

The VISITOR

Volume 53

September 2023

No. 9

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



Pastor Chris Davis

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Worship Schedule

Sunday 9:00 am Service

Holy Communion 1st, 3rd, 5th Weeks

Sun. School/Bible Study 10:15 AM

Midweek Wednesday 2:00 pm

Sunday livestreamed on YouTube

Pastor's Post

CONSIDER A LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK FOR HOME DEVOTION USE

The Reformation was in full swing. Lutheran – biblical – teaching was on the move. As a result, true faith in Christ was spreading, and people were holding tightly to it once it was engrained in their lives. Nowhere was this more evident than in Joachimsthal, Germany in the late 1500's and early 1600's. Joachimsthal was a mining town and thus had people coming and going on a regular basis. Outside influences and beliefs were a constant threat. By the 1530's, however, Lutheran piety was entrenched in the lives of the people there. What is fascinating, though, is that more than anything else, Lutheran hymns were responsible for this vibrant faith. This is because people used Lutheran hymns in their daily lives. Hymns and hymnals were not just used in church; they were used in homes by families, and in schools by teachers. Daily devotions always included Lutheran hymns, and as history has shown, Lutheran hymns may have been the single most important vehicle for teaching and fostering biblical faith in Christ. Even during the Thirty Years War (1618-1648), when the Holy Roman Empire tried to quash Lutheranism in Germany, and Reformed theology was a threat, Lutheran hymns kept people anchored in the historic Faith Jesus gave to His Church through the Apostles.

With that in mind, I would like to encourage you all to consider getting a *Lutheran Service Book* to use at home for personal and family devotions. After all, our hymnal is a ready-made devotional resource. Prayers and daily reading schedules abound (pp 299-318), and the daily prayer services found on pages 294-298, are wonderful resources for everyday use. There is a copy of Luther's *Small Catechism* (pp. 321-330), and information about the Church Year, weekly lectionary readings for Sundays, and dates for Easter are given as well (pp. x-xxiii). There is also a Glossary of Christian words and phrases (p. xxiv), and most of the Psalms are found on pages 1-150.

Finally, in the *Lutheran Service Book* you have a fantastic collection of our Lutheran hymns. Many of them will be so well known to you that you can sing them without accompaniment. Many of the hymns are less familiar, and that is all right as well. That is because they are wonderful as daily devotions when read and meditated on. I have found over the years that we actually look at hymns differently when we speak or pray them. We think about their meaning in a different and potentially fuller way. Consider, for example, Luther's "A Mighty Fortress Is Our

God" (LSB 656). This hymn is based on Psalm 46. In a world that seems upside down and terribly difficult at times, the words of stanza four take on new meaning as we meditate on the importance of the Gospel.

The Word they still shall let remain
Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
Though these all be gone,
Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

That stanza and that hymn – like all of them in our hymnal – are ready made devotion texts. God's word put to poetry for us to read and ponder in the midst of our lives in this fallen world. No matter what comes our way, our Lord is our Champion and because of His grace, mercy, and forgiveness, the Kingdom of God is ours.

Or consider a newer hymn by Kantor Richard Resch entitled "The Gifts Christ Freely Gives" (LSB 602). As we remember our need for Christ and the gifts He won on the cross, this wonderful hymn helps us focus on the sacramental nature of our faith and how our Lord feeds that faith through His Word and Sacraments (LSB 602:1, 4, 6).

*The gifts Christ freely gives
He gives to you and me
To be His Church, His bride,
His chosen, saved and free!
Saints blessed with these rich gifts
Are children who proclaim
That they were won by Christ
And cling to His strong name.*

*The gifts are there each day
The holy Word is read;
God's children listen, hear,
Receive, and they are fed.*

*Christ fills them with Himself,
Blest words that give them life,
Restoring and refreshing
Them for this world's strife.*

*All glory to the One
Who lavishes such love;
The Triune God in love
Assures our life above.
His means of grace for us
Are gifts He loves to give;
All thanks and praise for His
Great love by which we live!*

Amen! What wonderful and uplifting words to remind us of Christ's love and the way He feeds us with His Word to forgive our sins and strengthen our faith in Him. These are but two of the hundreds of Scripture passages put to poetry and music contained in our hymnal. Ready made devotions for the Holy Spirit to work through Scripture to feed us and sustain us in this fallen world.

