



EMMANUEL NEWS

September 2013

www.alexmnepiscopal.org

episcopal@centurylink.net

The Feasts of Jesus

The Rt. Rev. Donald Hultstrand

Christianity is an invitation to the Feasts of Jesus. If you are invited to a feast wouldn't you love to come? You are invited! So come!

I) There is the Feast of Joy. We experience this at the Wedding of Cana. Christ turns the water into wine. When the steward tested this he complimented the host of the wedding for saving the best for the last. Keith Miller wrote the classic book The Taste of New Wine. It was all about spiritual renewal in the Church. Being in the Church is not just pew-sitting. It is the first-hand experience of the living Lord. The new wine is the sheer joy of living hour by hour with Christ. The Church is called the Bride of Christ. For us it is a constant wedding feast. You are invited! So come!

II) There is the Feast of Sharing and Caring. We experience this at the Feeding of the 5,000. Christ had compassion on the multitude because they had come a long way and were hungry and tired. A boy came up with a few fish and loaves. With them Christ fed the 5,000 and 12 baskets were left over. This tells us to give whatever we have, little though it may be, to Christ and he will multiply it. He gives to us good measure, pressed down and running over; running over so that we may care and share. People around us are hungry, hungry for daily bread and hungry for God. We have the Bread of Life and can make life a feast for others. You are invited! So come!

III) There is the Feast of Forgiveness. We experience this in the feast at the return of the Prodigal Son. He was lost and now he was found. There was a feast of celebration in honor of him who was forgiven. They killed the fatted calf. There was dancing and singing. Even when we just begin to turn back to him he sees us coming and he runs out to meet us. There is rejoicing among the angels of heaven over one sinner that repents; they join in the Feast of Forgiveness. You are invited! So come!

Contact us:

**Emmanuel Episcopal
Church**

P O Box 231
12th Avenue and Lake Street
Alexandria, MN 56308
320-763-3201

Sunday Service: 10 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.
Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.

Pastoral Care: Contact

Tom Sinning, Deacon, or
Edith Kelly

Support Staff

DeAnn Runge, email:
episcopal@centurylink.net

Newsletter: Wendy Zander
wendyzander@hcinet.net

Godly Play Director/Teacher:
Verlie Sinning
verlieb@nnbnet.com

Vestry:

Karen Reicks	Sr. Warden ('14)
Mark Reicks	Jr. Warden ('15)
Wendy Zander	Treasurer ('15)
Sheila Stanton	('15)
Tim Johnson	('14)
Wendy Zander	('14)
Betty Wolf	('15)

Delegates to Region and Convention:

Rev. Tom Sinning, Deacon
Laird Barber
Alternate: Mary Sinning

IV) Always there is the Paschal Feast, the Holy Communion. He invites us to his table to feed us who come to him hungry and needy. The bread becomes his body broken for us. In other words he gives us himself, what we call the Real Presence. The chalice is the gift of spiritual life. Blood always stood for "life". With Paul we can say, "For me to live in Christ". He invites us to his feast. "Come to my table, come as you are". You are invited! So come! Welcome to the family feast; the family of God.

Senior Warden Report

Church Picnic

On August 25th, Emmanuel had its annual Sunday service at St. Paul's church on the Pope County Museum grounds in Glenwood. We used the 1928 Prayer Book and held an old-time service with traditional hymns. Father Charles Preble conducted the service. After the service we went to the Chalet at the Glenwood Park for a picnic. Although the weather was very hot this year, there was lots of food, and everyone had a good time.



Safe Church Training

Safe Church Training is a curriculum created by the Episcopal Church to protect children and adults. This training will be held on Saturday, September 7, in the undercroft at Emmanuel. From 9 a.m. to noon will be "Safeguarding God's Children", and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. will be "Safeguarding God's People".

The Diocese requires this training for anyone who works with children, does pastoral care, has a key to the church, is an employee of the church, or is a member of the Vestry. There is no charge, and all church members are welcome to attend.

Sheila Stanton will be conducting the morning session; and trainers from the cities will be doing the afternoon class. Pre-registration is highly encouraged.

Please contact Sheila or Karen (320-808-6484) if you have questions or want to sign up.

Karen Reicks

Senior Warden

Godly Play Begins September 8th.

For children ages 4 and up, this Sunday School curriculum was very successful for the half year we held it last season which began in Advent. Avery and Tallion Sinning and Autumn and Trappier Botz were our most regular attendants. The class is under the direction of Verlie Sinning, who was certified as a story teller after attending three full day classes in the spring.



