

Emmanuel and St Paul's August 2020 Newsletter

Christian patriotism: Dare I say that?

Personally, and standing on my faith in Christ Jesus, I admit that I am uneasy with protestors who believe they need to resort to violence. Even more with elected officials and those who interpret public events for most of the nation who are not challenging that behavior in this great nation. Not a perfect people, much work yet to be done, yet I want to believe in the heartland we continue to make progress addressing racial and economic oppression and inequality.

Let us not reject the principles and systems in place to challenge and correct injustice. Rather hold public leaders accountable to law and principles, as we seek to be, in our personal lives.

Our history of denouncing evil and working to protect the rights and dignity of people throughout the world has revealed the work of God in us and contributed to our national identity. Let us not be Christian in name only; rather those whose lives resemble the grace which we know has saved us; for apart from transformation by God's mercy we ourselves might not be merciful.

I won't speculate whether those who do not denounce violence and property damage think it is a good idea for the nation, will help them in the election, or some combination of those two. I will say, in my mind it dishonors the successes which have been accomplished through appeals to Christian values of dignity and grace, and without resorting to violence and misinformation.

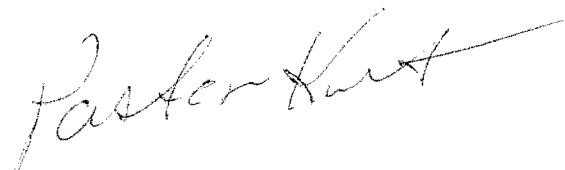
I have concern and am praying for a lot of folks who seem resistant to reevaluating the once popular stance they took with regards to the Black Lives Matters movement (distinct from a gracious insistence that black lives matter I share). Human pride can make one resistant of repenting of error, faith and grace empower people to be peace makers seeking a middle ground and respectful dialogue. In spite of being shouted down by people who insist it is their turn to be heard, we should hear God's command, "Do not be afraid". Romans 12:2 comes to mind:

² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will. NIV

Which is akin to a parent asking their teenager, "who are you trying to please" or "If Billy (or Sally) jumped off a bridge, would you follow?" Yet scripture appeals to a greater authority than one's own conscious, the author of Romans refers to the creator and loving Father of all humanity who wants His kids to get along and look after one another. Here we have room for improvement, there are many issues in the inner city, and attitudes in rural areas needing gracious enlightenment. Equipped with faith in Jesus we are to be salt and light, even if that makes us a target of those who seek a temporal human way. We are God's eternally.

The call is to not be complacent, rather secure your heart and feet upon God's mercy and let God's reign guide your words and actions. Popularity is not the goal, truth and justice are. "Remember the words I spoke to you", Jesus said, "no servant is greater than their master. If they persecuted me, they will persecute you also." John 15:20 and John 16:33. "I have told you these things so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Seek first the Lord, our refuge and strength!



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES – JUNE 8, 2020 – 6:30 p.m.

