

Good News

A Publication of Emanuel Lutheran Church
Volume XXXVII No. 1
January 2012

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Emanuel's mission is to witness
to the good news of salvation through Christ to individuals, the community
and the world through discipleship and service.**

My Walk in Faith...

One of the first words I think of when I think about my faith is home. Home is defined as a place where one lives. He lives in me and He lives in all of us. God is, always has been, and will continue to be a loving presence in my life.

Being a Christian, being a Lutheran, being a pastor's daughter has been my life for as long as I can remember. I was born while Dad was in seminary. I was just a toddler when we moved to Minnesota for Dad's first call. While I don't remember a whole lot about living in Minnesota, I do remember our churches there. We moved to Arcanum when I was 7. Our churches and the people there were as much of a part of my growing up as my school or my friends. Even the building themselves were so familiar to me, an extension of my home.

I will admit that my church attendance during my college years at BGSU was spotty. But even so, there was nothing like attending a good ol' ELCA church service. Those familiar hymns, the familiar prayers felt like home. My husband Jason and I met during our years at BGSU (just like my parents did!) and he teases me about how my eyes lit up (so

he says!) on our first date when he told me he was raised Lutheran. Not that it was the deciding factor in deciding he was "the one" necessarily, but it didn't hurt.

When Mom and Dad told us they were moving to northwest Ohio, I was thrilled! Jason and I were expecting Hannah in a couple of months and we were settled in Perrysburg, so I was very happy to have them move closer to us.

So now, Emanuel is our church home. One of the greatest parts of being a member of a church is being a part of a large, loving, extended family. And I am blessed to be part of this one.

Through it all, through changes and hard times and good ones, there has been one steady presence, a comforting knowledge that our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is with me every step of the way. My faith can't be tied to an event, or to one turning point. It is who I am. It is home to me.

Emily Jordan

*Thank you! Danke schoen! Merci beaucoup! Muchos gracias!
Domo arigato! Asante sana! And thank you again!*

Just how can I say it so that you know how much we feel it?!?! Somehow, those two words – “*thank you!*” – just don’t seem adequate at expressing our gratitude for all of your many kindnesses, cards, gifts, goodies, and well-wishes for us, not only at Christmas, but throughout the year. Most especially, we appreciate the ministry we share here at Emanuel with you, our Church Family. You are all blessed to be a blessing to others, and we are blessed to be a part of the Emanuel Church Family! Thank you, each and all, and consider yourself hugged! May God bless you as His love shines through you in the New Year ahead!

Love & joy come to you,
Pastor & Carol

Statistics

Thursday, November 17

attendance 27 communed 26

Sunday, November 20

attendance 89 + 98 (187)

Offerings \$5,672.60

1,170.00 Building Fund

5.00 World Hunger

50.00 Good Samaritan Fund

Sunday, November 27

attendance 120 + 118 (238)

Offerings \$4,134.80

110.00 Building Fund

34.00 World Hunger

Sunday, December 4

attendance 115 + 80 (195) communed 109

Offerings \$ 10,127.44

4,895.00 Building Fund

35.00 World Hunger

Sunday, December 11

attendance 101 + 120 (221) communed 115

Offerings \$ 6,624.50

775.00 Building Fund

250.00 Good Samaritan Fund

40.00 World Hunger

500.00 Angel Tree

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

- Many heartfelt thanks to you all for my birthday greetings in November. Each and every one of them meant more to me than I can ever express. Love and peace to you all. Pastor
- A very special thank you from Larry and I for your thoughts and prayers and for all the cards we received while Larry was in the hospital. And a special thank you to Pastor Castello for all his trips to the hospital and being there for us. We appreciated all the love and concerns everyone offered.
-Larry and Diana Zachrich
- Filling Fall Fling: Once again thank you to all who allowed us to place a sign in your yard, brought baked items for the Bake Sale, volunteered your time to help out on Friday or Saturday, and who came to spend some time with us on Saturday. You are appreciated! This year's Fling brought in \$10,450 – ALL of which is going toward the adaptive equipment fund! Thank you!!!!
-Carol Dille

I'd like to give a massive thank you to all of you who have served this community in the last year by reading, running sound, ushering, filling in, cleaning, planting, tending, raking, and almost never saying no when I begged you for something! You make this a Community of Christ, and our ministry would fail without your generosity! Thank you!

