

Pastor's  
Message



**Dear Fellow Redeemed:**

There is a house near where we live which is still adorned with colored Christmas lights. I mean, they are not just hanging on the house, they are plugged in each evening. By now Pat and I have a thing going as to how long into this new year our neighbor will display his lights. We have speculated about the reason for keeping them on, but so far we have not really come up with anything very plausible. Maybe it is just his way of hanging on to a bit of Christmas.

Now that is something I certainly favor—hanging on to as much of Christmas as possible. But here it is February already and in just a few days, we will begin our Lenten walk together (*Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17*) to the ugly hill and the tree of the cross. But even so, we can stay “plugged-in” to Christmas. Even as we meditate on His suffering and the reason behind it, namely our sin and fragmentation from God, we can still experience joy. After all Jesus did we are encouraged to look to Him as “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross.” (Hebrews 12:2).

So let us continue to “...consider Him...that we may not grow weary or faint-hearted” (Hebrews 12:3). ...And we won’t as long as we stay “plugged-in” to Him who is our strength.

Joined with you in joyful service,

*Rev. Dan L. Siedenburg*  
*Intentional Interim Pastor*

*P. S. As I think of it again, I really wouldn't mind if that neighbor of mine used those Christmas lights all year.*

*Ash* ✕  
*Wednesday*

**February 17<sup>th</sup>**

**11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. Services will be held each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class**

Starting Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup> and continuing throughout the Lenten Season Pastor Dan's Bible Class will be studying the book of Revelation in connection with the Lenten theme: “Revelation for Lent”. These lessons will correspond with each Wednesday's worship theme. Plan to attend this interesting and timely study of God's Word each Sunday during Lent.

**2010 MID-WEEK LENTEN  
WORSHIP**

“**Revelation For Lent**” is the theme of Holy Emmanuel's 2010 Lenten, Holy Week and Easter Worship services. You are invited to attend Midweek Devotions each week during the Lenten season beginning with the Ash Wednesday Communion service on February 15 at **11:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.** The Word of God for Lent will come from the New Testament book of Revelation.

Each Wednesday we will hear the **Angel of God** speak to an ancient New Testament church with a message which is vital for our contemporary church.

We will follow the following schedule of Revelation readings:  
February 17...**Lent I:** Letter to Ephesus--Revelation 2:1-7  
February 24...**Lent II:** Letter to Smyrna--Revelation 2:8-11  
March 3.....**Lent III:** Letter to Pergamum—Revelation 2:12-17  
March 10.....**Lent IV:** Letter to Thyatira—Revelation 2:18-29  
March 17.....**Lent V:** Letter to Sardis—Revelation 3:1-6  
March 24.....**Lent VI:** Letter to Philadelphia—Revelation 3:7-13

**HOLY WEEK..11:00 am and 7:00 pm**

April 1.....**Maundy Thursday**  
**Communion:** Letter to Laodicea—Revelation 3: 14-22  
April 2.....**Good Friday:** Seven Words for Seven Churches

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
**COMMUNION...8:00 and 10:30 am**

April 4.....**Easter:** “Come, Take Your Crown!”--Revelation 2:8-11

**Invite a friend or neighbor and plan to attend these interesting, timely, meditative and family oriented services.**

## Children's Ministry

### Sunday School

#### Annual Talent Show/Lunch February 14<sup>th</sup>

You are all invited to the Valentine Lunch/Talent Show. There will also be a Silent Auction that day sponsored by Open Arms.

Invite family and friends and join us!

Happy February Birthday to:

Hannah Manske

Nick Manske

Miss Natalie

Please try to keep your child's attendance up for Sunday school and worship. It is very important for them to grow in their faith!

In Christ's Love,  
Natalie Mylander

#### Youth News and Events

Upcoming youth activities are:

✠ Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> – Bunco Party once again followed by an activity to be announced.

✠ Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> – All youth are to stay after church for lunch and good Christian Fellowship.

This summer we will not be going to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans because of cost. However, we will once again be going to Sonshine and on a mission trip. More details will follow as the time gets closer.

We need you to help serve lunch and show your talent on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Please plan on being there!

Don't forget Ash Wednesday/Lent starts on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for Lenten services as we thank Jesus for dying for our sins.

In Christ's Love,  
Natalie Mylander



The Open Arms children will be singing in church on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> before the Valentine Lunch/Talent Show. Come see our Silent Auction and make a bid that day also.

Congratulations to Miss June who had a baby girl – Marissa Carter! We wish her and her family god's blessings on their "new little miracle!"

We want to thank all of our Holy Emmanuel friends that so faithfully support us financially or through prayer. God is truly good and I see it everyday in the eyes of the children and teachers.