As we move into Fall and normal routines get busy again, please consider getting a copy of the *Lutheran Service Book* to keep at home and use for daily devotions. History reminds us that it was Lutheran hymns that have taught and sustained the Gospel in the lives of millions throughout the years. The *Lutheran Service Book* truly is a terrific resource that is not meant just for church use. If you would like to order a hymnal, please talk to Lisa and she will help you get a copy. God bless everybody!

In Christ, Pastor Davis

Deaconess Training

Pastor and Lisa spent a week at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis for the online deaconess program. It concluded at Opening Day service with assignment of internship to Lisa and Emanuel. About ten hours per week will be dedicated to this internship in addition to class time and studying. As the program progresses, she will take on additional tasks. Please ask Pastor or Lisa for more information. Lisa will be installed as the Deaconess Intern on September 10th!

Also on September 10th we bring on new members: Dillion and Allison Zemlicka & Eric Miller!

Emanuel kids Preschool through 8th grade—Mark your calendars for Rally Sunday, September 10th, when we kick off the 2023-24 Sunday School year!

Our focus this year is building on the foundation of our Lutheran roots. We want to introduce our youngest churchgoers to the three sections of Luther's Small Catechism—The Ten Commandments, The Lord's Prayer, and the Apostles Creed.



Unit 1 starts Sunday, September 10th, with the Ten Commandments.

God's love for us is no fairy tale, but all of our knights and princesses will learn how Jesus defeated sin once and for all! Our Ten Commandments unit follows a castle theme: Just like a castle protects those who live inside, God's Ten Commandments protect us when we live in their boundaries. We'll be using lessons, games, and crafts to learn the Ten Commandments and their meaning.

Unit 2 starts Sunday, January 7th, with The Lord's Prayer.

January might be a little nippy, but we'll be curled up in our tents while we learn the Lord's Prayer. Our Lord's Prayer unit follows a camper theme: We'll learn how God provides our daily bread and everything that means! Again, lessons, games, and keepsake crafts will help us learn the Lord's Prayer and its meaning as presented in Luther's Small Catechism.

Unit 3 starts Sunday, March 17th, with the Apostles Creed.

Secure in our salvation, it's all fun and games in our last unit, which follows a carnival theme. We'll learn about how our creed summarizes what we believe about our triune God. Our lessons, games, and keepsake crafts will help us memorize the Apostles Creed and its explanation from Luther's Small Catechism.

Our awesome teaching team is back again this year, but there are opportunities for anyone who would like to be involved! We can always use help with attendance, decorations, and special activities! Contact Kris Street at (605) 237-1797 if you are interested in learning more, please.

Special thanks to our teachers:

Talia Athey
Jackson Graf
Cydney Hunt

Jenny Hunt
Hillary Morton
Melissa Mueller

Devon Mueller
Heather Peiker
Lydia Street

Jessica Wellnitz

OGT IS ON TRACK



By building on the Bible verse John 14:18, "I will not leave you as orphans: I will come to you", Orphan Grain Train works tirelessly.

Syria recently received their first shipment from OGT via OGT (via Syria's "Red Cross"). The volunteers at Milbank's OGT recently gave \$8,500 to help send the 2nd cargo to Maui, Hawaii. Many basic health and home needs will be on this cargo.

Northeast SD and our friends in Western MN have been so generous in buying, making and finding items for us. One day, 26 mats were brought (imagine how many plastic bags that took). Another 30+ knitted caps of various sizes and the couple who went to a sale and bought all the little kids summer shoes. Multiple church groups repeatedly bring quilts.

Aware of the kits we put together—friends/volunteers will bring us items. Guess what they might say. "Bars of soap were on sale, so I bought a bunch for the hygiene kits". "The thrift store had baby sleepers on sale, so I bought some for layette kits". "I found decent towels at my house which I don't use".

We are in the planning stage for our annual fund raiser, the Sausage Feed. It will be sometime in October. Watch for more details. Mercy Meals (Rice) are needed all over the world. Come pack the 1st Wednesday of every month at 9:15 AM or call Duane Folk (605-924-6831) to get a group together.

