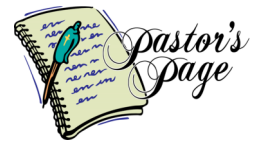


The Echo

September 2023



As we swing into the fall with all its activities and demands, it's easy to fall into a trap leading to stress, crankiness, and a mind racing on late nights when we are trying to fall asleep. Though it may not feel like it, how we face the world each day has a lot to do with our frame of mind. Our attitude reflects how we see the world and move in it. This fall, perhaps consider facing everyday challenges with understanding, kindness, and patience. Pastor Charles Swindoll, in his poem, "Attitude," finds this an important way we can impact our lives and others around us.

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life.

Attitude, to me, is more important than facts.

It is more important than the past, than education, than money,
than circumstances, than failures, than successes,
than what other people think, say or do.

It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill.

It will make or break a company... a church... a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude
we embrace for that day. We cannot change our past...

we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way.

We cannot change the inevitable.

The only thing we can do is play the one string we have, and that is our attitude...

I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it.

And so it is with you... We are in charge of our Attitudes."

We are so grateful for your prayers this summer and look forward to diving into all the Lord has to give us this fall. A blessing in the words of Psalm 67:

"May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us-
So that your way be known upon the earth, your saving power among all
nations.

Let the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

Let the people praise you, O God; let all the people praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.



May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth
revere him."

God's blessing to you all! *Pastor Janelle Hansen*



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EVENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS!



Galchutt Sunday School will start September 17. Sunday School is at 9:30 AM with worship at St. John's at 10:30 AM. Potluck dinner to follow in Galchutt.

Emmanuel worship will be at 9 AM on September 17.

There will be a blessing of the school backpacks at both churches on Sunday, September 24, during regular worship. Bring your backpack!!

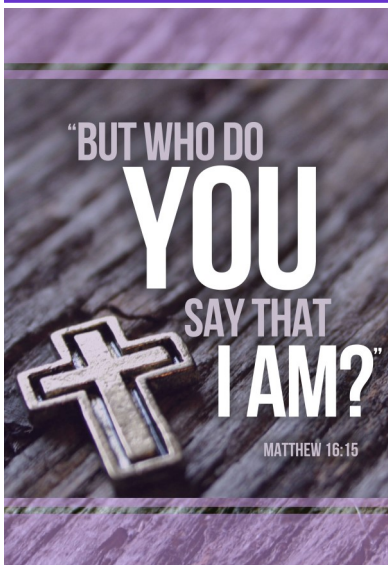


Emmanuel Members and Friends!

Emmanuel Sunday School will be starting soon with the exact date to be set after our education meeting on September 7. Look for information to be sent through the E-updates and your mail. Kids age 3 and up are invited to attend. Invite a friend.



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



In Matthew 16, Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" If someone asks you who you are, how often is your first response, "a child of God"? Frequently, we respond by telling of personal or work successes, life stories, heritage, but little about our inner world. That means others don't really know us and we don't know them. This can prevent the deep connections we need in life and possibly lead to isolation.

An exciting scientific exploration happened in Greenland this summer. There were two groups working together 10-15 miles apart, drilling through the Prudhoe Dome ice sheet with a common goal to understand the age of the glacier and the speed it's melting. One group, attempting to drill through 1600 feet of ice to reach bedrock during June's subzero temperatures, ran into a fracture in the ice. This had to be repaired but they were very skeptical if it could be done.

Then other problems arose. When a family emergency forced the lead scientist to return home, his frustration and anxiety troubled him even though the remaining crew was well prepared to do the work. Daily, he'd contact the team and hold his breath as they described the challenges they continued to face. The lead scientist felt helpless. One crew member suggested that he could still help by praying for the crew and project. He took her advice and after having been absent from church for many years, he wandered into a nearby church to light a candle and pray for the project and crew. Soon after he learned that, despite the odds, they had achieved great success.

We have many opportunities to share our faith in prayer, verbally and through our actions, as we confront struggles in our lives. This summer has presented many opportunities—drought and storms, school staffing, health issues, as well as inner struggles that many haven't shared out of fear of misunderstanding. Living our faith daily, with the prayer and support of others, is more meaningful when we're connected to them, no matter how different they may be from us.

Ellen Rittenhouse

Instruments of connection

Following Jesus involves much more than attending worship, as Pastor Stan Purdum points out in a sermon titled "The Hug": "The spiritual life, in addition to some outwardly religious and inwardly devotional acts, also includes such mundane activities as sending thank-you notes for gifts received, returning phone calls, greeting fellow worshipers Sunday after Sunday, surprising our spouse with a spontaneous act of appreciation, helping out at funeral dinners, seeking common ground during disagreements, listening to our children, working at not being a grouch, visiting friends and relatives and, perhaps, even sending an electronic hug. All those things are instruments of connection. The spiritual aspect is the intentionality behind them."

From NewsletterNewsletter.com

"Stop looking for the perfect church. Go worship a perfect God today with a congregation of flawed people who need grace as much as you do."

