

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

THE DOVE

**“To Know Christ and Boldly Make Him Known”
April 2015**

From Our Pastor...

In my office there is a very large canvas that has been prepared for a painting. Having it here has made me think about all the details that go into painting and planning the image for others to see. When I walk by the canvas, I wonder what the colors and images will look like in the painting and what type of story the final product will tell after completion. During Maundy Thursday worship the canvas will be used to bring the Word of God to life through the artwork of my friend Pastor Paul Oman. Years ago he sat in my office and shared his desire to attend seminary. Little did I know then that he was a gifted artist and, years later, would be painting while sharing the message of scripture in the church where I serve.

The word of God comes alive through visual images and truly reveals a way for us to see the message of faith. When we hear the familiar message of Maundy Thursday, as Jesus washes the feet and communes with the disciples and gives the commandment to “love one another,” it helps us paint a picture in our minds. We can use our imaginations to picture what it would have been like being with Jesus on that evening before he went to the cross. Jesus sat with his disciples eating and sharing the bread and the cup. We often see the picture of Jesus at the table breaking bread with the disciples in a very orderly manner. It may not have been orderly or picturesque, and yet the artist conveyed the story of what was happening that evening. The gift of the artist or photographer is to create an image for us to learn about a story, as well as to understand how we are part of the message.

We may not be able to paint the story of the Last Supper, but we can imagine that God uses our story to paint a picture for others to see and know the story of Jesus. Imagining what our faith might look like on canvas or in a photograph can help us think about what we value and find important in our lives. Creating or capturing our faith in a picture tells others what inspires our lives.

I recently read an article about a parent who took a photo of their child receiving Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday for the first time. The author of the article thought it did not seem appropriate. However, she changed her mind after the picture was shared on Facebook revealing the story of the faith of a child with outstretched hands receiving the gift of God’s love. The canvas of our lives is much bigger than the one in my office. May God continue to paint a picture of your faith for others to see!

Emmanuel Holy Week Schedule

Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday

March 28, 2015 5:00 PM Holy Communion
March 29, 2015 8:30 and 11:00 AM Holy Communion

Maundy Thursday

April 2, 2015 7:00 PM Holy Communion
Special Presentation: **“Drawn to the World”**

Good Friday

April 3, 2015 7:00 PM

Easter Vigil Saturday

April 4, 2015 5:00 PM Holy Communion

Easter

April 5, 2015 8:30 and 11:00 AM Holy Communion
10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

“Drawn to the World”



Pastor Paul Oman is shown here as he brings to life the story of Easter Week told through the scriptures. His gifts and talents have enhanced his role as pastor. Let his message touch you during the Maundy Thursday service.



Meeting Dates

Anna Circle: April 13, 2015 7:00PM Room 105 Bible Study to Be Announced
“Proverbs: Learning to Live Wisely.” For information, call Lois 941-484-9182.

Deborah Circle: April 7, 2015 6:30 PM Room 101 Bible Study -Sheila Miller
Max Lucado’s “Romans.” For information, call Kathy 486-5385.

Dorcas Quilting Mission: Every Monday 9:00AM Rowe Hall
Quilt making with a group. For information, call Jackie 488-7176.

Mary Circle: April 21, 2015 10:00 AM Room 101 Bible Study - Marj Becker
“Gather Magazine.” For information, call Pam 497-1739.

Naomi Circle: April 15, 2015 9:30 AM Room 101 Bible Study - Darlene Wilwant
“Gather Magazine.” For information, call Nancy 609-214-6541.

Ruth Circle: April 20, 2015 12:30 AM Room 101 Bible Study - Mary Ann Franzen
“Gather Magazine.” Women of the Bible For information, call Ruth 497-6766.

Special WELCA Gathering

~Shared Salad Luncheon~

Saturday, April 11, 2015 Noon

Do you work during the week? Then this is your chance to join us as we enjoy Linda Jackson’s ‘Visit to Israel’ Power Point program. Invite a friend, a daughter, a new neighbor, a co-worker! Bring a favorite salad to share. Tableware and beverages will be provided.