Volunteer/donate items Tuesday 3-5 PM, Wednesday and Saturday 10-12 noon. Joyce and I will be in Northfolk September 14 & 15th getting updates. Milbank's collection center will have their bimonthly meeting September 13th at noon.

I'll close with this quote, "Share resources and bring Christ's name and character to needy people both far and near." God Bless! Linnea and Joyce

"Adopt" a Graduate

Though our recent graduates at Emanuel Lutheran are scattered around the state and are not usually here on Sunday mornings during the school year, they are still a valuable part of our church—and they need to know that! Studies have found that students drop out of church at a rate of 66% after graduation, even those who were heavily involved in youth group. We're hoping to come alongside our recent graduates with love and encouragement to support them during this new season of their lives!

If you are interested in this program please sign up outside the sanctuary, call the office, or contact a member of Evangelism (Joyce Johnson, Elizabeth Radil, Kristin Tostenson, and Regina Rethke)

Mission Sewing

Mission Sewing will meet on September 7th at 9:00 AM. Mission Sewing members donate their time putting the quilts together. Our only income is from selling the quilts. Some members cut squares for the tops (this may be done at home). One member sews the squares together and others tie the layers together. We purchase the batting by using Thrivent cards and do buy flat sheets for backing. Some members sew the bindings on using material that has been donated or from their own supplies at home.

The last time we sold quilts, the money was given to the Boiler fund. We also give quilts to our High School graduates. We have baby quilts for sale at any given time!

LOE

The Ladies of Emanuel will meet on Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 1 PM in the church Fellowship Hall. Pastor Davis will lead the topic from the Summer Quarterly, page 20 - "Here am I. Send Me!" Joyce Kasuske and Linnea Schwandt will serve a light lunch. All women in the congregation are welcome to attend the Bible Study. September's Focus are items for the kitchen. Serving coffee on September 3rd are Karin M., Joyce K., and Judy S.

READINGS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

Date	Festival	1 st Reading	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
Sept. 3	Fourteenth S. a. Pentecost	Jer. 15:15-21	Psalms 26	Rom. 12:9-21	Matt. 16:21-28
Sept. 10	Fifteenth S. a. Pentecost	Ezek. 33:7-9	Psalms 32:1-7	Rom. 13:1-10	Matt. 18:1-20
Sept. 17	Sixteenth S. a. Pentecost	Gen. 50:15-21	Psalms 103:1-12	Rom. 14:1-12	Matt. 18:21-35
Sept. 24	Seventeenth S. a. Pentecost	Isaiah 55:6-9	Psalms 27:1-9	Phil. 1:12-14, 19-30	Matt. 20:1-16

Boiler Update

We have surpassed our original goal and have raised \$102,243.18 as of mid-August. We thank everyone for your gracious giving for this project. We will provide updates soon regarding schedule for repairs and updated quote when received!



July 2023 Treasurer Report

July 2023 Income:	\$ 28,575.33	YTD 2023 Income:	\$ 218,692.77
July 2023 Expense:	\$ 32,063.80	YTD 2023 Expense:	\$ 252,202.79
Difference:	\$ -3,488.47	Difference:	\$ -33,510.02

Thank you to Jules Sharp (Lisa's daughter) for formatting our newsletter into a publishing program. This will enable us to email monthly updates easier. The next step is reaching out to members we don't have email addresses for. We still will mail out a few each month; however, this will give some financial relief with decrease paper/postage costs.

BELLS/CHOIR INFO

Bells and choir will begin on September 13th! Please prayerfully consider joining to make a joyful noise to our Lord one Sunday a month. This is only an hour of your time once a week. If your child is at confirmation, this is a great place for you to participate while they are at confirmation class. For more information contact Linda Kolb 701-429-0838 or Max Athey 605-924-0934.

SPECIAL MISSION ENVELOPES

The Special Mission envelope contributions will go towards:
Emanuel Lutheran Preschool

We missed the door offering in August for TIM, so we will have a door offering on September 10th!

Together In Mission (TIM)

Together In Mission invites congregations, groups and organizations to partner with LCMS missionaries serving around the world. By partnering with missionaries in their global ministry each LCMS member has the opportunity to journey with them and share God's Word with all the nations.

