

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE HERALD

*Come to Faith, Honor God's Word
To be inspired and reconnected to God's Word and God's people,
to share the message of the cross, and to bring God's love
and healing to people in need.*

March 2021

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

"I am the true vine and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." John 15:1-2

We are in a season of pruning. As Christians and as a church. We used to average about 150 people a week at worship services at Emmanuel, but right now we are averaging 40-50 a week. Now, I know that many people are watching from home, but I am doubtful that we are making up that extra hundred. We receive much less in the weekly offering and our weekly GROW videos are receiving fewer and fewer views. The truth is that the Covid-19 virus has changed many things for us and made it much more difficult to stay connected to our community. For many people, they have fallen out of the habit not only of churchgoing but of any type of spiritual connection to God. And Jesus appears to be saying that this is a good thing!

Grapevines are pruned every year in February or early March so that they can bear the most fruit come Spring and Summer. After their foliage has been trimmed way back, they are prepared to grow even more fruitful. At first, it might look like the gardener has overdone it and almost killed the plant. However, it's the pruning that allows the growth to happen. In the same way, I believe that God is using this time to grow our church and our faith in Jesus. Right now, it looks very sad and depressing. It can feel like we are almost dead! And yet God has a future in mind for us. Once this time of trial is ended, we will be ready to join together again in growing the kingdom of God!

We are followers of a God who brings life out of death. 1st Samuel 2 makes the point clearly, "The Lord brings death and makes alive; He brings down to the grave and raises

up. The Lord sends poverty and wealth, He humbles and He exalts." When life begins to return back to normal, you might find yourself inspired in a way that you never have been before. People will come to church not because they feel like they are supposed to but because they have really missed it over the past year! And those who have fallen away from their faith and from the church will need to take inventory of what they were placing their faith in after all. If worshipping God is only a priority when it's easy, perhaps, we have missed the point of being a Christ follower?

It's nineteen degrees today and it feels almost toasty outside! How is that possible? Because it's been below zero for so long that even a little improvement seems like a big deal. Imagine what life is going to feel like when we don't have to wear masks all of the time or when our church is full again! Those things weren't that big of a deal a year ago, but we have spent so long socially distancing and in a mindset of mitigating viral spread that just being free of that will feel like we've been released from a jail cell! God has called us to be faithful during the good times and the bad. What's amazing is that sometimes we need to have the bad times in order to appreciate the good!

I believe that God has pruned us and is preparing us for a season of growth and fruitfulness! While church services have definitely changed, God's Word is the same today, yesterday and forever. God is as much with us now as He has ever been. Jesus' love and forgiveness is still life changing. The dead of Winter is almost past and the new life of Spring is just around the corner. I look forward to seeing how God works in your life and in the life of Emmanuel as He calls us out of the grave and into His future. Amen.

Inside This Issue:

- Page 1—Pastor's Message
- Page 2—ELC Council Minutes, Fund Balance
- Page 3—Announcements, Prayer Requests, ELC Women
- Page 4—Easter Lily Form, G.R.O.W.
- Page 5—Worship Responsibilities
- Page 6—Calendar
- Page 7—Celebrations

Like Us On  facebook

E.L.C. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES—01/10/2021

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by council president, George Feazell, in the parish hall. Members present were George F., Nellie Griffith, Raedeen Bigelow, Matt Gross, Iris Westphal, Dan Dreyer, Pastor Steven Broers, and Roland Purdy. Absent were Lynn Christensen and Bill Ernst.

Devotions were read by Pastor Broers.

The Secretary's Report was read by Roland Purdy. Raedeen B. moved to approve the minutes. Matt G. 2nd-ed. Carried.

Treasurer's Reports were given by George F. Iris W. moved to approve the reports. Nellie G. 2nd-ed. Carried.

Pastor Broers presented his monthly mileage/ activities report. Iris W. moved to approve the report. Raedeen B. 2nd-ed. Carried.

