



# EMAUS ELCA VISITOR

Caminando Juntos + We Walk Together

## APRIL 2023

<u>EmausELCA Staff &amp; Worship Times</u>	
Pastor: Anglo - Rev. Marcy Wieties	262-880-1122 <a href="mailto:wieties@sbcglobal.net">wieties@sbcglobal.net</a>
Pastor: Hispanic – Rev. Jaime Dubon	630-386-0107 <a href="mailto:jdubon20@hotmail.com">jdubon20@hotmail.com</a>
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Secretary: Marisol Dubon	630-347-4749 <a href="mailto:fdmarisol@gmail.com">fdmarisol@gmail.com</a>
Church Office: 262-634-5515	E-mail: <a href="mailto:emauselca@gmail.com">emauselca@gmail.com</a>
Website: <a href="http://emauselca1.org">emauselca1.org</a>	
English-spoken worship services are held at Emaus every Saturday evening at 4:30 and Sunday mornings at 9:00.	
Spanish-spoken worship services are held at Emaus every Sunday morning at 11:00.	
Emaus office hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.	

### Holy Week Worship Opportunities

Wednesday, EASY Prayer Walk of the Passion	April 5, 7:00 pm
Family Supper,	5:30 pm
Maundy Thursday, Seder Meal	April 6, 5:30 pm
Good Friday,	
English Language Worship Service	April 7, 12:00 noon
Spanish language worship service	6:00 pm
<b>No Saturday Worship Service</b>	April 8
Easter Sunday,	
English language worship service	April 9, 9:00 am
Spanish language worship service	11:00 a.m.

## April Calendar

### Note Holy Week Schedule Page 1.

Saturday Worship (English) -	4:30 pm
Sunday Worship (English)-	9:00 am
Sunday Worship (Spanish) -	11:00 am
Coffee and Conversation Sundays, Sunset Room	10:00 am
EASY	Mon.-Thurs., 2:30-5:30 pm

April	2	Scrip Due	
	5	Stitchers	10:00 am
	5	Bible Study	1:00 pm
	5	Prayer Walk of Passion	7:00 pm
		Family Dinner	5:30 pm
	6	Community Meals	
	6	Maundy Thursday Seder Meal	5:00 pm
	7	Good Friday Services	
	8	<b>No Saturday Worship Service</b>	
	9	Easter Sunday Services	
	12	Stitchers	10:00 am
	16	Scrip Due	
	19	Stitchers	10:00 am
	19	Book Club	1:00 pm
	27	Food Distribution (Back Door)	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
	27	Northside Food Pantry	1:30-4:00 pm
	30	Scrip Due	

### Maundy Thursday Seder Meal

Join us for a very special Seder Meal on Maundy Thursday. Experience the rituals associated with the Passover meal Jesus shared with his disciples. Learn about the traditional foods of this feast and the meanings behind them. Sing an ancient song of deliverance sung in the manner the Israelites did. Then take and eat, take and drink, in the bread and wine of Holy Communion, the body and blood of the Lamb, who was slain to deliver us from sin and death forever. The event will take place at Emaus at 5:30 pm on Thursday, April 6, 2023.

## **Community Meals**

Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, is Emaus' turn to provide food for the Community Meals Program at St. Patrick's Church. We are asked to provide our famous Tater Tot Casserole, salads and baked or pre-packaged desserts. A sign-up sheet will be available in the narthex.

## **Pastoral Acts**

Our sincere sympathies to the family of Rick Haman who died on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pastor Steve Wohlfeil presided at the funeral on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Rick and Amy have been long-time members of Emaus.

## **Scrip Update**

Scrip gift cards make great gifts for Easter, Mother's Day and graduations. They can also be used as donations for Mexican Fiesta raffle baskets. Three orders will be accepted in April on the 2nd, 16th, and 30th, but only once in May on the 28th. Please plan ahead for all of your Scrip needs this spring. Submit orders to Cathy Meyer via text (262-498-4931) or email ([cjanemeyer@yahoo.com](mailto:cjanemeyer@yahoo.com)).

## **Musician Update**

Joyce Kaiser has decided to reduce her time as accompanist for the 9:00 worship services after Easter. She will no longer play the piano for most services but will continue to play the organ on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. Joyce has shared her musical talents with Emaus for over 60 years and provided much untold pleasure to our congregation. THANK YOU and BEST WISHES, Joyce.