You have the opportunity to pray for missionaries, encourage them through communication, send a short-term team to work alongside them and help financially support your missionary. Your gifts help sustain your missionary's ministry and covers costs such as airfare, visas, insurance, travel, housing and living expenses.

A Together In Mission commitment, in the form of an annual pledge of support fulfilled as the Lord allows, sustains a strong partnership with our missionaries for reaching the whole world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Stewardship Board Newsletter for September 2023

Stewardship in the First Commandment

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word "enchiridion" is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for "handbook." The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments. The First Commandment: You shall have no other gods. What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I) We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him. Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him. In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment: "This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and

undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has no doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 5–9)"

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect our belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work. – LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

Preschool News, by Karen Tillma

Things have changed a little since the last newsletter. Unfortunately Ms. Maria Fonder had to resign two days before school started because of health reasons. This left me scrambling for a full time aide. I'm happy to say that we hired Miss Jocelyn McFarland, who was a student of mine here at Emanuel about 15 years ago! She is the lead teacher for the OST program at St Lawrence so she needs to leave each day by 1:30. Miss Rebecca Welberg has been filling in as my helper for the full day instead of just mornings as initially planned. She has 7 years of experience working at American Lutheran Preschool.

Each class has 11 students currently. I am anticipating that more will join the classes as the year goes on and Valley Queen hires more people. We have gotten off to a great start as the children get to know each other and learn the school rules. I heard from one of our four year old parents that their goal over the summer was to read the children's Bible at bedtime. They were so excited to report that they read the entire children's Bible over the summer! (Every child receives their own Bible when enrolling in Emanuel Preschool. This is a great use of Thrivent dollars! Thank you to all who donate and get Bibles into the hands of our Emanuel Preschool children!)

September Youth Happenings - Grades 5 - 12

Upcoming Events and a BIG THANKS

Thank you for supporting our youth with the peach sale. The board knows this was a little rough this year, but we will be working on how to make this fundraiser run smoother next year.

September 17th – The youth will be serving Sunday morning coffee. Youth are to bring a dozen muffins by 8:30 and help set up for coffee hour. Then after Sunday school, the youth will have dinner and activities from 11:30 to 1:30.

October 15th – The youth will serve Sunday morning coffee. Please bring a dozen muffins or bars/cookies. Meet after Sunday school from 11:30 to 1:30 for dinner and activities. Watch the newsletter for further info.

November 12th – Packing Mercy Meals at Orphan Grain Train after church/Sunday school from 11:30 and 1:30.

Tentatively November 21st – 5PM Pie Baking Fundraiser

December 2nd (Saturday afternoon/evening) – Put together an entry for the Parade of Lights and participate in it by handing out hot cocoa packets.

Tentatively December 10th – Meet at 3PM at the church and go Christmas caroling with the adults of the church to the nursing homes. Come back to the church at 5:30 or 6:00 PM for a soup supper. This would be over around 6:30 PM.

Sept.

BYD GROUP for August is GROUP 1, Elder—Josh Radil

Please refer to the sign-up sheets outside of the sanctuary as there are several open spots at this time for Usher, Greeter, and Communion Set-up. Thank you!!! You can call the office to volunteer at any time. 605-432-9555

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Adelman, Tenley L.	1-Sep
Pinkert, Alexis L. (Lexi)	1-Sep
Seezs, Jeremiah J. (Jerry)	1-Sep
Holtquist, Brenda	2-Sep
Tostenson, Kristin L.	2-Sep
Koepke, Summer M.	3-Sep
Priebe, Caroline J.	4-Sep
Mueller, Raynelle	5-Sep
Davis, Karrie	6-Sep
Dietmeier, Lori A.	7-Sep
Dockter, Daethal	7-Sep
Greiner, Curtis	7-Sep
Athey, Derek M.	8-Sep
Berry, Joy	8-Sep
Christians, Kellie J.	8-Sep
Miller, Eric	8-Sep
Angerhofer, Kevin S.	9-Sep
Nicholson, Joett A.	10-Sep
Barthel, Ryan	11-Sep
Beyer, Douglas K.	11-Sep
Linngren, Jack D.	11-Sep

