

# ***Heart Beat***

***To Grow in Christ and Make Christ known***

***Emmanuel Lutheran Church***

## **March 3**

**First Reading**

[Exodus 20:1-17](#)

**Psalm**

[Psalm 19](#)

**Second Reading**

[1 Corinthians 1:18-25](#)

**Gospel**

[John 2:13-22](#)

## **March 10**

**First Reading**

[Numbers 21:4-9](#)

**Psalm**

[Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22](#)

**Second Reading**

[Ephesians 2:1-10](#)

**Gospel**

[John 3:14-21](#)

## **March 17**

**First Reading**

[Jeremiah 31:31-34](#)

**Psalm**

[Psalm 51:1-12](#)

**Second Reading**

[Hebrews 5:5-10](#)

**Gospel**

[John 12:20-33](#)

## **March 24—Palm Sunday**

**First Reading**

[Isaiah 50:4-9a](#)

**Psalm**

[Psalm 31:9-16](#)

**Second Reading**

[Philippians 2:5-11](#)

**Gospel**

[Mark 11:1-11](#)



## **March 31—Easter**

**First Reading**

[Acts 10:34-43](#)

**Psalm**

[Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24](#)

**Second Reading**

[1 Corinthians 15:1-11](#)

**Gospel**

[Mark 16:1-8](#)



On February 11th through February 13th I attended a First Call Retreat at the Saint Benedict Conference Center in Schuyler. What a great facility to spend time together with a group of newly ordained pastors (see picture above with Jesus looking over us) to share their experiences and learn from each other and our varied ministries. See description below from our Synod with their definition of the First Call Program.

As a newly ordained pastor or deacon of the ELCA, you might rightly ask the question, "I just finished my seminary work and my internship. Why do I need to do formation?" Of course, just as we tell the newly confirmed, learning and faith formation is a life-long project. But for those of you who are recently ordained, First Call Formation is an intentional program that every synod office in the ELCA requires to help you become acclimated to your new role, introduce you to clergy community, establish good communication with the synod office and other synod leaders, and act as a safety net of sorts while you find your feet. And while you are encouraged to seek out continuing education opportunities on your own (conferences, classes, retreats, etc...), the First Call Formation program also helps reinforce key components of pastoral ministry that will be critical for you to wrestle with during these first three years.

Every synod has the freedom to emphasize different themes in their own First Call Formation programs. However, here in the Nebraska Synod, we hope that all our first call pastors and deacons will more fully embody three core principles: 1) Integration 2) Accountability 3) Resiliency.

Of course, pastors and deacons need to be many things, including all the fruits of the Spirit! But these three principles really capture the most important areas of growth for the newly ordained that we hope every pastor and deacon will carry with them for decades to come.

The Nebraska Synod sponsored event was lead by Bishop Scott Johnson and Assistant to the Bishop Kristen Van Stee. Additionally this retreat included Timothy Siburg as our theme focused on stewardship.

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I continue to enjoy visits in the office, so just stop in to say "hi" or have a discussion about your devotional practices you are engaged in.

God's Blessings !!

*Rev. Rex Rogers*

*(402) 533-3816*

*rex.rogers@abbnebraska.com*

## February 21st, 2024 - Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes

Attendees present-Pastor Rogers, Patty Olson, Jared Goodwin, Lisa Anderson, Julie Pearson, Nancy TeSelle, Garrett Gregerson, Brandon Mathistad, Josh Knauss. Not present was Dash Cameron and Nate Williams.

Pastor Rex opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary's Report was read and approved.

Pastor's Report was read and discussed by Pastor Rex. Report was approved by the Council.

### Unfinished Business:

- Acolyte training is still in the works between Pastor Rex and Jodi Hansen. A manual will be produced at some point this year.
- Discussion on a "Nursery" program continued at this meeting. A decision was made at this time to put out some feelers to church members to see if there is a need for this. Council will re-visit this at a later date.

