



MONTHLY MEETINGS
BE SEEN. BE CONNECTED. BE INFORMED.
Thursday, July 11, 2024

5:30 pm
 Discipleship Team
 Elders Team
 Preschool Team
 Trustees Team

6:30 pm
 Emmaus Council

Tuesday July 16
 Please get your information to the church office for next month's newsletter.

EMMAUS FOOD PANTRY
Thursday, July 18
5:00-7:00 pm
 Items needed:
 Brown Paper Bags

Summer church office hours
 Monday—Thursday
 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Closed on Fridays



PASTOR BOB'S JOURNAL AND REFLECTIONS

TRANSITIONS...From Parish to Psych Hospital to EGH Surgery...Messiah-Elkhart IN, part of the English District LCMS, was no longer able to support a full-time pastor. I resigned, not having a clue about the future, having made no plans for care and provision for self and family. A "Help Me JESUS" Moment. JESUS, as always, came through. Through help from my mother, a local LCMS church, and family friend, the Lord provided enough to keep food on

the table and a roof over our heads. My next employment was at a newly opened Psychiatric Hospital, Oaklawn, in Goshen IN, as a Psych Tech. There were four different units, one of which was locked. I worked all three shifts, mostly at night. On occasion a patient would get out of control, requiring a "take down". Oaklawn was mostly staffed by folk from an Amish/Mennonite back round, whose theology emphasizes pacifism. On staff was a strong, stocky male, non-Amish/Mennonite, who was given the task of initiating the take down. He did so efficiently. I joined in, usually holding down a limb, until the patient was subdued and sedated. Working in a Psych Hospital, then in surgery, was not what I had envisioned upon graduating from Seminary. Yet, it was part of JESUS' plan, my Emmaus Road, intended to prepare me for future ministry. My concept of "church" began to change. It was no longer a specific building, aligned with a denomination, with JESUS confined to the altar area. Church was where JESUS placed me, in the middle of His broken people. Oaklawn employment lasted two years. Financial constraints lead to lay-offs. I was let go. The next turn in my Emmaus Road lead to Culver and EGH.

CONGREGATION DYNAMICS...The Eternal Light Controversy...Trinity-Culver IN. Trinity was 40 years old. Founding members were still in elected positions. One year, right before Advent a letter was sent out questioning the safety of the Eternal Light Candle, which was a permanent fixture in the altar area. Why now? It had been in the same spot 35+ years with no hint of a problem. The letter was written by a founding member who owned an insurance business in Culver. His wife was his secretary. He claimed an Insurance Adjuster had suggested we investigate, suggesting the Candle was a possible fire hazard. The letter quickly elicited strong reactions. Sides were taken. Fortunately, the Head Elder intervened and warned folk he would "make war to keep the peace"! The matter was tabled. What was going on? Holy Spirit discernment led me to conclude that there was someone behind the scenes, intentionally stirring the pot, hoping that I would take a side. If I took one side, the antagonist would take the other side, creating a pretext to have me dismissed. The antagonist was the man's wife. Please refer to my article in the June Newsletter. In the end the Eternal light Candle remained in its place and became a non-issue, The following January at a Voters Assembly a member asked me my opinion on the matter. I stated that one could find Bible Passages to support both points of view. "Why are we fighting over this"? That ended the discussion and put the matter to rest. A few years later, after more attempts by the same individual to get rid of me, she and her husband transferred to another LCMS church. More next month.

HOSPITAL STORIES...Following Oaklawn I was again without employment. I did make a trip to the local Welfare Office and applied for assistance. In retrospect, JESUS allowed this to happen, standing in line and applying for welfare, just to give me the experience and have empathy for folk in desperate circumstances. I never needed welfare. Shortly after this the Lord provided the EGH experience. As I was praying one day I sensed a nudge from JESUS to go next door to the Hospital and apply. As it happened, one of the Orderly's in Surgery had broken his leg playing basketball. A replacement was needed. What was posted as a temporary position quickly turned out to be a twelve-year position. One of the tasks of an Orderly/Nurse Aide was to hold limbs in preparation for orthopedic surgery. The Charge Nurse scrubbed while I held the limb. A scrub usually took ten minutes. On one occasion as I was holding a leg, using both hands, the draw string on my scrubs loosened. The pants slipped to my knees. I was wearing underpants . From that point on my nickname was "Reverand Moon"

JOURNAL REFLECTIONS are short versions of longer stories and lessons learned. Please feel free to ask me about "The Rest of the Story" and, offer suggestions on writing style and format.

