



Emmanuel's Voice

The Newsletter of Emmanuel Lutheran Church

May 2012 ~ Volume 24 • Number 5

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From Our Pastor:

Ministry in the Hallway

Congregations have consistently struggled with what it means to do ministry. We usually include what members do for and in the church as ministry. We tend to count those things because we believe those numbers tell us whether we're successful or if the pastor is doing his or her job in leading the congregation.

However, we too often lack a connection between what people do at church and what they do "in the world". How does our faith relate to the areas of our daily life? Is there confusion about what ministry is? Is it only a matter of being moral, being faithful to friends or just being a nice person?

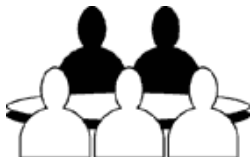
Martin Luther is credited with saying, "Whatever it is people are doing is holy work." Ministry happens at the Emmanuel Farm, where adults learn to read, when parents raise their children, where decisions are made and in the classroom or school hallway. During confirmation classes I reminded my students that they weren't too young to be ministers. They had daily opportunities in the school setting to smile at someone, to befriend someone, to support someone. Those actions can be very meaningful to a young person in the midst of some personal turmoil.

We need to support and encourage one another in our daily ministry. We should value all ministries. God is always at work in the world and we are called to be a part of the movement of the church into the world. The good news is that we are prepared for our ministry in the world as we are forgiven and fed, empowered and prepared as we worship a gracious God.

See you in worship!

Pastor Eckermann

Council Highlights



April 17, 2012
9:45 a.m.

Present: Pastor Stan Eckermann, Darin Page, Comique People,

Ed Kotajarvi, Dick Bergstrom, Harriet Demorest, Cindy Moilanen, and Pat Ochodnicky.

Absent: None.

Opening

Meeting opened with prayer.

Vice President's Report

The Call Committee has recommended a candidate for call as our next pastor. The Council will now arrange to meet with the candidate.

Pastor's Report

- Has begun making visits and phone calls to members.
- Will lead the worship service at the Fountains on April 21st
- Has begun an adult class for persons seeking to be baptized.

Parish Life

Lisa Jones has expressed an interest in joining the Altar Guild and will be trained.

Property

- We have still not received a response from the roofer.
- Motion to have an evaluation of and estimate for repair (tuck pointing) of

the mortar on the church building/second/passed.

- We will try to schedule a workday to address cleanup and small repairs of the church building and property in May.

Outreach

- We have received a letter from Forgotten Harvest listing a number of different programs and opportunities to support both financially and with volunteer time. Comique will investigate this further.
- We will receive a special offering on the 5th Sunday of April which will be designated for the ELCA Malaria Campaign. Pat will see that an announcement and information about the campaign is placed in the next two Sunday bulletins.
- We will investigate ways in which we might support the SEMI Synod's chapter of the Lutheran Volunteer Corps.
- Spirit of Hope has indicated that they also have a need for used clothing and we will add this to our 'ongoing collections' list.

Unfinished Business

- The Council continued the review and update of our congregation's Constitution. When complete, the document will be taken to the congregation for approval.
- Comique will contact our Thrivent Representative and arrange for a

presentation of Thrivent programs to the congregation.

New Business

- Motion to contribute \$200 to Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield in recognition of, and thanks for, Mrs. Pont's leadership in the Maundy Thursday Seder / seconded / passed.
- There was an opening for a female layperson from Cluster 6 to be elected to serve on the Synod Council. However, the deadline for nominations has passed.
- The wine chalice has sustained some damage (staining) and may need refinishing.
- Cluster 6 is holding a planning session on May 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 20, 2012 following worship.

Adjournment and prayer: 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Ochodnicky

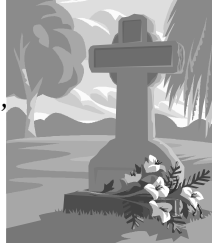
BRRICK

The first BRRICK (Building Racial Reconciliation in Christ's Kingdom) worship as a "magnet" congregation will be held on Sunday, May 6 at 4 p.m. at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 8771 15 Mile Road in Sterling Heights, MI 48312.



a Birthday! May Birthdays

Please note that this month's Birthday Sunday will be on May 27, 2012. Anyone with a May Birthday is asked to bring snacks for the Coffee/Tea Fellowship hour that day.



Memorial Fund

The Memorial Fund Committee graciously wishes to acknowledge a gift received in memory of **AUDREY J. THOMPSON** from: Laurie and Jeff Doud, designated to the good of the Church.

Jill Bergstrom

Memorial Fund Committee



CROP Hunger Walk News by Sharon Hall

On Sunday, May 6th, people from Emmanuel will join people from other Southfield/Lathrup churches and walk together to fight hunger and poverty in this world. 75% of the funds raised from the CROP Hunger Walk will go to Church World Service to help people all over the world and 25% of the funds raised will stay in our own community and be distributed between Southfield Emergency Food Program, Forgotten Harvest and Meals on Wheels.

People who suffer from hunger and poverty aren't in a comfort zone. We realize it's hard to walk for miles and miles to get water or food or other necessities of life. Even just learning about poor people probably puts most of us out of our comfort zones--let alone walking a distance we don't normally walk as will be done on May 6th.

