

Emmanuel Community United Methodist Church Monthly Newsletter

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175th Jubilee-Save the Dates

*May 29 – Come visit the ECUMC booth at Falls Memorial Fest, Main St., Meno. Falls. 11:00am-7:00pm <u>http://</u>

www.menomoneefallsdowntown.com/falls-

<u>memorial-fest.html</u> Tour the ECUMC Cemetery, the oldest in Menomonee Falls, at the site of the Old Red church at the intersection of Roosevelt Dr. and Appleton Avenue, Noon-4:00 PM.

*May 30 – BYO Country picnic and Zion Church Cemetery Tour, 3402 Willow Creek Rd, Colgate, Noon–2:00pm.

*August 28 – ECUMC will host a communitywide, old fashioned Ice Cream Social with a reenactment of the first circuit rider pastors, old fashioned games for kids, and ice cream, of course. Falls Fest Plaza at Village Park, 1:00–3:00pm.

***November 7** – All Church celebration of the 175th Jubilee. Bishop Jung will be preaching and a celebration banquet will follow the service.

Finance Update

Dear Members and Friends of Emmanuel Community, this message is a short follow-up to the pledge letter we received in March.

As we reflect on our recent Easter celebration, we recognize that we are truly blessed. Our Savior is alive and alive indeed at Emmanuel Community Church. While we have been physically distanced for quite a while, we still connect through online Sanctuary worship and Celebration Service, prayer groups, outdoor worship services, and other creative ways to celebrate our Church family and God's plan.

We have wonderful missions, programs, and opportunities in which to participate. Thank you

to all who prayerfully considered what they read. We did receive a few new affirmations of giving recently, but still are in need of additional commitments to meet our goals for supporting all of our programs. No positions, programs, or missions are being eliminated currently, but we will need to consider making significant reductions beginning in 2022 if we cannot close the remainder of our funding gap.

Through the first three months of 2021, after adjusting for contributions that were prepaid in January and February, our continuing expenses are exceeding our contributions, special offerings and income from use of our Church building by about \$9,000 per month.

Our congregation is extremely fortunate that our church has no mortgage payments to make. Therefore, we can use our contributions to support the people, programs, and the place that provides flexibility and a comfortable space in which to worship.

We celebrate resuming in-person worship together and the missions, programs, and continual learning that opportunity presents. To do God's work we need everyone's continued support.

Memorialized

The head of the memorial committee, Karen Kronschnabl, has added the name of Don Bailey to the memorial plaque (in the foyer facing Menomonee Ave).

Just a reminder that when the Memorial Committee receives at least \$500 in donations after a person's passing, that name will be added to the ECUMC memorial plaque in the foyer.

Pastoral Letter

Easter blessings everyone!

All of us have heard, I am sure, about the deforestation going on in the Amazon rainforest. I've heard about it my entire life, starting as a late '80s/early '90s kid watching environmentalism-based cartoons like *Captain Planet* and *David the Gnome*. But the Amazon basin is only one place where old growth (i.e. ancient) forests are being cleared for agriculture.

This last week I watched a YouTube video entitled "The Church Forests of Ethiopia" by *Emergence Magazine*. Watching that, I learned the highlands of Ethiopia were, until very recently, almost entirely old growth forests. But now, those forest ecosystems are almost all gone.

Except around the churches.

For those of you who don't know, Christianity came to Ethiopia immediately after the resurrection of our Lord Jesus by way of the ministry of St. Simeon Bachos, the Ethiopian eunuch in Acts 8:26-40, making Ethiopia one of the first nations to hear and accept the Gospel. But their connection to the one true God goes back even further. In the Old Testament book of 1 Kings 10:1-13, we read about Candace, the Queen of Sheba (an old name for Ethiopia), coming to visit King Solomon in Jerusalem. When she left to return to her kingdom, she was pregnant with Solomon's child, Menelik. Menelik, according to Ethiopian history, returned to Jerusalem as a young man and learned how to practice Judaism from his father and brought that faith back to Ethiopia with him. Even today, the modern state of Israel recognizes the remaining Ethiopian Jews (called Beta-Israel or House of Israel) as being fully Jewish, and modern genetics support this. This means that the Ethiopians have been worshipping the one true God since roughly 950 BC. That is 2,971 years.

