A Publication of Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry

Volume 48, Issue 11



November 2022

November 6 - Noisy Offering Sunday 9:00 AM Galchutt worship with communion 9:45 AM Sunday School at Galchutt & Emmanuel 10:30 AM Emmanuel worship with communion

Sunday, November 13 9:00 AM Galchutt worship & 10:30 AM Emmanuel worship

Sunday, November 20 (note the time change) 9:00 AM Emmanuel worship with communion & baptism 9:45 AM Sunday School at Galchutt & Emmanuel 10:30 AM Galchutt "God's Acre" worship with communion & potluck

> Wednesday, November 23 6:30 PM Thanksgiving Eve worship at Galchutt

Sunday, November 27 9:00 AM Galchutt worship & 10:30 AM Emmanuel worship

5 PM - 7 PM Advent event at Galchutt (see poster on page 2)





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Are you an "over the river and through the woods" grandmother with a 40-pound turkey roasting in the oven and three different kinds of freshly baked pie cooling on the pantry shelves? Few of us are. Because we are not that grandmother, Thanksgiving gatherings are not quite what we think they once were.

Memories. Wonderfully roasted, crackly-brown turkey skin; crisp, tart pickles and mashed potatoes with puddles of butter in the center; people laughing and hugging; and aunts who insist on kissing all the kids-even the boys. Memories have a way of bundling together every good thing we imagine for Thanksgiving. So perhaps it's no surprise that when we live the reality of this celebration, with our microscopes trained on every detail, nothing seems as perfect as it was then.

When we are children, the family is what it is, family. As we grow older, we see the family as fragments and memories. We notice the empty chairs. It is difficult to realize there have always been empty chairs.

So, how can I celebrate the perfect family gathering? There are many ways! I returned to the frame of mind I had when I was a child. This is the day. These are the people. One friend, two relatives, or three neighbors. It doesn't matter.

Second, share stories. I can fill those empty chairs with beautiful memories. I can share the stories of Uncle Bill who gave the kids whisker rubs and shared his ice cream with the dog.

Third, I feel joy in whatever the day brings me. So I don't have a substantial turkey-I guess that means I won't have to deal with scrubbing the roaster! If I have one kind of pie, I'll smile and say, "I believe I'll have pumpkin."

Finally, I offer thanks for God's many blessings. If we can't be the grandmothers who live "over the river and through the woods," we can be the historians who say: "God was," "God did," "God always," "Jesus said." The past holds the present steady and makes the future possible. Pass the blessing along this Thanksgiving.

On your feet now-applaud God! Bring a gift of laughter, Sing yourselves into his presence.

Know this: God is God, and God, God. He made us; we didn't make him. We're his people, his well-tended sheep.

Enter with the password: "Thank You!" Make yourselves at home, talking praise. Thank him. Worship him.

For God is sheer beauty, All-generous in love, Loyal always and ever. (The Message Version; Psalm 100)



Blessing and Peace, Happy Thanksgiving. Pastor Janelle Hansen

The Echo

LWR News

On October 9, 15 quilts and 70 school kits were blessed at Emmanuel Church before being shipped to the warehouse in Minneapolis. In the next few months, they will be packed in bundles and sent to those in need around the world. There are many unknown people to thank for contributing to this mission. If you gave fabric, school materials, your time and talent cutting or sewing quilt tops or tying knots, packing boxes, or donated money to buy boxes and needed items for kits and quilts, please know that your contributions are very much appreciated by people around the world.

With the help of both Galchutt Lutheran Sunday School and the Lucky Leaf 4H Club, we were able to fill 70 backpacks for Lutheran World Relief! Thank you to everyone who donated supplies to make this happen.

We are happy to collect supplies all year with a goal to fill bags each September. The most needed items are 70page notebooks (each bag requires 4), 24-pack of color crayons, and scissors.

Quilters will continue working this month on November 15 at 9 AM to 2 PM. Everyone is welcome to join us in making quilts and sharing some fellowship together.

Ellen Rittenhouse & Kendra Dockter



YES







Galchutt Lutheran Council Highlights

Galchutt Church council met on October 5, 2022, at 6:30 PM at Galchutt Lutheran Church. Members present were Pastor Janelle Hanson, Alex Paczkowski, Kyle Krump, Logan Biffert, Al Muhs, and Jimmy Overby. Logan called the meeting to order. Pastor Janelle led with a devotion and prayer. Alex read secretary's report. There was no treasury report.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor Janelle was recently at Wartburg college for 2 classes that went well. She has 2 classes left that can be done online. She received a \$5,000 ELCA scholarship. She starts her CPE at the end of October. She has been doing hospital and in-home visits. Pastor Jule and her brought cookies to the first coffee with kids event at Richland Elementary.

OLD BUSINESS: Addie Christianson will be playing piano at Galchutt and Kendra will fill in when she can't play. St John's roofing project is complete and paid for.

