

Emmanuel and St. Paul's *July 2020 NEWSLETTER*

When can we say, "All Lives Matter!"

That statement has not ceased to be true. Yet in the category of "actions speak louder than words" there is more actions which need to be taken to support "All Lives Matter". By our failures, blacks have the right to say their lives matter too.

'We've come a long way baby' was a slogan celebrating advancements of women's place alongside men. To bad it was used to promote smoking as a sign of equality with men. How we measure equality, is one aspect of the unrest which has boiled up to the surface again. Perhaps more critical is how easily we ignore signs of discrimination in its many forms.

In 1920 the 19th amendment granted women the right to vote, there was still a long way to go to live into the desired goal of decades of women's suffrage efforts. The movement had created unrest long before the bill was first introduced and rejected in 1887.

The point is even while racial and gender equality are universally accepted as just humankind can drag our feet. The Majority will claim, "I have no part in that" but what is our part in calling out racism and inequality? Is this a Christian thing to do? Yes, but not with condemnation, rather with truth to set free from fear. Present the truth with Christ-like humility and grace; suffering.

"We are all one body, we have the same Spirit, and we have all been called to the same glorious future. We are called by God to be obedient to build up one another until we come to unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son, our redeemer. Then we will no longer be like children forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone told us something different. Or because someone has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like truth. Instead we will hold to divine truth in Love, becoming more and more like Christ who is the Just judge, each will one day face. Under Christ's direction the whole family of the redeemed fit together perfectly. Each helps the other grow so that together the body of believers is healthy and growing full of love." (paraphrased from Ephesians 4:12-16 NLT)

I get the picture, sin is pervasive, all sin and fall short of the glory of God, yet let each of us, and therefore the church, aspire to Christ-likeness rather than falling in to the fearful attitudes which keep us divided. Otherwise, without Christ as our helper and obedience to the Father's will, we are seduced to imagine tearing it all down will bring something better. What could be better than the blessed life the Creator of all that is calls and aids us to live-into? Difficult as that is.

My initial thought was to say, when we step back and stand in the shadow of the Cross of Christ, then we can say, All Lives Matter. They always have to Jesus Christ and the Father. In the shadow of the Cross all are equal in the salvation Jesus suffered for all people. There is no path, forward or backward which does not require suffering growth. So, though you may fell like tree bark; made tough by external forces and split by vital growth within, both make for a strong and resilient tree.

Who's responsible, who is in positions to establish lasting change? Space here does not allow for more specific discussion, other than it will help all for the church to live out our Christian identity, trusting that God does make a way, and will guide us and help us to live lives now which reveal our eternal salvation, the Power of God's kingdom is mercy and love. Peace is the fruit of faith.



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES – APRIL 13, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.