### New Business:

- Pastor reported a great turnout for the Fat Tuesday supper. Everything went well
- Easter service will be one service only. Breakfast will be served prior to worship service.
- Discussion was held on whether or not to continue with Chamber Bucks for children attending worship. Council decided to continue to the end of the school year and decide later if we should continue or not.
- Discussion was held on the Church printer/copier regarding if we should sign onto a service contract or not. Pastor Rex has been in communication with Eakes Office Solutions and they said the copier would need approximately \$1000 to fix some worn out parts before it would be eligible for a service contract. Council decided to hold off on the service contract. Printer is working fine the way it is at the moment. Ink was just recently purchased.
- Patty Olson reported that Lisa Skinner is no longer wanting to organize Community VBS. Community Church Council is looking for a new coordinator. Baptist Church has opted out of VBS. VBS will be held June 3-6.
- Council decided to move monthly meetings to the second Wednesday of each month.

### Committee Reports:

- Property Committee would like to do a walk through of the Parsonage on Wednesday, February 28 at 1:00 PM. Pastor Rex made arrangements with the Tenant to allow us in. Members attending will be Pastor Rex, Brandon M, Jared G, Josh K, Nate W, Chuck R.
- Nancy TeSelle requested that someone from Council be placed on the Outreach Committee.

Treasurer's Report was read and approved. Nothing new to report.

Next meeting will be held March 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Brandon Mathistad, Secretary

# EASTER BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER

**8:30am to 9:30am**



The High School Youth attending the National Youth Gathering in July will be hosting a breakfast from 8:30 to 9:30 Easter morning before the church service.

Please join us for breakfast and support this life changing experience for these kids who will be attending.

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After several years of leading VBS, Lisa Skinner will be stepping down as the VBS coordinator. Lisa has done a wonderful job in this special calling over the years, so please thank her for all her years of service.

So, we start a search for a new VBS coordinator for this upcoming season which will be held from June 10th through June 13th. Lisa has also graciously volunteered to assist in the transition.

If anyone has any interest and sees this task as a calling they can fill to serve the church and our community, please let me know.

# Treasurer's Report

## Ending January, 2024

Category	January	2024 YTD
Budget Amount	\$11,089.59	\$133,075.00
Actual Income	\$8,105.55	\$8,105.55
Actual Expenses	\$8,466.21	\$8,466.21
Variance	(\$360.66)	(\$360.66)

The general fund had a balance of -\$360.66 at the close of January.

If you are still needing your offering envelopes, let us know. They are at the church, and we can get them to you.

Thank you for your support of the church.

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

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The following is a partial list of Special Funds for the church. If you wish to contribute to these funds, just indicate that with your offering.

- Capital Improvement
- World Mission
- Emergency Fund
- Memorial
- LYFE
- High School Monthly Events
- High School National Youth Gathering
- Sound System / Technology

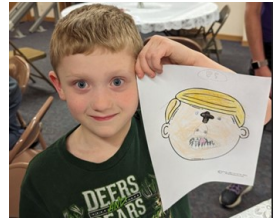


# Lutheran Youth Faith Education

LYFE continues to meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the week.

On February 7th we discussed Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent. The kids each took a palm branch to burn and we helped them to make ashes for our Ash Wednesday service.

On February 21st we met and discussed the story of Simeon and Anna and discussed how we need to have patience and wait for things to happen on God's time.



Confirmation class for the season of Lent will consist of attending Wednesday night Lenten services and attending the Holy week services of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

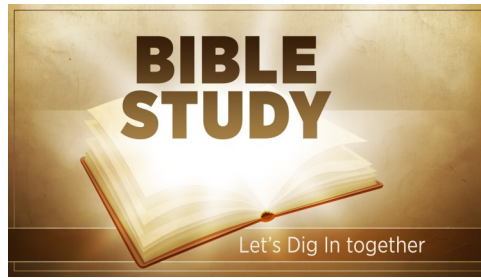
Next class session will be held on April 10th at 6:00pm.

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The High School Students attended an escape room in Omaha on February 23rd. I am proud to say the group exhibited great team work and we had a great time while escaping with a little over 2 minutes left of the hour allocated. After escaping we headed down to Spaghetti Works for supper.





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

On February 1st we held our introductory session on the book of 1st Corinthians. The bible study will continue with 12 sessions and weekly discussion utilizing Max Lucado's Life Lessons from 1st Corinthians.