Emergency Benevolence: None.

Committee Reports:

Women of ELCA—had their regular meeting.

Altar Guild—will meet this month. Lots of poinsettias were ordered this year to be placed near the altar of the church at Christmas time in honor of loved ones who have passed. The flowers were beautiful and were enjoyed by many church members.

Property—Matt G. has fixed a door closer on one of the entry doors of the church.

Music & Worship—the Praise Team is back to practicing on Sunday nights

Outreach—the thank you cards and gift cards sent to Fontanelle and Greenfield nursing homes' staff members were very much appreciated.

Adult Ministry—Pastor Broers plans to offer the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace course again to anyone who is interested.

Children's Ministry Report January 2021

-GROW

-GROW began last week after 2 weeks off for Christmas break.

-Confirmation

-Confirmation resumes this upcoming Wednesday. They are currently working on memorizing the Apostles Creed and its meanings.

-High School

-Bible study will be resuming this week.

-Children's Ministry

-We were pleased with how the Christmas Program turned out this year and got lots of positive feedback.

Memorial—our church received money from Barbara Nelson's and Mollie Lamborn's memorials.

Old Business:

In-person church services—attendance is low with more members watching on-line due to Covid-19. Contemporary and Traditional services are both being offered with CDC guidelines being followed to prevent the spread of the virus.

Pastor evaluations—the Council's Executive Committee will meet to review the evaluations.

New Business:

Nominating Committee—three church members are needed to fill the three council seats vacated by three outgoing members whose terms are up. New council members will be elected at the Annual Meeting to be held on January 17, 2021.

Annual Meeting—is to be held on Sunday, January 17th between the two church services.

February Council Meeting—the council moved the date back a week to February 21st since the 14th is Valentine's Day. It will be held in the church parish hall instead of at a restaurant, because of Covid-19. There will be a re-organizational meeting.

Iris W. moved to adjourn. Dan D. 2nd-ed. Carried. We adjourned at 6:40 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Roland Purdy, Secretary

Fund Balance Report As of January 31, 2021	
General Fund	\$55,207.11
Children's Ministry	
Grow	\$100.00
Sponsor A Sheep	\$0.00
Other	\$48.80
Total	\$148.80
Vision Fund	
Undesignated	\$9,295.21
Designated Building	\$6,120.00
Designated Mission	\$7,725.00
Total	\$23,140.21
TOTAL	\$78,496.12

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Spring forward before you go to bed on the 13th so you're set for the day March 14!



FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES began for all **5th graders** on up on **Sunday, February 21st**. If you know someone who is interested in joining the class, please see Pastor Broers as soon as possible. The classes are available either in-person or online for 5 weeks. First Communion will be held on Palm Sunday, March 28th.



CELL PHONE UPDATE

There was a question concerning the cell phone bill at the annual meeting January 17th. The Council proposed increasing the line item amount from \$1,500 to \$2,000. The question was, "Why so much?" The cell phone service is \$70 per month for an 8 GB data plan and the cell phone is \$85 per month. The total for the year would be approximately \$1,860. The new amount will cover this monthly bill.



Lenten Services

Wednesdays

February 21—March 24, 7:30 p.m.

Palm Sunday

March 28, 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service

April 1, 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday Service

April 2, 7:30 p.m.



All information needs to be in the office **by 8:00am on Thursday mornings** for the bulletins.



PRAYER REQUESTS

HEALING AND HEALTH CONCERNS...