The churches, monasteries, and the synagogues before them that these ancient believers constructed were intentionally built within the confines of the old growth forests. The reason for that is, as St. Paul says:

"For the creation eagerly waits for the revelation of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility—not willingly but because of God who subjected it—in hope that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of God's children. For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers together until now." (*Romans 8:19-22, NET*).

Creation has been waiting for its redemption and renewal just as we humans have been waiting for it; for we ourselves, though lords of creation under God's divine kingship, are still a part of creation.

When the Lord Jesus Christ became incarnate as the human baby in Nazareth, he was not just joining himself to human nature, but also, and perhaps more fundamentally, to matter—raw nature. The Lord Jesus was and is fully human and fully God, which means that his material body is divine. His material form is God, God and creation are made one in him. So when our Lord sacrificed himself on the cross and was raised three days later for our salvation, it was not just for human salvation (though that is the first and most important element of his sacrifice), but also for the renewal of all creation. Meaning that just as we are brought through baptism and confirmation into the body of Christ, the Church, and by this are made as righteous before God as our first parents, Adam and Eve, were before the fall, so too the natural order of creation is renewed through Christ's ministry so as to stand before God as pure as when God first planted the Garden of Eden.

Our Ethiopian brothers, sisters, and siblings in the faith took this idea of the renewal of creation seriously, and so they built their churches and monasteries within the vibrant ecosphere of the old growth forests as an icon (or visual participation in) both the Garden of Eden and the renewed creation, the new Earth. Furthermore, they took the very first commandment God gave to humanity to heart, "Be fruitful and multiply! Fill the earth and subdue it! Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and every creature that moves on the ground...The Lord God took the man and placed him in the orchard in Eden to care for it and to maintain it," (Genesis 1:28b & 2:15, NET). They have spent centuries caring for, maintaining, pruning, and developing the old growth forests to maintain their vibrancy and biodiversity in order that it might serve as a tangible reminder and experience of the power of Christ's resurrection and the restoration of all things.

Here at Emmanuel, our Green Team has been doing the same by clearing out the weeds and invasive species in our church yard and trying to restore the natural ecosystem here in southeast Wisconsin. Their ministry is a direct parallel to the ancient ministry of our Ethiopian siblings in the faith, as well as a continuation of following God's command that we care for and maintain his creation. As we observed Earth Day on April 22nd, I ask all of you to pray for our Green Team and their ministry, and if God so calls you to work together with them—either at the church or in your own yards—to help restore our little corner of Eden.

Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia! Pastor Sean Cornell

DICIPLESHIP MINISTRY

Janet Ray, Janetr@ec-umc.com



175th Jubilee Community Quest: *Who are we Methodists?*

To kick off our 175th anniversary jubilee, Mary Volmer, Certified Lay Speaker and Church Council Chair, will be leading a Community Quest series on the United Methodist Church. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about our denomination and celebrate our rich heritage, dynamic present, and hopeful future!

Classes meet by Zoom from 9:30–10:15am on Sunday mornings beginning April 25. <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84293790285?</u> <u>pwd=Y0ZTc1hZWHFMbXVDd1A1c28xUzdOQ</u> <u>T09</u>

Topics:

- April 25 Who was John Wesley? Part 2
- May 2 The Wesleyan Quadrilateral
- May 9 Parking Lot service no CQ
- May 16 Methodist Fundamentals
- May 23 Organic Wesley
- May 30 What would John Wesley Do?

It will be a wonderful time of discovery and fellowship! No material or preparation is necessary.

Prayer Walks Return

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." (*Matthew 18:20*) Last year, some of us participated in a series of Prayer Walks around our church neighborhood. Now that spring is here, let's enjoy God's presence and each other's company again this way!

As we walk, observe, and listen, we hope to understand better how to pray for each other, our community, and the world.