Present (via Zoom): Jessica Bosley, Brian Holmes, Kris Sherman, Chuck Richardson, Kim Swank, Marilyn Holmes, Mike Koval, Dave Wiebold, Secretary Linda Wolfe, Pastor Kurt Hoover. **Absent:** Becky DeWild. **Call to Order:** Council President Jessica Bosley. **Devotions/Prayer:** Pastor Kurt Hoover. **Secretary's Minutes:** Minutes of the April 13 Council Meeting and the April 17 Care Act Paycheck Protection Program Meeting were sent to each Council Member; reviewed; moved, seconded and approved by the Council. **Treasurer's Report:** The April Finances were sent to each Council Member; reviewed, moved, seconded and approved by the Council. **Pastor's Report/Deacons Report:** 1) Pastor Hoover e-mailed several sheets to each Council Member to review before the meeting (Church Building Readiness Guidelines, Guidance for Spiritual and Religious Gatherings, Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting, Disaster Recovery Time Line). Discussion was held on the contents of each sheet. 2) The taped Worship Services are going well. 3) Will discuss the Prayer Chain during OLD BUSINESS. 3) Noted that Linda Wolfe prepared a Pentecost Children's Activity. 4) Noted that he is getting good feedback on the Daily Devotions. 5) Church Internet Provider will be discussed during NEW BUSINESS. **Worship and Music:** 1) Pastor Kurt, Barbara Hoover, Steve Richardson and those who have been reading the lessons and helping with the taping sessions were thanked along with Pastor presenting the Daily Devotions. 2) Pastor went to KMA and had our web-page put on their listings page. **Christian Education:** 1) Sunday School is not being offered at this time. 2) A hold has been placed on the Ecumenical Vacation Bible School. 3) Linda Wolfe has been sending out Children's Bulletins to the Emmanuel and St. Paul's children. **Church Property/Parsonage Property:** 1) Clean Cut Lawn Care is doing a good job on the parsonage lawn. 2) The Church lawn has lots of dandelions/weeds. Chuck Richardson will contact CCL Care for options. 3) The hedge on the west side of the parsonage needs trimming. 4) The parsonage refrigerator has arrived and installed. **Finance and Stewardship:** 1) Did not have a meeting. 2) Jessica Bosley went to Bank Iowa to sign the papers for the PPP loan. **Membership Committee:** Did not have a meeting. **LYO/Youth:** Did not have a meeting. **Miscellaneous Committees: Altar, Cookbook, Funeral, Hospitality, Memorial, Wedding:** No reports. **WELCA:** The April 15 and May 20 Bible Studies/Business Meetings will not be held. **OLD BUSINESS:** 1) Weekly Offerings: coming in regularly by mail and/or being dropped off. 2) 2020 Yearbooks: mailed or hand delivered to each member; Thanks Linda Wolfe, Kris Sherman and Becky DeWild. 3) Jessica Bosley, Maren Bosley and Megan Bosley sang to Eldora Gowing and other Care Center residents via outside their windows. 4) Prayer Chain: Pastor is working on this to reorganize it to include person-to-person telephone contact with those needing a prayer. 5) Gatherings: 1) Discussion on when to re-open the Church Building for Worship with recommendations by the Council. To be discussed during NEW BUSINESS during a discussion on a survey. **NEW BUSINESS:** 1) Live Streaming: If we choose to offer a Live Streaming of the Sunday Worship Service, a better camera would be needed. Pastor will look into the cost of items needed. 2) Internet Provider: We are presently using Century Link. Swift is back in town installing fiber optics. The prices are comparable. It was moved, seconded and Council approval to change to Swift when it is available. 3) Front marquee: The project is put on hold for now. 4) Congregational Survey: Pastor will compose questions to include in the survey to include – feedback on taped services, live streaming, readiness to re-open the building and concerns about safety. **Adjournment and Closing:** There being no other business to conduct, it was moved, seconded to adjourn; Council approval. The Zoom Council Meeting was closed at 8:13 p.m. with a prayer and *The Lord's Prayer* led by Pastor Kurt.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, Council Secretary.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN (WELCA)

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the March, April, May and June Bible Studies/Business Meetings were cancelled. WELCA Treasurer/Contact Person, Linda Wolfe, sent out notifications and the WELCA Financial Statements to each Bible Study participant. There are NO BIBLE STUDIES held in the summer months of July and August. Our September 16 @ 2:00 p.m. is scheduled to be held at Church with Linda Wolfe as hostess. We will be studying Lesson 5 (Wiser by Faith) in our "Growing Older and Wiser" study book. **You will be informed if the September Bible Study will be held or not held.**

Continue saving the Box Tops for Education coupons, your pop tabs and your used ink cartridges and bring them to Church for the Shenandoah Middle School to redeem when school begins once again.

