

The VISITOR

Volume 55 April 2025 No. 4

Emanuel Lutheran Church
& Christian Preschool
701 S. First Street
Milbank, SD 57252



Pastor Chris Davis

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Emanuel Website: www.elcmilbank.org

www.facebook.com/emanuelmilbank

Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:00 am Service

Holy Communion 1st, 3rd, 5th weeks

Sun. School/Bible Study 10:30 AM

Midweek Wednesday 2:00 pm

Sunday livestreamed on YouTube

FIND YOUR EASTER JOY!

Two thousand years ago the Creator of the universe took on human flesh to keep the promise He made to Adam and Eve – and all of us – right after the Fall. The Second Person of the Holy Trinity – the pre-incarnate Son of God – became incarnate and was made a man in the womb of the Virgin Mary. God's Son in human flesh – yet without sin – lived the life that human beings were only capable of living before Adam and Eve brought sin and death into the world. Jesus lived a life of complete love and trust in God and, true love for His fellow man. Then, after taking our sin upon Himself in the Jordan River at His Baptism, He went to the cross to pay the penalty for our sins that only He could pay. On Good Friday, our sin account was paid in full, and on Easter Sunday God gave us the receipt for that payment when Jesus Christ was raised from the dead.

But how do we know the receipt – Jesus resurrection from the dead – is truly in our possession? How do we know that His death for our sins has been applied to our account? The answer to that most important question is found in Romans 6:3-5, 8:

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him.

Now that is awesome! That is why Jesus tells us in Mark 16:16 that "whoever believes and is baptized will be saved..." That is why Jesus tells Nicodemus – and us – that in Holy Baptism we are born again from on high and will enter the kingdom of heaven (John 3:5). That is why we are told in Acts 2:38, all who repent and are baptized will be forgiven and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. That is why Paul

tells us in Galatians 3:26, that whoever has been baptized into Christ has been clothed with Christ. That's why, in Colossians 2:9-12, the Lord reminds us that in Holy Baptism He Himself has circumcised our hearts. That's why – in 1 Peter 3:21 – Peter writes, "Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ..." In Holy Baptism we are joined to Christ's death and resurrection...literally, not symbolically. In Baptism you have died to sin and have the absolute promise of God that Jesus' resurrection is your resurrection as well. In Holy Baptism God gives us the receipt that the penalty for our sins has been paid in full by Jesus.

At the seminary, one of my favorite professors would ask how Jesus' death and resurrection two thousand years ago made it across time and space to us as individual believers in the Twenty-first Century? This is a wonderful, insightful, and relevant question since, sadly, though Jesus died and rose for all people, not all people have saving faith in Him. The answer is Holy Baptism. That is why when I ask Confirmation students how they know they are saved; the *best* answer is, "Because I am Baptized!" Holy Baptism is our direct line to new life in Christ. Holy Baptism is our life-giving umbilical cord to the cross and the empty tomb. Holy Baptism is our promise from God that we belong to Him in Christ. Holy Baptism is your receipt from God saying your sins have been paid for in full. Holy Baptism is the Gospel in a nutshell for you. Holy Baptism is where you find your Easter joy!

Happy Easter everybody!

In Christ,

Pastor Davis

Official Acts

Baptism: **Dawson Wollschlager**, daughter of Derek & Dakota
Jessie Wittrock, daughter of Kyle & Katie

Our friend and sister in Christ, LISA MILLER



We can rest assured Lisa is with our Heavenly Father. Her funeral will be on April 12th at 10:30 AM, with a visitation at 9:30 AM. Please keep her family in your prayers as they mourn her passing.

Lisa's absence is being felt throughout the Church and congregation. She profoundly impacted all of us during her employment as Office Manager and her role as Deaconess in Training here at Emanuel. She enjoyed her visits with our nursing and shut-in members, as well as taking the Prayer shawls to those who needed them. Her last two years of life tested and strengthened her faith. She bravely handled Eric's diagnosis, treatments, and death. Lisa trusted her faith and God's Promises during the most trying

times. I cherished working with her and considered her one of my closest friends.

As a congregation, we will cover the cost of the meal for her funeral. So Dak Shores will cater it for Emanuel. The bulletin board will have sign-up sheets for helping in the kitchen and for supplying cupcakes, cookies, or bars the weekend before her funeral. The offer of help within this congregation to see us through this unexpected loss is a great show of God's love for all of us. It has been and continues to be awesome! Lori



The next Men's Bible Study will be on April 12th, 2025, will include coffee and donuts at 9 AM.

