



EMMANUEL NEWS

May 2015

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The Reverend Linnae Grabner-Hegg

As the warm weather begins with its hope of fresh things coming forth from the ground there seems to be a hope of all things new. A beginning...a starting over...a second, a third, a fourth and even a seventy-seven time seven times...a number that equals completeness and wholeness...a number that is not finite.

Many of you know that I work as a youth counselor at Heartland Girls' Ranch and more specifically for the Hearts For Freedom program that is specifically designed for girls 12 to 18 years of age who have been sexually exploited. Today, as I worked my every other weekend Saturday, I got to experience a second chance.

One of our young ladies has done so phenomenally well with our program that she now is able to go to mainstream school and have many of the normal privileges that girls growing up in a small town may take for granted....like going to youth group at a local church. This young lady was once addicted to a powerful drug. She had run away from a bad home situation, found drugs, became addicted and was willing to do whatever her boyfriend/drug dealer/pimp told her to do in order to get her next high. She was eventually picked up by police, sent to re-hab, found Jesus, and came to us...a baby Christian trying to figure out a new way of living her life.

She got to know Hunter (not his real name) at youth group. They had first met in school. He knows her story and she knows his...a typical Christian boy growing up in central, small town Minnesota. He asked her to prom. She said "yes". I don't know what kind of scrutiny this poor boy went through, but it seems that everyone who works at the girls' ranch and is from the area and knows Hunter and his family all the way back to his great grandparents. He was deemed worthy enough to take our girl to prom.

It took a village to get her ready. Many dresses from previous proms had been brought in weeks ago and tried on, modeled and rejected. It was a dress that her once estranged mama found in a bohemian shop that became the chosen dress. Cowboy boots from the ranch's muck room, a leather jacket borrowed from a staff and bejeweled leather belt recovered from a stash of donations down in the basement became the finishing touches. A staff said she would come in special to do her hair, but then her babysitter could not make it. Who would do her hair? Other staff came in to try their

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: DeAnn Runge
drunge@embarqmail.com

Godly Play Director/Teacher:

Verlie Sinning

verlieb@nnbnet.com

Vestry:

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

Delegates to Region and Convention:

Rev. Tom Sinning, Deacon
Alternate: Belvin Doebbert

hand at waterfall braids...and failed. The bohemian dress was put on and found to be so see through that it was deemed inappropriate. On top of everything else, it was cold and drizzly. What would become of the group outdoor potluck planned for the pre-prom dinner date? In the end, she wore the gauzy pink long flowing gown with the jeweled neckline and bodice. Her long hair was curled and left simply to flow down her back. A navy blue shawl was found in the donations box from down in the basement. The cowboy boots fit comfortably. Hunter, a half hour late...which was totally fine because his date was late too... pulled up in his newly cleaned and spiffed up car. He walked up to the door of the house in his navy blue tux with corsage in hand. The other girls crowded around the windows to get a look at this boy who dared to walk up the stairs of the house full of girls who came from very complicated pasts. He knocked on the door, introduced himself, and asked if she was ready...she was. Then came the awkward fumbling as he attempted to put the corsage on. Staff came to the rescue and pinned the corsage safely on. And then they were off...hand in hand as they walked to the car, smiling at one another, a vision of teenage innocence in navy blue and pink froth and cowboy boots. Did I mention the sun came out? A second chance for one... to be carefree, young and full of promise. For the other, a handsome, young man, full of confidence that the God he believes in works in mysterious and unexpected ways.

One of the prophets our Shared Ministry Team has been exploring is the prophet Hosea. I would invite you to read Hosea 1-3 to hear the story of how God comes to his people over and over again. Hosea marries a woman who is unfaithful to him, yet he continues to love her and takes extreme measures to bring her back to him despite her many infidelities. Over and over again, second chances are given. Just as Hosea went to extreme lengths to get his wife back, so has God come to us...his people...over and over again in mysterious ways...paying the ultimate price... just to bring us into relationship with Him.

