

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

## From the Desk of Pastor Rob

**“Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For with the judgment you make you will be judged, and the measure you give will be the measure you get.” – Matthew 7:1-2**

**“Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone.” – John 8:7**

**Therefore you have no excuse, whoever you are, when you judge others; for in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, are doing the very same things. – Romans 2:1**

One of my favorite shows in recent years has been the Apple TV+ comedy Ted Lasso. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the premise of the show, it’s about an American college football coach from the Midwest, the title character Ted Lasso, who has been hired by a Premier League soccer team in the United Kingdom to be their next manager. The reason for the hiring is a bit suspect as the team’s owner is trying to get revenge on her ex-husband and in order to do, she wants to destroy the team he loved more than her. While it’s a sports comedy, the sport aspect of it is secondary to the lessons that are portrayed throughout the three season run of the show, among them being acceptance, dealing with mental health, and the topic of this article in particular, judging others.

One scene in particular has stood out to me, and I covered this on my podcast The Sermon in the Valley under the series The Gospel According to Ted Lasso. In this scene, Ted and the ex-husband of the team owner are playing darts in the local pub, wagering control over certain aspects of the team. It’s the very end of the darts game and Ted has to make some impossible throws and the owner’s ex-husband is already thinking he won. Ted starts to monologue about this time he was taking his son to school and saw a quote on the side of building that said “Be curious, not judgmental” which got him thinking about how other’s had long underestimated and ignored him because of their preconceived notions rather than being curious and asking questions. While’s saying this, he starts making the impossible throws to win the game. He gives an example of the questions no one asked “Have you played a lot darts?” to which he replied every Sunday with his dad until he passed away when he was a teenager. Ted was judged before anyone got to know him.

Continued on the next page...

Do not judge,  
so that you may  
not be judged.

Matthew 7:1 NRSV



### 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

#### Staying Connected

330-364-7571

Church Office

office@emmanuelnp.com

740-214-6896

Pastor Rob Eller's Cell

pastor@emmanuelnp.com

330-260-1224

Prayer Chain

www.emmanuelnp.com

facebook.com/

EmmanuelNewPhilly

instagram.com/

EmmanuelNewPhilly

youtube.com/

@EmmanuelNewPhilly

From the Desk of Pastor Rob continued...

Jesus and Paul were pretty clear on the pitfalls of judging others. They both dealt with others preconceived notions on who they were and how they should have been acting. Jesus ministered to those who were prejudged by others and emphasized that we are all the same. In the quote from John at the beginning, Jesus was defending someone who sinned whose punishment should be stoning but rightly points that everyone has sinned and therefore no one can rightly pass judgement on other. The best quote I've seen in relation to that verse is "The only one qualified to throw a stone didn't."

We cannot judge others. We have no right to judge others. We don't know or understand their circumstance, we don't know or understand what is happening in their lives. Instead of approaching them with our own judgement, we need to approach them with empathy and love, treating them how we would want to be treated. We need to remember those words from Ted Lasso, "be curious, not judgmental". If you see someone struggling, don't condemn them, ask if they would like some help. It's what Jesus would do and it's what Jesus wants us to do as well.

Prayerfully yours,

*Pastor Rob*



Interested in being part of the planning and implementation of this new vision for Emmanuel Lutheran Church? Join church council or a committee. Not sure where you might fit in? Talk to Pastor Rob and together we can see where your gifts can be put to use in the church.

## Musical Notes

By Ruth Patrick, Director of Worship and Music

The Emmanuel Choir will begin rehearsals again on Thursday, February 2nd at 6:30 PM in the downstairs choir room. New members are always welcome!

On February 14 the season of Lent will begin with services for Ash Wednesday. Our hymn choices and liturgies will reflect the season. If anyone has a favorite Lenten-centered hymn you would like us to use, please let me know this.

## In Appreciation...

To the Service Committee, Thank you one and all for the goodie bag that our neighbor delivered to us on Monday December 18<sup>th</sup>. It's a blessing to be thought of in such a nice way. May the Lord grant you all many blessings in 2024.

In Christian Lovem  
Bert and Phyllis

I wanted to thank you for the Christmas bag and all the thoughts and prayers. Bless you all.  
Betty Hattery

Dear Friends,  
Thank so much to Emmanuel's hard working Service Committee for the wonderful bag of goodies and the card. It was amazing how much variety was in that bag! Thanks to Myrna and Dick Hugh for their delivery service. It was a nice surprise. Also, I appreciate receiving the Messenger, weekly bulletin, and sermon in the mail, as well as the altar flowers that were delivered by Chris Smith. Thanks to all!  
God's richest blessings,  
Shirley Yoder

## Women's Bible Study

By Ruth Patrick

Women's Bible Study will meet on February 7th at 1:30 PM in the 2nd floor meeting room. We will be using the study called "Scripture and Nature: Teachers of Faith". It is found on page 26 of the January/February 2024 issue of Gather magazine and is Session 2: Creatures.