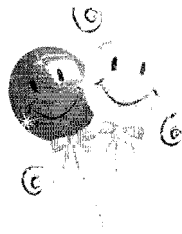
The Church Office continues to remain open during the regular weekly hours and you can find Pastor Kurt at his desk in the Pastor's Office if you need to talk to him or Linda. Services are scheduled for Sunday, June 21 in the Church Building with social distancing being observed. Pastor will continue to tape the Sunday Service for Emmanuel/St. Paul's on Saturday for viewing on Sunday morning if you can't or don't feel comfortable attending in person. Stay healthy, drink lots of fluids, wear a mask when going out, social distance and know your Church is doing all it can do to help keep you safe.

Linda Wolfe, WELCA Contact Person/WELCA Treasurer.

Emmanuel Events and Information

JULY BIRTHDAYS

1. Donna Currie
2. Lucy Clark
 Andy Fick
3. Matt Barr
4. USA
5. Samantha Prier
- 7 Dan Walter
10. Mary Ann Thornton
12. Abby Polich
 Sandra Swope
13. Patrick Andrew Richardson
 Josie Rengstorf
14. Tyler Prokop
16. Kristen Kaminski
 Ron Orme
20. Eileen Carlson
 Tiffany Hanson
23. Jenni Hansen
 Melaine Prokop
 Joe Wolfe
24. Ashley Ward
26. Amy Fick
 Barbara Hoover
27. Randy Carlson
 Linda Wolfe
 Brian Swank
28. Kyle Swank
29. Patrick Houchin
30. Tim Hogue



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

6. Brian and Lisa Holmes
7. Nathan and Crystal Wittmer
16. Tom and Linda Erickson
19. Russ and Deb Burroughs
26. Pr. Kurt and Barbara Hoover



JULY ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes, Becky DeWild
Acolytes: Maren Bosley and Ali Hansen (5) ? Communion
 Tyler Prokop (12)
 Evan Holmes (19)
 Undesignated (26)
Readers: Undesignated (5, 12, 19, 26)
Greeters and Ushers: Undesignated (5, 12, 19, 26)

AUGUST ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Becky DeWild, Marilyn Holmes
Acolytes: Undesignated (2) ? Service in the Park
 Tyler Prokop and Evan Holmes (9) ? Communion
 Maren Bosley (16)
 Ali Hansen (23)
 Tyler Prokop (30)
Readers: Undesignated (2, 9, 16, 23, 30)
Ushers and Greeters: Undesignated (2, 9, 16, 23, 30)

The above names are the "normal July and August" scheduled assistants. If there are any changes, you will be notified. Church Services in the building will begin on June 21 @ 10:30 a.m. If you are able to be a READER, GREETER or USHER, please contact the Office (246-3287 OR emmlutheran@yahoo.com) to volunteer... your readings will be sent to you.

As we are beginning to hold Church Services in the building once again, the need is for Altar Flowers. If you have an anniversary or special occasion in July or August or the months ahead, PLEASE contact Marilyn Holmes (246-2981) or the Church Office (246-3287) during office hours or leave a message on the answering machine to reserve the month.

Eldora Gowing recently has a bit of surgery on her leg. I am sure she would enjoy hearing from her Emmanuel Family. If you would like to send her a card...her address is: Eldora Gowing, Elm Heights Care Center, 1203 S. Elm Street, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601. She, like all the residents of Care Centers, have been in "lock down" for months without a lot of contact from family and friends. The Care Center employees have gone overboard to make sure their residents continue to thrive under the continuing care and guidelines. Our other Emmanuel residents include Ron Tiemeyer, Elm Heights and Allen Holmes, Windsor Manor. How about sending a card to them also!

Now that Church Services are re-opening again in the building, it is important to support Your Church through your offerings. You can send in your offering (via mail), direct deposit (contact your bank) or drop off your offering during office hours. And of course, when you attend Church, the offering plates will be available to just drop in your offering. Thank You for supporting Your Church during this difficult time.

