



EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WE WELCOME! WE WORSHIP! WE WITNESS!

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Emmanuel Church Community,

God has led us through so much from that first moment when the tree fell on our sanctuary on July 20th, 2019. You emptied buckets as the rain came down in our sanctuary. The next day we worshiped together outside without power. We created a worship space together in Fellowship Hall for the rest of the summer. God was good and kept us together through the wilderness.

You may recall that part of the damage from water included many of our pews, which the insurance company agreed to replace. We

have been able to worship again in our sanctuary since September 7th, awaiting the time when all of the work would be completed.

Work in our sanctuary will resume on **Monday, February 10th**. Our current pews will be removed. The sanctuary lightbulbs will be replaced. The sanctuary ceiling will be painted, where the drywall patching work was done. Flooring work will be done to prepare for new pews, which will arrive on February 21st. Sunday worship will be offered in Fellowship Hall for two Sundays, February 16th and 23rd. Anyone who

desires to take one of the old pews as a memento is welcome to do so after church on Sunday, February 9th.

I am grateful to God for all of you and your ministry through this season. God has brought us through the wilderness and invites us to an exciting path of life ahead together!

See you in Church.

Pastor Ben

OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:45 Sunday School
- 10:00 Worship
- 11:00 Fellowship

OUR WEDNESDAY

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 5:30 Meal
- 6:15 Discipleship
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal

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Our outdoor worship on July 21st after the storm, without power.



Our downstairs summer worship space! We will utilize this again February 16th & 23rd.

ELECTION BAKE SALE FEBRUARY 18TH!



There is a primary election in Appleton on Tuesday, February 18th. This means another opportunity for another Election Bake Sale. All proceeds from the April bake sale will also go to missions.

Bakers are needed to help make delicious goodies to sell throughout the day. Help is also

needed to run the Bake Sale table from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Signups are already in the hallway for the February 18th sale. If you are able to help bake, please bring your baked goods to the church by 5 p.m. on Monday, February 17th. Thank you to all those who have signed up already!

ASH WEDNESDAY IS FEBRUARY 26TH



Our journey through Lent will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. Emmanuel will offer an Ash Wednesday Service at 6:30 p.m. following our Wednesday Night Meal. Ash Wednesday may be our first worship service back in the sanctuary with the new pews! Join us for this special service!

UMW NEWS



United
Methodist
Women

Circle Meetings

The Eve Circle meet Tuesday, February 11th at 2:30. Wanda Gustafson will be the hostess.

The Ruth Circle meet Monday, February 10th at 6:30 p.m. Marlene Hansen will be the hostess. Carrie Korb will lead the program.

JANUARY PHOTOS!



The Youth Group packed sack lunches for our neighbors at COTS on January 22nd.



Denise Linstedt announces the menu to a hungry crowd for our Wednesday meal on January 8th.



What a great crew! Nancy Huolihan, Hazel Christopher, Irene Benner Audrey Lunday, Marlene Petersen, and Marilyn Zylstra served lunch at the Salvation Army on January 16th. (A group from Emmanuel serves every month on the third Thursday.)

THANK YOU FROM CIRCLES OF SUPPORT!

“On behalf of Community Circles of Support, I want to thank the congregation of Emmanuel Methodist Church for opening their church and their hearts to us. Since July we have been meeting on Wednesday evenings in your comfortable and spacious upstairs lounge. Since fall, we have also participated in your community meals, and a few women have started attending Sunday worship services. Many of them have never had a support group

before and are reluctant to trust new people, but in your church they have always felt welcomed and safe and non-judged. As they transition from incarceration to being productive members of the community, they are working hard to maintain employment, obtain housing, and build relationships. If any of the congregation are interested in assisting our Circles participants with transportation to food pantries or doctor appointments, please see Pastor Ben for an application. We’ll give you a short orientation about Circles of Support. May God Bless You All!”

(Talk to Pastor Ben if you questions about this opportunity. This application will be on the red bulletin board.)

