



The Emmanuel Lutheran March 2017

Upcoming Events

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Lenten Supper @ 6:00 p.m.
Lenten Service @ 7:00 p.m.

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

March 13: Outreach Committee @ 1:30 p.m.
Board of Elders and Messy Monday meal @ 5:30 p.m.
Messy Monday @ 6:00 p.m.

March 14: Church Council @ 6:00 p.m.

March 15: K.I.C.K./Serve Lenten Supper @ 6:00 p.m.

March 21: Preschool Staff @ 12:00 p.m.

Pastor's Pen

Greetings Everyone,

Soon we will be in the middle of the Lenten Season. It is the season of bitter/sweet messages. The bitter side is one that

reminds us of the tremendous price that was paid for our sins. The sweet side is that we live on the side of fulfillment and we can rest assured that the payment for the sins of mankind was accepted.

You can imagine how terrible it would be for a parent to have their son or daughter kidnapped and to be held for ransom. The worst possible scenario would be if the captors would say that they had to have a certain amount of money for the safe return of your child, and then at the very last minute, after you had struggled, borrowed and mortgaged everything you had, they changed their minds and increased their demands and upped the ransom amount.

The only thing that would be worse is that at each moment of your meeting the deadline, having gathered from friends and relatives all that you could borrow the criminals would change things once again, and again, and again, so that you could never be sure that you would ever see your child alive again.

That's not the way it is with Christianity. When Jesus declared "***it is finished***" and then three days later came forth from the grave he fulfilled all the demands of righteousness and all the sins of the world were declared forgiven. The means that as we turn to him in faith seeking forgiveness and peace, it is ours, and, it can never be taken away from us!

How wonderful it is to know that we have a Savior who has loved us and redeemed us!

Proclaiming that truth, learning and relearning the implications of that message is the Great Commission of God for his church. We are to learn and come to know and believe all that God has so wonderfully revealed to us in the Bible. What is more, he has given us the privilege and honor to share this message with those who have never heard or understood the meaning of God's grace and mercy in Christ Jesus.

To say thank you to our Lord we gather together from what he has given to us and use our resources to proclaim the message of our resurrected Savior. As a part of our thanksgiving expressions we contribute money to enable the continuation of the ministry of word and sacrament. When everyone in the church contributes what he or she can it works well and we are able to reach out into the world with the good news.

Evidence of the success and the effectiveness of this system is the fact that we have continued to grow and flourish as a congregation. What is more, up until now we have not had to remind people of the financial needs of our congregation, we have not had fund drives for our ongoing expenses and for the last 9 years, plus we have always met our obligations and carried a positive checkbook balance.... for that we are thankful and together praise the Lord!

It would appear, however, that this is about to change! Even though we can increase tuition to meet the costs of the preschool, the rest of our programs rely totally on the good gifts and generosity of the members and friends of our congregation.

In our last congregational meeting we adopted an incomplete budget. This was due, in part, to the shortfall in offerings that is anticipated. Simply put, in order to meet our budget and to move forward, we all need to take a look at how graciously the Lord has dealt with us and increase our offerings accordingly. More details will be forthcoming on this matter.

Please do what you can to help out, and thanks ahead of time for your kind generosity.

Pastor Frederick A. 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/sermon text/readers dates:

March 1: Potluck

March 8: Dahlke Serving Group

March 15: Confirmation Classes, IGNITE, & K.I.C.K.

March 22: Kogler Serving Group

March 29: Stelling Serving Group

April 5: Potluck

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)

Passion History Readers

March 1: Russ Simolke & Matt Dobberstein

March 8: Harvey Cords & Len Ehlers

March 15: Don Benisch & Scott Rust

March 22: John Beck & Scott Bertram

March 29: Kevin Rust & Kyle Rust

April 5: Tom Parker & John Stelling

Mark your calendars

Easter Vigil: April 14-16

Joyful Noise Notes

Will March come in like a lion or lamb? Which weather will be most frequent? Will it be cold and windy or sunny and mild? The preschoolers will be watching the weather carefully. Maybe

March will bring some snowman making weather. So watch for possible new "friends" near the playground.

During March we will be focusing on letters U, V, and W. The children will be learning about the miracles of Jesus during Bible Time.

Spring break will be March 6-10. Messy Monday will be Monday, March 13. It will begin with a pizza meal at 5:30 p.m. and messy activities at 6:00 p.m.

Special days this month include an Umbrella Parade on March 16 and 17.

Registration for next fall is in progress. The 3-5-year-old morning class has 8 out of 18 children enrolled. If you know anyone looking for a preschool, please remember Joyful Noise.

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

Our KICK activity for March is to prepare and serve the Lenten Supper on March 15th alongside the Confirmation Classes and the IGNITE/Youth Group.

Pastor Kogler is planning to lead the youth in a pancake/waffle feed and parents will be helping as well.

Thank you to all who have helped and those continuing to help with this valuable program.

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)

The serving groups will be preparing and serving three of the meals for Lenten Suppers.

March 8: Dahlke Serving Group

March 22: Kogler Serving Group

March 29: Stelling Serving Group

Easter flowers will soon be available for ordering. Please watch for e-blasts and announcements in upcoming service folders.

Also, the WE are planning for the Easter breakfast.

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.

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.

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

Please contact Pastor Kogler if you have any questions.

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!

March CC Schedule & Lessons

February 27 @ 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: The Doxology

Catechism Questions: 373-376

March 1 @ 3:00 p.m.

