VOICE OF EMMANUEL **SEEDS OF HOPE!**



Grace and Peace to you, dear members and friends of Emmanuel.

Rita and I have appreciated and enjoyed our time among you these past 13 1/2 months. We will always treasure the relationships we have shared. From a cookout in the mountains, celebrating Easter, Christmas, Epiphany and the most recent receptions in our honor.

Thank you for cards, well wishes and the congregation gift and the many many items for Village Thrift - a pet project of Rita's that supports Blowing Rock Students as they continue their education beyond High School.

Blessing to you as you continue to provide ministry to the Lincolnton Community.

Leonard H. Bolick Interim Pastor Emmanuel Lutheran Church













Volume 5, Issue 2 JANUARY 10, 2024

Voice of Emmanuel Seeds of Hope!

ELC Seeds of Hope

is published weekly to keep members and friends together during there time of physical distancing!

Information submitted for publication must be received by Tuesday of Each week.

e-mail to lifewithemmanuel @gmail.com

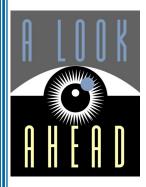
Mission Statement:

As the body of Christ, fed and nourished through worship, we are called to serve all people, through the use of our gifts to proclaim God's justice, mercy and love.

Our Vision: Striving to Thrive with Vitality!







January 14

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called "the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.



Shirley Barnes, Polly Bryant, Kathy Cromer, Laura Cromer, James Gantt, Pat Hance, Suzette James, Glenn Mosteller, Trudy Perkins, Jim Sain, Paula Turner, Joan Warren, Rick Norine and family (cousin of Barbara O'Neill), Evelyn Cochrane (neighbor of Susan McConnell), Drew Milholland (Pastor Mike), Jane Smith (mother of Kathy Cromer), April Wellman (Susan Boyd), Rosa Guerra (Susan Boyd), Rob Gregor (Susan Boyd), Anita Cable (mother in law Ashley Peaslee), Charles Ferguson (son-in-law Judy Blanc), Bill Gibbs Jr. (Amy Brown), Ken Smith (brother of Kathy Cromer), J.L. Morris (Susan Boyd), Jay Puckett (Carol Wise), Lenard McIlveen (brother of Marianne Doehling), Vinnie Viscarello (son-in-law Dot Swart), Quaid Mincey (Jennifer Huskey)



Emmanuel's Annual Congregational meeting

The Meeting scheduled for *Sunday, February 25, 2024*. It will be held immediately before worship. Yearbooks will be distributed on that day and members of the Nominating Committee will be elected. Reports to be included in the Yearbook are due by January 15, 2024.



In a small Southern town there was a Nativity Scene that showed great skill and talent had gone into creating it. One small feature bothered me. The three wise men were wearing firemen's helmets. Totally unable to come up with a reason or explanation, I preceded on to the nearby restaurant.

At the restaurant I asked the waiter about the firemen's helmets. She kindly addressed my question but sternly said "Do you not read the Bible!" I assured her that I did, but simply couldn't recall anything about firemen in the Bible.



She pulled out her Bible from behind the counter and ruffled through some pages, and finally pointed her finger at a scripture. Placing it so I could read she said, "See, it says right here, 'The three wise men came from afar.'"



There are four canticles in the Gospel of Luke. Which of the five canticles listed below is not in Luke?

- 1. Song of the Angel
- 2. Song of Hannah
- 3. Song of Mary
- 4. Song of Simeon
- 5. Song of Zechariah



Answer: 2. It is in 1 Samuel 2:1-10



Due to severe weather Tuesday, January 9th the Church Council Meeting was postponed.

The meeting was re-scheduled for Wednesday, January 10 at 6 PM in the Parlor.

I will send out the Council Corner information in next week's Newsletter.

Ministry in Action - January - February January 14 January 21 February 4 January 27 David Bynum Dara Jarrett Kenneth Pales Greeters **Awaiting List** Johnnie Bynum Susan Boyd Nancy Pales Lector Chuck Yoder David Bynum Elizabeth Cloninger Kelly Rudisill Susan McConnell Communion Asst. John Cromer Randy Zimtbaum Ruth Murphy Acolyte Jennifer Little Jennifer Little Hannah Brooks Linda Rice Crucifer Matthew Heavner Paul Gamiel Matthew Heavner Joe Rhyne Altar Flowers Available Lounsbury Available Available Monthly Duties anuary 2024 Councilperson Jennifer Huskey Altar Guild Elaine Harmon Doris Little Steve Lounsbury David Bynum Ben Robinson Ushers Glenn Mosteller Guy Rudisill (Captain)

