



# The Royal Messenger Newsletter

April/May 2024

## From the Desk of Haley Randolph, Deaconess Field Worker

One of my favorite Easter hymns is 487, “Come, you faithful, raise the strain.” When I think of the imagery of the Easter season, what comes to mind is the light of the morning sun bursting through the doors of a dark prison cell. That is what we celebrate this Easter season!

Our modern Christian society tends to view sin exclusively in the sense of individual choice – “I (or we) commit sin.” And surely, this is correct – but that’s not the whole story. Original sin is not just something in *me* that affects the world through my deeds. Paul writes in Ephesians to Gentile Christian converts living in a pagan society, and he says, “*And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked...following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience*” (Eph 2:1). We see here that sin is a force of the Devil that has infected the very air that we breathe, and this polluted, infected air causes the greatest of all diseases – death itself.

I love this hymn for the typology – which is a biblical idea of Old Testament figures reflecting New Testament realities. The hymn writer, John of Damascus, was a monk living near Jerusalem in the eighth century. He writes (kindly translated into English for us),

*Loosed from Pharaoh’s bitter yoke,  
Jacob’s sons and daughters  
Led them with unmoistened foot  
Through the Red Sea waters.*

Pharaoh was not just a really bad Old Testament ruler. No! He was the very image of the oppression of sin, death, and the Devil. Yes, the Israelites were infected with sin and they were sinful, but under Pharaoh, they were utterly oppressed, incapable of freeing themselves. We cannot let our modern views of human will and

power make us forget that sin is a power that, apart from Christ, has us utterly captive and enchained.

*In the final stanza, we sing,  
Alleluia! Now we cry  
To our King immortal,  
Who, triumphant, burst the bars  
Of the tomb’s dark portal.*

In the Easter Vigil service, we see this imagery of freedom and light bursting forth before our very eyes. The service begins in darkness, outside the sanctuary, the space usually lit only by candles. The congregation processes into the dark nave and sits through a long service of readings and prayer. The service I attended this year in Pennsylvania began at 8pm, and by the third hour, our eyes began to grow heavy. But then, all at once, we were shocked awake by the change: the pastor proclaimed in a loud voice, *Alleluia! Christ is Risen!*

At this point, the lights in the sanctuary bursted on, the organ began at full blast, and the black paraments were quickly stripped away to reveal the *Alleluia*. The congregation was all given small bells that we rang continuously (at a near-deafening pitch!) as the pastor and his assistants redressed the altar for Holy Communion. I felt more awake than ever.

When Saint Peter writes that Christ *preached the gospel even to those who are dead* (1 Pet 4:9), this is what I picture! The sanctuary was held in a suffocating darkness, mirroring the darkness of the sinful condition, bound in sin and unable to commune with God. Everything that Jesus did was to crush the enemy and, in this way, utterly banish darkness. He took back the world that Satan, the world’s Pharaoh, held in bondage. Christ subjugated all cosmic powers of evil under His feet.

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And so, dear Christian, when Satan is oppressing you, remember that your Baptism makes you also a participant in Christ's victory over Satan's greatest weapon, death. And His victory still comes to you, in a way you can *taste and see!* Because, as you know, death always seeps back into our life. Yet, even as you live awaiting your final freedom, His victorious presence is with you – in the operating room, at the graveside, in the pits of depression .

I hope you are able to sing with us this Eastertide, with *true affection* as John of Damascus writes (stanza 3), the beautiful hymn words:

*For today, among His own,  
Christ appeared, bestowing  
His deep peace, which evermore  
Passes human knowing.  
Neither could the gates of death,  
Nor the tomb's dark portal  
Nor the watchers nor the seal  
Hold Him as a mortal .*

In His Service,  
*Haley N. Randolph*

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## **Bible Study Opportunities**

### **Sunday Morning**

#### **Sunday School Classes**

We look forward to sharing God's Word with your children!

We are continuing our study of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew gives us a full accounting of Jesus' teachings and the promise that Christ is coming again to reign eternally. Please note: Sunday School Classes will not meet on Confirmation Sunday, May 5th.

#### **Sunday School DoVotions**

Join us on Sundays, April 14th and May 12th, for a special class time for parents and their children.

#### **Adult Bible Study**

Join us as we gather to study the Bible so we may grow in understanding and knowledge of His holy Word.