Godly Play is based on the Montessori method of teaching. Everything is done at the children's physical level, so the story telling is done on the floor with props appropriate to the story. "Godly Play teaches children the art of using Christian language - parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action - helping them become more fully aware of the mystery of God's presence in their lives."

Registration will begin Sunday, Sept. 1st. One form is used for each family. Class begins at 9:45 on Sept. 8th.

Belvin Doebert has written an article about the relationship between Bishop Whipple and Lake Minnewaska which was published in the Echo Press on August 19th. According to Belvin, "the article is just the beginning, and a small one at that. Today, Connor and I are working on a video to bring to the Historical Society, the County Board, and the City Commissions regarding a substantial "living history" project for the lake. " And since this is "just the beginning," here is the beginning of the story:



"It is generally a poor idea to respond to people who are starving with contemptuous sarcasm. Legend has it that in 1789, Marie Antoinette may have suggested that the answer to the starving poor in France was to "let them eat cake". This pattern was repeated here, in Minnesota, in 1862 when, following a year of severe crop failure, the US government failed to make annuity payments to the Dakota People in southwestern Minnesota as required by terms of the 1851 "Traverse des Sioux" treaty. Andrew Myrick, a "trader" contracted with the U.S. Indian Agency, suggested somewhat less tastefully that the solution was to let them "eat grass or their own dung." In both instances, a bloodbath followed. The Dakota response here in Minnesota, is still referred to by some as The "Sioux Uprising"."

This interesting article will be at church on Sunday, Sept. 1 if you have not already read it. Perhaps Belvin and Connor can show us the video when it is completed.

Summer Concert Series

By Tim Johnson and Nancy Anderson

Sunday, June 23, marked the beginning of Emmanuel's 2013 Summer Concert Series with Stephen Marq performing a concert of contemporary piano music of his own composition. The church was comfortably filled with an audience eager to hear his presentation. Between each selection, Stephen spoke of his inspiration for each piece and generously answered audience questions regarding his musical background as well as his motivation for his compositions. Following the performance, those in attendance enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres, iced tea, lemonade, and wine at a reception in the parish hall where they had the opportunity to visit with Stephen. He also had CDs of his recordings available for purchase and these were eagerly sought after by many concert goers. He autographed them personally.

The series continued in July with a concert of Hymns and Gospel Music performed by Mikko Cowdery. During this event, Mikko played and sang selections that were a combination of crowd favorites as well as pieces that were new to most. He also entertained the audience between selections with background commentary that ranged from humorous to touching. The reception that followed differed from the other two concerts in that the theme was based on that of a summer picnic. A sit-down luncheon of pulled pork sandwiches, coleslaw, and baked beans was served.

In August, Christian Zamora completed the summer portion of Emmanuel's Music Series by presenting a solo violin recital that pleased aficionados of the avant-garde style by performing works by Eugene Ysaye and Astor Piazzolla. A five-movement Partita composed by J.S. Bach satisfied those who prefer a more traditional style. In the fashion of the other two concerts, Christian offered commentary regarding the pieces that he performed. A post-recital reception which was similar to that for Stephen Marq took place where Zamora enjoyed visiting with his listeners.

The Friends of Music committee expresses appreciation and heartfelt thanks to Wendy Zander for her inspiration, organization, and tireless work in preparation for and promotion of the Concert Series! Her friendship and communication with the performing artists made their appearance at Emmanuel possible! She has truly been the driving force behind these events! A great amount of thanks also goes out to the many people (including many members of our youth) who worked to sell and take tickets, those who assisted with concert and food preparation, those who helped with the reception, and many others who worked behind the scenes to provide other help in many ways! Gratitude is also owed to the members of the parish for all of their support for these concerts! Finally, we owe much thanks to the sponsors who leant so much support to this project and thus making it financially possible! Give yourselves a huge round of applause!!

Though only in its infancy, this initial summer of musical performances proved to be a success. All three concerts represented differing styles of music that drew people of varying tastes to Emmanuel. This year, all of the musicians appeared at the request of the Friends of Music Committee. However, a somewhat surprising and pleasant benefit of the 2013 Summer Concert Series is that other performers have begun to submit requests to perform at Emmanuel! It was with some confidence that these events were begun, but it was not foreseen that a small parish such as ours would become a sought after venue! For this we are very fortunate and thankful! Forthcoming musical offerings will be announced beginning with the Alexandria Men's Chorus who will sing the offertory on September 29th, followed by entertainment during our coffee hour. Bring a friend.