My prayer for you this Valentine month is that you spread God's love to everyone around you!

In Christ's Love,  
Natalie Mylander

#### Girl Talk

Still looking for a few more ladies of Holy Emmanuel that are interested in some "Girl Talk"?

This group would be a Bible study group for the ladies that would deal with our specific needs and issues. Some ideas we might decide as a group to discuss are healthy living, a balanced life, spiritual growth, stress, faith, disappointment, forgiveness, friendship, fear, worth, purpose, I could go on and on...anyone who might be interested in joining please contact Carla Crawford at 952-201-6383 or ck12@hotmail.com.

Start date, frequency, and day to meet and time to be determined once group is formed.



#### Sunday Morning Bible Study 9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

• **Class with Pastor** (Led by Pastor Dan in the Chapel)

• **Book of Acts** (Led by Randy Marko in the Accounting Room)

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Evenings at 6:00 p.m.** (Meet at Church)

**Couples in Christ**

• **"John 3:16, Stories of Hope"**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Evenings at 5:30 p.m. – Supper, 6:00 p.m. – Bible Study**

• **Parenting Class – "Discipline"** (Led by Randy Marko)

**Tuesday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.**

• **Book of Luke** (Led by Pat Squires at the Gables Apt. Bldg.)

**Men's Tuesday Evenings at 7:00 p.m.**

• **The Authenticity of the Bible** (Led by Nick Marko in the Accounting Room)

**Wednesday Mornings at 9:30 a.m.**

• **Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible** (Led by Candy Frein in the Accounting Room)

**Thursday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.**

• **Crash Course on Jesus** (Led by Chuck Squires in the Accounting Room)

\* A JAR OF \*  
**Love and  
 Appreciation**



Sometimes we forget to show love and appreciation to people who are closest to us. Use this fun craft to let everyone in your family know how much you care.

**What you need:**

- Plastic jar with lid
- Heart-shaped foam pieces
- Heart-shaped stickers
- Glue
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Pencil or crayons

**What you do:**

1. Decorate the jar and lid with heart-shaped foam pieces and stickers.
2. Cut out 2" or 3" heart shapes from the construction paper.
3. On each paper heart, write what you appreciate and love about your family and each member. Have all family members do this, too.
4. Place the heart messages inside the jar. Fold them in half, if necessary.
5. On each day in February, pull out one heart and read the message aloud to the family.
6. Notice the changes in your family when everyone feels loved and appreciated!

**Just for KIDS**

*Our first love*

In Deuteronomy 10:12 (NIV), Israel is asked a question that's also for us to answer: "What does the LORD your God ask of you?"

To find the answer, write the words from the puzzle pieces on the matching shapes in the completed heart.

*... your heart and with all your soul ..."*

Answer:  
 "... fear the LORD ...; to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all ..."

## February Daily Bible Readings

### Morning Readings

1<sup>st</sup> – Exodus 27, 28  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Exodus 29, 30  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Exodus 31, 32, 33  
4<sup>th</sup> – Exodus 34, 35, 36  
5<sup>th</sup> – Exodus 37, 38  
6<sup>th</sup> – Exodus 39, 40  
7<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 1, 2, 3  
8<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 4, 5, 6  
9<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 7, 8, 9  
10<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 10, 11, 12  
11<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 13  
12<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 14  
13<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 15, 16, 17  
14<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 18, 19  
15<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 20, 21  
16<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 22, 23  
17<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 24, 25  
18<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 26, 27  
19<sup>th</sup> – Numbers 1, 2  
20<sup>th</sup> – Numbers 3, 4  
21<sup>st</sup> – Numbers 5, 6  
22<sup>nd</sup> – Numbers 7  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Numbers 8, 9, 10  
24<sup>th</sup> – Numbers 11, 12, 13  
25<sup>th</sup> – Numbers 14, 15, 16  
26<sup>th</sup> – Numbers 17, 18, 19  
27<sup>th</sup> – Numbers 20, 21, 22  
28<sup>th</sup> – Numbers 23, 24, 25

### Evening Readings

1<sup>st</sup> – Matthew 21:23-45  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Matthew 22:1-22  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Matthew 22:23-46  
4<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 23:1-22  
5<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 23:22-39  
6<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 24:1-22  
7<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 24:23-51  
8<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 25:1-30  
9<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 25:31-46  
10<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 26:1-19  
11<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 26:20-54  
12<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 26:55-75  
13<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 27:1-31  
14<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 27:32-66  
15<sup>th</sup> – Matthew 28:1-20  
16<sup>th</sup> – Mark 1:1-22  
17<sup>th</sup> – Mark 1:23-45  
18<sup>th</sup> – Mark 2  
19<sup>th</sup> – Mark 3:1-21  
20<sup>th</sup> – Mark 3:22-35  
21<sup>st</sup> – Mark 4:1-20

