

The VISITOR

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



Pastor Chris Davis

Office: 605-432-9555

Pastor Cell: 218-255-0441

Lori's Cell: 605-467-3280

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 10:30 AM

Midweek Wednesday 2:00 pm

Sunday livestreamed on YouTube

Prayer...What Is It Really All About?

If you are familiar with the C.S. Lewis classic *The Screwtape Letters*, you may well remember the advice given by the demon Screwtape to his nephew and junior tempter Wormwood in Letter IV. When it comes to prayer, Screwtape instructs Wormwood to persuade his human subject to “aim at something entirely spontaneous, inward, informal, unregularized...”¹ Later Screwtape suggests that the best way to prevent real prayer is to “turn their gaze away from [God] towards themselves. Keep them watching their own minds and trying to produce feelings there by the action of their own wills. When they meant to ask Him for charity, let them, instead, try to manufacture charitable feelings for themselves and not notice that this is what they are doing. When they meant to pray for courage, let them really be trying to feel brave. When they say they are praying for forgiveness, let them be trying to feel forgiven. Teach them to estimate the value of each prayer by their success in producing the desired feeling...”²

This gets to the heart of what prayer really is. Is prayer predominately about us persuading God to do what we want, and think is best, or is it actually more about God helping us see His will for our lives? Are the best prayers made up out of whole cloth by us, or based on what God reveals to us in His Word? Is prayer about our sincerity or is it about God's grace in Christ Jesus? Does God hear all prayers or just prayers in the name of Jesus? What does Jesus mean when He says, “If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it” (John 14:14)? These are the questions we will be looking at during our annual Bible Study

¹ C.S. Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters* (New York: Touchstone, 1996), 28.

² Ibid at 29.

Retreat on June 26th here at Emanuel. From 8:30 – Noon, we will be studying prayer. We will have lunch together and then spend the early afternoon watching a movie. More information and details will be forthcoming. Prayer is such an important part of our Christian lives. It is God-pleasing that we have a proper understanding of what prayer is and why our Lord wants us to “pray without ceasing” (1 Thessalonians 5:17). This information is in the May newsletter so you can make plans to join us for this “prayer” focused retreat in June. God bless your Easter Season.

**In Christ,
Pastor Davis**

Official Acts

Funeral: Lisa Miller

Hello Emanuel Lutheran Church family!



I am excited to introduce myself and my family to you all and look forward to starting my new position as office manager on May 5th. For the past eight years, I have been working for the City of Milbank as an administrative assistant. I have loved that position and have enjoyed working for the city. However, after Lisa's sudden passing, my heart was moving me to apply for the office manager position. My current involvement with our church family is serving on the Board of Youth, Thrivent Board, participating in JD2D events, and I really enjoy shopping for and putting up some of the inspirational bulletin boards. In the past, I have served as Sunday School Superintendent and as a member of the Board of Education.

My husband Pat and I have been members of Emanuel since moving to the area 16 years ago. We have been married for nearly 23 years and live on an acreage near Corona. Pat works in the sales

department at Dakota Storage Buildings. He enjoys fishing, hunting, and visiting historical places. We have one son, Bryton, who is a freshman at Milbank High School. Bryton is active in swimming, track, band and choir, church youth group, and enjoys technology. He just built his first computer! I love being outside, planting flowers, gardening, and enjoy baking. We enjoy traveling and strive to take a family vacation each year.

I am excited to hit the ground running and am very thankful for those who are gracious enough to guide me as I get started in the office. I look forward to working with the church boards, church members, and our whole community. Please stop in to say hello! Together we are preparing disciples!

With Love, Brandy Blauert

READINGS FOR MAY 2025

Date	Festival	1st Reading	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
May 4	Third S. of Easter	Acts 9:1-22	Psalm 30	Rev. 5:(1-7) 8-14	John 21:1-14 (15-19)
May 11	Fourth S. of Easter	Acts 20:17-35	Psalm 23	Rev. 7:9-17	John 10:22-33
May 18	Fifth S. of Easter	Acts 11:1-18	Psalm 148	Rev. 21:1-7	John 16:12-22 or John 13:31-35
May 25	Sixth S. of Easter	Acts 16:9-15	Psalm 67	Rev. 21:9-14, 21-27	John 16:23-33 or John 5:1-9
May 29	The Ascension of Our Lord	Acts 1:1-11	Psalm 47	Eph. 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53



The next Men's Bible Study will be on May 10th, 2025, will include coffee and donuts at 9 AM. All Men Are invited!!!



Mission Sewing

Mission Sewing will meet on Thursday, May 1st, 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, May 13, at 1:00 PM in the social hall. The lesson is on page 18 in the Spring Quarterly "Divine Times". Joan Smith will serve as hostess. All women are welcome!! Our focus for May is the Diaper Derby.

