



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

August 2021

Gracious Giving, Thankful Obedience

We make sure to teach our kids to say it. Whenever they get a gift, we remind them to say "Thank you." This is a good habit to start in our younger years. It's part of living in polite society, and so we too, as adults, we need to be reminded to say, "Thank you." It's important for us to respond to people's generosity with gratitude. But do we do this with God's generosity? Do we thank Him for all He's graciously given to us, or do we respond with greed, always wanting more, expecting more, thinking we're owed more?

With faith, it's right for us to understand and recognize that everything we have is a gift. Our homes are a gift. The food on our tables is a gift. Even our friends and families, they're gifts. So too are the non-tangible things in our lives like our reputation and talents and time, they're gifts. All of it is a gift from God. But this faithful understanding of God's gifts goes completely against the old-school American way and also the current culture of entitlement.

The old-school American way of life isn't one that seeks out gifts. Instead it's all about working hard for everything you have, claiming it as your own. The material things we have we have because we've worked for them. The family and friends that we have we have because we've built those relationships. We see a direct connection between what we've done and the things we have, and so we give ourselves the credit. And yet, the credit doesn't belong to us, but to God.

In a similar way, our current culture of entitlement doesn't look at what we have as God's gracious giving, but instead it's what's owed to us. We think we deserve things; we think we're owed in some way, simply because we're breathing. We think it's our inalienable right to have the latest technology, to eat whatever we want, to live in the exact home that we want. We demand these things and more, and never once are we grateful for what we have.

In both cases we fail to thank God. In both cases gratitude is absent. In both cases we refuse to see the Lord's generosity. In both cases our greedy sinfulness raises its selfish head.

This collect from last Sunday (07/18/21) is a very pointed one, cutting right through our sinful greed. *Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience.*

Did you hear the first part of that prayer? We don't deserve God's goodness. What a radical truth for today's entitled world. What a radical truth for people who think they've earned everything.

We don't deserve God's goodness. God owes us nothing. We're sinners, enemies of God. We've rebelled against Him, and continue to rebel every time we disregard His Word and listen instead to Satan's temptations and our own sinful wishes. We take and take and take, never once stopping to acknowledge how gracious God is. We take and take and take, never once stopping to see how even though we deserve death, God graciously gives us life.

None of us would be breathing today if it wasn't for God giving us the breath of life. He created our first parents in the Garden, and through our parents, He's created each and every one of us. This is what we confess in the Creed when we say, "I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth." As we say those words we're confessing that God has made each and every one of us specifically, and that He continues to care for each and every one of us. Out of fatherly divine goodness and mercy, God continues to care for us. He gives us what we need. He gives us food for our bodies, our daily bread.

Jesus did this in a miraculous way in the Gospel. He had compassion on that crowd of 5,000, taking just a few loaves of bread and a couple of fish, He prepared a meal for everyone, with more than enough leftovers. But notice how He delivered this daily bread to the people...through the hands of His disciples. The disciples served the people the food. And in the same way, God provides your daily bread by the hands of others.

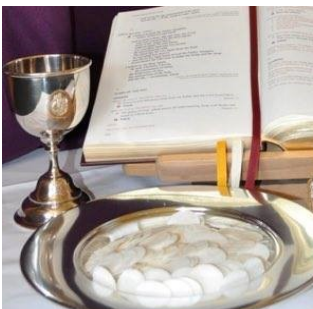
We may not think of it as miraculous as the feeding of the 5,000, but our Lord still provides us with the food we need by the hands of others; whether it be from the farmers who grow and raise our food, the stockers at Meijer who fill the shelves, our employers who pay us for our work so we can buy our food, or the teenagers behind the counter at Culver's who make our food, by all of these hands, the Lord provides for us. And the same can be said about everything else we need and have.

Continued on page 2...



In This Issue

- From Pastor Latham
- Current Events
- Joyful Retirement to Jayne Foster
- How we served
- Opportunities to Give and Serve
- Education
- August Calendar
- Serving our Congregation In August
- Prayer list



... from Pastor Latham

But the Lord's compassionate and gracious care doesn't just stop there. Jesus didn't just give the crowd food for their bodies; He gave them food for their souls. He gave them the Bread of Life, the Word of God, the life-giving Good News of salvation in Him. And He continues to do the same for you. And this is a greater miracle than the feeding of the 5,000.

