



# Congregational Newsletter

May 2018

## ***May Events***

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**2<sup>nd</sup>** Board of Education @ 4:15 pm

**3<sup>rd</sup>** Women of Emmanuel at Hudson Bagel @ 9:00 am

**5<sup>th</sup>** Spring Cleanup from 9:00 am to noon

**8<sup>th</sup>** Board of Outreach @ 5:00 pm

**8<sup>th</sup>** Board of Elders @ 6:00 pm

**10<sup>th</sup>** Ascension Service @ 7:00 pm

**15<sup>th</sup>** Women of Emmanuel @ 7:00 pm

**16<sup>th</sup>** Church Council @ 6:30 pm

**24<sup>th</sup>** Joyful Noise Preschool graduation @ 6:30 pm

## ***Pastor Vomhof's Message***

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"I am going to send you what My Father has promised, but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." When He had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, He lifted up His hands and blessed them. While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven (Luke 24: 49-51).

During the month of May we will observe two important events - the Ascension of our Savior into heaven on Thursday, May 10, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on that first Pentecost Day on Sunday, May 20. On that 40th day after His resurrection, Jesus led His disciples out to the vicinity of Bethany, lifted up His hands and blessed them. While He was blessing them, the disciples suddenly saw Jesus lift off the earth and ascend up into the sky. He ascended into heaven.

Our ascended Savior Christ is continuing to carry out His three-fold office as our Prophet, High Priest and King. As our Prophet He is sending out pastors, teachers, missionaries, evangelists and us believers to proclaim God's Word to people. As our High Priest Christ is interceding and praying for us before our Heavenly Father. As our King He protects us from all our enemies in order to bring us safely to heaven. Christ is also preparing a place for us and all believers in heaven. At the appointed hour, He will call us out of this life to enjoy eternal life with Him and all true believers in heaven.

Before His ascension, Jesus had promised His disciples that He would send them what His Heavenly Father had promised, namely, the Holy Spirit. Ten days after His ascension Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to His disciples and gave them the special gift of preaching the Word of God in many different foreign languages to all the people gathered in Jerusalem. The people who heard the disciples speak were completely amazed and wondered what this meant. Peter told the people this was a fulfillment of

the prophecy God made through the Prophet Joel that He would pour out His Holy Spirit on all people.

I invite you to come to church every week and especially for these two events – Jesus’ Ascension and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday. May the Holy Spirit lead each of us to regularly and faithfully hear God’s Word proclaimed in order to grow in faith, knowledge and wisdom for our eternal salvation.

## ***Spring Cleanup***

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*Saturday, May 5th (9am –noon)*

A list of cleaning tasks will be available in the fellowship hall during the week of April 30th through May 5th. Please complete and check off any task you can do during this week. Any question please contact Chris Hinz.

## ***Joyful Noise Preschool***

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The last month of school is upon us and is filled with many activities

We are done with our alphabet and begin reviewing letters A-Z, numbers, and our readiness skills.

The Mother's Day program will be held May 10 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 Thursday, May 24. That evening the children will perform their play, sharing the songs they have learned, and receiving their preschool diplomas. Refreshments will follow. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, 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 and moving the walls after Sunday School.

Have a great summer!

If you are wondering about the activities the children are doing during the preschool day, visit the preschool Facebook page at [facebook.com/joyfulnoisehudson](https://facebook.com/joyfulnoisehudson)

## ***Women of Emmanuel (WE)***

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### ***Dates To Remember***

- Meet at Hudson Bagel on Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9 am
- WE meeting at church on Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm

- Pie social at Leslie Stelling's house on Thursday, June 14 at 7 pm

### ***A leader is needed for Group 3.***

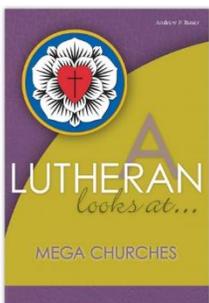
This person will be responsible for organizing the group when their service is needed for Lenten and Advent suppers. Talk with Leslie or Sarah if interested.

During the summer months (June, July, and August), Women of Emmanuel will not have regular monthly meetings at church. Instead, various activities or outings will be planned, starting with the pie social in June. Make sure to come to the May meeting to help plan the rest of the summer events.

Did you know the Women of Emmanuel group has an account on Facebook? If you are on Facebook, look for our page and request to join. It's a great way to get reminders about things going on.

## ***Adult Bible Study***

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*Sunday Bible Class* meets in the fellowship hall each Sunday at 10:30 am right after fellowship and snacks. We are reading and discussing the book *A Lutheran Looks at ... Mega Churches* by Andrew Bauer.

