

The VISITOR

Volume 53

March 2023

No. 3

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



Pastor Chris Davis

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Emanuel Website: www.elcmilbank.org

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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

Palm Sunday Movie and Potluck - *RISEN*

With the month of March already here, we find ourselves in the midst of the Lenten season. That means Palm Sunday and Holy Week are just around the corner. This year, we are going to begin Holy Week together – after worship – with a movie and a potluck. The movie we are going to watch is called “Risen” starring Joseph Fiennes (he also played Martin Luther in the 2003 film, “Luther”). Although Hollywood always takes liberties with the biblical narrative, “Risen” is a faithful depiction of what the first Holy Week would have been like for those early followers of our Lord. Not fully understanding the events of Jesus’ death, the disciples find themselves being tracked down by a Roman Centurion (Fiennes) named Clavius who is given the task of finding out what happened to the crucified body of the Nazarene.

As he works to untangle the mystery of the empty tomb Clavius begins to realize that there is more to the missing body of Jesus than meets the eye. In an attempt to round up and interrogate the followers of the “Messiah” Clavius begins to hear rumblings that Jesus is still alive. He then has his own encounters with the risen Lord. All of this begins to change the way Clavius looks at Jesus and life itself. For a Hollywood production, this is a surprisingly good movie about the Gospel.

Please make plans to join us after Palm Sunday worship as we begin Holy Week together with a potluck and the movie “Risen.” Blessings as we continue our Lenten journey together with our Lord, making our way with Him to the cross and the empty tomb.

In Christ,

Pastor Davis

Offical Acts

Funeral

Anita Forman

Affirmation of Faith

Keo Adler

Transfer In

Rodney Reyelts

Deloria Reyelts

Release

LaVerna Moldenhauer

*****OVER THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, WE ARE WORKING TO REVAMP THE NEWSLETTER AND WILL BE ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO RECEIVE THIS BY EMAIL. WE WILL ALSO BE GATHERING UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION AND PICTURES FOR A DIRECTORY*****

(We are putting this together ourselves and will have submitted family photos as well as ones taken here at the church if you need this option)

READINGS FOR MARCH 2023

Date	Festival	1 st Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
Mar. 5	Second S. in Lent	Gen. 12:1-9	Psalm 121	Rom. 4:1-8, 13-17	John 3:1-17
Mar. 12	Third S. in Lent	Ex. 17:1-7	Psalm 95:1-9	Rom. 5:1-8	John 4:5-26 (27-30, 39-42)
Mar. 19	Fourth S. in Lent	Isaiah 42:14-21	Psalm 142	Eph. 5:8-14	John 9:1-41 or John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39
Mar. 26	Fifth S. in Lent	Ezek. 37:1-14	Psalm 130	Rom. 8:1-11	John 11:1-45, (46-53) or John 11:17-27, 38-53

LOE

The Ladies of Emanuel will meet at 1 PM on March 14 in the Fellowship hall. Pastor Davis will give the lesson from the Winter Quarterly, page 18, "Covered by God's Grace". Hostesses for our March meeting are Joyce Johnson and Gloria Selchert. Our March Focus will be a collection for the Camp Fund. Serving coffee on March 5th are Sharon Wieber, Judy Sackreiter and Vonnie Forman - with the monies going to our missionary. All women in the congregation are invited to join us for the Bible Study. The LOE ladies will serve Lenten supper on the 22nd.

Mission Sewing

Mission Sewing will meet on March 2nd at 9:00 AM. If bad weather, please check with the church office or Facebook for cancellation notices. We can ALWAYS use help. Quilts are always for sale.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—This is extended through March!