This Council Meeting was held via Zoom

Present (on line): Jessica Bosley, Kris Sherman, Becky DeWild, Chuck Richardson, Kim Swank, Marilyn Holmes, Mike Koval, Linda Wolfe – Council Secretary, Pastor Kurt Hoover, Deacon Theresa Swank. **Absent:** Brian Holmes, Dave Wiebold. **Call to Order:** Council President Jessica Bosley. **Secretary's Minutes:** The May Council Minutes were e-mailed to each Council Member to review ahead of the meeting. Kim Swank moved to approve the minutes as written; seconded by Marilyn Homes; Council approval. **Treasurer's Report:** The May Financials were e-mailed to each Council Member to review ahead of the meeting. Discussion: The monthly Offering amount collected vs the monthly Budget amount will be placed in the bulletin. Chuck Richardson moved to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed, seconded by Mike Koval; Council approval. **Pastor's Report/Deacons Report:** **1)** The taped services are going well; Pastor is doing the same service at both churches. **2)** The taped devotions are going well; **3)** Pastor is participating in Zoom meetings with the Abundant Fields Conference and the Western Iowa Synod on Tuesdays. **3)** Pastor is visiting with the congregational members by phone. Jackie Holmes donated the red petunia plants for the front planter. Thanks to Marilyn Holmes and grandchildren Ali Hansen and Andy Hansen for planting the flowers. **4)** Several churches around the area are re-opening using recommended guidelines for safety. **5)** The Congregational Survey results on re-opening the Church was discussed, 56 surveys were e-mailed and 28 mailed. 15 surveys were returned. Discussion: Was that enough of a response (15 out of 84) to make a decision on the re-opening for in-person worship? They trust the Church Council to make the re-opening decision. Will the taped services continue? Yes. How is St. Paul's doing their services? ½ inside and ½ outside; the congregation can be where they are the most comfortable. More discussion will be held during NEW BUSINESS. **COMMITTEES - Worship and Music:** No meeting held. Pastor needs members to help with the Power Point; this will be advertized in the bulletin. **Christian Education:** No Sunday School for the summer months. Ecumenical VBS is cancelled for this year. **Church Property/Parsonage Property:** **1)** The AM transmitter for the outside Worship Services. As the church might re-open, it was tabled for now. **2)** Weed control for the Church: Kris Sherman moved for the Church lawn to be put on the clean Cut Lawn Service schedule for a fall application, seconded by Becky DeWild; Council approval. **3)** Roof Leak: Nick Rengstorf was contacted to check out the leak. No quote has been received as to the repair as of this meeting. **4)** The parsonage hedge needs trimming (belongs to the neighbor). An e-mail will be sent to the Property Committee for dates they are available to trim. **5)** The Cole family (east of the back driveway) asked permission to trim the branches of our tree that overhangs their swimming pool at no cost to the Church. Chuck Richardson will contact to the Company. **NOTE:** The tree was trimmed and shaped. **Finance and Stewardship:** No report. **Membership Committee:** No report. **LYO/Youth:** No report. **Altar Guild:** Miriam Houchin is stepping away from the Altar Guild duties. Marilyn Holmes is working on a plan to involve more members to serve on a monthly basis. **Cookbook:** No report. **Funeral:** No report. **Hospitality:** No report. **Memorial:** No report. **Wedding:** No report. **WELCA:** The March, April, May and June Bible Studies/Business Meetings were cancelled. The monthly WELCA Financial reports are sent to each member. **OLD BUSINESS:** **1)** The Swift Fiber Optic Company will be contacting the church to check out our present system and where the wiring can come in. **NEW BUSINESS:** Re-opening the Church: Discussion was held on the pros and cons of offering in-person Worship Services. Council discussion/decisions: Every 3rd pew should be used and the others taped off; Blue painters tape should be used as to not take off the pew finishes; The Pew bibles, Hymnals, pencils and offering will be taken out of the pews and stacked in the Choir Loft (Thanks Jessica Bosley and daughters Maren and Megan for doing this), the pews will be wiped down and vacuumed after each service (Thanks to Byron and Karen Erickson for all the extra work), regular bulletins will be made and placed where the congregation will be seated, an insert with the readings and announcements will be included; Offering envelopes will be available on the Ushers cabinet, the offering plates will be placed at the back of the Church to drop the checks, cash, offering envelopes in; the service will be on the screen including the words to the hymns, enter through the front door and exit out the west and east doors. Communion will be held (Pastor and the Deacons will work on how this is to be done). It was moved by Kris Sherman and seconded by Mike Koval to hold the last Parking Lot Service on June 14 and re-open the church for in-person Worship on June 21 with social distancing and CDC Guidelines; Council approval. **Devotions, Adjournment and Closing:** Pastor delivered a brief devotional and led the Church Council in *The Lord's Prayer*. The June 8 Zoom Council Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Wolfe, Council Secretary

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN (WELCA)

Due to the COVID-19 Virus, the Bible Study/Business Meeting will not be held until the scheduled meeting on September 16 @ 2:00 p.m. at Church with Linda Wolfe as hostess. **You will be notified if this will be held or cancelled.** Treasurer Linda Wolfe has been sending the WELCA financials. 2 members have given their monthly meeting offerings for the cancelled Bible Studies so we can continue sending in our offering to the Ladies Synod.

