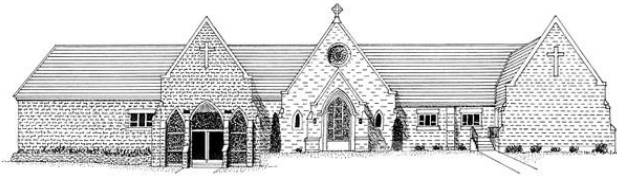


THE MESSENGER



Monthly news for Emmanuel Lutheran Church - Menominee,
Michigan


MARCH

2020



**The Messenger is given this month by
Rudolph Raminger**

In thanks to God for all His Blessings



Your
word
is a lamp
to guide my feet
and
a light
for my path.

Psalm 119:105



You are invited to walk with us through the season of Lent as we consider "Reflections on the crucifixion of Jesus Christ" under the theme of CROSS WORDS.

Words are important and we all know that there are many CROSS WORDS that are heard in our interactions with others in our world.

But not all of the words connected with the crucifixion of Jesus are negative and hostile. Many are positive and helpful to us as we make our journey together through life.

Lenten Worship Services

Services will be held at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church. With a Soup Supper at 5:00 p.m.

So we shall consider the following CROSS WORDS:

ANGER	March 4 th	Pastor Scott Ehle,		Anger		
HOPE	March 11 th	Pastor Mark Laatsch	Hope	Joy	Peace	
JOY	March 18 th	Pastor Ken Michaelis		G		
				R		
PEACE	March 25 th	Pastor Nick Johannes		A		
				C		
GRACE	April 1 st	Pastor Doug Schoen		E		

Pastor Mark's thoughts....

While every one of us may have an expectation about what Lent is supposed to be, there is a tension that exists during this season in which we are transformed and changed by God's love in predictable, as well as unpredictable, ways. If Lent shows us anything, it is that God has a delightful sense of humor.

What I mean is this: many of us decide to use Lent as a springboard to better ourselves in some way, hoping this discipline carries over into our lives after Easter. The irony is that God may have been telling us to do this a long time ago. During the season of Lent we see the calendar turn over into spring, yet we end up shoveling out from our heaviest snowstorms. During the season of Lent, some of us jet off into warmer climates for spring break, only to experience a cold, rainy, miserable experience in which it was warmer back home (I speak from experience on this one!). The unpredictability of this season reminds us that we are alive and that we are constantly having to adapt to keep up with it.

But, in the midst of our experiences of unpredictability, God never wavers in who God is, and that's exactly what gives us the courage to live into the wild, swinging season that is Lent. Every Good Friday we remember that Jesus, God with us, died on the cross. Every Easter Sunday we are reminded that He rose again. In the midst of our chaos, that story never changes. Death always loses and God always wins. The outcome is sure.

As we continue on our unique and unpredictable journeys of faith during Lent, may we ever be cognizant of God's unending and predictable faithfulness in walking with us. May we ever be reminded that when we have reached that point that we believe that the snow will never melt, that God will surprise us with a yard full of dandelions.....because that's what God does!

I'll see you in church!

Pastor Mark

Youth and Family Ministries



Upcoming Classes

March 1st, March 15th
from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.



First

Communion

Parents of 5th graders, First Communion classes will start March 15th and run for four weeks. The symbolic Seder Meal and First Communion will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 9th.

Any 6th grader who has not yet taken Holy Communion instruction is also welcomed to join us. The classes will be held during the same time as Sunday school classes in the conference room located at the end of the office hallway. Students are to go directly to class (not to worship) at 10:00 a.m.

Kids Helping Kids **Snacks for Students Collection**



The Little Lutherans Youth Committee will be collecting Cereal Bars, Pop Tarts, Individual Snack Crackers, & Fruit Snacks for distribution to our local schools.

The collection will run from March 8th – 29th

Children's



Library

The library is open! Located at the end of the Sunday school classrooms, you will find books, videos, DVD's, and family resource materials to check out.

The library is open during regular church office hours and during worship times on Sunday.



GLOW Youth Night

Sunday, March 22nd 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Supper will be provided.

GLOW Youth Service Activity

Menominee Animal Shelter
Saturday, March 21st at 10:30 a.m. We will meet at church.

2021 ELCA Youth Gathering

Parent and Student Meeting
Sunday, March 15th 11:00 a.m. in the
fellowship hall.



Thank you congregation for your generous support of our spaghetti fundraiser!

Your contributions are going directly to Emmanuel's youth to help with their expenses as they attend the 2021 Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN, June 29th-July 3rd.

Thank you to Thrivent Financial for providing the seed money for our fundraiser.



Yoga Classes

Tuesday's, 5:20-6:00 p.m. in the church
fellowship hall. Classes are \$5.00 per session
and are taught by certified yoga instructor,
Sally VanEyck. All abilities are welcome.

Care & Share Alzheimer's Support

A support group for caregivers of loved ones with
Alzheimer's and other dementias is offered on Wednesdays from
4:30-6:00 p.m. at church. Contact June for more information at
715-582-3589 or 715-938-3589 or by email at
jmeblers@new.rr.com.

Join us each Wednesday, 7:30 a.m., at the Serving Spoon Restaurant in Menominee for a time of fellowship with friends, sharing stories and enjoying a cup of coffee. Bring a friend!