We'll meet at ECUMC on Tuesday mornings at 9:00am, starting on April 29, weather permitting. Our route is 1.5 miles, going as far north as Village Park and circling back around. Plan for a leisurely pace and facemasks. Bring a water bottle if you'd like. At the beginning of each leg, we'll receive a new prayer topic to consider. At the end of the Prayer Walk, the parking lot seating area will be available for more fellowship.

The point of prayer walking isn't about being seen praying; it's about seeing and praying. Come try it!

For more information about the route or other questions, contact Janet Ray (<u>JanetR@ec-umc.com</u>).

YOUTH MINISTRY

Bill Follmann, Billf@ec-umc.com Congratulations to our 2021 Confirmation class

We extend our congratulations to this year's confirmation class. They persevered through the zoom confirmation sessions on a weekly basis and were confirmed on Sunday, April 25. They were aided in their journey with monthly sessions with their mentors who shared their faith and helped guide the students meeting with them one-on-one. We are also grateful to the ministry teams for taking the time to zoom and share their ministries and how they do their best to imitate Christ and share their time and talents to do God's work. Finally, a big thanks to the parents and families of the confirmation students as they supported them with their prayers, patience, and love during this year's journey.

Cheers to our 2021 confirmation class:

- John Baker
- Ryan Below
- Ryan Heckman
- Lilly Peterson
- Beckham Staus
- Anderson Tack

Mentoring the students this year were:

- Karen Gravenkamp
- Lisa Mass
- Andy Martin
- Gary Morgan
- Bryan Ray
- Jean Reif

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY Karen Burzinski, Karenb@ec-umc.com

Jesus Brings S'more Joy Vacation Bible School 2021

Make your own solar s'more cooker and lead your family on 4 scratch-off adventures as you find ways to invite Jesus to bring s'more joy into your life. This year we will play it safe with home-based Vacation Bible School, but we are working hard to provide an evening activity with food and entertainment for all ages on July 22. Watch for an email and Facebook post with registration information and plan to pick up your weekly bags on June 20, June 27, July 11, and July 18. Please note that we will take the week of July 4 off. Please share details with extended family and friends.

MISSIONS Becas Con Bendiciones (Scholarships with Blessings)

Through this mission, ECUMC provides financial assistance to Honduran students, who would not otherwise be able to attend public school. \$120 per student provides the shoes, uniforms, book bags, etc. to make public education possible. We have been supporting 40 students each year.

Letters from Becas Students

El Paraíso, El Paraíso For: Emmanuel UMC From: Jareth Edgardo Solórzano Cerrato

My name is Jareth Edgardo Solórzano Cerrato. 1 am 11 years old. I live in El Paraíso in the village of El Jasmin. My community is very beautiful, cheerful, and wholesome. My house is very pretty. My family is very cheerful. My mom is a homemaker and my dad is a police officer. I have one pet and it is a puppy. Her name is Monicá. My favorite class is math. My favorite animal is my puppy. My favorite sport is soccer. My favorite food is rice with butter. I like to go to church to receive the word of God. When I grow up I want to be in the National Police of Honduras. I like to go to the park to play soccer and to eat ice cream.

When I do not have class, I like to help my mom in the house.

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I like school to study to achieve my goals. I like school to be with my friends. I walk 8 minutes to get to school.

I want to say thank you for your help, which is a great blessing. I ask God in my prayers that God give us and give you many blessings to you and your families, so that you are all well. Thank you for the food and your prayers.

I hope you pray for me and my family in your prayers, so that this pandemic passes, and that we are all in good health.

Grateful again I say goodbye to you with a see you soon and a big hug from afar.

Sincerely, Jareth Edgardo Solórzano Cerrato Blessings!

Emmanuel UMC, My name is Janis Obec Gonsales.

I am 13 years old. I live in El Paraíso, in the village.

Greetings in the name of the Lord, that you and your family meet and enjoy the richness of God.

I thank you for your support in my studies, which is a lot of money for me. I thank you for the food and the many blessings you give me.

I live with my grandma and I have one pet and her name is Bear. After school I like to play soccer. When I grow up I want to be a police officer.

