

From the Vacancy Pastor

“In Between Time...”

Transitions begin with an ending and end with a new beginning. It's the 'in between time' that is, well, interesting.

'In Between Time' elicits reaction. "Make is short," some say. "We'll get through it, somehow" say others. For a few entrepreneurial types it's: "What unique learning opportunities does this 'in between time' provide for our mission?"

Biblical accounts of transitions remind us that God uses them to prepare His people for mission opportunities ahead. From these accounts we learn that transitions involve prayer, patience and persistence and, ah, yes, perspiration.

Add to that list, your leadership has the accumulated spiritual wisdom, experience and energy to both wait on the Lord and to lead Holy Emmanuel church optimistically and confidently to the next level of mission outreach in East Bloomington.

God knows how He wants this transition to end. My prayer is the Holy Emmanuel members work through this process in a way that will extend the Kingdom of God in this neighborhood.

Thanks for letting me walk the 'first leg' of this transition with you as your 'interim' interim pastor.

Be in Word and prayer.

Blessings,

Pastor B
612.599.2506

Council Transition Update

I met with Rev. Dan Siedenburg on June 17 and he informed me that he accepted our call as Intentional Interim Minister. Pastor Dan will be installed on Sunday July 26th. Due to previous commitments and family vacations Pastor Dan will preach his first sermon on August 16th.

Pastor Brutlag and Pastor Kuhlman will continue to serve Holy Emmanuel until Pastor Siedenburg returns in mid August. We appreciate their dedicated spiritual leadership, guidance, and ministry during this transition. Pastor B has encouraged us to remember that our mission is to spread the saving message of Jesus. Pastor Siedenburg will continue to lead us in this mission of carrying the gospel to the unchurched in the surrounding community. He will also guide Holy Emmanuel through the process of calling a permanent Pastor.

At the June Council meeting the Board of Lay Ministers reported they are meeting weekly with Pastor B to evaluate and improve the new worship service. At that meeting in his opening devotion Pastor B noted that a bungee cord is only useful when it is stretched and then he encouraged each member of the council to stretch in our service for the Lord. At this time of transition I would likewise encourage every member of the congregation to stretch in their pursuit of our mission to spread the saving message of Jesus to the surrounding community. As you reflect on the changes we are making stretch in your opinion of what a meaningful worship experience would be for the individual in our community that currently does not attend any

church. The Lay Ministers will be conducting a formal feedback survey to evaluate the worship format at the end of July. I encourage you to prayerfully consider the visitor, guest, and non-members attending worship as you provide feedback on the service format.

The Council approved an amendment to the lease with T-Mobile to extend the option period until next June and reflect the concept plan approved by the Voters in April.

Based on the approved concept T-Mobile is working with the Bloomington City staff to prepare the detailed drawings and insure the design meets code. Later this summer the process of review and approval by the Planning Commission will begin which will be followed by a similar cycle through the City Council. If you recall this can be a lengthy and painful process including a number of public hearings at which Holy Emmanuel will need your support to speak in favor of the project. T-Mobile is not confident the approval process will be completed in sufficient time to finish construction before winter. They wish to avoid the extra cost of winter construction and therefore are planning worse case to begin construction next spring and thus have requested a one-year extension on the lease option.

For the Church Council, In His Service,
Ron

**Highlights of the Minnesota
South District Convention
(LCMS)**

**June 11-13, 2009 Concordia
University, St. Paul, MN.**

The convention theme "Transformed for His Mission" was based on Roman 12:2: "Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Opening Service: Lead by Rev. Steven Wheeler from Cross View Lutheran Church in Edina with the sermon by Dr. Gerald Kieschnick, President of the LCMS.

The convention included 183 lay delegates and 200 pastoral delegates.

Dr. Kieschnick in his report indicated some of the major issues that Synod Executive committee is dealing with include: continued use of close(d) communion, women in the church, different styles of worship and inter-Christian alliances; he emphasized that any discord in these areas does not project the image of Christ that we want. The total annual budget for the Synod is now at about \$81 million. He also discussed the on going "blue ribbon task force" charged with making recommendations to restructure the LCMS with fewer districts.

Elections: Rev. Dr. Lane Seitz was re-elected by a 71% vote and Pastor Dan Ritter, Mt. Hope, was elected as our circuit (Southwest Suburban) counselor.

Mission Committee: The goal of the Minnesota South District is to plant 50 new churches by 2017 the 500 anniversary of the Reformation. We were all challenged as missionaries on the "front lines" of mission work in our communities.