Women's Sarah Circle

Meets second Tuesday of the Month at 1:00pm at church.
Ivon Butman will be hostess.

Seeking Enlightenment Group

Thursday, March 19th at 6:30 p.m.
Contact Robin Gustafson at 906-290-1003 for location details.



We are a community of moms who can offer encouragement, support, and friendship in our adventures as moms!

Mom's of all ages are invited to Join us on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Friendship Room.



Prayer Group

We meet each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. in the Friendship Room.

**Christ's church is strengthened when we come together.
We welcome you to join one of these groups.**



Lord's Diner

Emmanuel has been invited to participate in the ministry of the Lord's Diner which takes place each Wednesday evening at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Marinette. We are planning on providing and serving the meal during a Wednesday following Easter. This is a great opportunity for members of all ages to work together as the Body of Christ. More information will be coming soon!

Easter Memorials

As you prayerfully consider your *Easter Memorial* contributions, please know that all of your gifts are appreciated and used to further various ministries of our congregation and wider church.

In order to make Emmanuel more visible in our community, we would like to upgrade our current ***13th Street reader board*** to be an electronic one. The upgrade will provide for greater flexibility in sharing our mission as well as empowering us with a quicker messaging response to more immediate information. Our hope and intention is to install this in the spring of 2020.

The gifts given to the ***2021 ELCA National Youth Gathering*** will be put into a fund in which we will evenly distribute to all of Emmanuel's high school youth who will be attending the Gathering in Minneapolis in June 2021. This is a faith affirming opportunity for Lutheran youth from across the country to come together to work, learn and worship in unique ways and settings.

Your designations to the ***ELCA World Hunger*** appeal go directly toward the church's call to justice in response to those who do not have food through the ELCA's Good Gifts program. The money is used to provide farm animals, garden plants, and to dig wells for those who do not have the resources to do this on their own.



All Easter memorials must be received by

Sunday, April 5th

*to be included in the Easter Memorial booklet.
Your gifts are greatly appreciated.*

I would like to:

\$_____ Place an Easter Lily in the chancel (\$12.00 each)

\$_____ Electronic reader board in front of church

\$_____ 2021 ELCA National Youth Gathering

\$_____ ELCA – World Hunger Appeal

Given _____ In memory of _____

_____ In honor of _____

_____ In thanks to God _____

By _____

Envelope Number _____

Steward your soul for a fuller life

Jesus teaches, “What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?” – Mark 8:36, 37 (NIV)

Instead of the superficial “How’s it going?” a wise colleague asks friends, “How is your soul?”

The question requires effort. To answer it I must plunge deep inside – below the constantly churning waters of everyday joys, hopes, ambitions, desires, anxieties and disappointments. These are so strong, especially our desires and ambitions, that if we are not careful, they can absorb all our time and energy.

Jesus repeatedly warns us not to let our desires and our worries overwhelm us, keeping us from paying attention to the soul. Our soul is where we connect with God, the source of our greatest strength and truest identity. Without attention, our soul can wither like a plant without water. As with all the treasures God has given us, we must be stewards of our souls.

The mystics of old and modern prophets (such as Richard Rohr, Marjorie Thompson, and Howard Thurman) teach us to employ prayer, holy silence, and other spiritual disciplines to tend our souls and keep worldly worries and desires from drowning us.

This month, begin a daily practice of caring for your soul. You might begin with five minutes of spoken prayer followed by five minutes of silence. Or reflect deeply on a Scripture passage. Or try prayerful yoga. (Your pastor might be able to give you some resources or ideas.)

With a little practice and attention, you can become stronger, more centered, and more spiritually resilient.
How is your soul?

--Rob Blezard

Copyright © 2020, Rev. Robert Blezard.

LYLE McDONALD MEMORIAL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

March 27-28-29, 2020

Community REC Center

Proceeds support Thunder youth hockey with Registration Scholarships to grow the program.

Interested in Playing or Sponsoring?

Call or email for more information:

715-587-3969 (Alex)

abmcdonald7@gmail.com (Alex)

715-587-7456 (Nancy)

nmcdonald1@new.rr.com (Nancy)



Worship Services available on our website.

For those of you who do not have a Facebook account, you are now able to view our worship services. Each

Monday, the previous Sunday's worship service will be made available on our website. There is a separate tab on the top of the home screen that states "Worship Videos". You may visit our website at www.e-mmanuel.com or scan this QR code with your smart phone.

Live streaming of our worship services on Facebook will continue!



SUNDAY MORNINGS AT EMMANUEL

Worship at 8:00 & 10:00am

Nursery care provided at 10:00am
Sunday School at 10:00am

CONTACT US:

Phone: (906) 863-3431 Fax: 906-863-4193

Email: mail@e-mmanuel.com

Council President, Rhonda Pedersen

Email: elcpresident@e-mmanuel.com

or

Visit us on the Web at www.e-mmanuel.com



Follow us on Instagram and Facebook at
Emmanuel Lutheran Church Menominee Michigan ELCA

STAFF:

Pastor

The Rev. Mark Laatsch - Cell Phone: 906-424-0003

Email: pastor2901@e-mmanuel.com

Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Mrs. Patti Treptow

Church Secretary

Mrs. Judy Raygo

Custodian- inside Mrs. Carol Parrish

Custodian – outside Mr. Lee Parrish



We are a congregation of the Northern Great Lakes Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America