Teresa Schilmoeller (Bernie's daughter), Katie Duran, Chelsea Payne, Bill Raasch, Sonja LaBarge, Darry Chiles, Virgene Martin, Quentin Schultz, Jeanne Jameson, Vicki Brown, Gale Buckner, Ron Nelson, Wanda Meisenheimer

GOOD SAMARITAN RESIDENTS

June Eshelman, Shirley Jorgensen, Ruth Rohner, Lyle Miller, Donna Grothen, Joyce Herr, Della Marckmann, Maxine Baudler, Bernard Baudler, Helen Herr

GREENFIELD REHAB CENTER RESIDENTS

Ralph Lane, Linda Hohertz, Eileen Sorensen, LaVerne Estell, Frances Gross

ASSISTED LIVING RESIDENTS

Larry Hohertz, Pat Nelson

HOMESTEAD OF CRESTON

Harold Nelson

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN SERVING AT HOME AND ABROAD

Lucas Queck, Clint Eshelman, John Sidey and Trent Jameson (grandson of Rex and Karen Hight), Zac Scar, Austin Brown (grandson of Stan Brown), Tucker Wambold, Reba Lonsdale, Clint Powell, Brett Schafroth, Jesse Johnson, Curtis Darr



ELC WOMEN

March 3, 2021

1:00 p.m. Meeting

Hymn/Devotions/Meditation:

Rachel Circle

Bible Study: Pastor

Business Meeting: Rachel Circle

Refreshments:

Birthdays

Lord's Prayer

Table Prayer

Kitchen Committee:





The Easter Lily

This flower represents purity, hope and new life – the very spiritual essence of Easter.

Lilies will be put around the Altar at Easter again this year. Would you consider providing one for us?

The Altar Guild will be purchasing all lilies this year. If you would like to provide one for Easter, please fill out the form below, put it in an envelope with your payment of \$12 for each plant you would like, label it “Easter Lily” and put it in Iris Westphal’s mailbox at the back of the church. In order to have your memorial in the church bulletin, please have orders and information to us by Sunday, March 28th.

Checks should be made out to Emmanuel Altar Guild. If you have any questions, please contact Iris Westphal at 641-743-2245 or 641-221-0651. Thank you!

Name _____

I would like the Altar Guild to purchase _____ Easter Lily(ies) for me.

In Memory of: _____

Do you want to take your Lily home after Easter? _____



This year has been so very different for G.R.O.W. Steven and I have been recording G.R.O.W. each Wednesday and sending packets to the G.R.O.W. kids enrolled - but, it's just not the same. The lights aren't on all over the building, the sounds of joy and laughter aren't filling the building, it's just the two of us in the building instead of a whole heap of people, and it is sometimes hard to find the motivation to do the recordings as we wonder if anyone is even using them. So, why do we do it? Because teaching children about Jesus and His love for them is one of the single most important things we do! This year continues to be so very different. But, God is not different and He has not changed. He goes before us, behind us, and He hems us in. This pandemic did not catch Him by surprise. He is working through us even in the midst of this! It has never been more important to make sure the kids know how much Jesus loves them and that God can be trusted! So, we continue to put G.R.O.W. in His hands and do our best to reach the youth.

During the month of February we learned stories about Jesus. The first week we learned about Jesus teaching and healing. Then we learned how to pray from the example Jesus set for us in the Lord's Prayer. We learned about Jesus' first miracle when He changed water into wine. Finally, we learned about how God has prepared a place for us in Heaven through Jesus. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life! It was a good month of learning!

Our theme for G.R.O.W. this year is TRUST. We feel like there are so many things going on in the world and the lives of our G.R.O.W. kiddos and we want them to know that through it all, God can be trusted. The verse for the whole year is from Psalm 56:3, **“When I am afraid, I put my trust in You”**. The memory verse of the month is from Psalm 62:8 - **“Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.”**. It is our prayer that by memorizing these verses as a family, the kids might be able to rely back to these verses when they face problems.

Please keep the G.R.O.W. children and families in your prayers as we continue this year. We want to see seeds planted, lives changed, families brought closer to You, and God shining through all of us. Thanks!

WORSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

	March 7, 2021	March 14, 2021	March 21, 2021	March 28 (Palm Sunday)
Keyboard	Kellie	Kellie	Kellie	Kellie
Drums	Matt	Dan	Malachi	Matt
Rhythm Guitar	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor
Male Vocalists	Dave, Pastor	Brian, Pastor	Dave, Pastor	Brian, Dave
Female Vocalists	Kendalyn, Sophia	Ann, Sophia	Ann, Kendalyn	Kendalyn, Sophia
Greeters/Ushers	Brian and Sam	Kathy	Nellie, Jeanne	Brian and Sam
1st Reading	Kendalyn	Brian	Kendalyn	Kendalyn
2nd Reading	Dave	Ann	Brian	Dave
Gospel Reading	Dave	Ann	Brian	Dave
Confession/Forgiveness	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor
Prayers	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor
Count Offering (*Council Member)	Dan	Craig	Nellie	Sam
Sound	Rollie	George	John	John
Cameras	Earlene	John	George	George
Pro Presenter	George	Matt M.	Tammy	Tammy
Organist	Kathy	Karen	Jane	Karen
Greeters/Ushers	Arlene	Raedeem	Sandy	Iris
1st Reading	Iris	Rollie	Sherol	Iris
Psalm Reading	Iris	Rollie	Sherol	Iris
2nd Reading	Arlene	Kristy B.	Sandy	Arlene
Offering	Bill, Matt	Iris, Raedeem	Bill, Matt	Iris, Raedeem
Sound/Cameras	Rollie	George	John	Matt G.
Pro-Presenter	Tom T.	Sherol	Sophia	Tammy

MARCH 2021

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
PO Box 217 – 424 Scott Street
Fontanelle, IA 50846
641-745-2415 Parsonage 641-745-4040

sbroers001@luthersem.edu

641-745-7648

elcsecretary@windstream.net

641-745-2415

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	10:00a FB Bible Study	10:00a Pastor to GSC	7:00a Men's Bible Study 1:00p ELC Women 6:00p Confirmation & GROW 7:30p Lenten Service 8:00p HS Bible Study	9:00a Prayer Group		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
7:30 Praise Team Warm-Up 8:30 Contemporary Worship 10:30 Traditional Worship 6:30p Praise Team Practice	10:00a FB Bible Study 5:00p Council Agenda Due	10:00a Pastor to GSC 4:30p Outreach Meeting	7:00a Men's Bible Study 6:00p Confirmation & GROW 7:30p Lenten Service 8:00p HS Bible Study	9:00a Prayer Group		
Spring Forward 14	15	16	17	18	19	20
7:30a Praise Team Warm-Up 8:30a Contemporary Worship 10:30a Traditional Worship 5:30p Council Meeting 6:30p Praise Team Practice	10:00a FB Bible Study	10:00a Pastor to GSC	7:00a Men's Bible Study 7:30p Lenten Service	9:00a Prayer Group		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
7:30 Praise Team Warm-Up 8:30 Contemporary Worship 10:30 Traditional Worship 6:30p Praise Team Practice	10:00a FB Bible Study 5:00p Newsletter Deadline 6:00p Stewardship Meeting 	10:00a Pastor to GSC	7:00a Men's Bible Study 6:00p Confirmation & GROW 7:30p Lenten Service 8:00p HS Bible Study	9:00a Prayer Group		
Palm Sunday and 1st Communion 28	29	30	31	Maundy Thursday April 1	Good Friday April 2	April 3
7:30 Praise Team Warm-Up 8:30 Contemporary Worship 10:30 Traditional Worship 6:30p Praise Team Practice	10:00a FB Bible Study	10:00a Pastor to GSC	7:00a Men's Bible Study 6:00p Confirmation & GROW 8:00p HS Bible Study	9:00a Prayer Group 7:30p Maundy Thursday Service	7:30p Good Friday Service	

