

A Note from Pastor...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year!

During this time of new resolutions, many of us will be making commitments to an exercise regimen or a healthier diet. As we begin this year together in Christ, I encourage you to also renew your commitment to growing in faith through the study of God's Word. This month we will begin several new Bible classes and even if you haven't been involved in a regular Bible study in the past, this is a great time to jump in and get connected.

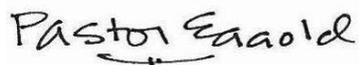
We offer many opportunities for weekly Bible study at Emmanuel. Please take the time to review the courses listed on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter, and consider making regular Bible study a part of your weekly schedule.

God promises us that in His Word He uncovers and meets our greatest need by delivering forgiveness and creating and strengthening a living faith in His promises. As you make plans for 2018, the regular study of His Word needs to be at the top of the list. Consider God's promises about what He does in and through His Word and look for ways to keep Scripture at the center of your life.

We are entering 2018 with so much for which to thank our Lord. As we begin this new year in His name please continue to pray for our congregation, that we can truly live out our mission as a caring family sharing God's love and forgiveness.

Thank you for your continued support of the Lord's work in this place. It is truly a joy to partner with you in this ministry.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Eggold". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish under the "d".

Pastor Eggold

EMMANUEL'S MINISTRIES...

CAREGIVING Catherine Peterson and Phyllis Tittman, Deacons

We seek out those in need and respond with the healing love of Christ.

The Caregiving Team is so thankful for the many gifts given for the food pantry and for our Christmas families. Thanks also to the wonderful volunteers who wrapped the gifts. Many individuals were served through your care. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Caregiver Support – Are you currently serving as a caregiver? Do the needs of a spouse, parent or child require your attention? Would you like opportunities to talk with other caregivers? Join others who are experiencing similar demands on time and energy to gain answers, perspective and support. We will meet in Ebenezer Hall on Monday, January 8, at 1p.m. For more information call Lana Hille at the church office at 423-1369.

Cup of Kindness boxes can be found in the Welcome Center. The money collected is used by Lutheran Social Services for families who have crisis needs.

Food Pantry – To meet the needs of those who visit our food bank in January we could use donations of **cereal, canned vegetables, fruit, peanut butter, mac and cheese, pasta, pasta sauce, canned juice, deodorant, shampoo, dish and hand soap, toothpaste and paper products, especially toilet paper and paper towels.** Food donations can be placed in the "Food Pantry" box located in the Welcome Center. Cash donations may be placed in your church envelope and marked "food pantry" on the "other" line. Members may stop by for food any day when the office is open, and the food pantry will be available for those living in the 46802 zip code area on Thursday, January 18, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in the lower level of Ebenezer Hall. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Carolyn Beitz at 432-9189.

Grief Support will be held on Wednesday, January 17 at 12:30 p.m. at Casa's on Parnell Avenue across from the Coliseum. For your reservation, please call Norvin McClure at 471-6231 or Donna Winters at 385-5982.

Parish Nurse Notes—Lana Hille

Blood Pressure Screening—Nurses are available to take blood pressures this month at church on **Sunday, January 28**, 9:15-10:15 a.m., or you may stop by Lana Hille's office any weekday.

Health Professions Scholarship Program – The Lutheran Foundation grants a number of scholarships to individuals pursuing a career in the healthcare field. The application deadline is February 1. For more detailed information, please visit www.thelutheranfoundation.org/impact/health-scholarships or contact Lana Hille at 423-1369.

Eyeglass and Hearing Aid Donations – The Lion's Club has long been recognized for their efforts in assisting the sight impaired by collecting used eyeglasses. Not as well-known is their

collection of hearing aids and batteries. Our member, Dick Alfeld has placed a collection box in the welcome center to gather those eyeglasses and hearing aids and batteries that you no longer use. He will then get the donations to those who distribute them to the needy. Thank you for your help.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION Dave Smith, Deacon

*We provide all ages with an environment for comprehensive
Christian education and continuing spiritual growth.*

Mental Health and the Church—In February, we will extend our mental health focus with classes that explore some forms of mental illness, discover resources available to us, and learn how we—Christ’s Church at Emmanuel—can minister to our sisters and brothers. Schedule and description of classes will be posted in the February newsletter.

Sunday Classes

LUTHERAN CHRISTIANITY

January 7—March 25

Instructors: Rev. Thomas A. Eggold, Rev. Daniel Sheafer, Lana Hille

Location: Brandt Hall

For new members and anyone who would like a refresher, this course examines what Lutherans believe, why we believe it, and why it’s important. There will be chances to ask questions about God and faith, plus an inside look at our Emmanuel family and the building where we worship.

