



# EMMANUEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WE WELCOME! WE WORSHIP! WE WITNESS!

FEBRUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

“It must be great to have your church back.”

I heard this statement from many workers in the final days as the Emmanuel sanctuary was being put back together, when the new pews were being installed, when things were being cleaned and restored.

“It must be great to have your church back.”

As I said on Sunday during worship, I never felt like we lost our church.

I am grateful for you as a church, your imagination and determination. You worked tirelessly as the water fell through the ceiling our sanctuary doing the best to prevent damage. We still had worship the next day, on the lawn without

power. During the summer you created a worship space in our fellowship hall, with slides and magnetic seatbacks for prayer cards and offering envelopes. We never stopped talking about our place here in the neighborhood or building relationships.

We never lost our church. We never stopped being the church. God was and always will be at the center of our identity. No storm or building can ever take that away.

The God of the resurrection has led us through the wilderness and has restored us. I am excited to see where God will lead us next. Because I truly believe that after this, with God’s help, we can ac-

complish anything together.

*See you in Church.*

*Pastor Ben*

## OUR SUNDAY SCHEDULE

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

## OUR WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

- 5:30 Meal
- 6:30 Evening Prayer Service During Lent
- 7:00 Choir Rehearsal

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## “ENTER THE PASSION” WORSHIP SERIES



Jesus' final days were full of risk. Every move he made was filled with anticipation, danger, and the potential for great loss or great reward.

Jesus risked his reputation when he entered Jerusalem in a victory parade. He risked his life when he dared to teach in the Temple. His followers risked everything when they left behind their homes, or anointed him with costly perfume. We take risks as we read and re-read these stories, finding new meanings and new challenges.

In *Entering the Passion of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to Holy Week*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine explores the biblical texts surrounding the Passion story. She shows us how the text raises ethical and spiritual questions for the reader, and how we all face risk in our Christian experience.

Emmanuel Church will offer a study of *Entering the Passion of Jesus* as our Adult Study before worship on Sunday mornings during Lent, beginning at 8:45 a.m. Our 10 a.m. worship will follow the series.

## SWEETIE PIES “ROAD TRIP”



Our friends from Sweetie Pies will be making another Fox Valley Road Trip this year, and Emmanuel Church will be one of the stops!

They will be coming to Emmanuel on Saturday, April 4th. You can make your pie order online at [sweetiepiesdoorcounty.com](http://sweetiepiesdoorcounty.com)

Or call 920-8682743

## UMW NEWS



United  
Methodist  
Women

### Circle Meetings

The Eve Circle meet Tuesday, March 10th at 2:30. Gwen Gibson will be the hostess. Vida Kollath will lead the program

The Ruth Circle meet Monday, March 16th at 6:30 p.m. Carrie Korb will be the hostess and lead the program.

### Mission Action Day

UMW Mission Action Day will be Saturday, April 4th at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Green Bay. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

The themes will be Racial Inequality and School to Prison Pipeline.

Registration for the day is

\$15. Any registrations after March 8th will cost \$18. Registration forms are available at the UMW bulletin board at Emmanuel or you can register online at [www.wisconsinumw.org](http://www.wisconsinumw.org).

## FEBRUARY PHOTOS!



Work began again on Monday, February 10th as the pews were removed. Many were saved by church members and we have kept some here at Emmanuel.



We returned to the Sanctuary for worship on Communion Sunday, March 1st!



Work almost done! The new pews were installed on Tuesday, February 24th.



We had a great crew to put hymnals and Bibles in to the new pews! Many thanks to Marilyn Zylstra, Ryan Korb, Bill Gibson, Mark Geisthart, Nancy Huolihan, and Kelly Kittel.

## 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-

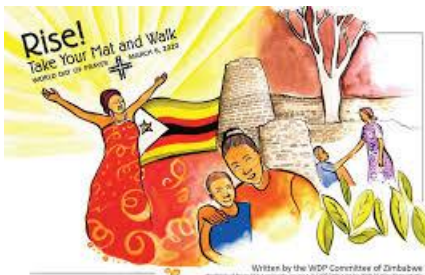
**March 10th—Math Night at the 10th Frame**— Be a “lane host!” Someone that maybe could help with teaching our families how to score and hand out tickets to those who "win" certain frames/activities.