All Men Are invited!!!



Handbells and Choir

Handbell is at 5:15 PM. The choir is at 6:10 PM.
Back to 5:30 and 6:30 after Holy Week.



READINGS FOR April 2025

Date	Festival	1 st Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
April 6	Fifth S. in Lent	Isaiah 43:16–21	Psalm 126	Phil. 3:(4b–7) 8–14	Luke 20:9–20
April 13	Palm Sunday (Palmarum)	Deut. 32:36–39	Psalm 118:19–29 or Psalm 31:9–16	Phil. 2:5–11	<i>John 12:12–19 (Procession)</i> ----- Luke 22:1–23:56 or Luke 23:1–56 or John 12:20–43
April 17	Holy (Maundy) Thursday	Jer. 31:31–34 or Ex. 12:1–14	Psalm 116:12–19	Heb. 10:15–25 or 1 Cor. 11:23–32	Luke 22:7–20 or John 13:1–17, 31b–35
April 18	Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13–53:12	Psalm 22 or Psalm 31	Heb. 4:14–16; 5:7–9	John 18:1–19:42 or John 19:17–30
April 20	The Resurrection of Our Lord (Sunrise)	Job 19:23–27	Psalm 118:15–29	1 Cor. 15:51–57	John 20:1–18
	The Resurrection of Our Lord	Isaiah 65:17–25	Psalm 16	1 Cor. 15:19–26	Luke 24:1–12
April 27	Second S. of Easter	Acts 5:12–20 (21–32)	Psalm 148	Rev. 1:4–18	John 20:19–31



Mission Sewing

Mission Sewing will meet on Thursday, April 3th, at 9:00 AM. All are welcome, and we can always use extra hands to help tie quilts, cut squares, thread needles, etc.



The Ladies of Emanuel will meet on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 1 p.m. in the church social hall. This month's lesson, "Confessing What We Believe," is on page 14 of the SPRING quarterly.

Judy Sackreiter is our hostess for April, and our focus this month is a collection for Lisa Miller's funeral costs. Diann Dauwen and Regina Rethke will serve coffee on Sunday, April 6, with the donations going to our Missionary, Pastor Conrad.

SPECIAL MISSION ENVELOPES

For April, the Special Mission envelope contributions will go towards:

Lutheran Missionaries – Rev Sam Bobby

Stewardship for the month of March

DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERINGS
3/2/2025	Approx... 120	\$4322.00
3/9/2025	132	\$6358.00
3/16/2025	176	\$5778.00
3/23/2025	127	\$4766.03
Online Offerings		\$4565.00

INFORMATION FROM FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING—February 11, 2025	
Trustee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalizing the acquisition of dishwasher, once installed will train several people to run it. Looking at options for additional janitorial help. Still waiting for the final finishing touches on the boiler installation.
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 9, Wednesday Lenten Supper, April 20th, Serving Easter Breakfast. May 9-10th is a youth camping trip.
Evangelism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will work with Lori to have a new member welcome date to honor all those who have joined in the last couple of years. We are scheduled to serve at the Banquet on June 7th and will need 25-30 volunteers.
Elder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking to hire an Office Manager.
Education/Preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On March 26th, the Preschool served pork loin & hotdogs for lent supper, May 4th will be the Spring Program, 3-year-olds at 2:00 & 4-year-olds at 3:00 PM. Little Caesars fundraiser went well. Field trips in May to be determined, Brookings Children's Museum & Watertown Zoo, & Trike a Thon to be determined

Stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Report
Pastor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Things are going well. Holy Week and Lenten services are planned. The Palm Sunday Movie and potluck will be the movie "Hoovie".
Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bills and accounts receivable are being worked on, Karrie Davis is getting a quote from her office to take over payroll.
Preschool area proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One proposal was received as of this meeting. Another came in through the office and was given to appropriate people .
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing at time of printing

**OGT IS ON TRACK :
South Dakota Orphan Grain Train
Collection Center**



Relief for Human Need Worldwide

Last week, Orphan Grain Train-South Dakota loaded 24 pallets of assorted clothing for men, women, and children, as well as 2 pallets of Mercy Meals, to be sent to Norfolk, NE, for distribution. We were fully booked at the building, and it was time to load and send it

off! What a blessing to send a semi-load of items to those less fortunate. The Orphan Grain Train continues to support flood victims in North Carolina, fire victims in California, and those in need in many other places.

