

The VISITOR

Volume 53

July 2023

No. 7

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



Pastor Chris Davis

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Church office: elc@itcmilbank.com

Preschool: elcpreschool@itcmilbank.com

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 10:15 AM

Midweek Wednesday 2:00 pm

Sunday livestreamed on YouTube

Pastor's Post

NOAH'S ARK, KID'S TOYS, AND FAITH IN JESUS

When my kids were young Karrie and I got them a Fisher Price "Little People" Noah's Ark playset. I thought it was a good idea to surround them with Bible based toys to help make faith a regular part of their lives. Our intentions were good, but I was always a little bothered by the way the toy portrayed Noah's Ark. It had a fairy tale or make-believe quality about it. The toy ark was disproportionately small, while the animals were exaggeratedly large. There were even holes in the roof so the giraffes could stick their long necks out. It didn't look like a real boat, much less a boat big enough to do what the Bible said. If you encountered skepticism from the world or teachers that told you the flood didn't really happen, the Noah's Ark playset did nothing to reinforce the truth of the biblical account. Sadly, for many, these cartoonish toys were their first – and possibly only – encounter with Noah and the biblical flood.

Recently, the folks at Answers in Genesis have been running an ad campaign for the Ark Encounter using giraffes. Ken Ham (President of Answers in Genesis) decided to use the giraffes going into a full-sized Noah's Ark because he always felt that too many children's toys reinforced a negative or "story-like" view of Noah and the flood. When the giraffe family in the commercial see the actual size of the ark it is obvious that those children's toys with giraffes and other large animals crammed into an oversized tug boat and sticking their heads out of holes in the roof were wrong. Those silly toys actually worked against faith in the Bible and in Jesus.

As you know, the new confirmands are taking a trip this month to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter. As a pastor, I have taken my confirmation students to the Creation Museum for years. I believe it is one of the most important things I do in my ministry for the faith of our young people. Our children grow up in a world that teaches that the earth is billions of years old, and that evolution is a scientific fact. Science classes and teachers make kids feel stupid or anti-science if they believe what the Bible says. And if kids can't believe what the Bible teaches in Genesis why should they believe what it teaches about Jesus? If Creation and the Fall into sin are just stories, then what about Jesus and His resurrection? If sin didn't come into the world as described in Genesis and evolution is true, why do we need a Savior from sin and death. If Noah and the flood are just fairy tales then why should I take faith, Jesus, and the Bible seriously?

Thank you for supporting the kids and their trip to the Creation Museum/Ark Encounter. They will have a great time and they will be surrounded by thousands of others who trust God's Word the way they do. And when the kids see the actual size of Noah's Ark for the first time, they will be blown away. They will understand that it is no children's toy and that Creation, and the Flood help us better understand our need for and our faith in Jesus. In Christ, Pastor Davis

Offical Acts

Funeral

Tyler Koepke
Ralph Stensland

PLEASE NOTE THIS RESCHEDULED BIBLE STUDY! The Thursday Bible study group is having a Bible study RETREAT, "Noah: The Man, The Ark, The Flood", on Thursday, July 6th, from 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. We will have a special study, lunch (potluck), and a movie. ALL ARE INVITED.

READINGS FOR JULY 2023

Date	Festival	1st Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
July 2	Fifth S. a. Pentecost	Jer. 28:5-9	Psalm 119:153-160	Rom. 7:1-13	Matt. 10:34-42
July 9	Sixth S. a. Pentecost	Zech. 9:9-12	Psalm 145:1-14	Rom. 7:14-25a	Matt. 11:25-30
July 16	Seventh S. a. Pentecost	Isaiah 55:10-13	Psalm 65:(1-8) 9-13	Rom. 8:12-17	Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23
July 23	Eighth S. a. Pentecost	Isaiah 44:6-8	Psalm 119:57-64	Rom. 8:18-27	Matt. 13:24-30, 36-43
July 30	Ninth S. a. Pentecost	Deut. 7:6-9	Psalm 125	Rom. 8:28-39	Matt. 13:44-52

Mission Sewing

Mission Sewing will meet on July 6th at 9:00 AM. Recently some quilts were taken to the Beacon Center in Watertown. We also gave one to our Vicar Jacob!

LOE

The Ladies of Emanuel will meet on Tuesday, July 11, at 1 PM in the Fellowship Hall. The lesson is on page 17 of the Summer Quarterly, "Proclaiming Christ Simply and With Urgency". Joan Smith and Evelyn Nelson are the hostesses. All women in the congregation are invited to attend the Bible Study. July's focus is to bring items for OGT's backpacks. Serving coffee on July 2nd will be Karin Mueller, Judy Sackreiter, and Gloria Selchert, with the monies going to the Zone Delegate Fund.

