



Lutheran Church

◀ FAITH IN ACTION ▶

The Messenger

June 2023

The Latest News and Happenings at
Emmanuel Lutheran Church in New Philadelphia, Ohio

INSIDE THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

From the Desk of Pastor Rob

Monthly letter from Pastor
Rob on an important topic
in the church

Musical Notes

The latest news and info
from Ruth Patrick, Director
of Worship and Music

What's Happening at Emmanuel

Upcoming events and
projects at Emmanuel

Monthly Calendar

Stay up to date on what is
happening at the church in
the coming month

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From the Desk of Pastor Rob

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. – John 13:34-35

In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets. – Matthew 7:12

The first verse above should sound familiar as it was one of the two commandments that Jesus gave his disciples on Maundy Thursday. The other was serving our neighbors. Not long ago I was used a similar verse from Matthew in a newsletter article I wrote about love. For that article, I did not go into great detail about what this love is or what it looks like, I merely scratched the surface, talking about it in a sort of superficial type of way. Given what has been happening lately in the world and here in our community, I feel the need to expand on it, to look at what it really means to love and serve our neighbors.

I have been preaching on this now for many weeks, including a very impassioned sermon I have on May 14 (to listen to that sermon, find our worship livestream from that date or listen to my podcast episode from May 15). Since then, I have preached on the work that we have left to and putting on a pair of shoes with good traction because the Holy Spirit is moving us. All this ties together as the mission that God has given us in the world.



The second verse is one that everyone should know, even if they do not realize that it comes from scripture, not just the Bible but multiple ancient texts, and that is the Golden Rule. That verse, along with the other quoted above, are what I believe are our mission in a nutshell, how we are to live our lives and treat others. We are to love and treat others just like how we want others to treat us. I recently saw a quote on Facebook that sums this up in a different way, Jesus did not die for us so that we could continue treating people the way people treated Him. Let me say that one more time, Jesus did not die for us so that we could continue treating people the way people treated Him. Jesus commanded us to love each other and treat each other just like we would want to be loved and treated. It is not complicated, even though many people try to make it that way.

Despite all of this, it seems that there are many people who do not understand this commandment from Jesus, there are people that seem to think that we do not need to help those in trouble. For the last couple of years, the Friends of the Homeless of Tuscarawas County have been looking for a place to build a new shelter to replace

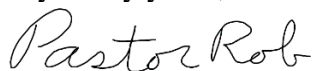
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From the Desk of Pastor Rob continued...

their existing structure as it is no longer adequate to meet their needs and will cost too much to overhaul. It has been in the news recently that they are once again back to the drawing board looking for a new site for the shelter, for the fifth time. Each time they have found what they thought was good property, and each time they have been denied by the powers that be to purchase and develop that land, without being offered any help, assistance or clarification that could make it easier. This behavior runs contrary to the Golden Rule, the Greatest Commandment, and the Welcome to our City sign and it must stop. Jesus did not refuse to help anyone and neither should we. If we are to call ourselves Christians, then we must follow his example, because this behavior from the powers that be is very un-Christ-like.

Please continue to fight and advocate for this wonderful and necessary ministry in our area. We are reminded in Proverbs 31:8-9 that we are to "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy." They do such good work in the community and have become a model for other shelters around the country. They and the people they serve need our support now more than ever. Talk to those who have the power and influence needed to change the minds of those standing in the way. And please consider donating to the shelter, their website is www.fohtusc.org. Thank you.

Prayerfully yours,



Musical Notes

By Ruth Patrick, Director of Worship and Music

The Emmanuel choir year is winding down, we will sing for the last Sunday this season on June 4. We want to thank our choir members of this past year for all their time and dedication and for sharing their musical abilities with the congregation. Being their director is one of the biggest blessings of my life. Choir members this year have included: Sopranos and Altos: Sally Dorn, Myrna Hugh, Marcia Lile, Barb Rupe, Cindy Smith, and Diane Troendly. Tenors and Basses: John Foust, Jerry Gartrell, Ward Holdsworth, Roger Lile, Jerry Rennaker, Bob Victor, and Wayne York. (substitute - Steve Patrick). Please convey your thanks to these wonderful folks when you get the chance! We will be looking for summer music presenters, so if you are interested in providing music on a summer Sunday or know a person or group who would be willing to do that, please let me know.

Keep a song in your heart!

In Appreciation...

Dear Emmanuel Congregation,
We appreciate and are so thankful for your generous gift to Birthright. The money will be so helpful to young mothers and their children.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness!

Sincerely,

Birthright Volunteers

Women's Bible Study

By Ruth Patrick

Women of Emmanuel! The Women's Bible Study will meet on June 7 to finish our study of the Ten Commandments. We will be looking at Commandments 7-10. The study is found in the March-April issue of Gather magazine if you are a subscriber. Copies of the study will be available at the meeting that day, too. We invite all the women of our congregation to come and join us for fellowship and study, we have good discussions and it is a good way to get better acquainted with other women of Emmanuel. Hope to see you there!

Vacation Bible School

Grace Lutheran Church – Dover would like to invite the kids of Emmanuel to join them for VBS July 10-14. Please register by June 30. Forms available in the lobby or at <http://www.gracedover.org/vbs.html>, more info available on the website as well.

