

Heart Beat

To Grow in Christ and Make Christ known

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

August 6

First Reading

[Isaiah 55:1-5](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21](#)

Second Reading

[Romans 9:1-5](#)

Gospel

[Matthew 14:13-21](#)

August 20

First Reading

[Isaiah 56:1, 6-8](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 67](#)

Second Reading

[Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32](#)

Gospel

[Matthew 15:\[10-20\] 21-28](#)

August 13

First Reading

[1 Kings 19:9-18](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 85:8-13](#)

Second Reading

[Romans 10:5-15](#)

Gospel

[Matthew 14:22-33](#)

August 27

First Reading

[Isaiah 51:1-6](#)

Psalm

[Psalm 138](#)

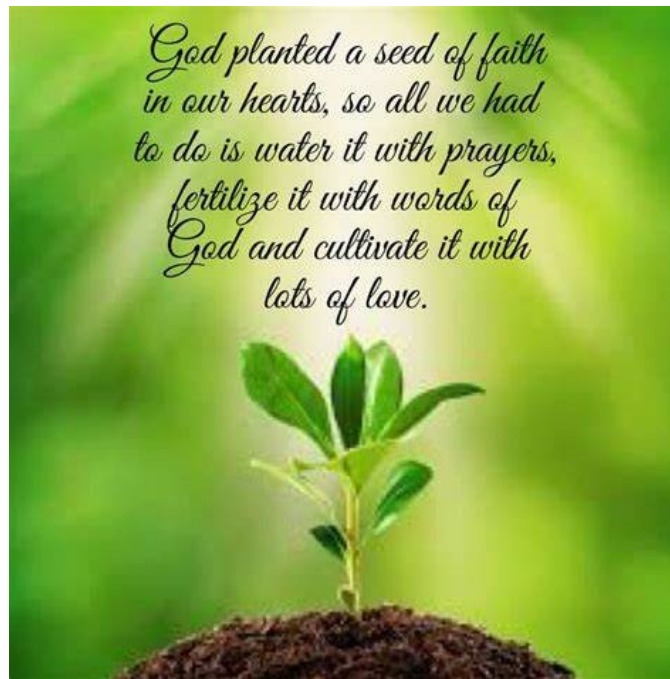
Second Reading

[Romans 12:1-8](#)

Gospel

[Matthew 16:13-20](#)





Our summer is flying by and school is just around the corner. That also means we are preparing to start our youth activities again of LYFE, Confirmation, and the High School Youth Group I look forward to the renewed activity and energy these programs bring to the church and to me personally.

These past few weeks our gospel lessons have focused on planting of seeds, growing roots, and living amongst the weeds. That is why these youth programs are so important so that we can walk with them as we plant in them the seeds of faith and nurture them to grow and bear fruit. This is what we promised to do for these kids at their baptism, and something we need to continue to do with and for them. Our kids are the future of the church and it is so important that as a congregation and community of faith we make sure as they face the pressures and temptations of school, they are not facing them alone. That along with God walking with them, so are we nurturing their seeds so hopefully the roots of their faith will guide them to living a life of faith and making good decisions.

The nurturing of seeds is not for just the school kids, it is for all of us as children of God. May the upcoming school and associated church year bring each and everyone of you continued growth on your never ending faith journeys and prayers that on your journey you bear much fruit.

God's Blessings !!

Pastor Rex Rogers

(402) 533-3816

rex.rogers@abbnebraska.com

July 19, 2023

Council Minutes

Attendees Pastor Rex, Nadine Toft, Patty Olson, Lisa Anderson, Nate Williams, Julie Pearson, Brandon Mathistad, Vicki Johnson, Dash Cameron and Liz Heim all present. Vicki Kuhlmann unable to attend.

AED Battery Pack Replacement- Kyle Walton replaced batteries and demonstrated how to use.

Secretary's report was read and approved.

Pastor Rex gave his report. Many visits, phone calls and texts with members. He is also providing services on alternating weeks at Arbor Care.

