



Immanuel Lutheran Church of Brunswick

The Beacon

Monthly Newsletter

April 2024

[Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Solome] went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid (Mark 16:8).

Jesus is risen! Alleluia!

On a professional level, I regret that I was unable to be with you for the great celebration of the Festival of the Resurrection (aka. Easter) or the other profound times of Holy Week. But, on the other hand, I'm probably beaming about the birth of Hannah—at least I hope so, as I'm writing this a week or so before she's scheduled to be born. Sometime you'll get to meet her. But, back to the topic at hand: Easter. The entire month of April this year falls into the Season of Easter (the longest "festival" season of the Church year), so I want to take this time to do a little bit of what I might have thought of doing as an Easter sermon—or at least some thoughts that would go into such a sermon—using the text of this year, Mark.

The Gospel of Mark was the first written gospel, and was penned somewhere around the year 70 CE;

Matthew, Luke and John would follow approximately 10-20 years later. The quote with which I began this letter is the proper ending of the Gospel of Mark.

Our liturgical response "Jesus is risen! Alleluia! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!" hardly seems fitting to this Markan ending. The women leaving the tomb, afraid and not telling anyone, is an ending that has perplexed people almost back to the origin of the written Gospel of Mark.

If you open your Bible to the end of Mark's gospel, you will notice some strange things, likely in double brackets, called "The Shorter Ending of Mark" and "The Longer Ending of Mark." To address these, I'm going to delve a little bit into what's called "textual criticism" (something that I probably wouldn't have actually done in the sermon); the "goal" of textual criticism is to arrive at the most original version of the text. This is a challenge because all presently-discovered, extant, early manuscripts have some physical degradation and are not complete texts. Therefore, textual criticism is sort-of like putting together a puzzle, and one of the main criteria for how to put the puzzle together is that, contrary to how we might think it would happen, copiers would be more likely to "fix" something using their own vocabulary, theology, and knowledge than insert something "incorrect." All written versions of the Gospels come

Continued on page 3



SPECIAL DELIVERY!—————



Welcome Baby Girl!

Born
Tuesday, March 26
6 lbs. 7 oz.
19" long

Pictured is
Sarah Lofgren and
Hannah Marie
Lofgren Burkman

from oral traditions, and, as a result of either slightly different community oral traditions or acts of copying, there are multiple, written (of course in Koine Greek), “ancient” versions of each Gospel (and other New Testament writings, too)—and these do not always agree; most of the variations in them are technical or grammatical matters—but that’s not the case with the ending of Mark. The case with Mark seems to be that some early copiers, like many since, didn’t like how Mark ended with the women leaving afraid, and telling no one what they had experienced—so they decided to “fix” it, by adding more details. In fact, the longer ending seems to have been written by someone familiar with the other canonical gospels who wanted to get Mark’s ending to align to post-resurrection stories in those gospels. But here’s the perplexing question: Is the end really the end? After all, we know that the

Continued on page 3

what had happened at the tomb—well, somebody told the story, and if it wasn’t them, why make them witnesses in the first place? Something else to remember is how the Gospel of Mark began: “The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God” (Mark 1:1, my emphasis). What about, as the

late Paul Harvey would say, the “rest of the story?” With the proper ending being so unsatisfying, we can’t help but asking that question. Mark’s writing may be technically unsophisticated, but it is stylistically profound. Mark didn’t leave us hanging to spite us, but to get us to ask about the rest of the good news of Jesus Christ; indeed, he almost invites what later editors/copiers did—just maybe to not have it appended to his work, but done in our thoughts (and sermons). Maybe the story continues in our lives (where “our” is heard as all, from its original hearers down through the centuries to us, who find the Son of God in the pages of what Mark has termed a “gospel”)?

The good news of Jesus Christ has no endings—especially no neat endings—for it continues to live and grow in each of us. The Word is, after all, a living Word. We may not say “Alleluia!” (remember this means “Praise to the LORD”) to the women leaving afraid and saying nothing. But we can—and should—say that to the good news (and ministry) of Jesus Christ continuing in us.