MARCH CELEBRATIONS

BIRTHDAYS



- 3/2 Ronda Engles, Jill Ellsworth, Shirley Rayl
- 3/3 Wanda Johnson, Abby Fritz, Clara Berg
- 3/4 Shane Wambold
- 3/6 Sara Garside
- 3/7 Charity Clarke, Molly Dabb
- 3/8 Addie Antisdell, Josh Baudler
- 3/9 Neil Ernst, Matt Gross, Dylan Cameron,
Makinley Edwards, Sarah Gross
- 3/10 Nancy Pettit
- 3/11 Roger Crawford
- 3/12 Paul Feick, Brenda Plymesser,
Tedd Christensen
- 3/13 Bernard Baudler, Marilyn Baudler,
Richard Feick, Roger Jensen
- 3/14 Nicholas Ernst, Clint Garside, Iris Westphal
- 3/15 David Chiles, Nikki Faux, Danielle Steele
- 3/16 Caleb Christensen, Laura Welsch
- 3/17 Pat Baudler, Lori Miller, Mike Sorensen,
Stan Brown
- 3/18 Theresa Hohertz, Baylie Lund
- 3/19 Lucas Queck, Cindy Lundy, Joyce Nelson
- 3/20 Helen Erbes, Micah Broers, Alexis Dreher
- 3/21 Sydney Scar
- 3/23 Jeremiah Martin, Colby Yates
- 3/24 Michelle Swanson, Ann Rohner
- 3/25 Addison Herr
- 3/26 Ace Pickrell
- 3/28 Kate Berg, Aiden Anderson
- 3/29 Sherry Arntzen, Sam Schwartz
- 3/31 Bart Mostaert

ANNIVERSARIES



- 3/4 Kurt & Rhonda Boehm
- 3/9 Reggie & Virgene Martin
- 3/10 Bruce & Sherry Herr
- 3/16 Jason & Jennie Anderson
Marty & Kim Daino
- 3/24 Tom & Sarah Paris
- 3/27 Greg & Darla Ernst
- 3/31 Andrew & Hillary Boden

BAPTISMS



- 3/3 Annie Herr
- 3/4 Alison Mostaert,
Gwendolyn Boston
- 3/7 Eric Erbes, Matt Raasch
- 3/9 Levi Gettler, Slade Gettler
- 3/10 Elizabeth Lundy, Olivia Laughery,
Myrna Erb-Gundel
- 3/11 Abygail Gross, Jayden Rohner
- 03/12 Bill Raasch
- 3/13 Olivia Funke
- 3/15 Lauren Bricker
- 3/17 Marie Baudler-Warner, Adam
Queck, Kaleb Beaman
- 3/18 Lane Schwartz
- 3/19 Kaden Herr, Jennifer Lundy
- 3/21 Rebecca Gross, Joseph Herr
- 3/22 Steve McKibban
- 3/25 Stacey VanLaar
- 3/27 Colby Yates
- 3/29 Charlene Baudler
- 3/31 James Dreher

CONFIRMATIONS



- 3/16 Mikel Feick, Jeff Thompson, Kyle
Thompson
- 3/19 Kirk Bigelow
- 3/20 Rachel Hall, Elizabeth Lundy,
Kenneth Huff, Brett Thompson, Tracy
Swanson
- 3/22 Eric Gross, Galen Herr, Barb
McKibban, Brenda Plymesser
- 3/26 Vicki Brown
- 3/29 Roleen Chiles, Shirley Rayl
- 3/30 Bill Raasch, Richard Feick

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
424 SCOTT STREET—PO BOX 217
FONTANELLE, IOWA 50846
OFFICE PHONE—641-745-2415

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FONTANELLE, IOWA
PERMIT NO. 10



Come to Faith, Honor God's Word
<http://www.fontanellelutheran.org>

Come and Worship With Us

Sunday Contemporary Service—8:30 a.m.

Sunday Traditional Service—10:30 a.m.

Lenten Services — Wednesdays — 7:30 p.m.

Palm Sunday and 1st Communion — March 28