Hymn of the Month for September, 2013
#644 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"
Words: John Newton (1725-1807)
Hymn Tune: St. Peter, Alexander Robert Reinagle (1799-1877)

By Tim Johnson

Unlike some of the other writers previously featured in this article, John Newton, the author of our hymn of the month for September, was not only an easily researchable subject but his life story is eventful and interesting as well!

Newton was born in London to a father who was a shipmaster in the Mediterranean service and a mother who was a very devout, non-conformist Christian. His mother's death from Tuberculosis (then referred to as "Consumption") just prior to Newton's seventh birthday changed the course of his formative years. Following her passing, he spent time between living at the home of his father's new wife and boarding school. By the time he was 11 years old, he went to sea with his father and soon became involved with "loose and abandoned companions (with whom he sailed) and he quickly learnt their evil ways". One source stated that he became so influenced in their poor behavior that "even among them he became notorious for his wickedness". His father eventually made plans to send him to work on a sugar plantation in Jamaica, but he signed on with a merchant ship instead.

In 1743, while on his way to visit some friends, he was captured and pressed into service with the Royal Navy. He was appointed a midshipman, but after attempting desertion he was disgraced and punished in front of a crew of approximately 350 and demoted to a common rank. Following this humiliation, he eventually became involved in the African slave trade. He continued to be a problem to the slave ship on which he worked and was eventually left in the hands of a West African slave dealer. Under this trader, he ironically fell into slavery himself on that continent and was abused and mistreated along with the other slaves. In 1748 he was finally rescued by a sea captain that had been asked by Newton's father to find him.

His spiritual conversion began as he was

sailing back to England on ship carrying beeswax. The ship encountered a severe storm and began to leak. Fearing the ship would sink, Newton cried out to God for salvation. The ship's cargo eventually filled the leaks and it continued safely on its voyage. For his remaining time on this journey, Newton began to read the Bible and other religious literature. Even though he remained a slave trader for some time afterward, he considered this to be the beginning of his spiritual awakening and renewal. He eventually gave up the practice of slave trading and became an abolitionist later in life.

In 1755 Newton became a lay minister and began to apply to become an Anglican priest. This application was rejected many times but was finally accepted in 1764. During his years as a priest of the Church of England, he became well known not only for his beliefs but for his pastoral care as well. He became respected by Anglicans and non-conformists alike. Eventually, many young churchmen sought him out regarding matters of faith.

The sources do not reveal any specifics as to the inspiration for "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds" aside from the fact that it was a part of a volume of hymns published in 1799. This work also included other well-known hymns such as "Amazing Grace" and "Glorious Things of thee are spoken", which he also penned. The hymn is written in the voice of one expressing love and devotion to Christ and acknowledging the need for His help in overcoming human frailty and vice.

Finally, it comes as a great relief that the story behind St. Peter, the tune name for our hymn of the month, is quite simple and no guess-work or speculation is needed! It was composed by Alexander Robert Reinagle while he was serving as organist for St. Peter's Church in Oxford, England (1822-1853). Thus, it carries the title "St. Peter".

Sources: <http://www.wholesomewords.org/biography/bnewton4.html> http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Newton http://www.hymnary.org/person/Reinagle_AR

Lectionary Readings for September:

Sept. 1 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

[Jeremiah 2:4-13](#)

[Psalm 81:1, 10-16](#)

[Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16](#)

[Luke 14:1, 7-14](#)

Sept. 9 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

[Jeremiah 18:1-11](#)

[Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17](#)

[Philemon 1-21](#)

[Luke 14:25-33](#)

Sept. 16 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

[Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28](#)

[Psalm 14](#)

[1 Timothy 1:12-17](#)

[Luke 15:1-10](#)

Sept. 23 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

[Jeremiah 8:18-9:1](#)

[Psalm 79:1-9](#)

[1 Timothy 2:1-7](#)

[Luke 16:1-13](#)

Sept. 20 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

[Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15](#)

[Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16](#)

[1 Timothy 6:6-19](#)

[Luke 16:19-31](#)

September 14-Holy Cross Day

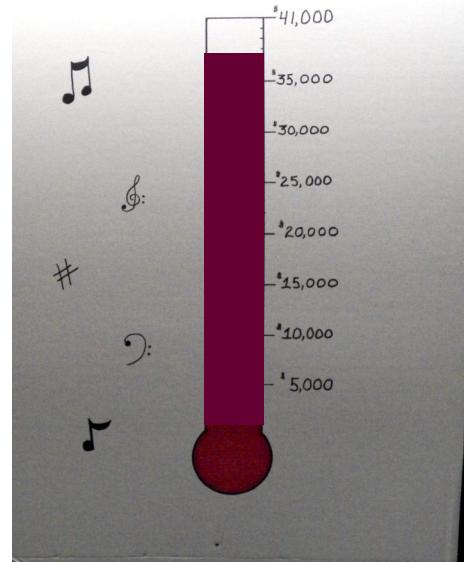
In the Christian liturgical calendar, there are several different **Feasts of the Cross**, all of which commemorate the cross used in the crucifixion of Jesus. While Good Friday is dedicated to the Passion of Christ and the Crucifixion, these days celebrate the cross itself, as the instrument of salvation.