LWR News

We are ready to start our annual drive for school kits. Per the LWR website: "Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. . . . Lutheran World Relief School Kits contain essential supplies to help children — and in some cases, adults — continue learning in the face of serious obstacles. That learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities."

Each kit is put inside a 14" x 17" cloth bag with drawstring (no standard backpack) and needs to contain the following:

- FOUR 70-sheet notebooks of wide-or college-ruled paper, 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- ONE 30-centimeter ruler, *or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other*
- ONE pencil sharpener
- ONE pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- FIVE unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- FIVE black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- ONE box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ONE 2 ½" eraser

There will be collection areas at each church and we will have the kits assembled later. Once again, thank you in advance for your support of these worthy missions!! We will collect items through September.

Ellen Rittenhouse



Thank you to the following for their recent donations:

Thank You!

Emmanuel Cemetery Fund:

- Veronica Halverson, in memory of Jay Halverson
- Mike Berseth, in memory of Marvin Kensinger
- Bob & Rhoda Trafas, in memory of Todd Aune
- Kristine Nellerhoe Blankendaal
- Julio & Kristin Ruud-Diaz
- Donald Nelson, in memory of grandparents Ole & Karen Nelson and their children Mathea, Knute, Lewis and Thora. (also to Echo fund)

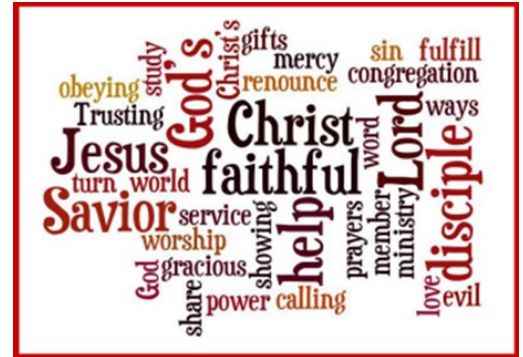
Emmanuel General Fund:

- Brent & Mary Jo Larson, in memory of Rhea Larson

Emmanuel Quilting Fund & Echo:

- Donna Stedje, in loving memory of Clifton & Scott Borseth Stedje

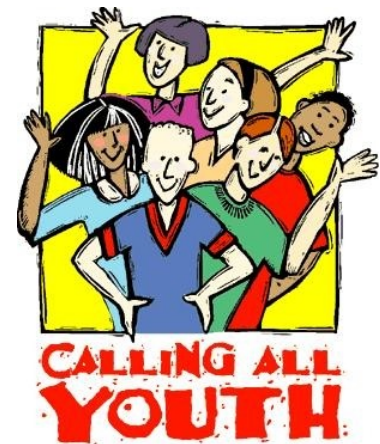
Richland 44 Confirmation
Galchutt Lutheran Church
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Richland Lutheran Church
2023/2024



Please contact Pastor Janelle if you have a confirmation age youth.

Tentative Nightly Regular Schedule:

- 3:30 – 3:50 pm Eat and clean-up.**
- 3:50 – 4:25 pm Large Group Lesson**
- 3:50 – 4:25 pm Small Group**
- 5:00 pm Closing Blessing (font)**



Fall ~ 2023-2024 Calendar for 7th - 8th

Graders

- Sept 13 Introduction to Confirmation!
- Sept 20 Martin Luther pg 1
- Sept 27 The Reformation pg 5
- Oct 4 The Reformers pg 9
- Oct 11 Lutheran Confessions pg 13
- Oct 18 *No Confirmation*
- Oct 19-20 *NDEA convention*
- Oct 25 *Adiaphora* pg 17
- Nov 1 Luther's Small Catechism pg 21
- Nov 8 The Ten Commandments pg 25
- Nov 15 The Ten Commandments pg 25
- Nov 22 *No Confirmation*
- Nov 23 *Thanksgiving*
- Nov 29 The Ten Commandments pg 25
- Dec 6 Apostles' Creed, Article 1 pg 29
- Dec 13 Christmas Party!
- Dec 20 *No Confirmation*
- Dec 21-Jan 1 *Christmas Break from School*
- Dec 25 *Christmas*
- Dec 27 *No Confirmation*

Spring ~ 2023-2024

- Jan 1 Happy New Year!
- Jan 1-2 Confirmation Retreat
- Jan 3 *No Confirmation*
- Jan 10 Apostles' Creed, Article 2 pg 33
- Jan 17 Apostles' Creed, Article 3 pg 37
- Jan 24 The Lord's Prayer pg 41
- Jan 31 Holy Baptism pg 45
- Feb 7 Holy Communion pg 49
- Feb 14 -April 3: *No formal Confirmation Classes - 9th Graders need to complete ~ paper/project/interview.*
- Feb 14 *Ash Wednesday*
- March 24 *Palm Sunday*
- March 28 *Maundy Thursday*
- March 29 *Good Friday*
- March 31 *Easter*
- April 3 *No Confirmation*
- April 10 Confession and Forgiveness pg 53
- April 17 Daily Prayers pg 57
- April 24 Year End Celebration!

