

The Echo

October 2022



You Are All Valuable in his Sight!!

Fall has been busy and we are excited to welcome everyone to worship and to participate in the Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry.

When Jesus told the story of the missing sheep, some of the people who were listening wiped away a tear because they knew how it felt to be lost among the crowd. Jesus wanted us to understand that we have a Father who sees and cares for each one of His children and that we are all equally valuable to Jesus. No one is useless at any point in their life-not a little child, not the unattractive, the clumsy, the tired, the discouraged. God loves each of us.

Our value is inherent, not based on the Ph.D. after our name or the amount of money in our bank account. We have value simply because we are the focus of God's love. We belong to God's eternal dream. Now you may not feel motivated, you may not feel like you have a reason for living, but you must remind yourself of the undeniable fact that you are a part of a commissioned people who came at a high cost to God-the death of His beloved Son; you have a reason to be alive.

There is an eternal purpose. Draw closer to God to discover your path; serve others through your unique gifts, always remaining humble. A great river of God's love is moving you toward an eternal home with Him. Let God take your hand and lead you. With His strength and guidance, your path will become clear. Uncover your worth and live!

Gracious God, Let the community of Abercrombie and Galchutt be reminded of how loved they are today and constantly. This church community welcomes them with open arms.

Pastor Janelle Hansen



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EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS!



We are excited that Emmanuel Church will start Sunday School on October 2, 2022. It will be an informal gathering with the kids working on a craft while we tell a little story. Any kids age 3 and older are invited, but a younger sibling can attend if a parent is there to help.

You do not need to be a member of Emmanuel to attend so pass the message on to your friends!

Sunday School will generally meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month. Sunday School will start at 9:45 AM. Worship is at 10:30 AM.

The first Sunday of each month is also "Noisy Offering" Sunday where the kids take little pails and gather coins from the congregation with the proceeds going to some needy cause or organization.

Any questions, call Lou Ann Lee at 701-640-0321. We hope to see you there!!



Get your taste buds going! The Richland Lutheran Church will be again holding their Lutefisk/ Meatball dinner on the last Friday in October. Come enjoy the fellowship!



Watch for a notice in next month's Echo regarding an Advent event in the evening on Sunday, November 27, 2022, where a family can learn about Advent and build a home Advent wreath. Mark your calendars!

If you have an announcement for an event or photos from a baptism, wedding, or some other special event regarding a member or former member of our parish, we would love to include the information in an upcoming issue. Please email them to emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com

Special dates

- Pastor Appreciation Month
- World Communion Sunday, *October 2, 2022*
- Reformation Sunday, *October 30, 2022*
- Reformation Day, *October 31, 2022*



Fall seems to be a time of change, reflecting back over the summer and looking ahead to all the changes winter brings. I have been doing a little reflection in the readings I have come across that have caused me to ponder my faith a little more deeply.

Over the last few years, I have read Krista Tippett's *On Being*. Recently, she had returned to Germany where, 40 years ago, she was a journalist and diplomat in Cold War Berlin. It is there she began her contemplations on life and faith. After taking a sabbatical from the *On Being* podcast, she has begun to write about her preparations to return in 2023. Many of you may want to check out her writing as she reflects upon the similarities of life and the German people then and now. The podcast will be something to look forward to in the cold winter months.

Last month's article by Lou Ann, our ECHO Editor, highlighted changes GEM has experienced in the last few years as Meggie Bjertness and next Janelle Hansen began ministering to our churches and community. Many times we are reminded that the work of ministering is not limited to the pastoral leaders. I found this especially true in a Facebook post from the Clergy Coaching Network that reminds us we are all ministers in our community.

- * The pastor says they sit front and center. The gay boys. Sometimes they hold hands. And some folks have said he should address the issue. But the pastor tells me he doesn't know what to say.
- * And then there's the man who sneaks in the back door, fresh off the street, after the service starts and leaves before alter call. The people sitting close complain about how bad he smells of beer and smoke and sweat. But the pastor tells me he doesn't know what to say.
- * And then there's the young mama who wears dirty skin and lets her four children come in and eat all the donuts and drink all the watered-down juice. Some church staff say they "eat like little pigs, like they haven't eaten in weeks." While the mama just stands there and lets them. And the elders say something must be done. But the pastor tells me he doesn't know what to say.
- * And there's the whore sitting among the faithful and everybody knows her. She sits with a painted-up face, cheap perfume, and a broken heart. And those who sit close, well, they all treat her for what they think she is. And at the last staff meeting, her name came up. Something must be done about her. But the pastor tells me he doesn't know what to say.

The pastor is a good man, holy and just, and he wants to do the "right and loving" thing. And he wants to "look like Jesus." And he asks me if I have any thoughts on anything he could say? Yes, sweet pastor, I do. Start with this and say it louder than any other words: "Welcome to church. This is a place of love and hope and safety and forgiveness. We will be food for the hungry, living water for the thirsty. We are so glad you are here. You are invited. You are loved. Come on in. We've been waiting on you. You are welcome here. We are the church." Say that to the called and to the called-out, to the leaders and the greeters, to the dirty and the clean. We are all the same. We are.

