



EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WE WELCOME! WE WORSHIP! WE WITNESS!

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

The kitchen table at my grandparents farm has a special place in my heart.

We had many meals there as family. Not just with my grandparents. Not just with my parents and siblings. But you never knew who you might meet at given day at the table. My uncle may have stopped by to help work on a tractor. It could have been a day that neighbors were over to help put up hay in the field, and my grandmother was making them a pile of ham sandwiches. It didn't matter who you might meet at the table. There was always enough food.

There was always enough room.

The table is one of those places Jesus often meets us in the Scriptures. Whether it is in the parables or the Upper Room, we are welcomed in the abundance of God's grace. There is always enough. Jesus has a place for us at the table.

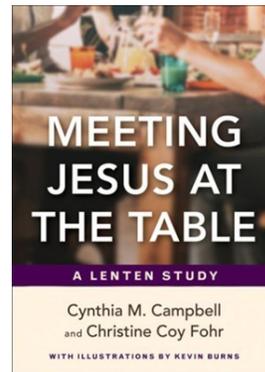
We will further listen for this message during our Lenten series, "Meeting Jesus at the Table." Our scriptures each week will include a table story and Jesus breaking bread with people. A Lenten Study will be offered to accompany our series Tuesdays on Zoom at 7 p.m., Wednesday afternoons at St.

James at 2 p.m. and Wednesday evenings at Emmanuel following the meal. I hope you will join us as we Meet Jesus at the table during this Lenten Season!

Blessings,
Pastor Ben

OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:45 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship

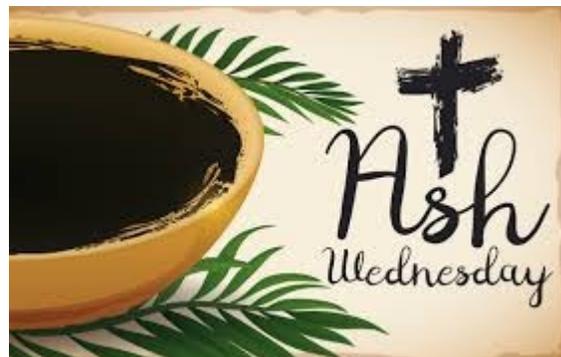


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ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 14TH- WORSHIP AT 7 P.M.

Our journey through Lent will begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Emmanuel will host our neighbors from St. James for Ash Wednesday worship at 7 p.m. following our Wednesday Night Meal.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

February 11th is not just the day of the big game. Join us at Emmanuel Church for the Souper Bowl of Caring! During worship the youth group will take a noisy can collection. Your loose change makes this offering fun! A

tailgate meal will follow worship with a freewill offering. Proceeds from both events will be put towards our Emmanuel Corner Pantry. Thank you for your generous gifts and to our Youth for their ministry!



FEBRUARY MISSION PROJECT— PERSONAL DIGNITY KITS

One of the ways we the church can be present when disaster strikes is to offer someone the ability to maintain their health. For a mission project this February, we will collect and assemble “Dignity Kits” that will provide those basic needs. Sherrie Schreiner from St. James is going to Midwest Mission Distribution the first week in March and will deliver our collection! We will

collect and assemble our kits after worship on Sunday, February 25th. Details on the kits are in the back of the sanctuary and in the newsletter. We Witness!



- 1 hand towel - no kitchen towels
- 1 washcloth - no dishcloths
- 1 toothbrush (no multipacks)
- 1 bar soap - 3-4 oz.
- 1 shampoo -12-19 oz.
- 1 deodorant - 2-3 oz. (stick, roll-on, or pump)
- 1 lotion - 8-10 oz.
- 1 1-gallon resealable plastic bag
- \$2 donation for toothpaste and carrying bag

VIRTUAL SOCIAL ACTION DAY IS APRIL 13TH

The United Women of Faith are excited to present two outstanding speakers for this year’s Virtual Social Action Day on April 13th. Honorable/ Reverend Everett Mitchell - Dane Co Circuit Court Judge and Senior Pastor of Christ the Solid Rock Baptist Church and Peggy West-Schroder will be welcomed for this year’s theme: “Ending Mass Incarceration and Improving Treatment of Incarceration Impacted Women.”