Come with pictures and/or stories of animals you have known and loved, or maybe some that haven't had such a positive place in your life! Human-critter interaction can teach us about our humanity and God's work in creation. We will explore Biblical stories about creatures who interact with humans.

All women, friends, neighbors and relatives of Emmanuel are welcome to come and share a time of learning and fellowship.

### Donations needed!

The New Philadelphia High School National Honor Society is creating a "free store" for students with needs. We would like to have toiletry items: soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes that would be available for any student who needs these items throughout the year. We would love to have your help with this project! To help, simply donate some of the items listed, and we will make sure that they are distributed to the students that need them.

Thank you!

## Upcoming Events at Emmanuel

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming events at Emmanuel in February and March:

### Souper Bowl Sunday

Join us after church on Sunday February 11 for a soup lunch with free-will offering benefitting the Greater Dover New Philadelphia Food Pantry. Sign-up sheet in the lobby.

### Fastnacht Dinner

The annual Fastnacht Pancake Dinner will be Tuesday February 13 in the Fellowship Hall. Pancakes will be served at 5:30pm and Bingo to follow at 6:00pm. Sign-up sheet in the lobby. We are also collecting donations for Bingo prizes.

### Valentine's Potluck

John Foust and Wayne York would like to invite the congregation to their house on February 17 for a Valentine's Potluck as we share our love with each other. Gathering at 4:00pm, dinner served at 5:00. Sign-up sheet in the lobby for those who would like to come and what dish they would like to bring.

### Ash Wednesday

February 14, 2024. Drive-thru ashes from 11:00am-1:00pm in the parking lot. Serving of Healing with communion and imposition of ashes at 1:00pm. Ecumenical Ash Wednesday service at 7:00pm at Schoenbrunn Community Moravian Church, 2200 E High Ave, New Philadelphia.

### Wednesdays in Lent

Join us for potluck dinner and worship each Wednesday in Lent this year, (February 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20). The theme of the service this year is Created for Community. Each week will have a different potluck theme (favorite family recipe, cookout favorites, breakfast for dinner, Italian, and Casserole-palooza). Sign-up sheets will be out in the lobby in the coming weeks, please pay attention to the theme for the week before signing up.

### Movie Night and Potluck

The movie night and potluck that was postponed in October has been rescheduled for Saturday March 16 in the Fellowship Hall. Potluck dinner will start at 5:00pm and the movie at 6:00pm. We will watch the movie "The Girl Who Believed in Miracles." There will be a sign-up sheet in the lobby for who is coming and what dish you are bringing. Any questions, please see Barb Rupe.

## 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.

## Words of Wisdom:

Everything that is done in this world is done by hope.  
-Martin Luther



## Emmanuelite

(ih•man•yoo•uhl•ahyt)  
*noun*- A person of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, past or present, who welcomes everyone, who loves and serves their neighbors unconditionally, who puts their faith into action.

## Worship Volunteers

### February

#### February 4

**Lector:** Marsha Smith  
(Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants from Council)

#### February 11

**Greeters:** Tom Yanders (parking lot)  
Bonnie Yanders (by bulletins)

**Lector:** Barb Rupe

**Usher:** Tom Yanders

**Communion Assistants:** Rob and Karen Sterling

#### February 18

**Greeters:** Neil Rupe (parking lot)  
Chuck Moore (by bulletins)

**Lector:** Myrna Hugh

**Usher:** Barb Rupe

**Communion Assistants:** Dick and Myrna Hugh

#### February 25

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

**Lector:** Rob Sterling

**Usher:** Dane Smith

**Communion Assistants:** Barb and John Sandy

### March

#### March 3

**Lector:** John Foust  
(Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants from Council)

#### March 10

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

**Lector:** Marcia Lile

**Usher:** Neil Rupe

**Communion Assistants:** Ward and Linda Holdsworth

#### March 17

**Greeters:** Tom Yanders (parking lot)  
Bonnie Yanders (by bulletins)

**Lector:** Tom Yanders

**Usher:** Tom Yanders

**Communion Assistants:** Jon Foust and Wayne York

#### March 24 – Palm Sunday

**Greeters:** Ken Lab (parking lot)  
Lisa Lab (by bulletins)

**Lector:** Jerry Gartrell

**Usher:** Dane Smith

**Communion Assistants:** Ken and Lisa Lab

#### March 28 – Maundy Thursday

**Greeters:** Deb Ritenour (by bulletins)

**Lector:** Barb Rupe

**Usher:** Marcia Lile

**Communion Assistants:** Rob and Karen Sterling

#### March 29 – Good Friday

**Greeters:** Roger Lile (by bulletins)

**Lector:** Dane Smith

#### March 30 – Easter Vigil

**Greeters:** Chris Smith (by bulletins)

**Lector:** Marcia Lile and Marsha Smith

#### March 31 - Easter

**Lector:** Wayne York

(Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants from Council)