

# May 2025 Newsletter

There are so many things that happen in the month of May. We have Mother's Day, the end of another school year, Memorial Day, etc. But this May is hitting me a little differently. We have Graduation Day. This day happens every year too but this year, our youngest will be graduating high school. I find myself happy, tearful, excited, scared, hopeful, etc.... all rolled up in a ball! Questioning, what life skills/lessons do I need to cover quickly before she heads off to college? It will be an end to one era and a beginning to another.

Being a mother has been one of the greatest blessings. I was given not one, but two amazing miracles to raise. I know that being their mother isn't ending, but it has me wondering what happens next? How does my role change? Maybe it's the word "change" that I don't want to deal with. I think it might be time to read (again) a book that was given to me many years ago, "Who moved my Cheese?" by Spencer Johnson. This is a very simple to read book, that through a story about mice and cheese, reminds us that change is inevitable and embracing change is crucial to growth.

So, as I work to figure out what's next for me, maybe you are looking for something more as well. How can we be participants in God's plan? Looking to the Bible and the church is a good place to start. Ask someone how you can help and be a part of the plan.

We continue to have those named on our prayer list and in our nursing homes. Please let us know of any changes or additions. We know that prayer works!! Send cards or stop in a see someone you know that could use a moment of cheer.

Have you seen the new floors yet?? We are so thankful for the support of our congregation! It has taken a lot of patience to get to this point, but we are just about completed. We have some alterations being made to a few of the pews and need to get them all secured down. But know that we still have many items on our list that we would like to do to make Emmanuel even better. Do you have anything for us? Our next council meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. Please let us know of any questions or concerns that you may have. We are here to serve.

Peace and Blessings, Sandi <u>sraderma@hotmail.com</u> 701-269-0706 A few weeks ago, we celebrated Easter Sunday complete with trumpet fanfare, Easter lilies, Easter eggs, and a church full of people gathered to praise God and celebrate the risen Christ. Jesus died for our sins and rose again. Death was defeated and hope restored. It changed the world! As Easter people, our lives are now bound up entirely in the hope that we now have in the risen Christ. And yet, for so many of us, this life-changing and life-giving truth is often drowned out by the world around us – it's all too easy to get distracted in our Monday-to-Saturday lives and forget to live out our identity as Easter people.

So how do we change this narrative? How do we live out our call as Easter people *every* day when it feels like we live in a 'Good Friday world'...a world where greed, jealousy, and love of money or power surround our everyday lives. Perhaps we need the reminder that it was not into an untroubled world that God sent his Son. And it is not an untroubled world we find ourselves in now. But just as the cross is not the end of the gospel story, so the difficulties people may face in their everyday lives are not the end of their story. Because we are Easter people! We know the joy of Easter. We have the hope of the empty tomb, and we believe in a God who is able to do immeasurably more than we can know or believe possible. For those going through tough times in their lives, whether that's trying to make ends meet, facing a terminal diagnosis, or simply struggling with the monotony of daily life, the resurrection tells us that God always has the final word. God can be trusted and hope in him is never misplaced. By the power of the Holy Spirit, those who believe in Christ go into each one of those situations as people who have received the benefits of Christ's resurrection. As Easter people, we can live without fear. The resurrection teaches us that God can overcome anything. So many times, throughout scripture, we read the words, "Be not afraid!" These words were spoken by Christ to the disciples huddled together after the resurrection and are spoken to our hearts today, helping us cope with the fears of our lives, whatever those fears might be. Our faith allows us to trust that God can overcome our most serious problems. As Easter people, we live with joy...this deep-down gladness that cannot be taken away even in the midst of sorrow. Our faith enables us to hold on to an enduring sense of joy even during those times of sadness we experience from the loss of a loved one, our failures, and our setbacks.

As Easter people, we live with a sense of newness. The resurrection of Jesus makes "all things new." The Easter spirit is a spirit of renewal that enables us to show up with a positive attitude, to renew relationships that have been taken for granted, and to express appreciation and affection to those closest to us. It means we can see the world through new eyes—God's eyes. Easter is a season that lasts 50 days, but we are Easter people. We can claim the resurrection power of Jesus *every* day; embracing joy, living without fear, and helping others see God at work in the world in which we live. We are Easter people...let's live our lives believing it!

