



EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH
 1710 23RD STREET
 PARKERSBURG, WV 26101

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EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor.....Dr. Kurt W. Busiek
 Family Life Minister.....Mr. Jonathan Delgado
 Director of Children’s Ministries.....Mrs. Sarah Stephens
 Director of Music Ministries.....Mrs. Pam McClain
 Organist/Accompanist.....Mr. David Enoch
 Secretary.....Ms. Terri Fielder
 Church Cook.....Mrs. Jewel Lusk
 Visual Worship Coordinator.....Mrs. Bekah Brooks
 Treasurer.....Mr. Gary Beall
 Assistant Treasurer.....Mrs. Sara Taylor
 Custodian.....Ms. Tammy Hayes
 Office Number.....(304)-485-5171
 Fax Number.....(304)-485-5194
 Website:.....www.ebcwv.com
 Office Hours.....9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. - 1:00-4:00 p.m.



Pray for those listed below on their birthdays. Contact the church with any corrections.

1. Jon Cox
2. Bill Gainer
3. Analeigh Bennett
5. Carson Nelson, Millicent Richards, Elijah Schoenhut
6. River Garrison, Lakin Hardbarger
7. Barbara Nichols
8. Benjamin Harrison
11. Sue Casto
12. Andee Ewing
13. Verona Enoch, John Kitson
14. Avery Lee
15. David Sims
16. Eric Fitzer
17. Joe Hays
18. Gary Barr, Kim Jackson, Brendan Jefferson, Gail Samolitis
19. Deborah Huffman, Adam Johnston
20. Carly Brooks, Matthew Evans
22. Dan Decker
23. Paul Ross
24. Seth DePriest
25. Baylee Cline, Phyllis Crone, Shery Phelps, Jim Sayre
26. Stuart Bennett
28. Destiny Duncan, Gabriel Hissam
29. Jean Farrah
30. Laura Jean Swearingen



2. Allison Bennett, John Mulcay
3. Elissa Filozof, Randy Halterman, Audrey McPherson
3. Abby Hendershot
7. Robin Barton-Thompson
8. Quentin Gentry, Maria Keen, Eileen Mayer, Linda Mitchell
9. Erin Turner
11. Marianne Bennett, James Eddy, Jim McGinnis
13. Tristen Beha, Kelsey Cline
15. Margaret Norris
16. Reid Calvert, Rowen Sizemore
18. Elena Delgado, Brittany Titlow
19. Kristen Bolian, Jaden Caldwell, Phillip Kellison, Joan Stutler
20. Elijah Duncan
22. R. Keith Lusk, Amy Dutton
23. Jamie Boyd, Ainsley Hudnall-Bolian
24. William Collins, Mary Malson, Rose Wood
25. Jeremy Jones, Emma Richards
26. Stephen Cox, Rosemary Decker, Sue McCue
27. Maridor Keck
28. Dale Lowther
30. Daley Wofe
31. Cathy Compton, Sam Bolian



Emmanuel Life & Times
April & May 2021

“My Easter Moment”

This year I asked our staff to reflect on an “Easter moment” in their life. I defined an “Easter moment” as a time when God raised you up from a low moment or difficult time. The Easter hymn expresses it well:

*“Low in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior!
 Waiting the coming day. Jesus my Lord!
 Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes.
 He arose a Victor from the dark domain.
 And He lives forever with His saints to reign.
 He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!”*



My “Easter Moment” revolves around my coming to Emmanuel Baptist back in 2001. I had pastored the Clarksburg Baptist Church for 10 years when I found out the local Rescue Mission (only 3 blocks from the church) needed a Director. I left the church and became the director of the Clarksburg Mission and the pastor of a New Church at the Mission. The local paper ran an article about my job change. I started the new ministry with excitement but quickly found I was in over my head.

The job description that seemed doable on paper was more demanding in real life: running a 24/7 homeless shelter, processing daily requests for housing/ support and counseling, running two large thrift stores, motivating a diverse staff and doing PR in the community... it was overwhelming. To make a difficult job even more challenging, on my first day, I found out the Mission didn’t have the money in the bank that they showed on their financial reports... we were essentially bankrupt. So, I poured my heart and soul into the saving the mission and in the process, I burned out and sank into a dark time of depression. When you’re depressed, you see only darkness, no light.

I struggled with my failure to fix the mission. I was overwhelmed daily with fear and fatigue. It was into this deep darkness, that God did two miracles: he motivated some big donors to give to the Mission work and this allowed us to keep the doors open; and he opened the door for me to come to Emmanuel. I remember the day when Mike Stephens called me and said that Emmanuel was looking for a pastor and I should apply. I called Bill Ott, sent my resume and prayed... that was 20 years ago. God took a broken and depressed failure and opened the door to a new ministry.