May we blow the dust of religion out of our souls and choose affection instead. May our words and actions and reactions be a sanctuary for all. Jesus broke many laws (man's law, not God's law) to love. So, Jesus, be our voice. Be the only words we should ever speak.

- Author Unknown

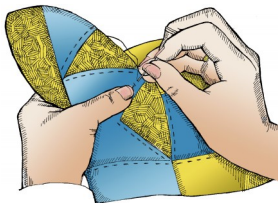
Who is the pastor in this story? Where do we minister to those who may need a kind word or action from us?

Ellen Rittenhouse

LWR News



Fall is here and quilting is keeping our ladies busy, as well as quilters all over the country. We are sorting fabric, cutting fabric and batting, piecing/sewing the tops, preparing backings, tying knots to hold the layers together, and sewing the binding/edges. Soon we will be packing the quilts into boxes for delivery to Fargo for shipment to Minneapolis the week of October 10-14. As you can see, there are several ways to contribute to this ministry that doesn't involve sewing, so please consider joining us. Oh, and I forgot to mention the camaraderie generated during our monthly quilting days leaves us with warm feelings of accomplishment.



QUILTING GROUP

In addition to the quilts, we will be shipping school kits for kids around the world. Recently LWR shipped many school kits to displaced families in the Ukraine region. Some kits and quilts have been shared with Ukrainians who are being welcomed to the US after being displaced by the churches who help them get settled here.

We will be quilting October 11 from 9 AM to 2 PM at Emmanuel.

Ellen Rittenhouse

No lone-ranger Christians

World Communion Sunday, celebrated this year on October 2, reminds us there's no such thing as solitary Christianity. "As Christians we're called to belong, not just to believe," writes Rick Warren. "We are not meant to live lone-ranger lives; instead, we are to belong to Christ's family and be members of his body."

After all, Christian fellowship can't occur without fellow Christians. We can't learn the intricacies of the Bible and theology without preachers and teachers. We don't baptize ourselves. We don't take Holy Communion alone; in fact, the sacrament's very name refers to interaction with God and others.

The New Testament clearly states that one cannot be Christian all alone. We are members of Christ's body (Ephesians 5:30). We belong to the family of believers (Galatians 6:10). We are "a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people" (1 Peter 2:9, NRSV). So don't be a lone ranger or a stranger — to worship or to Holy Communion!

We keep the following in our prayers:

- Shirley B., Marlowe H., Andrea H., Mary K., Jan R., Stuart, and Gail H., as they deal with medical issues;
- ♦ Any others who are dealing with health issues or addiction issues; and
- ♦ Our students, congregations, and leadership.



Emmanuel Lutheran Council Highlights



Craig Syvertsen *
Lesley Hulne
Lou Ann Lee
Julie Lehman
Fred Tol
Sharon Tschakert
Tessa Tschakert

The Emmanuel Church Council met on September 1, 2022, with the following members present: Pastor Janelle, LouAnn Lee, Sharon Tschakert, Fred Tol and Tessa Tschakert.

Meeting was called to order by VP Sharon Tschakert and Pastor Janelle led us in devotions.

Secretary's Report: Report was read by Tessa. LouAnn made a motion to approve; second by Fred. All passed.

Treasurer's report: Still on track for the budget. Offerings have been down over the summer. Motion by Tessa to approve the report; second by Fred. All passed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Janelle gave a recap of her schooling schedule. She had education for two weeks at Wartburg College this summer and will have a couple classes to attend at Wartburg at the end of September. She will start her Clinical Pastoral Education at Sanford this fall. She is on track with her education and shooting for an internship in May 2023. She did a summary of vacation, education, weddings, funerals and time off. September 12-14 she will be at Fair Hills for the fall theological conference. The second and fourth Wednesdays of each month they will have LYO (Lutheran Youth Organization). Community event for all kids to study, have fellowship and socialize. Planning an Advent event in November that will rotate between Galchutt and Emmanuel yearly and be held on a Sunday evening for the entire family. Mileage is higher this month due to school travel at 1026 miles. Tessa made a motion to approve mileage; second by LouAnn. All Passed.

Stewardship: Tessa reported the last Farmers Market is September 21 and Emmanuel will hand out goodies for kids again. Also, discussion of having a Hymn Sing that night. Welcome Wagon bags are almost complete, and Pastor Janelle will ask others to help her deliver these to new members of our area. Raffle is underway and she is organizing donations. Pastor Janelle reported that she helped with donuts on the first day of school at the high school. September 11 is Coffee with Kids at the elementary school, and we will have cookies for them as well. Council approved this expense. Committee will meet September 18 after church to follow up on Halloween and Holiday events.

Education: LouAnn has been researching what dates work best to launch Sunday school. Asking parents if Wednesday evenings or Sunday mornings work best for them. Setting an October start date.

Worship: Meeting September 8 at 6:30 PM. Planning songs thru the end of the year.

Property: Going to redecorate office and get a face lift. Discussion on fixing the water problem in basement due to drainage from the air conditioner and furnace into a "non" sump hole.