COMMUNICATE...COMMUNICATE...COMMUNICATE...Please Keep the Lines of Communication open on all levels. Pray...Listen...Speak Clearly...Ask Questions for Clarification...Do Not Assume...Give Clear and Honest Answers...Speak the Truth in Love...If you Don't know, You Don't Know.

LOOKING AHEAD...MOVING FORWARD...What type of Pastor does JESUS desire for Emmaus? What will Ministry look like in the future? What is JESUS' Plan? Does Emmaus have a Foot Print in the Community? If someone stopped at a local gas station asking for directions to Emmaus, would the employee be able to answer? What does the presence of AA mean for the long term? How can Emmaus connect with the Pre-School? These questions and other topics related to Witness/Outreach will be part of Sunday Messages, Bible Class, and Conversation. Please join in the Conversation!

IIM/IIT THOUGHTS...I am working on an Evaluation which will be shared with Emmaus, The Ohio District DP Kevin Wilson, Joel Morgan, CV Logan Schiewe, and Circuit Pastor's. It is my intention to stay at Emmaus until the next Pastor has accepted a Call and is on site. All intentions are subject to change guided by the Holy Spirit. JESUS is Permanent and Forever! We all "Know About" one another. Do we "Know" one another? JESUS' Knows Me/Us! Food for thought and discussion.

THIS AND THAT. I am available 24/7. While in Wauseon I am living at 415 Cole, Apt.7, the Apartment Complex behind American Legion. My weekly schedule will be announced and printed in the Sunday Bulletin. My schedule at home in Three Rivers MI may vary from week to week because of Doctor appointments and family activities. While in Wauseon, please join me for Coffee and Conversation at Red Rambler beginning about 7am. I will be at church by 9am. Blessings Always...Love You All...Pastor Bob

CONTACT INFORMATION
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PRESCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are still searching for a preschool teacher for the upcoming school year. Please share the following ad:

A Teacher/ Administrator for the 2024/2025 school year is being sought by Emmaus Christian Preschool, The successful applicant will satisfy all Ohio Department of Job and Family Services requirements for a preschool director. Also, the applicant should have a passion for the early childhood development and their families and a strong commitment to Christian faith development in the context of home, school, and congregation. Applicants need to submit a resume (including email address) and three references. These can mailed to Emmaus Lutheran Church at 841 N Shoop Ave, Wauseon Ohio 43567 or emailed to office@emmauslutheranchurch.com For any questions, please call the church office at 419-335-7446. Thank you

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

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.

EMMAUS VISION
CARING LIKE JESUS ,
WE WALK WITH
OUR NEIGHBORS,
SO THEY MAY
SEE THE SAVIOR.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES—June 13, 2024

Meeting began at 6:34 with a devotion by Pastor Bob. 10 Members in attendance.

May Minutes were reviewed and were approved with corrections to Financial report and Congregation Chair report.

Congregation Chair (Larry Neuenschwander):

- Larry noted that the Emmaus' share of work to be done to the drive way at the parsonage is complete. Any additional work is being paid for by the new home owners.
- Bev Schlosser reported that the Wings of Change family previously identified has declined an offer of a donation to help with expenses.

Pastor's Report:

- Membership numbers baptized 257 and communicants 205
- Larry Rabe family will be donating \$5000.00 in his memory
- Working on scheduling Nancy Zesing funeral
- Pastor will be off on June 30. Pastor Cripe will fill in.

Administrator's report (Tricia Zesing):

- Worship services complete through August.
- July newsletter will be printed on June 26.
- Summer office hours are Monday-Thursday 9am-1pm closed on Fridays.
- Office closed Thursday July 4 and 5.

Financial Officer's Report: submitted by Bev Schlosser

| | |
|----------------|---------|
| May offerings. | 7931.07 |
| May expenses | 8340.81 |
| Shortage. | -409.74 |

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| YTD Jan- May short | -6,798.17 |
| General Fund. | 17,037.15 |

Accounts at Edward Jones:

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Emmaus investments. | 93,777.11 |
| Parsonage proceeds. | 181,648.86 |

Education Team: (Tante Lovins):

- Classes are on hold for the summer. A meeting will be held over the summer to plan curriculum for each week.
- Still looking for volunteers to help.
- Would like to have a monthly sing along with the congregation and S.S. students. Pastor just let him know when and recommended checking with Ginni Neuenschwander and Karin McGilvery to set up music with them.

