



THE PILLARS

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Monthly Newsletter of Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Happy Summer! In these pages you will find the beginnings of what we have going on over the summer as a community of faith. In preparation for our time together as a congregation this summer, I just read the following statement.

Summer is both the very best and the most difficult time to invite people into sustained reflection. During a season when schedules tend to free up and the opportunity to breathe more deeply presents itself, there is often more room than at any other time of the year for this kind of engagement.

The engagement and reflection the author is speaking to is a reflection on and engagement of ministry in the world outside of the congregation, or in other words day to day life. Either I am doing something wrong, or I am right in my minor revolt to the statement, "when schedules tend to free up and the opportunity to breathe more deeply presents itself." Feel free to tell me which I am, but this summer is so busy we have been preparing for it in our house since January. I am trying to avoid the temptation of wandering into a bit of a rant over this statement being out of touch with reality. Perhaps it is just my experience, but I observe schedules not freeing up, but instead changing their order. Let's focus on that change of order.

I dropped my Little Man off at his first week of all summer day camp earlier. This was the mark of the beginning of summer to me, not the last day of school a couple weeks ago, but the first day of day camp marked the beginning. It is a beginning of change as well. In the fall we will have a new schedule as he will be in a new school. The schedule and rhythm of the last three years is gone! And, perhaps this change, while it makes me anxious, is a good thing. It will force me to focus on different things. It will force me to listen in new ways as well.

We have been talking and praying a ton over the last year about listening together as a congregation to God's call for us through the Holy Spirit. This has been the primary focus of your council since last fall; listening and discerning God's presence and call for Emmanuel. This is what the author was getting at in the above statement, listening and reflecting, and engaging ministry in new ways. This is why I resisted the temptation for a rant. I have not experienced schedules freeing up in the summer since I was a child, and in all honesty as I reflect back now as a father, I don't think schedules freed up, I think they just changed... constantly. This change though invites us to reflect on what was and what might come to be, and this is a good thing.

We have the opportunity during this season of Pentecost to focus on what was and what might come to be in our lives together as Emmanuel Lutheran. This time between Easter and Advent is also often referred to as Ordinary Time. Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar is about listening and paying attention to Jesus' ministry actions, or for us today perhaps paying attention to how the encounters that Jesus has relate to the encounters we have in our world and how these lead us to respond to God's call.

Pentecost this year runs from June 9, 2019, to the beginning of Advent on December 1, 2019. During this time we have a lot of important Sundays, 24 to be precise (if you're a kid or a parent you might make note that this means there are only 28 weeks until Christmas), some of these are special celebrations too; Holy Trinity Sunday, Reformation Sunday, All Saints Sunday, and Christ the King Sunday. These 24 Sundays we hear the Gospel of Luke during each worship opportunity. Specifically during the summer months, we spend the time hearing from chapters 8-13, stories of healing and teachings as Jesus begins to make his journey in the Gospel towards Jerusalem.

My suggestion to you as we go about this summer in a manner of reflection and engagement of how Jesus' encounters relate to our encounters in our time and place and to our response to God's call, is to read ahead and along with the summer Sundays' Gospel readings. I think there is enough time that you could start now and be ready for when we pick up Luke on June 23rd. I have listed the readings for each Sunday. My further encouragement is to read the sections in between each Sunday's Gospel as we go about each week. For instance from June 23rd to June 30th you would read Luke 8:26-9:62. My hope is that this will provide the opportunity to take advantage of any changes in rhythm you have during the summer, to further engage our scriptures, and to take the time to hear God speaking through the scriptures. My hypothesis is; spending time between worship, reading and reflecting on the gaps in between each week's Gospel will enrich our worship and lead us all together into a deeper relationship with our Lord, Jesus.

Peace, Pastor JJ

June 23: Luke 8:26-39

June 30: Luke 9: 51-62

July 7: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 14: Luke 10: 25-37

July 21: Luke 10:38-42

July 28: Luke 11: 1-13

August 4: Luke 12: 13-21

August 11: Luke 12: 32-40

August 18: Luke 12: 49-56

August 25: Luke 13:10-17

Vacation or Staycation remember to bring "God with you."

