



EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH  
1710 23RD STREET  
PARKERSBURG, WV 26101

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Parkersburg, WV  
Permit No. 68

#### EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor.....Rev. Kurt Busiek  
Youth Director.....Joe Stephens  
Director of Children's Ministries.....Jenny Hannan  
Choir Director .....Donna Marcinko  
Organist/Accompanist .....David Enoch  
Secretary .....Jessica Johnson  
Church Cook.....Dave Stephens  
Visual Worship Coordinator.....Bekah Brooks  
Treasurer.....Gary Beall  
Assistant Treasurer .....Sara Taylor/  
.....Sarah Robinson  
Custodian .....Tammy Hayes  
Office Number .....(304)-485-5171  
Fax Number .....(304)-485-5194  
Website:.....www.ebcwv.com  
Office Hours.....9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Facebook Pages: Emmanuel Baptist Church (public)  
Emmanuel Baptist Church WV Family Ministry (private)

Mail to:



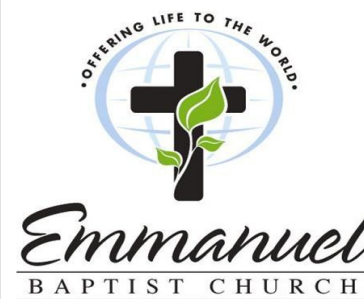
Pray for those listed below on their birthdays. Contact the church with any corrections.



1- Leah Johnston	15- Abigail Davis
2- Delbert Casto	16- Lyla Nuzum
Gene Kellison	Miles Powell
4- Mickie Flowers	18- Eva Martin
5- Brian Lallemon	19- Elena Baquet
7- Kim Bollinger	20- Terri Day
Eleanor Nahley	Helen Hill
8- Bob Byers	21- Karen Cox
Richard Davis	Earl Hulce
9- Robert Beatty	Charlie Matthews
10- Sally Beckwith	22- Lena Beatty
Teresa Seckman	Brock Jones
12- Airka Gainer	24- Emilia Filozof
Rodney Turner	Alvin Phillips
13- Lauren Casto	26- Candy Lindstrom
Deena Deem	27- Nick Day
14- Cody Alfred	Aaliyah Wofe
Rachel Filozof	29- Ed Hofmann
Michael Prater	30- Betsy Jefferson
15- Francine Bauer	Roxie Sprague



1- Mona Busiek	18- Bryant Cline
3- Daniel Argabrite	Lynda Farley
4- Tonya Cunningham	Stephanie Green
5- Donna Bishop	Jenny Hannan
Dave McCue	Carole Woody
Jennifer Schoenhut	21- Cheryl Adams
7- Glen Patterson	Charles Alltop
9- Terry Ash	Archer Hissam
Joe Britton	Barbara Smith
10- Peggy Ahlborn	Sarah Wells
Jo Ann Boggs	23- Rowena Sizemore
11- Tom Beckwith	Ruth Wharton
Greg Halterman	24- Debbie Boyd
Dee Lallemon	Suzanne Halterman
12- Kurt Busiek, Jr.	Tammy Hayes
Linda Gainer	25- Brenda Bolian
13- Karen Vanoster	Jeffery Lusk
15- Pam Beha	26- Billie Turner
Luke Nuzum	28- Eric Argabrite
16- Carter Gaydac	Jonathan Delgado
17- Rachele Barton	Jerry Hamilton
Randy Beatty	29- Jane Hulce
Mackenzie Sims	Braydon Paulus
Joe Stephens	Pam Wharton



# Emmanuel Life & Times

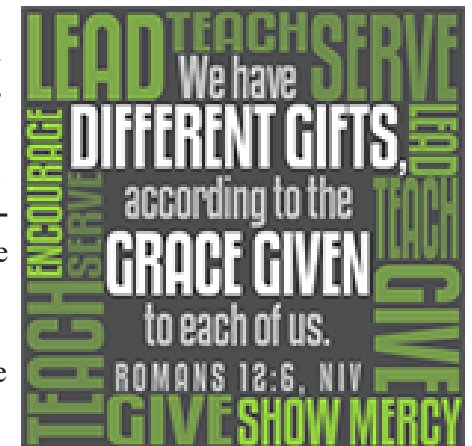
## August & September 2025

### Ministry Updates & Reflections from Pastor Kurt



On Sunday, August 24, Emmanuel will host our Annual Ministry Fair. Various ministries in the church will create a brief video overview of their ministry and then be available in the Fellowship Hall to answer questions. You are encouraged to make your way to the Fellowship Hall on this Sunday so you can see, hear and learn about the variety of gifts and ministries that are active at Emmanuel. We ask you to pray for each ministry and to also pray that God might direct you to get involved in a ministry that matches your gifts. There will be a light lunch offered August 24th at noon so people can enjoy food and fellowship and the ministry fair. We will also create a Ministry Fair brochure with a summary of the video ministry overviews.

In 1 Corinthians 12 Paul uses the image of the body to help people understand how God works in a church. He says in v. 18: "God has arranged the parts of the body, everyone of them, just as he wants them to be." In vv. 26-27 he says, "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it." Paul shares a similar thought about the church in Romans 12:4-6 where he says, "Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given us." Peter shares Paul's view of the church when he says in 1 Peter 4: 10, "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."