22<sup>nd</sup> – Mark 4:21-41  
23<sup>rd</sup> – Mark 5:1-20  
24<sup>th</sup> – Mark 5:21-43  
25<sup>th</sup> – Mark 6:1-32  
26<sup>th</sup> – Mark 6:33-56  
27<sup>th</sup> – Mark 7  
28<sup>th</sup> – Mark 8:1-21

## Stewardship Corner

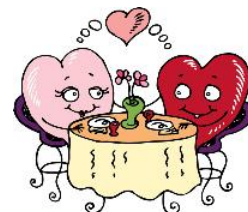
### Love One Another

Each household has its own routine. We go to work; we help the kids with their homework and attend their events; we make the meals, clean the house, and do the laundry. Our days are full – sometimes too full. So full that time for the Lord is abbreviated or omitted altogether. Then comes Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. It's just what we need to get back on track. We gather together for worship. We hear again about Jesus' ministry, about the events that eventually lead up to His Crucifixion, about His zeal for the Lord's house. We hear His prayer for His disciples and His words of comfort and preparation to them.

Our hearts are turned to Christ instead of toward ourselves. We ask for grace to love and serve as He did, sacrificing self for the good of others. *"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends"* (John 15:13). Paul comments, *"Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:7-8). God loved and chose us, the unlovely, to shed His grace upon. We are reminded that, *"since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another"* (1 John 4:11).

*"Love one another."* Not just our close friends or those who agree with us, but *"one another."* We can't do it, can we? Some people are just too hard to love. Some people are not deserving of our gifts and our attention. Some people aren't interested in the love we have to offer. The command remains: *"Love one another."*

Now is a good time to read John 15. Here we find the secret of loving and serving. Here we find the source of love, of faith, of everything we need. That source is Jesus. He is the Vine. He sustains and nurtures us, the branches. He enables us to bear fruit, to *"love one another."* He calls those who obey Him His friends and tells us He will give us whatever we ask in His name. So we pray, Lord, let us *"love one another."*



## Valentines Fellowship Luncheon

You are all invited to the Valentine Fellowship Luncheon to be held on **Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, at 12:00 Noon** (following the 10:30 service).

What a great day to celebrate love! We all love God and we love one another. Let's celebrate together!

Lunch is free. Invite a friend to celebrate with us. We hope to have some entertainment from some special little people in our church family. There will also be a Silent Auction.

See you there!

**A Teaching Moment from  
the Board of Christian  
Education**

Do you possess the greatest love of all? Read on and see how you can obtain it. And it's free!

***An Empty Chair at the Table  
By Ron Hutchcraft***

It was a tough Christmas for my friend Rob. It was his first Christmas/holiday time, and now Valentine's day without the love of His life. She died just a few months ago. He's like a lot of people whose daily joy is bittersweet. This time of year makes us think about the loves that we've lost - which can lead us to the greatest love of all.

The loves we've lost are a powerful reminder of the one love we need most; the love the Bible speaks about in Romans 8:38-39. "I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, or anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Now, that is powerful! There's a love that cannot be taken away by death, by anything in heaven, by anything in hell, by anything happening right now, by anything that will happen, by your highs or by your lows. And just in case anything got missed - not by "anything else in all creation." This would sound too good to be true except its God who's promising it. A love you cannot lose - God's love.

We were made for God's love, but we've all missed God's love because we've lived our way instead of His way. And no other love has been able to fill His place in our life. It's not God's fault that we're living outside a deep, daily

experience of His love. He didn't leave us. We've walked away with Him to do with our life what we wanted. We're lost. We're out of the orbit we were created for. We are away from the One whose love we were made for. That's why life has been an endless search for what would fill the hole in our hearts. How can anyone or anything that earth has ever fill the place in our soul that was made for God alone? And how can rebels like you and me - people who have over and over chosen our own way instead of His way - ever get back to the God we were made for?

Those Bible verses said the love of God is "in Christ Jesus our Lord." Enter Christmas. Enter the Son of God on a mission to bring us back. A mission for which He will give His life - held by three nails to a bloody cross. There Jesus absorbed everything you and I deserve for our sin. And that sacrifice for you has cleared the way for you to have God's love for yourself from the moment you put your life in Jesus' hands. My friend Rob, has lost the second greatest love of his life, but not the greatest. Rob is being held safely in the strong hands and the unloseable love of his Savior, Jesus Christ.

