

The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION SEPTEMBER 2020 VOLUME 26 NUMBER 9



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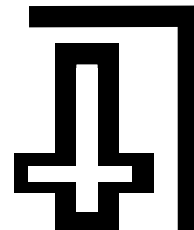
DATED MATERIAL
Please Deliver by 2nd or
3rd of the month.

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:
 Joanne Sadders
 Matt Polsdorfer
 Catherine E. Luehr
 9:00 a.m.
 10:45 a.m.
 10:00 a.m.

Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.
 E-mail: churchinfo@elch.org
 Website: 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.

Earlier this Month, Kevin Wiley and Amy Nuss gathered in the sanctuary and, while keeping a safe distance, recorded some hymns for our virtual worship service. When we finished recording the hymn *Healer of our Every Ill*, Amy paused and said, “Wow, this song is so fitting for right now.” I had previously asked them to record it so it could be played on the Sunday when our Gospel lesson tells of one of Jesus’ healing stories, but hearing Amy’s response gave me pause. This is the hymn we need to hear right now. Here are the Lyrics for you to ponder.

Healer of Our Every Ill

Refrain

Healer of our ev'ry ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.

- 1 You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain*
- 2 In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain*
- 3 Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain*
- 4 You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. *Refrain*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Text © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

The refrain that is echoed throughout this hymn speaks not only to the difficulty of this time but of our longingness for Jesus to intercede and offer healing, not just of body, but of spirit, mind and soul. “Give us peace beyond our fear and hope beyond our sorrow.” Hope is one of the most powerful tools that God can give us in the face of fear and emotional hurt. I pray that whenever you are feeling weighed down by the illnesses of life you would remember these words and take them to heart. Be well people of God.

Pastor Cate Luehr

Matt's *Motivational* Minute



“The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.” —Socrates

I don't know about you, but with all the changes going on around me I have often found myself fighting the old and not building the new! I have realized in some ways how futile this has been. I have spent countless hours and unknown amounts of energy trying to hold on to the past. I think I have mentioned it before, but with all of the changes with COVID and being physically isolated I have gone through the 5 stages of grief (denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance) sometimes all at once! One of the things I was reflecting on when getting ready for this newsletter is what drew me to the MDivX program with Luther Seminary. One of the biggest draws for me was to be in the first pilot program of something new and something innovative! When thinking about how I normally enjoy trying new things in ministry I wondered why I hadn't always seen the opportunity to build new things. A phrase that is repeated over and over when talking about the MDivX program is “holy experiment.” This is where we the church discern what God is calling us to and invites us to try something new. It may not be a “success” and may not be something we do for the next decade, but it is where God is calling us to now in response to the situation around us. I am looking forward to partnering with Pastor Cate and you the congregation as we try some “holy experiments” this fall building on the new. I have listed below a few new ministry opportunities along with something familiar but in a new format.

- **“Blue Service”**—This is a service that is typically done in December during Advent and usually on the winter solstice which is the longest night of the year. The idea behind it is that the holiday season can be hard for those whose hearts are hurting and it is a reminder you are not alone. It is a contemplative service for those that are carrying pain or loss. One of the things we recognize is that there is a lot of grief and this service is an opportunity to sit in that grief with one another. We will be doing this on Sunday, September 27 at 7:00 PM. This is for anyone and any form of grief whether it's a loss of a loved one, loss of starting a new school, job loss, mental & physical ailments, loss of relationship, loss of hope, loss of wellness, loss of pet or whatever it may be we invite you to this service. More detailed information will be coming out in the next few weeks!
- **Parent Support Group**— Have you ever been on an important phone or video call and had your children fighting and screaming loud in the background? Have you felt frustrated by local parks closing? Are your kids fighting more than normal? Are you feeling anxious about school? We will be starting a Zoom meeting once a month to help each other out during this stressful time. This is a kid-free and judgment free time to join myself and other parents to talk, vent and be there for one another. We will be working with parents on the best day, date, and time to meet. More information will be coming soon!
- **Confirmation**—This is something familiar but in a new format. Confirmation will resume on Thursday, September 3 at 6:00 PM. For our first meeting we are planning on gathering outside together for 30 minutes with social distancing and wearing masks. Pastor Cate and I are looking forward to working with our confirmands during this time and seeing how faith fits in during difficult situations and times. We are working on what the Affirmation of Baptism will look like at the end of October.

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), as well as through providing essential items. The monthly Second Mile Giving option is available on our Giving Website.

HIS HOUSE: His House in Placentia has been meeting the needs of the hungry and homeless in Orange County through the entire time of the pandemic. Lives have been transformed:

- 20 families have received safe shelter and supportive services.
- 22 families were provided with financial assistance to prevent homelessness.
- 35% of the residents graduated and moved into permanent housing.

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. 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!

Thank you for having your kids join us for our online Sunday School lessons each week.

This past month we have learned so much about how God works in each of our lives and we can help share God's love.