Emmanuel's vision statement is that God has called us to "offer LIFE to the world." LIFE is found as: We Love God with all our heart. We Include others who feel alone. We Find Connection through Fellowship Groups and Ministries where we can learn and grow. And LIFE grows as Engage Community by using our gifts to God's glory. Where has God gifted you? Are you willing to get involved?



William Barclay shares this simple poem in his commentary on 1 Corinthians:

**"God has no hands but our hands, to do his work today.  
He has no feet but our feet, to lead people in his way.  
He had no voice but our voice, to tell people why he died;  
He has no help, but our help to lead people to his side."**

(Continued on the next page)



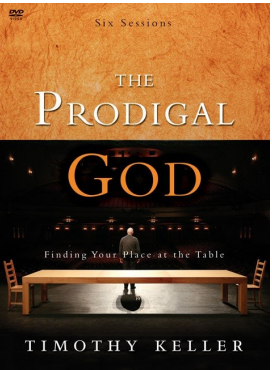


In John 6, we are told that the feeding of the 5000 was preceded by a boy who offered his bag lunch to Jesus. John 6:8 says, "Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" Jesus took the boys small lunch and multiplied it to feed over 5000. The simple lesson in this story is this: Anything we give fully to Jesus, no matter how small, he will take and use it and expand it's impact on others. God, help us to be like the boy who gave Jesus his bag lunch.

Years ago someone gave me this simple summary of the motive for Christian service:

*"I am only one; but I am one. I cannot do everything. But I can do something. What I can do, I ought to do; And what I ought to do, by the grace of God, I will do."*

In August, our Tuesday and Wednesday Bible studies will be using the The Prodigal God video series by Tim Keller. Here's a summary of this six week study: Two sons, one kept the rules religiously and one who broke them all. One father who loved both lost sons beyond anything they could imagine. Discover the amazing depths of God's extravagant love. In six captivating sessions, Pastor and New York Times bestselling author, Timothy Keller opens your eyes to the powerful message of Jesus' best known and least understood parable: The Prodigal Son. The six sessions will cover the following: The Parable. The People around Jesus. The Two Lost Sons. The Elder Brother. The True Elder Brother. The Feast of the Father.



Serving with you,  
Pastor Kurt



Don and Julie were both born and raised in Parkersburg and have been married 36 years.

They have 3 sons, Ryan and Matt Copley and Mark Grimm. Ryan and Matt served in and retired from the military; Ryan for 22 years in the Navy and Matt for 22 years in the Air Force. Mark lives in Vienna and works at Warner Kia. They have 6 grandchildren ranging in age from 21 years to 4 years old.



Julie grew up at First Baptist and Don grew up at North Parkersburg Baptist. Both were baptized by immersion as children. Julie served as church treasurer at First Baptist for several years when Gerald Morgan was pastor there. Rev. Morgan married Don and Julie. The family later joined North and attended there for many years. While at North, Don served as Deacon and Julie as Deaconess. Don retired from the Wood County Assessor's Office 2 years ago and Julie retired from Community Bank last fall.

They are very excited to join Emmanuel and we are BLESSED to have them!



**Our Deepest Sympathy to the Family & Friends of:** David Kanalz, Virginia's brother / Don Duty, Nancy's husband / Jeff Manning, Pat Smith's nephew / Betty Wiseman, long-time EBC member who passed away at 100 years old / Kathy Terosky, John's step-mother / Margaret Norris, a long time member of Emmanuel / Marjorie Esenwine, neighbor of The Teroskys & Lallemons / Vivian Tilton, a friend of Brenda Wheeler

Updates From our Staff:

From Gail Samolitis - GriefShare



***"This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life."***

**Psalm 119:50**

***"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain for the old order of things has passed away."***

**Revelation 21:4**

**It is August!** In a matter of days many area schools began fall classes. Parents will be scheduling one last weekend at the mountain cabin or lake shore to eek out the final drops of summer fun before the weather turns crisp and cool and the days become shorter. With this seasonal shift comes the **start of our fall ministries** too!

After our summer hiatus, **GRIEF SHARE** will begin on **WEDNESDAY AUGUST 13, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** GriefShare is a faith-based support group of loving, caring people who will come alongside you during one of life's most difficult journeys. You do not have to go through the grief process alone. **GriefShare is open to the community**, so if you have lost a loved one or close friend to death or know someone who has, I invite you to join us.



**This 13-week support group meets at Emmanuel Baptist Church usually on Wednesday evenings.** The support group consists of three components: videos, small group discussion, and workbook assignments. **Sessions are informal** and participants are never forced to share their story during the small group discussions. Videos are a minute long and provide topics for those small group discussions. EBC has purchased the Grief Share workbook which each participant receives to take home. There are many pages of helpful experiences, prayers, and encouragement to assist participants during the week and beyond.



