

VOICE OF EMMANUEL

SEEDS OF HOPE!



Holy Spirit, Guide Us

Here's a riddle for you. What used to happen every other year and lasted for a whole week or more but now happens every third year and lasts not even four full days? (Some of you already have it, but some need more clues.) In what state will your bishop, your NC Synod VP, and 13 other voting members soon be in—which it's not polite to say if you're from NC—which is "First in Flight" or "The Birthplace of Aviation?" (You're getting warmer!) What event will be taking place August 8-12 in the hometown of THE Ohio State University? YES! It's the ELCA Churchwide Assembly! I can't wait until 1,000 of us fill the hall, put our alphabet arms in the air, and channel the Village People as we sing and dance. "It's fun to be in the E-L-C-A!" Yes, I'm being facetious now, but I have to throw some of that to keep some people's attention.

Indeed, the ELCA Churchwide Assembly will happen in the flesh in Columbus, Ohio next week, **August 8-12, 2022**. I hope you had the chance to read the *Special e-News* published on August 1 that lists our voting members and provides links to all the resources, including issues to be voted on by the assembly. As always, there will be constitutional revisions that necessitate updates to all congregational constitutions as well. There are quite a number of memorials from synods before the assembly, including a number that call for a "Renewed Lutheran Church," a call for revisiting ELCA communion policies, especially with regard to online options; changes in how rostering is defined and carried out; some "On Leave from Call" considerations; those dealing with Roe vs. Wade/abortion; "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust" social statement revisions, etc.

There will be an important election of an ELCA Vice President after the sudden death last August of VP Bill Horne. You may recall that Bill was the churchwide representative to our 2021 Synod Assembly and conducted our bishop election process in that role.

The Churchwide Assembly is the highest legislative authority in this church. While policies and governance structures happen in this context, everything is centered in worship as the people of God. Yesterday's *Special e-News* also included tabs and links to the resources page for the Churchwide Assembly as well as how to watch the Livestream, including the worship services. In case you missed it, use these links:



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AUGUST 3, 2022

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!

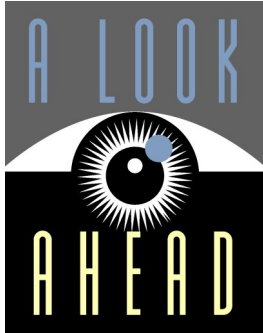
**Information
submitted for
publication must
be received by
Tuesday of Each
week.**

**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!*



August 7

Jesus says, “It is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.” It is God’s promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the “little flock” of which we are a part in today’s assembly. Faith, God’s baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.

Churchwide Assembly Resources

[Watch live via the Churchwide Assembly webpage](#)

[Watch live via Facebook.](#)

While legislative assemblies are not (for most people) the most stimulating prospects, especially now, at this critical juncture in the life of American Christianity and mainline denominations—with such polarization politically, anxiety and unrest on the global stage, and ongoing pandemic realities and worries—these decisions will affect all of us and the future trajectory of our church.

We covet your prayers that the Holy Spirit would guide us into the future in which she already resides and toward which she beckons us.

Walking with you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tim".



NC Synod Bishop



Lincoln County is now at a high transmission rate for the new variant of COVID-19.

Please stay safe out there!



Heavenly Humor

A preacher was completing a temperance sermon: with great expression he said, "If I had all the beer in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river." With even greater emphasis he said, "And if I had all the wine in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

And then finally, he said, "And if I had all the whiskey in the world, I'd take it and throw it into the river."

He sat down. The music director stood very cautiously and announced with a smile, "For our closing song, let us sing Hymn # 365: "Shall We Gather at the River."



Notes From the Office

We are still looking for help with the streaming of live services.

Jadon has been wonderful helping with services on Sunday. He is now off to college and we are in need of a couple of back up people to help when I am not able to be here.