The Shenandoah Schools are working on ways to keep all students/teachers safe for the upcoming school year. Our usual Congregation Project to collect school supplies has been changed. Instead of collecting supplies, we are advised by the school to collect money instead so they can purchase gifts cards for the teachers to purchase supplies that are needed; we will not be delivering our usual 3 file boxes and 2 paper grocery bags full of school supplies. A collection container is on the foyer table (it is blue) to drop in your cash/check for the amount you would have spent to purchase supplies. You have 3 weeks to get your donation in so we can tally the amount and send a check. You can also mail your monetary donation to the church: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 406 East Pioneer Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601. Have a good summer, stay safe, wear a mask, social distance and know your Church is doing all it can to help keep you safe.

Linda Wolfe, WELCA Contact Person/WELCA Treasurer

Emmanuel Events and Information

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

2 Kris Sherman
Teresa Burroughs
4 Makenzie Scrivens
6 Miriam Houchin
7 Sally Iske
Katie Jensen
11 Thane Kinnison
13 Jim Richardson
15 JaCee Hogue
18 Marcia Johnson
19 Makena Pedersen
21 Jacob Tacker
22 Lisa Holmes
23 Bradley Swank
24 Rob Fick
28 Allen Holmes
31 Matthew Holmes



AUGUST BIRTHDAY

7 Tim and Jeana Hogue
12 Randy and Eileen Carlsc.
15 Jordan and Ann Atterberry
17 Orlin and Amy Fick
Gene and Miriam Houchin
18 Dennis and Becky DeWild
20 Gordon and Kris Sherman
25 Bob and Sally Iske
27 Gene and Cindy Sturm



AUGUST ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Marilyn Homes , Becky DeWild
Acolytes: Tyler Prokop and Evan Holmes (2) communion
Evan Holmes (9)
Maren Bosley (16)
Ali Hansen (23)
Tyler Prokip (30)
Reader: Teresa Roberts (2)
Karla Koval (9)
Undesignated (16, 23, 30)
Ushers: Undesignated (2, 9,16, 23, 30)

SEPTEMBER ASSISTANTS

Altar Guild: Marilyn Holmes, Becky DeWild
Acolytes: Maren Bosley and Evan Holmes (6) communion
Tyler Prokop (13)
Ali Hansen (20)
Evan Holmes (27)
Readers: Karla Koval (6)
Undesignated (13, 20, 27)
Ushers: Undesignated (6, 13, 20, 27)

The above names are the "normal" August and September scheduled assistants. If there are any changes, you will be notified. Church Services are held in the Church building at 10:30 a.m. If you are unable to be an Acolyte or Reader, PLEASE contact the Church Office (246-3287 or emmlutheran@yahoo.com) during office hours or leave a message on the answering machine.

As we are holding Church Services in the building, we are putting flowers once again on the Altar. If you are wanting to take a month and purchase flowers for a Birthday, Anniversary, In Honor of someone/an occasion or In Memory of someone/an occasion, **PLEASE let the office know** so names, etc. can be placed in the Sunday Bulletin.

To My Church Family,

Thank you so much for the many cards, well wishes, prayers and flowers I received while going through and recovering from two vascular procedures. It meant so much to me to know you were thinking of me. Thank you for your support and kindness. You are so special.

Eldora Gowing

On July 26, Jonathan Keith Jensen was to be Baptized but unfortunately he had a little fever and was unable to be Baptized as were Steve and Katie Jensen (Mom and Dad) unable to be received as members. Both the new member and Baptism have been re-scheduled for Sunday, August 9.

You can mail your offering to the Church, direct deposit your offering (contact your bank) or drop off your offering during office hours if you are unable to attend the Church Service. When you do attend, the offering plates are placed in the back of the Church for your offering and offering envelopes are on the Ushers cabinet in the Narthex (take as many as you need).. If you need some mailed to you, please contact the Church Office.