Emmanuel celebrates Worship with Holy Communion each Sunday at 9:15 am with Children's Church. [Except Sunday July 14 – it's the annual picnic. Watch for details in the bulletins.]

On the road? Check the Synod web site to find a congregation in the area where you will be vacationing. It is easy – go to www.swpasynod.org and click on the tab Find a Congregation. Enter the zipcode or city and state where you will be and you will find a listing of Lutheran congregations in that area.



G.I.F.T.: The gift that keeps on giving
G.I.F.T. has ended for the 2018/2019 season and will resume in September of 2019. Please plan to join us then following the worship service in the Adult Sunday School Room to share in this fellowship and learning opportunity.

Calling all 7th - 12th graders

Looking for something fun to do on a Sunday night? Then join us for Youth Ministry! Come eat, play, learn and make new friends. We meet the 4th Sunday of every month from 5-8 PM at Emmanuel.

*Pastor JJ, Kevin and Mary Jo Smith,
Edna Zimmerman, Kelli Kleeb*



Volunteers STILL Needed!

Thus far we have heard nothing but positive feedback from parents and kids alike! **We will continue with Children's Church through the entire year.** We are still in need of volunteers who will teach in teams of two! Training and guidance are included and free! If you are able to volunteer please talk to Pastor JJ or Pastor Chrissy! *Volunteers will need state child abuse clearances on file at the church. Pastor JJ is more than happy to assist you with this free process.*

Make a Joyful Noise!

The final choir practice for the season was held on May 29th at the home of Judy and John Erlen and included the annual ice cream social.



New members are always welcome! Please speak with Judy Erlen if you are interested in joining, want to experience fun and fellowship, and like to sing. The choir enhances worship by leading the congregation in song and offering an anthem in thanksgiving and praise to God.

Visiting our home bound and sick members in song: The date has been set for: Saturday, June 29 about 1:00 pm. We will leave from church. Contact Judy Erlen if you have any questions.

Bible Study at Sharpsburg Center

Bible Study will continue through the summer. But be sure to check the Sunday bulletins for days and times as there may be changes due to vacations and so on. The center is: **Body and Soul Health and Wellness Center - Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., 209 13th St., Sharpsburg, PA 15215; 412-781-1175 ext. 2107.** [If you plan to attend any session, please check first with Pastor JJ or the church office as Pastor's schedule may change.]



This is an open invitation to all confirmed girls and women of the church to join us on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

WELCA's designated outreach for 2019 is **Hearth**. Hearth is located in the old Zoar home on Mt. Royal Boulevard. It provides support for families who are experiencing homelessness due to domestic violence or trauma. Through their programming they help to provide affordable housing. On-site services include food and clothing, access to exercise equipment, technology access, and counseling services.

We invite you to help by bringing your donations to the church and place them in the provided bin. A partial list includes individual packages of cereal, oatmeal packets, soup on the go, mini bags of pretzels, canned chicken, pasta and pasta sauce, fruit snacks. You can find a complete list of items needed on the bulletin board at the side entrance. Thank you in advance for your donations.

Continue Saving Those Box Tops!



Emmanuel's WELCA continues to collect Box Tops for Education. Please keep clipping those box tops from the many types of products listed on the box in the narthex where they can be deposited.

REMEMBER to watch for the expiration date! Thank you for your continued donations!

Greeting Card Stand

The greeting card stand in the narthex is well stocked. These lovely cards can be purchased at three for \$1.00.



2019 Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are being sent directly to your home on a quarterly basis. Please call Linda at the church office if you have not received them. It is important that you immediately update the office if you change your address so that we can alert the envelope company of the new information before the next scheduled mailing. This will also save postal costs in having the envelopes returned to the office because of an insufficient address. Thank you.

(New) Deadline Reminder

The 5th of each month is the ABSOLUTE deadline to submit articles and information for the following months' *Pillars* and monthly calendar. Drop the information at the church office or email to the secretary. Thank you for your cooperation!