*Weekday Bible Class* meets in the Fellowship Hall on Thursdays at 10:30 am. Please join if you are able. We will discuss the Psalms this year.

## ***Sunday School***

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We will be continuing with the Christ Light Curriculum. If you would like to help with this program, please speak with Martin Wegner. Remember to pray for our called teachers.

## ***Confirmation Classes***

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Confirmation Class A meets at 3:15 p.m. on Wednesdays  
Confirmation Class B meets at 4:45 p.m. on Wednesdays

## ***Ignite Youth Group***

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Meets every Sunday at 10:30 (right after fellowship) for devotion/Bible Study or social time.

In April, the youth helped with the Easter egg hunt for the children on Easter Sunday by filling the eggs and hiding them. It was fun for all involved!

Did you know the teens also take care of the sign in front of church? They do a great job keeping the message current for upcoming activities or services.

Two teens and two chaperones from Emmanuel will join with the Salem youth group from Stillwater, MN and journey to the WELS International Youth Rally in Bowling Green, OH, June 26-29. What an exciting opportunity! Thank you to our congregation for purchasing calendars, recycling aluminum cans, and other donations which help fund youth group activities.

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

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It is a youth group at Emmanuel for kids in 2nd through 8th grade. Who will volunteer to lead this group? Our children are in need of someone to help and guide them.

### ***Notes from the Minnesota District Pastoral Conference***

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Pastor Vomhof attended the Minnesota District Pastoral Conference that was held at Owatonna, MN April 9-11. The theme of the conference was "Every Church a Mission Church." That was the theme also for District President Charles Degner's sermon at the opening communion service. Pastors heard

Pastor Dan Leyrer, a former professor at our Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary, give a presentation on 1 Timothy 1: 12-17 and 3: 1-7 on the theme: "A Pastor as Missionary in the Pastoral Epistles." Pastor Nathan Strutz gave a presentation on "Fostering a Mission Mindset." Pastor will read this paper at a future Sunday morning Bible class.

President Charles Degner announced that he will not run for re-election as he is retiring from the ministry. At this June's MN District Convention, the delegates will elect a new district president. President Degner reported that there are 125 pastoral vacancies and 185 teacher vacancies in our synod at the present time. He encouraged us to look past the vacancies and look at the many opportunities the Lord is setting before us. Each and every member needs to get busy to recruit our young people to study to become a future pastor or teacher as opportunities abound to proclaim God's Word to so many people in many cities of our country and in many foreign countries at the present time.

Rev. Mark Zarling, President of Martin Luther College (MLC) reported 150 seniors will graduate this spring from MLC - 115 in the teacher-training program and 35 in the pastor-training program. So far, MLC has 190 applications for this next school year. 85 of the applications are pastoral applicants. After those pastoral applicants finish four years of training at MLC, they attend our Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary for three more years

of training and one year of serving as a vicar under an experienced pastor.

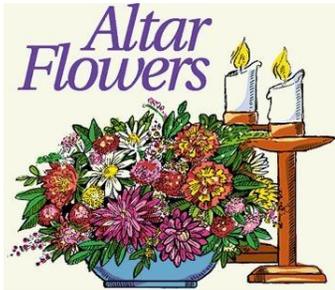
Pastor Tim Bode, Chairman of the MN District Mission Board, reported that the board submitted a request to the WELS Board for Home Missions to fund a second pastor for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Cedar Rapids, IA. If approved, this pastor would work mainly at establishing a second Good Shepherd site in North Liberty, IA, about 30 miles from Cedar Rapids. He also reported that St. John's Lutheran Congregation of Minneapolis requested another vicar to work with True North Ministry to contact WELS students who attend various universities and colleges in the Twin Cities. The Immanuel Hmong Congregation in St. Paul currently worships at St. John's Lutheran Church in St. Paul. The two congregations are working on ways to do more joint ministry and to permanently share the St. John's Church facility.

Last fall Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in St. Peter's, MO and Apostles' Lutheran Church in Dardenne Prairie, Mo merged to become Christ Alone Lutheran Church at the Dardenne Prairie facility. In 2017, the District Mission Board members and the former Mission Counselor Rev. Peter Kruschel looked at possible mission starts in Rochester and St. Cloud, MN. This summer our new Mission Counselor Rev. Ed Schuppe will work with the district mission board members and existing congregations to consider new start possibilities in Carver, MN

and St. Louis, MO. Our Minnesota District includes the area of Minnesota, western Wisconsin, states of Iowa and Missouri.