Registration Opens March 1st. Please register by April 9, 2024

Questions? Contact Kathy Hartke at kdhartke@gmail.com

Social Action Day



GUEST SPEAKERS

Honorable/Reverend Everett Mitchell & Peggy West-Schroder



STEWARDSHIP MOMENT FROM WISCONSIN UNITED METHODIST FOUNDATION

“Practice, Practice, Practice”

February 2024

Believe it or not, even though Christmas feels like it is just behind us, Lent is about to begin (Ash Wednesday is February 14 this year). In the church, Lent is a period of 40 days (not including Easter) during which we re-examine our lives and our faith practices as we prepare for the coming of Easter. The practice of re-examination and recommitment dates to the very beginning of the church as new members prepared to be baptized on Easter Sunday. We may ask ourselves, however, why is the observation of Lent important to us today? ”

The reality of the situation is, if we don't take the time to re-examine what's important to us and practice the basics of faith, we run the risk of forgetting who we are, where we've come from, and what God has done in our lives. Every professional sports team gathers before the season begins and focuses on many of the things the players have done since they were small children. In baseball, they field ground balls (and coincidentally, Spring Training also begins on February 14 for many teams this year). In football, they go over tackling and blocking. In basketball they dribble and pass. These are adults who are the best players in the world, and yet their coaches start them off at the very beginning every year. Only the teams who've mastered the basics have a chance of contending for a championship.

As Lent approaches let's be encouraged to get back to the basics of faith. Come to worship regularly. Take time to become a part of a study group to grow in your faith together. Pray daily. Give generously both your time and your money. The basics aren't just for the young or inexperienced in faith. They are for everyone — from the youngest child to the champions of faith who've been an inspiration to us.

Let's take time to refocus on the basics as we begin our journey to the cross with Jesus.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation





A great crew prepares the meal for Dinner Church on Wednesday, January 31st! Elaine Hicks, Cathy Abel, Vicki Justman, Marilyn Zylstra, and Denise Linstedt.

Sunday School Students made "Gratitude Trees" on Sunday, January 28th.



Ryan Korb directs the Emmanuel Choir on January 21st.

ST. JAMES USED BOOK AND PIE SALE FEBRUARY 10TH

Our neighbors at St. James UMC are holding Used Book and Pie Sale on Saturday February 10th from 9am-2pm. Find a used book, puzzle or DVD to help pass the time during these winter days! Fresh pie available whole or by the slice, as well as homemade soups to go!

Used Book Sale
 Also Fresh Pies, and Homemade Soups
 February 10, 2024
 9am - 2pm

A large variety of hard cover & paperback books available.
 Paperbacks .50 each or 5 for \$2
 Hardcover \$2 or 3 for \$5
 Most children's book are .50 or 5 for \$1

Also available:
 DVDs, \$2 each
 VHS/CDs/Cassettes, .25 each/5 for \$1
 Puzzles, most for \$1 each, some as marked.

Wait! There's more!
 A large variety of homemade pies:
 \$3.00 a slice or \$13 for whole pie
 Homemade soups:
 \$4.50 a bowl or \$13 a quart

All items can be packaged to go.

LAY LEADER THOUGHTS—”SPEAK LORD, YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING.”

Jim Justman is our new lay leader at Emmanuel. Jim and wife Vicki joined Emmanuel in 2023.

Pastor Ben reminded us in one of his recent sermons of the importance of

Listening. Listening to and for:

- God's Word in our lives.
- Truths and relationships that matter.
- For ways to improve our own lives and the lives of others.
- The needs of the world and our community.

If you would like to share your thoughts and concerns about the future of Emmanuel, please feel free to share them with me. Together, our shared ideas will be a blessing to our community as we serve one another in Jesus' name.

“Listening helps us to cling to hope.” -Pastor Ben

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