



FROM PASTOR BOB'S JOURNAL...CHARACTERS Dave and Joe

While I served Immanuel in Richton Park, IL it was decided to restore the pipe organ. Dave, a local organ builder and tuner, was given the contract. Joe, retired from a career in quality control, was Dave's assistant. Dave loved to talk. Joe was all business. Dave inherited the business from his father and had a working knowledge of old pipe organs in the Chicago area as well as their histories. Joe knew nothing about organs. Joe did know how to organize. Each encounter with Dave and Joe began with multiple entertaining stories from Dave, the line between reality and fiction always blurry. Joe went about his business, which consisted of quietly and efficiently organizing the day's tasks. When Joe finished organizing, he politely but firmly informed Dave that he was ready. The Odd Couple of the Organ Restoration business. As I observed this unique partnership, I discovered that organ restoration was a "rob Peter to pay Paul" operation. This was not deceitful, just realistic. Dave could never give a concrete date as to when a particular stage of the restoration would be completed. Many of the organ companies that made the old organs were no longer in business. Dave knew where the old organs were located, as well as their components. He would "rob" one to restore another. So it went until the restoration was completed.

THREE YEARS AGO-MARCH 2021 I was assisting an LCMS congregation in Centreville MI that had experienced embezzlement (40K) and possible Sixth Commandment violations. This was my second "unofficial" IIM experience since retirement in 2013. TWO YEARS AGO-March 2022, JESUS was preparing me to serve an IIM in Easton PA. ONE YEAR AGO-March 2023 most early mornings were spent at the local MacDonald's with my "groupies" which consisted of a few of the workers, a local HS girls basketball coach, a grumpy young man who played his I-Tunes very loud, and a church member named John who became a good friend, and one customer who ordered the exact same thing every morning: "sausage muffin, no egg, no cheese, large coffee with four creams and ten sugars". Following McDonalds it was on to church to greet the preschoolers and parents. This is where I began the routine of "high-fives" with the children. I also assisted in the formation of a new Call Committee and prepared them for my departure I post Easter.

KEEP YOUR OPTIONS OPEN: A full-time Pastor, the traditional model, is not the only option. By June of this year, three Circuit congregations (Emmaus-IIM, St. Paul-Napolean-Clergy Retirement, Zion-Ridgeville-Clergy Retirement) will be vacant. Four of the five LCMS Circuit churches, within 20 Miles of Emmaus, worship less than 50 per Sunday. It may be time to reconsider multi-parish models.

I AM AVAILABLE 24/7 while in Wauseon. While in Wauseon I will be at Red Baron for Coffee and Conversation between 7a and 8:30a. Then it is on to church for "high-fives" with the preschoolers. If my Jeep is in the driveway I will be in the parsonage or office. Please stop in for "Schnutter" time.

HOME TO THREE RIVERS: My schedule to be at home will vary. I will announce my schedule during Sunday Worship and print it in the bulletin.

THOUGHT FOR MARCH 2024: Surviving and living your life successfully requires courage. The goals and dreams you are seeking require courage and risk-taking. Learn from the turtle, it only makes progress when it sticks out its neck...Read God's Word...Focus on JESUS...Ask JESUS In... Blessings Always...Pastor Bob

CONTACT INFORMATION

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March 2024 Lent Schedule



- Midweek Lent 4—March 6, 7:00 pm
- Midweek Lent 5—March 13, 7:00 pm
- Midweek Lent 6—March 20, 7:00 pm



HOLY WEEK



- Palm Sunday—March 24, 10:00 am



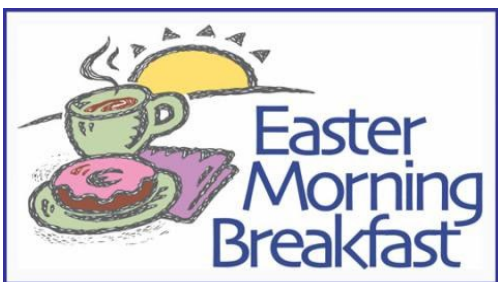
- Maundy Thursday—March 28, 7:00 pm



- Good Friday—March 29, 7:00 pm



- Easter Sunday—March 31, 10:00 am



We will be serving our annual **Easter Breakfast** on Sunday, March 31, from 8:45 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. We will need volunteer helpers to bring items for the breakfast and to help with serving and clean up. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you would like to donate food or supplies for the breakfast. Please plan to attend!

PRESCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Registrations for 2024-2025 are now being accepted. Children who will be 3 years old by June 1, 2024 (T/TH 2-day class), and those who will be 4 years old by August 1, 2024 (M/W/F 3-day class or Monday through Friday 5-day class), may register for their respective classes to begin this Fall. Please call the preschool at 419-337-8471 or email any questions to emmauschristianpreschool@yahoo.com.



No Class—Spring Break—March 11-15



No Class—Easter Break—March 29 and April 1

Visit us at:
emmauschristianpreschool@yahoo.com
emmauschristianpreschool.webs.com
www.facebook.com/EmmausChristianPreschool

L.W.M.L. NEWS



Our unit will meet again on Wednesday, March 6, at 1:30 p.m. The devotion will be given by Marilyn Dachenhaus and JoAnn Eckler will serve as hostess. Our May 1 meeting will be at 10:00 a.m.

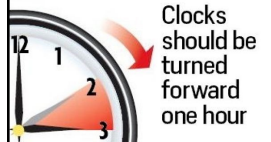
We are planning the Easter Breakfast on Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 8:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Please plan to attend! There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for donating breakfast supplies.

Thank you to all of you that attended the Soup and Sandwich Supper on Ash Wednesday, and thank you to all that donated food for the supper.

Leone Huner has been sending cards to the sick and shut-in during February. JoAnn Echler will be sending cards in March.

Looking forward to Spring!

Daylight saving time starts at 2 a.m.



Clocks should be turned forward one hour

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

MARCH 10

This is the Sunday to “Spring” ahead one hour. Remember to set your clocks on Saturday night and keep in mind only the clocks change, not our service times for Sunday morning.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES—February 8, 2024

Meeting began, with 10 members in attendance, at 6:32 with an opening devotion by Pastor Bob- Look at every challenge as an opportunity.

January Minutes were reviewed and were unanimously approved as written.

Congregation Chair (Larry Neuenschwander):

- The offer for full asking price on the parsonage is proceeding. A home inspection and radon testing will be conducted in the coming days.
- A quote from Allied Paving for a driveway was presented. The quote was from June. The \$9,600 quote would likely be a little higher now. A new quote will be obtained.
- Adriane Baldwin has agreed to serve as the second signer on the investment fund.
- Larry proposed taking down some of the parking for “special needs” signs as we do not need that many.

Pastor’s Report:

- Membership numbers baptized 259 and communicants 207
- Pastor has found a lead on an apartment at Cole St apartments. He asked for council’s permission to pursue. The monthly rent is \$545 and includes water. Gas and electric will be extra. It was proposed to cut a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Pastor Bob to simplify clerical paperwork. Pastor will not sign until parsonage sale is complete.
- Pastor asked council to consider tithing to a charitable organization/mission on the sale of the parsonage.
- The comfort dog from St. Paul, Napoleon will be in attendance on February 25th for bible study and service.
- Pastor Bob noted a few observations from Sunday’s meeting held after church. He reminds Emmaus of the importance of communication and following the chain of command.
- Next week Pastor and the elders will resume making shut in calls.

Administrator’s report (Tricia Zesing):

- Worship services complete through March. April services will be completed next week.
- March newsletter will be printed on February 21.

Financial Officer’s Report (Bev Schlosser):

Offerings for January 2024	13,768.89
Expenses for January 2024	<u>14,009.87</u>
Shortage of	240.98
General fund balance	25,510.29
Less non-operating funds	1,778.47
Less unpaid bills	<u>1,076.63</u>
Current balance	22,655.19
Emmaus investments balance	88,687.09
Gem loan balance	64,486.12

Education Team: (Tante Lovins):

- Tante and Adriane Baldwin are working on curriculum.
- At this time no other volunteers have stepped forward to teach or help plan Sunday School.