-Holly Mohring, Doctrine & Worship Chair

Favorite Songs and Psalms of the Congregation

Here is a list of the congregation's favorite songs and Psalms from the November bulletin board in the back of the church. I hope you enjoy participating and then reading the list!

The Old Rugged Cross from Barb
This Is My Father's World
Beautiful Savior from Karri A.
Psalm 139
Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service #423
Great Is Thy Faithfulness from Phyl
Ode to Joy from Alyssa
Amazing Grace from Amy T.
Make Me a Channel of Your Peace from Lana
His Eye is on the Sparrow from Mary Lou
Amazing Grace
Lord of All Hopefulness
The 23rd Psalm
Psalm 150 (all about music and instruments) from Angela T.
My Hope is Built on Nothing Less from Jamie B.
Joy to the World from Morgan Ashbaugh
All Things Bright and Beautiful from Mike
Trumpet Tune and Adeste

Your next challenge is to write down your favorite Christmas memory or anything related to the Christmas holiday. The results will be posted in the next newsletter.

Thanks for your input!

-Phyl Kloos

Simply Giving

If anyone is interested in making their offerings to Emanuel using automatic withdrawal from their bank account, they can pick up a form from Julie Kohout or the church office. Automatic giving can be set up for weekly, semi-monthly or monthly withdrawal and can be designated to the General and/or Building Funds.

Anyone already using this service who would like to make changes can also do so with this form. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Kohout.

from the Congregational Life Board

Project: We Care

THANK YOU to everyone who supported the “Angel Tree” for Project: We Care. This year, because of your abundant caring, we were able to adopt 45 kids, helping a total of 20 families enjoy a brighter Christmas through your gifts for them with our “Angel Tree”. Special thanks to all who shopped, supported, funded, and delivered! For those to whom you have shown God’s love in this simple way of sharing CHRISTmas, thank you for your outreach!

Caring/Donation Corner for January

“Resolve” now to help with our monthly donation collecting as we begin the New Year with opportunities to give to Together We Can Make A Difference Initiatives. Items needed include:

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| toilet paper | bar soap |
| Toothbrushes and toothpaste (both adult & children’s) | disposable razors |
| deodorant | dish soap |
| shampoo | diapers!! |
| | feminine supplies - pad and tampons |

Plastic bags are always needed for repackaging items. **Opened packages of diapers** (outgrown sizes, unused extras) are always welcomed! Sunday supplement **coupons** help stretch dollars further, for us and for our clients.

P....R....A....Y....E....R.....C....H....A....I....N

“Connect” with the Prayer Chain! If you would like to be added as a “link” or if you have a prayer request, simply call Carol Castello at 592-0847 OR e-mail her at cjcast@yajoo.com. Thanks for your caring and “prayer-ing”!

5th Sunday - January 29, 2012!
1st 5th potluck of the New Year!

Membership News

Births

Congratulations to:

Chad & Tiffany Rupp on the birth of a son, Avin Jay, on November 21;
Kyle & Erin Spieth on the birth of a daughter, Harper Klaire, on November 29;
Scott & Kelli Rex on the birth of twin sons, Charlie Donald and Miles Adam, on
December 2 in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. Proud grandparents are Roger & Deb Rex;
great grandmother, Ruth C. Eickhoff

Baptism

Benson Matthew, son of Matt & Jill Schwab, was baptized on November 27. Benson's
sponsors are Jenna Toon, Andrew Schwab, and Josh Wiechers.

Evelyn Rynae Ruby, daughter of Josiah Wallace & Stephanie Ruby, was baptized on
December 11. Her sponsors are Chad & Tiffany Rupp and Meredith Hoops.

