

THE EMMANUEL EPISTLE

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

Pastor's Keyboard: “Discipleship - Seasonal Servants”

Do you remember the hit single from the 1970's, “Time in a Bottle”? Jim Croce wrote the lyrics after his wife Ingrid told him she was pregnant with his son, Adrian, in December 1970. When Croce was killed in a plane crash in September of 1973, the song's lyrics, dealing with mortality and the wish to have more time, had additional resonance.

“If I could save time in a bottle, The first thing that I'd like to do, Is to save every day, 'Til eternity passes away, Just to spend them with you. But there never seems to be enough time, To do the things you want to do, Once you find them.”

What time is it? Can I have a minute of your time? Whose time is it any way? Time flies when you're having fun, and even when you're not. For everything there is a season. “Now after John the Baptist was arrested (time's up), Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the Gospel of God, and saying, ‘the time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel.’” Time's a-wastin'. Redeem the time, because the days are evil. The time is always NOW!

God is the author of all time, and all the seasons within time. We're all on the clock, but the calendar is



not our Master. God is! Isaac Watts took the words of Psalm 90 and put them to music: “O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.” Home is not a temporal residence or a mailing address. Home is an abiding relationship with the Source of our being. A thousand years is like a day to the Lord. God is Alpha & Omega, beginning and end, commencement and conclusion.

“If I could make days last forever, If words could make wishes come true, I'd save every day like a treasure and then, Again, I would spend them with you.” - Jim Croce

When Christ appears, we shall be like Him. In the meantime, all who hope in Christ, purify themselves as He is pure. God is before time, in time and beyond time. In Christ, God gives us eternity, never-ending time, timeless time. “A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,

short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.” We've got all the time we need to accomplish our Lord's purposes.

St. Paul writes to Timothy, “Preach the Word; be ready in season and out of season.” In other words, it is always open season for the Gospel! The time is always NOW for preaching Jesus Christ, crucified and risen for the forgiveness of our sins. Paul offers this warning: “The time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears, will accumulate teachers who tell them what they want to hear.”

What time is it? St. Paul reminds us that time is precious & always opportune: “Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.” Sleep is not an evil. God gives to His beloved rest. We rest well, so that we may rise well. “For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.”

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Food For Thought:

“Time is the brush of God, as he paints his masterpiece on the heart of humanity.

— Ravi Zacharias

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SAVE THE DATES!

- Sunday, October 30 (3pm): Third Annual Reformation Sunday Prayer Walk. A Potluck follows at Pastor Dave & Julie's. Bring a dish or dessert to share. Sloppy-Joes will be served.
- Friday, November 4: Boy's Night Out Banquet at 6:00 pm. The meal is free ("Winner, Winner, Chicken Dinner!"), but guys need to have a ticket. The speaker will be Bob Bardwell, Executive Director of Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch. Look forward to being filled.
- Christmas Worship: Saturday, Dec. 24 (2pm) Christmas Eve Children's Service; and Sunday, Dec. 25 (10am) Christmas Day Service. Carols and Communion will be offered at both Services of Worship.
- Saturday, February 25, 2017—Emmanuel Lutheran "Fifth Anniversary" Celebration!

"ROCK the RED KETTLE"

The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign begins on Saturday, November 19. Emmanuel Lutheran is hosting two Kettles (\$250.00 each). We are ringing bells from 9am-5pm at the HyVee Circle Drive NW location.

November 19th Schedule:

- 9-11am: Pastor Dave & Julie Steffenson (Door 1)
- 9-11am: Don & Jean Wanek (Door 2)
- 11am-1pm: Joe Vomhof & Cabe Siebenaler (Door 1)
- 11am-12pm: Sharon & Emma Matzke (Door 2)
- 12-1pm: MarJean Damerval (Door 2)
- 1-3pm: Darald & Leitha Bothun (Door 1)
- 1-3pm: Lee & Judy Pearce (Door 2)
- 3-5pm: LeRoy & Margaret Quam (Door 1)
- 3-5pm: Larry & Deb Vomhof (Door 2)

Last year, servants of Emmanuel rang bells for a total of 45 hours. Lee Perce is serving as our Bell Ringing Coordinator again this year. Call Lee and get on the calendar for bell ringing! Rick Warren says, "*The best use of life is love. The best expression of love is time. The best time to love is now.*"

Saturday School

Under the direction of Julie Steffenson, children are learning the stories of our Faith each week (5:10pm) in Saturday School. Once each month, MarJean is leading the kids in song time, and then they are offering gifts of music in worship (Nov. 12 and Dec. 10). Adults are sharing conversations weekly at 5:15pm about "faith formation" in the lives of our young people. All adults are encouraged to participate in GIFT - Growing In Faith Together. It takes a "faith village" to raise a child in the Christian Faith. Thanks for doing your part.

