

VOICE OF EMMANUEL SEEDS OF HOPE!



"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?" —Psalm 22:1

Dear church,

As Lutherans, we are accustomed to holding tension between two truths. Thus the ELCA denounces the egregious acts of Hamas, acts that have led to unspeakable loss of life and hope. At the same time the ELCA denounces the indiscriminate retaliation of Israel against the Palestinian people, both Christian and Muslim.

For the past week we have borne witness to the horrors of the escalating crisis between Israel and Hamas. We also watch a growing humanitarian crisis in Gaza as Israel blocks food, water, fuel and medical supplies and as airstrikes continue to cause unbearable civilian casualties ahead of a just announced ground assault. We see Israelis and families around the world in the agonizing wait for word about the fate of loved ones killed or taken hostage by Hamas. We are in anguish, grieving and praying for all people who are living in trauma, fear and uncertainty. Among us are Palestinian Lutherans who are fearful for their families, their communities and their homeland. In our communities we have Jewish and Muslim neighbors, who are also facing the horrors of this crisis and its impact on their loved ones.

It is difficult to find words that suffice in the complexity of this moment, and in the web of relationships that bind us together, as church, with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land and our interreligious partners. Yet God has called us to be a people who stand with others amid suffering.

We must also call a thing a thing. The power exerted against all Palestinian people — through the occupation, the expansion of settlements and the escalating violence — must be called out as a root cause of what we are witnessing. We are committed to our long-standing accompaniment of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

The God who liberates us calls us to be a liberating witness. May it be so.

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



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**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!

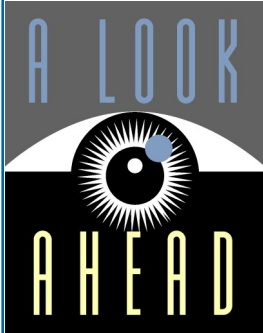
**Information
submitted for
publication must
be received by
Tuesday of Each
week.**

**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!*



October 22

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.



The Hickory Choral Society will perform the final concert of their 45th season.

Sunday, October 22, at 3 pm at Lenoir Rhyne University's P.E. Monroe auditorium. Admission is FREE!

It is recommended that you arrive 30 minutes prior to the performance to secure parking and enough time to find a seat. Dr. Ryan Luhrs (Our former choir director/organist) has entitled this concert theme "*Love and Music Endure*".

The first part of the concert will include brief pieces that celebrate music and singing, ranging from the opening choral fanfare to Spanish, Kenyon, Latin and contemporary styles; all in praise of music and song.

The concert will conclude with "Alzheimer's Stories" a 3 movement work about the first diagnosis, history and rise of the disease and memory loss. A dramatic, music theater-like production with 3 guest soloists telling the story of Dr. Alzheimer, patient #1 and his wife; depicting the anxiety, confusion, frustration and sometimes humor of the disease. The frenetic fugues in the 1st & 2nd movements relent in the 3rd to offer a more hopeful message.

See Ryan, our former choir director in his element!



On Wednesday, October 25 at 5:30 PM Shannon will be filling the candy bags for the upcoming Downtown Drive thru Trunk or Treat!. Lots of help needed. Last year we had 300 bags of candy and ran out early. ***Please let Shannon Mitchem know if you will be able to help fill bags.***

Emmanuel has been asked to hold a Truck or Treat for Battleground Elementary School. The school is providing the candy. The event will be held in their parking lot after their Family Information Night. ***At least 6 cars are needed. Please let Julie Leonhardt know if you can help!***



Jesus said, "Who do people say that I am?"

And his disciples answered and said, "Some say you are John the Baptist returned from the dead; others say Elijah, or one of the prophets.

And Jesus answered and said, "But who do you say that I am?"

Peter answered and said, "Thou art the Logos, existing in the Father as His rationality and then, by an act of His will, being generated, in consideration of the various functions by which God is related to his creation, but only on the fact that Scripture speaks of a Father, and a Son, and a Holy Spirit, each member of the Trinity being coequal with every other member, and each acting inseparably with and interpenetrating every other member, with only an economic subordination within God, but causing no division which would make the substance no longer simple."

And Jesus answered and said, "What?"

?? ? Bible Quiz ? ??

Which Gospel starts with "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John
- E. Thomas



Answer: D



Stewardship & Giving

Our finances for the year through September show us to have an operating deficit of \$8,420. During this last quarter of 2023 please consider your giving for the rest of the year. The church and its ministry depend on your generosity. The church, like everyone, has experienced higher costs, so please consider raising your offering to help meet these increased expenses. We are blessed with so much.

Our 2024 Stewardship Campaign will begin in November. This is also the time to begin discerning your giving for next year. Please approach this with prayer and grateful hearts. Our worship and ministries are very meaningful to us and to the community. Your offerings will ensure that we can continue to serve our neighbor, worship in our beautiful sanctuary and continue to grow in faith.

