

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



MONTHLY MEETINGS

BE SEEN. BE CONNECTED. BE INFORMED.

Thursday, June 13, 2024

5:30 pm

Discipleship Team
Elders Team
Preschool Team
Trustees Team

6:30 pm

Emmaus Council



**EMMAUS
FOOD PANTRY**
Thursday, June 20
5:00-7:00 pm
Items needed:
Brown Paper Bags



SUMMER
OFFICE HOURS



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

Closed on Fridays



PASTOR BOB'S JOURNAL AND REFLECTIONS

FIRST CALLS...Messiah, Waldorf-MD and Messiah, Elkhart-IND. My first two Calls were disasters. My own immaturity, naivete, mistakes, and control issues were contributing factors. Another part of the picture was how these two parishes formed. Both were Mission Churches, breakoffs of a larger local LCMS church, sponsored by Districts of the LCMS. At the time, little attention was paid to internal parish dynamics. The idea of starting a new "Mission" was enough for Districts to open their checkbooks. The two Messiah's were led by lay leaders who had their own internal control issues, and who had a rebellious attitude towards authority in general, and clergy in particular. They were Protest Movements. Protest Movements die. Both Messiah's closed within a few years. Fortunately, LCMS has become more aware of internal parish dynamics, and has become more discerning about starting new Missions. Another factor is realizing that not all Ordained Clergy are fit for 21st Century Parish Ministry. Seminary education trained us to pastor churches of the early 1900's, a church that no longer exists.

CULVER YEARS...1987-2001...THE REST OF THE STORY...THE END...Gossip and Eights Commandment Issues plagued Trinity throughout my tenure. Twice I addressed the issue from the pulpit, resulting in temporary cease fires. After the third time, I let loose hell fire and brimstone on a Sunday Morning, resulting in threats of a "tar and feathering" if I returned the next Sunday. Through the intervention of a few supporters, a severance was negotiated. Late on the following Saturday evening I drove to Culver, packed my belongings, left the keys, picked up my check, shook the dust off my feet, allowed the door to shut behind me, and returned home. The Circuit Visitor negotiated a severance. There was no response from District. This began a "cooling off" period of about four months. I continued to work at the hospital. The Lord was preparing me to serve Immanuel-Richton Park II. From the frying pan into the fire.

CONGREGATION DYNAMICS...From personal experience, there are two types of types of people who tend to be disruptive and stifle meaningful growth in a congregation. One is the person who needs attention. The other is the person who needs to be in control. This description is not gender specific. Nor is it role specific. Lay people and Clergy are equally involved and guilty. Both characteristics can be in the same person. Generally, the person needing control works behind the scenes, manipulating a person or persons needing attention to do their bidding. Congregation Focus usually is on the person needing attention, leaving the person with control issues free to carry on the disruptive behavior behind the scenes. Trivial matters become sources of controversy. Molehills become mountains. The person with control issues generally has experienced some type of abuse in their formative years and has a deep resentment toward authority. I will share a concrete example next month.

MY JOURNAL REFLECTIONS are short versions of longer stories. Please feel free to ask me about "The Rest of the Story"!

LOOKING AHEAD...MOVING FORWARD...WHAT DOES THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE FOR EMMAUS? It is my sense that, guided by the Holy Spirit, that Emmaus is ready to persue a Vision for the future. For now, I am not asking for a restart of the Call Committee. Consider the following Question: What type of Pastor does JESUS want for EMMAUS? This points to a shift in perspective, from "What do we want?" to "What does JESUS desire? Also, there are alternatives to the traditional model for Pastoral Care. These include but are not limited to: Worker-Priest...Lay Deacon...Dual or Multi-Parish...Special Ministry Pastor (SMP). I have encouraged Emmaus Leaders to schedule discussion meetings during the Summer. These will not be decision making meetings. I will also make mention of this in messages and Sunday Bible Class.

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 Honest Answers...Speak the Truth in Love...It is OK to say: "I don't know".

IIM/IIT THOUGHTS...Learn Lessons from the Past. Don't Live in the Past. Keep Moving. Retired Fort Wayne Seminary President and LCMS Historian Larry Rast once commented: "The Good Old Day's Never Were". People live. People die. People Move On. Pastor's Live. Pastor's Die. Pastor's Move On. It is my intention to stay at Emmaus until the next Pastor has accepted a Call and is on site. Every Plan is subject to change guided by the Holy Spirit. JESUS is Permanent and Forever!