I ask that you pray for me and my family. God bless you.

Thanking you for your kindness, and thanking God for you.

Dear Emmanuel Church,



On behalf of the Board of Directors, Partners and friends who volunteer at the Promised Land Ranch and Preserve, I want to thank all of you for your partnership with us, and your most generous financial gifts of over \$5,000.

We are grateful to your church family and ministry teams for helping us restore outreach at The Ranch!

We have used the money to purchase and install the furnaces that were vandalized.

We look forward to serving this community along with you all, and we hope to have another outdoor service with you too!

Thank you very much, Tim Winter

ECUMC serving at the Saturday Night Meal Program on April 10 at Summerfield United Methodist Church.



Emmanuel Community continues to provide quarterly Saturday evening hot meals for distribution at Summerfield UMC. Because of Covid precautions, the meals are bagged and handed out curbside style. May 15 is the next date we will provide a meal and your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Would you be interested in supplying desserts or contributing meal ingredients? If so, look for information in the upcoming Monday ECUMC news where a link to Sign Up Genius will be available. This is a great opportunity for your ministry team, you, or your family to be involved in missions outreach!



Ava Sardina volunteered to bake all the desserts for The Meal Program on Saturday, April 10.

Jubilee T-shirts and Caps for Sale

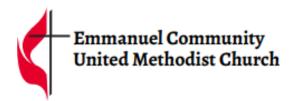
We have something to celebrate and let our community know that ECUMC is going strong at 175 years. The Jubilee Committee is offering the chance to purchase T-shirts and hats to wear at our special events, or maybe just to the grocery store as a conversation starter about our community of faith. With each purchase, you will receive a free refrigerator magnet with John Wesley's guidance for daily living.

You can order by clicking on this jot form link, <u>175th Anniversary Merchandise Order</u> Form, or by printing and filling in the attached order form on page 6 and dropping it off at church. The order deadline is May 2.

You can pay for and pick up your order on Sunday, May 23, at the carport at church from 10:00am to Noon or in the church office if you are not able to pick up on May 23.

All Pathways announcements are due to the office by the 15th of the month prior.

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175th Anniversary Merchandise Sale

Orders must be in by May 2nd!! Net proceeds will go towards scholarships at local high schools.



Please mail the attached form to church or place an order online using the jot form

Youth XS - XL: \$10

Phone:

Name_

Youth XS - XL: \$10

Email:

Item Description	Size	Qty.	Total
		Total	

Payment will be at time of pick-up. Please have exact cash or write a check made out to ECUMC with Jubilee in the memo line. Thanks!



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Jubilee Reflections from the Jubilee Committee



Rejoice – Reengage

REMEMBER: Some great experiences at Church Camps

Pine Lake Camp has been and is a big part of the life of Jerry Willie's family. "Judie started going to Pine Lake as a teenager. We started going to a weeklong family camp from Wauwatosa Avenue UMC when Jennie was a baby and that became an every year event until she was in high school. I became involved with the Volunteers in Mission group when the Retreat Center was being built. Three wings of that center were built with a lot of our work, and we still gather each May for a week to do maintenance and open the camp for summer. Great friendships have been built there. We have also returned to Grandparents Camp several times and our grandchildren learned to love the place, too. We have gone to Winter Family Camp with Emanuel church. Our family has camped at the campgrounds on holiday weekends and now we stay in a very deluxe, air-conditioned home on the hill overlooking the lake with Jennie's family every Labor Day weekend. For his Eagle project, my grandson, Nick Peterson, built a Nature Center, with some financial help from Emmanuel friends. Pine Lake is a great asset for our Conference. I am glad I have been able to be a small part of it. Our former pastor, Doug Clement, is a good example of what comes out of Pine Lake Camp."

Bob and Linda Wager came to ECUMC from Ohio in 1980.

"One of my first memories was the kindness of the Doris and Jim Durdan. They encouraged us to attend Winter Camp at Camp Lucerne. But with a new mortgage and two little boys, we just couldn't afford camp. After several years and continued encouragement, we were able to go.