Unfinished Business:

- Church Directory Update- Finished review and approved. Paid and ordered.
- Leon & Lorna Kraft Memorial Grant for automated door. Completed, invoice submitted for Grant to repay 1/2 cost, there are Memorial funds designated for the rest.
- Rejoicing Spirits Update- Pastor has a list of agencies next step is contacting them.

New Business:

- Sound system, projector and second wireless headset. Member offered to pay for second headset. Midwest Sound checked system, needs an upgrade and an adapter.
- Next Bible Study covering Romans starts Aug. 22nd at 7PM.
- Kitchen- needs some updated items, adding a wish list to refrigerator for a month, add any items you think are needed.

No committee reports.

Treasurer's Report:

- All bills have been paid.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be August 16, 2023 7:00 PM.

Liz Heim
Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Category	June	2023 YTD
Budget Amount	\$10,962.50	\$131,550.00
Actual Income	\$6,486.45	\$54,766.13
Actual Expenses	\$10,132.78	\$68,071.51
Variance	(\$3,646.33)	(\$13,305.38)

This month we fell a little further behind in the budget as we are now -\$13,305.38 in the general fund.

Thanks to everyone for your faithful giving.

If you wish to mail an offering to the church, the address is:

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
210 S 12th Street
Tekamah, NE 68061

Vanco Online Giving:

[Online Giving - Emmanuel Lutheran Church \(elctekamah.com\)](http://elctekamah.com)

Julie Pearson, Treasurer



I vividly remember sitting with my CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) group at St. Luke's Hospital in Sioux City, IA, being absolutely floored to hear from our supervisor that the greatest gift I could give to the patients to whom I would be ministering would be good listening. I was a young(ish), confident, happy seminarian who thought for certain that the crucial gift God was calling me to offer was to speak words of hope. I learned that summer, and I'm still learning today, that while there is certainly a place for words of hope, those words will land most effectively when they come from someone who has proven first to be a devoted and attentive listener. That same CPE supervisor likened holy listening to journeying into a chasm with the ones to whom we are listening: every sentence is another step into the valley of shadow, and we establish trust by listening more and more deeply, willing to hold off on words of assurance that are often addressing our own discomfort more than that of those who speak to us.

Studies tell us that many instances of interpersonal conflict can begin to heal as soon as both parties feel that their cares, concerns, and statements have been heard accurately and generously, even if the central issue of the conflict remains unresolved. Deep listening like this tells the people in our lives that they matter, that they, too, bear the image of God within themselves, that we see, recognize, and cherish who they are and how God is blessing the world through them.

Far too often, particularly in difficult situations, we listen with ears that are itching to defend, deny, or retaliate. We listen to protect ourselves. We listen to protect our sense of security. We listen for the snarky rebuttal or the devastating putdown. We listen as something we must do, instead of something we have been blessed to do. How might things change for the better if all of us approached the art of listening as a gift we can give to each other in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ? How might the communities in which we live be inspired if they saw us practicing this art of deep listening with one another? We often talk about how God might change the world through the things we do: is it possible that the world could be changed by God through our attentive, careful, holy, listening?