THIS AND THAT...I am available 24/7. While in Wauseon I am living at 415 Cole, Apt 7, in the apartment complex behind American Legion. I will announce my weekly schedule each Sunday and print it in the bulletin. My schedule may vary from week to week, returning home to Three Rivers MI, because of Doctor appointments and Family activities. During the Summer months please join me for Coffee and Conversation at Red Rambler beginning at 7a, on days when I am in Wauseon. I am looking forward to Summer Events. Blessings Always...Love You All...Pastor Bob

CONTACT INFORMATION
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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.

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



L.W.M.L. NEWS

Our unit met on May 1, at 1:00 p.m.
Pastor Bob started our meeting with a Bible Study from Acts 10.

We discussed the upcoming Fall Retreat at
St. Johns, Stryker, on Saturday, September 21.

Marilyn Dachenhaus will send cards to the sick and shut-ins in June and
JoAnn Echler will send cards in July. Mary Behnfeltdt sent cards in May.
If any members would like to send cards to the sick and shut-ins, please contact
Karen Wilson, Marilyn Dachenhaus, or Mary Behnfeltdt.

Please continue to save cancelled stamps and fill those Mite Boxes.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 3 at 1:00 p.m.
Mary Behnfeltdt will give the devotion and JoAnn Echler will be the hostess.

Have a good summer!

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES—May 9, 2024

Meeting began at 6:32 with a reading from Jesus Calling by Larry Neuenschwander. 4 members in attendance.

April Minutes were reviewed and were unanimously approved as written.

Congregation Chair (Larry Neuenschwander):

- Larry has received requests for locking doors to the church after the service starts due to safety concerns, recent violence at churches. Council discussed locking all doors except the east door. Discussion as to who will be in charge of locking the doors. A suggestion to have a few individuals in the church to form a “Safety Team” to handle locking the doors and any other safety issues that arise. Elders will discuss what to do, how to handle this concern. Once this new policy begins, the doors that will be locked will have a sign on them that says beginning at 10am the door will be locked, use front door. It will also be announced by Pastor for several weeks until people get used to it.
- Larry was asked that the council consider a donation to the Smitty family with money from sale of parsonage. There will be a benefit for the family in coming weeks. Council considered a match donation of up to a designated amount. Tabled discussion due to lack of details as to what the donation will be for. Council agreed to donate but will make a decision of how much when we learn details.
- Larry reported that a letter has been drawn up by the attorney that purchased the parsonage in regards to liability of the new home owners children playing on the preschool playground equipment. The church will not be held liable for any injuries/accidents.

Pastor’s Report:

- Membership numbers baptized 258 and communicants 206

Administrator’s report (Tricia Zesing):

- 1st quarter 2024 payroll taxes were filed on April 17.
- Worship services complete through July.
- Last day of preschool May 10. Beginning May 13 office hours will be Monday-Thursday, 8a-1p. Summer office hours beginning June 3 will be Monday-Thursday 9a-1p.
- June newsletter will be printed on May 23.

Financial Officer’s Report ():

- Emmaus investments balance 91,830.76
- It was noted that the Spectrum bill seems high. Is there a more affordable alternative for phone/internet services?

Education Team: (Tante Lovins):

- Consistently have 1 student in attendance for Sunday School.
- Karen Wilson, Adriane Baldwin, and Tante have been rotating teaching duties. Still looking for more volunteers.
- Adriane, Tante, Bev Schlosser, along with Pastor met with someone from the education team at Ohio District. She was able to answer a couple of questions about moving forward with the Sunday School class and any other educational classes. Teachers do not have to be 18 years old to teach, but it is strongly recommended that there be more than 1 in adult per class. Teachers do not have to be fingerprinted or watching a video about preventing abuse, but it is strongly encouraged. Tante will schedule a meeting during the summer to plan fall and winter curriculum and access any needs.

Elders Report (David Garmen):

- Lois Badenhop will be playing the fourth Sunday for the next 3 months.

Discipleship Team ():

- No report

Trustee Team (Leo Rabe):

- Working on getting more quotes for the driveway. Ohio Asphalt and Paving \$63,395 for grinding and paving, \$54,925 no grinding, just paving.