**March 26th— 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!

### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED WORLD DAY OF PRAYER IS MARCH 6TH



The Church Women United World Day of Prayer is March 6th at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church.(2330 E. Calumet St Appleton)

Registration for the day begins at 9:00 a.m. The program will begin at 9:30 a.m. An offering will be taken to support the WDP writer countries, the International Committee. Items for the Parent Connection/Baby closet will also be

collected: Board books, sippy cups, diaper wipes, and baby socks.

This year’s theme is “Rise! Take Your mat and Walk.” It was written by the WDP committee of Zimbabwe. The program speaker will be Lois Riddick, Executive director of Asia Frontier Outreach, USA.

We hope you will join us March 6th- for this program.

## EASTER IS APRIL 12TH!



Easter Sunday is April 1st! Our celebration of the Risen Christ will begin with a SonRise service at 7:00 a.m. led by the Youth Group. A pancake breakfast will be served immediately following the SonRise service.

We will not have our regular education/Sunday School hour on Easter Sunday. During this time prior to the 10:00am worship service, an Easter egg hunt and games for children will

be offered. Please invite your friends and families to join us for a morning of fun and Easter worship at 10 a.m!

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### INVITATION TO “LENTEN RISK” LAY LEADER MIKE PFAHLER

I do not like change, I suppose most of you feel the same way. Change involves having to take a risk and getting out of my comfort zone. Maybe I won't do very well at the way a change will require me to act. Maybe I'll fail miserably in doing it the new way, and I don't know about you, but I would hate to have others see me fail.

Lent, as I learned at an early age, has been a 40 day period when I'm supposed to give up something I like. As I've said in this column before I'm not a biblical scholar, but maybe our act of giving something up relates to Christ giving up his life for our sins? Some weak equitable symbolic effort being made by us!

This Lenten period, during adult Sunday school, and our worship services, Pastor Ben will be teaching from a book called Enter The Passion Of Jesus. I haven't read the entire book, but it looks like the author isn't asking to give up something for Lent. She wants us to risk something. Theory being, I suppose, that we can't grow as disciples unless we get out of our comfort zones. Christ risked an ever growing amount of comfort culminating in his death on the cross. There is an old phrase (one I never liked) The greater the risk the greater the reward!

Maybe I shouldn't be giving something up this year, but instead take something on, RISK. Last month I wrote about Nell finding the perfect hymn to play for offertory and asking me to sing it. Well she did it again last Sunday (2-23) as we were passing the peace. I did sing, but not the perfect Transfiguration song she wanted. I didn't know the song and was afraid to risk not doing well singing it( forgot my HS music teacher telling me the words are more important than the notes). I don't read music particularly well, but I do hear the notes very well. I could probably have done that song, if she had just played it through once as an introduction. We must learn to trust the gifts God has given us and risk stepping out of our comfort zones. I look forward during Lent to everyone purposely sitting in the prayer chair, a small risk for our growth.

EMMANUEL UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH

740 East College Avenue  
Appleton WI 54911

Phone: 920-731-3288

Office E-mail: [emmanuelumc@tds.net](mailto:emmanuelumc@tds.net)

Pastor's email: [wisconsinpastorben@gmail.com](mailto:wisconsinpastorben@gmail.com)

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## COMING UP AT EMMANUEL!!!!

- March 1st Communion Sunday
- March 6th Church Women United World Day of Prayer
- March 8th Daylight Saving Time! Spring Forward!
- March 10th Eve Circle Meeting 2:30 p.m.
- March 10th Edison School Bowling Event at 10th Frame
- March 16th Ruth Circle Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- March 17th St. Patrick's Day
- March 19th Emmanuel Team serving at Salvation Army
- March 22nd Leadership Board Meeting after worship
- March 26th Edison School Literacy Event