Myers, Charles (Chuck)	11-Sep
Robinson, Logan	11-Sep
Skovbo, Lee R.	11-Sep
Greiner, Jacob B.	12-Sep
Tietjen, Travis	13-Sep
Underwood, Hailey R.	14-Sep
Vangness, Mason	14-Sep
Schell, Sandra K. (Sandy)	15-Sep
Determan, Holly J.	16-Sep
Mueller, LaVonne	16-Sep
Pauli, Cheryl	16-Sep
Street, Jennifer	16-Sep
Campbell, Harmony	17-Sep
Hunt, Jennifer M.	17-Sep
Bauer, Peyton R.	18-Sep
Dragt, Kenneth D.	18-Sep
Gilbertson, Troy	19-Sep
Hunt, Finley A.	19-Sep
Purcell, Maria	20-Sep
Wilde, Evelyn J.	20-Sep
Adelman, Crystal J.	21-Sep

Riley, Jordan C.	23-Sep
Miller, Lisa	25-Sep
Mueller, Camillus E.	25-Sep
Reil, Ryker W.	26-Sep
Sackreiter, Teresa M.	26-Sep
Schellberg, Katie M.	26-Sep
Schwandt, Leeah A.	26-Sep
Mielitz, Richard R.	27-Sep
Radil, Elizabeth A.	27-Sep
Rethke, Leslie E.	27-Sep
Schultz, Lyle	27-Sep
Seehafer, Duane	27-Sep
Reyelts, Rodney	28-Sep
Wojahn, Jedidiah D.	28-Sep
Schwandt, Julie	29-Sep
Ebsen, Crystal	30-Sep
Essington, Halli	30-Sep
Gibson, Susan K.	30-Sep
Richardt, Eliana E.	30-Sep

SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Selken, Annie R. and Kyle A.	6-Sep
Coomes, Kayla A. and John T.	8-Sep
Keller, Adam D. and Elly	8-Sep
Schultz, Lyle and Phyllis I.	9-Sep
Haliburton, Timothy J. and Kim M.	11-Sep
Hofhenke, Arvid and Irma R.	11-Sep
Olson, Darris and Megan	12-Sep
Morton, Stacy G. and Jessica L.	13-Sep
Riley, Michael J. and Holly A.	13-Sep

Zubke, Christopher R. and Natasha M.	15-Sep
Bolin, Ricky and Julie	17-Sep
Saeger, Ken and Mae	17-Sep
Seehafer, Brady and Jimmie R.	18-Sep
Larson, Evan D. and Rachel M.	19-Sep
Mueller, William (Bill) and Raynelle	20-Sep
Pinkert, Paul D. and Alicia M.	20-Sep
Dragt, Wayne A. and DeeAnn K.	24-Sep

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sept 6th-Confirmation starts Sept 10th-Rally Day, Welcome new members, Deaconess In- tern Installation		AA Meets at Emanuel every: Wednesday at 8 PM-basement Thursday at 6:30 PM Fellowship Hall				
3 9:00 AM—Service of the Word w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM—Adult Bible class	4	5 Lisa out of office	6 9:15 AM Mercy Meals at OGT 2:00 PM—Midweek Worship 5:45 PM—Confirmation 7:00 PM Book Study	7 9:00 AM Mission Sewing 1:00 PM Bible Study 3:30 PM Communion at St. Williams	8	9
10 RALLY SUNDAY 9:00 AM—Service of the Word 10:15 AM—Sunday School & Adult Bible class 2:30 PM—Wilmot Care Center Service	11	12 Winkle in Brookings 1:00 PM—LOE 4:00 PM—Stewardship Board 4:30 PM—Board of Ed 6:00 PM—Evangelism 7:00 PM—Trustee Mtg 7:00 PM—Elder Board	13 2:00 PM—Midweek Worship 5:45 PM—Confirmation 7:00 PM Book Study	14 1:00 PM Bible Study	15	16
17 9:00 AM—Service of the Word w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM—Sunday School & Adult Bible class	18	19	20 2:00 PM—Midweek Worship 5:45 PM—Confirmation 7:00 PM Book Study	21 1:00 PM Bible Study	22	23
24 9:00 AM—Service of the Word 10:15 AM—Sunday School & Adult Bible class	25	26	27 2:00 PM—Midweek Worship 5:45 PM—Confirmation 7:00 PM Book Study	28 1:00 PM Bible Study	29 Elder Retreat Noon to Noon	30 Elder Retreat