John 1:43-51

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Faith5 Corner by Bob Lake Second Sunday after Epiphany

Share: Share your highs and lows

Read: John 1:43-51

Talk: Slowly reflect on the reading. This is an interesting narrative about

Jesus calling his disciples to His mission. The interaction with Nathanael is particularly interesting. It starts Nathanael making a wise crack about Nazareth. (Nazareth was a small, obscure village in northern Israel). Don't we often do that – make a joke about someone before we know them? Put up our defenses or show off to them? Is that the way to welcome a stranger? How do you take Jesus' response telling Nathanael that he was a true Israelite? Was Jesus being sarcastic or was he sincere? Then Jesus, as He often does, turns the conversation around by telling Nathanael that he saw him sitting under a fig tree. Jesus was a stranger to Nathanael until Philip introduced them. What does it take to accept a stranger? To believe a stranger? To follow a stranger?

Pray: Thank you, Jesus, for call your disciples. T hey proclaimed your

divinity and spread your message and teachings. They helped

create a community of believers.

Bless: "_____. Be a disciple and follow Jesus."

















www.faith5.org













All Council and Committee Reports are due to the office by January 15th from the 2023 Council and Committee members

Installation of the 2024 Council Members and Officers of the Congregation will take place during Worship on January 21, 2024





Quilting will resume Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 9 am in the Fellowship hall. We welcome anyone who would like to help with this ministry - sewing skills appreciated but not required. If you are not able to join us, we always need fabric donations - cotton and/or washable, non-stretchy material. - bolts and pieces. Thanks in advance.

Susan, Phyllis and Carole

If you wish to honor or memorialize someone with the Altar flowers, please make sure you sign up for the year. The sign up sheet is in the North Wing.

You may call the office at 704-735-9033 if you need to have your date put on the list and you are not able to come to the church.



Everyone is invited to attend the worship service for the Installation of Rev. Judy L. Drysdale as the Pastor of Emmanuel Lutheran Church on Sunday, January 28, 2024 at 3:00 pm. She will be installed by Conference Dean, Dr. John Spencer. The Installation is held in the afternoon so that other pastors can also attend.

There will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the worship service. Please come as we celebrate this important milestone in the life of Emmanuel.

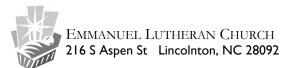




Souper Bowl of Caring has become an annual tradition for many congregations, schools and other youth-led groups, which can make a big difference for charities such as ours who serve the community's most vulnerable. During the week before the Super Bowl football game, dollars and canned goods are collected and donated through various Souper Bowl of Caring events.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is the ONLY fundraiser that every dollar goes to the Soup Kitchen. This is a great way to support their work.

We hope you will join the Souper Bowl of Caring team to tackle hunger on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Paula Turner	01/01
Scott Doehling	01/05
Stan Goodson	01/07
Annette Stone	01/08
Melissa Scronce	01/10
Jill Eaddy	01/11
Michael Wise	01/11
Amanda Pierce	01/12
Dieter Strohhacker	01/13
Patti Hance	01/15
Marty Shuford	01/15
Daniel Rhodes	01/16
Shannon Bridges	01/18
David Byrd	01/18
Kae Wright	01/19
Alfred Yoder	01/19
Alison Zimtbaum	01/22
Shirley Barnes	01/24
J.R. Little	01/24
Langley Little	01/24
Perry Propst	01/27
Owynn Cornwell	01/28
Carol Meadows	01/28
John Cloninger III	01/30
Marilyn Brooks	01/31
Cherie Derr	01/31



Emmanuel's Free Little Pantry

Personal Care Items Needed: Socks (ladies and men's)

Food Items Needed

Pop-Top cans of: Beanie Weenies, Green Beans, Corn, Potted Meat, Vienna Sausages Pop Tarts, Crackers, breakfast bars, etc.

Thank you for helping fill the Pantry for our community





A Publication of Emmanuel Lutheran Church Phone: 704-735-9033



Newsletter Content
Contributors
Bob Lake
Ben Robinson
WELCA
North Carolina Synod

Sunday worship, study and fellowship opportunities

Traditional Worship Service 10:00 am in the Sanctuary

Service is live streamed on Facebook at 10 am each Sunday and will be posted to YouTube.