Shar Gumke, Synod Authorized Minister

# May Calendar of Events for our Church & Community

- May 1<sup>st</sup>- Elementary Music Concert- 6:30pm at school
- May 4<sup>th</sup>- Worship service with communion 10:30am, Sunday School 9:45am, Youth group Meeting 2pm
- May 10<sup>th</sup>- Mother's Day Tea at Emmanuel Lutheran by Gackle Care Center
- May 11<sup>th</sup>- Worship service 10:30am with Noisy Offering, Sunday School 9:45am
- May 14<sup>th</sup>- Church Council 8pm
- May 15<sup>th</sup>- Last day of school!!
- May 18<sup>th</sup>- Worship service with communion 10:30am, Graduation at School 2pm
- May 25<sup>th</sup>- Worship service 10:30am
- May 27-30<sup>th</sup>- Vacation Bible School
- June 7 & 8- Synod Assembly in Fargo

We want to continue to improve our monthly newsletter. Do you have something to add? Please let Haleigh know. Send her your information to her via email: <u>haleighjlewis@gmail.com</u>

## Those in need of continued Prayer:

Ave Maria: Nedina Denning Gackle Care Center: Helen Elhard, Wilbert Denning, Wilbert Gutschmidt Wishek Living Center: Violet Diede <u>New Salem</u>: Karen Miller Also in need of prayer: Dawn Veil-Stein, JD Dahl, Haleigh Hermanson, Joel Zenker, Dwight Wiest, Darrel Dockter, Alan Kleingartner, David Brendal Family of Darrel Buchholz, David Kienzle, Patricia Miller, Alvin Mertz

# May Worship Support

Ushers	Alan & Peg Kleingartner, Danny & Nathan Denning
Greeters	Alan & Peg Kleingartner
Altar Guild	Peg Kleingartner
Steward/Acolyte	Denise Wittmier

# June Worship Support

Ushers	Grant & Summitt Baker and Family		
Greeters	Jay Posselt		
Altar Guild	Corne & Liezl Ferreira		
Steward/Acolyte	Lisa Zenker		

# WORSHIP SUPPORT LIST FOR 2025

As always the list will remain the same from year to year unless there's a request to change it. If you need a sub please refer to the list posted in the sacristy or contact stewards Lisa Zenker or Denise Wittmier.

Lisa- 701-368-9291 or <u>lisamzenker@gmail.com</u> Denise- 701-269-1475 or <u>denwitt@daktel.com</u>

# Visitations and Personal Communion

We are committed to looking into new options and the best ways to serve our congregation. Are you not able to make it to communion and wish to receive? We want you to know that we can serve you communion anytime. Would you like a personal visit? Let us know and we will schedule a time to get together. Know of anyone that hasn't been able to come to church that could use a visit? Let us know and we will give them a call and check in. We are still looking for people that would like to help with visits too. All you need is the ability to talk, we can help with the rest.

# Offering Envelopes:

If anyone does not have or is in need of offering envelopes, please let Barb Schmidt know. She will get them to you!! Thanks.



Our synod website has so much information to share with us about events happening in our area, training courses that we can attend or participate over Zoom, and so many more resources. They also have a newsletter that you can subscribe to through email. Please take a look!

# www.eandsynod.org

# New Members

Are you interested in becoming a member of our church and we haven't asked you yet, please let a pastoral leader know or any council member. We are looking to plan a new member Sunday in the near future.

# Free Items

We have an area in the corner of our church entryway with items free for anyone to enjoy. Many Thrivent t-shirts of all different sizes and colors, Christmas ornaments and coffee cups.

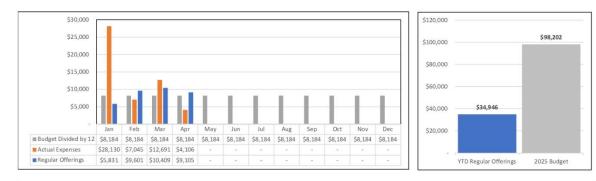
# Emmanuel Lutheran Church

**Financial Report** 

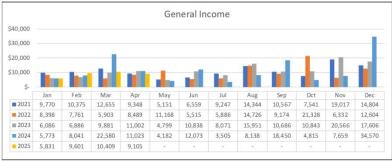
As of 04/23/2025

#### 2025 Year to Date

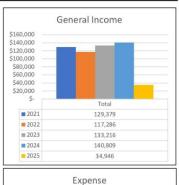
Item	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Regular Offerings	\$5,831	\$9,601	\$10,409	\$9,105				-					\$34,946
Actual Expenses	\$28,130	\$7,045	\$12,691	\$4,106	-	-		-					\$51,971
Balance	(\$22,299)	\$2,556	(\$2,282)	\$4,999	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(\$17,025)



#### Year over Year









If you have any questions or feedback, please contact Marella Sebring. marellasebring@msn.com 763-228-0599



# Thank you to those who have been using the Cart! Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

"Do your part, use the cart"

This is the slogan for our new clean up cart at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Sometimes we make messes and don't know where or what to use to clean it up. Shoes have some mud, kids left some crumbs, snow turned to a puddle, whatever it might be, we have made it easier for you to clean up. The tools and products you need are on the cart. It is currently located in the back of the sanctuary. Will post if relocated.





# Sunday School Schedule 2024-2025

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September 8	Rally Sunday
October 20	No Sunday School
November 10	No Sunday School
December 1	No Sunday School
December 15	Christmas Program
February 23	No Sunday School
February 23	No Sunday School
March 23	No Sunday School
April 20	No Sunday School
May 11	Last day of Sunday School

## Church Records We Need Everyone Please Fill Out! Have you filled out and submitted your information yet? Bonnie has been working very hard to collect information. She still has some more work to do.