You don't need to live one more day without His love if you'll put your life where it's belonged all along - in Jesus' hands. Tell Him, "Jesus, I've looked for a long time for a love that only You can give - the love that took you to a cross for my sins, and I'm done running my life, Jesus. I'm yours now."

His hand is reaching for your hand. He won't grab your hand. He won't force you to come. You need to reach out and grab the hand of Jesus. The love that Jesus is offering you is the only love on earth that is terror-proof,

divorce-proof, death-proof, and that love can be yours today.

**Priscilla Guild**

If you have any questions regarding the Priscilla Guild and their activities, please contact Gladys Lossow at (612) 729-8492. Thank you!

***Bunco Party  
Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.***

All ages can play this game. Bring your whole family and all of your friends. There will be refreshments and prizes. The cost is a free will donation.

If you could donate prizes and refreshments, it would be greatly appreciated.

Come early and help setup.

If you have any questions, please contact Gladys Lossow at (612) 729-8492.

***Christmas Thank You!***

Thank you to Sandy Carlson for organizing the Guild Christmas Party in December. Everyone enjoyed the event!

***Thank You!***

We thank all the people of Holy Emmanuel for helping and donating with the Priscilla Guild projects. You are appreciated so much!

***Coffee/Treats***

Volunteers are needed to help serve the coffee and treats each Sunday morning following the worship services.

If you are interested in helping, please sign-up on the bulletin board.

If you would like to provide a treat, just leave it on the serving table in the narthex.

If you have any questions, please contact Gladys Lossow at (612) 729-8492.

### **Priscilla Guild Meeting**

Thank you to all who attended the Guild Business Meeting on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

\$1,500 was given to Holy Emmanuel for repairs around the church. Monetary gifts were also given to missions and Holy Emmanuel shut-ins. The funds were received from the Rummage Sale and the Bake Sale.

### **Spring Salad Luncheon**

**Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**

**12:30 p.m.**

Please join us on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 12:30 p.m. for the Annual Spring Salad Luncheon.

Tickets for Adults (Men and Ladies) are \$10.00. Children under 12 years are \$5.00. The tickets will be sold at the door or before March 6<sup>th</sup>.

Prizes and salads are needed for this event. Please consider donating a prize or a salad. If you donate a large salad, \$5.00 will be deducted from your ticket price.

Entertainment will be provided by Gary and Vern.

Luncheon set up will be Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Please come and help!

### **Donate Card Tables**

Card tables, new and used, are always needed. If you would like to donate a card table, please bring it to the church.

Thank you!

### **Loaves and Fishes Dinner**

#### **Helpers Needed!**

About 200 of our neighbors and friends rely on Loaves and Fishes for a hot, nutritious dinner every Monday through Friday. Loaves and Fishes sponsors the meal at the Bloomington Community Center but relies on local churches, businesses, and other groups to provide, cook, and serve the meal. To help meet the growing demand to help these neighbors, Holy Emmanuel and Mount Hope volunteered to serve the meal on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed! It would be great if Holy Emmanuel provided 10 members to work this dinner from 5 – 7:00 pm on February 26<sup>th</sup>. You will enjoy helping these neighbors, guaranteed! Please contact John or Sandy Carlson, 952-926-0545 or [jwc4433@yahoo.com](mailto:jwc4433@yahoo.com), to volunteer. Thank you.



## *A Special* **THANK YOU**



Dear Holy Emmanuel Members:

We want to express our thanks and gratitude for all of the kindness on the death of our sister and mother, Frieda Wasilak.

We truly appreciated the cards, visitations, condolences and money given in her memory to the church she loved.

She was indeed a long-standing member of Holy Emmanuel for the 90 plus years of her life.

Thank you, again!

Arlene Bjorklund, Sister  
John & Debbie Wasilak, Son  
& Daughter-In-Law

### **Valentine's Tea**

Ladies of all ages, of Holy Emmanuel, are invited to join us for our annual "VALENTINE'S TEA", being planned for Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, at Mt. Hope.

Ann Zemke, of Blaine, will share the story of her grandmother, who at age 8, was sent away on an orphan train and essentially became another families indentured servant. Ann has created a quilt, which tells her grandmother's story, one of about 150 quilts, which she has stitched.

Ann has been called on by educators to share this orphan train story with students, primarily in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades, as they study this subject in class.

A light brunch will be served at tea time, with our program beginning at 10:00 a.m. Tickets for \$7.00, may be picked up at the event, however, we will need a count of those attending, so we know how many tickets to reserve for your ladies. Please sign up on the poster on your bulletin board, no later than February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Take a little winter break and come together for great fellowship and entertainment.

Questions: Call Karen (952-881-7887) or Barb (952-888-9629)