This is not an every Sunday duty. Mainly once a month when I play bells. Bells will be starting soon (September) so we have plenty of time to train you! Please contact me or Pastor Mike if you are interested.

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

Jesus often quoted or cited Old Testament prophets. Which of the prophets did he not cite in his words or deeds?

1. Amos
2. Hosea
3. Isaiah
4. Jeremiah
5. Malachi



Answer: 1. Amos

Ministry in Action - August

	August 7	August 14	August 21	August 28
Greeters	Edward Little Doris Little	Buzz Cherry Pat Cherry	David Bynum Johnnie Bynum	James Gantt Margaret Christopher
Lector	Jennifer Little	Steve Lounsbury	Jennifer Huskey	Ben Robinson
Crucifer	John Cromer	Nayshaun Holiday	Katelyn Leonhardt	Mary Ellen Bridges
Acolyte	Quinlyn Cornwell	Jennifer Little	Judy Shuford	Hannah Brooks
Communion Asst	Randy Zimtbaum	Cathy Lounsbury	John Cromer	Ruth Murphy
Videographer	Shelly Caffey	Shelly Caffey	Shelly Caffey	Shelly Caffey
Altar Flowers	Available	Available	Available	Yvonne Cromer

Monthly Duties August 2022

Councilperson	Emily Robinson			
Altar Guild	Betty King	Vera Lanier	Rhonda Thomopson	
Ushers	Rudy Rudisill (Captain)	James Gantt Guy Rudisill	David Bynum Steve Lounsbury	

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

[Jesus said:] ³²“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Faith5 Corner: by Pastor Mike

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



Share: Share your highs and lows

Read: Luke 12:32-40

Talk: Slowly reflect on the reading. Did anything grab your attention as you read the passage? Does life today cause you anxiety? What things make you feel most uncomfortable or worried about the future? Jesus has a word for you, "Have no fear." What is Jesus offering to combat your fear? If it is the Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom, why worry? But what exactly is the kingdom?

What might true peace look like in your life? Is it the cessation of stressors? Or might it be that no matter what the stressors in your life are, you know God is with you in the midst of them. God wants you to be at peace knowing that God is in control, God can be trusted. What would it take for you to truly trust God? Could you sell your possessions, and give the proceeds to the poor, knowing that God will take care of your needs? What would keep you from doing that?

What do you truly treasure? What has the most value in your life right now? Where do you invest the most time, energy, and money in your life? That is where your heart is. Is Jesus asking you to re-prioritize your life? Is he calling you to a deeper trust? If you knew Jesus was returning sooner than later, would it make a difference in how you lived each day? Has the fact that he's been gone for 2000 years, taken the edge off his word? Do you even think about his return in any kind of physical, concrete way? What if he were to come tomorrow, would it change how you lived your life today?

Pray: Almighty God, you want to give us the kingdom. Help us to receive it as it was intended. Take away our worries so that we can care for those around us. Give us the heart of a servant for the sake of the world. Amen

Bless: "_____, the kingdom belongs to you."



www.faith5.org





Shirley Barnes, George Boyd, Noah Denton, Hannah Brooks, Polly Bryant, Kathy Cromer, Laura Cromer, Marianne Doehling, Page Doehling, Cecelia Driscoll, Paul Driscoll, Martha Duncan, Max Edwards, James Gantt, Betty King, Nancy McCoy, Nancy Pales, Trudy Perkins, Mary Rhodes, Jim Sain, Michael Wright, Pat Wilhelm, Rick Norine and family (cousin of Barbara O'Neill), Phil McIlveen (Marianne Doehling's father) James McIlveen (Marianne Doehling's brother), Evelyn Cochrane (neighbor of Susan McConnell), Randy Cherry (Brother of Buzz Cherry), Nancy Skeeters (in-law of Jenny Watson), Nan Muddle, Taylor Lawson (son of John and Tonya Lawson), Barbara Stillwell (sister-in-law of Rusty Rhyne), Tommy London (father of Tonya Lawson), Mickey Adair (aunt of Tonya Lawson), Sherri Beam (friend of Julie Leonhardt), Drew Milholland (Pastor Mike), Breanna Tapp (Jennifer Huskey), Tomi Pendleton (Dara Jarrett), Judith Dew (Marianne and Page Doehling), Dottie Vandenburg (Tonya Lawson), Glenn Mosteller Jr. (Glenn Mosteller), Van Davis (brother of Amy Brown), Dinah Barkley (friend of Susan Boyd)



