

# THE EMMANUEL EPISTLE

*“Praising, Proclaiming and Practicing Emmanuel—God with us—in daily life!”*

## Pastor’s Keyboard: “I THANK MY GOD IN ALL MY REMEMBRANCE OF YOU!” - Philippians 1:3

St. Paul wrote an epistle—a letter—to the Saints in Philippi. Paul knew that Emmanuel begins and completes a good work in His chosen ones. Every time Paul remembered the Philippians, he said, “Thank You Jesus!”

Paul also wrote an epistle to the Church at Ephesus. At the end of his third missionary journey, Paul shared a tearful goodbye with his beloved partners in ministry (Acts 20). Julie and I know what it’s like to bid farewell to Saints who have become beloved friends and family. Goodbyes are hard. Goodbye is a noble word. It means “GOD BE WITH YOU.” But goodbyes often punctuate a note of



finality. God be with you till we meet again.

Since my departure from University Place, WA, a beloved saint—Stan Marshall, age 99, has passed away. Stan was still bowling at age 98. He gave me his old ball and invited me to join his team. Stan has completed his journey and arrived home. I’m thanking God for a life well-lived.

Julie and I departed from Washington with the grace of God; a great send-off. We have been

faith. James arrived on Wednesday, August 14 at 5:38 p.m. He weighed in at 8 pounds and 1 ounce; 21.5 inches long. Yay

welcomed into the fold of Emmanuel and the city of Rochester with open arms of hospitality, good grace and much love. Like Paul, we are thanking God for the Saints who are the face of Christ in our midst. We are leaping—Run Christian Run and standing up straight for Jesus.

The fruit is found out on the limb. Together we press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Emmanuel, every time I remember you, I say, “Thank You Jesus!”

God. Emmanuel is with us in the birth of a new child. We await James’ rebirth into the Kingdom of God.

## September Newsletter Volume 1, Issue 1

### *Food For Thought:*

*“Grace opposes merit, not effort”—Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling for God is at work in you both to will and to work for His good pleasure. What is God’s good pleasure for you? Have no fear little flock for the Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom.*

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## September Headline

Congratulations to Matt and Megan Wagner...and BIG SIS Anna, welcoming James Matthew into their household of

## Emmanuel Lutheran of Rochester, Minnesota

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**The SONG in our HEART: “Oh Come, Oh come, Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you O Israel.”**

**Servants of Emmanuel  
celebrate the birth of Jesus  
every day!**



## EMMANUEL'S MISSION

We are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever!

We are **P**raising, **P**roclaiming, and **P**racticing Emmanuel—God With Us—in in daily life.

God created and redeemed us for worship. Weekly we gather around Word and Sacrament to offer praise to Jesus.

We are spiritual midwives of Jesus, giving birth to Messiah, who is Lord of all.

We proclaim Christ crucified and risen for the forgiveness of sins.

As a mission congregation of the NALC we are Christ-Centered, Mission-Driven, Traditionally-Grounded and Congregationally-Focused. We practice our faith and let our lights shine before others.

## Back Page Stories

### Starting September 10:

Emmanuel Men are meeting weekly on Tuesdays at 8 a.m. at Charlie's (1408 2nd. St. SW) for breakfast and a first look at the lectionary readings for the week. Bring a friend, sit at the feet of Jesus and practice being evangelical.

**Super Market Saturday:** Oasis has an amazing Christ-centered ministry of compassion to people in need. Julie and I are looking for two Servants of Emmanuel to join us on Saturday, September 21 (9 a.m.- Noon) as we practice our discipleship & serve our neighbors in need.

**Installation:** Emmanuel's Pastor - Rev. David Steffenson - will be celebrating 30 years of Ordained Ministry on September 11 and will be installed on Saturday, September 14 at our 6 p.m. Worship Service. Let's pack the place and praise the LORD!

**Wish List:** Ministry Opportunities at Emmanuel...

- 1) Printed Brochures and Fliers
- 2) Pulpit Bible

### Benefactors and Patrons:

Thanking God for...the generosity of God's people; a large financial gift to help cover pastor's moving ex-

penses; 40 new copies of With One Voice—a worship resource to be used this fall; Thrivent Choice Dollars; servant hands that helped load and unload the Penske Rental Truck, gifted musicians who lead us in worship each Saturday night; hospitality that attends to worship preparation & refreshments; and Oasis—a warm and welcoming pastor & congregation that has opened their doors to Emmanuel and provided office space for Pastor Dave. THANK YOU!

**Every Member Visit:** Give Pastor Dave & Julie a call; invite them to enter your home. They want to share Emmanuel and hear your faith story.