advantage of this service. And, at same time, if you have cards to donate please bring them in plastic bag, place them on top of card boxes, and the Women of Emmanuel will organize and price them. Thank you.

Other News

Please find the Usher sign-up sheets on the table below the mail slots and fill-in your name when available. If you have any questions regarding ushering please speak with Don Benisch. Thank you!

Flower Chart – Please locate the Flower Chart on the bulletin board and write your name in on the Sunday that you are able to provide flowers. You are welcome to bring your own or perhaps contact Florology @ 715.222.3899 for an altar arrangement, potted plant, or fresh arrangement at special pricing from \$20-\$30.

If you have church information for publication in either the May newsletter or calendar, please send to church e-mail: emmanuelhudsonwi@gmail.com prior to noon April 26th. Thank you kindly, Trudi :)

Please continue to bring your aluminum cans and place them in the trailer. And, when emptying the cans into the trailer, please make sure that whatever container you used to transport the cans isn't placed in the trailer as well. Thank you.

Church Council for 2017

Mark Carlson, Chairman

Matthew Winkler, Treasurer

Jay Dahlke, Financial Secretary

Tim Cords, Recording Secretary

Matt Dobberstein, Board of Education

Maynard Huth, Board of Elders

Scott Bertram/Chris Hinz, Property & Finance Committee

WELS News

Save-the-Date: WELS Night at Miller Park on Thursday, August 10, 2017

The date for the fourth annual WELS Night at Miller Park has been decided. Mark your calendars and plan to join thousands of WELS members for the Milwaukee Brewers game against the Minnesota Twins on Thursday, August 10, 2017. Game time is 7:10 p.m.

The Brewers are again offering WELS members 50 percent off the price of tickets. Seating will be in a block for WELS

members.

About Adult Discipleship

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing"
(John 15:5)

The synod's Adult Discipleship office exists to help adults grow in Christ's love and live out their calling. The resources provided by the Commission on Adult Discipleship assist congregations and their leaders to lead members to see Jesus as central to their life and to equip them to use their unique gifts to bring the gospel influence into all their daily relationships. These resources promote spiritual growth through personal devotional life, Bible classes, family ministry, stewardship growth, congregational group encouragement, member involvement, elder training, and leadership development.

Mission Statement

Adult Discipleship assists congregations and called workers in helping individuals grow in their relationship with Jesus and become better equipped to use their unique gifts to bring Christ's love and the gospel message into all their daily relationships and activities.

About Evangelism

"In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give

an answer to everyone who asks you to give the rea-son for the hope that you have” (1 Peter 3:15)

One of WELS’ objectives is “to foster a sense of urgency for the lost and to seize every opportunity the Lord provides to evangelize lost souls.”

The Commission on Evangelism exists to assist congregations to seize every opportunity the Lord provides to evangelize lost souls. Our service to WELS is to develop and promote evangelism resources that faithfully proclaim the truth of Scripture to the lost; to promote evangelism attitudes, structures, and programs consistent with Christian doctrine and the situation into which God has called a church, its pastors, and its people; and to promote the “equipping of the saints” for organized congregational evangelism and individual Christian witness.

Mission Statement

This commission assists congregations to seize opportunities the Lord provides to evangelize lost souls by developing and promoting evangelism resources and by promoting evangelism attitudes, structures, and programs consistent with Christian doctrine.

From: wels.net

A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

by **John Beck**

From: LSI Journal, Vol. 31, no. 1 (Winter 2017)

Evolutionists Say Amazing Things

“Evolution is a Leap of Imagination”

By Mark S. Bergemann

Richard Dawkins is one of the world’s greatest defenders of evolution. He regularly derides those who believe in a supernatural deity. In the preface to one of his bestselling books, he wonders why “the vast majority of people” refuse to deny the supernatural and therefore refuse to accept god-less evolution. He lists reasons why he thinks people persist in religious belief and concludes with the truth that evolution is “contrary to all intuition,” and is “a very large leap of imagination...a leap of the imagination so large that, to this day, may people seem unwilling to make it.”

Dawkins writes,

We are entirely accustomed to the idea that complex elegance is an indicator of premediated, crafted design. This is probably the most powerful reason for the belief, held by the vast majority of the people who have ever lived, in some kind of supernatural deity. It took a very large leap of imagination for Darwin and Wallace to see that, contrary to all intuition, there is another way and, once you have understood it, a far more

plausible way, for complex “design” to arise out of primeval simplicity. A leap of imagination so large that, to this day, many people seem unwilling to make it. It is the main purpose of this book to help the reader make this leap.²⁰

²⁰Richard Dawkins, *The Blind Watch Maker*, 2nd ed. (New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1996.) XIX