Ministry in Action - **October** - **November**

	October 22	October 29	November 5	November 12
Greeters	Julie Leonhardt Katelyn Leonhardt	Heather Lackey Jan Huitt	Mary Rhodes Dara Jarrett	Jim Williams Betsy Williams
Lector	Steve Lounsbury	Ruth Murphy	John Cromer	Chuck Yoder
Crucifer	Julie Leonhardt	Matthew Heavner	Jennifer Little	Julie Leonhardt
Acolyte	Hannah Brooks	Mary Ellen Bridges	Hannah Brooks	Judy Shuford
Communion Asst	Jennifer Little	Steve Lounsbury	Vera Lanier	Cathy Lounsbury
Altar Flowers	Available	Susan Boyd	Available	Lounsbury

Monthly Duties **October** 2023

Councilperson	Jennifer Huskey			
Altar Guild	Betty King	Rhonda Thompson	Alison Zimtbaum	
Ushers	Steve Lounsbury (Captain)	John Cromer Keith Saine	Leon Harmon Glenn Mosteller	

Matthew 14:22-33

²²[Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side [of the Sea of Galilee], while he dismissed the crowds.²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone,²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Faith5 Corner by Bob Lake

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Share: Share your highs and lows

Read: Matthew 14:22-33

Talk: Slowly reflect on the reading. We are all very familiar with this story. We have heard it, seen it in art works, and sang about it. Do you find that this story is about having faith? About having faith and losing faith? What do you think about Peter, a fisherman, being afraid in the storm, then gaining confidence upon seeing Jesus, losing confidence, and finally having Jesus restore his faith? Have you ever felt like Peter? Isn't this story also about hope? After all no matter how bad it gets; we can always call out to Jesus and know He will be there.

Pray: Thank you Jesus for always being there for us. No matter how bad things are we can always call out to you, and you will be there. Thank you for giving us faith and hope in our lives. Amen

Bless: “_____, always have faith in Jesus and you will always have hope”



FAITH
HOPE
& LOVE



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

Congregational Meetings Scheduled

Two Congregational Meetings have been scheduled immediately before the 10:00 am Sunday worship service on **November 5 and November 12, 2023**. The purpose of the November 5th meeting is to take nominees for the 2024 Congregation Council from the floor. Nominees from the floor will be in addition to the slate of nominees presented by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee's slate of nominees for the 2024 council are: Dan James, Bob Lake, Doris Little, Cathy Lounsbury, and Susan McConnell. These are all for two-year terms. There are five openings in 2024 for two-year terms.

There is still a need for a nominee to fill a Council vacancy for a one-year term.

The purpose of the November 12th Congregational Meeting is to elect the nominees for Congregation Council and to vote on the 2024 Ministry Spending Plan. Once the 2024 Proposed Ministry Spending Plan is approved by the Council it will be made available prior to the meeting through the newsletter and with printed copies in the north wing.

All confirmed members of Emmanuel who have communed and made a contribution to the church during the 2023 year or the preceding year (2022) may vote.





Lord
Hear our
Prayers

Shirley Barnes, Polly Bryant, David Bynum, Kathy Cromer, Trudy Perkins, Jim Sain, Paula Turner, Joan Warren, Rick Norine and family (cousin of Barbara O'Neill has ALS), Evelyn Cochrane (neighbor of Susan McConnell), Sherri Beam (friend of Julie Leonhardt), 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), Doug Norwood (Dara Jarrett), Bill Gibbs Jr. (Amy Brown), Ken Smith (brother of Kathy Cromer), Tom Pllum Caren (Kirk Herbertson)

SWINGTIME!

Enjoy the nostalgia of
1940's timeless music.
You'll have a swell time!



Carolina Style Chorus

Concert and Intermission Dessert Buffet

Tickets \$20/person Get yours now!

Saturday, October 21st, 2023 4:00 p.m.

Trinity Reformed United Church of Christ

217 Second Ave. NE, Conover, NC 28613



Chorus Contact:

Nancy Truitt: 704-735-9537

ntruitt@charter.net





2023
DRIVE THRU

10.31.23 • 5:30p-7:30p
(or until supplies last)

**4 Stops Thru
Downtown Lincolnton**

- 1 Lincoln Cultural Center • 403 E Main St
- 2 First Federal Park • 201 W Poplar St
- 3 First United Methodist Church • 311 E Main St
- 4 Emmanuel Lutheran Church • 315 E Poplar St

Cost: FREE

For kids ages 12 and under.
Participants must be in a car or vehicle to receive candy - NO WALKERS.










If you would like to help hand out candy, please contact Julie Leonhardt.



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
216 S Aspen St Lincolnton, NC 28092

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Alex Rhyne	10/01
Sissy Burgin	10/03
Jeffrey Leonhardt	10/03
McKennley Doehling	10/05
Anthony Doehling	10/06
Laura Dunston	10/08
Toni Hatch	10/09
Jessica Baker	10/10
Kenneth Pales	10/13
Dara Jarrett	10/14
Morgan Brown	10/15
Paulette Rudisill	10/16
Steve Hallman	10/17
Karen Herrera	10/17
Carol Wise	10/17
Billy Brown Jr.	10/23
Patrick Hance	10/23
Jonathan Brooks	10/24
Tara Smith	10/25
James Gantt	10/26
Dwight Hawn	10/26
Betsy Williams	10/26
Amy Brown	10/27
Meghan Brooks	10/28
Mitch Brooks	10/28
Chris Hance	10/28



October is Emmanuel's Month to collect food for Christian Ministries.

We will be collecting food for Christian Ministries throughout October. This has been a very hard year on Christian Ministries. The cost of food and utilities has gone thru the roof and they are having a hard time keeping up. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

If you are unable to bring canned foods, monetary donations are always accepted. On the Other line of your check just write CM October.



Seeds of Hope

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.