Please welcome our new pianist at the 9:00 a.m. services beginning April 16th. Aubrey Brown is a freshman at Carthage College studying music. She is from Kenosha, WI.

## **Social Justice Report**

Through our affiliation with the Racine Interfaith Coalition (RIC), we are moving forward on a number of exciting initiatives. We have joined the Coalition for Safe Roads in an effort to persuade our legislators in Madison to once again issue driver's licenses to undocumented Wisconsin residents. (This would take us back to the status quo prior to 2007.) Please consider joining us in Madison for a statewide Madison Action Day on 27 April if you would like to come talk to legislators about this and other issues that reflect our values, such as cutting down on incarceration rates through "treatment alternatives to detention" for people suffering from substance disorders and getting rid of lead pipes than cause brain damage in our children! RIC is also pleased to announce that we have received "Recognition" from the Department of Justice, which will allow us to open a small legal clinic for immigrants in our community. Stephanie Mitchell simultaneously received "Accreditation" from the Department of Justice, allowing her to practice immigration law at the clinic. We are moving forward on planning for this initiative and hope to open our doors to the public later this year. The generous grants we received from AMMPARO are making this important work possible.

Stephanie Mitchell

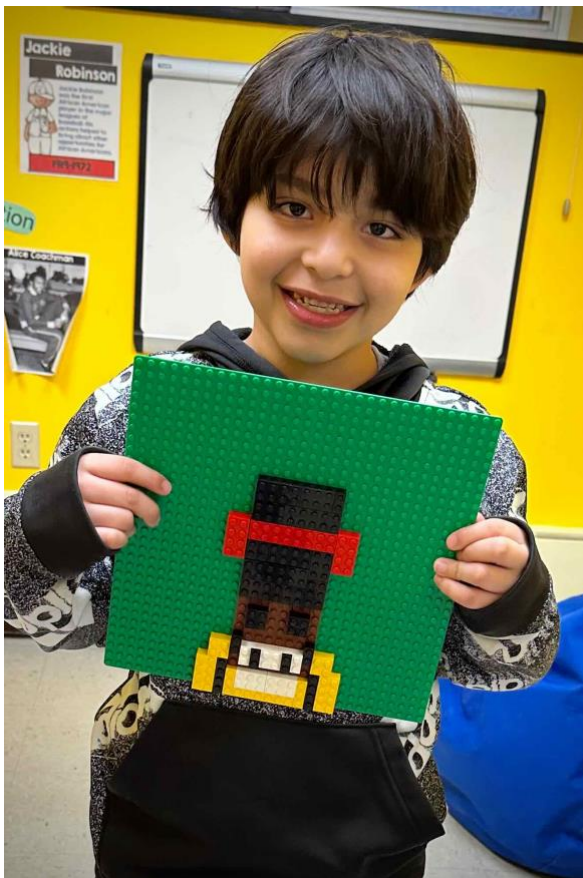
## **Garden Plots Available**

SPRING IS HERE AND SUMMER IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. If anyone is interested in using a Racine Urban Garden Network garden plot at Emaus, please contact Chris Flynn at 262-633-8239 to pick up forms that will need to be filled out. A donation of \$30.00 will be appreciated to help defray the cost of soil, water and wood chips.

## EASY March Highlights

Oh, so much to learn out there in the world. March is Women's History Month! We read about Amanda Gorman, the young poet who recited the poem, "The Hill We Climb" during President Biden's inauguration. Much to our surprise Amanda grew up with the challenge of a speech impediment. The kids created their unique images of Amanda with Legos and paper portraits.

*For there is always light,  
If only we're brave enough to see it,  
If only we are brave enough to be it.*







Mae Jemison. What a career she has had! Mae is the first African American to go into space. She is also a dancer, physician, teacher, and an engineer. She was in the Peace Corps for two years serving in Africa as a medical doctor. Mae always wanted to be a scientist. When she was in elementary school her teacher thought she meant that she wanted to become a nurse! Girls aren't scientists!!

She was a big fan of Star Trek and was included in a remake of one of their productions. Mae initiated a program the 100 Year Starship project where people will explore way beyond where we have been. The kids are not so sure they would like to be part of this project. Some asked how you would be able to take your phone and video games on board?