This calendar represents the “normal” calendar schedule for August; all gatherings are subject to change.
Social distancing will be observed at the Sunday Service; please sit in the un-taped pews where the bulletins are placed.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church - August 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 NO 9:45 a.m. COFFEE 10:30am Worship with Holy Communion. <i>9th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 3 | 4 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 NO COFFEE 10:30 a.m. Worship/Baptism/ Communion follows worship <i>10th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 10 5:30pm Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm Council Meeting | 11 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 NO COFFEE 10:30am Worship <i>11th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 17 6:00pm Worship and Music Committee Meeting??? 7:00pm Membership Committee Meeting??? | 18 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI | 19 WELCA NO August Bible Study and Business Meeting | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 NO COFFEE 10:30am Worship <i>12th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 24 | 25 5:30-7:00pm Fellowship Hall reserved for NAMI | 26 | 27 | 28 Fellowship Hall reserved to set up for a shower | 29 Fellowship Hall reserved for a shower for the entire day |
| 30 NO COFFEE 10:30 am Worship <i>13th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 31 | Pastor Kurt's contacts: kurtshoover@ymail.com | | 1-515-850-7670 | | |

Emmanuel Hours: Monday-Thursday; 9:00-12:00 noon Telephone #: 1-712-246-3287 (after hours/answering machine)

Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com

ST. PAUL'S AUGUST 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. An outside speaker makes it possible to hear the service and bulletins with the full service makes it possible to follow along with hymns and responsive readings.

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.

AUGUST

Sunday, August 2 – 9:00 a.m. Worship Service at St. Paul's. (NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 virus, St. Paul's will **NOT** be having a joint Worship Service with Emmanuel.)

Sunday, August 9 – 9:00 a.m. Worship Service/WELCA Meeting after the Church Service.

Wednesday, August 12 – NO BIBLE STUDY

Sunday, August 16 – 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday, August 23 – 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

Sunday, August 30 – 9:00 a.m. Worship Service/"Blessing of the Backpacks"/NO COFFEE

Special THANKS to all of our St. Paul's members who have helped out with the organization of our Worship Services during the early weeks of the pandemic and the volunteering to participate in the taped Worship Services. Just a reminder...we have returned to the schedules in the WELCA booklets for Church Cleaning, Acolyte Schedule and Reader Schedule. If you cannot do any of your scheduled duties, please call Penny Bredensteiner or Nancy Middaugh.

AUGUST ALTAR COMMITTEE: Deb Ratliff and Jill Gilbert

August Cleaning Schedule

Toni Comstock (1)
Carole Hamilton (8)
Jill Gilbert (15)
Dallas Prather (22)
Deb Ratliff (29)

August Acolyte Schedule

Undesignated (2)
Shane Bredensteiner (9)
Shane Bredensteiner (16)
River Dow (23)
River Dow (30)

August Reader Schedule

Nancy Middaugh (2)
Jill Gilbert (9)
Nancy Middaugh (16)
Nancy Middaugh (23)
Blu Dow (30)

PLEASE REMEMBER how important it is to support St. Paul's during these uncertain times. The Church has bills to pay just like everyone and the Council encourages you to continue to give your offering. You may want to write a weekly check or give cash just like normal times and send them as a group OR write one check for the month. You can send your offerings to Nancy Middaugh, P.O. Box 71, Hamburg, Iowa 51640.

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 Bredensteiner 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.

Likewise, if you have a bulletin announcement or would like to include a prayer request/prayer concern in the weekly bulletin, please e-mail the Emmanuel Church emmlutheran@yahoo.com or call 1-712-246-3287 (9-12 noon, Monday-Thursday) with the information or contact Nancy or Penny so they can get it to Emmanuel. Emmanuel has an answering machine if it is after hours.

Stay well...wear a mask and social distance and know that St. Paul's is doing all it can do to keep you safe so.

This calendar represents the “normal” calendar schedule for August; all gatherings are subject to change.
Social distancing will be observed at the Sunday Service; in-person worship OR out-door worship is observed.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH – AUGUST 2020