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES IN MARCH WITH OUR EDISON NEIGHBORS

EDISON SCHOOL UPCOMING COMMUNITY MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES—Our neighbors at Edison have invited us to participate in some opportunities they have coming up. If you’re interested in helping contact Pastor Ben-

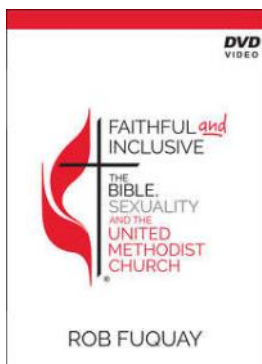
March 10th—Math Night at the 10th Frame— Be a “lane host!” Someone that maybe could help with teaching our families how to score and hand out tickets to those who “win” certain frames/activities.

March 16th— Literacy Night— We will be completing our all school read of the book *El Deafo*. The families will eat, be taught sign language, and then play jeopardy. Helpers could serve food, or if you are interested, members

could also read the book and just take part in this fun night.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please connect with Pastor Ben. He has a copy of the *El Deafo* book!

THE BIBLE, SEXUALITY, AND THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH-VIDEO STUDY



Our denomination has been in the news regarding the topic of human sexuality and welcoming members of the LGBTQ+ community. The future of our church may look different as a result.

During February we have been offering the video study “Faithful and Inclusive: The Bible, Sexuality, and the United

Methodist Church. We’ve had good discussion times on Sundays and Wednesdays for adults. Our youth group has also been using the video resource on Wednesday night.

More study groups may still take place after this round finishes. If you would be interested in participating in a group study of “Faithful and Inclusive,” please talk to Pastor Ben.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING FEBRUARY 2ND!- THANK YOU



We had a great day of worship and fellowship at Emmanuel on February 2nd. The Youth Group led us in our noisy can offering, in which our church predicted the correct Super Bowl winner! The youth also prepared for us an amazing meal for us after church so that we could continue to fellowship together. Over \$320 was raised for our

ministry partners at St. Joseph's food pantry. Thank you to our youth group and their leaders. And thank you Church for your generosity! We Witness!

WHY DO WE GO TO CHURCH? LAY LEADER MIKE PFAHLER

Why do we go to church? For me it is the inspiration I derive from worship, Sunday school, Wednesday nights, or just the fellowship from talking to others about their setbacks, fun times, or their families. I can't say that the inspiration happens every time, but if I miss church events, I know it won't happen. So Count me in as one who tries to make church a habit. February sermons will have a theme of See All The People. As we use this time before the Lenten season, maybe your new year's resolution was to attend more often. Often in worship, we just muddle through the same order, and I look for efforts by people to inspire by their dedication.

Last Sunday, two come to mind for me. Brayden Hill puts forth so much effort in his job as an acolyte, he carefully walks the candle lighter down the aisle (much more difficult in summer when the fans are on high speed), lights the candles, takes the offering, and helps in communion, all in a professional, pious reverent manner. The other is Nell Buchman. She always is searching for that relevant music to play for the prelude, offertory, and postlude pieces. I often recognize the tunes and hum along (Bill Gibson hums a little louder than me sometimes). The choices often fit exactly with the sermon or scripture reading of the day. Last Sunday, 5 minutes before church, she asked me if I would sing during offertory as she found the perfect song for the scripture, but was afraid it would be missed if someone didn't use the words. My mom played piano in church for over 50 years, and when I was much younger, she asked me to do the same thing a couple of times, because she had found the perfect song. Of course I said yes, otherwise it would be like saying NO to my mom.

2 inspirational moments for me , one I admit more nostalgic for me, in a single Sunday. Both made by individuals who are not yet our members, but care deeply about enhancing the worship service. Please plan on attending church this month and search for your inspiring moment.

EMMANUEL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH

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COMING UP AT EMMANUEL!!!!

- February 2nd Communion Sunday
- February 9th Leadership Board Meeting following worship
- February 10th Work begins in Sanctuary
- February 10th Ruth Circle Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- February 11th Eve Circle Meeting 2:30 p.m.
- February 17th Presidents Day
- February 18th Election Bake Sale
- February 20th Emmanuel Serving at Salvation Army
- February 26th Ash Wednesday– Worship at 6:30 p.m.