In **John 21**, Jesus looks at Peter, who had denied him three times, and he asks, “Peter, do you love me?” Peter responds, “Yes, Lord.” Then Jesus commissions Peter with the command, “Feed my sheep.” Jesus restored Peter from a failure to a faithful leader of his church; 20 years ago, I know the risen Lord Jesus did that for me too and I am very thankful. Praise the Lord! He has risen! He has risen indeed!

Serving with you, Pastor Kurt

Updates From our Staff:

From Pastor Jonathan (Family Life News)

When I think about the many “come-to-life”, resurrection moments God has brought me through in the past, the first one that always sticks out in my memory is of my 14-year-old self, coming face-to-face with the full weight of my sin for the first time. I was on a retreat with the youth volunteer team that served in our Children’s Ministry and we had taken the weekend to engage in team-building and spiritual reflection exercises. With the exception of the Children’s Ministry Director and another adult volunteer, we were all in our teens or early 20s, and I was the second youngest.

On our last evening together, we were all gathered in one room for prayer and Bible study. To this day I could not tell you what the topic of discussion was, or what anyone else said, but I distinctly remember feeling a profound heaviness in my spirit and a brokenness in my heart over my sin. I believe that I was saved before that night; I had accepted Jesus as my Savior and been baptized as a much younger child. Growing up, I had always been the kind of kid who would rarely get into any trouble and who always knew the right answers in Sunday School class and AWANA, but that evening I felt the convicting reality that I had been doing all the right things for all the wrong reasons. The Holy Spirit revealed to me the hidden motives of my own heart and the secret sins that no one else was aware of and I began to weep uncontrollably.

I openly confessed and repented and for the first time I truly felt what it meant to be “brought to life” in Christ. Where moments before there had been profound heaviness, I felt a great peace. Where I had just experienced tremendous brokenness and mourning over my sin, I suddenly become overwhelmed with joy and fulfillment. Before that night, I had strived to do all the “right” things because they were the “right” things to do; after that experience, I yearned to do the things that brought Jesus happiness and brought me closer to Him.

While God has had to rescue me and bring me “back to life” several times since that experience, overall my life and dedication to Him has never been the same. He truly is our resurrected Lord and King and during this season of Easter, when we remember and celebrate His earthly resurrection, let us lay ourselves vulnerable to His Holy Spirit again and take renewed joy in our own resurrection from death and the consequences of our sins!

Youth Ministry Comes Back to Life!



Updates From our Staff:

From Sarah Stephens (Children’s Ministry)



Spring has sprung, and it feels like things are springing into gear in the children’s area as well!



On Saturday, March 20th, we hosted ‘Pancakes, Pj’s, and a Movie’ in the fellowship hall for K-5th graders. There were a few kiddos in attendance we had not seen in a long while, and that was encouraging! This activity was simple and easy fun, and something we will probably do again in the future! Be on the look-out for news about an upcoming activity for our preschoolers!

We have been teaching the new Dig In curriculum on Sunday mornings (K-5th) now for several weeks, and it’s going very well. The current study, the Life of Jesus, is highlighting each major moment in Jesus’ life, thereby inviting kids to know Him more intimately each week.



Awana is set to begin again weekly on April 7th and continue through the summer months, except for the first Wednesdays of June, July, and August. We feel continuing Awana through the summer will be welcomed by those kiddos who attend and their families, as the program has been “on hold” since March of 2020. It will also allow participants to do a bit of catching-up in their current study books. This will take the place of our traditional summer VBS this year.

There are plans in the works for one of our church family members to host a “gospel party” at her home one Saturday this summer as a trial of sorts with the thought of possibly using this format in summers going forward as a community outreach. These gospel parties, lasting from two to four hours, are akin to hosting a birthday party in your backyard with the added element of sharing the gospel with those kiddos in attendance. The model allows for host families to serve their community alongside each other, getting both parents and children (or grandchildren) involved. This could be repeated through the summer as many times as there are church members willing to host. We think this is an exciting opportunity that could have a far-reaching impact without a large investment of time or money.



With all the “springing into gear” going on, we do have a need for volunteers in our children’s programs! If you would like to be part of a team that enjoys and understands the value and importance of discipling children, please get in touch with me! We can use you! We don’t just babysit, we foster spiritual growth in children, thereby serving them, their families, and our God!

