



The Emmanuel Lutheran

May 2017

Upcoming Events

May 3: Board of Education @ 4:15 p.m.

May 6: Outreach Committee @ 1:30 p.m.

May 15: Board of Elders @ 5:30 p.m.

May 17: Church Council @ 6:00 p.m.
Last day of Weekday Bible Class

May 19: Teacher Appreciation Dinner @ 6 p.m.

May 21: Last day of Adult Forum, Sunday School, &
Youth/IGNiTE

Pastor's Pen

Isaiah 55:10-11

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

My Dear Christian Friends,

When I was very young our family lived in a neighborhood that was very poor. There were 8 houses along our street that were bordered by the railroad tracks to the north, a large pasture for goats to the south, a hilly area to the east and a swamp to the west.

In the very middle of our neighborhood there was a large ski factory. It was surrounded by large stacks of hardwood stacked to air dry before processing. A railroad spur ran into the lumber yard. There were large piles of sawdust scattered around and dirt roadways crisscrossing the yard for moving the wood in and out of the various buildings. The compound was unfenced but guarded by a couple of German shepherd police dogs and a full time watchman. During the night he would walk around the grounds carrying a round, leather encased, time clock. It hung over his back and swung from side to side so he could carry a large club like stick and a flashlight.

He wore a special hard hat with a carbide lamp attached to be able to see. As he approached the various stations along the way he would insert a large key into the clock. When he inserted the key he would turn it and the clock would respond with a loud "ka-chunk" marking the time and place that he had visited in his rounds. Running ahead and behind him were his

two dogs, sniffing, circling stacks of wood, moving among the buildings, checking doors constantly, as they made their way in the dark.

Our little house was only one building and an alley away from the factory. It was not un-common for me to lay awake on rainy nights to watch and to listen for the loud barking and booming voice of the watchman as he came upon intruders, vandals and homeless men seeking overnight sanctuary.

During the day things were quite different. In full sunlight we kids would play in the sawdust piles and climb on the stacks of wood. We would “harvest” scraps to build our forts in the swamp! As we grew older we would cut through the property and the swamp as it provided the shortest route to the school we attended. Running as fast as we could we would make our way through the property, across the train tracks, jumping from one hummock to another, avoiding the ever-present snakes, we would make our way through the swamp without being caught or slipping into the knee deep slime and brackish water.

The month of May changed everything. It was then the factory grounds would explode in a field of yellow as dandelions bloomed their life saving pollen for all the honey bees. It was then, too, that the “school” path would be edged with the beautiful hues of purple, blue, and white violets! The swamp wasn’t to be outdone! It gave us clump after clump of Marsh Marigolds, or as we called them “cowslips!”

I can remember these details vividly because I would gather bouquets of all these wild flowers, and, adding a little water, put them in soup cans. Then I would go to various homes of family friends and put the "May Flowers" on the steps, knock repeatedly on the door and then run like mad to get away without being seen. I especially enjoyed hiding behind a tree or shed close by to watch the lady of the house come to the door and then find her surprise "May Basket."

Our passage above reminds us of how the Lord has arranged things for us to have times and seasons for our lives. I really encourage each of you to get out and to spend some time walking in the parks, woods or flower gardens as you will be amply rewarded by the reminders of God's goodness in your lives.

The May Baskets that I share these days are in the form of sermons, lessons and devotions based on the mercy, love and forgiveness of God. I hope to present a series of devotions during May that will remind us all of God's great goodness in our lives.

Pastor Kogler

Sunday School & Preschool Teacher Appreciation Dinner

The Sunday School and Preschool Teacher Appreciation Dinner has been scheduled at Mama Maria's on Friday, May 19th @ 6 p.m.

Please R.S.V.P to let Pastor Kogler know if you'll be coming so that the reservation may be adjusted.

Spouses are welcome, but they need to cover their dinner/drink expense.

Thank You

Thanks to all that helped with Lenten Suppers & Services, Holy Week preparation, Easter Vigil, and Easter Sunday set-up and activities.

Thanks also to all the musicians and those who provided flowers as their expression of thanksgiving and praise, all of which, enhanced our worship celebration.

Joyful Noise Notes

The last month of school is upon us and is filled with many activities. We will finish up our alphabet and begin reviewing letters A-Z, numbers, and our readiness skills.

The Mother's Day program will be held May 11 from 10:45-11:30 or May 12 from 10:45-11:30. The program will include a dessert and songs. All mothers are invited.

Our big project will be preparing graduation, which is Wednesday, May 24. That evening the children will perform their plays, sharing the songs they have learned, and receiving

their preschool diplomas. Refreshments will follow. The event will begin at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24 in the church sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend.

This year has passed so quickly. Thanks to everyone who supported Joyful Noise Preschool with their prayers, serving meals for Messy Mondays, and moving the walls after Sunday School.

Have a great summer!

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

Bowling last month was a huge success. We had ten children bowl and lots of parents visiting with each other. It was a lot of fun.

The next idea for an activity is a campfire and s'mores. Information will be shared once a date is set.

Camp Croix is filling up fast, so if you are interested, please visit their website campcroix.org.

Please feel free to contact Christina Dobberstein with questions or suggestions.

Outreach Committee

New members are always welcome as we work together to let the community now about Emmanuel Lutheran.

Upcoming events are Hudson Booster Parade and North Hudson Pepper Fest.

Current meeting day/time is 2nd Monday of each month @ 1:30 p.m., but may be changed to accommodate schedules. If you have time and would like to serve, please speak with Pastor Kogler.

Women of Emmanuel (WE)

The three WE serving groups helped with the Lenten Suppers and hosted the celebration for the four Confirmands on Confirmation Sunday.

Summertime activities being planned...