Members of Emanuel

As many of you know, the boiler at Emanuel is in desperate need of replacement. Currently we have donations of \$92,000 towards our total need of \$140,000. Please give if able! We should have the quoted actual price sometime this month.



POTHOLDERS!

A member of the congregation used donated yarn to create beautiful potholders that are now available for purchase! They are on display in the library and can be yours for a free will donation. **All proceeds are going to the boiler fund.** Envelopes are available to put your donation in and can be left in the slot of the office door. **We have received \$250 in potholder donations to date!** Thank you everyone!



OGT IS ON TRACK

As I write this update, we are expecting the 55 foot Orphan Grain Truck from Norfolk sometime this week. We will have 20 + pallets with 42 boxes on each pallet to load. 2 of the pallets are filled with Mercy Meals. Helping others while serving our Lord!!!!!!

Thank you to our dedicated volunteers. Thank you as well to these groups who recently donated time and donations: Five women from Cresbard/Wacota who brought 20+ quilts and worked over 4 hours sorting clothes. (They have been doing this for over 5 years). Retired teachers from Sisseton packed Mercy Meals. Women from Mt Olive in Watertown and St John's in Reville packed Mercy Meals. (We receive quilts from these church women several times a year). Several monetary memorials in honor of loved ones as well as from several churches. St Lawrence church rummage items and the last of items from a closing store in Madison MN were donated. Several 4-H clubs have packed Mercy Meals.

The volunteers have put together many, many Hygiene and Layette kits in the past couple months. Soon we will be concentrating on teacher and school kits. And last but not least 2 young ladies held a lemonade stand this week and donated their \$200 in earnings to Orphan Grain Train!

COME VISIT! Mercy Meal packing in July will be July 12 at 9:15 --NOT July 5
Tuesday 3-5pm Wednesday and Saturdays 10 am to noon. Linnea and Joyce

SPECIAL MISSION ENVELOPES

For July, the Special Mission envelope contributions will go towards:
Emanuel Lutheran Preschool

MAY 2023 Treasurer Report

April 2023 Income:	\$ 25,440.17	YTD 2023 Income:	\$ 157,282.05
April 2023 Expense:	\$ 37,592.50	YTD 2023 Expense:	\$ 188,648.53
Difference:	-\$ 12,152.33	Difference:	-\$ 31,366.48

Our approved budget shows a -\$30,669.40 for this point in the year. So we continue to manage our spending well. The additional deficit is mostly due to the Vicar salary/benefits which we pay out of the General fund. We have one additional month of Vicar salary/benefits before the end of his term. With that being said, we are still needing to find the negative amounts somewhere in the year being more income or cutting back on some expenses.

Stewardship Newsletter July 2023--[Rev. Paul Winckler, Lutheran Witness article - excerpts]

A challenge was issued in January during the Philippians Conference at Mount Calvary, Brookings: to consider how the three T's (Time, Talent and Treasure) might cause a kind of "silo" thinking about stewardship. That is, if I get so focused on the categories and specifics of them - what I'm giving, where I'm giving or how much I'm giving - I can miss the "big picture".

And this is the big picture: **NOTHING IS REALLY MINE!** Everything is God's. I myself am not even my own. I have been bought with a price - the precious blood of Jesus! So if everything, and even my own self, is God's, that's a pretty big game-changer in my thinking.

I start with my identity in Christ given in Baptism, knowing that I am made and blessed by God, redeemed by Jesus Christ from sin, death and the power of the devil, and sanctified to live in His grace, in repentance by the power of the Holy Spirit. Before anything else - before my money, gifts or time - God cares about and loves me!! Nothing will ever change that.

If that's where I start and live each day, stewardship is no longer this task of trying to fill certain buckets or trying to give a little here and hold back over there. It's "the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes."

Preschool News, by Karen Tillma

Please pass the word that we are looking for 1 or 2 teacher aides who are preferably bilingual (we have several Spanish speaking children signed up for fall classes). If you know anyone that is interested please have them contact the office or drop off a resume before July 7th. We are hoping to review the candidates before July 11th to have them hired and ready for the Fall! We also have room in our four year old class this fall (which meets Mondays-Thursdays in the afternoon).