In a miraculous way, through the Word of Christ and Him crucified, God brings us to everlasting life. His Word of forgiveness overcomes our sin. Our selfishness and greed is washed away through the waters of Baptism, and we're clothed with Christ's righteousness. He takes bread and wine and through it physically feeds us His very body and blood, feeding our faith and bodies unto everlasting life. And again, He does it all through the hands of others, men He's called to proclaim His Word and administer His Sacraments. All of this is a gift. All of this is God's gracious giving. And in faithful response we rightly say "Thanks."

In one of the post-communion canticles we sing, "Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done. Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name." In response to receiving food for our souls, we can't help but give to God thanks. We literally sing "Thank you."

We praise Him for His graciousness and we share that thanks and praise with others. We do this with our words and we do this with our obedience. What better way is there to say thank you to our Lord for the everlasting life He's given to us than to live it out? What better way is there to say thank you than to show forth the righteousness of Christ that we've received? What better way is there to say thank you than to be a servant of the Lord, being the hands through which He provides daily bread for others? There is no better way.



Our Lord graciously gives us all that we need: food for our bodies and food for our souls. And as we faithfully receive all these gifts, we give Him thanks: thanks of proclamation, proclaiming the goodness of the Lord, and thanks of obedience, living the life we're called to live. So today, and every day, give thanks to the Lord, for He graciously gives all we need.

Rev. Mark E. Latham

Call Process:

At the July 12th voters meeting the congregation voted to call Rev. Glenn Worcester, from Peace Lutheran Church Winnipeg, MB, Canada.

Board and Council Meetings are scheduled for **August 17th**. All Boards meet at 6:30pm and Council 7:30pm.



The Ladies of the LWML will meet on **August 18th** at 11:30am.

Noisy Mites will be collected **August 1st**. In July the mites raised \$112.13. Thank you for generously giving to further the education of women in deaconess programs at the St. Louis & Fort Wayne Seminaries.

RUMMAGE SALE

August 27th 9:00a - 5:00p and 28th. 9:00a - 1:00p. If you would like to donate items, please drop them off no earlier than **August 22nd**. For additional information or to volunteer, contact Nancy Shimek or the church office.

Education Sunday August 29th

The Blessing of the Backpacks
Sunday School kickoff and
Retirement lunch for Jayne Foster



Soon our short Michigan summer will be over and it will be time to return to school. We would like to send your children off to school this year with a special blessing. During both

services on **Education Sunday, August 29**, we will be holding "The Blessing of the Backpacks". The purpose of this special event is to remind your children that God is with them at all times...at home, church and school. **We would like to invite all children to bring their backpacks to church on Education Sunday for this special event.** During the service we will ask each student to come up to the communion rail to receive a special blessing. We also will have a retirement luncheon following the late service. The Board of Education will grill hamburgers and hot dogs. We ask all members to join us and bring a dish to share. **Please sign up so we know how many to expect.** Thank you!



Oktoberfest is coming back in 2021! We are planning a delicious homemade German dinner on **Friday, October 15th from 5:00 pm - 7:30pm**. There will be plenty of family fun and a silent auction. Please mark your calendars and consider donating an item for our auction.

Joyful Retirement to Jayne Foster



Retirement Celebration for Jayne Foster

Jayne will be retiring as director of Joyful Hearts Early Center after serving in this position for 17 years. Jayne was instrumental in the creation and development of Joyful Hearts and has served as the director since its inception. Please join us in celebrating Jayne and all of her years of service on Education Sunday, August 29th. This celebration will take place during the church picnic following the late service. We would also like to thank Jayne for all the work she has done throughout the years with a special gift. If you would like to make a donation towards this gift please place your donation in an envelope indicating it is intended for Jayne and place it in the offering box in the narthex. Thank you!

How We Served



June 2021
Church & Daycare YTD

Income \$288,790
Expense \$302,387
Negative (\$13,597) for 2021
cash flow

Our overall shortfall is (\$37,053) at the end of June 2021.
The Ministry house sale was completed in July 2021.
We will see an improved cash flow in next month's report.
Thank you to our generous and faithful givers.