We had an absolutely fabulous time. We connected with other members of the congregation, enjoyed shared meals, played lots of games, enjoyed lots of laughter, spent time enjoying quiet individual activities, and spent time outside communing with nature—ice skating, playing ice-hockey, ice fishing, cross-country skiing, sledding, tubing, building snowmen, having snowball fights, and enjoying all of God's beautiful creation. It was a wonderful intergenerational experience for the whole family. We looked forward to our Sunday morning church service, the last activity before cleaning up to head for home.

We started budgeting money for next year's trip as soon as we got home. We returned every year, always inviting others in the congregation to join us. In addition to that camp experience, the Young Couples' Club decided to visit Pine Lake Campground for Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends. Those times, too, were wonderful experiences to enjoy with our church family. We ate together, hiked, built campfires, swam, laughed, and spent many leisurely hours talking and laughing around the campfire building relationships with each other and spending time in God's country."

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WI Church Camps: Remember REJOICE: Strengthening relationships with God

The Wagners witnessed the impact of Church camps on themselves and others.

"Attending church camps were wonderful opportunities to build relationships, friendships and memories. The youth who attended were given many good role models to learn from. They saw caring, loving, respectful, and prayerful relationships all around them. The camps gave everyone opportunities to pray and find a closeness to God. They allowed us to feel at peace and gave us a break from the hustle and bustle of our daily lives.

Katie Kring attended Church camp as a teenager and young adult.

"I first truly found God and accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior when I was at Lake Lucerne. Emmanuel Community afforded me the opportunity to go to Pine Lake and Lake Lucerne many times over the years, and every single trip changed my life for the better. The beauty of the camps, the kindness of the volunteers and employees is something that has helped to shape me into the Child of God that I am today. Spending time at the camps with the Praise Team over the years is one of my greatest joys. Being able to sing and praise God with others in a place where I felt safe and free is something that I can never repay the church for, but my heart will forever be grateful. I also found my great love for doing God's work on the many Work Missions I attended through Emmanuel Community. Just being able to go on my first mission to Toronto was through God's intervention. Those weeks away from home showed me how amazing it is to do good work for others all in the name of Jesus Christ and never asking for anything in return. I formed some bonds that never would have been possible without the opportunity to go on the Mission Trips and the experience I gained was priceless. I learned so much about God and even more about myself. I am eternally grateful for the opportunities that I had to go; they will always be some of my favorite and greatest memories. They truly changed my life for the better."

Nick and Lilly Petersen hold Pine lake camp as "a place to learn about and grow their faith." Lilly's drama experiences with loving adults at camp have encouraged her to develop the talents God has given her. Nick's Eagle scout project at Pine Lake was to build a nature center in a pond area, including a study area with a table, a storage house, and a pier. This beautiful spot will be nurture future campers as they explore God's earth.

REENGAGE: New camping and missions experiences ahead

We have an exceptional history of our church's youth and adult UMC Camp experiences. Our devotion has opened opportunities for both the attendees and the recipients. We have blessed our congregation with helping others while opening our lives to God. What a wonderful way to Reengage our 175th anniversary with new youth and adults who will experience our church camps and missions.

Check out our summer camp offerings and sign up! Scholarships are available. <u>https://wiumcamps.org/</u>





Graham N. West served as lead pastor 2015-2020 I focused my ministry at Emmanuel Community on the mission of "*Imitating*

Christ Together" as it captured discipleship formation that is expected of our denomination. So preaching and teaching was intentional with the prayer that our congregation grow in its spirituality.

Discipleship is not just inward spiritual development though; it must also work outward in transforming our world to become closer to God's kingdom. The application of the gospel in this way engaged what was happening in our world even as I supported mission endeavors. I also longed for us to be a neighborhood church reaching those in our immediate vicinity.

I also focused on the organization of the church, particularly the Ministry Teams through which the work of ministry was enacted by the many participants on the various teams. They really took charge of our ministry in ways that were creative, invigorated and faithful. Serving with these teams was really empowering for me.

