

**EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

# **Annual Meeting**

**January 21, 2024**



## **Come to Faith, Honor God's Word**

To be inspired and reconnected to God's Word and God's people, to share the message of the cross, and to bring God's love and healing to people in need.

**424 Scott Street, Fontanelle, Iowa 50846**

# Message From the Pastor

Dear Fellow Christians,

I began 2023 with two goals in mind: to help Emmanuel focus on becoming disciples who make disciples and to help all of us become more Biblically literate through going through The Bigger Story of the Bible each week during the Sunday messages. Emmanuel's vision is to help people "Come to Faith and Honor God's Word". We intend on making that vision a reality through our mission statement: "To be inspired and reconnected to God's Word and God's people, to share the message of the cross and to bring God's healing to people in need." In the last year, two churches have closed in our community: the Presbyterian church in Greenfield and the Methodist church in Fontanelle. Therefore, it is all the more important that we are unified in our focus to not only grow as individual disciples who know how to make other disciples, but also on how to follow God's will for our church as a whole. We want to be able to invite people to come to faith in Jesus and experience God in a healthy congregation.

How we make decisions as a church and how our leadership team works together affects every other aspect of our church life. According to scripture, pastors are called to be the spiritual leader for a congregation of believers just as a shepherd leads and watches over a flock. "Then I will give you shepherds after My own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding." (Jeremiah 3:5) In addition, they are called to "equip God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." (Ephesians 4:2) Finally, they are called to be a good witness to how a Christian should live out their life both inside and outside of the church. "not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock." (1 Peter 5:3)

But the pastor is not the only leader within our congregation. According to our church constitution, "The Church Council shall have general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation, and in particular its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God." (C12.04) In order to have a strong church, there are several characteristics that we should be looking for in our council members: they need to be servant leaders (C12.04b), maintain a supportive relationship with the pastor (C12.04d), be faithful witnesses of a Christian lifestyle (C12.04e), promote a congregational climate of peace and goodwill as conflicts arise (C12.04f) and seek out and encourage qualified people to serve with them in leadership (C12.04i).

Each year, our nominating committee struggles to find people within our congregation who are willing to serve on the Council and many people on the Council have had a difficult time understanding what their job is and how to best carry out their assigned tasks. At each year's reorganizational meeting, Council members choose to be representatives of ministries teams but it isn't clear what their role is in filling those teams, leading those ministries and organizing/attending meetings. There is a need for training, encouragement and empowering Council members to be the best Christian leaders that they can be. They are called to "seek first His kingdom and His righteousness" and pray "Thy will be done", but they need to learn how to seek God's counsel through Scripture and how to honor God's Word not only in their personal life but in the life of the congregation.

I believe that as a congregation, it is extremely important that our leadership team learns how to follow God's Word for our church and do it together as a team. I hope to work intentionally with the Council this year to make that happen and to better clarify the role of the Council members and the role of the pastor especially regarding ministry teams. It is my hope that by the end of the year, each ministry team will be much stronger than it was at the beginning of the year.

Throughout the pages of this report, you will see a lot of wonderful things that God has done through Emmanuel Lutheran Church. He has used you and me to reach out to people in the name of Jesus and helped us to grow in our personal faith lives as well. We have worked with the churches of our area to help people learn more about mental health and to praise God at the Gathering Place!



We have sent many kids to camp and helped our community learn more about Jesus at GROW and VBS. Even in the midst of a difficult economy, you gave above and beyond to support the ministries here.

We are called to continue to weather the storms in our lives and in our church so that we can point to Jesus and allow Him to bring His light to the darkness that surrounds us. No matter what happens this year, I pray that you remember that God is with you and that the church's one foundation is Jesus Christ alone. Amen.