We learned of a touching OGT story because a GPS directive sent OGT staff to the incorrect address in North Carolina. OGT's President, Pastor Ray Wilke, Logistic Director Brent Kummer, and Stu Bauer were driving to meet people with Fuller Disaster Rebuilders when the GPS took them to the wrong address. The house they reached was obviously uninhabitable due to flooding, and this is where they thought they would meet the Fuller people. They got out and started talking with the homeowner, Tina, who was rummaging through what was left. Soon, the Fuller people found them at that location, and Tina began to cry and hug them. The rest of the story is about Tina needing to get to her chemo appointment, and a complete stranger drove her around the flooding to her appointment, and she has not seen him since. She is a single mom fighting breast cancer and taking regular chemo treatments. Pastor Wilke, learning of her struggles, gave her a check for \$1,000 on behalf of OGT. Later, the OGT staff member returned and gave her an additional check for \$10,000. to help with the expenses of losing her house, medical bills, and a car that needs some repairs too. All this occurred because of a wrong, yet right, GPS directive.

So often, there are stories like this to share, and this is what makes volunteering for this organization so satisfying. If you haven't visited the OGT building, we invite you to come and see it. We are there Tuesdays 3-5pm, Wednesdays and Saturdays 10am-12 noon, and we will show you what we do to help those who are suffering from disasters!

Joyce and Linnea

EMANUEL YOUTH GROUP

Future dates for the youth to put on their calendars:

There is a lot happening in April and May, so please mark your calendars for the following dates and the necessary requirements.

April 9, Wednesday – Lenten Supper – Please be at the church at 4:30. We will need two dozen bars or cookies from each youth for this meal.

April 20th, Sunday – The youth will be serving pancakes and sausage with fruit. We need youth to be at the church by 7:00AM. There will be lots to do putting fruit cups together and making pancakes. Serving will begin around 7:15AM after the sunrise service.

May 3rd, Saturday – Cinco de Mayo at Lake Farley. We will be having a concession stand. There will be more to come on this in the yellow sheet OR we will have a meeting to hammer out the details. Please watch the yellow sheet and listen for announcements in church.

May 9-10th, Friday-Saturday – Camping with Pastor at Pickeral – We will leave the church around 4PM or so and return the next day around 5PM. Those details will be hammered out as we go thru April. A sign-up sheet will be available in the hall. **Please support our youth and their activities.**



...a fun place to
play and learn!

Preschool

By Karen Tillma

This month we have continued to work on learning our letters and sounds. We had fun with the letter R, making rockets! We placed a large straw on the back and then used another straw inside it for the children to blow through, which helped "launch" them. What fun!

It was nice for a few days, and we enjoyed getting out on the playground. By the time this letter reaches most of you, we will have sung for the Wednesday Lenten service on March 26th. The Board of Education will serve the meal, and the parents are bringing salads and desserts.

In April, we will be preparing for the spring program which is scheduled for May 4th. The 3's will sing at 2pm and the 4s at 3pm. This will be our last program for Emanuel preschool children! (And my last program after 25 years!)

Please continue to pray for the staff and families of our preschool.

*****If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed monthly or if names aren't spelled correctly, it means the office does not have your required information—please call us to update our records.*****

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Tostenson, Matt	1-Apr
Hyatt, Cynthia K.	2-Apr
Settje, Laurie J.	2-Apr
Christians, Keith A.	3-Apr
McCowien, Rex	3-Apr
Underwood, Ray Ann	3-Apr
Mueller, Lucille R.	4-Apr
Steinlicht, Clifford L.	4-Apr
Hanson, Tera J.	5-Apr
Grabow, Joshua W.	6-Apr
Rethke, Mary L.	6-Apr
Moser, Bently R.	7-Apr
Zubke, Riley T.	7-Apr
Berry, Travis G.	8-Apr
Bray, LuAnn D.	8-Apr
Dragt, Wayne A.	9-Apr
Henze, Phyllis F.	9-Apr
Schmieg, Berkley	10-Apr
Mielitz, Mason L.	11-Apr
Mueller, Mackenzie M.	12-Apr