And now for my Easter/Resurrection moment:

It’s a tall order to write about such a thing in the space allotted here, but I will do my best. When my daughter was very young, her father and I, after 5 years of marriage and two years of dating prior to that, divorced. I won’t go into further details but suffice to say I was crushed in spirit for a time – a long time, really. And while I cannot say that I allowed my faith to carry me through that time without a scratch, so-to-speak, I can say that without my faith, and my personal relationship with God and Godly people, I don’t know that I would have survived. I truly heard from God in many ways during that time. Whether it was through friends who not only love Him, but loved me, through His word that I was studying as a part of BSF (Bible Study Fellowship) at the time, or through sweet words spoken to me via His Spirit at precise moments when nothing else would have helped, I have no doubt God saw me through that dark time, holding me up, and helping me see the future He had for me. I’m grateful that I stuck it out with Him, as I never would have believed then the reality I am in today. God redeemed some pretty ugly stuff when He blessed both my daughter and I with my husband, Joe - man who loves and cherishes us both and, just as importantly, loves God. I am grateful.

Sarah Stephens





Pray for: Wadi Abdo, Will Cosby's brother Allen, Rich Ashwell, Tonda Blair, Jim Cox, Karen Cox, Elizabeth Johnson Cremeans, Joyce Parsons Drake, Jason George, Ken Gilbert, Mike Hayden, Joe Hays, Roxanne Hubbard, Joan Lemley, Pat Sayre, Rich Shawver, Pat Stump, Sadie Tolley, people attending our DivorceCare and GriefShare support groups, our school administrators, teachers, staff and students as schools are reopening to in-person classes. .

Homebound: Jean Beatty, Beverly Boggs, Bob Byers, Kathy Harrison, Shirley Huffman, Edythe McDonald, Lu McVay, Larry Smith, Edelene Wood, Glenola Woodyard.

Assisted Living: *Colonial House:* Betty Jo Wiseman; *Eagle Pointe:* Nancy Duty, Joe Hays, Betty Matthews, Bud Varner; *The Pines:* Claude Denton; *Worthington:* Jean Lawrence, Ada Turner; *Wyngate:* Sam Bolian, Joan Stutler.

Out of Town: Imogene Buckley, Phyllis Crone, Allenetta Kaufman, Margaret Norris, Mel Williams.

Our Deepest Sympathy to: Jean Farley Nordeck and family at the passing of her brother **John Dye** / The family and friends of **Rev. Mark Edward Smith** / The family and friends of **Joe Smith** / The family and friends of **Ted Alexander Hedges**, Heather Velez's father / The family and friends of **Lee Enrick**, a friend of Robbi Leonard / The family and friends of **Cyndi Webb**, Arlene Flowers' niece / The family and friends of **Dorris Gault** / **Larry "Mad Max" Maxwell** at the passing of his wife **Anita** / **Jean Farrah** at the passing of her youngest brother, **Steve Hall** / The family and friends of **Sarah Morris**, mother of Lola Patterson/ The family and friends of **Jeremy Michael Praest**, Debbie Boyd's son / The family and friends of **Karen Smith**, a friend of Pat Smith / The family and friends of **Tammy Reynolds Kelley** / **David Kanalz** at the passing of his wife **Jody**.

Thank You

From Cheryl Winkler - I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and phone calls while I have been sick. Thank you all so much!

From Deanie Kendall - I would like to thank everyone for their prayers and cards I have received since the death of my sister and her husband (Eloise and Glenn Andrews).

From Jan Ashwell - Thank you Emmanuel family for all the wonderful prayers, comments of support on Facebook, cards and phone calls for Rick! We thank God everyday that we don't have to do this alone! Emmanuel supports us every step of the way! God is good...all the time. Jan Ashwell and Family

From the Salvation Army - Dear Friends, Thank you for your gift to the Salvation Army. We are humbled by the trust you have placed in our ability to use your gift to help those in need. May we be faithful as He is faithful. Thank you and may God bless you! Majors Patrick & Carey Richmond

From Jean Farley-Nordeck - Jim and I would like to thank everyone in the church who offered their condolences, sent cards and called to offer sympathy at the passing of my brother, John W. Dye. Your kindness and concern is very much appreciated.

From Dee Campbell - We would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation for the care package sent from Emmanuel Baptist Church. Each item was thoughtful, comforting and useful for an individual/patient with a new cancer diagnosis. As we navigate my stage 4 pancreatic cancer journey, your kindness helped along the way. I want to thank you Emmanuel Baptist and my friend Blaine Hess. ~ Dana ("Dee") and Anna Campbell.

Thank You from Debbie Ashwell - Dear Friends of Emmanuel Baptist, Your prayers and precious Prayer Bear touched my heart deeply! It is comforting to know we have prayer warriors all over the country boldly approaching the throne on Rick's behalf. We see miracles happening. He has had a medical issue that has kept him in the hospital, but he is making great progress with speech and movement. We can't thank you enough for watching over the family back home as we can't all be together for this part of the journey. The Emmanuel family holds a special place in our hearts as this is where Rick and I met 45 years ago. We thank you so much for the cards, messages, prayers, facebook posts and your love and support. We are blessed beyond measure! Resting in God's plan, Debbie Ashwell. Philippians 1:3 ~ I thank my God every time I remember you.