Our final "who is" woman was Anne Frank. She was born in Germany in 1929. Because her family was Jewish, they fled to Amsterdam for their safety. The holocaust caused many Jewish families to be killed. The kids were amazed that she had to spend 2 years hiding in a special house. She could not leave and became enamored by a chestnut tree that she could watch from a small attic window. Anne spent a lot of her time writing her thoughts in a diary she named "kitty." That diary survived the war and has become a best-selling book which has been translated in over 70 languages. Anne and her sister were captured and sent to a concentration camp where they died. Anne was only 15.



Experiment! One day when the kids arrived, they were asked (using sign language and dry erase boards) not to speak for up to 2 hours. During the day, Anne and her family had to stay very quiet in what is called "The Annex". They walked around in barefoot so as not to alert people working in the store below.

**For International Women's Day**, the kids created thank you cards to the women in their lives. They also took home a carnation!



**Special guest!** EASY was honored to have Willow come and spend an afternoon with us. Willow is Miss Kenosha: She is the first African American chosen for this title. The kids were amazed by her enthusiasm and conversation, not to mention her sash and tiara!. She read books with some and then shared the book "Except Antarctica."



## Expect Grace

In keeping with Pastor Marcy's Lenten theme of *Amazing Grace*, this is an essay written by Pastor Walter Hermanns prior to his death. Pastor Hermanns suffered from Multiple Sclerosis for several years but continued to minister to others at Lincoln Lutheran facilities.

### EXPECT GRACE

"I was having one of those days when everything seemed to go wrong. I got a late start in the morning, left some important papers on the kitchen table, and learned that a proposal on which I had spent hours and hours preparing had been turned down.

And then something happened that made all of these minor annoyances fade into the background.

I drove to Wilson's coffee shop to meet some friends. As I transferred from the driver's seat to my wheelchair, my foot got caught on the seat brace. Instead of having a cup of chai with my friends, I found myself on the floor of my van. Pinned between the wheelchair and the driver's seat, I was completely helpless. After a minute or two of being angry, I started to cry ....

I'm not telling you all of this to seek your sympathy or pity. I'm sure many of you can tell me stories of even worse days in your life. Perhaps it's the day when you lost your job or you were a victim of a crime or experienced the agony of a loved one dying. This is not a competition to see who has had "the worst day ever." It's about what God does when we experience a "worst day."

This has to do with grace.

I am privileged to spend some time each week with seniors at several Lincoln Lutheran facilities. Last week I asked them if they could describe the times in their life when God felt particularly close to them. I had imagined that the answers would be centered on memories of vivid sunsets or Thanksgiving dinner tables laden with food and surrounded by loved ones.

Instead, most of the people remembered feeling closest to God in times of loss or crisis.

"I felt God's presence most clearly when my wife died."



"God was closest to me during the war, when I was about to go into combat."  
What was happening here? They had experienced just what I had found to be true on my "worst day": We often experience God's presence and grace most clearly during times of sorrow or trial.

After I had a good cry on the floor of my van, I discovered that I could reach my hand back and pull out my cell-phone. Using my one free hand, I called a friend who was willing to drop everything to come and help me. With a combination of ingenuity and muscle, he got me off the floor and back into the driver's seat. I drove home humbled yet again by the incredible kindness of friends.

I recalled the Apostle Paul's promises that there is nothing in death or life that can separate us from God's love, and that God will always give us access to the grace and strength we need to endure whatever trial or evil confronts us.

"Expect Grace" reminds us that even though "bad things happen to good people," all people can look to God for good things, especially when bad things happen.

"Expect Grace" doesn't downplay the difficulties of our situation or make light of our pain. It just doesn't let them have the final word.

"Expect Grace" challenges us to open our eyes to the presence of God in the midst of our suffering. As I learned from my Lincoln Lutheran friends, our trials can be gates through which God can enter our lives.

"Expect Grace" invites us to be the bearers of grace to others in need. God can work through you to bring grace to others. Perhaps you can make a phone call to someone who is lonely, thank someone for a job well done...

"Expect Grace" reminds me every morning that our world, which is so burdened by violence, pollution and hatred, is still filled to the brim with God's incredible amazing grace.

...why not expect grace today? Assume that God intends to touch you in your place of greatest need. All you have to do is receive it...Watch out. You may be changed forever!"

