



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city

NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: MARCH 23, 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God has blessed our church family with many opportunities to grow in faith, hope, and love. We pray this weekly newsletter will help provide you with the information you need to connect to the good work God is doing in and through Emmanuel.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Eggold and Pastor Sheaffer

WORSHIP & SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Weekend Worship and Christian Education

Saturday, March 23: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 24: 8:00 a.m. (with Holy Communion); 10:30 a.m.

In honor of Palm Sunday, all children are invited to join Ms. Liz and our pastors at the rear of the Sanctuary at the start of both the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services. Together, we'll form a procession behind the cross, waving palm branches as we enter.



Christian Education Hour

We have Sunday School and Bible classes for ages birth through adults every Sunday from 9:15-10:15 a.m. See the full list of classes [here](#). **Sunday School and Adult Bible classes will not meet Sunday, March 31, or Sunday April 7.**

New Adult Bible Classes for Spring

The following Sunday morning Bible classes **begin on April 14** and will run through May 19:

- ***Lord, Teach Us to Pray***

We all cry out to Jesus with the words of the disciples, “Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1). Do you struggle with prayer; with finding the “right” words, feeling heard, wondering if it matters, if God actually answers prayers, etc.? Join us as we explore the gift of prayer through Scripture, answer difficult questions, wrestle with God, and pray together as brothers and sisters in Christ.

- ***Clay and Iron: A Gathering for Men***

Men of God, you are not alone! Formed by God (clay) and encouraging each other (iron) all men and their wives/girlfriends are welcome to be an active part of this real-life, topical discussion focused on encouraging the men of our congregation and community.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER AT EMMANUEL

+ HOLY WEEK +

Palm Sunday, March 24

8:00 a.m. (with Holy Communion)

10:30 a.m.

Children are invited to join in a processional of palm waving at the beginning of each service.

Maundy Thursday, March 28

"Jesus Promised"

Luke 23:39-43

Holy Communion

Choir and Harp at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday, March 29

"Jesus Died"

Luke 23:44-49

Good Friday Worship at 1:00 p.m.

Tenebrae Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Choir and Orchestra

(No Saturday evening worship service)

+ EASTER SUNDAY +

Sunday, March 31

7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Communion will be celebrated in all services.

Choir, Orchestra, Handbells and Soloists

There will be NO Sunday school or Bible classes on Easter.

Valet Service for Easter Sunday

If you need a valet to assist you with parking for Easter Sunday, please fill out the following form [here](#).

Parking for Easter

Due to such strong attendance on Easter Sunday, parking will be available for our Easter worship services at Washington Elementary school in the parking lot on Rockhill and Jefferson. Please consider using this parking option so that those with health concerns may park closer to the building. We thank Washington Elementary School for graciously opening their campus to us for our Easter celebration.

Easter Flower Pick-Up

For those of you who do not pick up your flowers on Easter Sunday, you can do so the following week, Tuesday–Friday. The church office will be closed on Monday.

Join us for Emmanuel's Easter Egg Hunt



Date: Saturday, March 30

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: The Gym

How You Can Help:

-Donate Filled Eggs: Contribute to the egg-citement by donating filled Easter eggs.

-Provide Egg Fillers: Candy, stickers, fidgets, and more!

-DIY Egg Filling: Pick up unfilled eggs starting Sunday, March 3. Fill them and return before Saturday, March 30.

Volunteer: Join us at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, March 30 to help distribute eggs.

In addition, we would be happy to have anyone join us who may have special needs. We plan to have a place set aside for you to hunt Easter eggs and you are invited to join us in any of the activities that you may like to participate in!

Questions? Contact Liz Bejot at LBejot@emmanuel Lutheran.org

We hope to see you there for a hopping good time!

THANK YOU

Thank You!

Caroline Eber would like to thank the members of Emmanuel who sent cards and well wishes for her birthday.

Thank You From the Cushings

On the occasion of our Baptism, we would like to thank everyone in the congregation for the warm welcome into your Church family and the Lord's family. From the first morning we walked into the church back in October, we have been greeted with welcoming smiles and hugs. We had no idea what was in store for us when beginning our faith journey, but we firmly believe God has led our family here. We are honored to have been accepted so openly and the encouragement to learn and get involved has been well received. The events that led us to walking into the church that particular day cannot be explained in any other way than, God has a plan for us. Our lives have been and are forever changed. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you all so much! We look forward to growing in faith with all of you and getting to know more of you for many years to come!