1. In our lesson about "Keys to the Kingdom," we learned that believing Jesus died on the cross and rose again is our key to heaven. Let's tell others about Jesus.
2. The "Interview with a Foot" showed us that God needs everyone of us to do His work. God gives each part of the body a job to do and each part has a special purpose. Our church is like that too because every person is important and we all need each other as we work together.
3. Do you know what the "Greatest Job in the World" is? When you're serving others you're doing the greatest job in the whole world. We pray we will think of others before we think of ourselves.
4. "The Parable of the Talents" showed us that God gives us special talents and He expects us to wisely use what He has given us.

Looking back over all the lessons we have had since the beginning of our virtual Sunday School, we have covered so many amazing Bible lessons. Our kids will be equipped for the challenges they will face in their young lives. Thank you for encouraging your child on our virtual journey together.

Please pray for our youth and parents as the new school year begins with "distance learning" and for the spiritual growth of our youth and adults.

Blessings from all your Sunday School Teachers.



DRIVE THRU COMMUNION AND PRAYER SERVICE SEPTEMBER 6 AND SEPTEMBER 20

In addition to our weekly online worship service, we plan to hold our biweekly Drive-Thru Communion and Prayer service on **Sunday, September 6 and Sunday, September 20 from 8-9:00 AM.** This will be a drive-thru worship service with communion, individual prayer, music and blessings. **We will also be collecting food donations for the CRCC and Storehouse Ministries.** More detailed information including an instructional video can be found on our YouTube channel. The video includes the safety precautions we at the church are taking as well as those we expect of members who attend this drive-thru service.

The Drive-thru Communion and Prayer Service will be held in the upper parking lot east of the Sanctuary and north of Hope Center. **Please RSVP to the church office by noon the Friday before each service (churchinfo@elclh.org or 562-691-0656)** to ensure we have enough communion elements provided for that day. **When you RSVP, please include the names of everyone who will be attending in your vehicle.** While we know this isn't "back to normal," we hope that having a short time of individual prayer, seeing church members from your car, and receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ will strengthen you for the days ahead.



VIRTUAL HYMN AND PRAISE SONG SING-ALONG SEPTEMBER 13 & SEPTEMBER 27 AT 10:30 AM



Emanuel Director of Choirs, Stephanie Young will be joined by Praise Band guitarist and singer Jeff Ward on **Sunday, September 13, and Sunday, September 27** at 10:30 AM for our biweekly Virtual Hymn and Praise Song Sing-Along. Look for the Zoom link in the body of our weekly email that is sent with the worship bulletin. Stephanie and Jeff will be playing and singing from their homes and we look forward to you joining us as well. Email song requests to churchinfo@elclh.org by the Wednesday prior to the sing-along.

CHURCH BANNERS

Hello Ladies! Sharon Frazier and Jill Drummond are having a label made for the back of the Lenten banner made earlier this year. The label will include the names of all the "stitchers" and the date the banner was completed. They also thought it would be very nice to put similar labels on our other banners — but the conundrum is who remembers who worked on them and when? If you are one of these GOLDEN PERSONS, please email or call the church office (churchinfo@elclh.org or 562-691-0656). Please include the stitcher's name and describe which banner. This will be a nice gesture in the history of Emanuel Lutheran Church — thank you!!



JOY CIRCLE ON ZOOM TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 AT 9:30 AM

The Joy Circle is a women's group that meets monthly for a time of discussion and fellowship. We were not able to meet in the spring due to COVID-19, however, we are going to try our first VIRTUAL JOY CIRCLE! We will be meeting Tuesday, September 15 at 9:30 AM, and women are welcome to join. We will be starting a three-month study on "Holy Time." Our studies come out of the *Gather Magazine*, a magazine from the Women of the ELCA. If you do not have a subscription to this magazine, we will be able to email you a digital copy of the lesson. If you have not previously participated in the Joy Circle but would like to give it a try, please email Pastor Cate at pastorcate@elclh.org by Sunday, September 13 and she will get the lesson and Zoom link to you.



BLUE SERVICE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 AT 7:00 PM

During this time of grief and loss that many of us have faced in light of COVID-19, we recognize that many people are hurting and would benefit from a time of worship together to recognize that lament. As Vicar Matt mentioned in his article, we will be holding a "Blue Service" on Sunday, September 27 at 7:00 PM in the upper parking lot. This service is for anyone and any form of grief whether it's a loss of a loved one, loss of starting a new school, job loss, mental & physical ailments, loss of relationship, loss of hope, loss of wellness, loss of a pet—whatever it may be, we invite you to this service. This service will be a short in-person service where we will be practicing safe protocols. Further information will be forthcoming in the bulletins and on social media in the weeks leading up to the service. If this interests you, please put it on your calendar.