The Bible Study will be held on Thursday evenings at 6:30, so there is still time to join us, just let me know. Each week stands on its own, so you can join at any time.



Weekly Lenten Services: - Wednesdays at 6:00pm  
- February 21st through March 20th



## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 24—Palm Sunday	9:30am
March 28—Maundy Thursday	6:00pm
March 29—Good Friday	6:00pm
March 31—Easter	9:30am



### **March Birthdays**

1-Mar Carter Walford  
 6-Mar Chad Nelson  
 7-Mar Mike Gaines  
       Reta Meyer  
 8-Mar Finley Knauss  
 9-Mar Cami Gregerson  
 11-Mar Gary Anderson  
       Kristen Bitter  
 14-Mar Sarah Brodersen  
       Carla Hart  
 15-Mar Jamie Nelson  
 16-Mar Kyle Walton  
 19-Mar Dash Cameron  
       Abby Mathistad  
 20-Mar Peyton Hansen  
       JoAnna Wood  
       Anthony Wood  
 21-Mar Larry Nelson  
 22-Mar Wesley Belfrage  
       Noah Hart  
 24-Mar Roger Barger  
 25-Mar Vicki Johnson  
       Kaye Kleen  
       Porter Ray  
 26-Mar Sydnee Brummond  
 27-Mar Addison Brandsetter  
 28-Mar Trevor Bryant  
       Brody Rogers  
 29-Mar Gerald Shumake  
 30-Mar Edyn Goodwin



### **March Anniversaries**

9-Mar Quick, Kord & Michele  
 12-Mar Hansen, Tom & Sharon  
 15-Mar Brodersen, Bret & Sarah  
 18-Mar Raleigh, John & Shirley



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

Thelma Wascher. Patty Hancock, Palmer Brummond, Paul Potadle, Tom Lipps, Jolene Von Seggern, Steve Wascher (Larry and Thelma's son), Laurie Kealy-Fallon (Mary Rogers' cousin), Shirley Schutt, Midge Green, 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: Don Donnelly (Roanna Barger's brother), Lorraine Kealy (Mary Rogers' mother)



# March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
9:30 Sunday Worship Holy Communion 10:30 Fellowship	4	5	6	7	8	9
3			3:45 LYFE 6:00 Lenten Service	6:30 Bible Study		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30 Sunday Worship 10:30 Fellowship			6:00 Lenten Service 7:00 Church Council	6:30 Bible Study		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30 Sunday Worship Holy Communion 10:30 Fellowship			3:45 LYFE 6:00 Lenten Service	6:30 Bible Study		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30 Palm Sunday 10:30 Fellowship				6:00 Maundy Thursday	6:00 Good Friday	
31						

8:30 Breakfast

9:30 Easter Sunday

Holy Communion



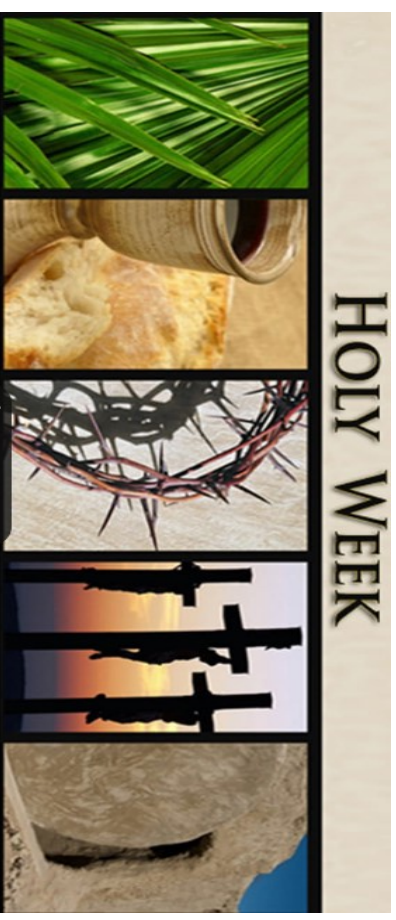
*Emmanuel Lutheran Church*

*210 S. 12th Street*

*Tekamah, NE 68061-1413*

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March 2024



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