The Big Kids Sunday School (BKSS) has organized a food shelf battle as part of their study on Christian leadership. During the month of February, the congregation will be going to head-to-head with the Sunday School to collect food for the food shelf. The most pounds of food will win bragging rights. Each pound of food equals a point. There will be collection boxes by the front door, outside the fellowship hall, and outside the sanctuary. Donations will be collected through the 28th of February. We thank you for your support! BKSS

Orphan Grain Train Milbank Collection Center Updates--

Thankful is a frequent thought for many of the volunteers. Here are a couple reasons. The 55 semi came on February 13 and the volunteers loaded----

19 pallets- 42 boxes on each pallet- of hygiene, layette, medical items, toys, school items, clothing, shoes, homemade cloth diapers (made from T-shirts), religious materials, quilts, blankets, and kitchen items.

2 pallets of Mercy Meals which is 36 bags in 33 boxes. Which is 14,256 fortified rice meals

35 sleeping mats made from plastic bags

2 walkers, a bike, guitar

The entire load heads to El Paso, Texas and the Ysletta Mission. For me- Linnea- it brings joy and thankfulness to know this. Many years ago, I spent time there volunteering along with Cheryl Pauli, Violet Ridre, and my mom and other LWML women from all over. The time we spent in the mission and in Mexico made me aware of the desperate needs of some and how rich I am.

With generous donations our collection agency was able to financially help Milbank OST, St Lawrence OST, Foster children (CASA) and Milbank Elementary students. Orphan Grain Train desires to help locally as well as the US and Internationally.

We thank all of you for helping OGT in so many ways. Please keep our collection site in your prayers as we have received word that we need to buy our packing boxes going forward. Also, the cost of Mercy Meals packages has gone up as well. We may need to do some fundraising.

We have been able to put many layette and hygiene kits together. These are fun to pack and we enjoy sharing the deals we find!!!!!! Items we could use: onesies, baby sleepers-up to 24 months, rubber pants, baby quilts, towels and washcloths. We always desire toys and sports equipment.

Upcoming dates : March 1 - 9:15 am Mercy Meals

March 8 - 12 noon bimonthly meeting and potluck

Thank you volunteers and donors for sharing the gifts God has given us with those less fortunate.

Linnea Schwandt, Milbank's OGT Coordinator

JANUARY 2023 Treasurer Report

January 2023 Income:	\$ 34,216.63	January 2023 Expense:	\$ 37,451.69
Difference:			\$ -3,235.06

We actually exceeded budgeted income and cut budgeted expenses for January. However, the reason for the negative is that we used the Vicar funds in the Dedicated account to pay our bank loan due to increasing interest rates. We paid \$4,260.00 for Vicar costs for Jan. and Feb. which was not originally figured into our already approved budget for our general expenses.

The Dedicated Boiler Fund currently is at \$62,496.17. We have the contractor coming back to rebid the project as total costs are expected to go up from \$90,000 to at least \$140,000. Please watch for special fundraising information posted at the church in the near future.

*****ISO*** Volunteers to form a committee to advise and help people use their Thrivent Action cards. These cards are a source of funds that are not being utilized to their full extent. Call Karin Mueller at 605-432-6088 if you are interested.*****

Stewardship Newsletter Reading for March 2023

Serve the Lord with gladness.

Psalm 100:2

Delight in divine service is a token of acceptance. Those who serve God with a sad countenance, because they do what is unpleasant to them, are not serving Him at all; they bring the form of loyalty, but the life is absent. Our God requires no slaves to grace His throne; He is the Lord of the empire of love, and would have His servants dressed in the uniform of joy.

The angels of God serve Him with songs, not with groans; a murmur or a sigh would be a mutiny in their ranks. That obedience that is not voluntary is disobedience, for the Lord looks at the heart, and if He sees that we serve Him from force, and not because we love Him, He will reject our offering. Service coupled with cheerfulness is heart-service and therefore true. Take away joyful willingness from the Christian, and you have removed the test of his sincerity. If a man be driven to battle, he is no patriot; but he who marches into the fray with flashing eye and beaming face, singing, "It is sweet for one's country to die," proves himself to be sincere in his patriotism.

Cheerfulness is the support of our strength; in the joy of the Lord are we strong. It acts as the remover of difficulties. It is to our service what oil is to the wheels of a railway carriage. Without oil the axle soon grows hot, and accidents occur; and if there be not a holy cheerfulness to oil our wheels, our spirits will be clogged with weariness.