Also, after our regular session of Grief Share, **Emmanuel will host a SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS seminar on Saturday, November 8th at 10 a.m.** This seminar will close our GRIEF SHARE cycle for the winter, but we will resume again on **February 7, 2026 with a LOSS OF SPOUSE seminar.**

If you are **interested in Grief Share** or have questions or want to sign up for GRIEF SHARE please call EBC at 304-485-5171 or go online to [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org). If you need or choose to talk to me **one-on-one** about your grief, **individual grief counseling is available.** Call me at 304-485-5171 or 304-588-7632 to leave a message.



Updates From our Staff:

From Gail Samolitis - New Life Counseling



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. “ ~ Jeremiah 29:11

**How can it be August** when 2025 just began two weeks ago, or so it seems! What did you do this summer? Yes, that is the equivalent of writing your first back to school essay about “What I Did on Summer Vacation.” Sometimes in the summer when the weather permits and we can **get out and be active**, some of our mental health issues seem less of an issue so we may ignore self-care or exchange a therapy talk session for a **walk in the park**. Nothing wrong with a walk in the park, it is stimulating and rejuvenating and can work wonders for our mental health.



At **NLC Ministry**, August means we are working with individuals who are experiencing “**empty nest**” feelings for the first time. They’ve sent their youngest off to college, and **now what?** We can help them consider what to do with all that spare time or **help them work through** their **feelings of loneliness** and missing their “baby”.



In September, I will travel to the **American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC) UNITED World Conference** to attend workshops and plenary sessions of some of the **world’s most renown** mental health workers, pastors, educators and medical professionals for three days. There are also exciting concerts and dinners with Christian musicians and Christian authors as well. This year’s concert is Chris Tomlin, Katy Nichole and Micah Tyler. These AACC conferences are educational and informative and help keep me up to date on literature, tools and techniques. **My thanks and gratitude to EBC for supporting me in this endeavor.**

If you feel troubled or if life is more difficult than you anticipated please make an appointment to talk confidentially. Call me or contact me at 304-588-7632 or contact me at [viking.gail@yahoo.com](mailto:viking.gail@yahoo.com)



**“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” ~ Galatians 6:2**



**CHESS CLUB**

Chess Club will meet on **Monday, Aug. 18th & Monday, Sept. 15th at 12 p.m. in the Parlor**

Come to enjoy fellowship & exercising your brain.

All ages and skill levels are invited to attend.

(Pictured: Tim, Jonathan, Tyler, & Pastor Kurt)



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
**MARGARET NORRIS**

At the graveside service for **Margaret Norris** on July 14th in Cottageville, WV, her sister, **Ann Harrison** read the following passage: “I had always thought of Psalm 91 as being scripture relating to fear until I found it included under the heading ‘Peace’ in the book Wings of Silver. Certainly Psalm 91 brings peace when put into practice in any situation. I found the following quote under ‘Long Suffering’ in the book Wings of Silver. *What an EXCELLENT way to live!*”

As Ann read this memorial to her sister, a **butterfly** appeared and to everyone’s astonishment, **landed on her shoulder.**

**“The clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power to tell  
Just when the hands will stop  
At late or early hour.  
Now is the only time you own;  
Live, love, toil with a will,  
Place no faith in tomorrow;  
For the clock may then be still.”**

**From the Organ Bench - David Enoch**

**“Oh How I Love Jesus” by Frederick Whitfield**  
Excerpt from the book “Then Sings my Soul Book 2” by Robert J. Morgan

*“We Love Him because He first loved us.”  
~ 1 John 4:19 (NKJV)*

“Frederick Whitfield devoted his life to pastoral ministry in the Church of England. His greatest legacy is this hymn about the name of Jesus, written when he was a student. While Whitfield wrote the verses to this hymn, he didn’t compose it’s famous chorus.



Both the simple words and the nimble tune of ‘O How I Love Jesus’ are American inventions of unknown origin. They floated around like orphans, attaching themselves to various hymns in the nineteenth century. One hymnologist found forty-two occurrences of this chorus in early songbooks.

When “O How I Love Jesus” was finally wedded to Whitfield’s “There Is a Name I Love to Hear,” it was a marriage made in heaven. We’ve been singing it ever since. Some of Whitfield’s original verses have fallen by the wayside, which is too bad; every verse tells us what the Name of Jesus can do in our lives.”



Updates From our Staff:

From Donna Marcinko - Chancel Choir Director  
EBC Chancel Choir Director  
EBC Children's Orff Ensembles  
Email: [donna@ebcwv.com](mailto:donna@ebcwv.com)



**"Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song." ~Psalm 95:2**

**WE ARE COMING BACK!**

The Emmanuel Baptist Church Choir will back in the Chancel to sing once again for morning worship beginning **Sunday, Sept. 14, 2025.**

Choir will rehearsals will begin on **Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.**

If you have a passion for singing, have sung in a choir before, or think you would enjoy being a part of a choir, please join us for a rousing first rehearsal so that we will be able to "extol him with music and song."

**What will be the benefit of singing in the choir?**

Singing in the choir will allow you to: express your faith and connect with God at a deeper level, become a part of a welcoming community where you will be able to build relationships, learn new music and improve your vocal skills, and engage in fun and enjoyable fellowship.

**Where do I go to rehearse with the choir?**

We will rehearse in the choir room/chapel behind the sanctuary every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. and there is no audition process to be a member of the choir.