Our July Council meeting will be Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.
Our August Council meeting will be Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

OFFICE HOURS

Our secretary, Linda Farmerie, has these regular office hours: **Monday-9 to 3 pm; Tuesday-no office hours; Wednesday-9 to 4 pm; Thursday-no office hours; Friday-10-5 pm**

Linda is also available by email (secretary.elcetna@gmail.com), or leave a voice mail on the phone.

Christ in Our Home

The third quarterly edition for 2019 of the *Christ in Our Home* prayer booklet has arrived. Please pick up a copy in the narthex or in the booklet rack in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

Community News & Events

VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS NEEDED FOR BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY

Do you have a few hours each week to help the food pantry pick up food from various stores or stock produce?

The following days and times are available:

- * Three (3) Monday mornings every month to pick up food at Whole Foods in Wexford – large car/van helpful
- * Every Tuesday morning to pick up donations at St. Catherine of Sweden Church and Sheetz Store
- * Three (3) Wednesday mornings from 8-10 am for stocking produce

Please call Vickey at 412.782.5742 or 412.781.7831 and leave a message

Addiction Recovery Ministry

ALL ARE WELCOME –Father Michael Decewicz is Clergy Director of the Addiction Recovery Ministry. The recovery ministry, based at St. Juan Diego Parish's John Paul I Center, 201 Ninth St. in Sharpsburg, will consist of Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Al-Anon and Nar-Anon meetings on a

regular basis. Also, there will be monthly opportunities for education and spiritual enrichment, and one-on-one ministry to addicts and alcoholics.

To learn more, please visit our website, Addiction Recovery Ministry Pittsburgh (www.addictionrecoveryministrypittsburgh.org), as well as our Facebook page, Addiction Recovery Ministry Pittsburgh.

Programs & Events at Shaler North Hills Library

See the June newsletter posted on the bulletin board from SNHL for some very interesting programs during the summer months. www.shalerlibrary.org

Programs & Events this Summer in Etna Borough

Look for flyers and schedules (posted on the bulletin board) from Etna Borough for some very interesting programs available this summer in the Borough. www.etnaborough.org

Body & Soul Health and Wellness Center will be offering family caregivers of adults with chronic conditions the ***Powerful Tools for Caregivers*** training series at our center in Sharpsburg, 209 13th Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15215; commencing on June 21, 2019; 12:30-2:30 pm. ***[Please see the flyer on the bulletin board for full details.]*** **There is no charge for this training.**

Powerful Tools for Caregivers is a six-week self-care education program for family caregivers to improve: self-care behaviors, management of emotions, self-efficacy, and use of community resources. Caregivers meet for 2 hours per week and are encouraged to attend all six sessions, as each class builds upon the last. Here is a list of the topics covered in the training:

- Session 1 Taking Care of You
- Session 2 Identifying and Reducing Personal Stress
- Session 3 Communicating Feelings, Needs, and Concerns
- Session 4 Communicating in Challenging Situations
- Session 5 Learning from Our Emotions
- Session 6 Mastering Caregiving Decisions

As a bonus, participants receive a companion book and handouts with additional information on:

- ✓ Hiring in-home help
- ✓ Helping memory-impaired elders
- ✓ Making legal and financial decisions
- ✓ Making decisions about care facility placement
- ✓ Understanding depression
- ✓ Making decisions about driving

**Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry – SUMMER
TUTORING PROGRAM – K-12TH GRADE
– JUNE 17 – AUGUST 2**

For more details, see flyer on bulletin board

IMPORTANT!!

Committee Chairpersons & Church Events Planners

As committee meetings are scheduled and church events planned for the summer and fall months, please be sure to notify the church secretary so that the office calendar can be marked, and the monthly calendar and Pillars will contain correct news and information. This information is also made available to the weekly bulletins. Your continued cooperation will be most appreciated.

Please Note: We sometimes receive notices from outside sources of special events, job openings and career opportunities, etc. These notices or flyers are posted on the bulletin board in the side hall outside the sanctuary as often there is not enough room to print them in the Sunday bulletins. Please look over the bulletin board from time to time; you may find something of interest to you!

