

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

From the Desk of Pastor Rob

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. James 5:7

We have all heard the phrase, “patience is a virtue.” We think about it this time of year as spring brings new growth from the plants, flowers, and bushes around our houses and we wait with bated breath for our gardens to sprout up. We want our fruits and vegetables as soon as we plant the seeds, rather than wait for the fruits of our labor.

In other aspects of our life, we must practice patience. We unfortunately live in a time of instant gratification that whenever we want something, it comes at the drop of a hat. From streaming movies on demand to having whatever we want delivered to our door within a couple days let along a couple hours, whatever we want we can get incredibly quickly. This has fostered an attitude of “I want it and I want it now.” We become so wrapped up in what it is we want that we forgot about the reason we want it in the first place.

We need to keep this mind not just for things that we want but in manners of our faith as well. We have this notion that whenever we pray to God, our prayers will be answered instantaneously, which is far from how God works. We have this image of God from the movie Bruce Almighty where the main character is sitting at a computer and answering everyone’s prayers as they come in. God works on His own time and will answer our prayers in a time and way that He thinks is best, not necessarily how we want it.

And this is not just our prayers but in how the church operates. If there is one thing I have learned from being in the church, both as a pastor and serving on the church council of the congregation I grew up in, is that we need to be patient in matters of the church. We want change to happen at the drop of the hat when in reality, we need to take our time, do our due diligence and make sure what we want to do has the best interests at heart for all those involved. (And yes, this is just as much a reminder for myself.) I cannot wait to see what we can accomplish here in the future.

Prayerfully yours,

Pastor Rob



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Monthly Calendar

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

Staying Connected

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Prayer Chain

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Musical Notes

By Ruth Patrick, Director of Worship and Music

Lent is passing quickly and we have only a few more Wednesday night services to enjoy and then Holy Week will be upon us again. Palm Sunday is April 2, then comes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter (Saturday night) before glorious Easter morning is here! Each of these services is very different from the others and experiencing them all is the best way to prepare for the wonderful glory of Easter morning! The Emmanuel choir will be presenting special music at the Good Friday service and on Easter Sunday morning.

Looking ahead, the Worship and Music Committee will be discussing the possibility of another Organ Concert in the fall, last year's was a great success and it might be good to continue this as a new yearly tradition for our congregation. If you have any thoughts about this idea please speak to Ruth Patrick, Marcia Lile or Pastor Rob.

A reminder that contributions to the Organ Restoration Fund are always appreciated at any time of the year.

WELCA/Women's Bible Study

By Ruth Patrick

All women of Emmanuel are invited to attend our next Bible Study on April 5th, 1:30 pm, in the second-floor meeting room. We will be continuing our study of the Ten Commandments. If you subscribe to Gather magazine, please bring your copy of the March/April issue. (Reading beforehand is always a good idea!) Copies of the study will be available to everyone who does not subscribe to that magazine. There are also Bibles available for everyone.

Hope to see you there for discussion and fellowship with other women of Emmanuel!

Another women's event open to all women of Emmanuel is the NEOSWO appreciation lunch to be held on Saturday, April 22, at noon at Zion Lutheran Church in North Canton. This is being hosted by our Synodical Women's Organization and is a free lunch. It is a thank you to all women in the NE Ohio Synod who have supported the organization in any way over the years. There are 4 choices of meals: beef tips over noodles, baked chicken, scrod, and vegetarian lasagna. They are asking for reservations to be in to them by April 8th, so please let me know if you will attend and what your meal choice will be by April 2. Travel arrangements and directions will be given at a later time. If we have several attendees, I'm sure we can carpool.

In Appreciation...

Dear Emmanuel Friends,

I want to express to you all my deepest thanks and gratitude for the honor you bestowed on me recently by naming me Pastor Emeritus. I have to say it is not something I ever gave much thought to, nor was it ever a goal or even a hope. I thank you for all the great memories during my time as your Pastor - there were many good things that happened then, even in the midst of some turmoil. Ruth never said a word about this to me, so I guess it was a good thing she was able to get me to church that Sunday! Now after 9 years at the Beach City Church I have retired again, for the final time. Thank you again for this distinguished honor.

Pastor Steve Patrick

What's Happening at Emmanuel... Holy Week

Holy Week this year starts on Sunday April 2 with Palm Sunday worship at 9:30am. It will continue with Maundy Thursday, April 6, Good Friday, April 7, and Easter Vigil, April 8, all at 7:00pm. This will culminate with Easter Sunday, April 9 at 9:30am.

Easter Cross

The Easter Cross is an Easter tradition here at Emmanuel that is returning this year. We ask you to bring in fresh flowers for the easter Cross on Easter Sunday, April 9 before the 9:30am worship service. Place them on the cross located in the Narthex as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

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 January 31, 2023. (Some remain unchanged due to lack of report from Raymond James)

General Fund ~ \$17,000

(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

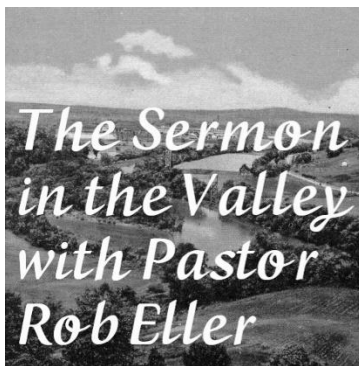
(This fund is for the future overhaul of the sanctuary organ.)

