

# The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION JULY 2020 VOLUME 26 NUMBER 7



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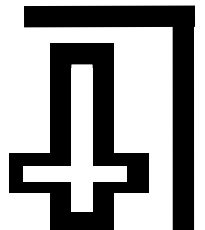
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**DATED MATERIAL**  
Please Deliver by 2nd or  
3rd of the month.

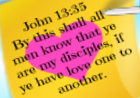
**Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
150 North Palm Street, La Habra, California 90631 (562) 691-0656  
Preschool: (562) 694-5316

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



Traditional Worship Service  
Praise Service  
Children's Sunday School:  
PASTOR:  
VICAR:  
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:  
9:00 a.m.  
10:45 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.  
Catherine E. Luehr  
Matt Polsdorfer  
Jonine Sodders  
*Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.*  
E-mail: [churchinfo@elch.org](mailto:churchinfo@elch.org)  
Website: [www.elch.org](http://www.elch.org)

# Post It Notes from Pastor Luehr



John 13:35  
By this shall all  
men know that ye  
are my disciples, if  
ye have love one to  
another.

## 100 DAYS

At the time of writing this, it's been 100 days since the day things started to "unravel." It was 100 days ago that Vicar Matt and I decided we needed to cancel the live Lenten dinner and experiential worship that the week before had brought 50 people from all ages and walks of life together for laughter, learning, music and food. That night, March 12, with my husband Clay as technical support and Jeff Ward for music and theological banter, we held our first Facebook livestream Lenten series. *"But surely this will blow over soon."* I thought, *"This is just a precaution for tonight."* It didn't and it wasn't.

It has now been 100 days since "things were normal," and we can't predict or understand when "things will go back." Will it be another 100? Will it be more? The church council met earlier this week and looked at the questions we then posed to you, the congregation, about what our ministry would look like in the future. While we all want things to "go back to normal," and many just want to "return to worship like we always have," we know that that is just not a possibility for now.

During one of our council meetings a member asked a question that really got us thinking in a new way. It wasn't the nitty gritty about how and when to resume in person gatherings, how do we effectively clean our surfaces and protect our members, though all of those are important questions that need to be asked and addressed. She asked, "I wonder where God is leading us during this time? God led the Israelites in their wilderness for 40 years—we have only been in our wilderness for a few months. So I wonder what God has in store for us as we continue our journey."

That was a difficult but insightful thing to think about. God's people have been here before. They have been tested, they have been wondering, they have been renewed in their identity as God's beloved people. For the past 100 days, we have been anxious to get back to our old lives. Perhaps in the next 100 days we, as God's people, as Emanuel, can ask, "As we walk through this wilderness, where is God leading us next?"

Pastor Cate Luehr



## THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

You are not to bear false witness against your neighbor. What is this?

Answer: We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light.

Vicar Matt, what is this and why do you have this in your article? I wonder if you have had the opportunity to read Luther's Small Catechism? For some of us this may have been part of our confirmation class, but it is not something incorporated too often after that. This summer I am taking a class called "Lutheran Confessions." For a lot of us when we hear the word confession, we may think of confessing something that we may have done wrong. In this context, it is talking about beliefs that are held. Luther's Small Catechism is meant to be used in the household and as an instructional book for parents to teach their children.

During class we read the Small Catechism and this is Luther's explanation of the 8th commandment. I personally really enjoy how Luther takes the commandments and puts them into daily life. Can you imagine what our world would look like if we followed Luther's explanation of the 8th commandment?!?! Could you imagine what social media might look like?!?!

I will be doing a sermon series this summer going through parts of the Small Catechism. As I told our church council, the Small Catechism may not be something to get super excited about at first, but I am excited to utilize it! Although the Small Catechism was written in 1529, it is still pertinent to our lives and I believe that it can help expand our understanding of our faith and deepen our understanding of our calling from God. I am looking forward to journeying with you through the Small Catechism this summer!

God's peace,  
Vicar Matt



## HEART AND HANDS OUTREACH SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

*“Feed My Sheep” – John 21*

### **SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!**

Thank you Emanuel! Despite this unprecedented pandemic of the Novel Coronavirus, you continue to love and reach out to our neighbors. We can share through our online ministry on the website ([www.elch.org](http://www.elch.org)), as well as through providing essential items.