**Are you thinking I'm not sure if I will be able to sing correctly?**

I offer vocal coaching to those who have a desire to sing but are not totally confident in their singing abilities every Wednesday as early as 4:00 p.m. in the Orff room.

**What part do I sing?**

We are in need of singers in all choral parts. Those include sopranos (high female voice) Altos (low female voice, sings harmonies), Tenor (high male and low female voice, sings harmonies), Bass (low male voice, sings harmonies).

**Can high school students sing in the choir?**

ABSOLUTELY! You can rehearse with me on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. to 5:00 to prepare for Sunday mornings.

**Who do I contact if I want to sing in the choir?**

Please contact me here at the church, call the church office, or email me at: [donna@ebcwv.com](mailto:donna@ebcwv.com)  
You may also see me and other choir members at the **Ministry Fair on Aug. 24.**

**Are we excited to begin rehearsing again?**  
**Absolutely!**

**We will "extol him with music and song!"**



**EBC Orff Ensemble** will begin rehearsing on **Wednesday Sept. 3 at 5:15 p.m.** and continue to rehearse each Wednesday at the same time.

**What will be the benefit to playing in the Orff Ensemble**

Playing in the Orff Ensemble will allow you to: learn and improve music reading skills, enjoy learning how to play instruments collectively and collaboratively, praise God through the music, and help lead worship services.

**Who can be a member of the Orff Ensemble?**

Orff Ensemble is for people ages 6 and up. The Ensemble will be a multigenerational group.

*(Continued on the next page)*

# Fall Golden'eers Conference

## Sept. 8-10, 2025

at Parchment Valley Conference Center

**A CONFERENCE FOR ADULTS 55 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER.**

**Bible Study, Musical Concert, evening group activities, indoor/outdoor games, bookstore, puzzles, crafts and much more....**

**The Conference will begin on Monday in the Santrock Education Center with registration and lunch at noon and will end on Wednesday at 11:00 am.**

For more information, please contact Koreen Villers at [villers@wvbc.org](mailto:villers@wvbc.org).



**TODD MCCLURE**

**Minister of Mission, Finance, and Communication for the WVBC**

PLEASE JOIN US  
*Celebration of Life*  
*Betty Jo Wiseman*  
November 18, 1924 - June 1, 2025



Saturday, August 23 11:00am

Emmanuel Baptist Church 1710 23<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Parkersburg, WV 26101

Followed by light luncheon in the fellowship hall

For Questions Please Call  
Stacie (443) 848-1903



**JOIN US!**

**Tuesday , September 9th at 11:30am**

in the Fellowship Hall for **Lunch & Chair Yoga**

led by Jessica Johnson

**Tuesday Fellowship** is the second Tuesday of each month from September-May.

Next meeting: Oct. 14th





Updates From our Staff:

From Jenny Hannan - Children's Ministry Director

*"Life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer you get to the end, the quicker it goes!" ~Unknown*

I usually like to open my newsletter articles with scripture, but I couldn't help myself this time! This quote came to mind as I was driving home from church one evening. For those of you who've experienced several summers, you can relate. When we were kids, **the summers seemed endless**. After enjoying 63 summers myself, it seems like **each one passes more quickly** than the one before it.

Although VBS is now a fun memory, it seems like we were just yesterday that we were putting the wraps on our AWANA year! Before I know it, I'll be ordering the materials for the upcoming **AWANA** year, which begins on **September 3!**

We've had a fun summer so far! We've had a couple of **"Experiments in Faith"** sessions, including a **"dunk Miss Jenny with buckets of water"** game on one of the hottest days of the year. I wasn't complaining, though!



Several of our kids attended **Camp Cowen** for the first time and loved it! As I stated in the last newsletter, we're so thankful for our volunteer counselors as well as for those of you who so generously donated to the Cowen Scholarship fund. You have helped our children grow in Christ while making memories of a lifetime!

This year's VBS (**"Road Trip – On the Go with God!"**) was held July 7-11 at First Lutheran Church as a part of our joint VBS effort with First Lutheran and First Baptist. Eight of our EBC kids attended, and four kids who are indirectly affiliated with our church attended as well. We also reached out to 4-5 kids who might possibly start attending our Wednesday night activities in the courtyard. God is good! Please pray that we get the opportunity to reach these children on a regular basis!

As we finish up the summer with a few more Wednesday night activities, we're looking ahead to Fall. Planned activities include our **Operation Christmas Child AWANA shopping night**, our **Fall party**, and the **Fall Children's Rally at Parchment Valley**.



I want to thank everyone for the prayers, the kind words of encouragement, and the support, both spiritual and financial. I have to admit that the Devil tries to attack me from time to time when I read or hear about the large numbers of kids attending VBS or AWANA programs at other churches and then compare them to our numbers. It doesn't take long for **God to assure me that our small programs are right where He wants them to be**. We know each child by name; we know when their birthdays are; we know their pets' names; we know where they are in their spiritual journey.

In case you missed the July 13th sermon, Pastor Kurt shared an inspiring quote from C. S. Lewis: **"Children are not a distraction from more important work. They are the most important work.** In the end, the legacy that matters won't be what you built in the world. It will be who you raised and whether **they felt safe, seen, and loved in your presence"**.