### **Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.**

#### **The Word in Song: Hymn Studies**

Join us on Wednesdays, beginning April 10th, as we take a deeper look at the Hymn of the Day for the upcoming Sundays. The LCMS provides hymn studies for use that go along with the three-year lectionary cycle. Each study comes with sections on Exploring the Scriptures, Exploring the Hymn, and Making the Connection. Join us as we dig into Scripture, gain a greater appreciation of the hymnody that has been passed down to us, and what these treasures of the Church teach us of Christ and of our faith.



# Raising Our Youth to Higher Things Luncheon Fundraiser

**Sunday April 28, 2024, 10:30am-1:30pm**

**Emmaus Lutheran Church Cafeteria**

Goodwill donation requested.

Donations support our youth's trip to the  
2024 Higher Things Conference at Concordia University Wisconsin.

## Menu



Pulled Pork & Pulled Chicken



### SIDES

Roasted Potatoes, Mac & Cheese, Coleslaw  
and Potato Chips



Texas Sheet Cake

Several varieties will be served.



Water and Lemonade



Scan here to Volunteer!

RSVP here!

You can also RSVP by signing up on Sundays after our worship service.

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**FATHER TO SON**  
**EVENT:**



KEEP AMERICA  
**BEAUTIFUL**

**Saturday, May 4, 2024**

The Great American Cleanup is the nation's largest community improvement program that Fort Wayne has participated in for nearly 30 years. It is a time when we can show our community pride by lending a hand to clean up littered roadsides, parks, trails and river ways. Emmaus Lutheran wants to be an active part of our community.

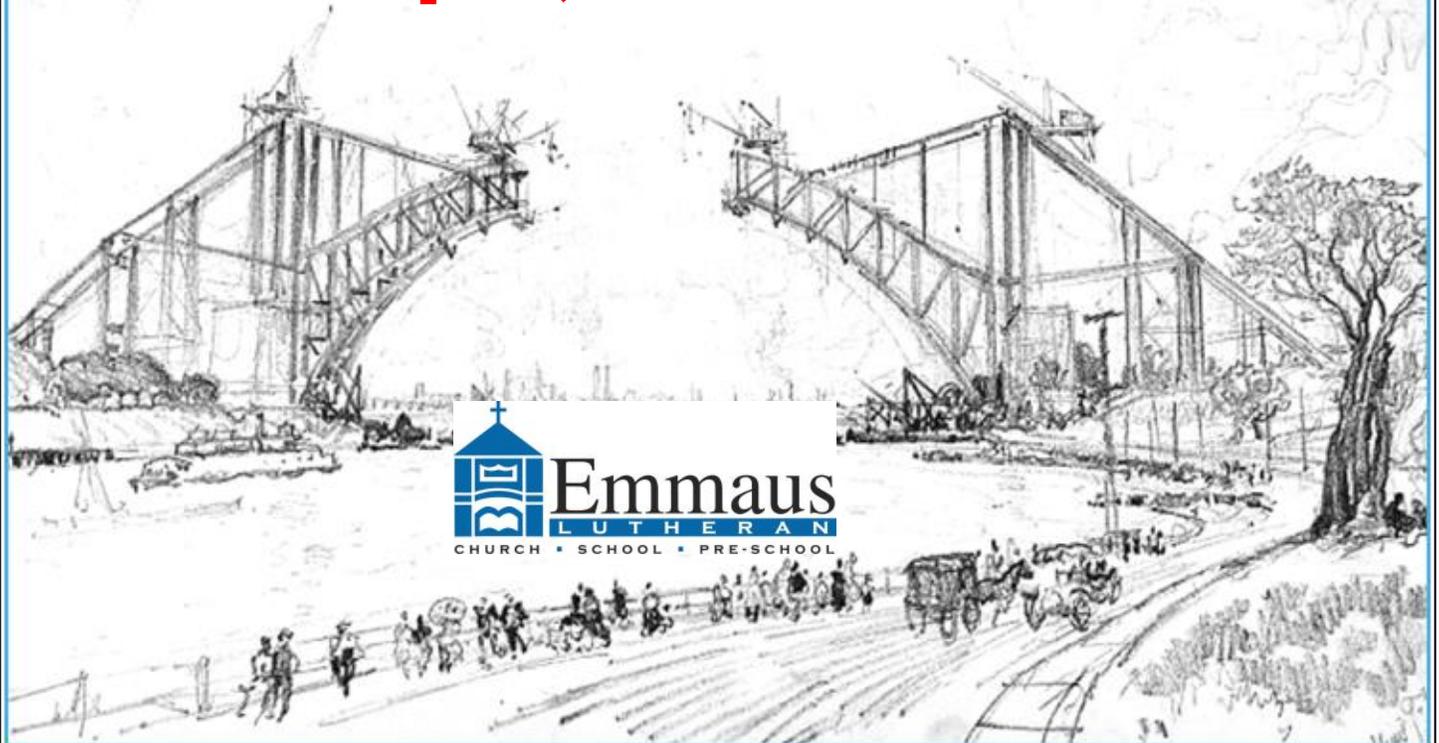
Please be sure to sign up at the table in the front hall, or call the church office by Sunday, April 14th, so that we can order sufficient supplies and T-Shirts for everyone.