Please stay tuned for information on upcoming meetings.

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."

May 17th will be the final Weekday Bible Study Class and May 21st will be the final Adult Forum Class before taking break for the summer.

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

Confirmation Classes

The 2016-17 Confirmation Classes are wrapping up this month. 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!

May CC Schedule & Lessons

May 3

3:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: Second Commandment

Catechism Questions 41-52

May 10

3:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Lesson: Third Commandment

Catechism Questions 53-62

May 17

Last Meeting of 2016-17 Confirmation Classes

3:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Wrap-up of 2016-17 lessons

Confirmation Sunday was April 23rd.

2017 Confirmands

Lucas Jay Dahlke

LeeAnne Michelle Ehlers

Chayton John Penning

Brian Matthew Schubert

Thank you WE for hosting the celebration on Confirmation Sunday!!!

Thanks also to the provider of the cake!!!

Summer Is Coming...

For your calendars:

May 17th

Last day of Weekday Bible Class

May 21st

Last day of Adult Forum, Sunday School, & Youth/IGNITE

July 1st

Hudson Booster Days Parade

July 16th

Outdoor Worship Service

August 19th

North Hudson Pepper Fest Grand Parade

Three Congregational Potlucks:

June 25th

July 16th

August 27th

Planning Ahead For Vacation Bible School

This summer Pastor Kogler and Mark Carlson will be leading our VBS. Last year we had a really great VBS – thanks to all who attended and/or helped!

As we look ahead, our hope is to go further with our Outreach by passing out water and invitation cards while walking in the Hudson Booster Parade.

Teachers, teacher helpers, craft people, treat providers, and prayer partners are needed. So, please plan with us as we share the love with our community!

You may contact Mark & Pastor Kogler if we can count on your help!

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!

Deadline for sending information to be put in/on the June newsletter or the calendar is noon Tuesday, May 23rd. Thank you kindly, Trudi :)

WELS News

WELS ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

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. The work of Adult Discipleship spans most of the stated WELS objectives:

To uphold and testify to the truth of God as fully revealed in the inspired, inerrant, infallible Holy Scriptures and articulated in the Lutheran confessions, and to use Scripture as the sole authority.

To foster a sense of urgency for the lost and to seize every opportunity the Lord provides to evangelize lost souls.

To establish churches where Christians help each other grow and mature in the faith through public worship and a lifelong study of the Word of God.

To encourage and equip each other for the application of our faith, reflecting Christ's love in lives of Christian service to the Lord, his Church, and his world.

To mobilize our people, as members of the universal priesthood, in ministry using the Word.

To recruit and train candidates qualified for public ministry and provide for their continuing education so that the Word of God is proclaimed faithfully and effectively in accord with the Lutheran Confessions.

Spiritual growth is “job number one” and the soul of our work. We will not be satisfied with anything but the best efforts at sharing God’s truth. Our desire for excellence in the ministry of the Word leads us to encourage one another to continue to grow spiritually by regular study of the Word in an individual and personal way and also in a formal, organized way.

From: <https://wels.net/>

A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

by **John Beck**

The following article written by Dr. Danny R. Faulkner appears in Answers In Genesis, May 20, 2016.

PART ONE: The Origin of Life: What are the Possibilities?

The origin of life has been debated for a long time. Basically, there are four possible explanations for the existence of life on earth:

1. Life on earth arose spontaneously.
2. Life on earth has always existed.

3. Life on earth came about through a supernatural act of creation by an intelligent Being.
4. Life was seeded from space.

The Application of Science to the Question

Science is supposed to be about things that are observable. That is, science can probe only things that we can detect with our five senses. Science also must be repeatable. This means that when an experiment or observation is repeated, we get the same results. These restrictions on science have led to what we call the scientific method, the general rules that we follow in doing science. The scientific investigation of the origin of life presents us with at least two problems. First, since life began before people were around, we hardly can observe the process. Second, since the origin of life appears to have been a unique event, we can hardly repeat it.

How do these four possibilities stack up? The fourth possibility doesn't really explain how life came about, but instead passes the question off to some other location. Many would object that the third option is unscientific and hence ought not to be considered. If we restrict the definition of "scientific" to questions that can be answered through the application of the scientific method to natural processes, then option three may be considered unscientific.

However, what is the status of the other two options? Option one is the assertion of abiogenesis, the belief that life

must have arisen from non-living things through a natural process. However, abiogenesis has never been observed. To the contrary, it has been shown numerous times that biogenesis is true, that only living things give rise to living things. That is, abiogenesis has been scientifically disproved. To persist in belief in abiogenesis, one must believe in something that clearly is unscientific.

What about option two? Life can be eternally existent only if the earth and the universe are eternal. However, the overwhelming scientific consensus today is that the universe is not eternal but instead had its origin a finite time ago. This conclusion most often is reached by appeal to a big bang origin for the universe. In fact, the vast majority of scientists today would opine that the big bang is a scientific fact. However, not all scientists agree with the big bang model, but one may scientifically conclude a finite age of the universe by other means. For example, the second law of thermodynamics requires that the universe will eventually suffer a "heat death," where no usable energy remains. This clearly is not the case presently, so the universe cannot be eternal.

Hence, to accept either option one or option two requires violating basic conclusions of science. Since neither option one nor option two is scientific and option four does not answer the question of the ultimate origin of life, only extreme bias against any possibility of the supernatural origin of life would lead one to reject the third possibility. THE FACT THAT NONE OF THE FOUR OPTIONS ARE SCIENTIFIC UNDERSCORES THE

FACT THAT THE ORIGIN OF LIFE IS NOT A SCIENTIFIC QUESTION.

Part two of this article will appear in next month's newsletter.