Gifts to the Unified Budget are the most helpful to the financial health of Emmanuel. Members are welcome to donate to special funds at their discretion. If you are not able to attend worship in person, you can continue to support the ministry by mailing in your offering to: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 11198 E Division Street, Cadillac MI 49601.
Beth Ruck, Treasurer



Thank you to the generous members of Emmanuel who gave of their time, talents and treasures to support our Scholarship Fund. To those of you who donated baked goods. Thank you! To those of you who either made a monetary donation or purchased our baked goods, thank you! We feel truly blessed to be part of a congregation which so closely mirrored the churches of Macedonia in their giving to our Scholarship Fund. "For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own free will..." We raised **\$1,675!** We are pleased to now be able to further support the youth of our congregation wishing to impact the Kingdom by attending a synodical school. **Thanks for your generosity!**

On June 22nd, Voters unanimously said **yes** to moving forward with the new storage facility. Construction will begin in August. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Menz.

Thank you to my church family for all of the birthday cards, & calls. I appreciate hearing from all of you, it is a wonderful blessing in my life. *Shirley Winner*



Thank you to our VBS Volunteers for making this summers program a wonderful success! A special thank you to Bekki Koehn and Kris Van Agtmael, who spend most of June & July organizing, preparing and cleaning up. We appreciate all of their wonderful hard work.. Over 75 different children learned about the love of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Opportunities to Give & Serve



Emmanuel is planning on holding a silent auction this year during Oktoberfest on Friday, October 15. You could help out by donating a handmade item or volunteering a service. (Some examples of services might be: dinner for four, a dozen cookies a month, free house cleaning or babysitting, etc. Be creative!) We will also accept anything you would like to donate. Do you know a merchant or vendor that might be willing to donate an item or service? Please approach them on behalf of Emmanuel. We would like to have all of the items and services for our auction by October 3rd. That way we can print out a list of all the items up for bid. Please contact either Beth or Bob Menz if you have items or services you would be willing to donate.

RUMMAGE
SALE

Rummage
Sale items
can be
dropped off
at the church starting
August 22nd.

THRIVENT MEMBERS:

Have you designated your Thrivent Choice dollars? **If you do not designate** where you would like your Thrivent Choice Dollars to go those dollars are lost. **Use them or lose them!**

Please consider designating Emmanuel Lutheran Church as your Thrivent Choice. Please call Bekki in the church office for more



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL[®]

Connecting faith & finances for good.™

Meet our New Seminary Student Alarik Morris and his wife Angela



Hello Emmanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your support and remembering us in your prayers! It means so much to us as we get ready to begin the placement process and finishing up with our final year at the seminary.

I originally grew up in Connecticut and I graduated from Concordia Ann Arbor with a Bachelor's degree in Family Life Community Services in December 2017. After that I started at Concordia Seminary St. Louis in the Fall of 2018, and my wife Angela and I got married this past May 2020 in the middle of the pandemic just before we started vicarage. Currently, I'm finishing up my vicarage year at St. Mark Houston in Houston, TX and will be returning to St. Louis for my fourth-year next month.

My wife Angela and I met at Concordia Ann Arbor, and she has her degree in Church Music with a focus in Contemporary Worship and plays the piano, some guitar, and sings for our vicarage congregation. Angela is currently also attending

Liberty University online to get her Master's degree in Video Production and Content, which she was inspired to do as many congregations struggled with live-streaming and finding new ways to worship in the midst of a pandemic. Her ideal role in our future congregation would be as a Director of Worship Arts. We both enjoy doing things outside like hiking, running, kayaking, and camping. We also both love coffee and finding new coffee shops and places to enjoy it!

Alarik Morris

Alarik & Angela Morris
525 Clara Ave. Apt. 102
St. Louis, MO 63112



Opportunities to Learn



Sunday School Lessons and Memory work for
Knights & Roses, Sunday School & Joyful Hearts Students

August 1

God Provides Manna and Quail, "God provided for the children of Israel. We can trust God to provide all that we need. **Ask your children,** "How does God provide for our physical needs today?" "Whom does God use to provide for our needs?"