Elders Report (Roger Behnfeldt):

- Discussed meeting with shut ins and setting up visits.
- Elders discussed Emmaus’ past climate/culture, events and filled Pastor Bob in on the history.

Discipleship Team (Karen Grieser):

- January food pantry served 29 clients, 5 were new clients.
- Proposing a line Dancing class and/or gospel sing along, will put a survey out to the congregation to gauge interest.
- Feb 11 will be Hugs and Kisses Sunday.

Trustee Team (Beth Flory):

- Beth Flory has been getting letters from insurance company to decide whether or not we have a claim. They have not received the information she has been faxing to them.
- Contract with Custom Turf Solutions is \$350 each time they salt and plow. Trustees will seek other bids to compare cost for next year.

Preschool Team (Bev Schlosser):

- 2024-2025 Registrations – 0 for Tue/Thur class, 3 for M/W/F class, 1 for 5 day class
- Spring flower fundraiser orders will close on February 26
- Sky Zone field trip Feb 16
- Cookie dough fundraiser coming
- Phase 3 of Covid grant money – a fair portion of the grant money will go toward payroll.
- Acct. Balance \$40,761.60 ending balance as of January 31, 2024 (includes grant money)

Sign Committee (Tante Lovins):

- Updated sign for paint party

Investment Committee (Bev Schlosser):

- Newly created committee – nothing to report at this time.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- There will be 3 leads at the February 24 paint party. All are welcome to come and hear the message. You do not have to paint to come and listen.
- Bev reported that the Wings of Change AA group has two upcoming events they would like to hold at Emmaus. July 20 for the annual Wings of Change BBQ, 2 bands are scheduled Northern Roots and Larry Scott. The second event is a poker run to raise awareness about fentanyl and will be held August 31.

A motion was made and passed unanimously to allow both the Wings of Change BBQ and Fentanyl Awareness Day Poker Run at Emmaus.

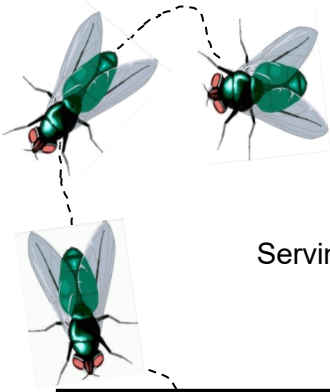
7:20 meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer and Benediction

Next meeting: March 14, @ 6:30pm

Tante Lovins, Recording Secretary



Beginning on Sunday March 3 we will be having a children's class during the church service for 3 y.o. and up. The kids will start service with their parents and then be released to go to S.S. They will get brought back to their parents before communion. The class will last for 30 minutes.



FLY ON THE WALL

Thanks to the donations for the Ash Wednesday Supper
and to all those who helped serve it and clean up.

To our cake baker for the delicious cake for Pastor Bob's ordination.

Serving the community helping with the food pantry is an awesome experience.
The numbers are growing! Thanks Discipleship team.
Anyone at Emmaus can help out.
It's the 3rd Thursday of each month starting at 5pm.

Stewardship minute....

Channels of God's Love

Benjamin Franklin, one of our country's founding fathers, developed a challenging habit. Every day of his adult life, he set aside time to examine two questions. In the morning, he asked himself, "What good shall I do today?" As the day drew to a close, his question was: "What good have I done today?"

As Christians, it is easy to relate to Franklin's attitude because a common theme throughout God's Word is that we are to share God's love within us with others as we help and serve them. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we are called to love others as we love ourselves. In his letter to the church in Galatia, the Apostle Paul wrote, "*So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith*" (Galatians 6:10). God has created, forgiven, and redeemed us, and we become His instruments of love and compassion in the world. God blesses us so we can serve Him by serving others. He honors us with the privilege of being the channels through which He works.

We are blessed to be a blessing. God wants us to be His channels who live in total devotion to Him and are His faithful stewards. He empowers us to do the "*good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them*" (Ephesians 2:10). The same strength that was available to Paul is available to us. As the Apostle Paul wrote the people in Philippi, "*I can do all things through Him Who strengthens me*" (Philippians 4:13). God is our source of strength. Through our weakness, God is able to display His divine power. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we can make the serving of others a priority in our lives.