**FATHER AND SON WORKING TOGETHER,  
SIDE BY SIDE, TO SERVE OUR NEIGHBOR.**

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## **Bridging The \$50,000 Match Gap**

**48% Complete, Still Under Construction!**





# Spring Parking Lot Sale

By The Board of Christian Education

8626 Covington Rd, Fort Wayne, IN 46804

Saturday May 11, 2024

You aren't the only one decluttering as we get into the Spring season!  
Join Emmaus Lutheran Church for the Spring Parking Lot Sale. Rent your parking space, pull up, and sell your things! It's like a trunk-or-treat mixed with a garage sale!

Proceeds will benefit sending our youth  
to the Higher Things conference  
at Concordia University Wisconsin this summer!

Follow our event on Facebook for  
sneak peaks and previews!



Event information and reserve your  
spot online!

Volunteer information  
and sign up form



*Info packets are available from the church office during the week and on Sundays after our worship service.*



8626 Covington Rd



(260) 459-7722



ELC.parkinglotsale@gmail.com

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## An Update Specifically for You

We would like to update you on a couple of things from last month's voter's meeting. First, the attendance, open conversation and feedback we had was most appreciated. As was the tolerance of the loong Treasurer's report. We are working to modify our financial reporting methods and frequency based on the feedback from this meeting, thus the "under construction" notice in the Weekly News and Notes. Our goal is to reformat the reports and communication methods to help the members of Emmaus better understand where our Church, School and Pre-School is with its financials.

We also discussed the need for funds to bridge the gap between vouchers, especially the May to November period. Opportunities mentioned include possible employer match for donations to the school and/or pre-school and community grants from places such as Kroger (see News and Notes) and Walmart.

At the meeting it was also announced that we had received a member commitment to match up to \$50,000 in special contributions through June of this year. Given the timing of the commitment and from a suggestion made at the meeting, this campaign has been labeled "**Bridging the \$50,000 Match Gap**". There is additional information about this campaign elsewhere in this newsletter and will be in the weekly News and Notes.

As we move forward with our Bridging the Gap campaign, we are ever reminded of the most important gap of all, the one covered by our Savior's innocent suffering and death for our sin. Jesus bridged the gap between us and our heavenly Father, as only He could do. Our forgiveness is won for us, salvation is secured and we are reconciled to the Father through the blood bought merit of Jesus Christ. Not needing to bridge the gap in that respect anymore, we have the gift of being charged with the stewardship of these gifts at Emmaus as God has graciously given them to us. As we go forward in this "Bridging the Gap" campaign to be good stewards of God's gifts and work together towards making sure we continue to Courageously Confess Christ to the best of our ability, we know that the challenges are real, but not insurmountable. Lord give us the strength, wisdom and giving hearts and hands to respond to your work done, so that we too may demonstrate the love you have first shown us.

We ask for your continued prayers for Emmaus Lutheran Church, School and Pre-School and everyone involved with this ministry.

It is very important that you continue to read this bi-monthly newsletter and the weekly News and Notes for ongoing updates and information regarding your Church, School and Pre-School!

Thank you – Pastor Olsen, Paul Stockinger, Bill Bradley, Gregg Kiess

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## April Meetings

Board of Elders	Monday, April 8	6:30 p.m.
Board of Christian Service	Tuesday, April 9	4:30 p.m.
Board Finance	Tuesday, April 9	5:45 p.m.
School Board	Tuesday, April 9	6:00 p.m.
Church Council	Tuesday, April 9	7:00 p.m.



## May Meetings

Board of Elders	Monday, May 6	6:30 p.m.
Board of Christian Service	Tuesday, May 14	4:30 p.m.
Board Finance	Tuesday, May 14	5:45 p.m.
School Board	Tuesday, May 14	6:00 p.m.
Church Council	Tuesday, May 14	7:00 p.m.