This calendar represents the “normal” July schedule; due to the COVID-19 virus, all gatherings are subject to change.
Contact the Church before you plan to attend any scheduled gatherings held at the Church.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church – July 2020

406 East Pioneer Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601 web-site: www.emmanuel-lutheran.com Kurt Hoover, Pastor

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>
5 NO Sunday School NO 9:45am Coffee 10:30am Worship Holy Communion ?????? <i>5th Sunday of Pentecost</i>	6	7 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI??	8	9	10	11
12 NO Sunday School NO 9:45am Coffee 10:30am Worship Communion after Worship Service?????? <i>6th Sunday of Pentecost</i>	13 5:30 pm Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm Council Meeting	14 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI??	15 WELCA NO JULY BIBLESTUDY	16	17	18
				-- Pastor Hoover & Barbara--	---will be on vacation-----	-- from July 16 thru July 22--
19 NO Sunday School NO 9:45am Coffee 10:30am Worship <i>7th Sunday of Pentecost</i>	20 6:00pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting?? 7:00pm Membership Committee Meeting??	21 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI??	22	23	24	25
26 NO Sunday School NO 9:45am Coffee 10:30am Worship Baptism <i>8th Sunday of Pentecost</i>	27	28 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI??	29	30	31	

Emmanuel Hours: Monday-Thursday; 9:00-12:00 noon
 Emmanuel Telephone Number: 1-712-246-3287

Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com
 Pastor Kurt's contacts: kurtshoover@ymail.com 1-515-850-7670

ST. PAUL'S JULY INFORMATION and EVENTS

CHURCH SERVICES ARE CURRENTLY MEETING AT ST. PAUL'S EACH SUNDAY!!!
SOCIAL DISTANCING IS BEING PRACTICED AND PARISHIONERS HAVE THE OPTION OF WORSHIPPING IN THE
SANCTUARY OR REMAINING OUTSIDE THE CHURCH IN LAWN CHAIRS OR IN THEIR CARS.

Church Services at St. Paul's begin every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited to join in worship each week.

Once again, the family of St. Paul's has lost a devoted and lifelong member of the Church. Steve Bredensteiner passed away suddenly, on July 17, 2020. His dedication to the Church was exemplified in a myriad of ways. He was christened and confirmed at St. Paul's, lit candles, read Scriptures, served as a Council member, participated on Call Committees, served on the Cemetery Board and played a major role in life at St. Paul's. He was a teacher, a farmer, a fisherman, a hunter and an historian. He will be missed. We wish comfort and healing for Penny, Chari, Shana, Alise and their families. May the Lord wrap His arms around them and guide them in the days to come.

JULY

Sunday, July 5 – The Celebration of Holy Communion will be observed with the appropriate social distancing practices observed with the option of entering the Church or remaining outside.

NO Sunday School during the summer months.

NO Bible Study during the summer months but will meet again beginning September 9, 2020.

Sunday, July 12 – WELCA will meet immediately following the Church Service.

Sunday, July 12 – Semi-Annual Meeting @ 6:30 p.m. Please bring desserts. HOWEVER...this decision is currently being evaluated and if there are any changes, the congregation will be notified.

Sunday, July 26 – Joint Service with Emmanuel @ 9:00 a.m. **AT** St. Paul's; social distancing will be observed. A coffee will follow with both committees hosting. Co-chairs: Dallas and Nancy/Blu and Kymm.

IMPROVEMENTS TO THE GROUNDS: The bushes that needed to be replaced have been removed and new bushes have been planted. The start of a windbreak lined with Arborvitae trees north and east of the Church entrance has been planted, with the hope of adding additional trees in the future. We would like to THANK: Cemetery Board Members - Mike Hamilton, Shane Bredensteiner and Blu Dow along with Ryan Harmes, Hurst Greenery, Steve Middaugh, Eddie Bredensteiner and Tommy Dow for the work they have done on this project. The watering and pruning continues.

Our congregation will continue to pray for those who have suffered from the COVID-19 virus, for those in Care Centers and all those in the world, hoping they will be able to cope with the obstacles that face them.

