



EMMANUEL NEWS

February 2016

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Lift up your Hearts

Who could forget these words, “Lift up your hearts!” And, our response, “We lift them up to the Lord”. These familiar words begin the great prayer of the Eucharist. No matter when we do the Eucharist, these words do not vary. Christianity is about the heart of God, the one who is the loving-kindness presence within us and throughout the universe, and it is about our own hearts. It is heart to heart between our God and ourselves, and it is this heart to heart which unites us with all Christians and all human beings.

In the Old Testament, the word heart did not mean the physical organ, but the very center of our being. We are told to love God with all of our heart, and our neighbor as ourselves. Jesus knew that heart teaching. Jesus is God talking to us, walking with us heart to heart. So often Jesus addresses others with words like “Take heart, it is I”, or “Let not your heart’s be troubled”, which is a call to live in the peace which is within God.

It is our hearts God is after, like a wooing lover. God is not satisfied with our words, our many, many words, or how we look, or act, or how good or bad we think we are. God is very put off by people who say “Lord, Lord”, but their hearts are faraway, somewhere else.

On February 10th we begin the season of Lent on Ash Wednesday. When I think about Lent and the way we often observe it in the church I think of dreary hymns and a kind of depressed worship experience. We give up flowers on the altar, singing alleluias. We make it so dismal that it is sometimes ridiculous and a bit hypocritical. But we miss what it is really about. It is about the heart which is in need of a “change of heart”, a heart of stone becoming a heart of flesh. It is about coming alive because of God’s love for us, God’s loving-kind, merciful, all loving.

Contact us:

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

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12th Avenue and Lake Street

Alexandria, MN 56308

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Sunday Service: 10 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:45 a.m.

Adult Bible Study: 9 a.m.

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Vestry:

Tim Johnson, Co-Sr. Warden ('18)	
Sheila Stanton, Co-Sr. Warden ('18)	
John Hull, Jr. Warden ('18)	
Verlie Sinning, Treasurer ('18)	
Tim Johnson ('18)	
John Hull ('18)	
Mary Sinning ('18)	
Rachael Sinning ('18)	
Wendy Zander ('18)	
Farren Morical ('18)	

Delegates to Region and Convention:

Belvin Doebbert
Alternate: JoEllen Doebbert

A young clerk in the grocery store made a mistake today, and said these words "My Bad." I looked him in the eyes and I said, "You are not bad. You must know that!" I don't know what the young man thought. He thanked me, and I picked up my parcels and went out. Lent is not about "My bad", it is about God's whole hearted love for each of us, and our acceptance of God's love. It is about us turning around to come to see that love, know that love, and to be transformed in that love.

"Lent is the happy season!" That's what I believe. Try to think of it that way, like a homecoming to the most happy and loving home there ever was or ever shall be. It is about allowing God's love to embrace your heart, your whole life. This will make you happy. Happy Lent.

Fr. Charles Preble

Save the Date
Concert: March 13, 2016 2:30 p.m.



Alleluia Ringers Hand Bell Choir

From First Lutheran Church

With Organ Interludes

By First Lutheran Organist

Randy Morken

Concert is free...a free will offering will be taken for the

Outreach Food Shelf of Douglas County

Sponsored by Emmanuel Episcopal Church

12th Ave. & Lake St.

Reception in the undercroft following the concert.



A MESSAGE FROM ANN HULSTRAND

Luckily, we are still warm and safe but roads covered with frozen slush. Don and I just had Morning Prayer. We prayed for Bill and all of you.

Don and I had hoped to travel to the Midwest this summer but medical reasons made us decide not to. I broke my leg last January and it still is not completely mended. Also Don has had hemoglobin problems but bi-weekly injections are helping -SLOWLY. Now he is in physical therapy to strengthen his legs.

Do you remember Don 's precious sister, Arlene Korstad?? Yesterday she and her husband celebrated their 73rd wedding anniversary. We have not seen them in about four years now. They are still in Sioux Falls. Last time we drove out there - that was a killer drive as I do all the driving now.

Please know that we think of you often and keep Emanuel's parishioners in our prayers.

Love, Ann

Outreach Opportunity

Or How to Accomplish Something Good Without Writing a Check

Are you a member of Amazon Prime? Do you purchase books, CD's, movies, other "stuff" from Amazon? Then sign up for Smile Amazon. You keep all of the benefits of Amazon, including Prime, and Amazon will apply a small portion of your purchase to the charity of your choice. **Episcopal Relief and Development** is one of the charities that receives donations. Your purchase may be small, but if all the Episcopalians in the country are doing the same thing, it becomes significant. So, be part of something good without writing a check.

2015 ECMN Convention Report

The 158th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, was Held on September 18-19, 2015 at River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud, MN, Emmanuel Episcopal Church was Represented by Rev. Tom Sinning and Belvin Doebbert, lay delegate.