## Board Reports

Board Chairpersons/Secretaries: Please be sure to submit your board's report/meeting minutes to Darlene by:

**Wednesday, May 8th** for the May 14th Church Council meeting.

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## Thank You!

*Dear Emmaus Family,*

*Darlene and I would like to thank our Emmaus Family for all your prayers, memorials, love and support during the unexpected loss of my mother, Jennie L. Heeren, in January.*

*The committal service will take place on Saturday, April 27th in Toledo, Oh, and a memorial gathering and visitation on Sunday, April 28th, in Fort Wayne.*

*You've been such a blessing to us as we dealt with our loss. My entire family sends their thanks as well.*

*God's blessings,*

*Jim & Darlene Heeren*

# TACO KIT

**\$45** PERFECT FOR FAMILIES!  
SERVES 4-6 PEOPLE

## INCLUDES

12 SOFT FLOUR TORTILLAS    CHOICE OF PROTEIN  
LETTUCE    BEANS  
RICE    SOUR CREAM  
SHREDDED CHEESE    A BOWL OF QUESO  
CHIPS & SALSA

**Emmaus Lutheran School**

**Thursday, May 16th**

**3:00pm-4:00pm**

Stay in your car and look for the Moe's Fund raising banner and/or the catering vehicle in the parking lot. Please place your order using the QR code below.



***Please place your order no later than  
May 15th by noon.***

Emmaus Lutheran School will receive a 20% cash donation for each Taco Kit sold!



## Emmaus School News



### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 1—5**  
**Spring Break**  
NO School

**Friday, April 19**  
Carnival  
6:00-8:00p.m.

**Friday, April 26**  
Spring Musical  
Gr 3-8

**Thursday, May 2**  
Spring Musical  
Kdg - Gr 2

**Wednesday, May 15**  
LJHA Talent Show

**Thursday, May 16**  
Moe's Fundraiser  
3:00-4:00 p.m.  
Pick up @ Emmaus

**Monday, May 20**  
Athletic Banquet

**Tuesday, May 21**  
Preschool Closing  
Program

**Wednesday, May 22**  
8th Gr, Graduation

**Friday, May 24**  
Last Day of School  
Field Day  
Closing Chapel

Let all that you do be **Done in Love.**  
1 Corinthians 16:14

The theme verse for this year has been a reminder to students, parents and staff of all that Christ has done for us.

#### **School Auction**

The School Auction was a great success! not only financially but also the fun and fellowship that was shared, as we celebrated Emmaus Church, School and Preschool! \$55,415.00 was raised!

#### **Total Eclipse**

The students enjoyed a great time with Eclipse activities on April 8th, led by the teachers, and some themed snacks to round out the fun.

#### **Upcoming PTL Events**

PTL is hosting a **Carnival** coming on April 19th from 6-8pm. Please attend or share with those who may be interested.

They are also hosting a **Moe's fundraiser** May 16th. (More details on pg. 7.) Place your order by Noon on May 15th and then pick up your order at Emmaus from 3:00-4:00p.m. on the 16th.

#### **Spring Musicals**

The Gr 3-8 Spring Musical, Beauty and the Feast, is April 26, at 6:30pm.

The Kindergarten-Gr 2 Spring Musical, May 2, at 6:30pm.

#### **LJHA Talent Show**

All are welcome to see the Lutheran Junior Honor Association Talent Show on Wednesday, May 15, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets: \$3.00. Funds raised will go to the American Heart Association.

#### **Year End Events**

The school year is starting to draw to a close and we thank God for the ministry opportunity that we have had. Confirmation will be Sunday, May 5th, and we will be graduating 12 students this year on Wednesday, May 22, at 7pm; please join us in celebrating their education.

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## 2024-2025 Enrollment

Enrollment is open for the 2024-2025 school year. If you know of anyone who is looking for a school home, please encourage them to consider Emmaus. We are excited to share God's love and we would be happy to schedule a tour so they can learn more about us.

### Thank you!

Thank you for all you do to support the ministry of Emmaus Lutheran School, the students, families and staff. You are a blessing.

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## Preschool News

### Registration

Registration is going strong in Preschool. The Preschool room is full with a waiting list and Pre-K only has 5 spots left. If you know of anyone looking for a Christ centered, play based Kindergarten readiness program please let Mrs. Olsen know their contact information or ask for an information packet for you to give to them.



