



The Emmanuel Lutheran February 2017

Upcoming Events

Lenten Services/Suppers: March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, April 5th

February 1 @ 4:15 p.m. Board of Education

February 9 @ 6:30 p.m. Women of Emmanuel

February 12 @ 1:00 p.m. K.I.C.K./Hunt Arena

February 13 @ 1:30 p.m. Outreach Committee

February 13 @ 5:30 p.m. Board of Elders

February 15 @ 6:30 p.m. Church Council

Pastor's Pen

My Dear Christian Friends,

Welcome to "Hearts for Jesus" month!

This is how we started out!

...15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, 17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:15-17 New International Version

As we have recently reviewed and rejoiced over the birth of our Savior, we do well to continue to keep in mind that the most important message to be heard, shared, and preserved is the message of the Gospel. What is more, that “good news” is really the sum and substance of our Lord’s commission to His church. We, who live in the present era, rejoice and are happy to be numbered among those who have been given the privilege and honor to be partners in that proclamation.

Our Calendar Continues as it Started!

As I have looked carefully at the calendar and the activities of our beloved congregation, I always want to make sure that what we plan, do, and say carries out the Lord’s commission to His church. We recall the words of the gospel in Matthew 28:18-20 and let them guide us in our planning and activities.+

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

The Joy of Our Daily Activities

Sometimes I wish that I could recreate the "aha!" moments that I've witnessed or shared since I came to Emmanuel. Many times I have had the privilege to hear from the lips of many of you the joyful expressions of spiritual ownership and self-realization. Those were the very special moments when "the light went on" and you gave expression to your love and understanding for the Lord Jesus and the Gospel. I have seen the dull and pain-filled eyes of your sorrow replaced with the sparkle of celebration and inner peace. I've experienced with you our congregation's stabilization and growth. I've watched as you have prayed for, visited the sick and lonely, and gone to the assistance to those who are old and infirm.

Our Calendars and Lives Need Adjustments and Planning

At the same time, it has been necessary to make adjustments as schedules change and as our church family continues to expand. Some of our programs need to be changed because of

the changes in our society. If you look around you in worship, you'll see new faces as individuals are drawn to Emmanuel for personal sanctuary and the desire for fellowship and learning. It has been more than gratifying to see individuals step up to the challenges and opportunities that continue to emerge as we live and have our being in a sinful world. As your pastor, I am happy with you and for you!

The season of Christmas/New Year/Epiphany is soon over, and we will be into the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is 3/1/17. Even as I type these words we are in the final planning stages for that season that will lead us to Holy Week and Easter! Guest speakers are scheduled, services and worship themes are chosen and special music is being rehearsed. We hope to gather for fellowship suppers, mid-week services, and to arrange for many readers for the season. With all the additional writing, preaching, teaching and planning this time of the year becomes more than a full time job. I hope to make this the best year of Gospel presentation ever.

2017 marks the 50th year of public ministry for me, and I am thankful! God bless!

- In Jesus' name, Pastor Kogler

Lenten Service/Supper Schedule

Lenten Services begin with a Communion Service on March 1st, Ash Wednesday.

Supper will be served at 6 p.m. each Wednesday during Lent prior to the Service. Here are mid-week supper/service dates:

March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th & April 5th

(Please stay tuned for Serving Group information.)

Wednesday Lenten Sermon Texts

March 1: Luke 18:9-14

March 8: Matthew 27:1-5

March 15: Luke 23:35-43

March 22: Luke 23:32-34

March 29: Luke 7:44-50

April 5: Mark 14:32-38 (Luke 22:45-46)

Joyful Noise Notes

The children in preschool are putting their whole hearts into learning this month. We will be studying the miracles of Jesus during Bible Story Time.

We are over half way done with our study of the alphabet. This month we are concentrating on letters Q, R, S, and T.

We will be singing with the Sunday School classes on Sunday, February 26. The song will be "Jesus Loves Me".

Valentine's Day will be celebrated on February 13 and 14 with a party. It will be fun exchanging valentines, making special gifts, and playing party games.

Messy Monday will be February 13 from 6-7 pm. A pizza meal will be provided from 5:30-6:00 p.m.

Our month will include two special days. Red Day will be February 16 and 17. We will wear red on those days. Silly Sock and Shoe Day will be February 23 and 24. Wear your silliest combination.

Our class lists are beginning to fill for next fall as we open our preschool to the public.

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

Our next KICK outing is February 12.

Please join us for open skating at Hunt Arena in River Falls from 1-2:30p.m. Meet at church at 12:30 p.m., or just meet at the rink at 1p.m. The cost is \$4 to skate and \$3 to rent skates.

Also, Camp Croix 2017 summer camp registration is open.

Come for a week of fun, fellowship, and faith-building! Open to children going into 4th -9th grade. Camp Croix is located in Danbury, Wisconsin.

More information, along with Camper, Counselor, and Staff Applications, can be found at www.campcroix.org.

Outreach News

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

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

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 13. If you would like to help on this committee with insight and ideas to

promote church growth, please speak with Pastor Kogler and make plans to attend the meeting.

Women of Emmanuel

WE needs your help and your ideas!!

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 9th at 6:30 p.m. at church. Your help is needed to assemble more freezer meals for shut-ins or those in need.

This activity was a great success a year ago, so we are preparing more meals Thursday night and while we do that, we can talk about ideas for future activities or projects.

Everyone who comes will get a little Valentine treat to take home!! Also, check your mailbox for the new Group List. The serving schedule for Lenten suppers will be coming out the end of the month.