The man who is cheerful in his service of God proves that obedience is his element; he can sing, *Make me to walk in your commands, It's a delightful road.*

SPECIAL MISSION ENVELOPES

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

Preschool News, by Karen Tillma

It has been a busy month in preschool! We celebrated Valentine's Day with parties. We also celebrated the letter P by wearing our pajamas to school, eating pancakes (3 year olds) and eating pizza (4 year olds). A policeman (Jeremy Steffensen) came to visit and share about his job. The four year old class got to ride the community bus to the post office and mail a letter! (P is for postman. April Steffensen is postmaster. She gave us a tour and provided stamps for the children to mail their letters.

We have missed some days of school because of bad weather, but we are doing our best to make them up on Fridays. The preschool families will help provide the meal for the Lenten supper on March 8th and then the children will sing for the service that follows. Pastor Davis has been meeting with the four year old class in the chapel on Wednesdays to have a devotional with them. This has been a great experience for the children!

Don't let Your Thrivent Choice Dollars Expire!!

Eligible Thrivent members have until March 31 to direct any remaining 2022 Choice Dollars! Emanuel Lutheran Church, Emanuel Preschool, and Orphan Grain Train-SD have been recipients of Choice Dollars. In 2022, Emanuel Lutheran received \$4812 and spent \$4436 for various requests. Preschool received \$2150 and spent \$1800.

This program started Sept 2010 and in 2011, our first full year, we received \$27,243 (ELC \$16,880 and Preschool \$10,365). **Are we failing to receive Choice Dollars simply because we fail to designate those available to us?**

Evaluate whether you are eligible to receive Choice Dollars that you can designate to the charity of your choice. To designate go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 1-800-847-4836 or have Lance assist you at the Thrivent office.

Youth Happenings - Grades 5 - 12

Twelve youth members between the ages of 10-18 met at church on February 11th from 5-7 p.m. An enjoyable time was had by all. The theme for the evening was "Keep the Faith." Supper was served followed by a devotion based on Romans 4:16, and team-building games, concluding the evening a meeting was held about what the future holds for this group and what would be fun to do together. The group had some wonderful ideas on how to positively impact our congregation and community.

Once again, thank you to the parents for encouraging the kids to attend and we hope to see these youth and more in the future.



Coming in March is March 1st Lenten Supper. We are serving Walking Tacos and need each youth to bring a dozen cookies or bars. The youth also need to be there to serve the supper and clean up.

Due to all the activities for Lent, we will have the next Gathering in April. PLEASE stay tuned for the upcoming dates and times.

Remember for April - April 7th have your fruit donation to the kitchen by Friday at 5PM
April 8th - 9AM - Put egg bakes together and get Easter breakfast ready.
April 9th - Be at church by 8AM to serve Easter breakfast!!!

Here is a list of the grade and fruit donation:

Grade 5 – 2 lbs Grapes

Grade 7 – Quart Strawberries

Grade 9 – 12 – Quart Strawberries

Grade 6 - Pint Blueberries

Grade 8 – 1 Gallon Orange Juice

See you March 1st!!!

KEEP MINNEBOJI CHURCH CAMP IN MIND FOR THIS SUMMER!

Emanuel shares a significant amount of the cost of this week long camp!

What: Minneboji Church Camp

Who: Youth who have completed Grades 4 - 9

When: June 18th – 24th 2023

Where: Lake Okoboji, located in Milford, Iowa

Registration Information for Camp Minneboji

Registrations are done online. You will need to know the following in order to register:

- Health information – is required when registering for camp. Most of this information is basic questions, however, if your child attends school in Milbank, most of his/her immunization information can be found on the Parent Portal under the Health tab. This is very handy. You will also need your medical insurance information, and healthcare and dental provider contact names and phone numbers.
- You can request a roommate.
- You can choose to bring your child to camp on your own, or the camp offers transportation from Sioux Falls. There is a small extra fee for that service. In the past many of our campers utilize transportation.
- You will need to know emergency contact information for at least two people who could be contacted if you are not available.
- You add money to their store account (canteen) on the camp registration page.
- The amount that Emanuel Lutheran Youth pay for camp is the registration fee of \$150. The rest is paid by our youth account at church.