# **Emmanuel Lutheran Church**

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# Annual Meeting Agenda

## 9:30 a.m. Meeting

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – President Matt Gross
  - A. Opening Devotions
  - B. Adoption of Order of Business
- II. **SECRETARY'S REPORT** – Craig Plymesser
- III. **TREASURERS' REPORT**
  - General – Gini Herr
  - Approval of Treasurers' Reports
- IV. **REVIEW OF ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS**
- V. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - A. Approve Revised Budget
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - Elections: Council (Rhonda Boehm, Roger Jensen, Iris Westphal), Nominating Committee
  - LCMC Delegates
- VII. **ADJOURNMENT** – Lord's Prayer

Appreciation is expressed to all who have served our Lord Jesus Christ through our Congregation in any way, great or small, during the year 2022, and we ask His blessing and inspiration upon all who have been asked to serve Him in His Church during 2023.



# **Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes July 15, 2022**

The Semi Annual meeting of Emmanuel Lutheran Church was called to order at 9:38 a.m. by President Matt Gross with 33 members of the congregation present.

Pastor Broers led opening devotions with Psalm 150.

Council Members present: Matt Gross, Craig Plymesser, Bill Ernst, Samantha Gettler, Dan Berg, Dan Dreher, Gini Herr, and David Huff.

A motion was made to approve the agenda by Neil Ernst, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vicki Brown, and approved.

Secretary Craig Plymesser read the minutes of the semi-annual meeting. Motion to approve by Sherol Brown, seconded by Neil Ernst and approved as corrected (name change).

Treasurer Gini Herr presented the treasurer's report and reviewed the proposed 2023 budget. Vicki Brown made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as read, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roleen Chiles, and approved.

Motion to approve the 2023 budget by Darry Chiles, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Clella Buckner, and approved.

President Gross asked for volunteers to attend the 2022 LCMC Annual Gathering in Minneapolis. Brenda Plymesser and Kathy Christensen commented on the value of the Annual Gathering. George Feazell volunteered to attend. We still need one more volunteer.

President Gross asked for 2 volunteers to join the nominating committee. George Feazell and Brenda Plymesser volunteered to join Iris Westphal, Nellie Griffith, and Raedeen Bigelow in selecting candidates for the next council election.

Roleen Chiles motioned to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Clella Buckner, and was approved.

Kathy Christensen requested that the upcoming annual meeting be broadcast live on Facebook.

Pastor Broers closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Craig Plymesser, Secretary

# 2023 Budget

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church Budget

	Actual 2022	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
<b>RECEIPTS:</b>			
<b>Giving:</b>			
General	\$200,478.51	\$190,500.00	\$222,000.00
Designated Giving			
Children's Ministry	\$7,924.30	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Vision Fund	\$22,402.91		
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>			
Rent	\$53.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Other Income	\$542.43		
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS:</b>	<b>\$231,401.15</b>	<b>\$196,000.00</b>	<b>\$227,500.00</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>			
<b>Benevolence:</b>			
LCMC Benevolence 1%	\$2,010.00	\$1,890.00	\$2,220.00
Local Benevolence 7%	\$14,077.36	\$13,230.00	\$15,540.00
World Benevolence 9%	\$12,050.00	\$17,010.00	\$19,980.00
<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>\$28,137.36</b>	<b>\$32,130.00</b>	<b>\$37,740.00</b>
	Vision Mission	\$6,035.00	
<b>Ministry:</b>			
Pastor's Salary	\$53,355.08	\$51,500.00	\$54,750.00
Pension	\$6,510.72	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Insurance	\$17,160.51	\$17,000.00	\$18,000.00
Vehicle Mileage & Expenses	\$2,364.57	\$2,500.00	\$2,000.00
Cell Phone	\$1,883.25	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Ministry</b>	<b>\$81,274.13</b>	<b>\$80,000.00</b>	<b>\$83,750.00</b>
<b>Payroll:</b>			
Youth Minister			\$20,500.00
Custodial	\$2,310.57	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Organist	\$3,960.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Secretary	\$8,625.03	\$10,000.00	\$8,500.00
Taxes (+Youth Minister)	\$9,040.54	\$1,338.75	\$2,792.25
<b>Total Payroll</b>	<b>\$23,936.14</b>	<b>\$18,838.75</b>	<b>\$39,292.25</b>
<b>General Administration:</b>			
Printing & Reproduction	\$7,616.69	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Church Supplies	\$1,206.95	\$1,000.00	\$1,250.00
Office Supplies	\$1,844.49	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Postage	\$1,093.77	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Professional Services	\$5,520.00	\$7,000.00	\$6,750.00
Other	\$1,348.10	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<b>Total General Admin</b>	<b>\$18,630.00</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>	<b>\$20,000.00</b>