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. Come join us!!!

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."

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!

February CC Schedule & Lessons

February 1

3:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: The Fourth Petition

Catechism Questions: 353-357

February 8

3:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: The Fifth Petition
Catechism Questions: 358-362

February 15

3:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: The Sixth Petition
Catechism Questions: 363-367

February 22

3:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: The Seventh Petition

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.

Class time will be one-hour each Thursday @ 7:00 p.m. The book used for class is WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY?

Please speak with or email Pastor Kogler if you have any questions.

As we've entered a new Church Year, different sections of the Bible will be read, heard, and explained in each of our services.

The inserts will not only be helpful to us as we worship, but they will give us “outreach pamphlets”. What is more, they may be used as person devotional guides throughout the week.

From Pastor Kogler

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Other News

If you have church information for publication in the March 2017 newsletter or calendar, please send to church e-mail: emmanuelhudsonwi@gmail.com or leave in ‘OFFICE’ mail slot prior to noon on Friday, February 17th. 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.

To receive church information from Emmanuel please update your contact information. Send e-mail to:

emmanuelhudsonwi@gmail.com or put a note in 'OFFICE' mail slot. Thank-you! :)

Please speak with Don Benisch if you are interested in ushering. 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

(Open Chair) – Outreach Committee

WELS News

Camp Croix 2017 Registration

Registration opens January 2, 2017

Come for a week of fun, fellowship, and faith-building! Open to children going into 4th -9th grade. Camp Croix is located in Danbury, Wisconsin.

CAMP DATES

Week One - July 9-15, 2017

Week Two - July 16-22, 2017

Week Three - July 23 -29, 2017

More information, along with Camper, Counselor, and Staff Applications, can be found at www.campcroix.org.

Learn about WELS

“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:8-10

WELS is a group of nearly 400,000 men, women, and children in nearly 1,300 congregations across the United States and Canada united by a common faith in Christ's saving love. We are committed to a common calling—encouraging each other in our faith and sharing God's gift of a Savior with the rest of the world.

Mission Statement: As men, women, and children united in faith and worship by the Word of God, the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod exists to make disciples throughout the world for time and for eternity, using the gospel in Word and sacrament to win the lost for Christ and to nurture believers for lives of Christian service, all to the glory of God.

What's in a name?

Our acronym stands for the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. We admit, it's a mouthful. But each word is significant.

Wisconsin is where three pastors serving German immigrants joined together in a common fellowship more than 150 years ago. Today, it is still where more than half of our membership calls home—but now we have congregations spread all across North America and missions spanning the globe.

Evangelical is a Greek word. Literally translated it means "gospel oriented." It is an apt description, for the gospel of Jesus Christ is at the core of all we believe and proclaim.

Lutheran refers to those who adhere to the teachings of Martin Luther, the leader of the Reformation in Germany. God used Luther to point out the errors of the church some 500 years ago—that salvation was something that must be earned. It was Luther who once again made clear that salvation is received through faith in Jesus as a gift from God (Ephesians 2:8,9).

Synod literally translated means “walking together.” As a fellowship of Christians, we walk together as individuals and congregations sharing a common bond of faith in Jesus articulated in the Lutheran Confessions.

We invite you to walk with us.

Synod capital debt retired

January 17, 2017

Late last month, the final payment was made on the synod’s capital debt. The retirement of the debt took place nearly a year and a half ahead of schedule.

Efforts to repay the debt began in 2009 after various synodical debts were combined into a single debt of \$22.4 million. An initial synodwide special offering called the “Year of Jubilee” was held that year. Through that offering and in the years that followed, the people of the synod brought gifts for debt

retirement totaling approximately \$5 million. The plan was put in place to amortize the remaining debt by the end of 2018 by budgeting for annual payments of \$1.6 million.

Last year, with the desire to retire the debt ahead of schedule, the Conference of Presidents authorized a second special offering called the “One in Christ” offering. The people of the synod responded again with gifts of \$3.1 million. Those additional gifts and regular payments since that time made it possible for the Synodical Council to make the final payment on the debt late last month.

The synod is now completely debt-free. Dollars previously set aside for debt payment can now be used to support the mission and ministry of the synod. This remarkable achievement, accomplished during a period of economic uncertainty, is truly a blessing for which we can be thankful to God. We humbly acknowledge that it happened only by God’s grace and by the power of the gospel working in the hearts of his people. Thanks to all who gave their gifts of love for this effort, and thanks to our gracious God for making it happen!

Serving in Christ,

President Mark Schroeder

Aforementioned from: <http://wels.net/>

A Biblical Worldview by John Beck

IS GENESIS HISTORY?

“Is Genesis History?” is the title of a new movie. Invite your friends. Del Tackett’s creation documentary is coming to movie theaters nationwide for a one-night event, Thursday, February 23, 2017. Experts in geology, biology, astronomy, archaeology, and the Bible answer pressing questions about Genesis. Following the film, a panel of scientists and theologians will discuss Genesis’ impact on Christianity today.

The closest theater to Hudson to carry the film is in Oakdale. Price of a ticket is \$12.50. I have seen the trailer for the film and it is a well done professional film. I look forward to seeing it.

You may purchase tickets online by going to:
GenesisHistory.com. A complete list of theater locations is at
fathomevents.com.

I expect your biblical worldview will be greatly enhanced if you see the film. We could go to see the film as a group if you so desire. Just let me know. I will be happy to make arrangements and even purchase tickets in advance.