Preschool Team ():

- 2024-2025 Registrations – 1 for Tue/Thur class, 8 for M/W/F class, 3 for 5 day class
- Preschool teacher position open- looking at some potential candidates
- Acct. Balance \$34,963.53 ending balance as of April 30, 2024.

Sign Committee (Tante Lovins):

- No report

Investment Committee ():

- No report

Unfinished Business:

- None.

New Business:

- Consider forming a safety committee.

7:11 meeting adjourned with Benediction.

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

Tante Lovins, Recording Secretary

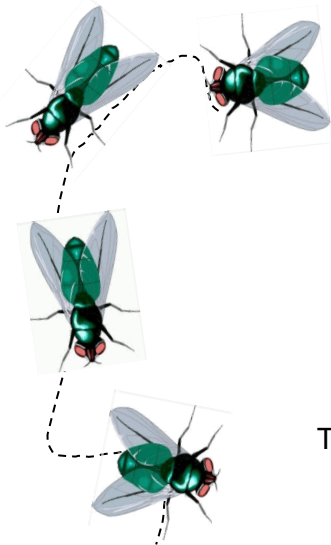
AS WE PROVIDE FOR THE NEEDS OF OTHERS, GOD’S LOVE IS SEEN IN AND THROUGH US.

“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers, you did it to Me” (Matthew 25:40).



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.





FLY ON THE WALL

Thank you to the "Special Helper" who faithfully packs all the bags for the Food Pantry distribution each month, we are so grateful!!

Thank you to all for the donations of food and bags appreciate so much your help.

Thank you to those who pass out bags and greet clients each month, so rewarding to listen and visit with them, as they are very thankful for everything they receive. Great job everyone!!!

Thank you to the kind and patient instructors for the line dancing lessons, and to all the participants who came out and had a good time.

Stewardship minute....

Our Best Intentions

"I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate" (Romans 7:15), so spoke the Apostle Paul. Somehow, he could not translate his best intentions into the actions he wished to do. This is the dilemma that has afflicted all Christians who sincerely want to do God's will.

Peter experienced it too. *"Lord, I am ready to go with You both to prison and to death"* (Luke 22:33), he declared, and he meant it. His best intentions were to stick with his Lord, no matter what. Yet Peter denied knowing his Lord, and, along with all the disciples, fled in fear the night of Jesus' betrayal (Mark 14:50). What he wanted to do, he failed to do. What he wanted not to do, that is what he did. We understand the dilemma well. Like Peter, we weep when faced with our failures. But we do not despair, for we have learned that, while on our own we fail, but with God we can do great things.

Christ went to His death on Calvary in order to buy us back from sin, death, and the devil. We are no longer captive to sin and immobilized by it. *"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him Who loved us"* (Romans 8:37). Jesus lived the perfect life for us; He shed His blood in payment for our sins; He suffered in our places; and He gives us grace that forgives our failures and gives us more opportunities to bear the fruit He called us and chose us to bear. Truly, with God we can do great things.



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

In Sympathy:

Family's of Lawrence Rabe

Shut-Ins

Margaret Detter
 Linda Prather
 Chris Tuckerman

Darrel Garmenn
 Irene Rabe
 Nancy Zesing

Annabelle Leupp
 Gladys Rue

Gerri O'Brien
 Barb Shannon

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*)
 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

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.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Kayleigh Alvarado
- 6 Parker Baldwin
- 7 Marian Hurst
- 18 Anna Norris
- 20 Karen Wilson
- 21 Jeri Seibel
- 22 Nancy Zesing



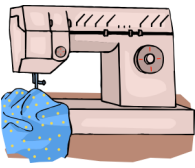
JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 3 Leo & Emilie Rabe
- 9 Jeff & Vickie Oberla
- 18 Harold & Sue Boysel



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.

FREE FOOD

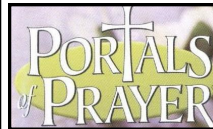
Senior Commodity Box @ Fulton County Fairgrounds 4th Monday of each month from 10:30 am to Noon. **You need to be 60 years or older to receive free healthy food and vegetables.**



Sunday Morning
Adult Study

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS

Sunday mornings
at 8:30 am
Please join us!



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

CHILDREN'S Sunday School

Children's Sunday School Class is during the church service for 3 y.o. and up. The kids will be released before the sermon and brought back before communion (if it's a communion Sunday) or by the end of the service. The class will last for 30 minutes.



Tuesday **June 18**
Please get your information to the church office for next month's newsletter.