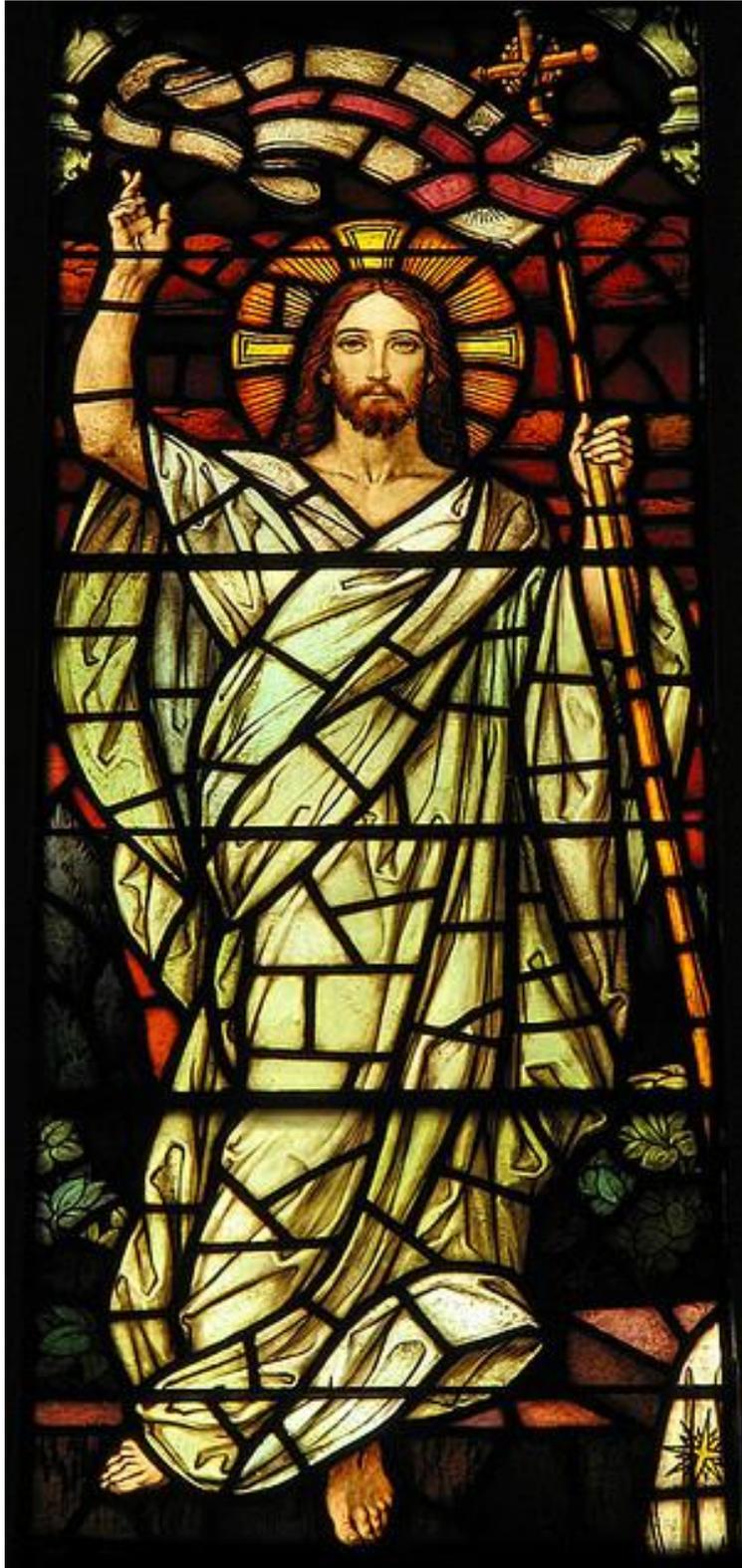


# EMMANUEL NEWS

April 2015

[www.alexmnepiscopal.org](http://www.alexmnepiscopal.org)

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## **Contact us:**

### **Emmanuel Episcopal Church**

P O Box 231  
12<sup>th</sup> 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/Newsletter:  
DeAnn Runge  
[episcopal@centurylink.net](mailto:episcopal@centurylink.net)  
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Godly Play Director/Teacher:  
Verlie Sinning  
[verlieb@nnbnet.com](mailto:verlieb@nnbnet.com)

## **Vestry:**

Karen Reicks	Sr. Warden ('16)
John Hull	Jr. Warden ('17)
Verlie Sinning	Treasurer ('17)
Wendy Zander	('18)
Tim Johnson	('18)
Mary Sinning	('17)
Rachael Sinning	('16)

## **Delegates to Region and Convention:**

Rev. Tom Sinning, Deacon  
Belvin Doebbert  
Alternate: JoEllen Doebbert

**By Rev. Frederick Nairn**

We are, as I write this short article, seeing in our nation a tremendous surge of outrage against a number of states in these United States, who either have enacted or are in the process of enacting legislation which would permit the owners of business which provide a service to the public, to refuse such service to people they consider notorious sinners, people who deny and defy God's laws as written in the scriptures, people who, according to the law, offend their religious sensibilities. These people they don't approve of are sinners and those who do the disapproving apparently aren't, at least not in *that* way. We will see.