Lesson: The Doxology

Catechism Questions: 373-376

March 6 @ 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: Martin Luther, Introduction

March 8 @ 3:00 p.m.

Lesson: Martin Luther, Introduction

SPRING BREAK

March 20 @ 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: The Bible

Catechism Questions 1-8

March 22 @ 3:00 p.m.

Lesson: The Bible

Catechism Questions 1-8

March 27 @ 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: God's Word

Catechism Questions 9-12

March 29 @ 3:00 p.m.

Lesson: God's Word

Catechism Questions 9-12

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!

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.

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 extra greeting cards: birthday, Easter, Christmas, get-well, hello... please bring them to church and place in the

striped card boxes located in the Fellowship Hall. The cards are sent to our church members.

If you have church information for either the April Calendar/Newsletter, please send to church: emmanuelhudsonwi@gmail.com prior to noon on March 23rd. Thank-you kindly, Trudi ☺

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

Vacant, Outreach Committee

St. Croix Lutheran (SCL) Name Modification Approved

A motion to approve modifying "St. Croix Lutheran Grades 6-12" to "St. Croix Lutheran Academy" was passed by the General Board on Tuesday, January 31.

Use of the new name will be phased in over the coming months. The name modification was deemed necessary to more effectively communicate the scope of SCL's ministry.

Aside from the slight name modification, SCL's mission, policies, and dedication to a caring, Christian family community will not change. Thank you to those who provided feedback personally or via email during the past few months. Your messages were beneficial and helpful.

(From: wels.net)

New Luther Film Gets Rave Reviews

On February 15th, almost 800 people attended the premiere of *A Return to Grace: Luther's Life and Legacy*, a new feature-length film that explores the life of Martin Luther and his quest for truth.

Three congregations—Mount Olive, Appleton, Wis.; Holy Word, Austin, Tex.; and Peace, Mankato, Minn. (an Evangelical

Lutheran Synod congregation)—served as pilot locations, hosting screenings in local movie theaters for their congregation and community.

“Having the film shown in the local theater was the perfect venue,” says Rev. Joel Zank, pastor at Mount Olive. “To watch it with our members and hear them humming and softly singing ‘A Mighty Fortress’ together made for a wonderful event.”

Attendees were excited to learn more about Martin Luther, the man who sparked the Lutheran Reformation 500 years ago with the nailing of the 95 Theses on the door of the Castle Church.

“I grew up in a WELS church and attended our schools. You think you know all about Luther, but the film taught me historical things I was not aware of,” says Mr. Brian Zuberbier, a member at Mount Olive.

At the same time, members were happy to see another emphasis throughout the movie—God’s grace to sinners.

“I was impressed how well it conveyed Lutheran theology through the lens of Luther’s struggle to find God’s grace and his battle to proclaim it freely, all while maintaining the measured tone of a historical documentary,” says Mr. Adam Gould, a member at Holy Word. “It was a real pleasure to see our own WELS pastors sharing our history and God’s grace for us on the screen. It reminded me that God’s Word really is our great

heritage and made me proud to be part of a church that clings to it.”

“Even though this was a movie about Martin Luther, it was so much more than that,” says Mrs. Ashley Crane, a member at Holy Word. “It is a movie about our relationship with God, our understanding that it is God who saves and Jesus who makes us worthy, a truth we cling to today and one I cannot imagine living without 500 years ago and beyond.”

Because of that focus, Zuberbier says the film makes a wonderful evangelism tool: “It is a great opportunity to invite people who are not WELS to learn more about our faith.”

Rev. Don Patterson, pastor at Holy Word, says, “The presentation is so clear that anyone who comes finds that it’s all about Jesus and his grace.”

Funding from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans made it possible to produce the movie.

Any WELS or ELS church, or group of churches, can set up a screening of the film in their community—at no cost to the church. More than a dozen congregations have already scheduled a screening for later this year. Learn more about the film and hosting a screening at wels.net/reformation500.

A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

by **John Beck**

How many “races” are there in the world? According to the Bible there is only one race and that is the human race.

So where does the idea of many races come from? One source is Charles Darwin. His famous book is titled: *The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, or The Preservation of Favor-ed Races in the Struggle for Life*. From the title of his book you can recognize Darwin’s worldview and how the most highly evolved race would be the race to dominate the world. And in his view it was the white race. His views are in direct conflict with the Biblical worldview that we are all related through the first couple created by God, i.e., Adam and Eve. You can find articles ex-pounding on the suggest in many sources and today modern science and DNA studies cor-roborate the Biblical foundation for the human race.

If you are interested you can read and interesting article on the subject on page15 in the January/February 2017 issue of *Answers Magazine* found in our library. Here is an excerpt:

WHY ONE RACE MATTERS FOR THE GOSPEL

The Bible makes a clear connection between the first Adam (in Genesis) and the last Adam, Jesus Christ. *“For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive”* (1

Corinthians 15: 21-22, see also verse 45). Adam sinned, and because we all descend from him, we all sin. Jesus Christ died to save sinners.

The problem of sin - the bad news - begins in Genesis at the Fall, and the solution to sin - the good news - is found in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Christ died only for Adam's race. If there are other races, descended from people other than Adam, then they are dead in their sins (Romans 3:23), yet unable to receive salvation. The Bible says we are all one race (Acts 17:26) and that God's gift of salvation is available to all who believe (Romans 10:9).