

# The Echo

February 2023



In the season of Lent, we will walk through the book of Jonah.

The theme for this year's Lenten season is **"Unfinished, out of the depths."**

Jonah walks a Lenten path. Like all humans, he is prone to wander from this Creator in favor of determining the shape and scope of his future. This temptation is compelling when God calls us to take on risky ventures, travel to strange places, and confront things inside us that prevent us from seeing one another as God does. God meets us in those liminal, Lent-like spaces when we find ourselves between trust and doubt, courage and fear, anger and empathy.

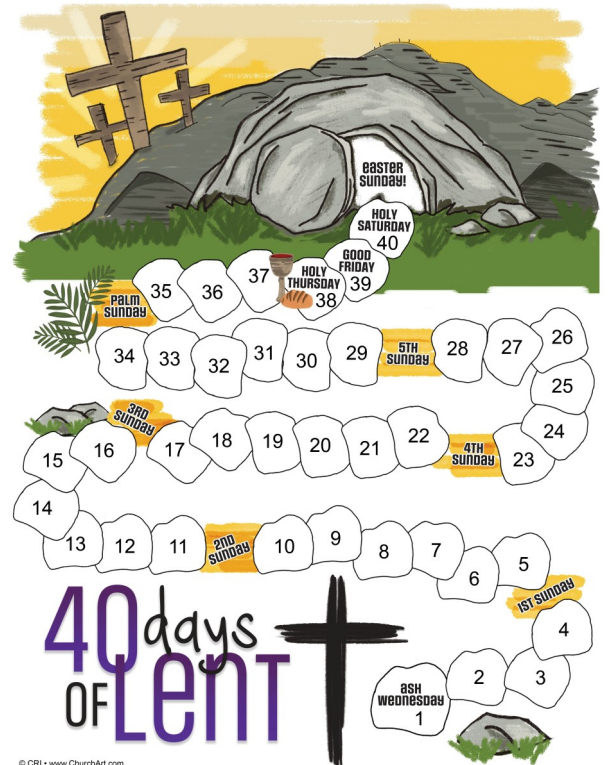
Let us dive into Jonah's "Unfinished" places and your life. Come each Sunday and hear how this story of Jonah will be told and how this story is like your story.

On Wednesday evenings, we will have the Holden Evening Prayer litany, and you will hear short stories of reflections. Come and journey with us this Lenten season.

God Calls and Persists. God's calling can sometimes lead us to people or places that are profoundly disturbing or uncomfortable. In such a situation, it is understandable if our first instinct is to flee. Thankfully, God's kindness and faithfulness means that our "no" to divine commandments has no impact on God's unshakable "yes" to us in Christ. When our faith wavers and leads us to flee, God pursues us to the ends of the earth.

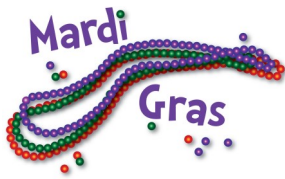
I hope you will join us during these Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings during the Lenten season.

*God's peace and love, Pastor Janelle Hansen*



Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry Office: 701-553-8546  
Synod Authorized Minister Janelle Hansen: [thegempastor@gmail.com](mailto:thegempastor@gmail.com); 701-205-6803  
Administrative Assistant: [emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com); Cell 701-640-0321  
Website: <http://galchuttemmanuel.weebly.com/>

## EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS!



Mardi Gras, or Fat Tuesday, kicks off the season of Lent on Tuesday, February 21, 2023. We will have a hymn sing at the Fort Saloon and beads to wear. You can purchase a steak dinner or anything else from their menu and have Sandy's Donuts for dessert (dessert provided by Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry). Supper will be at 5:45 PM or earlier with music and singing starting at 6:00 PM and continuing until 7:00 PM.

Enjoy fellowship with each other as we journey into the Lenten season.