THE STORY IN THE BIBLE—Part 2: *King David to the Babylonian Captivity*

January 7—February 11

Instructor: Josh Eggold

Location: School Activities Center

Here’s a class for everyone who wants to discover, or rediscover, the story line of people and events in the Bible and see God’s love and forgiveness at work. We’ll use three resources: a story Bible as basic text, the Bible itself, and a student binder. Join us. Bring your Bible and, if you’ve got them from last quarter, your story Bible and binder (if not, we can order more).

EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS

January 7—February 11

Instructor: Rev. Dennis McFadden

Location: Ebenezer Hall, Lower Level

At last there is an effective, non-threatening *Lutheran* program that teaches you how to talk to friends, coworkers, and other unchurched people about faith. It involves listening to those who are unsure about Christianity, asking questions that aren’t accusatory, and sharing Good News about Jesus in natural, low-key ways. There’s no bashing, no judgment, and no “sales pitch.” Instead, there’s understanding, communication, and honesty between friends.

MEN’S BIBLE STUDY

January 7—February 11

Instructors: Greg Wasson and Richie Cummins

Location: Room 4, Lower Level of School

We will discuss the book *Wild at Heart: Discovering the Secret of a Man's Soul* by John Eldredge.

Weekday Bible Class Offerings

Mondays

Love Rules: A Study of the Ten Commandments (for women) 9:00-10:30 a.m. (resumes January 8)

Do the Ten Commandments show your frailties and send you on a guilt trip? Or do they hold life-changing love? Even after thousands of years, the commandments still hold everything we need to live in relationship with God and one another. In this study, we will see how pride, insecurity, and coveting will damage relationships and why we still need Jesus and his perfect, commandment-keeping love.

Instructor: Bridget Eggold **Location:** The Loft

Selections from John's Epistles 12:30-2:00 p.m. (resumes January 8; during January we meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays—then 1st and 3rd Mondays)

Worried that his readers were losing confidence in the message and the original messengers, John wrote them a vigorous letter to wake them up and shake them up. We will study that letter—1 John—to discover what we, too, can learn from it. And we will have a time of personal sharing and light refreshments.

Instructor: Jim Croxton **Location:** Ebenezer Hall

LifeLight: The Gospel of John 5:30-7:00 p.m. (resumes January 8)

Instructor: Rev. Thomas A. Eggold **Location:** Ebenezer Hall

Wednesdays

Men's Bible Study 6:30-7:30 a.m. (continuing)

Instructor: Rev. Thomas A. Eggold **Location:** Brandt Hall

St. Paul's Letters from Prison (for women) 8:30-9:45 a.m. (resumes Jan 3)

We will explore the letters Paul wrote from prison to the New Testament churches.

Instructor: Lana Hille **Location:** Brandt Hall

Pastor's Bible Study 10:00-11:00 a.m. (continuing)

Instructors: various presenters **Location:** Ebenezer Hall

Thursdays

Overflowing Abundance (for women) 2:00-3:00 p.m. (first Thursday of each month)

Discover how our compassionate Savior walks with us always, even in our darkest struggles. DVD, workbooks, and Bibles.

Instructor: Jan Werth **Location:** Ebenezer Hall, Lower Level

Fridays

Men's Ministry Bible Study 6:30-7:30 a.m. (continuing)

Instructor: John Martin **Location:** Mocha Lounge, Covington Road

Moms and More Bible Study 9:00-10:30 a.m. 1 and 3 Fridays – childcare provided

God Loves Moms—a study that digs deep into the stories of 13 biblical women for a fresh look at how God reveals his grace through Christ.

Instructors: Lisa Moellering and Holly Diffendarfer **Location:** The Loft

Saturdays

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study: Luther's Large Catechism 8:30-10:00 a.m. (second Saturday of each month)

Instructor: Rev. Daniel Sheaffer **Location:** Brandt Hall

Esther: It's Tough Being a Woman (for women) 9:00-11:00 a.m.

(resumes January 6—schedule given in class)

An in-depth examination of this great story of threat and deliverance. Beth Moore shows how applicable Esther's story is to our lives.

Instructors: Laura Jackson and Eileen Taylor **Location:** The Loft

Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School News

National Lutheran Schools Week – Emmanuel-St. Michael will be joining with Lutheran Schools around the country and the world to celebrate during the week of January 21. On January 21, we are joining with the Fort Wayne area Lutheran schools in a citywide Lutheran Schools Open House. We are thankful for Emmanuel and St. Michael congregations and their faithful support of ESM both spiritually and financially. ESM celebrates its unique mission as a distinctively Lutheran school!