Elders Report (Harold Boysel):

- Lawrence Rabe funeral held on 6/5/24.
- It was decided to go forward with locking all doors during service except the east door. Signs will be printed. Pastor will make announcements to remind everyone.

Discipleship Team (Sue Boysel):

- Food pantry served 38 cars, 100 people
- Team will assist with the Suicide awareness motorcycle ride in August.

Trustee Team (Leo Rabe):

- Leo has received 2 quotes for the driveway. Both quotes are for grinding 1.5 inches off of existing pavement, paving 1.5 inch type 1 asphalt and striping. Quotes are as follows Morlock \$58,957 and Ohio Asphalt Paving \$63,395. Council discussed the 2 options. ***A motion was made and passed unanimously to present the Trustees recommendation to the congregation at a special voters meeting to be held on June 23 to answer any questions and hear feedback from the congregation.***

Preschool Team (submitted by Adriane Baldwin):

- Future Ideas – Jennifer suggested that in the future it would be great to separate the 5 day class from the 2 and 3 day class. This would make teaching the curriculum easier. Possible putting the 5 day class in the PM and the 2 and 3 day classes in the AM.
- Teaching position – still searching...Advertising on Indeed, Facebook, front church sign, NWSCC
- Website – Keeping the preschool website just as what is on the church website, Bev is checking into adding a Tuition button on the preschool portion for online payments
- Fundraisers – Little Caesars – Sept/Oct; Stollers – Feb/March; Spaghetti or Taco Bar – Aug/Sept; Spring Flowers – Feb/March; Poinsettias – Nov/Dec
- 2024-2025 Registrations – 2 for Tues/Thurs class 8 for Mon/Wed/Fri class 3 for 5 day class
- Playground Compliance – Brian Baldwin will be measuring the playhouse area that needs plexiglass to cover openings, will be ordered thru Ace Hardware
- Playground – Bev looking to purchase outdoor trashcan and waterproof chalk holder for playground
- State Compliance –(Jennifer is emailing Rebecca Coy from state to get written clarification on 7 child rule for in class or in building for second staff member) Ruling is in building, in classroom when we reach 13
- Preschool Shed – needs roof replaced, checking with Schuette's to see if available, and pricing
- Set New Expectations – we will be setting some new rules/expectations for our new teacher pertaining to Jesus time every day in classroom, no personal use of computer and email, prior approval on purchases, improve communication
- Acct. Balance - \$30,657.95

Sign Committee (Tante Lovins):

- Council requested the sign committee extend the time each individual message is displayed on the sign and shorten the messages so they are easier to read.

Investment Committee ():

No report

Unfinished Business:

None.

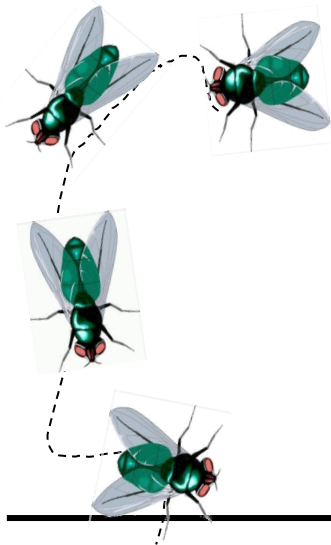
New Business:

None

7:35 meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting: June 13, 2024 @ 6:30pm

Tante Lovins, Recording Secretary



FLY ON THE WALL

Many thanks for all of those who donated food for Nancy Zesing's funeral, and for those who helped prepare it and for the cleanup. We couldn't do this without all of your help.

We received donations of fabric from the Tester family and that is so appreciated also.

Thanks to all the men who are mowing this year...it means so much for you to help with that! It doesn't go unnoticed!

Stewardship minute....

Becoming Rich

Through the working of the Holy Spirit, Christians understand that riches do not consist of money. In fact, riches have nothing to do with money. We can have very little money and be very rich or be very wealthy and be impoverished. True riches have to do with a right relationship with Jesus Who brings us happiness, satisfaction, joy, love, and peace. Material possessions do not constitute real riches.