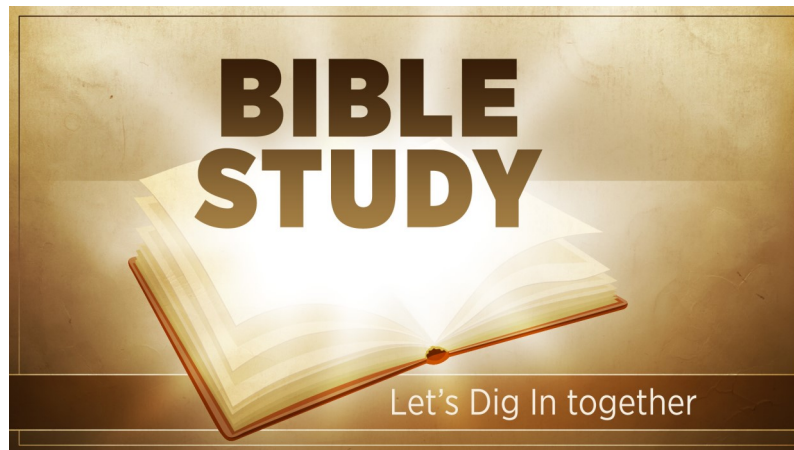
Listening is a skill at which I have had to work, as a pastor, spouse, father, brother, child, friend, and community member. It has not come easy, and any improvement has also been marked by failures which remind me that listening is a discipline which requires diligent practice. During my first call, a member of the mutual ministry committee told me, "I can see the instant you check out of a conversation, and if I can see it, it's absolutely certain the people who are talking to you can see it, too." Those were hard words to hear – thankfully, they were offered as a kind, constructive critique, and for once I was listening well enough to hear them. I invite you to do the same: go and listen this month. Listen to the people around you. Listen to understand, to welcome, to affirm the image of God in your neighbor. Practice the art of holy listening with one another, and see what God can bring about in the world through listening to each other.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Scott Johnson

[Go and... Listen \(July\) \(nebraskasynod.org\)](https://nebraskasynod.org)



Thanks to everyone who participated in the new church directory. The directories are now complete and available at the church. Please stop in and pick one up.



Bible study is the practice—whether individually or within a group—of reading, interpreting, and applying Scripture to daily life.

Christians don't study the Bible simply to amass information they won't use. The point of Bible study is to know God and prepare believers to do God's work in the world. Peter tells us to be "prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you" (1 Pet 3:13). Studying the Bible helps us get ready for the opportunities God gives us to tell people about him.

Our next bible study will be starting on Tuesday, August 22nd, at 7:00pm. The bible study will utilize the Max Lucado book "Life Lessons from Romans" as the source. The bible study would run for twelve weeks, and I hope we get a good respond to gather together to reflect upon God's word.

At this time we have eight people responding, so if you would like to join in, please let me know and I will get the books ordered.

Lutheran Youth Faith Education



A LYFE planning session was held on July 26th with Amanda Hansen, Sarah Smith and myself. Thanks again to Amanda and Sarah for their continued leadership and coordination of LYFE for our K-5th grade students.

LYFE will continue to be held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, with the first session scheduled for September 20, 2023. Look for an announcement and schedule for the upcoming LYFE year to be distributed in early August..



Efforts are underway to plan for the upcoming confirmation year for our 6th—8th grade students.

A kick-off meeting with the students and parents is scheduled for August 30th at 7:00pm. Look for an e-mail regarding this meeting to be distributed to the families in early August.

Confirmation classes will continue to be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, with the first session scheduled for September 27, 2023. Thanks again to Tammy Gregerson for assisting me with the confirmation classes.



On October 29th we will celebrate the Affirmation of Baptism for three confirmation students; Addison Brandstetter, Kale King, and Christopher Smith.



We are currently surveying interest with our High School students to see how much interest there is in attending the National Youth Gathering in July of 2024 in New Orleans.

A meeting will be held in September with the High School students to identify activities and service projects for the upcoming school year.



August Birthdays

1-Aug Susan Penke
Nate Williams
2-Aug Janelle Ray
3-Aug Alyssa Bromm
Haylee Hansen
5-Aug Larry Wascher
6-Aug Kody Bitter
8-Aug Roanna Barger
Nancy TeSelle
9-Aug Joan Anderson
Corey Freidel
10-Aug Donna Schnell
11-Aug Cindy Graef
13-Aug Vicki Kuhlmann
15-Aug Patty Gaines
17-Aug Brock Rogers
Shirley Schutt
19-Aug Ken Wood
20-Aug Mitch Hart
Paige Knauss
21-Aug Leah Bryant
Axel Wood
22-Aug Manni Belfrage
23-Aug Gabe Hart
Mary Krause
Megan Olson
Nadine Toft
26-Aug Jodi Hansen
28-Aug Deanna Goodwin
29-Aug Alexandra Graef
30-Aug James Brummond
Vern Hansen