SOUND/RADIO BROADCAST FOR MAR

Mar 1-7 PM Larry Underwood

Mar 5-9 AM Charles Schamber

Mar 8-7 PM Dave Schamber

Mar 12-9 AM Tracy Pinkert

Mar 15-7 PM Charles Schamber

Mar 19-9 AM Harlan Monson

Mar 22-7 PM Larry Underwood

Mar 26-9 AM Dave Schamber

Mar 29-7 PM Tracy Pinkert

ACOLYTES FOR MAR

Mar 1-7 PM

Mar 5-9 AM Mackenzie Mueller

Mar 8-7 PM

Mar 12-9 AM Bryton Blauert

Mar 15-7 PM

Mar 19-9 AM Logan Dexter

Mar 22-7 PM

Mar 26-9 AM

Mar 29-7 PM

BYD GROUP for March is GROUP 5, Elder—Dewey Athey

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

****Watch April for the Easter flowers/lilies memorial sheets****

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Bear, Larry L.	1-Mar
Myers, Tanner J.	1-Mar
Schweer, Kevin L.	1-Mar
Hein, Nancy A.	2-Mar
Graf, Caitlyn K.	3-Mar
Krause, Kaitlyn L.	3-Mar
Larson, Zander C.	3-Mar
Athey, Landon D.	4-Mar
Berkner, Curtis (Curt)	4-Mar
Campbell, Grace	4-Mar
Wendland, Mikayla M.	4-Mar
Angerhofer, Todd J.	5-Mar
Bray, Taylor A.	5-Mar
Smith, Rodney	5-Mar
Negen, Kay	6-Mar
Watkins, Vernita M.	6-Mar
Larson, Rachel M.	7-Mar
Mork, Clayton S.	7-Mar
Schamber, John	7-Mar
Schmieg, Jada C.	7-Mar
Wright, Ryan A.	7-Mar
Garcia, Samuel L.	8-Mar
Hunt, Bennett A.	8-Mar

Zubke, Jerald A. (Jerry)	8-Mar
Grabow, Wayne L.	9-Mar
Wendland, Anita M.	9-Mar
Zubke, Isaac T.	10-Mar
Davis, Shepherd	11-Mar
Harms, Amy	11-Mar
Morton, Jessica L.	11-Mar
Coomes, Delaney R.	12-Mar
Karels, Isabelle V.	13-Mar
Morton, Preston D.	13-Mar
Mueller, Gary	13-Mar
Seehafer, Brady	13-Mar
Krause, Tim W.	14-Mar
Myers, Stephanie L.	14-Mar
Strege, Matthew S. (Matt)	15-Mar
Berens, Linda	16-Mar
Schweer, Richard A.	16-Mar
Pinkert, Kaylee R.	17-Mar
Zubke, Timothy J.	17-Mar
Monson, Carolyn M.	18-Mar
Heisinger, Vayda M.	19-Mar
Adelman, Alicia A.	20-Mar
Whitlow, Sophia E.	20-Mar

Will, Ann H.	20-Mar
Berkner, Shelly M.	21-Mar
Bowen, Kylene M.	22-Mar
Pillatzki, Jody	22-Mar
Weyh, Misty	22-Mar
Bloom, Ava N.	23-Mar
Fischer, Wendy M.	24-Mar
Koepke, Bailey M.	24-Mar
Karges, Andrew J.	25-Mar
Bloom, Izzy	26-Mar
Leddy, Donnie R.	26-Mar
Garcia, Betsey	27-Mar
Hunt, Austin L.	27-Mar
Schwandt, Anita M.	28-Mar
Gores, Jaxon T.	29-Mar
Hein Jr, Herman	29-Mar
Monson, Harlan	30-Mar
Mueller, Mya J.	31-Mar