The Alley Church (Cottage Grove) Issue: This is a daughter church of Woodbury Lutheran (Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy – 3rd VP LCMS) launched in September 2007. The district BOD had declined their application for admission into district with concerns regarding communion practice, worship practice, and use of the name Lutheran. By approximately 2/3 to 1/3 the convention overturned the board decision and admitted the Alley Church. It was my pleasure to speak on behalf of their admission (comments attached). The issue also spoke to a strong movement to restrict contemporary worship and mandate the use of the Lutheran Hymnal.

Bible Study ("Where is History Going"): Lead by Rev. Christopher Dodge focused on advances in the broader Christian worldwide mission field.

St. Mark Lutheran (Rushford, MN): Special recognition was given to the many members who helped in relief efforts during the August 2007 flood.

I believe that a final convention report will be forthcoming in the near future. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as the delegate. Overall I was pleased with the district leadership and their focus on "missional objectives"; at the same time, I feel that we have a good district communication link going forward during our transition which will help us see beyond our four walls... Please let me know if you have any questions.

Submitted by Chuck Squires
Holy Emmanuel Lutheran
Church – Delegate
June 17, 2009

Stewardship Corner

"Controlling Your Money"

Because money is of such major significance in our lives, it's important to spend sufficient time learning how to handle it as well as to understand how attitudes toward money affect us. So much of life revolves around money. Money experts estimate that 75 percent or more of our waking hours relate to money, including time spent working for it and the activities of planning, spending, saving, investing, and giving it.

As stewards of all God has entrusted to us, we have an even greater responsibility and need to develop skills in the handling of it. God gives us money not only to take care of ourselves, but also to help the needy and to help extend God's kingdom. As His stewards, we are to seek God's will for our lives and how we are to use our money. God's presence in our lives enables us to be God-pleasing stewards, and His Word gives us direction and principles about how to handle money wisely.

**Food For The Poor
Cancellation of Recycling
Program**

Food For The Poor has cancelled their printer cartridge-recycling program. They were notified by their cartridge broker that they will no longer be able to operate a viable cartridge recycling business.

Thank you for your used cartridge donations over the last several years.



Bible Camp

Bible Camp was a great success! Hopefully our message of "Have Faith in God" will stay in the children's hearts forever.

I want to thank all of the volunteers both from Holy Emmanuel and Open Arms who gave up their week to serve the Lord and His Church.

It was also great to have Pastor B. open up our week on Monday with prayer and bring his guitar in during the week to lead us in singing for Jesus.

As the summer goes on, don't forge to keep praying and worshipping together as a family.

In His Blessed Name,
Natalie Mylander

Youth

Thanks to Kayla, Emily and Elisabeth for helping with Bible Camp.

We will be going to Sonshine Thursday, July 16 – Friday, July 17th. Please look for the letter to come with all the details.

Stay in the Word this summer – as you read to grow academically, also read the Bible to continue to grow Spiritually.

Serving Him,
Natalie Mylander



This summer we are living in the **Son!**

Each week we are learning a new Bible story.

Our sympathies go out to Susan Westphal and her family at the loss of her mother.

Summer is for vacations, but don't take a vacation from God.

We wish you all a very blessed 4th of July – God Bless the USA!

In Christ,
Natalie Mylander



Sunday Morning Bible Study 8:30 a.m.

- **Mission of the Church** (Led by Pastor Brutlag in the Chapel).

All other Bible classes have recessed for the Summer.

Guy Time Event

Our next event will be held on Monday, July 7th, at 6:00 p.m. We will meet at church for supper and then have a bocce ball tournament. We need about 4-5 bocce ball sets for the tournament.

Please notify Randy Marko at (952) 894-6359 or Rick Marko at (952) 896-0017 if you have a set we can borrow.

See you on the 7th!



September 10, 11, 12

- ⇒ September 9 – Sort & Price all items beginning at 9:00 a.m. until it is all sorted and priced. Sorters get to shop early!
- ⇒ September 10 and 11 – 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- ⇒ September 12 – 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon. Bag sale at \$2.00/bag.

We will need many men and ladies to help.

Men will set up the tables on Tuesday, September 8, at 1:00 p.m.

Clean up is Saturday, September 12, at 12:00 Noon.

A sign up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the narthex. Please sign up to help!

Proceeds from the Rummage Sale will be used for missions and church.

Be sure to bring your sellable items during the end of August.

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

Table Donation

Thank you to Dell Lossow and Vern Endresen for taking three (3) of the worn, big tables to the Union Gospel Mission in St. Paul. They were greatly appreciated!