Christ is risen! The Life of Christ continues in us! Alleluia!

Pastor Jacob

FROM THE OFFICE

**The church mailboxes have been brought up-to-date. You will find yours in a new location! We NOW have boxes for our confirmation students and post confirmation youth!

**There are some 2024-2025 Church Directories by the mailboxes. Please take as desired and I ask that you review the information for your family and let me know if you want to make changes on any information. THANKS!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Current general fund balance is \$4,946.11. All bills have been paid for the month. No money was transferred to the Misc. Transfer Acct. this month. Weekly avg. giving for the first four weeks of March is \$1,661.25. \$2,895.27 is average needed based on approved budget for 2024.

Parking Lot Update: Current Balance in parking lot account is \$4,769.74. With payments of \$508.77 monthly, this is enough for nine months.

ABOUT US

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF BRUNSWICK

2088 Highway 70, Mora, MN 55051
320-679-2015

brunswicklc@gmail.com

immanuellutheranbrunswick.com

Interim Pastor Jacob Burkman

651-788-6997

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

22nd of each month, submit info to:

colleen.hendershot@gmail.com

or brunswicklc@gmail.com

Please try to submit information via email so doesn't
have to be retyped if possible, thank you!

COUNCIL

YOUR 2024 COUNCIL:

Dan Hartog

Sarah Bauer

Cathi Nehring

Janie Richardson

Colleen Hendershot

Joy Nehring

Colleen Sinell

Council meets 5:30 p.m. 3rd Tuesday each month.

Monthly Council Meeting minutes included in newsletter.

REGULAR EVENTS

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 8:30am

Streamed live on Website: under Worship tab

immanuellutheranbrunswick.com

Subscribe on YouTube

BIBLE STUDY 9:30am

Each Tuesday in Fellowship Hall

Women of ALL ages welcome!

WELCA WOMEN

1st Thursday of the Month

QUILTING

Every Monday @ 9 a.m.

SENIOR LEAGUE

10 am - 1 pm

4th Monday every month

Join us for fun, fellowship and games with
Mexican Train and enjoy a potluck lunch.

IN OUR THOUGHTS ...

This list to be renewed monthly

Joan Lakedon

John McKaown

Eldon Luke

Teri Svendsen

Walt /Corinne Argetsinger

Gwen Johnsen

Nancy Jacobson

Tammie Johnsen

Eli Nelson

Colleen Hendershot

Brian Prokosch

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

April

Nick Atchison 1

Rick Kawalek 2

Christy Belsheim 3

Ethan Stromberg 3

Mel Pioske 5

Mike Bergren 6

Angie Bergren 14

John Folkema 22

Kinsley Stromberg 22

BLOOD DRIVE

Immanuel will be hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, April 26 from 10 am - 4 pm. Blood donors and volunteers needed. If interested in donating, please sign up at www.redcrossblood.org or reach out to Sarah Bauer 763-670-4094. A volunteer sign up sheet can be found in the fellowship hall.

THANK YOU

We'd like to extend a special thank you to Katie Nelson for stepping up during Lenten services and helping with whatever was needed. We certainly appreciated it!

COUNCIL MINUTES

Immanuel Lutheran Church
March 19, 2024 Call to Order:

Members Present: Dan Hartog (President), Sarah Bauer (vice president) Pastor Jacob Burkman, Joy Nehring, Colleen Sinell, and Colleen Hendershot and Cathi Nehring (secretary)

Members Absent: Janie Richardson
Guests: Dave Howe- tech update
Devotion: Pastor Jacob Burkman

Upcoming Events:
April 18: 5-7pm Ham Loaf Dinner
April 26: 10am-4 pm Blood Drive

IT Updates (Dave):

- adopted Google workspace
- created an "asset" tracking spreadsheet
- inventory of contracts, licenses and assets
- social media accounts are currently under personal not business
- Authorization to pull budgetary numbers to refresh Church Secretary computer
- Request to transition phone and internet services from personal to business plan
- request council to move web hosting plan from personal to business licenses (additional \$8 a month)
- Request to explore cost of moving from CenturyLink to Midco or ECE for phone and internet

Motion to request council to move web hosting plan from personal to business licenses (additional \$8 a month) Approved by Colleen Sinell seconded by Sarah Bauer.