School Wide Open House – Sunday, January 21 – Would you like to learn more about Emmanuel – St. Michael Lutheran School or know of someone who might? The perfect opportunity is here on Sunday, January 21st from 12 noon – 3 pm. Visit both Getz Road and Union Street Campuses to learn about your school and all it has to offer to your family and our community of faith. At ESM's Christ-centered community, students are engaged in a strong academic program to prepare them to be tomorrow's Christian leaders. Teachers will be present to answer questions, give tours, and share their goals for their students, the leaders of tomorrow! Invite family and friends to visit and learn about your school!

Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School // Education for Life. Faith for Eternity.

Kindergarten Information and Enrollment Sessions – Sunday, January 21 and Thursday, February 22 – Are you exploring educational options for your child? Do you have a friend or neighbor who is looking for an excellent school for their family? At Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School's Christ-centered community, students are engaged in a strong academic program to prepare them to be tomorrow's Christian leaders. Mark your calendar for the ESM Kindergarten Information and Enrollment Sessions. It is an opportunity to learn how ESM might serve you as you seek the best educational options for your family, visit classrooms, meet teachers and parents, and receive enrollment materials.

- Sunday, January 21 at 12noon OR Thursday, February 22 at 6:30pm
- Getz Road Campus - 2131 Getz Road, Fort Wayne
- Bring your future student for a fun activity with teachers!
- Free childcare for siblings
- QUESTIONS? - 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.

Lutherans For Life

January 12, 9:30 am	Lutherans for Life meeting at Emmanuel
January 19	National March for Life Washington D.C.
January 21	Life Sunday – watch for details
January 27, 12 Noon	Fort Wayne (Local) March for Life
February 9, 9:30 am	Lutherans for Life meeting at Emmanuel
February 17, 9 am	Legislative Action Forum – place to be determined
March 3	Life Issues Seminar on Infertility

Like a potter, God shaped man from clay and breathed into him the breath of life. Humans are the only creatures privileged to have the breath of God, setting us apart from other creatures, for only humans are created "in the image of God" (Our Daily Bread November 2017).

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY Chuck Werth, Deacon

We connect members with each other for their spiritual welfare through Christian service and loving care.

Book Club will not meet in January, but will resume again next month on Thursday, February 15.

Meet Our New Members...

Brook Caldwell married member Brandon Caldwell this past December, and is employed with Cadillac Coffee. Brook enjoys reading, binge watching shows on Netflix, spending time outdoors and enjoying time with friends. Brook writes "I am so excited to become a member of Emmanuel."

Anne Kelly is employed with Ash Brokerage and she enjoys scrapbooking, watching sports, going to the Komets and Tin Caps games, travel and spending time with her nieces.

Margo Kelly is employed with Brotherhood Mutual and she enjoys photography, spending time with family, watching movies and reading.

Craig Lenwell is the husband of member, Amber Lenwell and they have 2 children, Quinn, 8 and Callen, 4. Craig is employed with the Fort Wayne Fire Department.

FAMILY MINISTRY Stacey Berg, Deacon

We strengthen families through Christ-centered spiritual, social, and intergenerational activities, equipping them to be faith builders in their homes.

Senior Lunch Bunch – Tuesday, January 15 – Join us for Lunch Bunch with fellowship hour that begins at 11:00 a.m. in the lower level of Ebenezer Hall, followed by lunch

at noon. Pastor Herb Schumm will be our devotion leader and Captain Kevin Hunter from the Fort Wayne Police Department will talk to us about the Opioid and Heroin crisis in our city. Please make your reservation by **Friday, January 12**, by calling the receptionist at 423-1369 or sign-up in the Welcome Center. Cost for lunch is \$7.

Youth News...

Senior High Youth—9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Graders

SNA will meet on Sundays, January 7, 14 and 28, in the Loft from 6-8 p.m.

Bible Class – High School Sunday morning Bible class is held in the Loft, 9:15-10:15



FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!! Emmanuel's Senior High Youth hosts the 6th Annual Chili Cook-Off and Bingo Night on Saturday, January 20, from 6-8 p.m. in the Gymnasium. Meal choices include chili, hot dogs, veggies, cornbread, fruit and dessert. Bingo to follow for great prizes! Cost is \$5 per meal (\$20 max per family) and bingo boards \$2 each. If you would like to **compete**

in the Chili Cook-Off, please contact Sarah Pennekamp (486-6740) or sign up with Becki Elonzae in the church office. If you would like to donate prizes for Bingo, please label items "EYG Bingo" and drop off in the church or school office.