Pastoral Care Visits

If you or anyone you know would like a visit from Pastor Rob, please call the church office or Pastor Rob to make arrangements. If you can help with visiting and taking communion to shut-ins, please see Pastor Rob.

Emmanuel's Fund Balances

Here is a breakdown of the monetary funds and their approximate balances as of April 30, 2023.

General Fund ~ \$23,000

(This fund is used for all general monthly expenses, including payroll, utilities, etc.)

Endowment Fund ~ \$192,000

(This fund is used for mission, outreach, and capital improvements to our facility.)

Nancy Phillips Fund ~\$81,000

(This fund has no specific designated use and is used at the discretion of Council.)

M.R. Zuchegno Fund ~\$12,000

(This fund established in 2016 has been used as an 'emergency' fund, providing monies when deficits bring our General Fund balance below \$5,000.)

Property Fund ~\$500

(This fund is used for immediate facility repairs.)

Memorial Fund ~\$19,000

(This fund contains undesignated money given 'in memoriam' and can be used at the discretion of Council.)

Hick's Scholarship ~\$57,900

(This fund is used solely for scholarships to students attending higher education institutions.)

Organ Fund ~\$50,000

(This fund is for the future overhaul of the sanctuary organ.)

What's happening at Emmanuel Annual Church Picnic

Emmanuel's annual church picnic will be Sunday June 11th at Tuscora Park. Worship will be at 10:30am at the park amphitheater, weather permitting, rain location to be determined. Following the service will be a catered picnic lunch in the pavilion. After lunch, enjoy FREE rides and putt putt mini golf for 2 hours.

The menu is hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, baked beans, and cake for dessert. Tickets go on sale Sunday May 14 or stop in the office during the week. Price is \$10 for adults, \$7 kids (4-11), and under 4 are free. Deadline to purchase is Sunday June 4.

Tractor Pulls

Join us the first Saturday of the month from now until October at the Harvest Barn in Sugarcreek for the River Valley Antique Tractor Pullers Association's summer tractor pulls. Emmanuel is a sponsor this year and will be set up with a tent handing out bottled water to the spectators and pullers. Come cheer on our very own Wayne York and John Foust as they compete. Sign up sheet for volunteering will be in the lobby.

Church Pool Party and Cookout

John and Wayne would like to invite the congregation to a church pool party and cookout at their home (2093 Ervin Road NW, Dover) on Saturday, July 22 from 3-8pm.

They will provide hotdogs and hamburgers and ask that the congregation bring sides or sweets to share. We will be hosting this picnic poolside so please bring your suits, if you want to swim and outdoor chairs. Additional details will come as time gets closer. Please reach out to either John or Wayne if you have questions.

Christmas in July

Join us Tuesday July 25 at 6:30pm for Christmas in July! We will watch Elf, enjoy pizza and treats. Family event open to all!

Wednesdays at Emmanuel

- 2nd Wednesday of the month, healing service with communion at 1:00pm
Join us for prayers, scripture, communion, and a litany of healing.
- 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, Free Prayer with Pastor Rob at Magic Mugs in Dover from 11:00am-1:00pm
This is an opportunity for anyone who wants to talk or pray with Pastor Rob but do not feel comfortable coming to church
- Last Wednesday, Pub Theology at the Broadway Brewhouse, from 5:30-7:00pm
As outlined in previous editions of The Messenger, this takes church out of the building and gives people a chance to talk about the Bible and faith in a casual environment.

April Financials

Income:
\$11,286.00

Expenses:
\$15,574.46

Difference:
(\$4,288.46)

June
Benevolence:
Dress-A-Child
– New Philadelphia

Worship Volunteers

June

June 4

Lector: Marcia Lile
(Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants
from Council)

June 11 – Church Picnic

Lector: Jerry Gartrell

June 18

Greeters: Roger Lile (parking lot)
Marcia Lile (by bulletins)

Lector: Marsha Smith

Usher: Deb Ritenour

Communion Assistants: Butch and
Barb Baker

June 25

Greeters: John Foust (parking lot)
Wayne York (by bulletins)

Lector: Myrna Hugh

Usher: John Sandy

Communion Assistants: Karen and
Rob Sterling

July

July 2

Lector: Wayne York
(Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants
from Council)

July 9

Greeters: John Sandy (parking lot)
Barb Sandy (by bulletins)

Lector: Tom Yanders

Usher: John Foust

Communion Assistants: John and
Barb Sandy

July 16

Greeters: Neil Rupe (parking lot)
Barb Rupe (by bulletins)

Lector: Rob Sterling

Usher: Dane Smith

Communion Assistants: Barb and
Neil Rupe

July 23

Greeters: John Frank (parking lot)
Joyce Frank (by bulletins)

Lector: Ken Lab

Usher: Deb Ritenour

Communion Assistants: Ken and Lisa
Lab

July 30

Greeters: Lori Rainsberg (parking lot)
Mary Lou Westbrook (by bulletins)

Lector: Sally Dorn

Usher: Marcia Lile

Communion Assistants: Ward and
Linda Holdworth

Words of Wisdom

Indeed, God is nothing else than
love. For even though He is also
goodness, yet all His blessings
flow from love.

- Martin Luther

Find us on YouTube now:

<https://www.youtube.com/@EmmanuelNewPhilly>
Watch past worship services, mid-day devotion videos,
and Pastor Rob Presents Fun with Flagons!