# 2023 Budget

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church Budget

	Actual 2022	Budget 2022	Proposed 2023
<b>Children's Ministry:</b>			
GROW	\$4,087.67	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00
Vacation Bible School (VBS)	(\$310.66)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Summer Camp	\$3,813.14	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Confirmation	\$4,254.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
Other	\$1,501.99	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Children's Ministry</b>	<b>\$13,346.14</b>	<b>\$7,500.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
<b>Worship and Service:</b>			
Altar	\$299.83	\$500.00	\$500.00
Visiting Pastors	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Adult Ministry	\$119.08	\$500.00	\$750.00
Music Ministry		\$750.00	\$750.00
Outreach Ministry	\$392.87	\$750.00	\$1,000.00
Supplies		\$800.00	\$800.00
Other	\$0.00		
Miscellaneous	\$15,585.84		
<b>Total Worship &amp; Service</b>	<b>\$16,997.62</b>	<b>\$3,800.00</b>	<b>\$4,300.00</b>
<b>Church and Parsonage</b>			
Building, Equip. & Maint.	\$30,853.57	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00
Utilities	\$9,105.38	\$9,000.00	\$10,000.00
	\$3,969.56	\$3,500.00	\$4,000.00
Telephone	\$2,409.36	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
	\$1,368.04	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Insurance	\$7,670.95	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00
Services	\$1,793.68	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Church &amp; Parsonage</b>	<b>\$57,170.54</b>	<b>\$32,000.00</b>	<b>\$34,000.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$239,491.93</b>	<b>\$194,268.75</b>	<b>\$227,082.25</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>(\$8,090.78)</b>	<b>\$1,731.25</b>	<b>\$417.75</b>

A Financial Review was made by Bill Ernst and  
George Fezell  
along with Barb Lemke.  
A copy of this review is available.

**CDS and Designations**  
Carillion CD \$30,432.08  
Ceiling Repair CD was cashed in for ceiling  
work.

# Praise Team Report

## Emmanuel Lutheran Praise Team (Lutheran Messengers)

Balance 12/18/2021	\$ 2695.76
<b>Deposits</b>	
Donations (Christmas Eve/Funeral)	\$ <u>430.00</u>
Total deposits	\$ 430.00
<b>Expenses</b>	
Trailer license	\$ 23.00
Service charges	\$ <u>38.52</u>
Total expenses	\$ 61.52
Balance 12/18/2022	\$ 3064.24





# Memorial Report



## Memorial Committee Report 2022 January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

Beginning Balance 1-1-2022	\$31,196.67
Memorial Deposits	\$12,596.09
Interest Earned	<u>\$ 26.73</u>
Total Gross on Hand	\$43,819.89
Expenses	
Adult Ministry (TV, DVD, stand)	\$ 609.87
Outreach Ministry (Grief Share)	\$ 135.86
Sunday School – GROW	\$ 20.00
Parish Hall Stack Doors	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 3,265.73
Ending Balance 12-31-2022	\$ 40,553.76

## Memorial Designations January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022

Open	13,731.68
Vacation Bible School	2,704.00
Organ Maintenance	708.00
Bell Music	110.30
Mural Protection	759.00
Grief Counseling	2,106.95
Youth Bibles	1,000.00
Burrack Endowment	16,133.83
Basement Floors	2,300.00
Building Fund	<u>1,000.00</u>
	\$40,553.76

Memorial Committee: Paul Bigelow, Roleen Chiles, Ed Christensen, and Nancy Pettit  
Treasurer: Paul Bigelow  
Financial Review: George Feazell

# **Emmanuel Lutheran Church**



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