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Dawn Devinney	06/02
Shane Tobac	06/02
Jayden Santoro	06/04
Nicole Umbaugh	06/05
Amy Fugh	06/07
Zoe Dittman	06/08
David Zilch	06/09
Donna Fischetti	06/10
Julia Bernesser	06/11
Donna French	06/11
Sara Zacchero	06/11
Ella Barr	06/13
Kelli Kleeb	06/13
Joseph Sesorko	06/15
Jessica Fischetti	06/17
Earl Fugh	06/17
Barbara Jones	06/17
Megan Kobert	06/18
Frank Hartnett	06/21
Brandon Pfab	06/21
Laura DiVecchio	06/22
Abrielle DiVecchio	06/22
Brianna Marie Grzybowski	06/22
Dennis Carr	06/23
Peyton Nelson	06/23
Rafelin O'Dell	06/23

Mark Snead	06/24
Suzanne Spelic	06/26
Sebastian Pratt	06/27
Isaac Auge	06/30
Kimberly Cathers	06/30
Victor Zacchero	06/30

(We apologize if your birthdate is missing or not correct. We can only go by the information we have in our membership rolls, but would be very happy to update that information if you call the office or send an email to the secretary.)

JULY BIRTHDAYS



DJ Popek	07/01
Liam Grady	07/02
Kacy Auge	07/03
John Koedel	07/03
Timothy Degenhardt	07/05
Brenda Kobert	07/05
Mark Myros	07/05
Melissa Bodack	07/06
Paulette McCarthy	07/06
Chelsea Leist	07/09
Shirley Simon	07/09
Kendall Yost	07/11
Sharon Schweiger	07/13
Nolan Barr	07/14
Courtney Tuite	07/14
Ethan Hunkele	07/16
Justin McDonough	07/17
Jayda Batykefer	07/20
Anthony DiVecchio	07/22
Ella Plietz	07/23
Carie Bernesser	07/24
Marah Fugh	07/24
Brynnley Auge	07/27
Patricia Carr	07/27
Amy Murphy	07/27
Benjamin Scariot	07/29

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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



Melissa McKown	08/01
Mareah Garver	08/03
Lynn Gouveia-Kania	08/03
Brett Burkhart	08/04
Mark Miller	08/04
David Pratt	08/04
Karen Zacchero	08/04
Jason Henne	08/05
Leo Henne	08/05

Michael Ferris	08/06
Matthew Palka	08/07
Nicole Schmalstieg	08/09
Jordan Rothermund	08/10
Greg Bodack	08/11
Vincent Holinbaugh	08/11
Reagan Staub	08/12
Jason Klaus	08/15
Cindy Umbaugh	08/15
Eli Bauers	08/16
Diane Blythe	08/16
Marianne Haramic	08/16
Carissa O'Dell	08/16
Stephanie Matesic	08/17
Kathy Suhadolnik	08/17
Julia Beltran	08/18
Glen Grady	08/18
Steven Krenn	08/18
Rev. Christina Hough	08/20
Thomas Huffman, Jr.	08/20
Patricia Schmitt	08/20
Toni Pratt	08/21
Carol Whiteside	08/21
Christopher Carr	08/22
Jessica Bodack	08/23
Richard Jones	08/23
Vicki Schmitt	08/23
Pat Stumpf	08/23
Matthew McKown	08/25
Terri Auge	08/26
Leland Wassell	08/27
Carol Niekum	08/28
Lucciano Armenti	08/29
Dorothy Fischetti	08/29

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UPCOMING Schedules for Congregational Committee Meetings

Group 1: Stewardship & Finance
Property
Social Ministry

February 26; April 23; June 25; August 27; October 22; December 24 (to be revised)

Group 2: Music & Worship/Christian Education
Evangelism (also meeting April 23)

February 26; March 26; May 28; July 23; September 24; November 26



Mark Your Calendars

July 13 – Men’s Shelter Breakfast (see Jim & Kathy Suhadolnik if you have questions)

July 14 – Annual Picnic following Worship at Woodland Park in O’Hara Township. See upcoming Sunday bulletins for more details. Praise our Creator in His magnificent creation – enjoy great food, joyful fellowship, games and relaxation.