**I offer continued thanks for your prayers and support. God bless!**



Updates From our Staff:

From Donna Marcinko - Chancel Choir Director (Continued from previous page)

**How do I become a member of the Orff Ensemble?**  
If you would like to join the Ensemble, please see me at church, call the church office or email me at **donna@ebcwv.com**  
**You may also see me at the Ministry Fair booth on Aug. 24!**

**When can I let you know about my desire to join?**  
The Orff Ensemble is experiencing some growth, so please let me know as soon as possible so that I can make plans to have the instruments and music available for the first rehearsal on Sept. 3rd.



**What other exciting musical events will be occurring at EBC?**

The **Celebration Ringers** will begin rehearsing on **Sunday, Sept. 7, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.** in the church sanctuary under the direction of **Blaine Hess**.

The **Celebration Ringers** will be able to enjoy ringing the newly refurbished Handbells that are now 35 plus years old.

**Who refurbished them?**  
The 31/2 octave set of Schulmerich Handbells were refurbished by Denise Holmes and Jane Irvine who both have extensive experience and knowledge in the maintenance and cleaning of handbells. They both have conducted workshops and various handbell conferences on handbell maintenance.

**Thank you to the Finance Committee and John Nicholson** for arranging and helping us to refurbish the handbells.

**WE CAN'T WAIT TO HEAR THEM!**

**What has been happening in the Music Ministry over the summer?**

The **EBC Chancel Choir and Praise Team** enjoyed being together at a Table of Life at Olive Garden on June 22nd. We had 30 people in attendance and had a wonderful time of food and fellowship! We will be ready for another Table of Life gathering in the fall!

**Thank you to the following people who have provided special music over the summer:**



David Enoch  
Donna Marcinko  
Blaine Hess  
Thomas Hollinger  
Ron Hannan  
Jonathan Brooks  
Davey Brooks  
Jocelyn Gumm  
Abby Griffith  
Ashley Clark  
Lauren Battin  
Karen Cox

MOV Handbells/video of the Spring Concert

**ARE WE READY TO: "COME BEFORE HIM WITH THANKSGIVING AND EXTOL HIM WITH MUSIC AND SONG?"**

The answer is a resounding **YES!**

**See you soon!**  
**Donna Marcinko**



Updates from our Staff:

From Eileen Mayer - Missions & Ministry Development

The "Missions" part of the Mission and Ministry Development Team is focusing on a few upcoming events to end the summer.



Mission Team Members: Edy Jones, Brian Brown, Keith Mayer, Jacob Filozof, Ruth Wharton. In answer to prayers, we now have **4 new members** on the Mission Team: **Cindy and Khloe Blouir, Melissa Blakely and Kim Fowler.**  
We are so thankful!

Missionary Visits and Luncheons: Mark Your Calendar!!!

On **Wednesday, August 13th**, we will hold a fundraiser dinner for **Carlos & Mayra Bonilla** who will give us an update about their mission work as we enjoy good food and fellowship!

On **Sunday August 31st**, **Mike and Marcy Brown** will be here from Pucalpa, Peru to share an update on their mission work. Plan to stay after Sunday Service for a fundraising lunch to support their work in Peru where they serve at a school for the children of missionaries: SAM Academy. Follow them at [www.familyof4serving1.org](http://www.familyof4serving1.org)

On **Sunday Sept. 14th** we will be supporting missionary, **Tara Henderson** with a fundraising lunch after Sunday Service. She is a Ministry Leader in Tiffin, OH with US International Friendships Inc.

**Susan Moellendick in Nicaragua:** In July, Susan served as a missionary for a month in Nicaragua. She will be staying with colleagues there and participating in Bible Study. **Keep her in your prayers!**



**Young Life Fundraiser Lunch:** On June 29, we partnered with the Youth Ministry and raised over a \$1000 through a fundraising lunch for Young Life. This important ministry, headed by Kirk Wilson, is seeking to expand to offer a Bible study at Parkersburg High School. Kirk came to share a message and update regarding YL.

The "New Ministry Development" part of our Team is also busy:

**Ballroom Dance Lessons for Couples:** You're invited to Ballroom Dance lessons on **Sunday, August 10th** and **Sunday, September 14th from 4pm-7pm in the Fellowship Hall.** These lessons make a great "**date**" night for couples! Not only will you get a bit of **gentle exercise**, you will enjoy the **togetherness** of dance. Besides, you'll **look great** on the dance floor at the next wedding! Only \$10 for the lesson and free practice after. The first half hour of each night is for beginners. The second half hour builds on the first! Bring your own (alcohol-free) beverage to enjoy. Snacks provided.



(Continued on the next page)



Updates From our Staff:

From Edy Jones - Necessity Closet



At your Necessity Closet we are putting **LOVE** to work for folks facing difficulty making ends meet. We are doing something that may seem small to us and yet can be a **BIG** something for the person who receives our time, prayers and necessity items.