From Mike Hayden - Cheryl and I would like to thank our church family for all of the prayers, cards and food we received during my recent surgery and recovery. It is most gratifying to know that so many people care so much. The outpouring has been overwhelming. It proves that we have a very caring church. Once again, thank you and may God bless you.



A Review of our Praises from February and March:

Our church "Mug Shot" challenge has been well received. The **praise team** did a good job with **David and Bekah Brooks** helping with the vocals. **Cortney Brooks** shared a nice piano solo. Pastor Jonathan had a **youth parent meeting** and the **youth group has resumed** weekly zoom meetings on Wednesdays at 6 p.m. **Jeff and Adam Evans** put up new blinds in the windows of the old choir room. **Dave and Sue McCue** installed a new steeple light timer. **Our visitation ministry** made over 60 contacts of church members over the last week. **Pastor Kurt and Mona** had a nice visit with family in NC. **Christa Raitz** shared a beautiful solo entitled, "It is Well." **The Marriage Course** resumed in February. Pray that God blesses all the couples who are taking the course in person and online. **The Seeker's Class** recommends the new Biblical TV series called "The Chosen." **Bob Byers** was with us in our Sunday service along with two of his daughters. **In person attendance** was good Sunday, we had 265 views on Facebook, 14 views on YouTube and others who watched the service via Zoom. **Lauren Modesitt** shared a beautiful solo Sunday called, "Marchin' On Up". The **Valentine's Day Drive In** service was well received. It was a cold night but our hearts were warmed by love. Everyone received a box of chocolates and a homemade Valentine's Day card made by **Rhonda Johnston**. Rhonda made over 70 Valentine's cards for the church Drive In Service, the Marriage Course and for the Colonial House. **The Marriage Course** (in person and online) continues to be a blessing to the 15 couples involved. **The Loss of Spouse Seminar** was well received by the three people who participated. **Keith Mayer and Ken Barton** provided a Bible study at a local drug rehab center for six clients who attended. **Merideth McClain** began her employment with Metro Music Therapy of Atlanta. **In person and online attendance** continues to be good for our Sunday services...we had 259 views on Facebook, 10 views on YouTube and others on Zoom. **Elena Delgado** shared a beautiful solo Sunday called "Amazing Grace". **The Marriage Course** (in person and online) continues to be a blessing to the 15 couples involved. **GriefShare** has started to meet on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. (through May 18) and is being well received. **Keith Mayer and Ken Barton** provided a Bible study at a local drug rehab center for 11 clients who attended a Bible study based on Proverbs 3:5-6. **Our youth participated in a snow sculpture contest** which was won by Nate McPeak with his snow rendition of Pastor Jonathan. **Brian Raitz, Fred Fenton, Will Cosby and Rich Shawver** are all helping now as church ushers. **Jerry Hamilton and Joe Stephens** got our new flat screen TVs and stands set up in our Chapel/ Choir room and our Fellowship Hall. **Jerry** is also working with our staff to update our **church website** as it moves to a new host site. **Awana** will return to in-person meetings in April. Pastor Kurt got a beautiful **red rose from Maridor Keck**; it was an expression of her love and appreciation of all our staff at Emmanuel. Maridor also sends cards of encouragement to many people. **Paul Ross** shared a beautiful trumpet solo in our service; he was accompanied by **Pam McClain**. **Pastor Jonathan's sermon** reminded us to be practical peacemakers like Abigail in 1 Samuel 25. **Leslie McHenry and Jenny Hannan** are encouraging people to view the **new Biblical video series called "The Chosen."** (available on YouTube or on the Chosen App) The new **flat screen TVs in the Narthex and Fellowship Hall** will broadcast our Facebook Live Sunday morning service. **Our new Zoom Interest Groups**(recipe/ crafts/ game night) are meeting. **Tom Beckwith**, a 1963 graduate of Marietta High School, was honored on the All-Ohio Wall outside the Sutton Gym, with a plaque honoring him as an All-State Baseball Player. He pitched and played center field. Tom finished his pitching career with an 11-3 record and 71 strikeouts in 80 innings. Our **in person attendance** Sunday was good: 94 at 10:45 and 16 at 8:30. **Olivia Wilson** shared a beautiful solo called "Make Me a Channel of Thy Peace." She was accompanied by Pam McClain. **Gail Samolitis** had a positive and well-attended GriefShare group. The memorial service for **Cindy Webb** was a celebration of her life and impact on others. Check out our **new website** (www.ebcwv.com). **Jerry Hamilton** has been working with our staff to give our website a new look. Our new **Zoom Interest Groups** (recipe/ crafts/ game night) are meeting. Many in our church have gotten **the covid vaccine**. **Carol Fryfogle** hosted a very nice, well attended St. Patrick's Day theme Tuesday Fellowship lunch and game time. The **creative writing zoom interest group** hosted by Joe Stephens met. **Jonathan and Tyler Brooks and Archer Hissam** were baptized March 14. **Emma Withrow**, shared a beautiful solo called, "On Eagle's Wings." Becca Reid shared an update and video that highlighted our **MOPS ministry**. **J.D. and Rhonda Reed** gave us a helpful update on their ministries in Bolivia. **Sally Beckwith's Debbie Myers Circle** took food to Mike and Cheryl Hayden for a week. The **Haydens** are very thankful for the help and support. **Richard Davis** is now employed by the Clean and Clear Advantage Drug Rehab Center. **Chris Hackney** is now ordained as a minister at his church in PA... Send him a note: 1520 Washington Avenue, Monaca, PA 15061. **Calista Mace** shared a beautiful solo called "Bright and Beautiful Children's Suite." **Tammy Reynolds Kelley** was welcomed into the membership of Emmanuel and to heaven Sunday, March 21. **Steve Metheny** got a good test result from his recent PET scan. **Our children** enjoyed a PJ, Pancake and Movie morning event at Emmanuel last week. **Debra Taylor** is our new ministry liaison to the Women's Care Center.