July 18 – Dartball Open House – 7 to 9 pm. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors.

July 28 – Emmanuel’s History Day – 10:30 to Noon – Details forthcoming in weekly bulletins

Youth Ministry – 5:00 to 8:00 pm

July 29 – August 2 – second annual Etna Christian Day camp for students in grades K-6 – 9:30-4 pm (more details in this newsletter and in Sunday bulletins).

Friday, August 2 – a free family dinner to end the week.



Mark Your Calendars

August 3 – Etna’s annual Community Day – Noon – at the playground

August 4 to 10 – Pastors JJ, Tara, and Chris to attend the triennial ELCA Church-Wide Assembly in Milwaukee

August 13 – Pastor JJ to conduct special training with Council

August 25 – 10:45 am – Training for Worship assistants

Youth Ministry – 5:00 to 8:00 pm

August 26 – 6 to 8:00 pm – Discernment Retreat

LOOKING AHEAD

*You’ve been asking about it and the time has come. Emmanuel will be producing a new member directory in October. **Mark your calendar for October 2 and 3, 2 to 9 pm. Volunteers will be needed.***

HELP!



Etna Christian Day Camp
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
July 29 – August 2, 2019
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

A faith-based program of Bible stories, science, technology, arts, engineering, and math for children in grades K through 6 (fall of 2019)

Overview

The inaugural day camp sponsored by Emmanuel was held last July. This program was intended to engage and serve children from our congregation and the communities surrounding Etna. Like a traditional Vacation Bible School program, our day camp sought to share Jesus' unconditional love for us through the study of a daily Bible verse and applying it to daily life. For some of the children, this may have been the first time they were exposed to the Bible. In an effort to provide additional exposure to technology beyond the normal school year, the children participated in hands-on activities related to STEM

Science
Technology
Engineering
Mathematics

and learned how God blesses us through these gifts.

This year's day camp will be better than last year's! The presentation of the Bible will be more like the successful Children's Church that has become a part of our worship. **STEM** has been expanded to **STEAM**, incorporating the **Arts** into our camp. These will include arts and crafts, performing arts, and martial arts. Lastly, the camp will become a full-day camp in order to accommodate the expanded program. We will need a larger camp staff than last year. Our first day camp effort started with one child and three adults on the Friday before camp week. Three days later, He delivered 24 more children to us, along with a full complement of amazing volunteers. God is faithful! This year we expect more!

Here's how you can help . . .

No matter what skills or talents you have or how much time you can contribute, we have a need for anyone age 14 and up. We will help obtain necessary clearances:

- Class leaders and teachers
- Activity facilitators
- Artists and musicians
- Carpentry, woodworking, and models hobbyists
- Kitchen and serving help
- Check-in / Check-out desk
- Openers / Closers
- Video and computer operator
- Other talents and passions

Materials contributions currently being sought:

- Table salt
- Baking flour
- Scotch tape, masking tape, duct tape
- Tempera paints, Plaster of Paris

- 3# Plastic or steel coffee cans with lids
- Large appliance cardboard boxes
- Used men's or lady's shirts to be used as paint smocks
- Fishing sinkers, large only (they will be returned)
- Snacks and monetary support
- **Watch your bulletin for updated list!**

Finally,

Please let us know if your children, grandchildren, their friends, or neighbors plan to attend. It will be very helpful to know how much interest is in our congregation.

For more information:

Linda Kleeb – 412-657-2653

Tom Kleeb - 412-657-2652



Etna Christian Day Camp
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
July 29 – August 2, 2019

Yes, I can help!

Name: _____

Please call me at: _____

I am available to volunteer all week , or only on

Mon am Tue am Wed am Thu am Fri am

Mon pm Tue pm Wed pm Thu pm Fri pm

I can help in these areas: _____

I cannot help on site, but will send in individual bags of snacks.

I am willing to make a monetary donation.

Please place this completed form in the box in the narthex.