Dave Greener and Greg Kiess who always help us pull off this event! If you have an interest in helping making our Preschool events special we would be glad to put you to work on things like Grandparent's Day and Muffins with Mom! We'll have Muffins with Mom on Monday May 13th.

### Art Appreciation

The Fort Wayne Art Museum came in March to visit the Pre-K Classes and teach us to appreciate art! The children each helped design a patch for their classroom quilt. It was a lot of fun!

In Christ,

Joann Olsen, Preschool Director

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## Ways to Help Emmaus:

### Kroger Community Rewards!

This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Shopper's Card. It's easy! Here's how:

1. Go to Kroger.com and set up an account (if you don't have one) or log into your account.
2. Under your account options select "My Account."
3. Scroll down the page and select "Community Rewards" (left side of screen).
4. Under "Organization Name" enter "Emmaus Lutheran School and Church" or use "organization Number" BF171.

### Advantage Recycling

We are accepting empty printer ink cartridges, old cell phones, and laptops. This helps keep those items out of the landfill and helps us as we will receive payment from the recycling company. Items can be placed in the box located inside the west entrance to the gym/sanctuary from the front hall. Monies from this program will be used for school supplies.

## Women's Guild



### Thank You!

Many thanks to a large group of workers for a very **successful Easter Breakfast**. Almost 100 guests were served a delicious buffet with so many wonderful choices.

Special thanks go to Sherry and Aaron Colbert who planned and executed all of it with special help from the LaBrashs and the Colbert friends! Thank you also to the young adults who pitched in with whatever needed to be done. Women's Guild members also provided fruit salad and all those desserts. Set-up and clean-up appreciation to all who helped. It was truly a group effort!

### Meetings

Our next regular meetings are: April 10th and May 8th at 9:00am. Please come if you are available and help with ideas and planning.

### Spring Cleaning!

And, to all Emmaus family members, begin now to spring clean and collect items you no longer use to sell at the May 11th Parking Lot Sale to help our young adults attend the Higher Things Conference (more info on pg. 5).

Barb Kanning, secretary

# Journey to the Cross

Koinonia  
led by 5th Grade



Our Kindergarten—8th Grade students walked through stations, following a narration of the final hours of the life of Jesus Christ on earth.

The stations serve as a stark reminder of the humble manner in which Jesus was willing to set aside any privilege of deity in order to provide us a path to salvation through His sacrifice.



Let's recognize Easter for what it is, the truth of the death and resurrection of Christ our Savior.

Remember the true meaning of Easter, the truth behind Christianity, and thank God for sending His Son to die for our sins so that we may have eternal life in Him!



### *Whose Is It Anyway?*

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor’s possessions are his: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership to you? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since you belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

*Each month, the LCMS Synod Office writes Stewardship newsletter articles for congregations to use.  
See more at LCMS Stewardship Ministry: [lcms.org/stewardship](https://lcms.org/stewardship).*



### **Church Office Hours**

Please note the Church Office will be closed on Monday, May 27, for Memorial Day.





## Concordia Lutheran High School News

### CLHS Trivia Night Moves to April

Originally slated as a Fall event, Trivia Night will now be taking place in the Spring! On Friday, April 12, have a blast with friends and put your knowledge to the test at our CLHS Trivia Night! The entry fee per couple is \$50 or bring an in-kind donation of \$50+ value. All donations will support the Cadets in Cadence Silent Auction later this year.

Register your team today at [clhscadets.com/apps/pages/trivia-night](http://clhscadets.com/apps/pages/trivia-night)

**Concordia Theatre Department Presents: *Mutually Assured Destruction* – Spring Comedy | Saturday, April 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 21 at 2:00 p.m.** A century's worth of sibling squabbles is boiled down into ten vignettes in this era-hopping tribute to family. Each short play explores a distinct facet of brother and sisterhood, from fights over who caused mom and dad to split to daring escape plots that only two sisters could pull off. No matter the decade, audiences will see themselves in these ten distinct shorts about the undeniable bond between siblings

through the ages. This comedy is directed by Mr. Chris Murphy.

### Concordia Varsity Boys Basketball Win Sectional Championship

Congratulations to the CLHS Varsity Boys Basketball team who won their sectional championship on Saturday, March 2 beating Leo by a score of 62-58! Regionals start on March 9 when our Cadets will be taking on Delta High School in Lapel, Ind. starting at 4pm.