Gifts from an IRA

The law is now permanent that allows donors age 70 1/2 and older to withdraw up to \$100,000 each year from the total of all their IRA accounts tax-free if they give the money directly to a charity. Any distribution to charity counts towards the donor's required minimum distribution from their IRA accounts even though the charity, and not the donor, is the recipient. Previously charitable gifts from an IRA were taxed as regular withdrawals.

If you have an IRA and are 70 1/2 or older this law offers a great opportunity for you to make a gift to Emmanuel. This gift (1) will not be taxed as a regular IRA withdrawal and (2) if you are not dependent on income from your IRA, you will be able to meet your minimal distribution requirement without being taxed on the withdrawal.

Of course, you should check with your tax advisor to discuss your personal situation to determine if this scenario works for you.

We are able to receive your IRA gifts here at the church. Contact Nancy Truitt, financial secretary to learn how to transfer the funds directly to the church.

Stewardship

**MEMBER
CORNER**

What a joy to see the Emmanuel Newsletter arrive every week. Good info, good humor, and good inspiration!

What would really add 'spice' to a well orchestrated publication are more letters or stories from the congregation.

Come on people - send us a riddle, a joke, or a story that has inspired your life. Your thoughts and ideas help us grow together.

'Covid-19' may hinder our face to face interactions - but remember - when faced with a problem we find opportunity.

So, when you are sitting inside, drop us a line!

Dan James



Dan sent me a suggested dining for Cuban Cuisine.

Check out the Miami Fusion - Café.

They are located at 278 N NC-16 Business Highway, Suite B, Denver, NC

Website is MiamiFusionCafeNC.com.

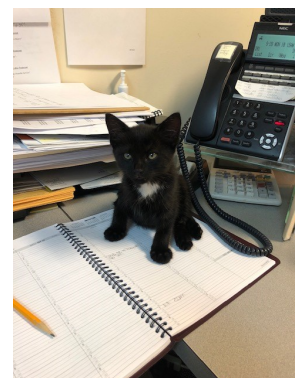
They have casual dining and take out.



I would love to get pictures and little stories of your pets! We have so many little fur babies out there that need to be shared with all.

Please e-mail me at lifewithemmanuel@gmail.com

Thank you,
Shelly





EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
216 S Aspen St Lincolnton, NC 28092

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Adam Long	8/01
Peggy Seagle	8/07
Anthony Eadie	8/11
Tonya Lawson	8/11
Pat Wilhelm	8/12
David Wise	8/13
Heather Lackey	8/15
Colleen Lounsbury	8/15
Betty King	8/18
Jason McConnell	8/18
Jim Williams Jr.	8/18
Emerie Stinson	8/19
Debbie Tapia	8/23
Allison Brown	8/25
Mindy Denton	8/25
Jennifer Little	8/26
Wayne Little	8/29
Michael Hance	8/31



Lincoln County Covid-19 Case numbers

As of March 23 the State and County are no longer reporting numbers

Lincoln County Positivity Rate as of July 25- 27.31%

Lincoln County Positivity Rate as of July 31 - 31.68%

Lincoln County current cases as of July 25 - 218

Lincoln County current cases as of July 31 - 247



Seeds of Hope

A PUBLICATION OF
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PHONE: 704-735-9033



Newsletter Content
Contributors

Bob Lake
Ben Robinson
Pastor Mike
WELCA

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.