### Journey through Lent with Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry

Wednesday, February 22 - Ash Wednesday at Emmanuel  
5:45 - 6:30 PM Simple supper prior to service,  
followed by 6:45 PM worship service

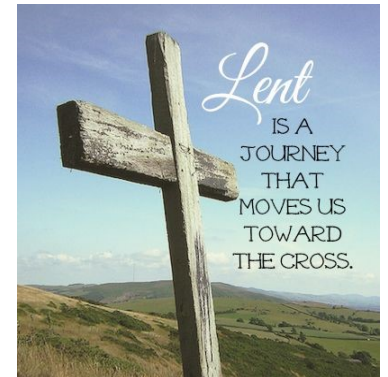
Wednesday, March 1, Lenten service at Galchutt  
5:45 - 6:30 PM Simple supper prior to service,  
followed by 6:45 PM worship service

Wednesday, March 8, Lenten service at Emmanuel  
5:45 - 6:30 PM Simple supper prior to service,  
followed by 6:45 PM worship service

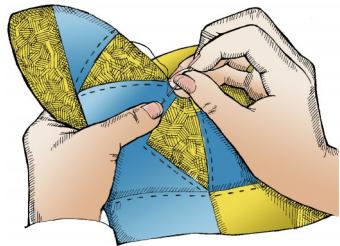
Wednesday, March 15, Lenten service at Galchutt  
5:45 - 6:30 PM Simple supper prior to service,  
followed by 6:45 PM worship service

Wednesday, March 22, Lenten service at Emmanuel  
5:45 - 6:30 PM Simple supper prior to service,  
followed by 6:45 PM worship service

Wednesday, March 29, Lenten service at Galchutt  
5:45 - 6:30 PM Simple supper prior to service,  
followed by 6:45 PM worship service



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](mailto:emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com)



QUILTING GROUP

As we approach February and another stretch of cold weather, the work of the quilters is important to all those in need - Asia to South America and many places in between. In January we welcomed Doug H. to our small group. During our four hours together that day, Doug used the electric cutter to make squares for six plus quilt tops with a plan to continue cutting more tops in February. At our meeting on February 14, there will be tasks for those to knot and tie quilts, design tops using the blocks already cut, and cut and sew. No prior experience required!

Won't you join us to serve and share the love with those in need of warm quilts throughout the world in 2023! We will take time for lunch and fellowship with all who gather.

During Lent we will be gathering items for Personal Care Kits for LWR. Look for the list in the bulletins and e-updates of items to be collected during Lent. There may be some items already in supply but there will be a definite need for dark colored bath towels (27" x 52") and bath soap, should you wish to start gathering items for the kits.

Thank you for your generous support for the efforts to serve others through LWR.

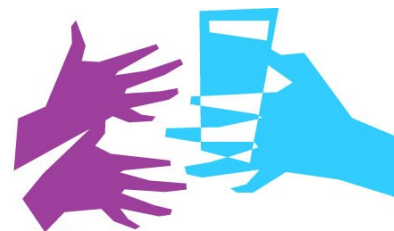
*Ellen Rittenhouse*

**Going out of our way**

In mid-2022, Mediterranean Shipping Company, a world leader in container transport, voluntarily changed its routes, on the advice of scientists, to protect large populations of blue whales off the Sri Lankan coast. Going out of its way 15 nautical miles has led to a whopping 95% drop in whale strikes.

Jesus counseled people to go out of their way for one another, especially for the vulnerable: "If anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles." Further, "whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water ... will by no means lose his reward" (Matthew 5:40-41; 10:42).

Paul likewise urged his listeners to voluntarily give up eating meat, even if they didn't believe in and weren't challenged by the idols to which it had been sacrificed, for the sake of new believers with weaker faith (Romans 14). Faith calls us to go out of our way for the sake of others; sometimes a wealthy corporation opts to do the same. God's hand is at work in both, protecting vulnerable humans and nonhumans alike.



And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones... he will certainly not lose his reward.