**Each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays**, we open our 23rd St. door and welcome anyone in our community that needs personal hygiene and household products they otherwise would not be able to afford. Not only do they receive the products that we offer but **many receive words of care, encouragement and prayer.**



To cite an example, we had a lady this past week who comes by on a regular basis (which is every other month, 6 times per year). This lady has been a **caregiver for her husband** who had cancer for a couple of years and more than once we have **prayed for this difficult situation.** I always try to pass along helpful information, but a couple of months ago she came in and was **extremely anxious and overwhelmed.** I felt really sorry for her as she too suffered watching her loved one slowly go through the dying process. Thankfully, they **both know Jesus as Savior** and Lord, but....**being a caregiver is HARD** and I so wanted to be able to help her. In the time that passed, I continued to think of her often and **prayed about her situation** until she finally came back in and although her situation had not changed, she was handling it better. Then this past Tuesday she came in and told me that her dear husband had passed away. She is grieving but knows he is now in heaven and has no more pain. I was able to share with her about our Grief Share program and that when she was ready that would be a good place to begin.

**I want to thank the church family for making all this possible.** We are grateful for the volunteers, monetary and in-kind donations each month. As Hebrews 13:16 says, "**do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.**" So, thank you for your sacrifices!

**Thank you from your Necessity Closet volunteers!**



**ANNUAL FALL PICNIC**  
**Featuring entertainment by MARK CABLE and Lyndal's Famous Chicken!**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH**  
Dinner at 5:00pm  
Mark Cable Concert at 6:30pm  
Fellowship Hall

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share!





Updates From our Staff:

From Joe Stephens - Youth Ministry

Greetings in Christ!

As I look out my office window at the hot wind rustling the trees, *it's hard to imagine summer will be giving way to autumn* in no time, but it's true. The speed with which time moves seems to accelerate more with every passing year. It seems we have just begun a season, and it's already time to start preparing for the next.



While it will undoubtedly still be warm, in just a few weeks, the church, including the teens, will be gearing up fall programming. While the summer has been busy, what with mission week and VBS and lots of other activities, it will be nice to settle back into the routine of youth group on Wednesday evenings. **We'll be kicking off officially on August 27 with an End-of-Summer/Back-to-School activity, complete with games, food, music, and devotions. Make sure to mark your calendars!**



We also have some other **fun activities scheduled** for the fall, including a **Golf Outing on September 28th** and a trip to the **Scohy Bros' Flachback Arcade on October 5th**. Both of those activities are **open to all ages, so feel free to join us!**



Back by popular demand, the Youth will host a **Chili Cook-Off & NEW this year, Cake Bake-Off on Sunday, October 12th** after worship service. The proceeds from the event will help cover the cost of the Fall Youth Retreat. The autumn will wind up in big fashion with our **Third Annual Fall Retreat in November**. We'll be going to the *Wood County 4H Camp at Butcher Bend* once again. And just like that, it will be time to start getting ready for Advent!



Looking back over the summer, I want to say once again just how blessed I was to be a part of the Youth's Mission Week, including VBS. **I'm so proud of these amazing teens with whom the Lord has given me the privilege of working.** They keep me young and definitely keep me on my toes! And I can't miss this opportunity to **thank David and Rebekah Brooks, and my lovely bride Sarah for all their tireless work.** Bekah and Sarah did such a great job with the girls Bible study, and David is always right there when I need him, no matter what. God bless you all.

In His service,  
Joe Stephens

Updates From our Staff:

From Eileen Mayer - Missions & Ministry Development (continued from previous page)

New Ministry Development



**Single Parenting Series:** Planning is also underway to offer "Single and Parenting" series starting in the fall. Each of the **Wednesday nights** of the series, parents will get to enjoy great and relevant videos while their children can participate in AWANA. All will be invited to church dinner as well. **We are seeking a couple more persons to serve on this ministry.** Please let us know if you are interested.

**MomCo (Formerly MOPS):** Please **welcome and pray for Ashley Cheuvront** who answered the call to lead MomCo. for EBC. In order to expand connections, we are **partnering** with MomCo. at **First Baptist in Williamstown**. This fall, MomCo. will meet each month on the **2nd Thursday at Frist Baptist in Williamstown** and the **4th Tuesday at EBC** for a time of good conversation, helpful topic discussions, breakfast, and arts/craft time while **childcare is provided** on site. They also plan trips and park play dates together! Being a mom of younger children is one of the most important jobs you'll ever do, but it can be challenging and lonely. This group is for both you and your kids! Some of your best mom friends are waiting to be made! This is an important - and unique in our area - ministry serving mothers of school-aged children. **MomCo. is seeking more Moms to get involved: either in leadership or membership.** Contact Eileen for more information.



