

May 19, 2024

- ♦ *A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests, friends both old and new. We pray that God has blessed your time among us with His Word and Holy Spirit. We cordially invite you to join us this morning for coffee and other refreshments downstairs following the Divine Service; and we ask that you please sign the guest book at the back of the church.*
- ♦ **Family Bible Class:** Pastor Stephens will continue our study on the Gospel of Saint Matthew **next week**. Sunday School Classes are also in session.
- ♦ **Sunday School: TODAY-** *ALL* Sunday School children will go to Mrs. Rhein's classroom, to the right of the nursery, for their morning treats (our younger friends will go to their class after the opening). Parents, please help your child(ren) get to the correct room for the next few weeks. If you need another copy of the BOCE Announcement Sheet, there are a few on the table in the Narthex. Many thanks to **ALL parents** and children for your help, cooperation, and patience as we learn this new routine and iron out the finer details. We know our older students will be very helpful and excellent role models for our younger friends and to help this transition go smoothly.
- ♦ **Today is the Voters' Assembly** during Bible Class, please plan to attend.
- ♦ **The Children's Choir** will be singing Sunday, May 26. They will offer the Pachelbel piece, which they have been studying, *God, Our Father*. They will have their end-of-the-year ice cream party at church on Wednesday, May 29. Thank you, Mrs. Siek, children, and your parents for being so dedicated to the Children's Choir!
- ♦ ***A Complete Guide to Christian Symbols:*** THE BOOKS ARE HERE! I have the books along with the amount owed (in the very last pew, Pulpit side). Please see me (Rebecca) after church to pick up your book. If there are others who wish to order a copy (or another one like us), now having seen the books, we are doing another sign up and shooting for a 10 book orders to get 15% off again. This REALLY is a very nice hardcover book.
- ♦ **Final Contra Dance** of the season! At Resurrection Lutheran Academy on **Friday, May 31st, at 6:15p-9p**, \$4/person or \$20 cap/family. Please bring your own water bottle and a snack to share. *PLEASE NOTE* this dance is on a **FRIDAY** night, as it's typically done on Saturdays.
- ♦ Please have any June Announcements/Events, schedule of Ushers/Organist, etc. to Rebecca as soon as you are able. Thank you!
- ♦ **Altar Flowers:** Today's Altar flowers are given by the Horner Family in Celebration of Clara and Anna Hart's birthdays. Happy Birthday!
- ♦ **Collection for: May 12:** \$3,798.00 (Average needed each week~\$3,347.00)

Walking with Our Savior this Week

TODAY	<i>Divine Service of Communion</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
	C&K Horner & Kronewitter/Jordan	
	Voter's Assembly	10:45 a.m.
MONDAY	Brief Spoken Vespers	6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	Children's Choir Practice	5:00 p.m.
	(Ice cream party next Wed.5/29)	5:00 p.m.
	Evening Prayer	6:00 p.m.
SATURDAY	Private Confession & Absolution	11-12:00 p.m.
	Constitution Committee	2-4 p.m.
NEXT SUNDAY	<i>Divine Service of Communion</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Coffee & Refreshments	10:30 a.m.
(May 26)	Rhein & Seik/Senne	
	Bible Study	10:45 a.m.

Pastor Stephens' office hours: Monday and Wednesday, 8:15-noon
In need of Pastoral Care – call/text any time, day, or night (201)572-6962
*Private Confession and Absolution available anytime by appointment.

Announcements can be sent to Rebecca Stephens by email at
emmaus1923secretary@gmail.com or by phone/text at (201) 572-6962.
Please have announcements submitted by 12n on Friday.

You may also want to keep in mind, in your observance of daily prayer at home:

Readings for next Sunday: *Holy Trinity*
Isaiah 6:1-7, Romans 11:33-36, and St. John 3:1-15.