MARCH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Christians, Keith A. and Natalie	7-Mar
Mueller, Eric and Melissa	11-Mar
Ehlebracht, Wayne A. and Kimberly K.	12-Mar
Stemsrud, Steven C. (Steve) and Robin	14-Mar
Borchert, Dwight and Marie	16-Mar

Zubke, Timothy J. and Darla R.	16-Mar
Pauli, Jerald M. and Cheryl	17-Mar
Monson, Harlan and Carolyn M.	24-Mar
Sackreiter, Robert G. and Judy	24-Mar

Please take the time to consider helping transport members to church who can't drive here themselves. We HAVE members who want to be here on Sunday morning or Wednesday afternoon, and we don't have people willing to pick them up. There are wheelchair people which we have the church van that can be used. There are also people who just need a ride in a car. Right now, we only have one van driver and we need more than that.

If you can help with this important mission, please call the church office, or leave me a note. Thank you for your consideration!

605-432-9555

Please read this message from South Dakota LCMS District President, Rev. Scott Sailer from the February newsletter.

Rejoice and Beware!

I hope that your congregation, in some way, celebrated God's gift of life on Sanctity of Life Sunday, back on January 22. *Roe* was overturned by the *Dobbs* decision this past June! Unborn babies' lives are being saved! Rejoice!

Grace, Deadwood, where Sarah and I worshiped on January 22, is participating in Bella Pregnancy Resource Center's "Baby Bottle Campaign." Baby bottles were available to all worshipers. They were encouraged to take the bottles home and fill them with coins, cash, or a check to assist Bella to help men and women in unplanned pregnancies care for the precious human lives now unexpectedly a part of their lives. Wonderful!

In the sermon that morning, I focused on Psalm 139, which includes the famous life-affirming verses (vv. 13 and 14):

13 For you formed my inward parts;
you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
my soul knows it very well.

Those verses give you and all of God's precious human creation -- those born and those unborn, the very young and the very old -- value and dignity. As you look at others, you may feel that they are smarter, richer, better looking, have a better job and a nicer family. But those verses from Psalm 139 should cause you to pause: "Wait a minute! For some reason (*His* reasons), God put together this unique combination of genes and chromosomes, skin and bones, eyes and ears, that turned out to be me."

God made you, His unique and wonderful creation, for this time and place to serve Him with the time, strength, gifts, abilities, and resources He has given you. You are His witness. You can be His advocate for life.

One thing I'm going to urge you *not* to do in regard to being one of God's life-affirmers is to sign a certain petition that is being circulated in South Dakota. (This is the *Beware!* section of my message to you today.) As you know, with the overturning of *Roe*, abortion was not outlawed throughout our nation; instead, decisions about abortion laws were returned to the states. And so it is in the State of South Dakota.

The South Dakota State House of Representatives and the Senate will be considering abortion measures. But there is a pro-abortion rights group called Dakotans for Health, which is seeking to collect 60,000 signatures by July 1 to add a pro-abortion amendment to the state constitution, on the 2023 South Dakota ballot. If the group succeeds, the people of South Dakota will get to vote on whether to legalize abortion in our state through the entire pregnancy. Hidden under the cloak of advocating for "women's health," such a measure could pass.

Please, please decline to sign! And urge your friends to decline. Pastors, please alert your congregation members to this evil attempt to legalize the killing of babies in our state.

Rev. Chris Navurskis, our District's Co-Ordinator for Life Advocacy issues, has much more to say about this in the February District supplement to *The Lutheran Witness*. In his article, Pastor Navurskis reminds us, as I also will remind you, that we fight the real enemy, Satan, with the strong weapons of God's Word and prayer. But, at the same time, in our vocation as citizens, we have this opportunity to do something significant in the battle to be life-affirmers for the life that God creates, by declining to sign.