Convention opened on Friday evening with worship, business, and an address by Bishop Brian Prior. The focus of Bishop Prior's message was an exhortation for each of us to be insightful as to our gifts, to develop them, and to fully utilize them for Christ's purposes.

The theme of this year's Convention was *Engaging God's Mission Through Engaging All God's Creation*. The Reverend Canon Sally Grover Bingham President and Founder of Interfaith Power & Light, preached at the Saturday morning worship service. Hers was a message about improving creation care through strategies and processes resulting from an alternative and more caring way of thinking.

Attendees partook in breakout sessions focused on creation care. These breakout sessions developed the theme through diverse disciplines. They included information and processes for conserving and producing electrical power through technologies made more feasible of late by economies of scale, government support, and substantial decreases in photovoltaic cell prices. They also included presentations made by clergy of Dakota ancestry revealing patterns used by that community to integrate native spirituality with environmental stewardship.

I had the opportunity to meet and speak with many engaged in the daily support of Episcopal Congregations throughout the state. I met a number of people experienced with or engaged in Total Ministry. One thought that was stimulated by these conversations is that continuation planning would seem to be essential for congregations planning to rely on the total ministry approach for the long term, and I would encourage the vestry and the total ministry team at Emmanuel to address the need for continuity as we continue in our team training and deployment efforts.

The convention concluded with the celebration of Eucharist. At that time, Bishop Prior again asserted that we are all called to identify and develop the gifts with which we have been individually blessed, and fully utilize them to serve the purposes for which they have been given.

Respectfully Submitted,
Belvin Doebbert,
2015 Emmanuel Lay Delegate

Note. In preparation for the convention, JoEllen and I attended a conference on the "Doctrine of Discovery" sponsored by ECMN and held at the Shooting Star Casino in White Earth on July 18, 2015. Keynote Speaker Steven Newcomb, is of Native American ancestry, holds a Phd in history, and has written extensively and has now co-produced a video on the legal "doctrine of discovery". The doctrine of discovery is a composite of administrative actions and court decisions going back to the 1400s upon which the right of European immigrants and the successors justified their legal claim to occupy and possess lands of the American Continents. Video coverage of conference proceedings, including Dr. Newcomb's fascinating keynote address are available at the URL given below. His book is available at Amazon. His commercially produced video on the subject either is or soon will be available. I recommend that you view his keynote at <http://episcopalmn.org/jul-2015-doctrine-of-discovery-event-video-now-available>. I also propose that we listen to these materials prior to service or during coffee some Sunday.

Senior Warden Report February 2016

Our Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, January 31. The yearly report booklet was handed out; this summarizes what has happened in the church during the year. The booklet will be sent to members who were not at the meeting. Thanks to everyone for the all time and effort they have given to Emmanuel.

We enjoyed a meal of pizza. Farren Morical brought the Epiphany cake; the "lucky cake winner" for next year was Mark Reicks.

Outreach projects were discussed. This year we started something new – "The Necessity Bags". Since the Food Shelf can no longer supply paper products to its clients, The Necessity Bag project is helping to fill that void. The Sunday school children are working hard on this project. We will once again have the Salad Supper in May; we are looking for a person to chair this event. We will continue with Dylan's Gloves of Love and the Heartland Girls' Ranch.

The 2016 Budget was discussed, amended and approved by the attending members. There is a copy of the budget in the booklet you will be receiving. Projected income is \$61,630.00 and projected expenses are \$66,757.03. The shortfall will be made up from the balance in our checking account. Please take time to look closely at our budget for 2016.

Elections were held for the up-coming year. Tim Johnson & Sheila Stanton were elected Co-Senior Wardens. Tim will take the lead during the winter and Sheila during the summer. Rachael Sinning and Farren Morical were elected to the vestry.

2016 Vestry

Tim Johnson, Co-Sr. Warden ('18)	John Hull, Jr. Warden ('17)
Sheila Stanton, Co-Sr. Warden ('18)	Verlie Sinning, Treasurer ('17)
Rachael Sinning ('18)	Mary Sinning ('17)
Wendy Zander ('18)	Farren Morical ('18)

Belvin Doebbert was re-elected delegate to the convention, with JoEllen Doebbert as alternate.

It has been an honor to have served as Senior Warden for the past four years.