- Will look at new PC for the office- April meeting

Treasurer Report:

Check in with Janie on giving
General Fund Balance: will have updated next month

Upcoming Bills:

Interim Pastors Report:

- Paternity Leave will now run from March 25-April 7.
- Maundy Thursday: Immanuel--Pr. Cindy Gray- Need 2 mics for service
- Easter Sunday: Immanuel--Pr. Steve McCaughan
- Second Sunday in Easter (April 7): Rick Martens to

preach no communion

- Third Sunday in Easter (April 14): I'll be back.

Motion to approve paternity leave schedule Sarah Bauer and seconded by Joy Nehring PASSED

Continuing ED July 14-20-motion to approve Cathi Nehring, Seconded Sarah Bauer PASSED

Unfinished Business:

Constitution and Bylaw Updates: Available for review by congregation.

- o Meeting for Bylaws and Constitution to be scheduled.
- o Parking Lot Fundraiser Ideas: Need to make a push to make money to pay for parking lot loan.
- Parsonage: Tabled
- Have the property committee go through the parsonage and determine what needs to be done.
- Hiring Cleaner—Bid provided by Alexys Nehring
- Selling the parsonage
 - Housing expense vs. Parsonage — Utilities at the parsonage (phone and internet)

New Business: o outdoor sound system- speakers and equipment for outdoor/fellowship

o Reviews / Check Ins o Katie- completed o Gladys- completed o Colleen- completed o Shelby/ Lindsey - completed

Increase all wages for Office, Pianist and cleaner of the 3.3% effective April 1st motion to Approved: Sarah Bauer Seconded: Colleen Hendershot PASSED

Food Manager for Kitchen:

- o Lindsey Atchison and Amy Gamble are possibilities.
- o MDH states we don't need a food manager if we are not trying to earn a profit.
- o Membership Transfer o Kirt Hedquist motion to move all records of Kirt Hedquist be sent to Grace Lutheran in Sandstone.

Approved: Colleen Sinell Seconded: Joy Nehring PASSED
March Minutes: Read and approved.
Lord's Prayer

Adjournment: Motion: Colleen Hendershot
Second: Joy Nehring Time of Adjournment: 7:25PM

Next Meeting: Apr 16, 2024 5:30 PM

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY

STUDENTS AND THEIR MENTORS

Grade 9

Amelia Atchison, Connie Kawalek

Sam Dick, Bob Richardson

Haleigh Eggert, Colleen Sinell

Ethan Stromberg, Rick Stromberg

Grade 8

Benjamin Bauer, Jim Nehring

Alison Nehring, Janie Richardson

Amarah Pioske, Barb Dick

Gibson Pioske, Bob Richardson

Grade 7

Willow Atchison, Shari Hartog

Lucas Dick, Rick Kawalek

Shane Pioske, Jeff Monson

Thank you to all our mentors who have volunteered to mentor a student this year.

Green Team:

Amelia Atchison

Gibson Pioske

Lucas Dick

Haleigh Eggert

Ethan Stromberg

Blue Team:

Willow Atchison

Sam Dick

Amarah Pioske

Alison Nehring

Benjamin Bauer

Shane Pioske

Class Schedule:

4/3- Youth Group

4/10-Class-Psalms

4/17-Class-Wisdom

4/24-Mentor Night-Prophet Project Presentations

Supper Provided by:

4/3- (21 people) The Pioske Family

4/10-(15 people) The Bauer Family

4/17-(15 people) Eric Eggert

4/24-(27 people) Valentine's Dinner

Leftovers @ Pioske's

The Prophet Project:

Confirmation students and their mentors have a special project to prepare for class on April 24. Please take this time to meet with your youth and work on the project. Remember to take time to have some fun!