Live and Experience the EMMAUS ROAD...Luke 24:13-35...The Focus of IIM/ITM

JESUS Joins Us.
JESUS Engages Us in Conversation.
Why are we Standing Still?
JESUS Keeps Moving.
JESUS Reminds, Admonishes, and Teaches.
JESUS brings us to a Point of Decision.
Have I/We asked JESUS to Stay?
JESUS Revealed through Everyday Life.
Our Bold Response.
Mission Revealed.



Prayers for our Emmaus Family:

Richard Brown
 Grace Clair
 Jeff Flory
 Barb Franklin
 Jamie Hanson
 LaTishia Horrell
 Pastor Bob
 Roseanna Parsons
 Joyce Plassman
 Tiffany Prayer
 Linda Prather
 Leo Rabe
 Barb Shannon
 Our Call Committee
 Our Emmaus Family
 Our Emmaus Preschool
 Our Inactive Members

Prayers for Relatives and Friends of Emmaus
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Carlan Badenhop
 Pastor Steve Geske
 Rodney Kurth (*Norma Kurth's Son*)
 Marcia Mattin (*Vickie Oberla's Friend*)
 Ted Mirabal (*Jennifer Rodriguez's Father*)
 Ken Prater (*Bev Schlosser's Friend*)
 Sharon Prather (*Don Prather's Sister-in-law*)
 Jim VonDeylen (*Leone Huner's Brother*)
 Derek Wilson (*Karen Wilson's Son*)
 Ted Wright (*Roseanna Parsons' Brother*)
 Wesley Wright (*Roseanna Parsons' Brother*)
 Kelsey Wyse (*Renee Wyse's Daughter*)
 Dale Yackee (*Darl Beachy's Friend*)
 Tammy & Rick (*Darl Beachy's Friends*)

Prayers for our District Pastors:

Pat Kramer (*Pastor Kramer's Wife*)
 Rev. Logan Scheiwe

Shut-Ins

Margaret Detter
 Linda Prather
 Barb Shannon

Darrel Garmenn
 Irene Rabe
 Chris Tuckerman

Annabelle Leupp
 Larry Rabe
 Nancy Zesing

Gerri O'Brien
 Gladys Rue



Fall-Spring Office Hours are

Monday—Friday 8:00 am—2:00 pm
 Administrator will be in the preschool as the aide
 daily from 9:00 —11:30 am

Church office closed during this time



Tuesday
March 19
 Please get
 your
 information to
 the church
 office for next
 month's
 newsletter.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

BE SEEN. BE CONNECTED. BE INFORMED.

Thursday, Mar. 14, 2024

5:30 pm
 Discipleship Team
 Elders Team
 Trustees Team

6:30 pm
 Emmaus Council

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Vickie Oberla
- 2 Makayla Villanueva
- 2 Dick Koder
- 2 Ariana Villanueva
- 3 Harold Boysel
- 6 Leo Rabe
- 19 Emmersyn Smallman
- 20 Irene Rabe
- 25 Elaina Hilyard
- 28 Nicole Schuette



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 10 Steven & Diana Kline
- 23 Scott & Tante Lovins

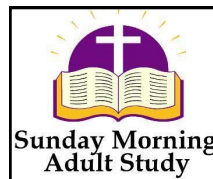


ALTAR FLOWERS

If you wish to provide the altar flowers to commemorate a special occasion or in someone's memory, please let the office know. The cost is \$30. Please make checks payable to Emmaus Lutheran Church and turn check into the office prior to the date.

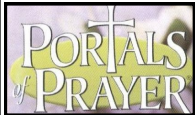


The Tuesday's with Arlene's Emmaus Quilters meet every Tuesday @ 9:00 am They are in need white and tan/beige spools of thread.



SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Sunday mornings at 8:30 am Please join us!



The January to March 2024 **Portals of Prayer** are available in the church hallway. Please pick up your copy today.



EMMAUS FOOD PANTRY

Thursday, Mar. 21, 5:00-7:00 pm
Items needed:
Brown Paper Bags