Thanks to Ricki Fehr who has been helping pack food at the Food Bank each week for distribution.

**REACHING OUT IN OTHER WAYS:** If you can't share food, money or time with others because you are “staying in” — how about the things you CAN do?

- Pray for friends, family, our leaders, and the world. Please note if you would like to pray with others, we are on Zoom at 8:30 AM each Saturday. To get the Zoom link, email Jeanette Parr at [parr3@roadrunner.com](mailto:parr3@roadrunner.com). If you do not have internet access, you can also join over the phone by calling in.
- Send a short note via snail mail or email, or make a phone call and leave a message. Let others know they are cared about.
- Contact Pastor Cate about visiting others SAFELY through the Prayer Patrol.
- Think about ways to share Emanuel and your faith with others and what you will continue to do when we meet again in person.

I have found that often by reaching out to others, I feel better too. Give it a try.

God bless all of you for your generous Hearts and Hands reaching out to others.

Jeanette Parr  
Facilitator

## FROM THE BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION



### **Greetings to all Emanuel Youth and Parents!**

Each week we continue to present a Sunday School lesson for our youth. As of this date, we do not know when we will come back together for worship and Sunday School.

This past month we have learned so much about our amazing Jesus and some of the lessons and miracles He performed before He returned to the Father:

1. First of all, in the two lessons about “Walking on Water” we learned that Jesus helps us and we need not be afraid. Peter was afraid and sometimes we are also afraid. If we can keep our eyes on Jesus and trust Him, he will give us peace.
2. Next, in “The Sower” we learned when Jesus told this story He must have really wanted listeners to understand why good soil is important for God’s Word to grow. As we learn about God in Sunday School and Church, we are able to tell others about how great God is. This will help them discover Christ and turn to Him. What a wonderful garden our youth will grow!
3. Finally, in the parable of the “Lost Sheep” and “The Lost Coin,” if we ever walk away from God, He will keep trying to find us. God loves us very much and searches for us no matter what, just like the woman searched for her lost coin and the shepherd looked for his lost sheep. God loves us so much! That makes me feel so special!

Please pray for the spiritual growth of our youth and adults. Thank you for talking about God and including Him in your child’s daily life.

Blessings from all your Sunday School Teachers.



## VIDEO MINISTRY

We know that many of you have spoken highly of the Video worship that we have been able to provide during this time of quarantine. We also know that we are reaching many people with the Good News of Jesus Christ who would otherwise not be able to join us in person. We want to continue this ministry in some fashion when we are able to resume in-person worship. To that end, we are asking if anyone is interested in being a part of our new “Video Ministry Team.” We are looking not just for people with skills in this area, but people willing to learn. We need a team of people to help film the services on Sunday as well as those who would be interested in doing very minimal editing of the service before it is uploaded. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested, please email the church office at [churchinfo@elclh.org](mailto:churchinfo@elclh.org).

## PRAYER PATROL



As you may have seen in a previous worship service, we are starting a new ministry called “Prayer Patrol.” This ministry takes small groups of individuals to visit those who are homebound, living alone, people feeling isolated or would just benefit from a visit with church members. While still practicing safe measures, this small group visits people in their driveways and on their porches offering prayers and greetings. If you would like a visit, or if you would like to be one of the people who joins the next prayer patrol, please contact Pastor Cate at [pastorcate@elclh.org](mailto:pastorcate@elclh.org).



## TAKE IT TO THE LORD IN PRAYER

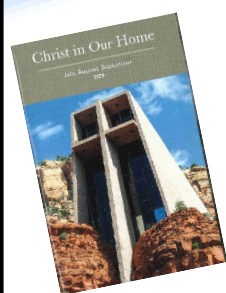
Our Saturday morning prayer group has gone digital! For the past seven years, each Saturday morning at 8:30 AM a group of people from Emanuel had been meeting in our prayer chapel to spend time in intentional prayer for our church, our community, and our world. Since we are not able to meet in person, the *Take It to the Lord in Prayer* group is now online! If you would like to join this group on any given week, please contact Jeanette Parr ([parr3@roadrunner.com](mailto:parr3@roadrunner.com)) to receive the Zoom link.

## DIGITAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us each week as we post a new children's Sunday School class lead by Mary Ann Carlson. We will continue through the stories of Jesus and hear them retold in our SPARK Bible. Look for the Sunday School Class on all the platforms you find worship (elclh.org, Facebook, and YouTube).



## CHRIST IN OUR HOME



*Christ in Our Home* is a quarterly devotional resource that encourages us to live out our faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary. We recently received our supply of *Christ in Our Home* devotional booklets for July-August-September 2020. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please email us at [churchinfo@elclh.org](mailto:churchinfo@elclh.org).

## SCHOPPA SCHOLARSHIPS



The Elroy Schoppa Scholarship Fund is provided by Emanuel Lutheran Church for members of Emanuel who are, or will be, attending an accredited college or vocational school in the next academic year. Students must attend 50% of Sunday Worship services and scheduled Youth meetings for at least 2 years within 4 years of applying. They must also maintain a 2.5 minimum GPA. Current recipients are Jessica Mora (third year) and Amanda Zambrano (first year). Contact Warren Parr, Wolfgang Hessel or Dwight Carey for more information.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

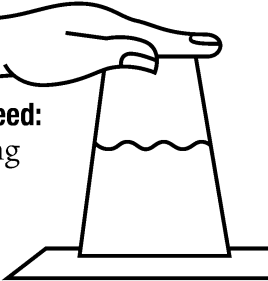
Prayer is one part of our ministry that we continue to do strongly. If you have any prayer requests you would like included in Sunday Worship, please contact the church office by Wednesday and we will be able to include them in our filming.



# Kid's Korner

## UNSEEN BUT *active*

This experiment illustrates that although God is invisible, we can see his work all around us.

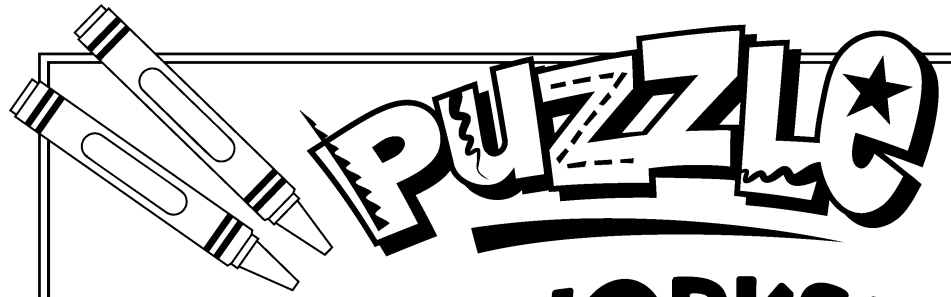


### What you need:

- Drinking glass
- Water
- Index card

### What you do:

1. Practicing over a sink, fill the glass halfway with water. Then press the index card snugly atop the glass with one hand.
2. With the other hand, hold the base of the glass and carefully flip it over.
3. Remove your hand from the card. It should stay on the glass, without spilling the water! The invisible air in the glass creates a suction with the card, preventing the water from spilling out. Research air pressure to learn more.
4. After perfecting the trick, amaze others with it. Then talk about how God, like the air in the glass, is unseen but active.



## WATER WORKS!

The gospels record Jesus' miracles, many of which involve water.

*Directions: Using the illustrated equations, fill in the blanks to describe each miracle. Use the Bible references for help.*



Water changes to

\_\_\_\_\_

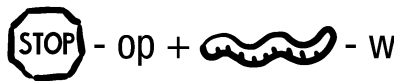
JOHN 2:1-11



Heals a man born

\_\_\_\_\_

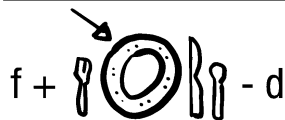
JOHN 9



Calms a

\_\_\_\_\_

MATTHEW 8:23-27



Catch of

\_\_\_\_\_

LUKE 5:1-11



Walks on

\_\_\_\_\_

MATTHEW 14:22-33

Answer: wine, blind, storm, fish, water