Keep Checking Here: Save The Date(s): **June: Bike Ride & Ice Cream** Sat., June 1st
time/loc. TBD, **Men's Cookout** Date/Time/Loc. TBD & **Game Night-Date/Time** TBD,
Hope Ministries Meal & Service Tue., June 18/Time TBD
July: Neighborhood Outreach Cookout Fri., July 19th/Time TBD
Sun., August 11 after Bible Class: Church Picnic-Rum Village-Pavilion 2

Extra Announcements: {Follow the Yellow & Red Signs} **From The Board of Christian Edu. (BOCE):**

Volunteers Sought For Nursery Childcare Rotation During Bible Class

There are multiple parents who would like to attend Bible Class if there were someone to help supervise the very young children in the nursery. If you are willing to volunteer for a rotation to help supervise in the nursery, please email Alyssa Horner at horneramw@gmail.com. The idea would be to have enough people on the rotation so that there could be 1-2 supervising people in the nursery each Sunday and no one would need to be doing it more than once a month.

Assistant For Older Children's Sunday School Class

As our class has expanded, it has become harder to teach AND provide the cuing and discipline needed to maintain order at the same time. If you are willing to be a second adult body in Sarah Rhein's Sunday School Class to help distribute shushing and admonishing stares, please talk to Sarah or email her at pmfrs.ffbc@gmail.com.

Sunday May 19th New Process For Children's Sunday School Opening

Who: Upper elementary & middle school kids (Sarah Rhein's class) and preschool & early elementary kids ("littles" class), the Sunday school class teachers, the Elder on duty, and the Choir director. We would gladly welcome a volunteer to assist with the snack distribution and cleanup.

What: Change in Sunday morning routine and flow. Children should come directly to the youth/conference room downstairs for snacks and opening prayer. Both classes will eat snack, an elder will open with prayer, the youngest children will split off to their class, the Choir director will conduct some music practice/education time for older children while snack is cleared up, then the older children's class will meet for the remainder of the adult Bible Class period.

Where: Please have children go directly downstairs via the stairs on the parking lot side of the building. (Turn left leaving the nave. The goal is to direct the flow of quick-moving children away from the flow of adults and seniors navigating the stairs on the right-hand side.)

When: Right after the service ends and you exit the nave.

Why: Sunday school opening will begin promptly so that (among other reasons):

1. Children can get their snack right away instead of competing in the adult line and becoming distressed by the wait.
2. Children can be engaged right away, reducing boredom/ wandering/ hallway hazards, and maximizing opportunity for purposeful engagement.
3. Allows time for sacred music education element / choir rehearsals on Sunday morning, incorporating children who cannot rehearse on Wednesday afternoons.

Logistics: Children will need some parental cuing and reminders until the flow becomes habitual. Parents, please remind your children where to go after church for the next few Sundays. BOCE plans on providing the kids' snacks for the first month while we tweak the new process. If your children have food sensitivities that need to be considered, please email Sarah Rhein at pmfrs.ffbc@gmail.com. If you are willing to volunteer to assist with kids' snack distribution and cleanup or are interested in providing a kids' snack, please contact Sarah Rhein or another member of the BOCE.

Planning Catechesis for Academic Year 2024-2025

Emmaus has traditionally welcomed and encouraged school aged children to attend midweek catechesis classes with Pastor. The schedule in the past has been flexed to accommodate families and other extracurricular schedules. The growing number of member families with school age children and variation in school schedules and extracurricular commitments will likely make planning catechesis more complicated this coming year. The BOCE/Pastor would like to have a proposed schedule that accommodates both homeschooled and traditionally schooled families solidly in place before July so that families can plan their schedules for the upcoming year accordingly. Catechesis will resume in September. If you have school aged children, please talk to Pastor or a member of the BOCE in the next few weeks about what catechesis schedule could work for your family. Current ideas being floated include moving catechesis later in the evening on Wednesday (so traditionally schooled children could join) or having a second catechesis class on a different weekday evening or Saturdays. Children's Choir schedule could also be affected. Please weigh in. We want catechesis and children's choir to be possible for all families.