Matthew 10:42



*I love my church family!*

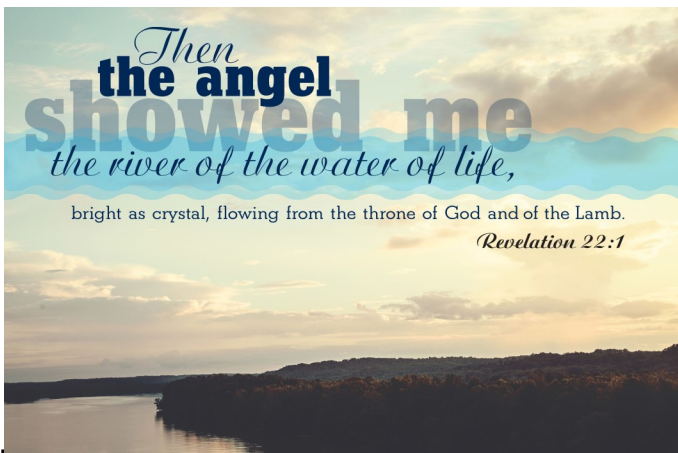


Just a reminder that all donations for sponsoring the Echo should now be mailed to and payable to Emmanuel Lutheran Church. The mailing address is on the back page. All the supplies for paper and postage are purchased and consumed at the church office at Emmanuel so it seemed more efficient.

Due to the increasing cost of postage, we ask anyone to let us know if you are presently receiving the *Echo* newsletter by mail but would be willing to receive it via email. The newsletter can be sent to multiple email addresses in the same household.

Just forward your name(s) and email address(es) to [emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com). The full color edition of our newsletter received via email is also found on our website. The website link is <https://galchuttemmanuel.weebly.com/newsletter.html>

Lou Ann Lee



## The River of Life

The Red River of the North, in the north-central U.S. and central Canada, takes countless twists and turns. A close-up aerial photo or map shows its frequent sideswipes and U-turns. One could cross the river several times without changing direction while hiking or biking along the border between Minnesota and North Dakota. You might wonder at points if it has completely turned back south — which raises another point: While most rivers flow south, the Red River flows north.

Sometimes life meanders, but that doesn't mean we're off course. Sometimes we seem to be going in the opposite direction of most people, but that doesn't mean we're not headed the right way. Sometimes it feels like it takes us a long time to make progress, but that doesn't mean we're not moving. We might just be taking in more of life's scenery! Follow your own unique trajectory, letting God, the creator of all rivers and all life, serve as the current that moves you ever onward.

## Have a heart

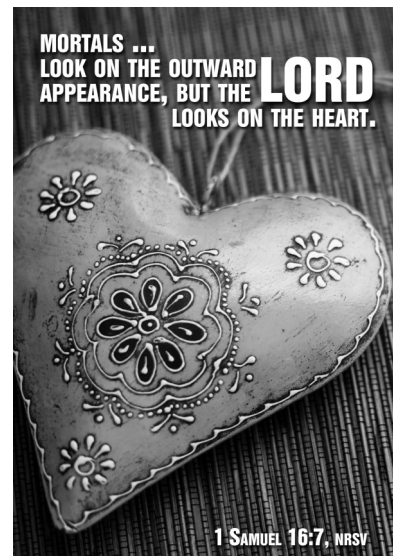
Valentines of every size and description adorn store windows and other places of business this time of year. The holiday has become a time for love to be enthroned as a virtue, with the heart symbolizing the romance of our lives.

But the heart symbolizes not only love, but life itself! Without a heart, our bodies cannot survive.

Consider God's words to Samuel: "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7, NRSV).

The heart — that inner countenance — shows what we really are. Samuel was to seek one of the sons of Jesse to be the new king. David, even though he was the weakest physical specimen, was the one selected. His heart was great.

Love looks deeper than outward appearances, and we can thank God for that. Don't be swayed by mere valentines — have a heart!