WE APPRECIATE HEARING ABOUT YOUR FAMILY NEWS (BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES, ETC.).

We would like to include your family's birthdays in our
birthday prayers on Sundays, in which case we would need those names and dates.
We would also like to know the names of all those family members serving in the military.

Remember our members in nursing homes and assisted living facilities with prayers, cards, visits.

Lutheran Home (1036 S. Perry St., Napoleon)

Paul Panning **Alfred "Petey" Ruetz**

Ted Titgemeyer

Alpine Village Assisted Living (1032 S. Perry, Napoleon)

Ruth M. Eickhoff (#410) **Herman Campbell** (#313)

Country View Haven (R858 Co Rd 15, Napoleon)

Julia Arps (mailing address: 8271 Co Rd T Liberty Center, OH 43532)

Golden Center Living Center-Northcrest (240 Northcrest Dr, Napoleon)

Ruth Delaney **Alice Langenhop**

Church Office Hours

8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday - Thursday

8 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Friday

EMANUEL GOOD NEWS, a monthly publication of the Emanuel Lutheran Church
810 Scott Street, P.O. Box 501, Napoleon, OH 43545 (419-592-2616) emanuel@bright.net
www.emanuelnapoleon.org

Pastor - James L. Castello (419-592-0847) jameslcastello@yahoo.com

Missionaries to Hong Kong - Pastor John & Barbara LeMond

Congregation President - Ron Wiechers

Women of the ELCA President - Martha Young

Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Carol Castello (419-592-0847 or cjcast@yahoo.com)

Worship & Music Coordinator/Organist - Angela Tonjes

Bell Choir Director - Hugh Schink

Asst. Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning

Living Spirit Director - Holly Mohring, Marv & Julie Mt.Castle

Parish Secretary - Patricia Mohring

Sunday School Superintendent - Angela Sosebee

Altar Guild Chairman - Barbara Hoffman

Custodian - Jack Robbins

2011 Church Council

President - Ron Wiechers

President-Elect - Kevin Gerken

Secretary - Jenny Perdew

Treasurer - Julie Kohout

Doctrine & Worship Board - Terry Hershberger & Jack Robbins

Congregational Life Board - Carol Castello & Terri Sedam

Board of Education - Julie Mt.Castle & Angela Sosebee

Properties Board - Jeff Sharpe & Mike Mohring

Finance Board - Loralee Jones & Martha Young

Worship participants in January

Acolytes

8:00 Austin Damman & Keegan Schroeder

10:30 Brock Brubaker & Derek Belcher

Lay Assistant

8:00 -

10:30 -

Altar Guild

Ushers

8:00 Larry Wiechers, Theo Heuer,

Jack Ruby, Don Mitchell (Jan. 8/15/22 only)

10:30 Norm Bostelman, Mark Tonjes,

Alan Storch, Bill Panning



January 1 - OPEN

January 8 - OPEN

January 15 - Virginia Dillon

January 22 - Ken & Nancy Lange in honor of their 54th wedding anniversary

January 29 - Doug & Judy Hoffman in honor of their 48th wedding anniversary

Open dates:

February 19 - 26

May 13 - 20

August 5 - 12 - 19

November 4 - 11

March 11

June 17

September 2 - 9 - 16

December 2

April 1 - 8

July 1 - 29

October 14

To reserve altar flowers...

Simply sign up on the flower chart in the narthex or call the church office.

Our flowers are done by Ivy League Floral & Design Studio on West Washington Street. The cost is \$20. If you have *special* orders for your flowers (certain colors, a larger arrangement, etc.), they will be happy to serve you. Please contact Cori Ratliff at Ivy League for these special orders. If your order is beyond the \$20, please pay the shop directly.

***** We are recycling the used plastic containers that the altar flowers come in. They can be put in Angela's office. *****

Notes from Angela

- Angela Tonjes

Adult Choir

Thank you to Tom and Beth Jenny for hosting our choir Christmas party! We had such a great time!