PRAYING FOR OUR SCHOOLS

Each month, on the 15th day of the month, we pray for an area school. During the month of November we are praying for Chatfield Elementary School and delivering treats to the staff on November 7. Thanks for keeping students and their families, teachers, staff & administrators, in your prayers! This ministry is supported by an Action Team gift from Thrivent. During the month of December we will be praying for Byron Elementary School.

Minnesota Institute of Art!

In honor of the 500th Anniversary of Luther's posting of the 95 Theses (Oct. 31. 1517), a special exhibition is being offered, entitled: "**Martin Luther: Art and the Reformation**". 500 years ago, Luther took a stand that shook Europe & changed the world. Now you can see the story of Martin Luther & the Reformation brought to life through astonishing artworks and historical objects, traveling outside Germany for the first time ever. The Exhibition runs from October 30-January 15. **Call #612-871-3000 to reserve tickets.** Address: 2400 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social

Join us on Wednesday, November 23 (6pm) as we celebrate the Feast of Thanksgiving with Worship & Holy Communion, followed by a Pie Social. Bring a favorite pie to share.

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Our lives are governed by God, but we often become slaves to the clock and calendar. The leaves are falling, and the weather is turning cold. We've got tasks to take care of before the snow flies. Its fall and winter is near. I'll clean the gutters, put the patio furniture into storage, rake the leaves and mow one final time. The mower will be put away and the snow blower will be readied to perform its created and purchased purpose. What calendar guides your days as you watch the specks of sand cascading through the hour glass? The school or academic calendar? The workplace calendar? The sports calendar? The annual secular calendar that ends at Midnight on December 31 and starts fresh on New Year's Day, January 1? What about the church calendar? What place does God's calendar have in your span of life?

This year, as the month of November runs its course (appointed allotment of time), we find ourselves marking holy time. November begins with the celebration of All Saints Day. "You shall be holy, because I, the LORD your God, am holy!" As the church year moves to its conclusion, the appointed readings for worship focus on the End Times, the consummation of history & the second coming of Jesus. The last Sunday of the Church Year is "Christ the King" Sunday. Jesus is enthroned on a cross. His humiliation is our exaltation. His execution is our deliverance from sin and death, and our resurrection unto eternal life. Jesus is the ruler of the kings of this world. He is the Emperor of all emperors. Christ the King Sunday begins for us at 6pm on Saturday, November 19, which is New Year's Eve in the life of the Church. God gives us not merely a tick of the clock, but a whole week to make transition from one year to the next. Advent I (November 27) is New Year's Day in the life of the Church. In between New Year's Eve (Christ the King) and New Year's Day (Advent I), we celebrate the "Great Thanksgiving". "Now thank we all our God! The Church Year bathes us in our seasonal walk with God!

Deacon Keith Fournier of the Roman Catholic Church, writes, "Thanksgiving is a great Feast made even fuller in meaning for the believing and practicing Christian. The word *Eucharist* means Thanksgiving. Let us walk through this last week of the church year and join with those whom we love around the table of Thanksgiving, and then let us walk the way of faith into the new Liturgical season, Advent, getting ourselves and the world of our own time ready for the final coming of Christ the King." Disciples are seasonal servants of Christ. It's always open season for the Gospel!

We can't save time in a bottle. Eternity isn't passing away. The redeemed always have FOREVER! — Pastor Dave

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR NOVEMBER - Liturgy: With One Voice & LBW

Saturday, November 5 - Eve All Saints (6pm)

Scripture Reader & Prayers: Darald Bothun

Ushers: Darald & Leitha Bothun

Acolyte: Pending

Communion Assistant: Leitha Bothun

Sound & Coffee: Don & Peg Holtan

Treats: Julie Edwards

Saturday, November 12 - Eve of Pentecost XXVI (6pm) - Pulpit Supply: Rev. Tim Duesenberg

Scripture Reader & Prayers: Julie Steffenson

Ushers: Bob Harms & Creig Anderson

Acolyte: Pending

Communion Assistant: Julie Steffenson

Sound & Coffee: Lee & Judy Pearce

Treats: Samia Nelson

Saturday, November 19 - Eve of Christ the King (6pm)

