

VOICE OF EMMANUEL SEEDS OF HOPE!



Highlights of January 10, 2024 Congregation Council meeting:

- ♦ The Council meeting was postponed from January 9 to January 10 due to heavy rain and high wind.
- ♦ Our 2023 offerings of 293,648 were in-line with what we have received each year since 2020. Our yearly offerings have ranged from \$291,160 to \$302,599 for these four years. Two of those years we had more expenditures than offerings. This year, mostly due to having a part-time interim pastor, our offerings exceeded expenditures by \$29,531. Due to increased costs from inflation and the call of a full-time pastor, generosity and stewardship are going to be essential to meet our 2024 needs.
- ♦ In-person attendance at the 10:00 am services in December 2023 averaged 83. The average in December 2022 was 69. This was an increase of 14. On-line views through Facebook for December 2023 were 206 compared to 120 for December 2022, an increase of 86. The average in-person attendance for the 10:00 am service went from 72 in 2022 to 83 in 2023. This was an average increase of 11 people at each service in 2023. On-line through Facebook views went from an average of 113 in 2022 to 146 in 2023. This was an average increase of 33 views for each service in 2023.
- ♦ The Souper Bowl of Caring will be February 11. Money collected in the "Soup Pot" that day will go to the Soup Kitchen of Christian Ministry.
- ♦ Due to a generous offer from a member of the congregation and approval by the Council, our handbells will be repaired and refurbished in June during the summer break for choirs. The handbells are in poor condition from their 30 years of use. The handles, clappers and springs need repair. Although old, the Malmark hand bells are of high quality and would cost \$26,000 to replace.
- ♦ The north wing parking lot used to be a site for a gas station prior to being purchased by Emmanuel. During the time as a gas station, underground gasoline tanks leaked and contaminated the groundwater. The tanks were removed by their owner when Emmanuel purchased the property. Remediation of the petroleum contaminants has been on-going since. The State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) oversees and funds the remediation. In 2023 water samples were taken by a contractor and show the need for boring two additional deeper wells in the parking lot for monitoring and extraction of contaminants. This will occur in January or February and will take two days for installation. In addition, within two to five months a tanker truck will be on-site for approximately five days while extracting contaminants through the existing and new wells. Consent to

Continued on page 2



Volume 5, Issue 3
JANUARY 17, 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!

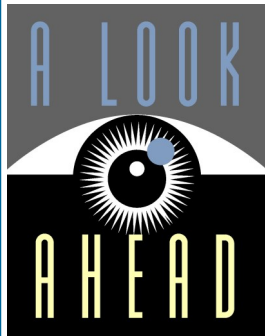
**Information
submitted for
publication must
be received by
Tuesday of Each
week.**

**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 21

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

access the property to conduct the remediation services was approved by the Council.

- ♦ Pastor Judy Drysdale will begin Monday, January 15, 2024. Her first Sunday will be January 21. She will be installed Sunday January 28 at 3:00 pm by the Conference Dean, Rev. Dr. John Spencer. The service is Sunday at 3:00 pm so other pastors can attend. The congregation is highly encouraged to attend.
- ♦ Emmanuel's Annual Congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 25, 2024. It will be 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.
- ♦ The Council wished Pastor Leonard Bolick well and thanked him for his service the last 13 ½ months as Interim Pastor at Emmanuel. His pastoral leadership during this time of transition between Called Pastors has been wonderful for our church.



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)



*We offer our Christian Sympathies for the family of Lewis Heavner, father of Karen Spake.
Please keep the family in your prayers during their time of loss. May God's comfort surround them and the hope of resurrection brings joy to us all.*



An Irishman goes into the confessional box after years of being away from the Church. There's a fully equipped bar with Guinness on tap. On the other wall is a dazzling array of the finest cigars and chocolates.

Then the priest comes in. "Father, forgive me, for it's been a very long time since I've been to confession," says the Irishman. "But I must first admit that the confessional box is much more inviting than it used to be."

"Get out," says the priest. "You're on my side."



?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

An interesting fact about Paul's companion Timothy

1. Like Paul, he was a tent-maker.
2. His mother was Jewish, and his father was Greek.
3. Peter recommended him to Paul.
4. He was called Apollos before his conversion.
5. He was born in Jerusalem.

Answer: 2 - Acts 16:1-5



Ministry in Action - January - February

	January 21	January 27	February 4	February 11
Greeters	Dara Jarrett Susan Boyd	Kenneth Pales Nancy Pales	Shannon Mitchem Makenzie Mitchem	Todd Lanier Vera Lanier
Lector	David Bynum	Elizabeth Cloninger	Kelly Rudisill	John Lafferty
Communion Asst.	Randy Zimbaum	Ruth Murphy	Susan McConnell	Steve Lounsbury
Acolyte	Jennifer Little	Hannah Brooks	Linda Rice	Hannah Brooks
Crucifer	Joe Rhyne	Paul Gamiel	Matthew Heavner	Mary Ellen Bridges
Altar Flowers	Lounsbury	Available	Available	Awaiting List

Monthly Duties January 2024

Councilperson	Jennifer Huskey			
Altar Guild	Elaine Harmon	Doris Little		
Ushers	Steve Lounsbury (Captain)	David Bynum Glenn Mosteller	Ben Robinson Guy Rudisill	

Matthew 25:31-36

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Faith5 Corner by Bob Lake
Second Sunday after Epiphany

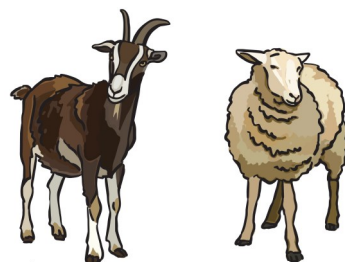
Share: Share your highs and lows

Read: Matthew 25:31-36

Talk: Slowly reflect on the reading. This is a beloved and oft-quoted scripture. Who wants to be a goat? No one! (With apologies to the Naval Academy). But do we really want to think of ourselves as sheep? Do we like being led wherever the shepherd decides to go? Yet Jesus is both our gentle shepherd and our mighty king. And where does Jesus expect us to see him? How does Jesus expect us to respond? Are we supposed to see Him in everyone we meet? I often find that hard to do. Do you find it hard? Do you see Jesus in the homeless man walking? Do you see Jesus in the men and women seeking food or help at Christian Ministries?

Pray: Thank you, Jesus, for being our shepherd and king. Help us follow You wherever you lead. Help us see You in everyone we meet. Help us remember that we are all God's children.

Bless: "_____, may you see Jesus in everyone you meet.



The Sheep & the Goats



Every night in every home



highs and lows



a Bible verse or story



about how the Bible
reading might relate to
your highs and lows



for one another's highs
and lows



one another

www.faith5.org





Council Reports

Thank you so much for getting all of your Committee Reports done. Thank you for your hard work on this!

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.



ALTAR FLOWERS

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.



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
216 S Aspen St Lincoln, NC 28092

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

JANUARY Birthdays

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 Strohacker	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 Zimbaum	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



PSALM 146:2, NIV



Seeds of Hope

A PUBLICATION OF
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*Newsletter Content
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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.