Dorcas Quilting Mission

~ A Note of Thanks~

This will be our last month of meeting, but the Dorcas Barrel and the box containing Square Kits for sewing quilt tops will be in the Welcome Center all summer. We will save all donated cotton fabric, sheets and pillowcases of any size or color for the fall when we start to work again. We are grateful for the wonderful support from the congregation!

Jean Price

Our Church at Work

Many Hands Make Light the Work!

Emmanuel's Easter Egg Hunt

This year's Easter Egg Hunt will be held April 5, 2015, at 10:00 AM in the garden behind the Youth Room. The Youth and Family group will be packing eggs on March 29, 2015 during the Sunday School hour. All are welcome to help! Have questions? Contact Will Kittinger at 941-275-4783. Thank you!

Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale Fund-raiser

God's Work; Our Hands...In support of the Lutheran Churches of Haiti we have had a number of enthusiastic volunteers who participated in the Winter Crafts Workshops and assembled many items for the November sale. The Outreach Committee and Global Missions team are a delightful group of charitable souls who deserve a big round of "thanks".

Let's keep it going for Haiti...Take time this summer to create your own handicrafts that can be used for the 2015 Bazaar and Bake Sale. Do you paint, carve, tat, stitch, sew, knit, crochet or preserve? We will be thrilled to receive whatever you have created. Busy hands and happy hearts go together! Look for the candy canes in the future issues of "The Dove."



Rock-a-bye Baby

The Nursery is in need of a rocking chair. The current one has been well used and needs to be retired. A new, or lovingly used, rocker will be greatly appreciated. Can you help? Please contact the church office at 941-489-4942. Thank you for your generosity!

Kristen Hatteberg
Nursery Supervisor

A Thought from God...

We first received the Grace of God; now we give back!



Your Stewardship Committee

Pastoral Acts

Pastor Hall celebrated the joyous occasion of welcoming Patricia Pascale into the Emmanuel family through baptism on February 20, 2015. Her sponsor was Daryl Hayden.

On March 11, 2015, a service for Evelyn Hagmann, who passed to the Church Triumphant on February 27, 2015, was held at Emmanuel.

On March 14, 2015, a service for Mary Moorman, who passed to the Church Triumphant on February 20, 2015, was held at Emmanuel.

Memorial Gifts

Emmanuel Lutheran Church has been blessed by Memorial Gifts given through the generosity of families and friends as they celebrated their loved ones. Gifts received are:

- ◆ In memory of Roger Mittelsteadt. Given to the “Pastor Livenson Haiti Fund” by Donald and Nancy Leach, Ruth Mittelsteadt, and William and Shirley Kasko.
- ◆ In memory of Ray Wilwant. A Paschal Candle given to Emmanuel by Darlene Wilwant.
- ◆ In memory of Harry Bokenkamp. Given to the “Emmanuel Choir Fund” by Daniel and Debra Bell, Robert and Alice Bokenkamp, Jesse and Lloyd Long, and William and Shirley Kasko.
- ◆ In memory of Evelyn Hagmann. Given to the “Pastor Johnson Haiti Fund” by Vincent and Erna Mulrine, and Carl and Margaret New.

2015 CROP Walk Is a Success

We are pleased to report the 2015 CROP Walk results have topped the 2014 figure of \$3,633.00. That’s right. There were 33 enthusiastic Emmanuel walkers in this year’s event, who raised \$3,780.00 in pledges. Total monies collected by all Venice participants is not yet known.

Money raised will be shared both locally and world-wide. 75% will go to support overseas hunger eradication programs and 25% will remain locally to help those in need in South Saratoga County.

Thank you once again for your participation in God’s work at Emmanuel Lutheran!

Jack Robertson

From Emmanuel's Staff...