Updates From our Staff:

From Pam McClain (Music Ministry)

The Power of God’s Music Speaks to the Soul



What an unprecedented trial we all continue to experience. I still miss Wednesday evening choir rehearsals and Sunday morning anthems. Even so...this pandemic has shown me that the “less” I have, the more “thankful” I am. I have substituted television time with playing the piano. I have cleaned, sorted and organized to the sounds of virtual choirs singing hymns. I have hummed praise choruses while taking walks. And now, I reflect on the blessings that have come from the storm.

When the church transitioned to a “virtual only” service, I could not imagine singers and instrumentalists volunteering to record their songs to share with those worshipping at home...but they DID.

When the church purchased a new organ prior to the beginning of the pandemic, I could not imagine the organ being played or David Enoch stepping into the organist position....but it WAS played and David DID become our organist.

When December arrived I did not think that a “drive-in nativity and carol sing” would be well received...but it WAS.

When in-person services began again, I did not think that special music offerings were sustainable for an entire year...but they WERE.

And now, I see God’s reassurance that HIS word is true. “Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer.” Romans 12:12

Pam McClain EBC Director of Music Ministry



From Gail Samolitis (New Life Counseling Center)



It is Spring! March 20, 2021 was the first day of Spring! The days are longer, and peepers have been heard. Easter, Resurrection Sunday is upon us. With Spring comes new life, new beginnings, change. Change is good and fresh and teaches us new ways to view and experience our emotions and feelings. Mimi Novic said, “Sometimes we can only find our true direction when we let the wind of change carry us.”

Is there something in your life you would like to change? Is there something in your life you need to change? Would you like to change your eating habits to more nutritional eating habits? Or would you like to volunteer somewhere or serve in the church? NEW LIFE COUNSELING can help you with these life changes as well as other life changes you are facing. Seeking Christian counsel does not indicate weakness. It takes courage to seek wise counsel AND seeking counsel is scriptural. Be courageous and come visit me at NEW LIFE COUNSELING at Emmanuel Baptist Church. You can call me, GAIL SAMOLITIS at 304-588-7632 for an appointment or to talk.



“Be the change you want to see in the world.”-Mahatma Handhi



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month and recognizes the importance of communities working together to help families thrive and prevent child maltreatment. During the month of April and throughout the year, communities are encouraged to increase awareness about child and family well-being, and work together to implement effective strategies that support families and prevent child abuse and neglect. On Thursday April 1st NEW LIFE COUNSELING will be planting a Pinwheel Garden at the front of the church. If you are interested in helping please call the church at 304-485-5171.

Updates From our Staff:

From Eileen Mayer (Missions & Ministry Development)

Well, 2021 is starting with ups and downs as we kick back into (prayerfully) a post-pandemic world!



Women's Care Center. Thank you for all who donated to their Baby Bottle Campaign. Our church exceeded last year's donations with a total of \$916.85! Now, let us lace up our shoes and prepare for the upcoming Walk for Life! EBC will be gathering a team of walkers for this year's walk held on April 18th, starting at 12:30pm. What a fun, heart-healthy way to benefit their remarkable, life-changing work! Our new Walk Coordinator - and WCC Liaison - is

Debra Taylor. Give her a great big "Thank you" when you see her AND let her know you plan to join the team to walk. All you do is register, get sponsors, and walk. The WCC will do all the "billing and collecting". You can contact Debra at (410) 600- 5185 or taylordebra300@gmail.com. Please consider this a mini-mission trip to which most all of us can easily go!