Schwandt, Bennett J.	12-Apr
Tietjen, John W.	12-Apr
Zubke, Kyle J.	12-Apr
Blauert, Brandy K.	13-Apr
Schultz, Phyllis I.	13-Apr
Mertens, James E. (Jim)	14-Apr
Sackreiter, Robert G.	14-Apr
Toft, Anja R.	14-Apr
Liebe, Chuck	16-Apr
Mueller, Scott	16-Apr
Pauli, Jerald M.	17-Apr
Schwandt, Jackson R.	18-Apr
Krause, Gary L.	19-Apr
Nelson, Steven L.	19-Apr
Hermans, Joyce M.	20-Apr
Tesch, Kristina L.	20-Apr
Watkins, Lou	20-Apr
Settje, Christopher M.	21-Apr
Buttke, Bill	22-Apr
Gabriel, Timothy R.	22-Apr

Rethke, Christian J.	22-Apr
Bear, Joyce	23-Apr
Bilben, Madison M.	23-Apr
Nelson, Evelyn (Evie)	23-Apr
Ackerman, Justin J.	24-Apr
Koch, Kea K.	24-Apr
Berkner, Conway C.	25-Apr
Steltz, Kayla M.	25-Apr
Stuckey, Jaelynn	25-Apr
Christians, Shirley K.	26-Apr
Berry, Bianca S.	27-Apr
Street, Lydia	27-Apr
Fraasch, Darci L.	28-Apr
Karges, Elwyn D.	28-Apr
Mueller, Howard W.	28-Apr
Mueller, Kevin	28-Apr
Hilbrands, Steven L.	30-Apr
Linngren, Travis	30-Apr
Lupinek, Rhonda R.	30-Apr
Nicholson, Derrick R.	30-Apr

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Fraasch, Jason and Darci L.	4-Apr
Myers, Chuck and Susan	5-Apr
Berkner, Chuck and Shelly M.	14-Apr

Dietmeier, Martin C. and Lori A.	17-Apr
Berkner, Curt and Diane R.	21-Apr

OUND/RADIO BROADCAST APRIL

Apr 2 7 PM Dave Schamber
 Apr 6 9 AM Larry Underwood
 Apr 9 7 PM Tracy Pinkert
 Apr 13 9 AM Charles Schamber
 Apr 17 7 PM Harlan Monson
 Apr 18 7 PM Dave Schamber
 Apr 19 7 PM Larry Underwood
 Apr 20 6:30 AM Tracy Pinkert
 Apr 20 9 AM Charles Schamber
 Apr 27 9 AM Harlan Monson

ACOLYTES FOR APRIL

Apr 2 7 PM Karlie Nies; Alyssa Henderson
 Apr 6 9 AM Brytten Schmieg; Braden Mueller
 Apr 9 7 PM Jaxon Gores; Alyssa Rethke
 Apr 13 9 AM Finley Hunt; Sean Nicholson
 Apr 17 7 PM Eliana Richardt; Alanna Vogel
 Apr 18 7 PM Braden Mueller
 Apr 19 7 PM Sydnee Weyh; Whitney Weyh
 Apr 20 6:30 AM Maxine Peiker; Leeah Schwandt
 Apr 20 9 AM Karlie Nies; Braden Mueller
 Apr 27 9 AM Sydnee Weyh; Whitney Weyh

Dartball Tournament 2025

Ken Dragt



Charles Schamber



Ward Davis & Josh Radil



Max Athey

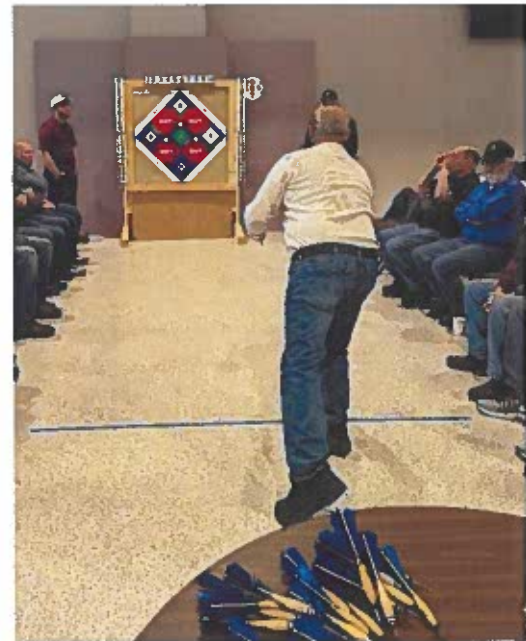
Dewey Athey

In chairs:

Dave Schamber

Noel Cummins

Ken Dragt



HE IS RISEN,
ALLELUIA!