Scripture Reader & Prayers: Lee Pearce

Ushers: Jim & Cabe Siebenaler

Acolyte: Ava Siebenaler

Communion Assistant: Katie Siebenaler

Sound & Coffee: Lee & Judy Pearce

Treats: Katie Siebenaler

Wednesday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Eve: (6pm)

Scripture Reader & Prayers: Leitha Bothun

Ushers: Darald & Leitha Bothun

Acolyte: Pending

Communion Assistant: Darald Bothun

Sound: Don Holtan

Treats: PIE SOCIAL (*bring a favorite to share*)

Saturday, November 30 - Eve of Advent I: (6pm)

Scripture Reader & Prayers: Don Holtan

Ushers: Larry Vomhoff & LeRoy Quam

Acolyte: Pending

Communion Assistant: Lee Pearce

Sound & Coffee: Don & Peg Holtan

Treats: Margaret Quam

NOTE: MarJean Damerval will be our pianist each week. Julie Steffenson will take care of set up & Janet Sunde & friends will take care of the take down. Pastor Dave will be our preacher each week, except on November 12 when Rev. Tim Duesenberg will serve as our pulpit supply. November 12: Kids Choir Sings!

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Save the Dates!

**Lent Begins on Ash Wednesday,
March 1, 2017!*

**August 7-11, 2017 is the date of
the NALC Convocation in
Nashville, Tennessee!*

IRS SCAM WARNING: This is to alert everyone that there are several scams occurring. The most prevalent is the IRS imposter scam. Normally this scam leaves an urgent robo type call that you must notify the “IRS” at a number they will leave you. When you call the number the person (often an individual with an Indian accent) will tell you that you are being sued by the IRS for fraud on your taxes. They will give you an “officer’s” name and “badge” number. They will tell you that you need to pay an amount before you hang up the phone or the authorities will be at your residence to arrest you by handcuffing you. Just to let you know – None of this is in any way the way the IRS will contact you.

- They will never contact you first by phone.
- They will never demand money be paid immediately.
- They will never threaten to arrest you.
- They will never threaten to freeze all your accounts, take your passport and license.
- They will never contact you by e-mail.

NEVER give out any personal information by phone or e-mail to anyone! If you have questions contact the IRS, your bank or whoever’s fraudulent name is on the scam attempt. There are many other types of scams and they prey predominantly on the elderly & disabled so be alert.

Marks of Discipleship

Signposts guide our way—Disciples seek to pray daily, worship weekly, grow spiritually, read & study Scripture on a regular basis, serve others, share the good news, & give generously.

Back Page Stories

Men’s Bible Study Breakfast: A new study and a new location: Join us at Oasis Church each Tuesday at 8am for a Bible Study on Revelation and a continental breakfast. Participate in being Evangelical. Invite a friend.

Supermarket Saturday: The next Channel One ministry opportunity is November 19, 2016 (9 am—Noon).

Women’s Bible Studies: The Afternoon & Evening Women’s Bible Study groups are studying the Book of Revelation this fall! Next Sessions: Afternoon Study on Thursdays, Nov. 3 & 17 at 1pm. Lady Light at Katie’s home on Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30pm.

Madonna Towers Ministry:

Pastor Dave is leading worship & preaching at the Madonna Towers Skilled Care Chapel on the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Members of Emmanuel are invited to participate in this ministry to seniors of our community. Our next Worship Services will be on Wednesdays, November 2 & 16 at 1:00 pm. Give Lee Pearce a call if you would like to help with this wonderful ministry.

Church Council Highlights -

October 5: The church council is continuing to study the 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership by John C. Maxwell. Budget report: Emmanuel has a year-to-date shortfall of \$3,907.93. We budgeted for a loss of \$15,000,

so we are doing well. Special happenings in October include: Bible Saturday with the Kids Choir and Gideon Speaker, Gary Froiland (Oct. 8th.); the GARMS Family Concert (Oct. 16); and our fourth annual Prayer Walk & Potluck (Oct. 30). Emmanuel T-Shirts are being sold & distributed. The schedule is set for the Red Kettle kick-off. Boys Night Out (Nov. 4) is going to be great! The 2017 Mission Plan Budget is being put together. Don Holtan is securing a Thrivent Grant for the purchase of “Welcome Packet” items. The Nominating Committee will be meeting soon. Servants are needed for Council, the Audit Committee, the Nominating Committee, and voting Delegates. The next Council Meeting is Nov. 3 at 3:45pm.