Dominican Republic Mission Trip. Sadly, Missionary Madeline Flores had to cancel all mission trips this summer. We are so sad! She still has all the work she planned to do - yet now without the resources and help of visiting teams. The country sees little hope for access to the COVID 19 vaccine, making it too unsafe for International Ministries to be able to approve mission trips. For this reason ... the Missions Team is planning a fundraiser lunch soon. Attending and contributing could be a very real way to help this ministry. We will announce the date in an upcoming bulletin.



IM Missionaries The Reeds. We were blessed by a visit by J.D. and Rhonda Reed on March 14th. During service, they gave us an update on their ministries: the House of Hope and the pastoral training center. We heard how devastated is the infrastructure now in Bolivia due to political unrest and the burden of the pandemic and its restrictions. Please keep them and the mission in your prayers! Thank you to those who made a donation.



MOPS Sunday. The same Sunday we got to enjoy a great video of MOPS activities this past year. Despite the pandemic, MOPS has been meeting virtually or in modified format to provide support to mothers who had no idea they were all about to become home-schoolers. We are thankful for this ministry and appreciate those of you who gave in support.

Thank you,
Eileen Mayer

From Carol Fryfogle (Tuesday Fellowship)

Save-the-Dates! We will meet April 13 at 12:00 noon for Spring BINGO and lunch, May 11 at 12:00 noon. Also, because of cancellations I have extended our season to include June 8 at 12noon, our final Fellowship until September 14. Contact me directly with questions or to rsvp at: ucnbankonit@mail.com



~ Carol Fryfogle

Holy Week and Easter Services

Emmanuel will offer a **Maundy Thursday** Service on Thursday night, April 1 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and via zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/86867638107>, Passcode 523523) . Pastor Jonathan will be speaking and our Deacons will serve communion. A **Good Friday** (April 2) Cross Walk and Stations of the Cross service will begin and be offered at noon at St. Francis Xavier Church on Market Street. On **Easter Sunday**, April 4, we will have two services: our regular 8:30 a.m. service and our 10:45 a.m. service which includes various special music offerings coordinated by Pam McClain.

Updates From our Staff:

From Gail Samolitis (Grief Share)



Spring is almost here! It will not be long before we are “Springing Forward” with the clocks and some have reported hearing “peepers” in the evening. As we welcome Spring we welcome new life as well as Easter, Christ’s resurrection and change. 2020 was a year packed full of stress, uncertainty and loss. We are grieving the loss of the familiar, freedoms and family. Grief Share can help you make sense of your emotions from loss.

Emmanuel offers GRIEF SHARE to help you experience and process your emotions when you have lost and loved one GRIEF SHARE is a 13- week faith- based Support Group that addresses topics like A New Normal, Emotions of Grief, and Secondary Losses. Grief Share consists of three components, videos, personal workbooks, and group discussion. You participate as much or as little as you feel comfortable. Grief Share is a wonderful way to know that you are not alone and a way to “connect” to others who are sharing similar emotions as you.



I invite you to come out to Grief Share to see what it is all about, make a connection and start your journey from Mourning to Joy. Other GRIEF SHARE events throughout the year include Loss of Spouse which was in February and SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS will be offered in November. Each of these events are 2- hour seminars and you do not need to be a member of Emmanuel to attend.



We are currently offering GRIEF SHARE at Emmanuel in the chapel on Tuesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. A huge “Thank You” to Pastor Kurt, Tammy Hayes and Jerry Hamilton for setting up cleaning sanitizing and arranging the chapel for us to meet. Thank you and God bless each one of you!

If you are interested in attending a Grief Share group, please call the church at 304-485-5171 or call me, Gail Samolitis, at 304-588-7632. You do not need to be a member of Emmanuel to attend. You can also go online to griefshare.org and register.

Kroger Community Rewards



If you would like to support Emmanuel through your Kroger purchases, you can call 1-800-853-3033 and a customer service person will help you. Or you can go to Kroger.com. If you don't have a Kroger account, create an account. Then sign into your account. Find "Community" on the bottom of the website and click on "Kroger Community Rewards" which is directly underneath. Then click on "View Details." If you do not have an organization designated, click on “Enroll”. In the search bar, type “Emmanuel Baptist Parkersburg”, it should be the first organization you see, click on the “Enroll” button. Emmanuel's organization number is: HR910. If you are enrolled and it is not Emmanuel, you can click on “Change Organization” and follow the previous instructions to select.