Youth Happenings - Grades 5 - 12

Memories of Camp Minneboji 2023



Save the date for Minneboji 2024 - June 16 - 22

Higher Things Confirmation Retreat-www.higherthings.org

When: August 11 - 12, 2023

Where: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Custer, SD

Who: Confirmation Youth

Cost: \$40 per person

Contact: Pastor David Warner
(605) 673-4371

pastorwarner@outlook.com OR
Tana McKenna

888-482-6630 ext.4

retreats@higherthings.org

Time: Friday, 4 pm - Saturday, 2 pm

Meals: Friday supper;
Saturday breakfast, lunch and snacks

What to Bring: toiletries, especially deodorant
changes of clothes
basic hygiene items
sleeping bags
pillows

RSVP: via online registration at the
Higher Things website by July 31, 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



July 8th: 5 PM to 7 PM Fundraiser BBQ contest with proceeds to go towards the confirmation trip to the Ark and Creation Museum.

Tickets (good for 2 people) will be on sale at \$50.00 each! All proceeds again go towards the confirmation trip.

Reminder Our Youth Rocks Servant Event will be held on July 9th! We will be cleaning up the landscaping by the kitchen door. Bring gloves!

Peach sales \$45/lug arriving mid-late August. Call the office at 605-432-9555 or sign up at the church outside the sanctuary.

CONFIRMATION MEETING FOR 2023-2024

SCHOOL YEAR IS: August 3rd at 5:30 PM.

Students and Parents should plan on attending. Please call the office if you cannot attend the confirmation meeting.

Also, incoming 6th-8th graders should still be signing up to Acolyte on the signup genius website. As you can see we only have 2 weeks covered for July again. We are changing the signup to 2 acolytes per Sunday if possible, per Pastor and students choice. That means that every six weeks you should sign up for a Sunday. THANK YOU.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040844ADAC22A3FF2-acolyte>

July 30th Pastor Iver Possehl is retiring . He currently serves at Mt. Olive in Watertown but he has covered some vacancy duties here at Emanuel. They are having an open house at 3 PM with a short program at 4 PM.

SOUND/RADIO BROADCAST FOR JULY

July 2-9 AM Harlan Monson
 July 9-9 AM Dave Schamber
 July 16-9 AM Larry Underwood
 July 23-9 AM Tracy Pinkert
 July 30-9 AM Charles Schamber

ACOLYTES FOR JULY

July 2-9 AM Teaneashea & Alanna Vogel
 July 9-9 AM
 July 16-9 AM
 July 23-9 AM Mackenzie Mueller
 July 30-9 AM

BYD GROUP for July is GROUP 4, Elders—Charles Schamber and John Weyh
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

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Meister, Phyllis J.	1-Jul
Polkinghorne, Dick	1-Jul
Richardt, Ethan M.	1-Jul
Steltz, Thomas A.	1-Jul
Zubke, Donna M.	1-Jul
Berkner-Hoff, Kinsley L.	2-Jul
Schell, Benjamin F. (Ben)	2-Jul
Reil, Carol J.	3-Jul
Schwandt, Lowen I.	3-Jul
Street, Benett G.	3-Jul
Harms, Audrey	4-Jul
Haliburton, Lenette Y.	5-Jul
Mueller, William (Bill)	5-Jul
Wagner, Jacob H.	5-Jul
Wagner, Mitchell D.	5-Jul
Wendland, Austin M.	5-Jul
Gabriel, Diane	6-Jul
Angerhofer, Scott	7-Jul
Keller, Claire I.	7-Jul
Larson, Kevin G.	8-Jul
Giossi, Dakota J.	9-Jul

Keller, Philip C.	9-Jul
Berkner, Patricia (Pat)	10-Jul
Christians, Cassidy L.	11-Jul
Cummins, Noel V.	11-Jul
Ehlebracht, Frieda	11-Jul
Rethke, Dale	11-Jul
Tietjen, Robert	11-Jul
Kolb, Kim	12-Jul
Karges Jr, Kim (Buddy)	13-Jul
Myers, Susan	13-Jul
Nies, Karlie M.	13-Jul
Lee, Serena	14-Jul
Henderson, Craig O.	15-Jul
Shackelford, Jeanne R.	15-Jul
Vipond, James H.	15-Jul
Berkner, Pattie J.	16-Jul
Hilbrands, Mary E. (Liz)	16-Jul
Fischer, Corylee K.	18-Jul
Forman, Yvonne (Vonnice)	19-Jul
Frickson, Bette	19-Jul
Hunt, Adam	19-Jul

Negen, Steve	19-Jul
Zubke, Darla R.	19-Jul
Koepke, Wanda M.	20-Jul
Campbell, Angel	21-Jul
Priebe, Maci L.	21-Jul
Nelson, Rayven J.	22-Jul
Pollock, Aubree M.	22-Jul
Underwood, Daniel W.	23-Jul
Karges, Daniel E.	25-Jul
Klemm, Shelly	25-Jul
Schamber, David M.	26-Jul
Wojahn, Darwin N.	26-Jul
Berry, Beckham L.	27-Jul
Schneck, Lavonne B.	27-Jul
Henderson, Evan T.	28-Jul
Moser, Kalli J.	28-Jul
Tietjen, Jeanne K.	28-Jul
Underwood, Susan R.	29-Jul
Bogenrief, Cynthia M.	30-Jul
Koepke, Scarlett R.	30-Jul
Morton, Peggy J.	30-Jul