Memory Challenge: The eyes of all look to You, and You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand; You satisfy the desire of every living thing. Psalm 145:15-16



August 8

Joseph Forgives His Brothers. "Despite their sins against him, Joseph forgave his brothers. Despite our sins, God forgives us for Jesus' sake and helps us forgive others. **Consider asking,** "To whom do you need to offer forgiveness?" "Why is it difficult to forgive those we know well?"

Memory Challenge: Be kind . . . forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Ephesians 4:32



August 15

"The Temptation of Jesus." Jesus resisted the temptations of the devil and kept God's Law for us because we cannot. Jesus strengthens us through His Word to resist temptation and assures us that He has won the victory over sin, death, and the devil for us. **Talk about,** "How does the Holy Spirit help you resist temptation?"

Memory Challenge: Be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion. . . . Resist him, firm in your faith. 1 Peter 5:8-9



August 22

"Three Men in a Fiery Furnace." God rescued the three faithful young men from the fiery furnace. God rescues us from harm and helps us endure the troubles that He allows to come into our lives.

Discuss, "What troubles have you faced in the past week?" "Whom does God send to help us when we have troubles?"

Memory Challenge: The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into His heavenly kingdom. 2 Timothy 4:18




August 29

"The Saints in Heaven." The saints in heaven praise God for His power and glory and wisdom. God, who is all powerful, loving, and wise, will answer our prayers, as He has promised. **Parents could discuss,** "Where do we sing praises to God like the saints in heaven?" "How are the words of our songs of praise similar to theirs?"

Memory Challenge: Salvation and glory and power belong to our God. Revelation 19:1



August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Mite Box 8:30a Worship w/Com 9:45a Education Hr. 11:00a Worship w/Com	2 9:30a Counters 12:00p Linked in prayer	3	4	5	6	7
8 8:30a Worship w/Com 9:45a Education Hr. 11:00a Worship w/Com	9 9:30a Counters 12:00p Linked in prayer	10	11 10:30p Peace Quilting	12	13	14
15 8:30a Worship w/Com 9:45a Education Hr. 11:00a Worship w/Com	16 9:30a Counters 12:00p Linked in prayer	17 6:30p All Boards Meet 7:30p Council Meeting	18 11:30a LWML Newsletter deadline	19	20	21 1:00 - 3:00pm Fellowship Hall In use
22 8:30a Worship w/Com 9:45a Education Hr. 11:00a Worship w/Com Bring rummage sale items in	23 9:30a Counters 12:00p Linked in prayer	24	25 10:30p Peace Quilting	26 Rummage Sale Set up	27 Rummage Sale 9-5	28 Rummage Sale 9-1 
29 Education Sunday Retirement celebration for Jayne Foster 8:30a Worship w/Com 9:45a Education Hr. 11:00a Worship w/Com 12:00p Church Picnic/ Retirement Party for Jayne	30 9:30a Counters 12:00p Linked in prayer	31				



Volunteer Schedule

		August 1	August 8	August 15	August 22	August 29
Acolytes	8:30	Mina Schellhas		Charlie Schafer	Mina Schellhas	
	11:00					
Altar		Wanda Pillsbury Lorna Vanderwal	Pat Struck Denise Bujalski	Ruby Ohlrich Deb Schafer	Lisa Gottleber Katelyn Gottleber	Wanda Pillsbury Lorna Vanderwal
	8:30	Volunteers Needed	Jan Ringel	Volunteers Needed	Michael Gottleber	Charlie Schafer
Audio	11:00	Craig Belt	Dan Schmidt	Craig Belt	Volunteers Needed	Craig Weidner
	8:30	Jeff Shuster Mike Schellhas	Alden Gonder Dave Wright	Jeff Shuster Brian Heyniger	Jeff Shuster Mike Schellhas	Alden Gonder Dave Wright
Elders	11:00	Craig Belt Chad Koehn	Dan Schmidt Matthew Flaska	Craig Belt Chad Koehn	Dan Schmidt Matthew Flaska	Craig Belt Chad Koehn
	8:30	Jan Ringel	Ashley Wright	Diana Heyniger	Jan Ringel	Ashley Wright
Ushers	11:00	Jessica Wetherell	Elizabeth Hill	Ken & Cathy Tacoma	Mark Zagers	Jessica Wetherell
		Jan Ringel Lori Wikoff Sharon Gonder	Vicki Mix Amy Grosso Marian Harder	Jackie Breithaupt Vicki Mix Amy Grosso	Jan Ringel Lori Wikoff Pat Struck	Vicki Mix Sharon Gonder Amy Grosso