OUTREACH Tina Bruce, Deacon

We equip, train and empower all members to share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

LWML NEWS...

Women in Mission recently sent in \$240 bringing our total to \$440 for 2017. This mite money will be used to fund projects both here in Indiana and around the world. We wish to thank everyone that contributed.

In January, LWML will be meeting one time on the second Thursday due to a scheduling change. We will begin at 1:00 pm working for an hour on a new project of making diapers for third world countries. These will be made from used cotton t-shirts. We are asking everyone to clean out their drawers and bring in the cotton t-shirts that are no longer being used. They can be put in the LWML box under our Mite Box in the Welcome Center. From 2-3:00 pm we will be continuing our Bible study based on the Feeding of the Five Thousand. This Bible Study takes an in-depth look at how we need to rely on God to help us in our times of need.

LWML is collecting cancelled stamps. These stamps are sold by the pound to a local stamp business with proceeds going toward funding its mission projects. You can deposit your

cancelled stamps in the box located in the Welcome Center. Please try to leave a half in paper border around each stamp.

Thank you for supporting the ministries of LWML: *Lutheran Women's Missionary League*.

THANK YOU

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!! – The Advent and Christmas seasons were truly enhanced by all of the gifted musicians and vocalists in our congregation. Many thanks to all of you for your time and efforts in making this wonderful time of year heard through our joyful noise.

The Church Staff would like to thank those members who remembered them this holiday season with cards, baked goods, fruit and other delicious treats. Your kindness was very much appreciated.



“Dear Emmanuel Family

Thank you to Pastor Tom Eggold for coming every week to commune my dad. To Pastor Thomas Eggold, thank you for being with our family when it came time to take dad's brother off of life support, and thank you to my wonderful friends, Pam Bryan and Lana Hille for your support of me through these trials. Last but not least, thank you to my Emmanuel family for all your love, care and prayers.”

***Deb Percy along with the family
of Orby Hurless Jr.***

WORSHIP Craig Dahlkamp, Deacon

*We provide opportunities for God's love to be communicated
to people of all ages through his Word and Sacraments, in
a variety of inviting and appealing worship forms.*

Second Saturday Soup Supper – Following our Saturday 5:00 p.m. worship services in January, February and March, on the second Saturday of those 3 months, Emmanuel will once again hold their Second Saturday Soup Suppers in Ebenezer Hall. If you would like to bring a crock-pot full of your favorite soup to share, please sign up in the Welcome Center. The dates for SSSS are January 13, February 10 and March 10. If you have any questions, please call Cindy Barron at (260) 625-4668, or Sue Bredemeyer at (260) 396-2349.

The Stewardship of the Church

*Christian Stewardship is managing all of life
and life's resources for God's purposes*

EMMANUEL'S MINISTRIES

The contributions made to "Emmanuel" supporting the ongoing mission and ministry efforts of Emmanuel congregation.

Year to Date: \$1,297,998.76

"THUS FAR..."

The gifts listed below have been received and will support the "Thus Far" campaign designed to develop our campus and restore our sanctuary.

To Date: \$3,153,403

DISTRICT AND SYNOD

The contributions designated for "District and Synod" are sent to the Indiana District of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and are used for local, national and world mission efforts.

Year to Date: \$19,212.50

CUP OF KINDNESS

The money contributed in the "Cup of Kindness" boxes is distributed by Lutheran Social Services to local families who have crisis needs.

Year to Date: \$4,077.23

Church Attendance

Week of Sunday, November 29—819

Figure includes Thanksgiving Day Service: 212

Week of Sunday, December 3—715

Week of Sunday, December 10—698

Week of Sunday, December 17th—657

Week of Sunday, December 24—2,427

Figure includes ESM Vesper services: 1,107

Christmas Eve Family Service: 452

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: 269 and Christmas Day Festival Service: 234

Official Church Acts

Adult Confirmation

November 28, 2017

Theresa Barnfather
Brook Caldwell

Anne Kelly
Margo Kelly
Craig Lenwell

Child Baptisms

November 28, 2017

Georgia Mae Todd

December 24, 2017

Dallas Lee Xavier Brown
Reagan Ann Marceline Lash
Teagan Joey Lash

Married

December 9, 2017

Brandon Caldwell and Brook Kunderd

Deceased

November 25, 2017

Raymond Loase

December 23

Rex Hafield

December 27

Richard Wittwer

Memorials

Ray Loase

Thus Far

\$640

Stan Miller

Thus Far
Emmanuel

\$2,300
\$100

Esther Miller

My First Hymnal

\$25