*Your Friends in Christ,
The Cushing Family*

GET INVOLVED

Middle School Youth Event

Middle schoolers, we need your help and candy is involved! On **Sunday, March 24**, from 11:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m., we will have a stuffing of Easter eggs event to help prepare for Emmanuel's Easter egg hunt. Along with stuffing eggs, we'll also have lunch, a devotion, and other activities if we get our work done fast. We will meet in lower Ebenezer Hall following the late service. If you're able, please plan on bringing stickers, small wrapped candy, or very small toys to put into Easter eggs. Let us know if you're able to come by registering [here](#).

Emmanuel Hosts PrayerWorks in March

On Tuesday, March 26, Emmanuel is hosting PrayerWorks from 10:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. PrayerWorks is a space in Electric Works dedicated to the ministry of prayer. You can learn more about this unique initiative [here](#). If you are interested in serving as a host for a one-hour shift on March 26, please reply to the electronic invitation sent from Pastor Eggold.



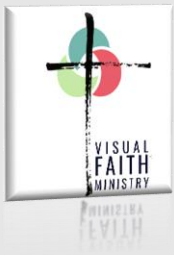
GAME ON

GAME ON is for anyone who enjoys playing games while enjoying a Christian fellowship and atmosphere. The group meets in Ebenezer Hall on the first Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, April 2**, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Our game for March is Sequence. You don't need a partner. Even if you don't know how to play Sequence, come anyway, we can teach you. It is an easy game to learn. GAME ON is just a time for fellowship, fun, and a few snacks. Please register at the Connections Counter to give us an idea for planning. If you forget to register, come anyway. We would love to have you. The hostesses for April are Jan Werth and Kathy Eggold. Our game for May will be Team Trivia.

Emmanuel to Host the LCMS Black Clergy Caucus Worship Service

On **Tuesday, April 9**, hundreds of pastors and church leaders from around the U.S., Caribbean, and Canada will come to Fort Wayne, for The Black Clergy Caucus of the Lutheran Church. In support of this historic event, Emmanuel will host a special worship service on Tuesday, April 9, 6:30 p.m., featuring Gospel music and dance by the New Covenant and Pilgrim Praise Teams, and organ music by our own organist, Myra Schmidt. This worship service is open to the public and, as members of Emmanuel, this is a wonderful opportunity to welcome our brothers and sisters from the Black Clergy Caucus. Please consider attending this special worship event.

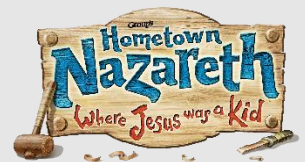
Visual Faith Ministry



You are invited to join us on **Saturday, April 20**, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., as we explore the Visual Faith practice of "Around the Word." This practice calls us to surrender our own voice for a time and listen to God through His Word. We're seeking God's face as He tells us what to do. As we listen, we make note of the lessons learned. In this practice, we are not adding to God's Word or expecting Him to say something He's not already said in His Word, but instead giving God our full attention (as much as we are able to do that) and setting aside the distractions that badger us all day long. "Around the Word," using a Bible passage, is an exercise in listening with our mouths closed and our hearts open. A time of silence, a time to share if you choose, and a time to learn with one another. We hope you will join us!

Vacation Bible School (VBS) Volunteer Opportunities

Vacation Bible School (VBS) returns to Emmanuel **June 10-14**, 9:00 a.m. to noon. We're currently in the planning stages and would greatly appreciate your assistance. If you'd like to lend a hand with VBS, please take a moment to complete this [form](#). Keep an eye out for upcoming announcements! VBS registration details and supply wish lists will be available soon. Stay tuned!



EMMANUEL—ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL (ESM) CONCORDIA LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL (CLHS)

Now Enrolling for 2024-25 School Year

Emmanuel—St. Michael School, in partnership with our congregations and families, is raising up the next generation of students who know the love of Christ and are prepared to serve Him in their families and communities. Now accepting applications for Preschool-8th grade. Schedule a visit today!

Contact Erin Clark, Director of Admissions | 260.422.6712 | eclark@esmeagles.com | www.esmeagles.com

Emmanuel—St. Michael Lutheran School | Education for Life. Faith for Eternity.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Lutheran Senior Care Ministry Celebrates 100 Years



In celebration of its 100th anniversary, [Lutheran Senior Care Ministry](#) (LSCM) gives thanks and praise to God as it reaffirms its calling to provide Word and worship ministry to seniors in nursing homes, assisted living centers, and adult day services across the greater Fort Wayne area.