Serving coffee on May 4th are Joyce Kasuske, Joyce Johnson, and Joan Smith; with the offering going to the Zone Delegate fund. We are polishing brass on May 6th at 9AM. All help is appreciated!!

Stewardship for the month of March - April

DATE	ATTENDANCE	OFFERINGS
3/30/2025	112	\$5333.00
4/6/2025	138	\$6070.00
4/13/2025	187	\$6999.10
4/20/2025	6:30-72; 9am-253	\$9663.00
Online Offerings APRIL		\$4565.00

INFORMATION FROM FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING--April 8 th , Council Meeting	
Trustee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Received a quote for cleaning just upstairs once per month. Possibly downstairs every 6 months, \$425/time. New linoleum to be installed in handicapped bathroom, new sink and faucet in Mother's Room. Blackburn Basement will be here in May to check on things. Boiler inspection is also in May. Dick Schwandt reported he get the 2nd pump for \$3500. Tyler is completing the paperwork and it will be ordered.
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 9-10th is a youth camping trip.
Evangelism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 8th will be New Member Sunday with a potluck. We are scheduled to serve at the Banquet on June 7th and will need 25- 30 volunteers. See the new member list, if you see someone was missed, please let the office know.
Elder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May 5th Brandy Blauert will be starting as the new Office Manager.
Education/Preschool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year-end Program is May 4th, 3's at 2PM and 4's at 3PM. There will be a Reception for Karen Tillma after at 4 PM in the Fellowship Hall. 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 services are set.
Financial	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karrie helped with getting the Treasurer's computer in line with the office computer with Matt Scott, after the computer upgrade, She is also helping Howard to do payroll and we will receive a formal quote from her office after tax season.
Preschool area proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two proposals have been received. The one needs an additional 30 days. Will discuss in May.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer upgrade in the Church office is complete. Next the phone system and phones will be upgraded the 1st week in May

New Emanuel Lutheran Church Members

Anna McCowien
Pastor, Karrie, Shepherd and Ward Davis
Keo Adler
Rodney and Dee Dee Reyelts
Renae Hanson
Doug and Vickie Gulley
Reenie Ivers
Katie Wollschlager

Cody, Hannah and Maddox Giessinger
Barb Davis
Nancy Meyer
Dillon and Alison Zemlicka
Rylee Loeschke
Chuck Liebe
Dan, Christine, August and Nora Bordt

New Member Sunday will be June 8th with fellowship and a potluck to follow church service.

This recognition is for all that have become members since the installation of Pastor Davis. If your name should be on this list, please let the office know as soon as possible at 605-432-9555. We do not want to leave anyone out.

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



Relief for Human Need Worldwide

Orphan Grain Train Collecting Hygiene Kits & Layettees for Global Needs

Orphan Grain Train is currently working to assemble hygiene kits and layettes to help meet critical needs around the world. These simple but essential items bring hope and dignity to those facing hardship.

We invite our church family to take part in

this mission by donating items for these kits. To make it easy, a new bulletin board has been set up just outside the Fellowship Hall with detailed lists of what's needed for both hygiene kits and layettes.

Financial donations to help with the cost of shipping these supplies would also be greatly appreciated.

Please take a moment to check it out and see how you can help. Every contribution makes a difference! Linnea

EMANUEL YOUTH GROUP

The youth would like to thank the congregation for their support in April with the Lenten Supper and Easter Breakfast. We could not go to camp or do the other youth activities without your support!

May 3rd, Saturday – Cinco de Mayo at Lake Farley. Due to the other activities, **this will not happen.**

May 9-10th, Friday-Saturday – Camping with Pastor at Pickerel – We will leave the church around 4PM or so and return time on Saturday is yet to be determined. There is a sign-up sheet in the hall, so please sign up so supplies can be purchased.

Week of June 15th is Camp Minneboji - Please pray for our campers going to this week. For some of our campers, it is their first time being away from their parents for a week.

We ask that you please pray for our youth and their families. We all need to learn that God and church are a very important part of life. His forgiveness and our belief in Him will carry us through the tough times in life and bring us closer together as a family!



Preparing Easter Breakfast

God's Blessings Always!



...a fun place to
play and learn!

Emanuel Lutheran Preschool

By Karen Tillma

We are quickly winding down the year with only 4 weeks left! We are approaching the date for our last spring program which will be held on Sunday May 4th. The three year olds will sing at 2pm and the four year olds will sing at 3pm.

On April 11th the three-year-olds, along with their parents, went on a field trip to the

Children's Museum in Brookings, SD. Even though the museum was very busy that day, everyone had a great time. It's always great for parents to meet their children's friends and their parents and have a day devoted to just the preschool child.

We plan to take the four-year-olds on their field trip on May 9th (with a backup day on May 16th in case of rainy weather on the 9th). The last day of school for the preschool children will be on May 16th.