Amazon Smile

If you would like to support Emmanuel through your Amazon purchases, sign in to <http://smile.amazon.com>. Search for Emmanuel Baptist Church Parkersburg (be sure to include Parkersburg because there are many Emmanuel churches). Once you see it listed, click on “Register” and complete the form. For all future purchases, log on to Smile.Amazon.com and Emmanuel Baptist will receive a percentage of each purchase you make!



Updates From our Staff:

From Judy Prater (Adult Ministry)

Easter moments...I could name many times when I have felt the unmistakable power of God deep within my soul. One particular time was on the Rail Trail near WVUP. I was in the middle of my chemo and radiation treatments in 2000-2001. My body was depleted from the toxins of my cancer therapy, but I knew that getting out in nature and easy walking would be a good renewal for me. At these times, I liked to sing hymns and recall scriptures to fill my mind and heart with God’s promises. This one particular time I was singing “How Great Thou Art” and the words I had sung so many times before awakened in my spirit to the miracle of my healing:

“When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees.
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and see the brook and feel the gentle breeze.
Then sings my soul, my Savior, God, to Thee,
How great Thou art, how great Thou art.”

And if it had been that my cancer didn’t get healed and my death had come soon,
I had the assurance of the final verse:
“When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow, in humble adoration,
and then proclaim, “My God, how great Thou art.”



Obviously, my days on earth were not over at that time. God granted me healing and I am humbled by His love and mercy and power. I know that the countless prayers of people everywhere were heard and I am still here to carry on His work for others. To God be the glory!

Debbie Fenton (Necessity Closet)



During the period of March 2020 through March 2021, the Necessity Closet has been able to assist 142 families which included 363 people. We also did a coat give-away October 2020 through February 2021. We gave away 63 coats, along with hats, gloves and socks. Thank you to our church family who donated!

We also gave out 20 food boxes during the month of December, with the help of Catholic Charities.

I feel like God has blessed this ministry so we can bless others.

None of this would be possible without the love, prayers, and support of our church family, along with our volunteers. The need is great.

Thank you to the best church family in Parkersburg!

Acts 20:35b: “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Again, Thank You,

Debbie Fenton



“A Time to Remember and Rejoice”

2020 was a year when we processed the Covid Pandemic. The church stopped meeting in person for a long time and we’re just now beginning to gather again. Every May, we take some time on Memorial Day Sunday, to remember those who fought and died for our country, and to remember those in our fellowship and families, who have passed over the previous year. In this Newsletter, you’ll find a Memorial List of people in our church fellowship (and their friends and families) that passed away in since May 2019. **As you remember these special people, write down a memory or a praise, then send your reflection to terri@ebcwv.com or kurt@ebcwv.com.** We will share these reflections in our Memorial Sunday worship services on May 30 and in our Memorial Celebration Lunch that Sunday at noon. It’s wonderful to reflect on the reality that these names represent those who are experiencing the ultimate “Easter moment”: they have passed into the light filled and loving presence of their Lord.

May 18, 2019 through May 31, 2020

*Brenda Barnhart, Cousin of Bob Byers
Prudence Kinney
Floyd White, Brother of Tammy Hayes
John R. McGary, Father of Carlene Cox
Nicholas White, Nephew of Tammy Hayes
Carol Carpenter, Mother of Gail Samolitis
Barbara Reed
Bill Thomas
Robert Lowe, Cousin of Sherry Smith
Midge Somerville, Mother-in-law of Jim Shreeves
Betty Wiseman’s Brother
Roger Davis, Brother of Richard Davis
Connie Harkins, Niece of Tammy Hayes
Alvadore McCloy, Brother of Donnie McCloy
Layne DePriest, Father of Seth DePriest
Carol Gaydac
Kenneth Richards
Winona Halterman, Mother of Randy Halterman
Gayle Lowe, Cousin of Sherry Smith
Jack Arnett, Father of Karen Cox
Robert Ross, Brother of Allenetta Kaufman
Tom Jamison
Mike Lewis, Nephew of Maridor Keck
Grace Warner, Aunt of Phyllis Bennett
Barbara Ott
Terry Barnette
Sheila Wright, Cousin of Brion Matheny
Brenda Headley, Daughter of Clara Howard
Thomas Davis, Father of Richard Davis
John Raitz, Uncle of Brian Raitz
Arbutus Peters, Mother of David Sims
Cheryl Brannon
Patty Shawver, Mother of Christine Redmond
Jeannie Quinn, Sister of Jack Kirsch
John Gilbert, Brother-in-law of Jane Graham
Chuck Leavitt, Cousin of Kathy Leavitt
Ray Whitlatch, Father of Scott Whitlatch*



