

Council Transition Update

As you know Holy Emmanuel in a special meeting on May 10th voted to extend a call to Reverend Daniel Siedenbug as Intentional Interim Minister for the next year. At that meeting LCMS MN South President, Lane Seitz, explained the Intentional Interim Ministry Program. A description of the program that outlines education, call process, and duties/responsibilities of an Interim Minister was distributed. The document clearly indicates that he CANNOT ACCEPT A CALL as Permanent Pastor. During the next 12 months Pastor Siedenbug, if he accepts the call, will be working with healing within the congregation and helping us to focus on the real mission of carrying the gospel to the unchurched in the community around us.

A call document was prepared and sent to Reverend Siedenbug on May 13th. On May 18th the congregation received a letter from Reverend Siedenbug that he had received and was prayerfully considering the call. On Wednesday May 20th the Church Council met with Reverend Siedenbug, at his request, for one and a half hours and discussed our visions for Holy Emmanuel along with the issues we face. Rev. Siedenbug will be prayerfully considering the call over the next few weeks.

Reverend Siedenbug is currently serving as Intentional Interim Senior Pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church in Mounds View. Should he accept the call it is likely that he will not be available June 1st. The Lay ministers will make appropriate arrangements for a

vacancy Pastor during this period.

The voters in April approved a tentative design for a new bell tower that would include cell phone capability. T-Mobile is currently working with the Bloomington City staff on detailed plans. These plans will be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council in the fall. We will need the support of members, especially Bloomington residents, to attend and speak in support of the new design at the public hearings. We will let you know when and where these meetings will be held. In the mean time if you desire to see the concept drawings please see Candy in the Church office.

Many members have suggested we switch to a single service during the summer. The Lay Ministers, after considering the request along with the need to have a common worship experience during this transition period, have proposed a change in worship times for the summer. Their recommendation to implement a single worship service was approved by the Church Council at the May meeting. You should have received a letter announcing the change to a single worship service at 9:30 for the months of June, July and August. The format of the service will be varied throughout the summer to allow Rick and the musicians some time off. Again during this transition period we ask your assistance to help spread the word about the change in summer worship schedule. We hope you would realize that God being present at worship is not dependant on a specific service format. Finally I would ask that you pray for Holy Emmanuel during this transition period that God would lead us

on a path to reach out with the saving message of Jesus to the unchurched in the community around us.

For the Church Council,
In His Service,
Ron Reich



Sunday Morning Bible Study

8:30 a.m.

- **“Becoming New in Christ” Study of Romans** (Led by Randy Marko in the Accounting Room).

Tuesday Mornings

10:00 a.m.

- **“Angels”** (Led by Pat Squires at the Gables Apt. Bldg.)

Wednesday Mornings

9:30 a.m.

- **“Really Bad Girls of the Bible”** (Led by Candy Frein in the Accounting Room)

Thursday Mornings

10:00 a.m.

- **“The Sermon on the Mount”** (Led by Chuck Squires in the Accounting Room)



Sunday School

What a God-awesome day we had on our last Sunday, May 17th! The kids sang great!! A huge thank you goes to John and Sandy Carlson and EVERYONE else who pitched in to make our picnic such a great success!

Bible Camp is just around the corner. I still could use volunteers to help teach and just extra hands in the classrooms. Please call me if you can help out. This takes place the week of June 15th-19th.

Serving Him for you,
Natalie Mylander

Youth

I need all the help we can get for Bible Camp. We will also be having a June activity with Bible Study. The date will be determined after school gets out.

We will be going to Sonshine on Friday, July 17th and coming back Sunday, July 19th. More details will follow soon in the mail.

It has been decided by the kids that they want to re-do their youth room. This will be our big project in August. I will be calling to set up volunteers, so please look into your schedules and calendars.

Thanks to all who have helped out with the youth this past year and continue to do so. They are the future of Holy Emmanuel.

God's Blessings,
Natalie Mylander

THE YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all the children and families who joined us on Sunday, May 17th for singing in church and for the picnic. What a wonderful turn out we had. Praise the Lord!

I want to personally thank Miss Jen for heading up our playground project. Your support at Holy Emmanuel through financial contributions and prayers made is possible for us to "Re-do" our back playground. Now we are set for many more years of playing outside.

The summer is off to a great start at Open Arms. Our weekly themes this summer is a different Bible story each week.

Everyone at Open Arms and Holy Emmanuel are invited to a baby shower for Miss Susan Westphal on Saturday, June 13th, at 11:00 a.m. It will take place in the fellowship hall at Holy Emmanuel. Please join us! It is given by the staff of Open Arms.

Congratulations to Miss June and her husband. They are expecting a baby this winter! We wish them God's Blessings!

Thank you to Miss Karen for doing music once a week with our children. This truly is a gift from God. We appreciate it greatly. Your dedication is awesome!

Take time this summer to stop down and see us. We would love to have you read, pray with or just say "hi" to the kids.

In Christ,
Natalie Mylander

Holy Emmanuel has a Scholarship Fund available to members planning to attend Synodical schools to prepare for full-time church work, and for children attending Synodical and other Christian elementary and secondary schools.

If you meet either of these two criteria, you may pick-up a copy of the Scholarship Fund guidelines and an application from Candy in the church office. Scholarship applications must be submitted to the Board of Christian Education no later than September 1, 2009.

Funding for the Scholarship Fund comes from the church budget plus contributions by our members. If you would like to contribute to the fund, please put your donation in the offering and mark it "Scholarship Fund."