## Emmanuel Lutheran Council Highlights

The Emmanuel Church Council met on January 10, 2023, with the following members present: Pastor Janelle, Lou Ann Lee, Fred Tol, Lesley Hulne, Craig Syvertsen, and Julie Lehman.

Meeting was called to order by President Craig and Pastor Janelle led us in devotions.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the last meeting were read by Julie. Lou Ann made a motion to approve with a second by Lesley. All passed.

Treasurer's report: LouAnn reported that all expenses and donations were paid by the end of the year. Budget for last year was on track. Donations and offerings were less than expenses for 2022 so some money was transferred from savings. CHI and the Richland School sent thank you cards for the donations that were sent. Motion by Lesley to approve the report with a second by Fred. All passed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Janelle went over November & December mileage. She held services for two funerals in January for GEM members. Continuing Pastoral Education is continuing to go well.

Christmas Eve worship at both churches was a success. Lent Ash Wednesday service is February 22, 2023, and will be at Emmanuel, with rotating services each week with Galchutt. Maundy Thursday service will be held at Emmanuel and Good Friday service at Galchutt. Lent in a Box at Concordia will be January 23, 2023. Pastor Janelle will work on getting some singers for the Lenten Holden services.

New member Sunday and new bibles for third graders were discussed. Also discussed was communion classes for children and would require a class before receiving communion.

Stewardship: No Report

Education: Lou Ann reported that Sunday School is going well.

Worship: No report.

Property: Still are working on estimate for the front door. Bids have come in high.

Old Business: Thrivent Tim Tazarek will get to a council meeting to discuss investment options.

New Business: Discussion on council 2023 nominees. Discussed raises for administrative assistant and pianists in order to match Galchutt's recommendations. Motion by Craig to approve with a second by Julie. All Passed.

Next meeting will be after Annual Meeting on January 22, 2023. Fred made a motion to adjourn the meeting with a second by Lesley. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

*Secretary Pro Tem, Julie Lehman*

## We keep the following in our prayers:

- ◆ The family and friends of Lois Moen, who passed away in January;
- ◆ Those healing from recent surgeries or dealing with other medical issues; and
- ◆ All those who struggle with depression, illnesses, or loneliness during these winter months.



## From death to new life

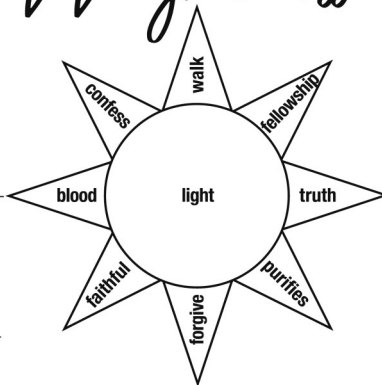
After the inventor of the Frisbee died in 2002, family members honored his final wish: to have some of his ashes molded into a flying disk! The point, according to toy legend “Steady Ed” Headrick, was for his loved ones to have fun playing with him even after he had passed. “He lived for Frisbee,” said his widow, and now he lives on in one.

Thankfully, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday aren’t cremains. But they do have special significance. They’re often made by burning branches from the previous year’s Palm Sunday celebration. By tying together seasons, the practice of receiving ashes reminds us of cycles: sin, repentance and forgiveness, plus life, death and resurrection — Jesus’ as well as our own.



The Lord is full of mercy and light. What happens when we confess our sins to God?

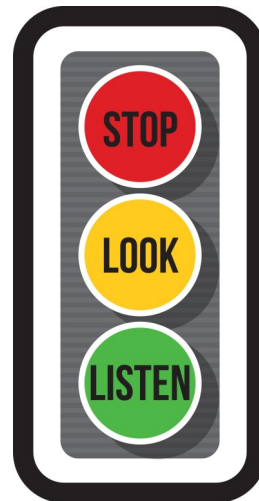
**Directions:**  
Use the coded shapes to fill in the blanks and complete 1 John 1:7-9, NIV.