It has been on our "To Do List" for quite some time to review our Church records and make updates and corrections. Bonnie has begun the process and needs our help. We specifically need all information updated from 2014 to present. Any Marriages, Births, Baptisms, Confirmations, and Deaths we need to know so that we can make sure that it has been properly documented. Any transfers into our church or out of our church would be helpful too. Please take a look at the following form, fill out, and return to Bonnie in person, her mailbox by office, or by emailing her at <a href="mailto:sports@daktel.com">sports@daktel.com</a>. We very much appreciate your help!

We are updating our	Church records. Lots of information	is missing.
Please fill out a shee	t for each family member with the fol	lowing information to assist with the records
Full Name:		
Address:		
Phone #: Home	Cell:	
Birth:		
Date:	Where:	_
Father's Name		
Mother's Maiden Na		
Brothers:		
Sisters:		Baptism:
-		
	Where:	
Pastor:		
Sponsors:		
Confirmation:		
Date:	Where:	
Pastor:		
Marriage:		
Date:	Where:	To Whom:
	Pastor:	

### \*\*\*Emmanuel Lutheran Church\*\*\*

## **Duties of the Ushers**

(reviewed on 3/2022)

- 1. Arrive at church 30 minutes prior to service.
- 2. Turn Sanctuary lights on and off before and after service.
- 3. Raise and lower shades on windows before and after service.
- 4. Put up hymn numbers (numbers are in room to left of altar in cupboard).
- 5. Turn on the Cross at altar (switch is labeled in room to the right of altar).
- 6. Turn lamps on for the Lectern and Pulpit. Turn off after service.
- 7. Fill ceramic pitcher with water and place on baptismal font along with silver bowl that goes in the baptismal font (pitcher and bowl are located in room to the left of altar on the counter by sink).
- 8. Hand out bulletins, newsletters, etc.
- 9. Ring church bell at least 3 times just before beginning of the service.
- 10. Count the number of people attending the service (easily done from the balcony sometime after service has begun) (number in attendance is to be written in the book which is in the fellowship hall).
- 11. Receive offering plates, gathering offering, and bring offering forward when pastor signals.
- 12. Usher people forward for Holy Communion (one usher stands towards the front to allow worshipers to advance to front).
- 13. Usher people out when church service has concluded.

# 2025 Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Members

President:	Sandra Rivinius	2nd term/1 <sup>st</sup> year 2-year term ~ Jan 2025– Jan 2027		
Secretary:	Tina Nitschke	1 <sup>st</sup> term/2 <sup>nd</sup> year 2-year term ~ Jan 2024 — Jan 2026		
Treasurer:	Marella Sebring	2nd term/2 <sup>nd</sup> year 2 <sup>-year</sup> term ~ Jan 2024 – Jan 2026		
Financial Secretary:	Bonnie Denning	1 <sup>st</sup> term/1 <sup>st</sup> year 2-year term ~ Jan 2025 – Jan 2027		
*Steward:	Lisa Zenker	2 <sup>nd</sup> term/2 <sup>nd</sup> year 2-year term ~ Jan 2024 – Jan 2026		
Steward:	Denise Wittmier	1 <sup>st</sup> term/1 <sup>st</sup> year 2-year term ~ Jan 2025 – Jan 2027		
*Trustee	Steve Moos	1 <sup>st</sup> term/1 <sup>st</sup> year 2-year term ~ Jan 2025 – Jan 2027		
*Trustee	Taylor Lund	2 <sup>nd</sup> term/1 <sup>st</sup> year 2-year term ~ Jan 2024 – Jan 2026		
	*Indicates Head Steward/ Head Trustee (member closest to finishing current term)			

# 2025 EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office 701-485-3368 SAM-Shar Gumke 701-320-1920 SAM- Joel Zenker 701-997-9047

## **Council Members:**

Sandra Rivinius, President sraderma@hotmail.com	701-269-0706 (cell)					
Marella Sebring, Council Treasurer marellasebring@msn.com	701-485-3543 (home) 763-228-0599 (cell)					
Tina Nitschke, Council Secretary	701- 830-1957 (cell)					
Bonnie Denning, Financial Secretary <u>sports@daktel.com</u>	701-485-3798 (home) 701-320-5864 (cell)					
Lisa Zenker, Steward lisamzenker@gmail.com	701-368-9291 (cell)					
Denise Wittmier, Steward denwitt@daktel.com	701-269-1485 (cell)					
Steve Moos, Trustee Smoos59@msn.com	701-320-3597 (cell)					
Taylor Lund, Trustee bubbalund@gmail.com	701-307-0056 (cell)					
Other Contacts:						
Haleigh Zenker, Church Office Secret haleighjlewis@gmail.com	tary 952-270-1747 (cell)					
Bonnie Denning, Organist Church Work Groups	701-485-3798 (home)					
sports@daktel.com	701-320-5864 (cell)					
Izabel Rivinius, Custodian						