NEW BUSINESS: Christmas schedule was talked about. With being over the weekend Pastor Janelle was looking for input on how to handle the schedule and when to have service. Council agreed to have two services on Saturday, December 24, with Galchutt at 4:00 PM and Emmanuel at 5:30 PM. Christmas Day and New Years Day will have one service between the two churches and alternating locations. Galchutt will have the Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 23, at 6:30 PM with possibility of pie after. November 20 will be God's Acre at Galchutt. Service will be at 10:30am with potluck following. It was brought up that trucks have been pulling into St John's driveway. Kyle and AI will put up posts/chains to keep trucks out. Member lists were talked about and if the new directory that we took pictures for is still being produced. Logan will talk with Kendra about the directory. It was also talked about on a thermostat for the church that is run on Wi-Fi. Logan will look into thermostat options. Next meeting is scheduled for November 16 at 6:30 PM. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary, Alexandra Paczkowski

We keep the following in our prayers:

- The family of Dick Ihland, who passed away on October 15;
- Otto D., Shirley B., Jan R., Mary K., Marlowe H., Andrea H., and Micah, as they deal with **Prayers Praises** health issues; and
- The families in our congregations who have welcomed new babies into their homes.

Living in the present

During Martin Luther's great struggle to reform the church in the 16th century, the Holy Roman Emperor sought to silence him. So he spent some lonely months in Wartburg Castle under protective custody. There, as he fought despair, Luther scribbled the words "I am baptized" on his desktop as a reminder that he was living according to an ongoing call from God. He did not write, "I was baptized" but used the present-tense verb. For he rightly understood that in his baptism, God had adopted him as his son, and no human could take that from him.

Later, in his Large Catechism, Luther wrote: "To be baptized in God's name is to be baptized not by human beings but by God himself. Although it is performed by human hands, it is nevertheless truly God's own act." -from The Wired Word



Alex Paczkowski Kyle Krump James Overby Allen Muhs



Emmanuel Lutheran Council Highlights

Emmanuel Council meeting for October was rescheduled to November 1st.

A veteran's service

American hero Eddie Rickenbacker (1890-1973) led a life of daring and risk, from racing cars as a teen to piloting warplanes. Throughout his experiences, Rickenbacker grew in faith while discovering that "life had no meaning except in terms of helping others."

In the first issue of *Guideposts* magazine, Rickenbacker described spending four agonizing months of 1941 in the hospital after an accident. While recovering, he pondered life and death, concluding that

he couldn't give up because he still "had work to do, others to serve." Less than two years later, that ordeal came in handy. After crashing in the South Pacific, Rickenbacker and "seven other starving men" were adrift on a raft for 21 days. Most were "so young they needed the strength and understanding of a man who had been down in the valley of the shadow, who had suffered and made sense out of his suffering," he said. "It was clear to me that God had a purpose in keeping me alive. ... I had been saved to serve."

"Surely he has borne our griefs ..."

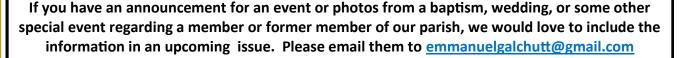
When veteran Joe Serna confessed that he'd been drinking — behavior prohibited in the Veterans Treatment Court program — Judge Lou Olivera sentenced him to one night in jail. That might not seem like much, but while deployed, Serna had been trapped underwater when his truck toppled into a canal. A buddy managed to move him to an air pocket, saving his life, but the buddy and two others died. Years later, even the thought of confinement triggered flashbacks.

As Serna arrived for his jail stay, Olivera, also a vet, saw his anxiety, entered the cell with Serna and spent the night. His kind act nearly brought Serna to tears, but the judge believes any vet would have done the same. "These are our brothers," Olivera says. "We never leave each other behind."

Similarly, Jesus entered our troubled story alongside us, sharing in our suffering, brokenness and even death. As a comrade unlike any other, Jesus calls us his brothers and sisters, refusing to leave us behind with our self-imposed burdens. Above all, Jesus does what only God can: redeems us for the joy of new life. Richland Elementary Veterans Program 11/10/2022 @ 2 PM

Recognizing

our Veterans







NOVEMBER®

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Emmanuel Altar Guild: Lesley Hulne		1 Office hours for pastor	2 Confirmation 3:30-5 PM	3	4	5
6 NOISY OFFERING 9AM Galchutt worship 9:45AM Galchutt SS 9:45AM Emmanuel SS 10:30AM Emmanuel worship	7	8 Office hours for pastor	9 3:30 - 5 PM Confirmation at Our Saviors 6-8 PM LYO at Our Saviors	10	11 Veterans Day	12
13 9AM Galchutt worship 10:30AM Emmanuel worship	14	15 Emmanuel Quilting 9 AM-2 PM Office hours for pastor	16 Confirmation 3:30-5 PM Galchutt Council Meeting 6:30PM	17	18	19 Echo Articles Due
20 ** Note time change 9AM Emmanuel worship 9:45AM Emmanuel SS 9:45AM Galchutt SS 10:30AM Galchutt worship and potluck "God's Acre" Sunday	21	22 Office hours for pastor	23 Thanksgiving Eve worship at 6:30 PM at Galchutt	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27 9AM Galchutt worship 10:30AM Emmanuel worship 5-7 PM Advent Event (see page 2)	28	29 Office hours for pastor	30 Confirmation 3:30-5 PM		Emmanuel Altar Guild: Lesley Hulne	
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Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry

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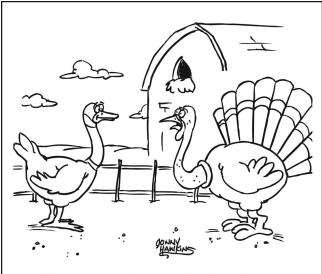
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"I'm praying they opt for fast food... or that they pray and fast."