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

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--------------------------|--|---|--|
| Altar Committee Deb Ratliff Jill Gilbert | | | | | | 1 Church Cleaner Toni Comstock |
| 2 9:00 a.m. Worship Reader: Nancy Middaugh Acolyte: <i>9th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 3 BIRTHDAY Dustin Comstock | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 Church Cleaner Carole Hamilton |
| 9 9:00am Worship Reader: Jill Gilbert Acolyte:Shane Bredensteiner WELCA Meeting after worship <i>10th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 10 | 11 BIRTHDAY Jennifer Baker | 12 NO BIBLE STUDY | 13 BIRTHDAYS Wyatt Marshall Paige Lundquist | 14 BIRTHDAY Gary Moody | 15 Church Cleaner Jill Gilbert |
| 16 9:00am Worship Reader: Nancy Middaugh Acolyte:Shane Bredensteiner <i>11th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 BIRTHDAY Shannon Gilbert | 21 BIRTHDAY Mary Beth Bredensteiner | 22 Church Cleaner Dallas Prther |
| 23 9:00am Worship Reader: Nancy Middaugh Acolyte: River Dow <i>12th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 24 ANNIVERSARY Shannon and Jill Gilbert | 25 | 26 | 27 BIRTHDAY Cassidy Bredensteiner Kelly | 28 | 29 Church Cleaner Deb Ratliff |
| 30 9:00am Worship "Blessing of the Backpacks" Reader: Blu Dow Acolyte: River Dow BIRTHDAY Penny Bredensteiner <i>13th Sunday of Pentecost</i> | 31 | Emmanuel Hours: Monday-Thursday; 9:00-12:00 noon Emmanuel Telephone: 1-712-246-3287 Emmanuel e-mail: emmlutheran@yahoo.com | | | | |

August 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Back to School Month

School is right around the corner! This year's back-to-school time feels a little different than usual for all of us, but imagine what it would be like to be a child or teen with an emotional or behavioral disorder. For the last several months, their routine has been turned upside-down and they've learned to adjust to a new way of life. Moving back into a school year structure can be particularly stressful and it can be difficult to concentrate and cope.

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) provides mental health services to children and families across the state. It's our job to relate to children who might feel alone or misunderstood. Our therapists provide virtual telehealth therapy sessions with children while our Behavioral Health Intervention Services team collaborates with families virtually or in a community setting to help them develop skills like anger management and healthy decision-making. LSI also provides 24-hour mental health care at the Bremwood and Beloit Residential Treatment Centers in Waverly and Ames to empower Iowa's most vulnerable children and teens.

We thank you for your support of LSI's mission as we respond together to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! We know there are more Iowa children in need of this critical care. If you would like to learn more about how you can give a gift to support these crucial services, 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 Therapy Services

When LSI's workforce began working remote as a COVID-19 precaution, therapist Andrea knew she would need to adjust to a new way of providing therapy to the clients she serves.

In particular, one individual she met with struggled with anxiety on a daily basis. With the pandemic, however, her anxiety deepened and she spiraled to levels she hadn't encountered in years. And she was afraid she would no longer be able to see Andrea and receive the weekly therapy she'd relied on.

But that wasn't stopping Andrea. She set up a home office where she could provide telehealth virtual therapy sessions to all her clients in need of the same consistent care they were used to. Andrea used this time to work with her client on self-care strategies, coping skills, and mindfulness to help her client stay grounded when she felt anxious.

Andrea's client now has the tools she needs to handle the difficult days through this crisis, and Andrea is able to continue providing life-changing serves to Iowa children, adults, and families in her community.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
406 East Pioneer Avenue
Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

Yes, you heard right. The Emmanuel Lutheran Congregational Summer Project "Collect School Supplies for the Shenandoah School" **has been changed**. Our usual 3 file boxes and 2 paper grocery bags full of school supplies will be whittled down to a single envelope. Due to the COVID-19 virus, the School is asking that instead of collecting the supplies, they would appreciate money for gift certificates to purchase the items needed. They have a plan in place for the students' supply needs. So...what does that mean for Emmanuel. A "blue" collection container is on the foyer table where you can place your cash or check representing the amount you would have spent for the school supplies. Your check (**made out to: Emmanuel Lutheran Church**) or your cash will be deposited into the Emmanuel Checking Account and when the collection is finalized (August 16) the amount will be tallied and a check from the Church will be sent to the school for use in purchasing supplies. So...please drop your donation (check or cash) in the collection container when you attend Church **OR** send a check to the Church (**406 E. Pioneer Avenue, Shenandoah, Iowa 51601**) before August 16th so we can continue our congregational project by helping out our schools and the children.