It doesn't matter what dark places we have gone on our life journeys. It doesn't matter what choices we have made while there. God has paid the price for whatever and wherever we have been. God loves us and remains faithful to us. Even when we abandon him and turn away, he waits with open arms. He only asks for our repentance. We expect punishment and vengeance but we find instead a God wooing us tenderly in love.

That is what we as staff, in part, try to show the girls at the ranch through our words and actions. We try to love the girls where they are at and guide them to find a better way to experience their lives. Our mission statement says that we will "empower girls to experience success and write a new story for themselves."

God also wants us to experience and write a new life story for ourselves. He comes to us over and over again, wooing us to a fresh, new, and abundant life. He clears out the old debris and leaves of winter, bringing forth the new shoots and growth of spring.

"Come on, let's go back to God....By the third day he'll have made us brand-new, alive and on our feet, fit to face him. We're ready to study God, eager for God-knowledge. As sure as dawn breaks, so sure is his daily arrival. He comes as rain comes, as spring rain refreshing the ground." Hosea 6:3 the Message



Thank you Nancy Anderson and the Friends of Music Committee for the fantastic Organ Dedication Recital held Sunday afternoon, April 26th. Nearly 100 people attended, raved about the organ and the four organists who played: Margaret Kalina (Emmanuel, Bethesda and Congregational churches), Nancy Anderson (Emmanuel and Living Word Lutheran), Amy Engel (Calvary Lutheran), and Randy Morken (First Lutheran.)

The music selections were varied and the organ got a great work-out. Almost everyone joined us for a reception in the undercroft following the concert. Because the organ is in the back of the church, we had a videographer film the organists and their hands playing the keys, projected onto a screen at the altar. He is making DVD's of the entire concert, and CD's of the music only which are available for sale: \$8 for DVD, \$7 for CD. Let Wendy Zander or Nancy Anderson know if you want any.

Solo Del Gloria

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

SALAD SUPPER

Tuesday, May 12th

4:30 PM – 7 PM

LAKE STREET & 12TH AVENUE
 ALEXANDRIA, MN



TICKETS AVAILABLE
 AT THE DOOR, OR CALL
 320-763-3201

ADULTS \$6
CHILDREN \$4
 (AGES 5 - 12)

ST. MARGARET'S GUILD
 JUMBLE SALE WILL BE OPEN.

Sr. Warden Report

We are only a couple of weeks away from the **Salad Supper** on Tuesday, May 12. This is a major fund raiser and a time when we as a congregation can work together and have fun. We still need a few people to sign up to work; please call me this week if you are able to help. We also need everyone to bring 2 large salads; Edith will be calling to check with you.

We are also looking for quality things for the **Jumble Sale**. We especially need things like dishes, glasses, pots, pans, kids toys and crafts, hobby items, decorative items and pictures, seasonal items, books, small appliances like coffee pots and mixers, lamps, etc. You can bring your items to the church on any Sunday morning, or you can give me a call at 320-808-6484 or email me at klreicks@midwestinfo.net.

Pentecost Sunday is May 24. It would be helpful if members could contribute wine that will be used for the Eucharist. Please bring only Christian Brothers Tawny Port. We use port wine because of the higher alcohol content; we are requesting only Christian Brothers Tawny Port because it stains the linens less than other brands.

Two members of our congregation will be graduating this month:

Verlie Sinning will graduate from Alexandria Technical and Community College on Wednesday, May 13, with a degree in Accounting. There will be a reception for Verlie following the service on May 17.

Gavin Doebbert will graduate from Minnewaska Area High School on Friday, May 29. There will be a reception for Gavin following the service on May 31.

We celebrated the Easter season:

Maundy Thursday was celebrated with a Passover Seder Meal prepared by Rev. Dana Emery, and which incorporated the Holy Eucharist.



It involved the traditional washing of the hands

and the Feet.