We can pray for people, we can give money and we can also choose to try to do some action that helps us to know their experience more intimately and be with them, not over them. Please see Harriet Demorest for pledge forms if you would like to walk or would like to know who Emmanuel's walkers are so you can pledge. To contribute on-line, go to www.cropwalkonline.org/southfieldmi

During the Fellowship Hour, after worship on May 6th, everyone will be served a brown bag lunch such as is prepared for homeless people in our community when they stay overnight at SOS (South Oakland Shelters) hosted by 67 participating churches.

We do hope CROP Hunger Walk day in Southfield/Lathrup will be meaningful for you and, if there are any discomforts for you, take heart and encouragement from the Nike ad and "Just Do It".

First Baptist of Detroit Church (host of this year's Walk) asks members of Emmanuel to contribute fruit for the refreshments for walkers.

New At Samaritan Counseling Center

Samaritan Counseling Center is offering two new therapy groups this spring. They are time limited and space limited groups, offered at a nominal charge.

Vanessa Brown, Psy.S., TLLP, SCC doctoral intern will facilitate a Personal Growth Group. This group for individuals will meet on Monday evenings from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills. The group will run for 10 weeks starting May 7th through July 16th. It will provide a safe and supportive group environment to learn more about patterns of relating to others, grow emotionally, gain confidence, experiment with new ways of interacting, and develop new outlooks on life's issues.

Shazia Siddiqi, MA, LLPA, Art Therapist at SCC, will facilitate an Art Therapy Group Teenagers, ages 14-17, are welcome to be part of this group, which will run for 10 weeks on Wednesday evenings from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at North Congregational Church in Farmington Hills. The group begins April 18th through June 27th. Teens will explore positive and productive ways to channel negative and positive emotions, recognize personal strengths, gain insight into the self through art-making and reflection. (All art materials will be provided.)

Please call the Samaritan Counseling Center for more information at: 248-474-4701.

E-Clutter for Kids May 12 - 13 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Southfield High School Parking Lot

A recycle-a-thon to benefit the students at the University High School Academy in Southfield

All electronics (except TVs) and items containing metal can be recycled the weekend of May 12-13, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. in the Southfield High School Parking lot at the corner of 10 Mile and Lahser Road.

Acceptable items include: Audio/Visual Equipment, Cell Phone with or without battery, Back-up Batteries, Car Batteries, Coaxial Cables, Computer Mouse/Keyboards and other Peripherals, Computer Components, Computers, Copiers/Printers, Christmas Lights, Digital Cameras, DVD Players, Fax Machines, Ferrous & Non-Ferrous Metals, Lithium Batteries, Unbroken Monitors, MP3 Players, Pagers, Palm Pilots, Power Cables, Power Supplies, Coffee Makers, Projectors, Rechargeable Batteries, Scanners, Server Cabinets, Speakers, Steel & Alloy Rims, Steel Scrap, Telephone Equipment/Systems, Video Game Systems, Stereo Equipment, Toaster Ovens, Toner Cartridges, Vacuum Cleaners, VCR's, Bikes, Walkmans, Wire, Wireless Devices, Washers/Dryers, Refrigerators, Gas Stoves, and Swing Sets.

Thank You to our Youth Group for Decorating the Fellowship Hall for Easter

On Saturday afternoon, April 7, the youth group spent 2 hours decorating hard-boiled eggs (provided by Christina Wardell) and decorating the church fellowship hall with Easter baskets, colorful tablecloths and place settings.



Annual Congregational Meeting

Yes, it is that time again! The date of our annual congregational meeting is set for Sunday, May 20, immediately following worship. During the meeting, we will be electing new members to Church Council.



Seder at Emmanuel!

This year as part of our Holy Week services, we were blessed to have Mrs. Janet Pont, a representative from Congregation Shaarey Zedek (a community synagogue located on Bell Rd just off 11 mile, between Lahser and Telegraph) to help us understand the Jewish Seder. We learned the answers to the four questions asked during the Seder; we learned the meanings of the symbols on Seder plate (haroset, karpas, maror, z'roah and baytzah); we learned some Hebrew; and we learned some fun songs. We learned a little more of our Old Testament background. This is a part of our heritage that often gets overlooked. Most importantly we learned how important it is to understand people of all faiths and backgrounds so that we can grow into the people Jesus meant for us to be.

Emmanuel Community Farm Update



The above picture shows volunteers working at clearing the rows of grass. Jon took the picture last Wednesday. It is physical work but Jon insists we pace ourselves and are sure to take adequate breaks and drink water. Sharing some pleasant conversation makes the time pass by quicker and we're always learning more and more about the gardening methods and growing our green thumbs too. Volunteer hours are Wednesday, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Sunday afternoon 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. I found a nifty book at our Southfield Public Library. "Founding Gardeners: The Revolutionary Generation, Nature, and the Shaping of the American Nation" by Andrea Wulf. It's about the gardening/farming interests of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, and James Madison. Seems they all thought of themselves as gardeners/farmers first before thinking of themselves as being

politicians. People wanted to crown George Washington king but he pushed back because he didn't want to be a king but a working farmer. They did politics because they loved our country but their characters were grounded in the soil and growing things and the whole book is full of stories about their sharing gardening/farming information and plants and so forth, just like goes on at our one-acre Emmanuel Community Farm. All of them also rolled up their sleeves and got their own hands in the dirt right along with their helpers. What a way for democracy to start in our country!!!!!!!!!! Interesting read.