We plan to have the annual Trike-a-thon during the last week of school. Kindergarten roundup is planned for Tuesday May 6th. We will be taking the children to the elementary school that day to meet the teachers and to see their new school in the fall.

We have so many things to get in before school is done! Please pray for endurance for the teachers and for an extra dose of patients for everyone!



For Holy Week the children put several things into a little treasure box to remind them of all the things Jesus went through on our behalf. The crosses were made for the children by Wayne Draght. They enjoyed painting them and decorating them with jewels. (Above is the four-year-old class. Below is the three-year-old class.)



Children's Museum



SOUND/RADIO BROADCAST APRIL

May 4 9 AM Dave Schamber
 May 11 9 AM Larry Underwood
 May 18 9 AM Tracy Pinkert
 May 25 9 AM Charles Schamber
 May 28 7 PM Dave Schamber

ACOLYTES FOR APRIL

May 4 9 AM Sean Nicholson; Andrew Karges
 May 11 9 AM Alyssa Henderson; Sophia Lee
 May 18 9 AM Eliana Richardt; Ethan Richardt
 May 25 9 AM Finley Hunt; Isaac Zubke
 May 28 7 PM Brytten Schmiege; Landon Athey



The Banquet is coming up: **Saturday, June 7, 2025**

If you are in **Pastor's Confirmation class**, you are expected to participate! Up to 30 people needed, the sign-up will be available at the end of the May.

*****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.*****

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Myers, Dominic	1-May
Street, Charlotte J. (C.J)	1-May
Ebsen, Gary W.	2-May
Anderson, Jenelle	3-May
Athey, Talia B.	3-May
Bogenrief, Cleo	3-May
Davis, Christopher	3-May
Larson, Theodore J.	3-May
Lupinek, Lynn	3-May
Holtquist, Robert A.	4-May
Toft, Tommi L.	4-May
Loeschke, Austin A.	5-May
Rethke, Jason L.	5-May
Hanson, Cal	6-May
Jibbens, Randy	7-May
Schultz, Austin L.	7-May
Pies, Judy	8-May
Rethke, Alyssa V.	8-May
Anderson, Hali J.	10-May
Pinkert, Ronald E.	10-May
Berkner, Jim	11-May
Fish, Richard J.	11-May
Morton, Troy A.	11-May

Underwood, Steven M.	11-May
Wagner, Beth E. (Beth)	11-May
Bray, Heather N.	12-May
Hamann, Alicia	12-May
Mead, Ronald	12-May
Wittrock, Nora R.	12-May
Mueller, Karin L.	13-May
Pinkert, Tracy E.	13-May
Pinkert, Jenny	15-May
Rethke, Ryker J.	15-May
Giossi, Shyenne	16-May
Jonason, Jax	16-May
Beyer, Yvonne J.	17-May
Morton, Scott W.	17-May
Staebling, Kate	18-May
Ebsen, April	20-May
Graham, Elise	20-May
Harms, Gary	20-May
Myers, Peyton D.	20-May
Nies, Brenda E.	20-May
Peiker, Angel E.	20-May
Smith, Brian	20-May
Grabow, Rita	21-May

Mielitz, Craig A.	21-May
Smith, George	21-May
Christenson, Jim	23-May
Mielitz, Barbara A.	23-May
Priebe, Chloe J.	23-May
Seehafer, Sam	23-May
Wellnitz, Jessica R.	23-May
Goetschius, Sterling R.	24-May
Jutting, Jerry	24-May
Staebling, Claire	24-May
Haliburton, Jeanette	25-May
Robinson, Alex	25-May
Pinkert, Justin L.	26-May
Rethke, Niki	26-May
Angerhofer, Vernon L.	27-May
Essington, Cindy L.	27-May
Leddy, Kiera L.	27-May
Fischer, David P.	28-May
Stemsrud, Marilyn L.	28-May
Trapp, Gene	28-May
Bogenrief, Michael	30-May
Karges, Olivia M.	30-May
Lingwall, Ardell M.	31-May

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Leddy, Donnie R. and Krecia L.	1-May
Koch, Kip and Kea K.	10-May
Kolb, Kim and Linda	14-May
Dexter, Brandon L. and Hilary	15-May
Ivers, Reenie and Bo	15-May

Gulley, Doug and Vickie K.	16-May
Schell, Robert and Sandy	17-May
Dexter, Douglas L. and Ardelle A.	20-May
Smeins, Michael and Rhonda	26-May
Mueller, Gary and LaVonne	28-May

BYD SIGN UP-- BYD Group for MAY--Group 1, Josh Radil

Please refer to the sign-up sheets outside the sanctuary. There are several open spots currently for Usher, Greeter, and Communion Set-up/Clean-up. Thank you!!!!

He is Risen!!! Alleluia!