Music Notes

I want to thank the entire congregation for your overwhelming kindness and generosity with the pink envelopes, greetings and cards as I celebrated my 20th Anniversary at Emmanuel. The reception was beautiful and so delightful. The cake and cookies were absolutely delicious! I also want to thank the Council for the beautiful roses. Thank you, Pastor Hall, for making me feel at ease during the re-affirmation of my ministry during worship.

I know there were many people behind the scenes making that day possible for me, and I thank each of you. Special thanks go to the Worship Committee, Deneen Schell, Dottie Stehl, Bev Roesler, Judi Klingsick, Teri Smith, Jan Quinn, Jerry Authier, Tom Doerzbacher and the Sanctuary Choir. To think I had the organ played for me, the anthem dedicated to me and the entire choir kept an extra rehearsal secret from me!

When I became Minister of Music and Worship at Emmanuel, I never dreamed I would become a family member of this community of faith and be so close to all of you. I am so blessed and grateful for the support of this congregation and your deep appreciation of all things musical. Thank you!

Kris Bowker
Minister of Music and Worship



Wow! I have nothing on the books for April! Nothing to remind all of you about, nothing to badger you with, nothing to organize. How nice is that? But maybe there something I'm missing that you are really interested in or curious about. Please let me know your thoughts.

It seems we never get a spring season. We go from cold, chilly to hot. But spring means newness and rebirth and a fresh start. Our "snowbirds" fly north and "the regulars" are left to hold down the fort and get everything done. So, what new thing can YOU do for the church?

We all have different gifts that should and could be shared. There are so many "jobs" at church that are dependent on volunteers. If we don't have volunteers, the "jobs" don't get done. Then programs, events, happenings and ministries fall by the wayside. We don't want that to happen at Emmanuel!

What would you like to do? What would you like to see at church? Let us know so we can help you develop spiritually, emotionally and physically. Spring into action this spring!

Barb Spenks
Parish Nurse

PS Thanks to all the blood donors, those who attended the 3-Part Series and CPR classes. I hope it all helped.



Bishop of the Florida-Bahamas Synod
Pastor
Minister of Music and Worship
Interim Youth and Family Leader
Administrative Assistant to the Pastor
Facilities Manager
Parish Nurse
Ministry Team Coordinator
Nursery Supervisor
Part time Sexton
Global Mission Service in Suriname
Mission in Field
ELCA staff in East Africa

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer
The Rev. Robert O. Hall
Kristene Hoeh Bowker
Will Kittinger Cell 941-275-4783
Charlotte Graas
Rich Kessler Cell 941-735-6994
Barb Spenks
Joan Hofelich Cell 941-586-8249
Kristin Hatteberg
Dan Robinson
The Rev. Kevin L. Jacobson
The Rev. Joseph Livenson Lauvanus
Dr. Joseph & Rev. Deborah Troester

Phone Office: 941-488-4942 Fax: 941-483-1092
Pastor Rob's Cell Phone for Emergencies: 612-840-7798
Office Hours: 8:30am to 4pm Monday-Thursday, Friday 8:30am- 1pm
Church office e-mail: info@emmanuel-elca.org
Website: www.emmanuel-elca.org
Facebook: facebook.com/pages/Emmanuel-Lutheran-Church-Venice/290136367832774

Samaritan Counseling Service: www.samaritangulfcoast.com. For appointments at
Emmanuel Office Center: 926-2959

Your 2015 Congregation Council and Committee Chairs

Carol Orenstein	President
Lois Steketee	Vice President
Yvonne Heckler	Secretary
Jim Crandall	Treasurer & Endowment Committee Chair
Marlyce Holbach	Outreach & Ministry Teams Committee Chair
John Verost	Property Committee Chair
Tom Zwetschke	Stewardship Committee Chair
Bev Roesler	Worship & Music Committee Chair
Julie Pinkerton	Youth & Family Committee Chair
Sarah Hurlburt	Youth Representative

Kathleen Pickering	Nominating Committee Chair
Helen Jodouin	Ex-Officio Council Meeting Representative for WELCA