Thank You!

Thank you for the prayers, cards, and calls as I recover from a car accident.

God bless you all!

Gladys Lossow

TRAVEL BINGO

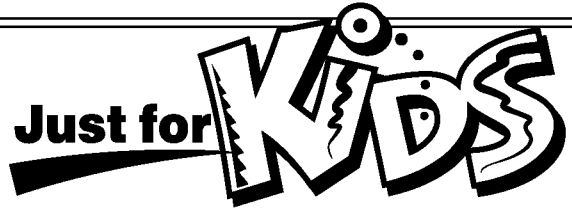
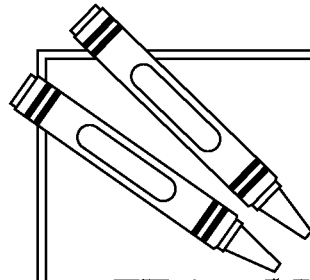
Summer travel is fun, but sometimes getting to the destination can take a long time. Try this homemade bingo game to entertain you and your family while you vacation this summer.

What you need:

- Sheets of 8 1/2" x 11" paper (one for each player)
- Stickers (16 for each player)
- Pencil, pen, marker or crayon

What you do:

1. Before your trip, list different things you might see as you travel.
2. Take each 8 1/2" x 11" sheet of paper and fold it in half, from top to bottom. Fold it in half again from top to bottom. Then fold it in half from side to side and then again. Unfold the paper and you should have 16 equal-sized squares, four across horizontally and four down vertically.
3. Family members write one thing from the list in each of the 16 squares. They can place them in any order. For non-readers, someone can draw pictures in each square.
4. Put the sheets and stickers in the car in an easy-to-reach place.
5. While traveling, when you see an object that's on your card, say it out loud. Put a sticker in that square.
6. The first person to get four in a row wins the first round. The first person to fill two rows wins the second round. The first person to fill the entire sheet wins the game.



TRAVEL BY DAY OR NIGHT

The way people travel has changed over time, but one thing has not changed — God was with people in biblical times just as He is with you and your family as you travel during your summer vacations.

Count the number of letters for each name, and then write the name in the spaces next to the verse that matches. (Hint: Besides counting the number of letters in the name, also pay attention to whether the person is from the Old Testament or New Testament.)

NAMES

Paul Moses Joseph The Israelites Abram crowds
Samaritan Jesus Naaman Angel of God

VERSES

“The _____ had been traveling in front of Israel’s army” Exodus 14:19

“And _____ went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt.” Genesis 41:46

“Go in peace,” said Elisha. After _____ had traveled some distance” 2 Kings 5:19

“_____ traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem.” Genesis 12:6

“_____ traveled through that area, speaking many words of encouragement to the people, and finally arrived in Greece.” Acts 20:2

“_____ traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.” Luke 8:1

“Large _____ were traveling with Jesus.” Luke 14:25

“_____ traveled to the plains of Moab and camped along the Jordan across from Jericho.” Numbers 22:1

“_____ led Israel from the Red Sea For three days they traveled in the desert” Exodus 15:22

“But a _____, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.” Luke 10:33

Answers: Angel of God; Joseph; Naaman; Abram; Paul; Jesus; crowds; The Israelites; Moses; Samaritan

**End-of-the-Year Pot Luck
Priscilla Guild/Men's Club
Rescheduled!**

Be sure to mark Tuesday, August 11th on your calendar for the End-of-the-Year Pot Luck.

The event will take place at Gramercy (1669 Yankee Doodle Rd., Eagan). For directions, contact Paula Cherveney at (651) 687-0960 or Trudy Schramm at (651) 687-9889.

Social Hour begins at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. The Priscilla Guild will provide chicken. Bring a pot luck dish to pass.

Reminder!

Tables and Chairs

If you would like to borrow any tables and chairs from the church, please contact the church office at (952) 888-2345.

The WHITE tables are not to leave the building. You are welcome to borrow the older tables, as well as folding chairs. If you have any questions, contact the church office or any member of the Board of Church Properties. Thank you!

**Five Steps To A Friendlier
Church**

1. Speak to the other person first. Don't wait for him or her to take the initiative.
2. If there is someone you don't know, introduce yourself to him or her.
3. Be pleasant in your words and expressions. A great church cannot be built with frowns.
4. Invite newcomers to a worship service or to a church event and introduce them to other members.
5. Encourage people to participate in those church activities that interest them.