These kinds of laws are not new to our country, these are laws which discriminate against people religious fundamentalists don't like, don't approve of, or otherwise reject as somehow inferior. It has been heartening, in the midst of disheartenment, to see the breadth of uproar against the newly enacted law in the great State of Indiana; not the first such law by any means, and probably not the last. We shall see.

Such laws are clearly discriminatory against homosexuals and gay couples in particular; spin it as the Indiana lawmakers may, it is hard to see how a law which gives a shop-keeper, a cake-baker, a flower-arranger, a hair-stylist the right to refuse service on the grounds that their religious sensibilities are offended by such people and are thus covered by this new law in denying service, is not discriminatory and therefore against Federal Law. We will see.

All such laws and theological positions are predicated upon a certain view of sacred scripture. Christian, Jewish and Muslim fundamentalists want to read their holy texts as literally and inerrantly written for all time, all people and all places. Thus, because the bible can be cited as condemning homosexual acts in a few places, opponents of gay or same-sex marriage feel free to enact their own punishment upon such groups of people.

We saw the worst application of these and similar scriptural prohibitions in Europe in mediaeval period where tens of thousands of people were tortured and burned at the stake because their views and reading of scripture disagreed with the state and church's reading, and in this country in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century when hundreds or thousands of women (mostly) were condemned for burning or drowning, accused of being witches or immoral people. Just last week we read of a man and a woman, accused of adultery being stoned to death in Iraq or Afghanistan and instances of public flogging in Saudi Arabia, the US's second best friend in the Middle East, for a blog criticizing some aspect of the government. Clearly no society is guiltless of such excesses.

It is an irony that no person of faith should miss, that this debate is taking place during Holy Week in the Western Christian Calendar. During these most sacred days in our churches we remember the Man for Others who was condemned by a kangaroo court, publicly flogged and then publicly nailed to a cross until he was dead. And for what, for what crime? For making the Sabbath for the use of humankind and not humankind for the Sabbath. For loving prostitutes, financial cheats, deranged and tormented people, thieves and even the very authorities who arranged and carried out his execution. For certain of his followers to condemn and revile those who offend their delicate religious sensibilities in his name is an outrage. And, even more outrageous, Jesus loves them and will forgive them when they call upon his name in humility and true repentance.

It's very difficult for this particular sinner to think that I should have the same mind in me as was in Christ Jesus who thought equality with God was nothing to be exploited, but emptied himself ("of all but love" as Charles Wesley wrote) taking upon himself the form of a servant and being found obedient even unto death offered himself on the cross {for the sins of the world}. To conclude with an overworked cliché, what would Jesus do, what would Jesus have us do in the face of prejudice and ignorance? I believe Jesus would encourage us to protest all unjust laws and then love the sinner.

It is a privilege for us to be welcoming Wendy Zander as an Associate Chaplain at Knute Nelson. As you have become familiar with this new spiritual care volunteer program, it has included extensive discernment, training, mentorship. We know that this can only be accomplished with God's direction and guidance.

### **Associate Chaplain's Commissioning Service**

Knute Nelson Care Center Chapel

420 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue East, Alexandria

**Thursday, April 16, 2015  
10:00 a.m.**

*Refreshments and Fellowship to Follow*

*We look forward to having you join us!*

***The Knute Nelson Team***



### **United Thank Offering**

If you don't have a blue box for your donations, they will be available at church on Sunday, April 19th. We will collect the money on May 3rd. Even if you don't have a blue box, your change jar will due.



United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through United Thank Offering, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings. Those who participate in UTO discover that thankfulness leads to generosity. United Thank Offering is entrusted to promote thank offerings, to receive the offerings, and to distribute the UTO monies to support mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and in invited Provinces of the Anglican Communion in the developing world.