## ***2018 Flower Donation Calendar***

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Members may sign-up to donate a floral arrangement for the chancel area. This is a wonderful way to help beautify our church. It is located on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

One might want to commemorate

- Wedding
- Anniversaries
- Birthdays
- Memorials
- Personal milestones
- Gratitude for blessings received.

## ***Other Items of Interest***

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**Deadline for church information** to be entered into the newsletter or calendar will be the 3rd Thursday of the month. Please email any information you would like to be submitted in the newsletter or calendar to: [emmanuelhudsonwi@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelhudsonwi@gmail.com)

**Ushers:** Please find the Usher sign-up sheet on the table below the mail slots and fill-in your name when available. Any questions about ushering should be directed to Don Benisch. Thank you!

**Church Clean-up:** Check with your group leader. Any questions please contact Chris Hinz

**Church Database:** To keep our church office information and database up-to-date, please e-mail the church office your current address, phone, and e-mail information. Thank you.

**Recycle Aluminum Cans:** 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.

**Special Prayer Request:** We pray that God will lead each of us to reach out to unbelievers in the community.

## ***St. Croix Lutheran Academy***

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St. Croix Lutheran Academy (SCL) is a Christian high school and middle school of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran

Synod (WELS) serving young men and women in grades 6-12.

Founded in 1958, SCL has served more than three generations of students in a caring, supportive Christian community. The school is located on 30-acres of land in a West St. Paul residential area and has a diverse student body consisting of 500 students from the Twin Cities metro area, across the United States, and 17 countries.

### **Job Openings - St. Croix Lutheran Academy**

Find out more at [StCroixLutheran.org/jobs](http://StCroixLutheran.org/jobs) or call the office at 651-455-1521

## ***A Biblical Worldview by John Beck***

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### ***Know Evolution – The Evolution Story is a Mixture of Reality and Fabrication Human or Ape, No In-Between***

Evolutionists claim many transitional forms between apes and humans. According to a 2016 survey, 14-24 year olds see this as the best evidence for millions of years.<sup>1</sup> We know for certain from Scripture that every kind (not every species) of plant and animal was created during creation week only thousands of years ago. Those created kinds have diversified through natural selection into millions of species. (See the article, Natural Selection, in the Fall 2016 *LSI Journal*.)

Humans have always been humans. Apes have always been apes. How then do evolutionists claim to have bones of part human, part ape creatures? The evolution story is a mixture of reality and fabrication. Evolutionists' claims for human evolution are an example of that truth. Evolutionists start with real bones, fossils, and artifacts. These remains are from humans and apes who lived and died in the past. That is the truth part. Then the fabrication begins.

So how do evolutionists claim to have fossils of part human, part ape creatures? One way is to take fossils of our human ancestors and imagine ape-like attributes for those people. That is done with Neanderthals and Cro-Magnon Man. Another is to take fossils of extinct apes and imagine human-like attributes for those apes. That is done with the famous "Lucy" fossil and other types of australopithecines. Another way is to accidentally or even fraudulently combine fossils of apes and humans into one creature. The most famous example of fraud is the Piltdown man who was hailed as an apeman for over 40 years until the fraud was discovered in 1953.

Anatomy expert and Confessional Lutheran Dr. David Menton<sup>2</sup> has written a very good article<sup>3</sup> (available free online) detailing how evolutionists create apemen. Menton explains, knowing from Scripture that God didn't create any apemen, there are only three ways for the evolutionist to create one:

1. Combine ape fossil bones with human fossil bones and declare the two to be one individual—a real “apeman.”
2. Emphasize certain humanlike qualities of fossilized ape bones, and with imagination upgrade apes to be more humanlike.
3. Emphasize certain apelike qualities of fossilized human bones, and with imagination downgrade humans to be more apelike.

These three approaches account for all of the attempts by evolutionists to fill the unbridgeable gap between apes and men with fossil apemen.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Daniel A. Biddle, “Targeted Apologetics,” *Answers –Building A Biblical Worldview*, vol. 12 no. 1 (Jan-Feb 2017), 48-51.

<sup>2</sup> Menton was an associate professor of anatomy at Washington University School of Medicine from 1996-2000 and then served as associate professor emeritus. He also served as a consulting editor for *Stedman’s Medical Dictionary*. His PhD is from Brown University in cell biology. He holds membership in a congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession (CLC).

<sup>3</sup> David Menton, “Did Humans Really Evolve From Ape-like Creatures?” in *The New Answers Book* second edition. Ken Ham (Green Forest: Master Books, 2008), 83-93.

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9:00 a.m. – Sunday Service  
10:00 a.m. – Fellowship  
10:30 a.m. - Adult Forum, Sunday School, & Youth/IGNITE



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