Old Business: Parsonage has been sold and paperwork complete. Cemetery restoration will start after Labor Day. Will get as much done before freeze and will continue next spring.

New Business: LouAnn mentioned that Pastor Janelle's start date was approaching. Contract should be reviewed by council. Tessa made a motion to approve 5% increase starting in September; Second by LouAnn. All passed.

Next meeting will be October 4, 2022, at 6:30 PM. Tessa made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by Fred. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Tessa Tschakert

****Notice: The Emmanuel Council meeting has been moved to Monday, October 3, at 6:30 PM.**

Galchutt Lutheran Council Highlights

The Galchutt Church Council met on August 31, 2022, at 6:30 PM at Galchutt Lutheran Church. Members present were Logan Biffert, Alex Paczkowski, Jimmy Overby, Kyle Krump, Al Muhs, Daniel Dockter, and Pastor Janelle Hansen. Pastor Janelle led with a devotion and prayer. Alex read secretary's report from May 2022 meeting. Kyle approved the report and Jimmy seconded. There was no treasury report from Kendra.

OLD BUSINESS: Roofing at St John's is under way and going good. We will be getting a credit from the contractor as there was no need for new sheeting. Only issue he has come across is the chimney is loose and will need to be looked at. The steeple was not included in the bid. To get the steeple done would be \$20,000 extra. The council voted to not do the steeple as it was done in the last 15-20 years we assumed. St John's 150th celebration went very well with lots of compliments. Daily News had a nice article about the day.

NEW BUSINESS: The Sunday school schedule was talked about. Sunday school will start September 11th with Rally Sunday. Rally Sunday service will be at 10:30 AM at St John's with potluck after in Galchutt. Sunday school will be prior to church. Sunday school will continue every other Sunday after church. Noisy offering will be done on the first Sunday of the month. The parsonage was sold on August 31. There is still need for a pianist for both churches. Addie Christianson and Kendra Dockter would be available for Galchutt but not Emmanuel. Playing music and recording would also be an option. Beer and Hymns is set to start at the September 21 Farmers Market at the Aber Pavilion Park with the Fort Saloon in October. The dehumidifier will be looked at after the meeting to make sure it is working/setup properly.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Janelle has had a busy summer with classes in June and July at Wartburg. She took 6 classes. She will start her fall schedule at Wartburg September 22-25 and September 29-October 2. She will start her CPE at Sanford October 31st until April 1st. It consists of 350 hours total and 3-4 hours per week of her time. In May 2023 she will start her internship with Galchutt and Emmanuel - similar to Pastor Meggie's internship. Pastor Jule will be her adviser and there will be a committee of 3-4 congregation members for 1 year. For the first Sunday of Advent, she would like to do an Advent event at Galchutt, November 27, with potluck, conversation about Advent and making a yule log, running 5 PM-7 PM. This event will rotate with Emmanuel every Advent season. Pastor Janelle gave a year in review with her vacations, weddings, and baptisms, as her first year with Galchutt and Emmanuel will be on September 7. There is some money that is still owed for her schooling. Janelle and Jule brought donuts for Richland students on the second day of school. Richland/Our Saviors paid for half and Galchutt/Emmanuel will pay for the other half. The synod fall retreat of students in grades 6-9 is held September 16-18. The pastor's contract was reviewed for its yearly review. Daniel made a motion to accept the continuance of Pastor Janelle and Alex seconded. Kyle made a motion to accept the pastor's report and Daniel seconded. Al made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jimmy seconded. Meeting ending with the Lord's Prayer

Alex Paczkowski- Galchutt Church Council Secretary




Logan Biffert *
Daniel Dockter
Alex Paczkowski
Kyle Krump
James Overby
Allen Muhs

**** Next Galchutt Council Meeting is Wednesday, October 5, at 6:30 PM.**



OCTOBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Emmanuel Altar Guild for October: Deb Syvertsen
2 "Communion" Galchutt Worship 9AM Emmanuel 9:45AM S. School 10:30AM Worship with Noisy	3 6:30 PM Emmanuel Council Meeting	4	5 3:30 - 5 PM Confirmation at Our Saviors 6:30 PM Galchutt Council Meeting	6	7	8
9 Galchutt 9AM Worship with Noisy Offering 9:45AM S. School Emmanuel 10:30AM Worship	10	11 Emmanuel Quilting 9 AM-2 PM	12 3:30 - 5 PM Confirmation at Our Saviors 6-8 PM LYO at Our Saviors in Colfax	13	14	15
16 "Communion" 17 Galchutt Worship 9AM Emmanuel 9:45AM S. School 10:30AM Worship	17	18 Echo Articles Due	19 3:30 - 5 PM Confirmation at Our Saviors	20	21	22
23 Galchutt 9AM Worship 9:45AM S. School Emmanuel 10:30AM Worship	24	25	26 3:30 - 5 PM Confirmation at Our Saviors 6-8 PM LYO at Our Saviors in Colfax	27	28 Richland Lutefisk Dinner	29
30 Galchutt Worship 9AM Emmanuel Worship 10:30AM	31 Halloween					

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Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry

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Just for Laughs.....



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