Material things are transitory. *"When your eyes light on it, [wealth] is gone, for suddenly it sprouts wings, flying like an eagle toward heaven"* (Proverbs 23:5). What we possess materially is subject to loss in a variety of ways. Our wealth can be lost in the stock market or through rust, obsolescence, and thievery. No matter how much money we may have, we have no way of guaranteeing that it can be kept safe and secure. Money can be lost, stolen, or its purchasing power lost through inflation. Investments can decline in value and businesses can fail. Our property can be burned or robbed. All material things can be gone quickly. Even if our material things stay with us, we will eventually leave them, because, at the end, we can take nothing with us.

Material goods and earthly treasures are deceitful and uncertain. In Jesus explanation of the Parable of the Sower, He said, *"As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful"* (Matthew 13:22). In the Apostle Paul's letter to Timothy, he wrote, *"As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, Who richly provides us with everything to enjoy"* (1 Timothy 6:17).

So, if we want to be rich, it cannot be on the basis of material things. Things of this world are much too precarious a foundation on which to build a life. With God's help, we can turn away from material things and turn toward Christ. Jesus urges us to *"lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* (Matthew 6:20-21). As God's people, our riches come from storing up riches in heaven.

Loving God with all of our heart, soul, and strength and our neighbors as ourselves builds up treasures in heaven. As the Holy Spirit leads us to loosen our grip on things of this world, we can learn to be content with what we have rather than always wanting more worldly things.

Through faith, we are rich. As Christians, we receive the riches of eternal life with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



Prayers for our Emmaus Family:

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

Prayers for Relatives and Friends of Emmaus:

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*)
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
Chris Tuckerman

Darrel Garmenn
Irene Rabe

Annabelle Leupp
Gladys Rue

Gerri O'Brien
Barb Shannon



L.W.M.L. NEWS

Our L.W.M.L. unit will start our new year at the meeting on July 3 at 1:00 p.m. Our officers for the year of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 are: President: Karen Wilson; Vice President: Marilyn Dachenhaus; and Secretary-Treasurer: Mary Behnfeldt.

The Fall Retreat will be on Saturday, September 21. Our unit's responsibility with St. Paul, Flatrock are the decorations. The final planning meeting will be July 22.

Our unit has been sending cards to the sick and shut-ins. If any member would like to help us send cards, please contact Karen Wilson, Marilyn Dachenhaus or Mary Behnfeldt. In June Marilyn sent cards. In July JoAnn Eckler will send cards.

Karen Wilson attended the L.W.M.L. convention on June 21 and 22 in Canton, Ohio.

Please continue to save cancelled stamps for missions and put in the box in the Narthex. Continue to fill the Mite Boxes for Missions.

At our July 3 meeting JoAnn Eckler will serve as the hostess and Mary Behnfeldt will give the devotion.

Have a happy summer!

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Kenyon Lovins
- 7 Ericka Hilyard
- 8 Edith Beachy
- 9 John Netcher
- 9 Donald Hildreth
- 10 Sandra Eyer
- 12 Charlie Boysel
- 12 Mark Schlueter
- 13 Carolyn Uhlik
- 14 David Garmenn
- 19 Todd Kahrs
- 20 Amanda Beachy
- 21 Zachary Davis
- 25 JoAnn Echler
- 26 Mugsy Detter
- 27 Jackson Schlueter
- 28 Bev Schlosser
- 30 B. Neuenschwander
- 31 Todd Rice



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 15 Dean & Tracey Schuette
- 28 John & Justine Netcher

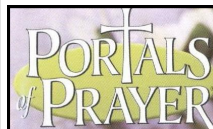
ALTAR FLOWERS



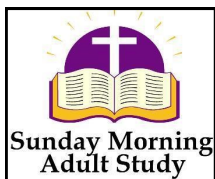
If you wish to provide the altar flowers to commemorate a special occasion or in someone's memory, please let the office know. The cost is \$30. Please make checks payable to Emmaus Lutheran Church and turn check into the office prior to the date.

FREE FOOD

Senior Commodity Box @ Fulton County Fairgrounds 4th Monday of each month from 10:30 am to Noon. **You need to be 60 years or older to receive free healthy food and vegetables.**

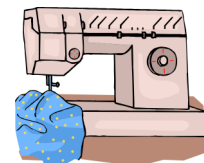


The April to June 2024 **Portals of Prayer** are available in the church hallway. Please pick up your copy today.



SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Sunday mornings at 8:30 am
Please join us!



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.



Thank you to all of our members who have volunteered to deliver meals on wheels this past month. If any of our members would like to deliver the Meals on Wheels from the hospital, please contact Mary Behnfeldt at 419-337-0134. The recipients of the Meals really appreciate the lunches that they receive.