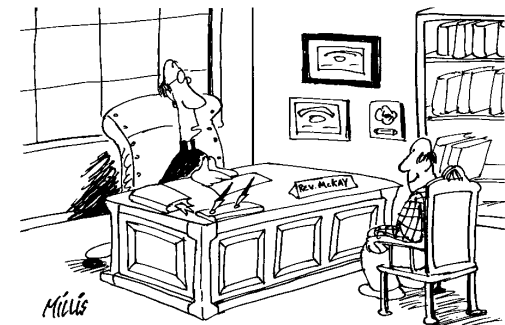
If you have any time to contribute to helping us at the Farm, come on out.

Best wishes,

Sharon K. Hall

Farm volunteer and member of Southfield Parks and Garden Club

Cartoon corner



"We're grateful for the checks, but in order for us to cash them, you'll have to make them out to the church, not to 'The Big Guy Upstairs.'"

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

(248) 357-1848

May 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April 29 4 Easter Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee/Tea Fellowship 12 noon Youth Vocal and Handbell Choir Rehearsals 12:15 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 pm	April 30 Bible Study 7 pm	1	2 Prayer Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting 8:30 pm	3 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	4	5 Men's Breakfast at Stackerz 8:30 am Ministry at The Fountains 2 pm
6 5 Easter Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee/Tea Fellowship 12 noon Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 pm	7 Bible Study 7 pm	8	9 Prayer Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting 8:30 pm	10 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	11 Youth night 6:30 pm	12 Ministry at The Fountains 2 pm
13 6 Easter Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee/Tea Fellowship 12 noon Youth Vocal and Handbell Choir Rehearsals 12:15 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 pm	14 Bible Study 7 pm	15 Church Council Meeting 9:30 am	16 Prayer Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting 8:30 pm	17 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm	18	19 Ministry at The Fountains 2 pm
20 7 Easter Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee/Tea Fellowship 12 noon Annual Congregational Meeting 12:15 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 pm	21 Bible Study 7 pm	22 Newsletter Submissions Due	23 Prayer Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting 8:30 pm	24	25 Newsletter Assembly 11:30 a.m.	26 Ministry at The Fountains 2 pm
27 Day of Pentecost Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 am Coffee/Tea Fellowship 12 noon Crafters 12:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 pm	28 Bible Study 7 pm	29	30 Prayer Meeting 7:30 pm AA Meeting 8:30 pm	31	June 1	June 2 Ministry at The Fountains 2 pm

Sunday Servants • May 2012

	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
Day	5 Easter	6 Easter	7 Easter	Day of Pentecost
Color	White	White	White	Red
Liturgy	Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3	Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3	Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3	Evangelical Lutheran Worship – Setting 3
Readings	Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8	Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6 John 15:9-17	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:9-13 John 17:6-19	Acts 2:1-21 Ezekiel 37:1-14 (Alternate) Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27 Acts 2:1-21 (Alternate) John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
Presiding	Pastor Stanley Eckerman			
Assisting and Lector Christina Wardell	Christina Wardell	Sharon Hall	Maria Wardell	Richard Chavanak
Music Director	Valerie Felder			
Cantors	Youth Choir	Donna Page	Richard Chavanak	Barbara Klimkowski
Ushers Roger Demorest	Maria Wardell Jennifer Wardell Morgan Jones Lisa Jones Rhionna Nichols	Christina Wardell Sandra Bryant Comique People Ann Dixon	Don Thompson Erick Kyro Ed Kotajarvi Bill Leppala Roger Demorest	Dean Lemponen Ed Gilbert Paul Zetye Jack Klein
Greeters Barb Laho	Dolores Ward	Ed Gilbert	Erick Kyro	Dale Charneski
Acolytes Christina Wardell	Brittney Jones Troiana Pollard	Lisa Jones Rhionna Nichols	Jennifer Wardell Morgan Jones	Michael Wright Jamie Maximore
Altar Care Donna Page	Sharon Hall and Janet Kotajarvi			
Tellers Harriet Demorest	Vicki Perttunen Rudy Perttunen Roger Demorest	Vicki Perttunen Rudy Perttunen Roger Demorest	Richard Chavanak Erick Kyro Jerry Hall	Richard Chavanak Erick Kyro Jerry Hall
Fellowship Hour Janet Kotajarvi	First Sunday Group	Young at Heart	Women of the ELCA	May Birthdays
Flowers Sharon Hall	Christina and Ed Wardell	Donations needed	Donations needed	Jerry and Sharon Hall
Audio Recording	Ed Wardell			
Worship Folder and Bulletin	Christina Wardell			

If you cannot serve on your appointed day, please arrange for a substitute and call the church office at (248) 357-1848.