Continuing education

In September, Christian education programs are in full swing. How wonderful to see classrooms of children learning about Jesus! But what about the grown-ups? Some parents who make sure their kids get to Sunday school don't attend Bible study themselves.

Following and learning about Christ are lifelong pursuits. If we are to love God with our *mind* (as well as with our heart, soul and strength), then we must keep learning even into old age. Plus, when we are well informed about God's Word and our faith, we can share it with non-Christians and express the reason for our hope (see 1 Peter 3:15).

To love God with "all your mind" (Mark 12:30), how about suggesting an adult Bible study or small group be formed that dives into Scripture. If you think you don't know enough to be involved in a bible study, then you are like 99% of the people around you. Sometimes we learn just as much as the kids when we are the Sunday School teacher! Does an in-person or an online class interest you? Think about these options and reach out to others who may also be interested and then contact the Pastor.

Then humbly wear the label of lifelong learner, knowing that God still has new things to teach even the most seasoned Christian.

Taken and adapted from NewsletterNewsletter.com



EMMANUEL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

The Emmanuel Lutheran 29th Annual Meatball Dinner will be held on **December 3, 2023**. This is Emmanuel's **sole** fundraiser each year and consists of the meatball dinner, a raffle, and bake sale. If you would be willing to make a donation to add to the raffle, please contact Tessa! Tickets will be printed in early October. We count on all Emmanuel members to step up and sell the raffle tickets once printed. Thank you so much!!!



The Emmanuel Church Council

Listen to the loving voice

Figurative thieves are all around: Illness steals time and energy. Inflation robs many of financial stability. The bandit of social media chips away at our productivity, self-esteem, quality time with loved ones. Prejudice and oppression prey on certain groups of people. Doubtless, you can think of other thieves and bandits.

But above their noise, listen for another sound: A warm voice whose loving tone calls us by name. A voice that puts us at ease because it's familiar as a favorite blanket, a path we can walk in the dark, a song we know by heart. That voice rising above any force that would steal and kill and destroy is, according to John 10, the loving voice of God made known in Jesus, caring for us as a good shepherd does his sheep. And lest you get confused, thinking God is angry and judgmental, think again. *That* is the sound of thieves and bandits; don't listen to them, don't follow them, don't give them your heart!

"I came," says Jesus the Shepherd-Gate-Messiah-Savior, "that [you] may have life and have it abundantly" (v. 10, NRSV).

—Heidi Hyland Mann from NewsletterNewsletter.com



SEPTEMBER 2023

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Emmanuel Altar Guild: Sharon Tschakert					1	2
3 NO WORSHIP SERVICES	4 LABOR DAY	5	6 Galchutt Council Meeting 7 PM	7	8	9
10 Communion Sunday Galchutt worship 9 AM Emmanuel worship 10:30 AM	11	12 ELW Quilting 9AM - 2 PM Emmanuel Council Meeting	13 6 PM Confirmation Meeting for 7, 8, & 9th graders and their parents at Our Saviors, Colfax	14	15	16 Pastor Janelle at Castaway Youth retreat
17 Galchutt SS 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM at St. Johns Church followed by potluck Emmanuel worship 9 AM	18	19 Echo articles due today	20 Confirmation 3:30 - 5 PM Farmers Market in Aber Park	21	22	23
24 Communion Sunday Galchutt Worship 9 AM SS 10:15 AM Emmanuel worship 10:30 AM Blessing of Backpacks at both churches	25	26	27 Confirmation 3:30 - 5 PM	28	29	30

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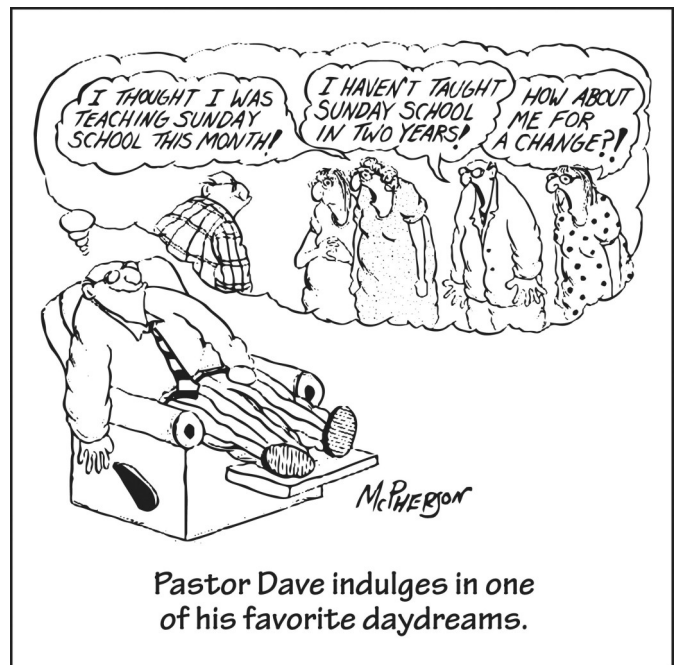
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**Emmanuel Lutheran Church,
P. O. Box 119, Abercrombie, ND 58001.**

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Just for Laughs.....



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