June 1, 2020 through March 27, 2021

*Carolyn Mulcay, John Mulcay’s Mother
Ed Beary, John Beary’s Father
Dr. Dieter Nicolson, David Enoch’s Step-Son
Kathy Perzynski, Brian Raitz’s Aunt
Lavetta Jean Pike, Grandmother of Jennifer Beaver
Betty Canterbury
Nora Gilchrist, Mother of Leslie McHenry
and Jenny Hannan
Beverly Walkup
Charles Dowler, Brother of Dorothy Satterfield
Jack Kirsch
Marsha Lindenmuth, Niece of Earl and Diana Johnson
Michelle Dailey, Daughter of Bruce Goody
Derrell Brown, Father of Candy Lindstrom
Marvin McDonald, Father of Suzanne Halterman
Jim Beck
Judith Pfalgraff
Joe Howard
Opal Hensley, Mother of Beverly Hensley & Janet Paul
Beulah Brown, Mother of Candy Lindstrom
Jack, Brother of Calvin Florence
Nancy Kay Toncray, Sister of Melanie Whited
Dorothy Satterfield
Dolores Buskirk, Wife of Jack Buskirk
Fred Fitzer
Clarence Lallemond, Father of Brian Lallemond
Jonathan Delgado’s Grandfather
Marilyn Blair, Mother of Keith Boggs
Elizabeth “Betty” Bailey
John W. Dye, Brother of Jean Farley-Nordeck
Phyllis Bennett
Tom McCarthy, Brother-in-law of Sara Taylor
Eloise Glen Andrews, Sister of Deanie Kendall
Tom Barker, Uncle of Kim Jackson
John Doan
Joe Smith
Ted Alexander Hughes, Father of Heather Velez
Cyndi Webb, Niece of Arlene Flowers
Dorris Gault
Steve Hall, Brother of Jean Farrah
Sarah Morris, Mother of Lola Patterson
Jeremy Michael Preast, Son of Debbie Boyd
Jody Kanalz, Wife of David Kanalz
Tammy Reynolds Kelley*

Emmanuel “Favorite Scripture or Saying” Challenge response:

Trish Treharne lives in AZ. Her parents, Jack and Ann Treharne, were founding members of Emmanuel. She said her saying was one of her mother’s favorite sayings that she encouraged Trish to memorize:

“The Holy Supper is kept indeed
In whatso we share with another’s need.
Not what we give, but what we share,
For the gift without the giver is bare.
Who gives himself with his alms feeds three:
Himself, his hungering neighbor and me.”
From The Vision of Sir Launfal by James Russell Lowell

Gary Beall shared this: As a young man working my way through college, one of my favorite classes was English Literature. I know that's odd, coming from a guy bent towards practical matters in science and math, but it's true.

I recall studying a poem by Alfred Lord Tennyson titled "Ulysses". I don't remember much about the poem, but one verse, buried in the middle of the poem sticks with me to this day...

"Yet all experience is an arch wherethro'
Gleams that untravell'd world whose margin fades
For ever and forever when I move."

The memory of this verse has motivated me to try many new things when opportunities arise. Gary Beall

Sarah Stephens shared this: My favorite Bible passage is: **2 Timothy 1:7:** "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline." God spoke this into my life/led me to this verse at a time when I was most definitely broken and crushed in spirit. At the time, I often found myself feeling timid, lacking power, feeling fearful, and lacking self-discipline. God showed me this verse, and I would use it often to remind myself that I was not timid, not powerless, not lacking self-discipline, and not lacking love. I would say to myself, "God said it Sarah, so it must be true." I put this verse on repeat in my head to counter my emotions and feelings that were contradicting God's word. The truth of God's word won eventually, of course. Sarah Stephens

Judy Prater shared this: From Shakespeare, in “The Merchant of Venice, which I memorized in a high school English class:

“The quality of mercy is not strained.
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath. It is twice blessed.
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.”

Kim Jackson shared this: “So you asked for sayings people like. I have two:

The first is for me. It’s the hymn “It is Well with my Soul.” No matter what this life brings me I know my soul belongs to Jesus and all will be well. No matter what. It was also something I shared with my aunt Jackie who passed away with cancer over 3 years ago. During her illness-we would say to each other, “It is Well with my Soul.” The other is from Gandhiof all people! He says, “Be the change you want to see in the world.” My kids grew up hearing this. It was actually on the wall in the hall way of our home. I always encouraged them to be better and do better than what they see in this world. Be that change. I’m very proud of them and I feel like they are certainly on their way to making those positive changes in their corner of this world!

Joe Stephens shared this: “I have a life verse and a saying that are quite closely connected. **John 15:13,** “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends,” has been my life verse since I was 10, when I chose it as part of a children's discipleship class. Years later, I saw the musical, LES MISERABLES. At the end of musical is a powerful line that echoes that verse. As the main character is dying, he sings the most important lesson he learned in his life: “To love another person is to see the face of God.”