HYMN OF THE MONTH

BY Tim Johnson

Hymnal 1982 #210 “The day of resurrection”

Words: John of Damascus (8th Century), Translation: John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

Hymn Tune: Ellacombe, Melody from *Gesanguch . . . der Herzogl. Wirtembergischen Hofkapelle, 1784, alt.; adapt. Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1863; Harmonization: William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Cyril Winn (1884-1973)*

This month, the Friends of Music Committee has chosen a second Easter selection to serve as our Hymn of the Month for May. The story behind “The day of resurrection” is an interesting one; however, as it is a very ancient hymn especially when placed alongside many of the other hymns we have featured each month, it winds its way through a very large body of sources, printed collections, and tunes. To write a complete story of its origins would fill enough pages to rival one of our tract rack’s devotional book-lets! Therefore, it will come as a great relief to the reader that I will only include the main points in this article.

As stated above, this is truly an ancient hymn as it was written by a priest who lived during the 8th Century. St. John of Damascus was among the last of the fathers of the Greek Orthodox Church. He was born to a good family in Damascus and actually spent most of his adulthood engaged in secular work, not entering into the priesthood until later in life. During his clerical life, he wrote a number of sacred poems and hymns. Apparently, he wrote “The day of resurrection” to be used as part of the funeral for a fellow monk who had not yet passed, but whose death was anticipated to take place in the very near future. The story continues to state that once he finished writing the hymn, he began to practice it very loudly. So loudly in fact, that the dying monk arose and entered the room to find out what all of the noise was about!

Although I will keep it brief for the purposes of this article, the biography of John Mason Neale is also a fascinating one. As the translator of this hymn from its original Greek, he was born in London and inherited the high intellect of both of his parents. As he entered adulthood, he entered Cambridge and obtained a scholarship at Trinity College where he was highly acclaimed for his great intellect. However, he did not have an affinity for mathematics. Unfortunately there was a rule at the time which stated that in order to earn an honors degree, it was necessary to have this field included in his credentials. Therefore, he found it necessary to accept a lesser degree. It is ironic that even though both of his parents were known to be “very pronounced Evangelicals”, Mason became quite high church in his sympathies. In fact, he co-founded the Society of St. Margaret, an Anglican order of women (nuns) dedicated to caring for the sick.

Unfortunately, many people of the Church of England at that time did not look favorably on Neale and his Anglo-Catholic views. Just nine years earlier, John Newman encouraged the inclusion of Roman Catholic ritual in the Church of England and eventually converted to the Roman Church. There was a fear among the English population that this would be repeated and would lead to Rome undermining the Church of England from within. Some actually threatened to stone him and he was mauled at a funeral for one of the Sisters of St. Margaret! Over time, however, Neale’s basic goodness won the confidence of those who opposed him and the Sisterhood of St. Margaret flourished. The Oxford Movement was also gaining favor with those of the Church of England as well. In fact, many elements of our Episcopal worship today are derived from this school of thought.

John Mason Neale is considered to be one of the pioneers in translating hymns from Greek into English. He also founded the Anglican and Eastern Church Association. The purpose for this organization was to pray and work for the reunion of the Eastern Orthodox Churches and the Anglican Communion. Although we follow a western expression of faith, our own Episcopal Church shares much spirituality with the Eastern Orthodox tradition. The Prayer of St. Chrysostom which appears at the close of the Service of Morning Prayer originated within the Eastern Church.

Sources:

- http://www.hymnary.org/text/the_day_of_resurrection_earth_tell_it
- http://www.hymnary.org/person/Neale_JM
- <http://www.lectionary.org/HymnStories/The%20Day%20of%20Resurrection.htm>
- <http://www.hymnary.org/tune/ellacombe>

The first verse of hymn #210:

“The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory.”