God give you strength, courage, peace, and grace as you speak and act on His behalf for life!

--Rev. Scott Sailer
President

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Upcoming events :</p> <p>*4/2/2023 Palm Sunday Potluck and a movie</p> <p>4/6/2023 Maunday Thursday *April 30th Confirmation</p> <p>4/7/2022 2 PM & 7 PM Good Friday *May 7th Senior Recognition</p> <p>4/8/2023 7 PM Easter Vigil *May is our Meals on Wheels Month</p> <p>4/9/2023 6:30 & 9 AM Easter Sunday</p> <p>Youth Breakfast on Easter! *June 3rd we serve at The Banquet</p>						
<p>12</p> <p>9:00 AM—Service of the Word</p> <p>10:15 AM—Sunday School/ Adult Bible class</p> <p>4:00 PM Scouts</p>	<p>13</p> <p>4:00 PM Christian Service Council</p>	<p>14</p> <p>1:00 PM—LOE</p> <p>4:30 PM—Board of Ed</p> <p>5:30 PM—Youth Board</p> <p>6:00 PM—Evangelism</p> <p>6:00 PM Book Study</p> <p>7:00 PM—Elder Board</p>	<p>15</p> <p>2:00 PM—Midweek Worship</p> <p>3:00 PM- Confirmation Class</p> <p>4:30 PM 5th-8th grade</p> <p>5:10 PM Adult Handbells</p> <p>5:30 PM Lenten Meal- Cemetary Board</p> <p>6:30 Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Lent Service</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00 AM Mission Sewing</p> <p>1:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:00 AM Mission Sewing</p> <p>1:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p> <p>2:00 PM—3:30 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>For 8th grade only!</p> <p>-Shyenne Giossi</p> <p>-Evan Henderson</p> <p>-Peyton Bauer</p> <p>-Kayla Schweer</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:00 AM—Service of the Word w/ Holy Communion</p> <p>10:15 AM—Sunday School/Adult Bible class</p> <p>2:00-6:00 PM Sackreiter Anniversary in Fellowship Hall</p> <p>3:00 Dartball</p> <p>4:00 PM Scouts</p>	<p>20</p> <p>4:00 PM Christian Service Council</p>	<p>21</p> <p>4:00 PM—Stewardship Board</p> <p>6:00 PM Book Study</p> <p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts</p>	<p>22</p> <p>2:00 PM—Midweek Worship</p> <p>3:00 PM- Confirmation Class</p> <p>4:30 PM 5th-8th grade</p> <p>5:10 PM Adult Handbells</p> <p>5:30 PM Lenten Meal—LOE</p> <p>6:30 Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Lent Service</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00 AM Mission Sewing</p> <p>1:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:00 AM Mission Sewing</p> <p>1:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p> <p>2:00 PM—3:30 PM Confirmation Class</p> <p>For 8th grade only!</p> <p>-Shyenne Giossi</p> <p>-Evan Henderson</p> <p>-Peyton Bauer</p> <p>-Kayla Schweer</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:00 AM—Service of the Word</p> <p>10:15 AM—Sunday School/ Adult Bible class</p> <p>4:00 PM Scouts</p> <p>Vespers at Area Nursing Homes-Assisted Living</p> <p>2:30/3:15/4:00 PM</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:00 PM Book Study</p>	<p>29</p> <p>2:00 PM—Midweek Worship</p> <p>3:00 PM- Confirmation Class</p> <p>4:30 PM 5th-8th grade</p> <p>5:10 PM Adult Handbells</p> <p>5:30 PM Lenten Meal-OPEN</p> <p>6:30 Choir</p> <p>7:00 PM Lent Service</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00 AM Mission Sewing</p> <p>12:00 PM Vespers at Koch Assisted</p> <p>1:00 PM Bible Study</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>AA Meetings in the church</p> <p>Wednesdays at 8 PM</p> <p>Thursdays at 6:30 PM</p> <p>ALAnon</p> <p>Thursdays at 6:30 PM</p>