YOUTH—THE SERVICE CONNECTION

This is a way to connect service needs to service volunteers. Our confirmation students will be looking for jobs they can do to help you around your homes. If you have a simple task, please contact Shirley Zierke or Mel Pioske. We will need to know the size of the task and when you would like it completed.

New Orleans 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

“Created to Be” July 16-20, 2024

New Orleans Youth Gathering – 6 children and 3 adults planning on attending. Down payments made! One additional adult on backup in case someone unavailable to attend from Grace, Calvary, or Immanuel.

Taken from Highlights of Timeline from Building Committee

Chapter 3 - Work began to move the church. The entrances were removed and demolished. Building Committee started gathering bids for various portions of the project.



Immanuel Lutheran Church

of Brunswick

2088 Highway 70, Mora, MN 55051

320-679-2015

Ham Loaf Dinner

April 18, 2024, 5-7 p.m.

There will be a bake sale and a quilt raffle!



Adults \$15; Youth age 5-12 \$7; under 5 FREE



SYNOD INFO

REMAINING STEPS OF THE CALL PROCESS

2. Interim Period
 - Transitional Ministry Forms - Selection of Call Committee
 - Role of Church Council is to focus on mission, oversee ongoing ministries, communicate with congregation, arrange for pastoral care.
3. Call Process
 - Call Committee completes the Ministry Site Profile
 - Names of pastoral candidates are sought - the Interview
4. Calling the New Pastor 5. Welcome and Installation

For more information on the call process, please see the NEMN Synod website:
nemnsynod.org or scan QR code



SERVING US THIS MONTH

MONTH	Apr 7	Apr 14	Apr 21	Apr 28
Acolyte	Amarah P	Ethan S	Ethan S	Gibson P
Altar Guild	Cathi N & Shirley Z	Cathi N & Shirley Z	Cathi N & Shirley Z	Cathi N & Shirley Z
Coffee Treats	Atchison family	Sarah B & Janie R	Joy N & Kay S	Lia H & Judy D
Communion Asst.	Shelby A	Cathi N	Jim N	Shirley Z
Counters	Connie K & Joy N	Cathi N & Colleen S	Gladys N & Sarah B	Connie K & Joy N
Lector	Jaimie D	Shirley Z	Shelly A	Jeff M
Sound	Dave H & Brady N	Dave H & Brady N	Dave H & Brady N	Dave H & Brady N
Ushers	Brent & Kay S	Bob R & Rod M	Dave & Genea H	Atchison family

Ushers: Don't know what to do? There is an instruction sheet in the back pew. Just follow along.

If you cannot make assigned date: Please call someone else to swap or sub. Remember to do so in a timely manner and let the office know of the change.

Have questions? Or want to sign up to serve as a Worship Assistant? Call church office 320-679-2015

APRIL 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9am Quilting	2 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm AA Mtg.	3 6-8pm Youth Group	4 1:30pm WELCA 4:30 pm "I.T. " Meeting	5	6
7 8:30am Worship & Streaming Online	8 9am Quilting	9 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm AA Mtg.	10 5pm /Worship Meeting 6-8pm Confirmation	11	12	13
14 8:30am Worship & Streaming Online	15 9am Quilting	16 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 5:30pm Council 7pm AA Mtg.	17 6-8pm Confirmation	18 5-7pm Ham Loaf Dinner	19	20
21 8:30am Worship & Streaming Online	22 10am Senior League Newsletter Deadline	23 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm AA Mtg.	24 6-8pm Confirmation, Prophet Project	25	26 10am-4pm Red Cross Blood Drive	27
28 8:30am Worship & Streaming Online	29 9am Quilting	30 9:30am Ladies' Bible Study 7pm AA Mtg.				