But if we \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_, as he is in the \_\_\_\_\_,  
we have \_\_\_\_\_ with one another, and the \_\_\_\_\_  
of Jesus, his Son, \_\_\_\_\_ us from all sin. If we claim to be  
without sin, we deceive ourselves and the \_\_\_\_\_ is not in us.  
If we \_\_\_\_\_ our sins, he is \_\_\_\_\_ and just and will  
\_\_\_\_\_ us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 1:7-9, NIV

Answers: walk, light, light, light, fellowship, blood, purifies, truth, confess, faithful, forgive



Why should we observe Lent? This 40-day season of repentance and reflection that begins on Ash Wednesday has three important purposes. Lent helps us STOP, LOOK and LISTEN. We observe Lent because it tells us to STOP and rest awhile

— and to stop sinning. Lent tells us to LOOK inward for an honest self-examination, to look upward to see the cross of Jesus with healing and love, and to look forward to the hope of the Resurrection. And we observe Lent because it tells us to LISTEN — to the voice of God, the words of Christ and the movement of the Holy Spirit. STOP, LOOK and LISTEN! These commands that are so crucial for travel safety are also important for our journey through Lent.



# FEBRUARY

**Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat**

			1 No confirmation	2	3	4
5 <b>NOISY OFFERING &amp; COMMUNION</b> 9AM Galchutt worship 9:45AM Galchutt SS  9:45AM Emmanuel SS 10:30AM Emmanuel worship	6	7 Office hours for pastor	8 3:30 - 5 PM Confirmation at Our Saviors  6-8 PM LYO at Our Saviors	9	10	11
12 9AM Galchutt worship  10:30AM Emmanuel worship	13	14 Office hours for pastor  Emmanuel Quilting 9 AM-2 PM	15 3:30 - 5 PM Confirmation at Our Saviors  Galchutt council meeting 6:30 PM	16	17	18
19 9AM Galchutt worship 9:45AM Galchutt SS  9:45AM Emmanuel SS 10:30AM Emmanuel worship	20 Emmanuel Council Meeting 6:30 PM	21 Office hours for pastor  Mardi Gras Hymn Sing at Fort Saloon 6 - 7 PM	22 Supper 5:45 - 6:30 PM followed by Ash Wednesday service 6:45 PM at Emmanuel	23	24	25
26 9AM Galchutt worship  10:30AM Emmanuel worship followed by potluck dinner	27	28 Pastor Janelle on vacation until March 5				

**Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry Office: 701-553-8546**  
 Synod Authorized Minister Janelle Hansen: cell 701-205-6803  
 GEM Administrative Assistant: [emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelgalchutt@gmail.com); Cell 701-640-0321  
 Website: <http://galchuttemmanuel.weebly.com/>

**Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry**

Emmanuel Lutheran Church      Galchutt Lutheran Church  
P. O. Box 119                      105 Galchutt Avenue  
Abercrombie, ND 58001        Galchutt, ND 58075



This month's issue of *The Echo*  
is sponsored by Martin K. Ness, Jr  
In loving memory of Martin K. Ness, Sr.



**ECHO SPONSORSHIP FORM**

Thank you for supporting The Echo.  
Sponsorships for May 2023 and forward are  
available as of the date of this publication. If  
you are interested in sponsoring a future  
issue, please fill out the form below and mail  
your check for \$100 to:

**Emmanuel Lutheran Church,  
P. O. Box 119, Abercrombie, ND 58001.**

**This Echo is sponsored by:**

\_\_\_\_\_

(in loving memory) **OR** (in honor of)

\_\_\_\_\_.

*Just for Laughs.....*



"We were on the way out the door before I remembered I needed something for the Valentine party at Sunday school."

The *Echo* is published monthly for members and friends of Galchutt-Emmanuel Ministry.  
Newsletter Editor: Lou Ann Lee  
Content Resources: Pastor, Ellen Rittenhouse, Linda Kuruc, Kendra Dockter, and Council Secretaries, & our members  
Copy Editor: Linda Kuruc  
Production Assistant: Jan Rorvig