I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to salute the staff who served alongside me. They were truly committed to our mutual ministries, supportive of one another, imaginative, innovative and inspired to serve in ways that made us, particularly me, look good.

I made it my intention to reach out pastorally to the congregation through prayer, visits and encouraging mutual care. It was my blessing to visit with members and share the love of Christ.

It was somewhat disappointing that the pandemic slowed us down and brought a halt to some plans. It was an unprecedented time that expected revised ways of ministry, learning new technologies, and finding support in serving alongside each other despite what we could not control. It was an exhausting season that drained my best intent but at least we were in this together.

I am also grateful for the humor, fun and kindness shared with the people of Emmanuel Community. They gave ministry a human face that was enriching.

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Rev. Lynn Kollath served as lead pastor 1984-1993

I came to Emmanuel Church in 1984. Tom Countryman was the Associate Pastor then. He was fresh out of seminary, hardly dry behind the ears, but wise beyond his years, and I learned a lot from him. He and I both had some exciting adventures with the old church buses and the youth group.

Having been ordained in 1963, the Annual Conference (EUB) was hosted by Emmanuel that year. So years later, when it came time to replace the old carpet, Jim Mergener came to me and asked me to point out the spot where I had knelt when Bishop Heininger put his hand on my head and intoned, "Take thou authority..." Bob cut out that square and presented it to me as a historical memento.

We had some fantastic choirs those days. The Chancel Choir was full of talented singers, and they even let me sing with them. Rosella Jashinsky directed a Children's Choir that would knock your sock off, and Jim Mergener had a Men's Choir that would knock the other one off. Vida loved the pipe organ, and she would play it with gusto. One Sunday Bob Hillmer heard me complain to Vida about the volume level (since I stood right in front of the pipes), and the next Sunday he came with some cotton balls and said, "Put these in your ears and let her play."

Sophie Pilgrim was one of two 100-year-old members. She would sigh and tell me, "Yah, Rev. Kollath, gettin' old ain't for sissies!" Her husband was from the family that gave Pilgrim Road its name.

MAY 2021

This calendar and more details can be found at ec-umc.com

30 • 8:30am ICQ-family zoom • 9:30am CQ • 10:30am Sanctuary Worship 2 more	23 T-shirt pickup 8:30am ICQ-family zoom 9:30am CQ 2 more	16 • 8:30am ICQ-family zoom • 9:30am CQ • 10:30am Sanctuary Worship • 7:30pm Faithlink	9 • 10:30am Outdoor Worship • 7:30pm Faithlink	2 e 8:30am ICQ-family zoom e 9:30am CQ e 10:30am Sanctuary Worship e 7:30pm Faithlink
2	24	17 7pm Church Council	10 • 7pm Finance	3 © 6:15pm Ministry Teams
Jun 1 9 am Prayer Walk 12pm pastoral meeting 1:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm Trustees	25 • 9am Prayer Walk • 12pm pastoral meeting • 1:30pm Staff Meeting	18 • 9am Prayer Walk • 12pm pastoral meeting • 1:30pm Staff Meeting • 6:30pm SPRC	11 • 9am Prayer Walk • 12pm pastoral meeting • 1:30pm Staff Meeting	4 • 9am Prayer Walk • 12pm pastoral meeting • 1:30pm Staff Meeting 3 more
2 • 6:30pm Prayer Group	26 6:30pm Prayer Group 6:30pm Youth zoom	19 6:30pm Prayer Group	12 • 6:30pm Prayer Group • 6:30pm Youth zoom	5 6:30pm Prayer Group
3 • 7pm Women's book study	27 • 6:30pm Choir • 7pm Women's book study	20 7pm Women's book study	13 • 7pm Women's book study	6 © 6:30pm Reopening Team © 7pm Women's book study
4 • 10am Lectionary study	28 • 10am Lectionary study	21 • 10am Lectionary study • 7pm Game Night	14 • 10am Lectionary study	7 • 10am Lectionary study
сл	29 Jubilee@Memorial Fest	22	15 • 8am Pathways Deadline by • 9am Women's Craft Mornin	œ