# HYMN OF THE MONTH

By Tim Johnson

Hymnal 1982 #195 “Jesus lives! Thy terrors now”

Words: Christian Furchtegott Gellert (1715-1769), Translation: Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1879)

Hymn Tune: Mowsley Melody: Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)

During the first half of the Church Year we find ourselves moving quickly through its various seasons and therefore our Hymn of the Month continues to have a seasonal focus for the time being. As Easter encompasses most of April and May, the music committee has selected two hymns pertaining to that portion of the Church Year. The first of these that we will be singing in April is “Jesus lives! Thy terrors now”.

Christian Furchtegott Gellert was the author of the text and the son of a pastor in the German Lutheran tradition. His life’s directions took some mildly interesting turns. He originally considered following in his father’s footsteps by entering into the clergy vocation and did work for a time as his assistant. However, his practice was to read sermons which had been written ahead of time and the Lutheran Church did not have much tolerance to sermons preached from manuscript. This along with the fact that he had very poor abilities when it came to presenting sermons from memory made him decide that he should possibly make a different career choice. He found a better employment fit when he entered into teaching as a private tutor and then as a professor of philosophy. His students held him in very high regard as he took special interest in their lives and welfare. He was also very sincere as a hymn writer and his compositions often reflect his genuine Christian beliefs and morality.

The text was translated into English by Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897). She was born in Oxford and is among those very well-known for translating hymns from the German tradition into English. Interestingly, our Hymn of the Month is one of her best known translations.

Even though the text for this hymn is of German origin, the tune that is assigned to it is English. When researching each hymn, I make every effort to find the reason that each melody is given its title. However, this is once again another selection where sources do not reveal this information. English hymn tunes are often traditionally named for the first geographical site or parish name at which they had their start. There is a village in England with the name of Mowsley. Perhaps this was where the tune was written or first used?

Once more, this is also another hymn which would’ve had a different original tune than the one we use today as the text author predates the composer of the melody. You may recall Cyril Vincent Taylor as the composer of the tune “Abbot’s Leigh” which we currently use when singing the hymn “God is love, let heaven adore Him”. To briefly review, Taylor was a priest within the Church of England who became the producer for BBC’s religious broadcasting during World War II. Up to this time, “God is love . . . “ had been sung to the tune “Austria” (We know this tune best with the hymn “Glorious things of Thee are spoken”) which Germany had adopted for their national anthem. Therefore, the sentiment of the times requested a specifically English tune which would bear no resemblance to the German melody. I found nothing which stated this to have been the reason for applying the tune “Mowsley” to our current hymn of the month. Yet, as it would’ve been composed within the same time frame, I can’t help but wonder if this may have been the case as well? Or perhaps it was simply to render a more sing-able melody for the hymn? So, as the saying goes, this remains food for thought.

As always, it is the wish of the Friends of Music Committee that you will find this hymn to be a fine addition to our musical resources! Also, now that we have heard our beautiful, newly-restored organ play, there is an additional excitement and freshness to the singing of our hymns . . . Both old and new!

Sources:

[http://www.hymnary.org/person/Gellert\\_CF](http://www.hymnary.org/person/Gellert_CF)

[http://www.hymnary.org/person/Taylor\\_CV](http://www.hymnary.org/person/Taylor_CV)

[http://www.hymnary.org/person/Cox\\_FE](http://www.hymnary.org/person/Cox_FE)

## Senior Warden Report

The season of Lent is ending. We will have just celebrated Easter Sunday, the Sunday of the Resurrection. Sometimes I tend to think of just one special Sunday as "Easter" -- we get together as a family, go to church, enjoy a nice meal, and even hunt eggs from "the bunny".

But Easter really refers to the season of the church year that lasts for 50 days from Easter Sunday until the day of Pentecost. During the fifty days of the Easter Season, the liturgical color is white and liturgies are uplifting and joyful. God has brought us full circle: from ashes and sadness into the fullness of life and joy.

Our annual Salad Supper will be held on May 12. This is a major fundraiser and a time when we as a congregation can work together and have fun. In the next few weeks, you will be asked to sign up to help and to bring salads. If you have questions or want to volunteer, please contact me at 320-808-6484

Karen



### Remember in Your Prayers

(please use as a prayer list):

All clergy serving Emmanuel, especially Charles, Linnae and Tom  
Jana Preble

Bishop Brian Prior

Mary Sinning

Edith's daughter Dana

Don Krueger

Pat Weinmann

John & Cleone Sherman

Bill & Josie Heegaard

JoEllen's father Al

Alison Derby

John

Military Personnel

The Total Ministry Team

Peace in the World

The Food Shelf and those who use it Heartland Girls Ranch

Dylan's Glove's of Love

The future of the Episcopal Church

The people of Ziwa and the Rift Valley



### April Birthdays

Trapper Botz

Don Hultstrand

Karen Reicks

Verlie Botz

Josie Heegaard

Patty DenHartog

Bill Heegaard

Belvin Doebbert

### Anniversaries

John & Cleone Sherman

Mike & Amanda Baas

## Lectionary Readings for April

### April 2

Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14  
 1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
 John 13:1-17, 31b-35  
 Psalm 116:1, 10-17