JULY ALTAR COMMITTEE – Toni Comstock and Kerra Ratliff.

July Cleaning Schedule

Sharon Gilbert (4)
Kymm Bredensteiner (11)
Kerra Ratliff (18)
Undesignated (25)

July Acolyte Schedule

Ty Ratliff (5)
Ty Ratliff (12)
Shannon Gilbert (19)
Shannon Gilbert (26)

July Reader Schedule

Deb Ratliff (5)
Toni Comstock (12)
Toni Comstock (19)
Jill Gilbert (26)

PLEASE REMEMBER...how important it is to support St. Paul's during this uncertain time; the Council encourages you to continue to give your offerings. If you are now attending the social distancing services (inside or outside), offering plates are available and you can continue as you are accustomed to - write a weekly check OR monthly check OR cash just as before the Sunday Services were cancelled. If you are not able to attend the in-building or outside Worship Service at this time, you can send your offering to Nancy Middaugh, PO Box 71, Hamburg, Iowa 51601.

Information for the monthly NEWSLETTER will be sent to Emmanuel by the 15th of each month. If you have anything you would like in the NEWSLETTER, please contact Mary Beth at marybeth@tarkio.k12.mo.us before that date or get the information to Nancy or Penny so they can forward it on. You can also text 660-623-0093.

If you have any announcements or information for the weekly bulletin, please contact the Emmanuel Church Office @ 712-246-3287 or emmlutheran@yahoo.com before Thursdays (answering machine is available after regular Church hours).

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Contact the Church before you plan to attend any scheduled gatherings held at the Church.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church – July 2020

3055 – 410th Avenue, Northboro, Iowa 51647 Kurt Hoover, Pastor 1-515-850-7670 kurtshoover@ymail.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Altar Committee Toni Comstock Kerra Ratliff			1 BIRTHDAYS Mike Hamilton Pat Athen	2 ANNIVERSARY Ty and Kerra Ratliff	3 BIRTHDAY Katelyn Long	4 Church Cleaner Sharon Gilbert BIRTHDAY Terry Ratliff
5 9:00am Worship with Holy Communion Reader: Deb Ratliff Acolyte: Ty Ratliff <i>5th Sunday of Pentecost</i>	6 BIRTHDAY Marlin Tiemann		8 NO BIBLE STUDY		10 BIRTHDAY Abby Athen	11 Church Cleaner Kymm Bredensteiner BIRTHDAY Patty Bredensteiner
12 9:00am Worship Reader: Toni Comstock Acolyte: Ty Ratliff WELCA meeting after church 6:30 pm Semi-Annual Meeting/ bring desserts <i>6th Sunday of Pentecost</i>	13 ANNIVERSARY Tommy and Blu Dow	14 ANNIVERSARY Dustin and Toni Comstock	15	16 BIRTHDAY Sloane Snyder ANNIVERSARY Gary and Gayle Moody	17 ANNIVERSARY Jason and Jennifer Baker	18 Church Cleaner Kerra Ratliff ANNIVERSARY Arvind Karwan and Kristine Middaugh
19 9:00am Worship Reader: Toni Comstock Acolyte: Shannon Gilbert <i>7th Sunday of Pentecost</i>	20	21	22 BIRTHDAY Shane Bredensteiner	23	24	25 Church Cleaner Undesignated BIRTHDAYS Kristine Middaugh Colby Bredensteiner
26 9:00am Joint Service with Emmanuel AT St. Paul's Reader: Jill Gilbert Acolyte: Shannon Gilbert Coffee follows/Both Comm. BIRTHDAY: Barbara Hoover ANNIVERSARY: Pastor Kurt and Barbara Hoover <i>8th Sunday of Pentecost</i>	27 BIRTHDAY Sharon Gilbert ANNIVERSARY Shane and Kymm Bredensteiner	28	29	30	31	

Emmanuel Hours: Monday-Thursday; 9:00am-12:00 noon

Emmanuel Telephone #: 1-712-246-3287

Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com

July 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

LSI's Host Homes Program

Each year, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) empowers hundreds of Iowans with disabilities. And despite the COVID-19 pandemic, this year is no different. There is no greater joy for us than seeing an individual develop greater independence, find their confidence, and thrive. And through our innovative Host Homes program, LSI has found a new way to lift up our Iowa neighbors and keep them safe in times of crisis.