JULY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Johnson, Sydney (Syd) and Joyce	1-Jul
Larson, Kevin G. and Connie L.	8-Jul
Selchert, Walter L. and Gloria	9-Jul
Trapp, Gene and Debbie	10-Jul
Steinlicht, Clifford L. and Margaret	11-Jul
Underwood, Larry A. and Ray Ann	14-Jul
Wendland, Michael and Anita M.	18-Jul

Athey, Duane (Dewey) and Maxine	19-Jul
Polkinghorne, Dick and Barb	20-Jul
Bogenrief, Michael and Cynthia M.	21-Jul
Weinkauff, Dale and Stacey M.	25-Jul
Peiker, David M. and Joann	27-Jul
Hilbrands, Ryan and Kelly L.	29-Jul
Mueller, Kevin and Angel	31-Jul

In preparation for Lisa starting her Deaconess Internship we are looking for people who are willing to volunteer in the office during weekday afternoons. We have a volunteer for Thursday afternoon but are looking for the other days as well. We would ask this person to answer phones and take messages. Other duties could include folding, copying, or data entry into the computer. If you were just willing to answer the phone as you read your favorite book that would be acceptable as well. The hours would be from 12 or 1 PM to 3 or 4 PM. Please leave a message at the office regarding your availability!

Lisa is back to normal Monday through Friday hours (9-3 but often here until 6 PM) most of the month. EXCEPT-every three weeks drive Eric to chemo and help him at home. For that week I will have hours posted on the door. Please leave me a message/note. If you have something to drop off like offerings or checks, please utilize the locked box on my office door. That is only opened by a couple people on counting money days. Pastor Davis generally opens the church up by 6 AM Monday through Thursday if you need to drop something off.

If you haven't provided the following information to the office please email to elc@itcmilbank.com, at your earliest availability. Thank you!

Information needed in the office—please complete for everyone in the household!

Name and Birthdate: _____ Wedding Date: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Cell phone carrier: _____

Do you have Thrivent? _____

If yes can we call to remind you to designate? _____

If yes can we request an action card? _____

Please circle the areas you are interested in helping at Emanuel:

Ushering

Helping preschool

Counting offerings

Greeting

Helping folding office work

Serving on Board/Council

Set up/Clean Communion

Calling others to help

Sunday School teacher

Provide cake/bars

Cleaning

Reviewing financials yearly

Helping in kitchen

Maintenance tasks

Working at The Banquet

Meals on Wheels

Confirmation buddy

Banners

Deliver prayer blanket

Flowers

Sound Booth

Deliver bulletins to shut ins

Preschool buddy

VBS

July 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9:00 AM—Service of the Word w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM—Adult Bible class	<i>4 Church and Office Closed!</i>	2:00 PM—Midweek Worship 7:00 PM Book Study	9:00 AM Mission Sewing 8:30 AM—2:00 PM Bible Study Retreat 4:00 PM Communion at St. Williams	1	8	BBQ Cook Off! 5:00-7:00 PM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:00 AM—Service of the Word 10:15 AM—Adult Bible class (Youth Group Service Event— This is Postponed)	6:00-7:30 PM New Member Class	1:00 PM—LOE 4:30 PM—Board of Ed 5:30 PM—Youth Board 6:00 PM—Evangelism 7:00 PM—Trustee Mtg 7:00 PM—Elder Board	9:15 AM Mercy Meals at OGT 2:00 PM—Midweek Worship/ Communion 7:00 PM Book Study	1:00 PM Bible Study		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9:00 AM—Service of the Word w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM—Adult Bible class	VBS 9 AM-12 PM 6:00-7:30 PM New Member Class	VBS 9 AM-12 PM 7:00 PM Council Mtg	VBS 9 AM-12 PM 2:00 PM—Midweek Worship 7:00 PM Book Study	VBS 9 AM-12 PM 1:00 PM Bible Study	VBS 9 AM-12 PM	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<i>23 Staehling Baptism</i> 9:00 AM—Service of the Word 10:15 AM—Adult Bible class 11:30 AM—Potluck to honor Vicar for his service!	<i>24 Confirmation Trip through 7/28—Pastor out of office</i>					
30	31					
9:00 AM—Service of the Word w/ Holy Communion 10:15 AM—Adult Bible class	6:00-7:30 PM New Member Class					