Volunteers Needed:

As you can see in the schedule we could use more volunteers! These jobs take very little time or training, but are REALLY important! Can you direct traffic for communion? Are you able to adjust a volume control? Do you have a lovely smile? Then you are perfectly suited to help with audio and ushering. Contact the office!!

August Birthdays

2 Audrey Devereaux
2 Katie Gundersen
4 Shaun Miller
4 Jaime Weidner
6 Fern Tavegia,
7 Robin Zagers
7 Thomas Jones
8 Joe Meier
8 Chris Pillsbury
8 Jameson Cain
10 Henry Flintoff
11 Gracie Cain
11 Kenneth Tacoma
12 Debra Weisfeld
13 Katie Schultz
13 Abbygail Shuster
14 Jeanette Borman
14 Jacob Denning
16 Tom Dettloff,
18 Cynthia Belt
19 Caleb Devereaux
20 Mary Hudgins-Argue
20 Natilee Mercer
22 Alden Gonder
23 Felix Meeks
25 Marguerite Haines
27 Edie Fechter
27 Malachi Schellhas
27 Walter Schoenherr

August Anniversaries

5 Nancy and Chuck Shimek(49)
7 Jonathan and Aprill Meeks(11)
8 Bob and Jan Ringel(51)
8 Mary and Jerry Argue(13)
9 Mark and Robin Zagers(42)
11 Garry and Susan Marcum(31)
12 Dan and Kris Stauffer(26)
14 Matthew and Meghan Flaska(11)
19 Randy and Brenda Gauthier(26)
20 Jacob and Samantha Denning(5)
21 Brian and Diana Heyniger(11)
24 James and Amy Whitney(19)



PRAYER LIST

Dolores Barrand
Art Breithaupt
Eva Brizendine
Mary Cathcart
Paul Dryburgh
Henry Flintoff
Sue Hale
Ellen Hesselink
L.D. Hesselink
Pat Kindlinger
Arnold Koehn*
Jim Little
Margaret Little
Jill Lovell
Sam Lovell
Isabel Mix*
Penny Nordquist
Arlene Parks
Jennie Pruetz
Pat Ruark
Ron Saarela
Jeffrey Thompson
Shirley Winner

Please Pray for...

- ♦ Rev. Glen Worcester
- ♦ Pastor Worcester's family
- ♦ The Pastors current congregation,
Peace Lutheran, Winnipeg
- ♦ Our Congregation
- ♦ Our Church Leadership
- ♦ The Call Committee
- ♦ Our Church Staff

If you would like to send a card of encouragement to our Pre - Seminary or Seminary Students, their addresses are below.

Pre Seminarian

Logan Davis,
4090 Geddes Rd.
Ann Arbor, MI. 48105.

Seminary Student

Alarik & Angela Morris
525 Clara Ave. Apt. 102
St. Louis, MO 63112

MILITARY

Derek Akers
Samuel Boyce*
Joshua Flitman*
Dakota Gann*
Joe Meier
Nick Meier
Adam Soldan*
Logan Taylor
Chayce Verity*
Caleb Wakefield*
Joshua Wakefield*





Emmanuel Lutheran Church
11198 E. Division St.
Cadillac, MI 49601
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

August

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Joyful Hearts Early Learning Center
11198 E. Division St.; Cadillac, MI 49601
www.emmanuelcadillac.org

231.775. 3261
231.775.3898

The Rev. Mark Latham— Vacancy Pastor
The Rev. Ted Turanski, Visitation & Shut-in
Mrs. Jayne Foster, Director of Joyful Hearts
Mrs. Rebekka Koehn, Ministry Coordinator
Mrs. Cindy Belt, Secretary
Mr. Jim Foster, Business Administrator

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