August Anniversaries

1-Aug Bromm, Randy & Ronda
5-Aug Bryant, Mike & Leah
9-Aug Brummond, Randall & Jamie
10-Aug Belfrage, Will & Cindy
Krause, Mike & Mary
11-Aug Zimmerman, Harry & Diane
18-Aug Bromm, Don & Ida
19-Aug Petersen, Curt & Renee
20-Aug Anderson, Gary & Lisa
27-Aug Wood, Ken & Justine
28-Aug Graef, Cindy & Ray



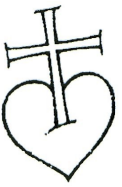
Please remember to pray for all of our family and friends who are ill, receiving treatments, or needing special care:

Blakely Ann Nelson, Rosie Schwetz, John Potadle, Paul Potadle, Kenny Kleen, Sharon Adamson, Patty Hancock, Palmer Brummond, Tom Lipps, Jolene Von Seggern (Linda Schnell's daughter), Steve Wascher (Larry and Thelma's son), David Hayes (Patty Olson's brother), Sue Richling (Shelly Stark's mother), Laurie Kealy-Fallon (Mary Rogers' cousin), Shirley Schutt, Midge Green, Marsha Jensen, and the Crowell Home residents and staff, Boz Ahrens, Delmar Chamberlain, and the Tekamah's Arbor Care Nursing Home residents and staff – those we name out loud or silently to ourselves.

Families of: David Hittle (Patty Denton's brother), Bob Anderson, Helen Ahrens

AUGUST 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9:30 Sunday Worship Holy Communion 10:30 Fellowship	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 9:30 Sunday Worship 10:30 Fellowship	14	15	16 7:00 Church Council	17 1st Day of School	18	19
20 9:30 Sunday Worship Holy Communion 10:30 Fellowship	21 Rex—First Call Retreat - Camp Carol Joy	22 7:00 Bible Study	23	24	25	26
27 9:30 Sunday Worship 10:30 Fellowship	28	29	30 7:00 Confirmation Kick-Off Meeting	31		



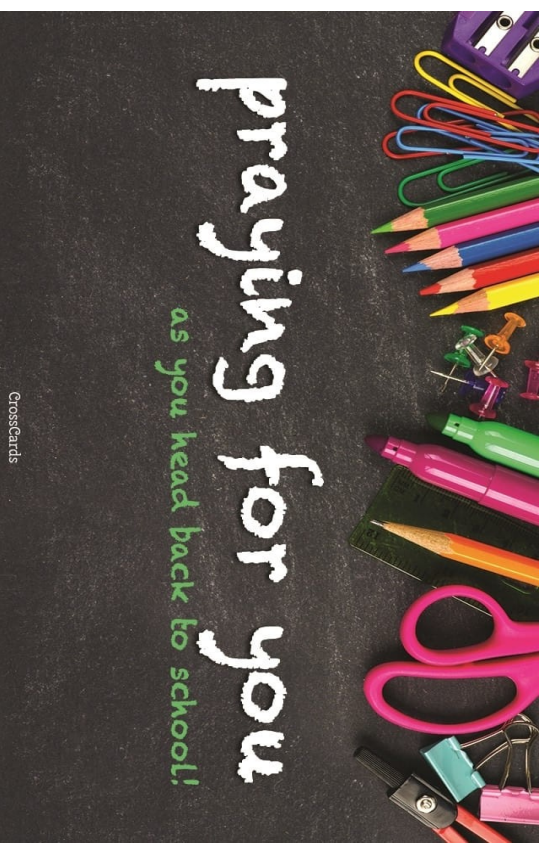
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210 S. 12th Street

Tekamah, NE 68061-1413

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August 2023



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