Thank you to the choir for all of your hard work in preparing music for Christmas. You made the worship services extra special.

Practices will continue from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary each Wednesday of January. We are starting a new round of music, so if you have been thinking of joining us, now is a great time!

For the first time since I have been here, the choir will be presenting a Good Friday cantata entitled "Tapestry of Darkness." This will be the focus of rehearsals for the next few months.

The choir will sing next on January 8 at the 10:30 service. During the offering, "Fit for a King" will be the anthem, and it is all about the gifts we bring to Jesus. "Born to Be the Bread," a communion anthem, is a new post-Christmas number by a favorite composer, Ruth Elaine Schram. This song carries the message that it was God's plan for Jesus to be the bread of life for our souls.

After School Club

Thanks to the children for their awesome music during the Christmas season. You are all a blessing to our congregation and you continue to amaze us with your talent and willingness to be part of worship.

After a two-week break, After School Club will resume on Wednesday, January 4. We will be working on all new music and hope to share our singing and bells at the nursing homes this month.

Junior High Youth

A thank you to the junior high youth for preparing songs for Christmas. You did such a fine job, and you learn so quickly. I appreciate your patience as we continue to work out a practice schedule (short but sweet!). The young people are excited to sing one of their favorites, "Siyahamba," for the congregation this month. This song is from South Africa, and the words mean "We are marching in the light of God." It is a definite toe-tapper.

Emanubells

Did you know that Emanubells had their first gig in December? Everyone had a fun time ringing at the church in Wauseon, and Emanubells is now officially established as the "junior varsity" bell choir!

Practices will resume on Wednesday, January 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and will last 30 minutes.

Thank You, Emanuel

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the people of Emanuel for another wonderful year as your worship and music coordinator. It is my honor and my privilege to work with all of our musicians, young and old. Your kind words throughout the year and your dedication to our music program is so appreciated by me. I cannot wait for another year of worship and music in 2012!

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others,
faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10*

Poinsettias

Thanks to all who purchased the 34 poinsettias from Hospice that beautified our sanctuary for Christmas!

Ed & Tiffany Biederstedt — in honor of Blake & Alexandria

Norm & Kathy Bostelman — in honor of Lorna Bostelman

Donnie Daman (2) — in loving memory of Orv Daman & Gary Daman

Harold Delventhal

Ruth C. Eickhoff — in loving memory of Norbert, Joe & Jeff

Doug & Judy Hoffman (2) — in honor of our children and grandchildren

Tom & Barb Hoffman (4) — in loving memory of Robert & Lulu Arps and Art & Estella Hoffman; in honor of Ryan, Andrea & Rob Hoffman, Lauren & Chris Helberg

Daryl & Loralee Jones — in honor of our families

Joe & Julie Kohout — in honor of Erica, Anthony & Ryan

Eleonora Koppenhofer (2) — in loving memory of August Hoops & Eldon Koppenhofer

Ron Meyers (4) — in honor of our kids

Maggi & John Mohler (2) — in loving memory of all deceased family members

Betty Mowery (2) — in loving memory of our parents & sister; in honor of Richard, Dorothy Mowery & Mary; Rex and Marjorie Richard

Alyssa Mt.Castle — in loving memory of Grandpa Noel Warren and Grandpa Eldon Koppenhofer

Randy & Deb Nation (2) — in loving memory of Patsy Nation and Bob Burner; in honor of our children, grandchildren and my parents Paul & Glennadene Burner

Ed & Donna Peper — in loving memory of Sarah J. Peper

Ted & Joyce Rohrs — in loving memory of Henry Winkelman

Rupe & Rita Schweinhagen — in honor of our wonderful family

Len & Lana Sonnenberg — in honor Eldor Sonnenberg

Angela Sosebee (2) — in loving memory of Jim Sosebee & Shirley Casteel

Ron & Jeannie Wiechers — in loving memory of Tom & Phyllis Spieth