MOMCO



**SewFest for Dignity:** We held a **successful Sewing Day** on July 24th where we made Dignity Bags for Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes (girls 10-17) and for the girls with whom Michelle Busiek works in Alaska . We enjoyed fellowship and creativity. The Dignity Bags include **5 re-usable menstrual pads, a pair of briefs, and an instruction sheet inside a discreet, pretty drawstring bag.** Every month, 1.8 billion women menstruate yet millions are unable to afford proper products to maintain their **dignity and hygiene.** The bags we made are from a mix of **upcycled and new fabrics.** They are reusable for years and contribute almost nothing to the trash pollution that exists in many poverty-affected countries. As we prepare for a second SewFest, we are asking for **donations of money** (to purchase the snaps, thread, etc.), **fabric** (gently used, bleached clean 100% cotton sheets/towels and/or 1+ yards of **PUL fabric** from most local craft stores), **ribbon**, and **women's briefs size medium.** **Let the Mission Team know if you're interested in helping!**



**Kroger Rewards**  
**Give Back When You Shop!**



**Support EBC with Every Purchase!**

The **Kroger Community Rewards** program makes fundraising easy by **donating to Emmanuel** based on the shopping you do every day. Once your card is linked to Emmanuel, all you do is shop at Kroger and swipe your

Kroger Card. Step 1. CREATE A DIGITAL ACCOUNT ONLINE OR USE THE KROGER APP 2. LINK YOUR KROGER CARD TO "EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH" 3. EMMANUEL EARNS! If you are enrolled and Emmanuel is not your selected organization, you can click on "Change Organization" and follow the previous instructions to select. Contact Customer Support at 1-800-576-4377 if you need additional help.





*A Review of our Praises from June & July:*

**Davey Brooks** performed his Senior Piano Recital in the church sanctuary. The **Memorial Day Rose ceremony** was a positive time to remember special people in our church family who passed away in the last year. The important ministry of our **hard working AV team** that produces both our in person and online services. To our **2025 High School Graduates: Davey Brooks, Seth DePriest, and Gabe Hissam**. We praise God for **Donna Marcinko**, our director of music, for her positive spirit and faithful leadership and for **David Enoch** in his ministry as our organist and pianist. The **Awana End of Year program** was a celebration of our children learning Scripture and growing in their love for Jesus. **Calvin & Judy Florence** celebrated 40 years of marriage on June 6th. The **Children's Team** had a good lunch meeting. The **Adult Ministry Team** met to coordinate & look to the future. An amazing number of **wonderful stuffed animals** have been collected, shrink wrapped and **were sent to Michelle Busiek in Alaska**. The children she

works with are very excited. The **Chancel Choir** is on their summer break. We praise God for their wonderful ministry of blessing our worship with inspiring anthems.

Our youth are helping to lead our services in June. **We are thankful for the help of the following: Braydon Paulus, Syrenity Metz, Jonathan Brooks and Cortney Brooks**. **Audrey McPherson** shared a beautiful piano solo in our service. On June 7th there was a graveside in St. Mary's for **Bill Woody**. Carole and the family were present and expressed their **thankfulness** for the **important place** that **Emmanuel** has had in their family's faith journey. **Kirk Wilson** took **21 students to the Young Life camp**. He is **thankful to Emmanuel** for the **\$1,400** offering that helped two campers attend. **Our total giving in May was 45,000**. **Rachel Filozof** had a positive experience on her mission trip to Guatemala. Both **medical bags** have been fully stocked **thanks to Tim Samolis**. **JoAnn Boggs** was recognized on June 12th for 50 years of service in the healthcare industry, beginning her career at St. Joseph's Hospital. **JoAnn will retire in September after working 51 years!** **Megan Jones and her family**, daughter of Steve & Laraine Metheny, traveled to Panama for a mission trip. **Blaine Hess** shared a beautiful vocal solo in our service. **Jeff Beatty, Dave McCue, Earl Johnson and Adam Evans** installed a new water heater for our baptistry. The new heater actually creates a current like a river. **Eileen Mayer & Elissa Filozof** taught gardening to 95 kids at the Wood Co. Rec Summer Camp and invited them to VBS. Pray for open hearts!

**Don & Julie Grimm** joined the Emmanuel church family. **Thomas Hollinger** shared a beautiful vocal solo based on Psalm 23 in our service. **John Nicholson** shared a positive update from our search team. **Samuel Schoenhut** was recently baptized. **Barbara Looney**, Kim Matheny's sister, was recently declared cancer free. For the **Young Life youth ministry** headed by **Kirk Wilson** and their plans to start at new Young Life group at PHS. Our **Music Ministry** had **25 people at the Table of Life** at Olive Garden.

**Emily Hardbarger and Jack Harris** (a friend of the Casto's) were baptized on June 29th. We praise God for their step of faith in this important area. **Kirk Wilson** shared about Young Life and the Mission Lunch **raised \$1,300**. **Ron Hannan** shared a beautiful song called "Come As You Are." Our **Talent Show** went well. The following were involved: **Chris Lewis**- MC, **Emilia Filozof** did a Dance, **Ron Hannan** sang a song, **Joe Stephens** offered a reading from his novel, **Amy Dutton** shared violin & cello songs, **Kathy Leavitt and Charlie Matthews** shared a Johnny Carson skit, **Kurt and Becca**- sang a song, **Donna Marcinko** shared her quilts, **Tyler Brooks** solved a Rubik's Cube in 27 seconds, **Jonathan Brooks** played a piano solo, **Matthew Brooks** did signs to a praise song, **Cortney Brooks** played a song on piano, **Samuel Schoenhut** shared the gospel using Jesus' story of the Prodigal Son. The desserts were made by **Ruth Wharton**. **John and Kathi Alfred** had a table of life at their home that included **Jan Ashwell, Judy Prater, Kathy Leavitt, Charlie Matthews, Earl and Diana Johnson**. **Braydon Paulus** shared about a powerful time of praise at Camp Cowen. **Philip Kellison** made it home safely from his study trip to Poland. **Rachel Filozof** shared about her mission trip to Guatemala with Filters of Hope. Many people were blessed with clean water to drink and the message of the Living Water of Jesus.