Through the program, adults with disabilities (or "mentees") move from a supported community living setting – like a 24-hour, fully staffed home with roommates – and into a private family home with a Host Homes "mentor." LSI collaborates with the individuals we serve and the contracted mentors to ensure each match is the perfect fit and create a shared living opportunity that is beneficial to mentors and mentees. With the extra safety precautions associated with COVID-19, this program is a safe option where participants are in a home setting, interacting with one trusted mentor instead of several staff members.

LSI is seeking compassionate and dedicated caregivers to join us in the mission. If you have room in your heart and in your home, being a Host Homes mentor might be for you! Visit LSIowa.org/HostHomes to learn more. If you are interested in supporting crucial programming like LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

We are Still Here: LSI's Services for People with Disabilities

Becky, an LSI Direct Support Professional, supports her client every day through LSI's Services for People with Disabilities. During the COVID-19 crisis, Becky has spent her shifts adding extra safety measures and precautions so she and her client could safely go to the grocery store for food and supplies when the time came.

But her client regularly experiences PTSD, depression, and anxiety, among other mental health conditions, and the isolation and crisis measures around COVID-19 only heightened her experience of these conditions. Becky knew she needed to do something to keep her client feeling comfortable and safe.

During their sessions together, Becky makes sure they practice good hand washing and wear masks. Her client knows she has someone walking alongside her every step of the way, and the client's young daughter found a way to thank Becky for her work: a picture with the words, "I don't like COVID-19, but I'm happy when you come over."

"I can't imagine not seeing my clients through this," Becky says. "We are all in this together."

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church
406 East Pioneer Avenue
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601**

In this time when what is normal and familiar is disrupted, you may need someone to talk to or refer a loved one to. **Hope4Iowa (844-673-4469)** is a Southwestern Iowa crisis line.

- * Call 800-447-1985 to connect with a counselor specializing in rural issues and agriculture 24 hours a day, seven days a week;
- * Call the Iowa Warm Line, 844-775-9276 to connect with a peer counselor or request to get in touch with a COVID Recovery Iowa counselor;
- * Visit www.COVIDrecoveryiowa.org and complete a contact form and a counselor will get back to you;

Southwest Iowa Families: 712-542-3501 **OR** SouthwestIowaFamilies.com

Waubonsie Mental Health Center, Clarinda: 712-542-2388 **OR** Shenandoah: 712-581-7900

Addiction: **Zion Recovery Services** 246-4832; Suicide Prevention 1-800-273-8255

Or to reach Pastor Kurt Hoover: 1-515-850-7670 pastorkurt@yahoo.com

Lutheran Lakeside Camp: With the current COVID-19 problems, Lutheran Lakeside Camp, Spirit Lake, Iowa chose to close the children's camping program for the summer. But the camp has set up a web-site where a child can attend via the internet for a "virtual" camping experience. Go to the web-site www.lutheranlakeside.com and click on "Camp Corner" and there you will find 10 different categories including devotions, children's sermons, songs, treats, crafts and nature walks, all the things you would be doing if you were attending the camp. The videos are a bit lengthy but very detailed when it comes to craft and treats. Have a few minutes...go to the site and check it out.

Jason Whitehill (47) son of Merrill and Linda Whitehill, recently suffered a heart attack resulting in surgery at Mayo Clinic to insert a stent in a 100% blocked vein. Jason and family live in Harmony, Minnesota. We pray for a quick and uneventful recovery from his condition.