Update on the Organ Fund Drive

How do I thank all of you?
Our organ fund now stands at
\$37,636

92% of our goal. What an amazing congregation!

ORGAN FUND PIPOMETER



Remember in Your Prayers

(please use as a prayer list):

Bishop Brian Prior - All clergy serving Emmanuel - Rev. Don Hultstrand - Rev. Glenn Derby - Alison Derby and all of their families - Patty Den Hartog - Linnae - John & Cleone Sherman - Pat Weinmann - Doug & Buzzi Rollins - Bill & Josie Heegaard - Mike & Lana Ennis - Riley - Donna's brother Ken - Linnae's sister Linda - Bette Wolf - Mission Project 2013 - Emmanuel's Organ Project - Military personnel, especially Andy - The Food Shelf - Peace in the world - The future of the Episcopal Church - Our friends in Rwanda - The people of Ziwa and the Rift Valley



Emmanuel Episcopal Church

Important Dates

9/8 Godly Play begins
9/19 Vestry Meeting 5 p.m.
9/29 Alex Men's Chorus

Birthdays

DeAnn Runge
Liam Sinning
Tallion Sinning
Charlee Sinning
Rita Smith

Anniversaries

Brad & Dyanne Parsons
Randy & Karen Runge



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September 2013

Sept. 15

Holy Eucharist

Celebrant The Rev. Dana Emery
Organist Margaret Kalina
Lector 1 Wendy Zander
Lector 2 Edith Kelly
Altar/Intrcsr Karen Reicks
Usher Tim Johnson
Coffee Tim Johnson/Chris Mattson

Sept. 1

Morning Prayer

Celebrant The Rev. Fred Nairn
Organist Diane Alveshere
Lector 1 Karen Reicks
Lector 2 Mark Reicks
Altar/Intrcsr Mary Sinning
Usher
Coffee Karen & Mark Reicks

Sept. 22

Holy Eucharist

Celebrant The Rev. Charles Preble
Organist Nancy Anderson
Lector 1 Mark Reicks
Lector 2 Karen Reicks
Altar/Intrcsr Mary Sinning
Usher Mark & Karen Reicks
Coffee Edith

Sept. 8

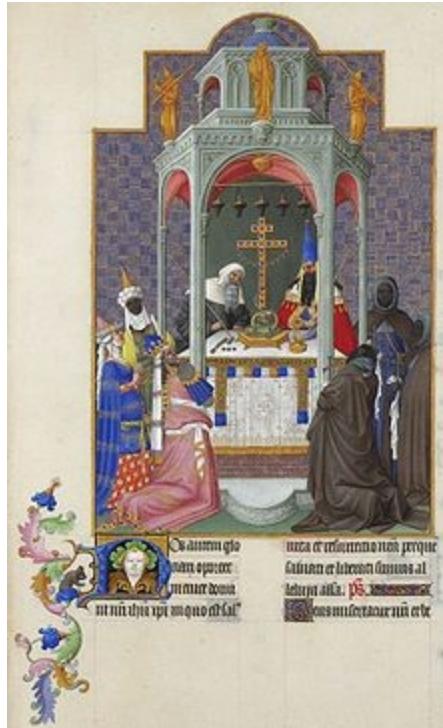
Holy Eucharist

Celebrant The Rev. Linnae Hegg
Organist Margaret Kalina
Lector 1 JoEllen Doeber
Lector 2 Belvin Doeber
Altar/Intrcsr Edith Kelly
Usher
Coffee JoEllen & Belvin Doeber

Sept. 29

Holy Eucharist

Celebrant The Rev. Charles Preble
Organist Nancy Anderson
Lector 1 Edith Kelly
Lector 2 Laird Barber
Altar/Intrcsr Edith Kelly
Usher Karen Reicks
Coffee Friends of Music Comm.



Exaltation of the Cross from the *Tres Riches Heures du Duc de Berry* (Musée Condé, Chantilly)

Address service requested

Emmanuel Episcopal Church
P O Box 231
Alexandria, MN 56308