Remember in Your Prayers
(please use as a prayer list):
All clergy serving Emmanuel, especially
Charles, Linnae and Tom
Bishop Brian Prior
DeAnn Runge
Mary Sinning
Edith’s daughter Dana
Don Krueger
Pat Weinmann
John & Cleone Sherman
Bill & Josie Heegaard
JoEllen’s father Al
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



Birthdays in May

- Mary Lu Rich
- Laird Barber
- Don Krueger
- Cleone Sherman

Anniversaries

- Mark & Karen Reicks

**UTO ingathering
Sunday, May 3**

	May 3	May 10 Morning Prayer	May 17
Celebrant	Charles Preble	Tom Sinning	Linnae Hegg
Organist	Nancy Anderson	Bev Steuck	Margaret Kalina
Lector1	Wendy Zander	Belvin Diebbert	Mark Reicks
Lector 2	Karen Reicks	Farren Morical	John Hull
Altar	Karen Reicks		Edith Kelly
Usher	Karen & Mark	Farren & Tim	John & Mark
Coffee	Rachael Sinning	Verlie Sinning	Reception for Verlie
	May 24	May 31	
Celebrant	Charles Preble	Steve Schaitberger	
Organist	Virginia Hegre	JoNette Brogaard	
Lector1	JoEllen Doebbert		
Lector 2	Belvin Doebbert		
Altar			
Usher	John Hull	John Hull	
Coffee	Heegaards	Reception for Gavin	

Lectionary Readings for May

May 3-Fifth Sunday of Easter

[Acts 8:26-40](#)
[Psalm 22:24-30](#)
[1 John 4:7-21](#)
[John 15:1-8](#)

May 10-Sixth Sunday of Easter

[Acts 10:44-48](#)
[Psalm 98](#)
[1 John 5:1-6](#)
[John 15:9-17](#)

May 17-Seventh Sunday of Easter

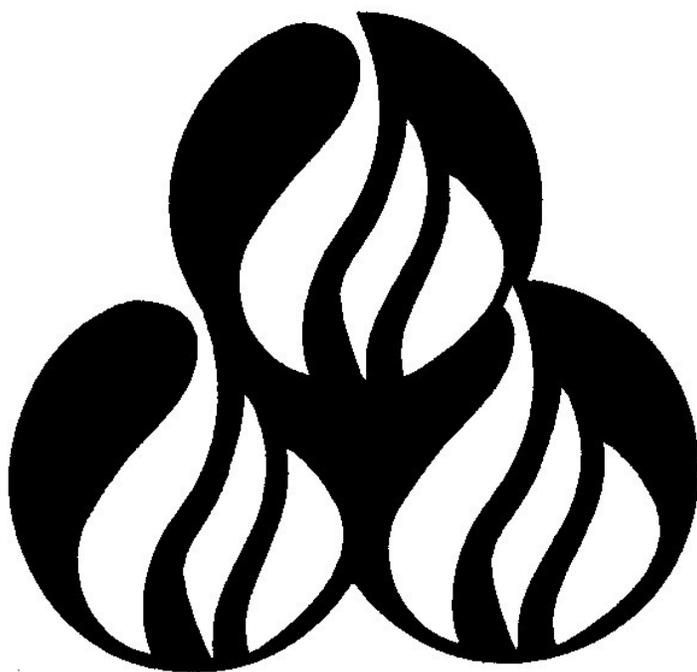
[Acts 1:15-17, 21-26](#)
[Psalm 1](#)
[1 John 5:9-13](#)
[John 17:6-19](#)

May 24-Day of Pentecost

[Acts 2:1-21](#)
or [Ezekiel 37:1-14](#)
[Psalm 104: 25-35,37](#)
[Romans 8:22-27](#)
or [Acts 2:1-21](#)
[John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15](#)

May 31-First Sunday after Pentecost
Trinity Sunday

[Isaiah 6:1-8](#)
[Psalm 29 or Canticle 2 or 13](#)
[Romans 8:12-17](#)
[John 3:1-17](#)



Address service requested

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