Any questions regarding scholarships should be directed to the Board of Christian Education:

- Dan and Vera Marko
952 854-4191
- Pat Squires
952 944-6187
- Randy Marko
952 894-6359
- Natalie Mylander
952 888-5116

SURPRISE DAD

..... at work!

Dads work so hard to provide for their families' needs. Here's a fun way to show your appreciation to your dad this Father's Day.*

What you need:

- Paper and envelope (any color)
- Markers and crayons
- Stickers
- Pencil
- Stamp
- Your dad's work address

What you do:

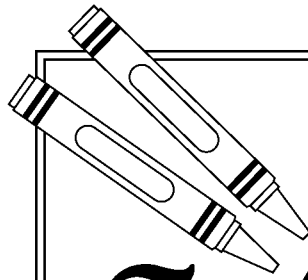
1. Decorate the paper with drawings, stickers, etc.
2. Write a message to your dad, letting him know how thankful you are for his love and hard work.
3. With an adult's help, write your dad's name and work address on the outside of the envelope and your return address in the top-left corner.
4. Place a stamp in the top-right corner and then mail your special gift.

Other ideas:

- Pack a lunch to eat with dad at or near his workplace.
- Send your letter in a box and include some homemade cookies.
- Pack your dad a special lunch. Place self-stick notes with messages of appreciation on various food items.
- Write appreciation messages on self-stick notes and, with your mom's help, place them all over the inside of your dad's car.



*All these ideas will work also for Mom on Mother's Day or her birthday.



Just for **KIDS**

Fathers of faith

Fathers do amazing things for their families, but the greatest gift our dads can share with us is their faith in God.

Complete this puzzle to read Isaiah's advice to fathers.

Directions: Working left to right, first write down all the 1's in the word blanks. Continue with the 2's and finally the 3's.

1 The	2 as	3 tell	1 living
2 I	3 their	1 the	2 am
3 children	1 living	2 doing	3 about
1 they	2 today	3 your	1 praise
2 fathers	3 faithfulness	1 you	

“ _____ , _____ — _____ ,
 _____ ; _____
 _____ .” Isaiah 38:19, NIV

Answer: “The living, the living — they praise you, as I am doing today; fathers tell their children about your faithfulness.” Isaiah 38:19, NIV

Hooray for fathers



A Houston newspaper asked readers to send in thoughts about their fathers. Letters flooded in, and what people wrote about their fathers is most inspiring.

A few comments:

- Dad was always there for me. He sacrificed to make sure that we had what we needed.
- When disappointment came my way, Dad said, "Son, real life ain't about getting what you want but more about doing something with what you get."
- My dad was disabled, but he worked hard to make sure we children had a good education and lived moral lives. He would say, "I want you to succeed more than I did."
- My dad wanted us to be Christians and took us regularly to church.

What would you write about your father?

"Therefore ..."

One of the most motivational and challenging words in Scripture is the word "therefore." It is motivational and challenging because it is often used to mobilize us into action. The writers of the Bible often used "therefore" to prompt us to respond to who God is and to the wonderful blessings that come from Him. In essence, we turn from hearing and knowing to putting our faith into action.

Webster's Dictionary defines "therefore" as follows: "for this or for that reason, hence." Although "therefore" is used in numerous places in the Bible, we will focus on the following three verses:

1st Corinthians 6:20: Here the apostle Paul tells us that, because of what Jesus has done, we *"are not [our] own; [we] were bought at a price. Therefore honor God ..."* Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice with His precious blood. Therefore, in light of His sacrifice, what does God desire and deserve from us? He deserves nothing less than our total praise and devotion. "Therefore" is the link from knowing to doing. Through faith, we know what Jesus did for us, and, again through faith, we are empowered to honor God. We honor Him in many ways. As stewards, we honor Him when we use our time, talents, and treasures in ways that advance His kingdom. In essence, we honor Him with all that we are and have.

Romans 12:1: *"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship"* (Romans 12:0). In the chapters preceding this verse, Paul

repeatedly references God's abundant mercy to us. Using the word "therefore," Paul directs us, in light of God's mercy, to *"offer [our] bodies as living sacrifices."* Because God is merciful and does not punish us as we deserve to be punished, we are to present ourselves to God as sacrificial gifts. We are to surrender and submit our lives to Jesus. A living sacrifice implies that Jesus is the Lord of every area of our lives. Having received God's mercy, we are motivated to live lives of obedience and faithfulness.

Matthew 28:18: *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations ..."* Jesus is Lord of all and has received from the Father all power in heaven and earth. With the word "therefore," He gives us the Great Commission. We are commanded to go to all nations to spread the Gospel.

With this inspiration from Scripture, therefore, let us express our faith. As the Holy Spirit speaks to us through God's Word, let us obey His promptings to live out our faith. Therefore, so and let others see His light and love through you.

Serve One Another

Survey

As brothers and sisters in Christ, or as people in general, we are called to love one another. Part of loving one another is the act of serving one another and showing Christ's love through our actions. This summer Holy Emmanuel hopes to put this love into action, starting with creating opportunities to serve our fellow church members. We hope to begin the process of gathering information about the congregation which will enable us to gauge what services we can provide. These services will be based on the individual talents and gifts of our wonderfully blessed congregation, and harnessed towards meeting the needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Be on the lookout for a survey that will be in the upcoming bulletins and Announcers which you can browse through a list of ways to serve, as well as services that you are in need of which we will work hard to provide for you. Please fill out this survey! This is a wonderful way to grow deeper in your faith as well as be the hands and feet of Christ within our church. Our hopes are that this will help us grow closer to each other through serving one another, and also closer to the Lord through becoming like Christ to our fellow members!

Thanks so much!

Lori Marko