Karen Reicks



Lectionary Readings for February

February 7

Last Sunday after Epiphany

Exodus 34:29-35
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36, [37-43a]
Psalm 99

February 21

Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1-12,17-18
Philippians 3:17-4:1
Luke 13:31-35
Psalm 27

February 10

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2,12-17
or Isaiah 58:1-12
2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
Matthew 6:1-6,16-21
Psalm 103 or 103:8-14

February 28

Third Sunday in Lent

Exodus 3:1-15
1 Corinthians 10:1-13
Luke 13:1-9
Psalm 63:1-8

February 14

First Sunday in Lent

Deuteronomy 26:1-11
Romans 10:8b-13
Luke 4:1-13
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16



Position	February 7	February 10	February 14	February 21	February 28
		<i>Ash Wednesday</i>			
Priest	Linnae Hegg	Service: JoEllen Sermon: Belvin	Service: Linnae Sermon: Wendy	Noel Rich	Fred Nairn
Organist	Margaret Kalina	<i>No organist needed</i>	Bev Steuck	JoNette Brogaard	Nancy Anderson
Lector 1	Mark Reicks	Karen Reicks	Belvin Doebbert	Wendy Zander	Karen Reicks
Lector 2	Laird Barber	John Hull	John Hull	Laird Barber	Farren Moical
Alter	Karen Reicks	Karen Reicks			Tim Johnson
Usher	John & Mark				
S School			Verlie & JoEllen		Verlie & Wendy
Acolyte					
Coffee	Karen & Mark		JoEllen & Belvin		Tim & Farren

Remember in Your Prayers: *(please take this list home and use as a prayer list):* All clergy serving Emmanuel, especially Charles, Linnae and Tom - Jana Preble - Bishop Brian Prior - Don Krueger - Sherman Family - John - Mary Sinning - Heegaard's nephew Nicholas - Edith Kelly - Bill & Josie Heegaard - Don's daughter Tracy - Josh Sinning - Edith's daughter Dana - Laird - Pat Weinmann - Don & Ann Hultstrand - Mike & Lana Ennis - JoEllen's father Al - Total Ministry Team - Heartland Girls Ranch - Military Personnel - Law Enforcement Officers - Peace in the World - The Food Shelf, the volunteers, & all who use it - People of Ziwa and the Rift Valley - Future of the Episcopal Church



February Birthdays

Dyanne Parsons
Edith Kelly
Mary Ann Maameri

Anniversaries

Tarz & Sandy Embry
Gordon & Donna Ziegelman
Donald & Ann Hultstrand



Hymn of the Month

By Tim Johnson

Hymn #559

First Line Title: “Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us” Tune Name: Dulce carmen

Text Author: James Edmeston

Tune Source: Dulce carmen, melody from An Essay on the Church Plain Chant, 1782; adapt. Collection of Motets or Antiphons, ca. 1840; harmonization William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

As has become our custom each year beginning with Advent and often through Easter, the music committee has continued to apply our “Hymn of the Month” to a specific church season. Thus, we have selected a “Hymn of Lent” which will be sung each Sunday from February 14th through March 13th. Once more, this title is one which we chose to “reprise”. That is, it served as our monthly hymn approximately two and a half years ago. This is something the music committee chose to do from time to time in order to reinforce our learning of many of these selections. Finally, although this hymn is drawn from the “Christian Vocation and Pilgrimage” section of The Hymnal 1982, it is also very appropriate for the season of Lent as evidenced by stanza two: Savior, breathe forgiveness o’er us; all our weakness thou dost know; thou didst tread this earth before us; thou didst feel its keenest woe; yet unfearing, persevering, to thy passion thou didst go.” The following is the abridged article from August, 2013 when this selection was first introduced.

The text composer, James Edmeston, was born to an evangelical family in an area of East London which became known as the docklands as commerce and trade increased. Although an architect by trade, he composed many volumes of verse and is said to have composed approximately two thousand hymns. One source states that many of these came into general use while another claims that “the greater part of them have never found general acceptance”. The latter would appear to be most accurate as this hymn is the composer’s only selection to appear in The Hymnal 1982 as well as the very comprehensive Hymns Ancient and Modern. Sources further state that he wrote this hymn for the children of a London orphanage as a prayer for guidance and protection.

As with many other hymn tunes, an extensive search for the source Dulce carmen ended with very vague results. According to sources, this melody is of Roman Catholic origin and roughly translates from Latin to English as “sweet song”. The tune is attributed to Johann Michael Hayden (1737-1806), the younger brother of the composer Joseph Hayden. This composition was featured in a work entitled “An Essay on the Church Plain Chant” and the hymnal “Collection of Motets or Antiphons”, which was extensively used by the Catholic Church throughout the United Kingdom. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816), the author of these titles, served as the organist and choirmaster for the chapel of the Portuguese Embassy in London during the late 1700s which was the only place in London where the Roman Catholic liturgy could be celebrated at that time. Finally, the hymn was harmonized by William Henry Monk (1823-1889) who was among the most influential people in the development of hymn tunes as we know them today.

Otherwise, the detailed background for this tune is unclear. However, this melody is quite pleasant and easy to sing So perhaps the title “sweet song” is appropriate after all

Sources:

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<http://www.bartleby.com/294/476.html>

http://www.hymnary.org/person/Haydn_JohannMichael

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Samuel_Webbe



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