### April 3

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
 Hebrews 10:16-25 or  
 Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9  
 John 18:1-19:42  
 Psalm 22

### April 5

Easter Day

Isaiah 25:6-9  
 Psalm 114  
 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8  
 Luke 24:13-49

### April 12

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35  
 Psalm 133  
 1 John 1:1-2:2  
 John 20:19-31

### April 19

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19  
 Psalm 4  
 1 John 3:1-7  
 Luke 24:36b-48

### April 26

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12  
 Psalm 23  
 1 John 3:16-24  
 John 10:11-18



Position	April 2	April 3	April 5
	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>	<i>Easter</i>
<b>Priest</b>	Dana Emry	Linnae Hegg	Linnae Hegg
<b>Organist</b>		Nancy Anderson	JoNette Brogaard
<b>Lector 1</b>	Wendy Zander	JoEllen Doebbert	Mark Reicks
<b>Lector 2</b>	Karen Reicks		John Hull
<b>Altar</b>	<i>Stripping of the altar After the service</i>		Karen Reicks
<b>Coffee</b>	Karen & Wendy		Edith Kelly
<b>Position</b>			
	<b>April 12</b>	<b>April 19</b>	<b>April 26</b>
<b>Priest</b>	Charles Preble	Charles Preble	Fred Nairn
<b>Organist</b>	Margaret Kalina	Nancy Anderson	Jonette Brogaard
<b>Lector 1</b>	JoEllen Doebbert	Karen Reicks	JoEllen Doebbert
<b>Lector 2</b>	Farren Morical	Mark Reicks	Farren Morical
<b>Usher</b>	Farren & Tim		Farren & Tim
<b>Coffee</b>	Farren	Karen & Mark	Hultstrands

Our newly rebuilt organ was installed the week of March 16th. According to our organist, Nancy Anderson, the sound is awesome. The organ was dedicated on Palm Sunday. Thank you to everyone who made this possible.:

Nancy Anderson	In Thanksgiving
Laird Barber	In memory of my father, Laird H. Barber
Constance Bundy	In Thanksgiving
Patrice Den Hartog	In memory of Elmer M. Den Hartog
JoEllen & Belvin Doebbert	In Thanksgiving
Patricia Hecker	In Thanksgiving
Bill & Josie Heegaard	In Thanksgiving
Eric Heegaard	In Thanksgiving
Cheryl Hendrickson	In memory of Harold & Elaine Navratil & Scott Runge
Don & Ann Hultstrand	In memory of Charles Johnson
Deb & Edith Kelly	In Thanksgiving
Don Krueger	In memory of Winifred R. Krueger
Kathryn Pruessner	In Thanksgiving
Rev. Charles & Jana Preble	In Thanksgiving
John & Cleone Sherman	In memory of Emma and Rolland Sherman & Verdelle and John Sandstrom
Tom & Mary Sinning	In Thanksgiving
Jill Blashack Strahan	In memory of Steven Blashack
Wendy Zander	In Thanksgiving
In memory of The Rev. Glenn Derby Emmanuel Memorial Fund	



Everyone is invited to the church on Sunday, April 26th at 2:30 p.m. for an organ concert:  
**Solo Dei Gloria**  
 Featuring  
 Nancy Anderson, organist at Emmanuel and Living Word Lutheran  
 Margaret Kalina, organist at Congregational and Emmanuel  
 Amy Engel, organist at Calvary Lutheran  
 Randy Morken, organist at First Lutheran  
 Allen Moe, builder and designer of pipe organs in Wadena.  
 There will be a reception following the concert in the undercroft.

**The Sacred and the Secular**

The concert held Sunday afternoon on March 22nd was a huge success. We collected over \$1,100.00 for the Outreach Food Shelf. We are grateful to the Alexiennes Women's Chorus and Mikko Cowdery who volunteered their time in behalf of the Food Shelf. Who will ever forget "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" sung by the ladies! And if his singing is wonderful, Mikko's toasts are nforgettable-Slaintel!

Thank you to all who attended, all of you who contributed desserts for the reception, and Avery, Tallon and Autumn who took up the collection.



Address service requested

Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
P O Box 231  
Alexandria, MN 56308