In Other News... Annual Fastnacht Dinner



We had a wonderful time at the annual Fastnacht Pancake Dinner! It was a fun time of food, fellowship, and fun. After having our fill of pancakes and sausage, we enjoyed multiple games of Bingo with Pastor Rob calling the numbers from the sound booth. Everyone walked out that night with a prize.

Pastor Rob's New Podcast



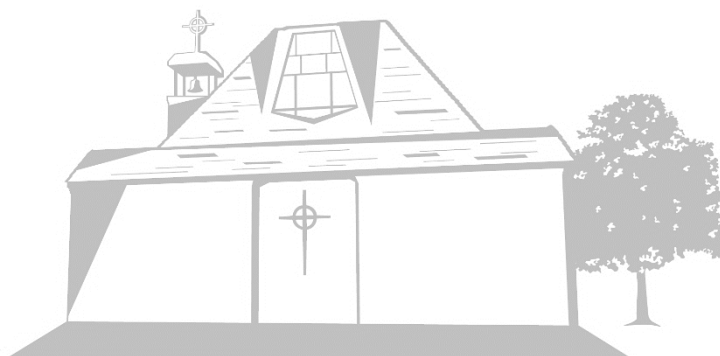
Pastor Rob has a new podcast, The Sermon in the Valley! Look it up on Spotify or listen to here at <https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/the-sermon-in-the-valley>. There you will find audio recordings of Pastor Rob's sermons posted on Mondays and other commentaries on matters of faith, religion, and the Bible on Thursdays.

Wednesdays at Emmanuel

Exciting new and returning events are coming starting this May.

- 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 (tentatively) 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.



December Financials

Income:
\$10,882.00

Expenses:
\$12,867.26

Difference:
(\$1,985.26)

March
Benevolence:
Habitat for
Humanity
(Canton)

Worship Volunteers

April

April 2

Lector: Ken Lab
(Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants
from Council)

April 6 – Maundy Thursday

Greeters: Bob Victor (parking lot)
Lois Victor (by bulletins)
Lector: Rob Sterling
Usher: Neil Rupe
Communion Assistants: Karen and
Rob Sterling

April 7 – Good Friday

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

April 8 – Easter Vigil

Greeters: Chris Smith (parking lot)
Marsha Smith (by bulletins)
Lectors: Marsha Smith, Marcia Lile

April 9 – Easter Sunday

Lector: Jerry Gartrell
(Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants
from Council)

April 16

Greeters: Rob Sterling (parking lot)
Karen Sterling (by bulletins)
Lector: Bob Victor
Usher: Dorothy Kaufman
Communion Assistants: Ward and
Linda Holdsworth

April 23

Greeters: John Frank (parking lot)
Joyce Frank (by bulletins)
Lector: Tom Yanders
Usher: Dane Smith
Communion Assistants: Neil and
Barb Rupe

April 30

Greeters: Tom Yanders (parking lot)
Bonnie Yanders (by bulletins)
Lector: Wayne York
Usher: John Foust
Communion Assistants: Dick and
Myrna Hugh

May

May 7

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

May 14

Greeters: Dick Hugh (parking lot)
Myrna Hugh (by bulletins)
Lector: Dane Smith
Usher: Barb Rupe
Communion Assistants: Dick and
Myrna Hugh

May 21

Greeters: Butch Baker (parking lot)
Barb Baker (by bulletins)
Lector: Lois Victor
Usher: Tom Yanders
Communion Assistants: John Foust
and Wayne York

May 28

Greeters: Dane Smith (parking lot)
Dorothy Kaufman (by bulletins)
Lector: Sally Dorn
Usher: Dane Smith
Communion Assistants: Neil and
Barb Rupe



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2 9:30 am Worship Service	3 12pm - AA Meeting 6:45pm - Tusc. Co. Coin	4 11am - Pastors' Group 6:30pm - Zumba Class 7pm - PROPERTY	5 1:30pm - WELCA Bible 6pm - Stamp Club	6 4:30pm - Food Pantry 7pm - Maundy Thursday	7 Office CLOSED 7pm - Good Friday	8 7pm - Easter Vigil Service
9 9:30 am Worship Service	10 COUNCIL Meeting 6:30 12pm - AA Meeting 6pm - Finance Meeting	11 11am - Pastors' Group 6:30pm - Zumba Class	12	13 6:30pm - Choir practice	14 Office CLOSED	15
16 9:30 am Worship Service Joyful Noise OFFERING	17 12pm - AA Meeting	18 Messenger DEADLINE 11am - Pastors' Group 1:30pm - Free Family 6pm - Stamp Club 6:30pm - Zumba Class	19	20 6:30pm - Choir practice	21 Office CLOSED	22
23 9:30 am Worship Service	24 12pm - AA Meeting	25 11am - Pastors' Group 6:30pm - Zumba Class	26	27 6:30pm - Choir practice	28 Office CLOSED	29
30 9:30 am Worship Service	1	2	3	4	5	6