**David Enoch** shared an inspiring patriotic medley of songs on the organ. The **MOV Singles Ministry** had their first meeting at the City Park. **Gary Davenport** is organizing this new ministry. The **VBS ministry** at First Lutheran went well as did the **Youth Mission Week**. **Pastor Kurt** had a good visit with his dad and family. **Dr. Erwin Busiek** will be 97 in September. The wooden boxes that hold the tissue boxes were made by **Dave McCue** from wood from our old church pews. Our **children & youth** who led our worship service last Sunday. **Kara Goss** was recently married. The **MOV Singles Ministry** had their second meeting this past week at the City Park. **Gary Davenport** is organizing this new ministry.

*(Continued on the next page)*

*A Review of our Praises from June & July* (continued from previous page)



**Emily Hardbarger** shared her testimony about how God pulled her to himself through some challenging times and the faithful witness of family. **Jocelyn Gum & Abby Griffith** shared **beautiful special music** on their **Bassoons**. **Jonathan Brooks** made a **funny VBS video** with his brother **Matthew**. **Bekah Brooks** made a nice VBS **"Week in Review" video**. The **Picnic with a Purpose** in the Fellowship Hall was a great time of good food and good fellowship. We raised **\$2,000 for the Necessity Closet**. Thanks to **Jewel Lusk** and her crew for their support and help. The Necessity Closet has **served 400 more people** through July of this year over last year. The **MOV Singles Ministry** had a positive kick off over three Friday nights in July at the City Park. **Gary Davenport** is organizing this new ministry.

*Thank You*

Thank You from Amber Busiek: Thank you to everyone who has sent cards, reached out, or even sent up prayers for my surgery and recovery. I cannot thank you all enough for the love and support, it means everything to me and my family. This has been a really hard recovery for sure, but I am on the mend and healing great. To say God is good is an understatement. I am so thankful to have went through such a tough process. It is definitely drawn me closer to him. God bless you all at Emmanuel Baptist Church and thank you again!

Thank You from Janet Brooks, Bill Woody's daughter "Emmanuel Baptist Church played a great role in our father's faith. Our parents, Bill and Carole Woody, joined Emmanuel Baptist Church in 1980 and immediately became involved in church activities. Our dad served as a Deacon and volunteered in several different capacities. Bill and Carole also spent countless hours with their Sunday School friends from the Crusaders class playing bunco, cards, dominoes, going out to dinner, as well as years of traveling with them for fellowship weekends at Canaan Valley and multiple other trips. Our dad even broke his arm during an active volleyball game on a church retreat at Parchment Valley. :- ) We are so grateful for the prayers, support, and love that Pastor Busiek and this congregation has shown our Mom and family during these past few months after losing Dad. Thank you all!"

Thank you from Betsy Jefferson: "I want to thank Emmanuel for all the cards, calls, food, especially the prayers; for Pastor Kurt and others who have come to come to see me and to those who have taken me to doctor appointments and to church on Sundays. I'm blessed to be part of the Emmanuel family."

Thank you from the Betty Wiseman Family: "Words are not enough, but my Mom so enjoyed time spent in Emmanuel Baptist Church. The fellowship, the love, the fulfillment, and the good times it provided. My Mom spoke always of how much she missed church services and her good friends. You were all special and my God bless and provide for you. You will forever be in our hearts."

Thank You from Pat Smith: "Your many sympathy and encouragement cards have been a great blessing. You are my sisters and brothers in Christ... and I love you and thank God for each of you. Peace be with you!"

Message from Deanie Kendall: Deanie misses being in church and sends her love to her church family.

Thank you from Sharalyn Terosky: "I would like to thank everyone who prayed for my cousin's granddaughter, Emma Allshouse, who continues to improve after being declared free of (Stage IV) cancer. She recently was able to go to the dentist for the first time in over two years and unlike some people, she and her family were excited for the visit - and no cavities! God is good."

Thank you from Eric Tucker, The Escape: "Wow! Thanks so much for your kindness and hospitality to the Escape Student Ministries team. We were truly blown away. Thanks for partnering with us to reach students with the gospel and to change the direction of their lives."

Thank you from Kirk Wilson, Young Life: "Friends at EBC, It was a gift to share a Sunday with you! Thank you for all of the work that went into the luncheon and for the generous gifts to Young Life. It is a privilege to partner with you as we pursue kids for Jesus!"

Thank you from Edy Jones, Necessity Closet: "A heartfelt thank you to everyone that came out to support our Necessity Closet at our "indoor" picnic. The food was great and plentiful and it sure looked like everyone enjoyed the fellowship. Thanks for your in-kind and monetary donations. Each of us at the Necessity Closet thank you and we continue to strive to serve our church family and our community through this vital ministry. THANK YOU."