VIRTUAL PARENT SUPPORT GROUP STARTING IN SEPTEMBER

Have you ever been on an important phone or video call and had your children fighting and screaming loud in the background? Have you felt frustrated by local parks closing? Are your kids fighting more than normal? Are you feeling anxious about school? We will be starting a Zoom meeting once a month to help each other out during this stressful time. This is a kid-free and judgment-free time to join Vicar Matt Polsdofer and other parents to talk, vent and be there for one another. We will be working with parents on the best day/date/time to meet and more information will be coming soon! If you are a parent of school-age child/ren please be looking for an email or other communication from Vicar Matt early in September, or contact the church office if you are interested.



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@elch.org.

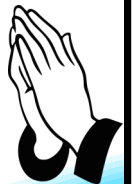


PRAYER PATROL

As you may know, we have started 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 who 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. Additionally, we will be able to bring communion to you if you wish. 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@elch.org.

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.





TAKE IT TO THE LORD IN PRAYER

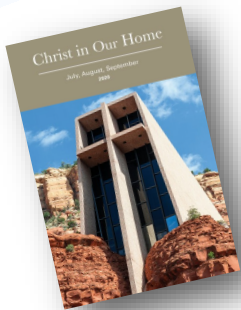
Our Saturday morning prayer group has gone digital! For the past seven years, each Saturday morning at 8:30 AM a group of people from Emanuel met in our prayer chapel to spend time in intentional prayer for our church, our community, and our world. Since we are not able to meet in person, the *Take It 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) 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 have a 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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries September 2020

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

3	Brianne Immings	15	Dwight Carey	21	Eddie Evans
3	Bryan Immings	16	Nan Blair	21	Lois Lundberg
8	Margie Mueller	16	John Dobson	23	Greg Kruse
9	Ruth Fehr	17	Jean Cugini	26	Taylor Logoteta
10	Heather Vernon	17	Rod Spotten	26	Jeffrey Ospital
13	Reagan Williamson	18	Adrian Beiderwell	29	Leyla Diaz
13	Jill Drummond	18	Simon Pulley	30	Logan Crabb
14	Arlo Palmer	19	Francheska Cuyano		
14	Margaret Palmer	20	Lynn Daucher		

4 Geoffrey and VJ Roberts
17 Rod and Lois Spotten

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries



**The “2nd Mile” Giving Envelope
for the month of September is:**

Lutheran World Relief





Check out our website at elclh.org, or look for us on social media:


- Facebook (Emanuel Lutheran Church)
- Instagram (emanuellahabra)
- YouTube (Emanuel Lutheran Church La Habra)

**Be informed and up-to-date.
Visit our website for all upcoming
events and information.**

?? ? **Bible Quiz** ? ?

Which of these was not one of the 10 plagues God brought against Egypt to persuade Pharaoh to let the Hebrew people go?

- A. an abundance of frogs
- B. the Nile River turned to blood
- C. the collapse of the pyramids
- D. thick darkness



Answer: C (See Exodus 7:14-12:32.)

Kid's Korner

A BUSHEL OF BOOKS



Design a handy bag to tote your books this fall.

What you need:

- Plain canvas bag
- Cardboard scrap
- Acrylic paints (2 colors)
- 2 small paper plates
- Apple
- Knife (and adult help)
- Foam brush
- Scrap paper



What you do:

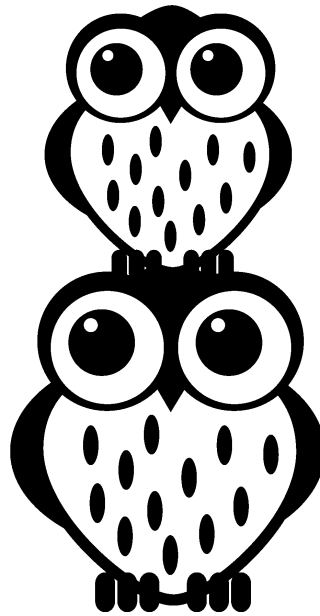
1. Lay the bag flat on a table, and place cardboard inside for protection.
2. Pour a paint dollop on each plate.
3. Slice the apple in half, keeping the core intact.
4. Brush a thin layer of paint on the cut side of an apple half. Practice making stamps on scrap paper. Use the other color on the other apple half.
5. Paint and stamp the bag with your final design. When dry, remove the cardboard.
6. Use the bag for school and Sunday school. Happy reading!



WISDOM FROM THE WORD

God makes a special promise to people who study Scripture.

Directions: Arrange the word list in alphabetical order. Then write the circled letters in order below to complete Joshua 1:8, NIV.



- | | |
|---------|---------------|
| school | — ○ — — — |
| paper | — ○ — |
| wisdom | — — ○ — |
| read | — — — ○ |
| play | — — — — — |
| learn | ○ — — — — |
| grow | — ○ — — — — |
| pencils | — — — — — |
| pray | — ○ — — |
| art | — — — — — |
| student | — — — ○ — — |
| kids | — — ○ — — — — |
| apple | — — ○ — — — |

“... meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be _____ and successful.”

JOSHUA 1:8, NIV

Answer: apple, art, grow, kids, learn, paper, pencils, play, pray, read, school, student, wisdom, prosperous