To celebrate its century of service, LSCM invites the community to its Centennial Gala at [The Orchid Event Center](#), 11508 Lincoln Hwy E, New Haven, on **Thursday, April 18**, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Please join us for an evening of dining, laughter, and music as we honor LSCM's enduring legacy. To purchase tickets and learn more about the events of the evening, click [here](#). If you need assistance, please call/text Beth Igney at 260.466.5105. We hope you will join us in celebrating this important ministry in our community. **Deadline for ordering your ticket(s) is Friday, April 5.**

A Hope Center is Celebrating 40 Years of Ministry

Please join us for A Hope Center's annual fundraising banquet that will be held on **Tuesday, April 16**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Allen County Memorial Coliseum. This year's musical entertainment will be national recording artist and "The Voice" contestant, Fort Wayne native Keegan Farrell. Also, inspirational and award-winning speaker, Pam Stenzel, will share her phenomenal story of life and hope. Reservations are required, and there will be no charge for the meal, as it is a fundraising event. Call Carolyn Beitz 260.433.7188 or Jan Werth 260.452.4769.

Camp Lutherhaven 2024

What are you doing this summer? Spend time at [Camp Lutherhaven](#)! With so many fun activities from Archery to Zip, Zap, Zoey (a fun game played at camp) to jumping in the lake, there is so much to experience. Most importantly, spend time in God's Word and grow in your relationship with Christ. Summer 2024's theme is "Wildfire," coming from Psalm 78:4. Join in spreading the glorious deeds of the Lord like wildfire with everyone who comes to Camp Lutherhaven this summer!

Register before April 1 and receive the Early Bird Discount. Register [here](#) or call for more information at 260.636.7101.



The Shepherd's Hand Community Outreach Center 5K



The Shepherd's Hand Community Outreach Center, located at 1231 S. Anthony Blvd., is an organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod that seeks opportunities to enhance health and wellness for community members in southeast Fort Wayne. Learn more about their mission [here](#).

On **Saturday, May 4**, you can help raise funds for this vital ministry by participating in the 4th annual 5K walk/run held in the neighborhood surrounding the center. Families are encouraged to attend and enjoy a fun, healthy activity together! If you are unable to participate in the race, you can support the ministry by sponsoring a race slot to benefit another participant or make a general donation. For more information, to register, or donate click [here](#).

RESOURCES

GriefShare

Through this 13-week adventure, you'll learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. Join us Tuesday evenings, **March 5-May 28**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at St. Michael Lutheran Church, in Luther Hall. Contact Robert and Rebecca Boyd with questions at 862.409.4520 or bb4bboyd@gmail.com.



***Present Refuge*—Mental Health Resource**

Present Refuge is the Wellness Ministry of St. John Lutheran Church and School, Kendallville. Click [here](#) to read their newsletter and find encouragement for your mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual wellness.

Project Connect



This week's booklet is *Why Did Jesus Die?* One of the most recognized symbols in the world is the cross. The cross (two simple lines, one vertical, one horizontal) can be recognized the world over. When you stop and think about it, this is an odd sort of fame for an instrument of capital punishment! And yet the cross has obviously caught on. But why?

- Why have Christians adopted the cross as their central symbol?
- Why did Jesus' death by a cross become such a focal point for Christians?
- Why do some Christians go so far as to describe the cross as "precious"?

In this booklet, we tackle honestly and head-on the question at the core of this 2,000-year preoccupation with the cross: Why did Jesus die?

You can download the booklet as a PDF (6BE172) [here](#). You can also access the library of booklets via an app for your phone [here](#).

Free Courses From Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)

We are all called, equipped, and sent to share the Gospel. *LHM Learn* courses will help you discern your calling, receive equipping, and embrace your “sent-ness.”

In the newest course, *Nurturing Your Faith: Identity*, we remember our identity as forgiven children of God in Christ. God has rescued us from falling victim to an identity stolen by a deceptive culture, our own corrupt devices, and by the devil himself. We are made new in Jesus, redeemed from our fallen nature.

We invite you to learn and grow in your faith with LHM Learn. Register and get started on this free course today at lhm.org/learn.

****If you would like to receive the weekly newsletter via your email, please click [this link](#) to sign up.**