-Pastor Walter Hermanns

## **Parsonage Being Readied for Next Occupants**

Following several meetings with the support group and a meeting with the Bishop, Ramiro Flores made the decision to end his studies and relationship with Emaus at the end of December. He and his family resided in the parsonage until mid-February. Since that time a number of efforts have been made to get the parsonage ready for its next occupant/occupants.

To date, the following donations have been made:

\$1500 for repairs:

\$500 for supplies

\$200 for Menards gift cards

Further donations for cash or gift cards are welcome.

As of March 13 there have been expenditures totaling \$823 for paint and supplies and over 115 hours of labor. A quote for replacement carpeting is \$2990. This expenditure will be considered at the church council meeting on March 28th. The church council will also consider the advisability of caretakers as the next occupants. Together with that, responsibilities and expectations will be outlined.

## **Larsen House Blessing**

Loren and Cindi Larsen recently moved into their new condo and invited the Emaus Pew Sisters to a house blessing led by Pastor Marcy. We enjoyed seeing their lovely new home and sharing a delicious salad lunch.



## The Word In Season.

Diane Melander

At a recent ZOOM book club meeting, one of the members asked questions about the devotional, *The Word In Season*.

She noted that our daughter, Rochelle Melander was the editor and that she had really liked the articles as well as found comfort from them. When I spoke to Rochelle recently, I asked her if she would write about the devotional and obtaining subscriptions for the publication. The following is that article.

What is *The Word in Season*?

*The Word in Season* (TWIS) is a daily devotional periodical published by 1517 Media (formerly Augsburg Fortress) for ELCA congregations. It comes out four times a year. The publishing house also publishes *Christ in Our Home*.

What's the difference between the two?

*CIOH* only hires writers who are ELCA members, and mostly clergy. TWIS invites writers from other denominations to write—as long as they keep Lutheran theology in mind as they write about the texts.

What can readers expect from *The Word in Season*?

A daily devotional that focuses on how God loves and nurtures them throughout their lives. Every day, they will receive a devotion that has a title, focus verse, prayer, and prayer concern as well as several biblical passages for them to read. Each issue also has additional daily prayers that can be used throughout the week.

What's your role with *The Word in Season*?

My title is "Managing Editor," and I've been doing it since 2000. I hire all of the writers, brief them on their tasks, edit their work, and then review each publication after the copy editor and typesetter have worked with the devotions. I also spend quite a bit of time mentoring new writers—helping them understand how to write devotions for TWIS. We want the writer to think about how their words will bring a word of grace into the lives of the readers.

What's the best part of being the editor of *The Word in Season*? So many! I love working with the new writers. I also love it when people send cards and letters thanking us for the work we do. For several years, one of my subscribers would call me a few times a year and send me a Christmas card! She had several

recommendations for people who would be good writers—and they were. Mostly, I am thankful for the regular work. It's a real blessing in the life of a freelancer!

How do people subscribe?

They can purchase a digital version at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

You can subscribe to a regular print

(<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/WS/The-Word-in-Season-Regular-Print-Edition>) or Large Print online

(<https://www.augsburgfortress.org/store/product/WS-L/The-Word-in-Season-Large-Print-Edition>)

#### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Date	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Communion Assistants	Reader	Ushers
April 1 4:30	Barb Toslek Jamie Toslek				
April 2 9:00 PALM SUNDAY	Audrey Villolobos	Carol Eschmann	Carol Eschmann Joy Lippmann	Kathy Christensen Carol Yust	Chris Lamberton
April 7 Good Friday 12:00 noon				Sandy Strini Karen Sedgwick	
April 9 9:00 EASTER	Joy Lippmann	Kathy Christensen	Kathy Christensen Cheryl Dexter	Cindi Larsen	Denis Kreimer
April 15 4:30	Missy Porcaro				
April 16 9:00	Caren Lamberton	Carol Yust	Carol Yust Chris Lamberton	Chris Lamberton	Loren Larsen
April 22 4:30	Cathy Meyer Linda Clinton				
April 23 9:00	Kathy Christensen	Cindi Larsen	Cindi Larsen Joy Lippmann	Kathy Christensen	Glen Staton
April 29 4:30	Barb Toslek Jamie Toslek				
April 30 9:00	Cindi Larsen	Carol Eschmann	Carol Eschmann Barb Staton	Karen Sedgwick	Cheryl Dexter