### Concordia DECA Students Fare Well at State Competition

The CLHS DECA team represented our school well at state competition. Respect, kindness and care for others was evident and noted in a number of occasions in the competition which took place March 3-5 in Indianapolis. Our high school saw 27 students compete among a record 2,300 DECA students from around the state of Indiana. Four students qualified for international competition. View the results here: <https://www.clhscadets.com/apps/news/article/1895109>



### Member Caller

We have set up our account for the new service to call all our members. Please add this phone number 855.248.7295 to your caller id or your phone address book and entitle that contact as the Church Call so that it will be identified properly on your caller id. If your phone number has changed or you need to add an additional number for your household, please see Darlene so that she can update the call list.

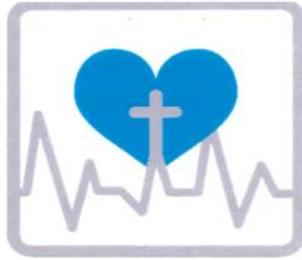


### Membership Changes

The following membership changes have taken place since our last newsletter:

#### TRANSFER OUT

Jerry & Miriam Lunz, Joshua, Emma and Caroline to Faith Lutheran Church, Roanoke, IN.



# LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

## Equipping Lutherans to be gospel-motivated voices for Life

(April 2024)

### [Tennessee House Committee Approves Bill Requiring Fetal Development Video in Schools.](#)

The Tennessee House Education Instruction Committee **approved** a bill on Tuesday that would require that public schools include an approved preborn child development ultrasound or computer animation as part of the state-required family life curriculum.

House Bill 2435 lists Live Action's "Meet Baby Olivia" as an example of a computer animation that would meet the bill's requirements. Schools could choose to show a different three-minute animation or high-resolution ultrasound, according to the bill's sponsor, Rep. Gino Bulso. If this bill is signed into law, schools will begin using fetal development videos in the 2024-2025 school year.

A similar bill was **enacted** in North Dakota last year, and others have also been introduced in West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, Missouri, and Iowa. The bills, along with the "Baby Olivia" video itself, have come under heavy **attack** from pro-abortion groups. The Associated Press **painted** the video as a pro-life political move, and used pro-abortion sources to attempt to discredit the video. However, "Baby Olivia" has the backing of medical experts and was created using detailed "award-winning content" from the Endowment for Human Development (EHD). EHD is a self-described "nonprofit organization dedicated to improving health science education and public health" which is "committed to **neutrality** regarding all controversial bioethical issues." Its **website** states that its "board of directors, board of advisors, staff, and volunteers includes accomplished educators, researchers, authors, programmers, and clinicians from a variety of scientific and business disciplines who share the common goal of improving lifelong health through prenatal development-based education."

As reported, "U.S. science educators have endorsed the organization's award-winning content, which National Geographic also distributes."

According to **The Tennessean**, at least one Tennessee legislator has tried to connect the "Baby Olivia" video and the state bill to the Alabama Supreme Court ruling that said frozen embryos created during the in-vitro fertilization (IVF) process are to be included as children under the Wrongful Death of a Minor Act.

"This bill has got nothing to do with IVF. It is strictly looking at a presentation of a scientifically accurate computer-generated video or ultrasound that shows human life and development from conception through birth, and it doesn't get into IVF at all," Bulso said.

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Rep. Gloria Johnson, an opponent of the bill, called the video “deceptive and problematic for a young audience,” adding, “It’s designed to manipulate the emotions of the viewers...” However, Rep. Chris Todd noted, “I was trained as a biologist, and [“Baby Olivia” is] definitely accurate. It’s incredibly accurate. We have a lot of things in our society that are protected ... in the environmental world and animal world.”

The “Baby Olivia” video has been reviewed and endorsed by OB-GYNs and other medical professionals, including Dr. David Bolender, PhD, Cell Biology, Neurobiology & Anatomy, Medical College of Wisconsin; Dr. Donna Harrison of the American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists; Michelle Cretella, MD, Executive Director of the American College of Pediatricians; and Jeffrey Barrows, DO, MA, Senior VP Bioethics and Public Policy for the Christian Medical & Dental Associations.

### **[They Prayed for Years to Save a Baby from Abortion and IT FINALLY HAPPENED!!](#)** *By Shawn Carney*

As we head into the final days of this Lent’s 40 Days for Life vigil, we know of 130 babies spared from abortion thanks to YOUR prayers!

In all their many years praying for an end to abortion, Mary Jo and Brenda had never seen a woman change her mind and choose life in response to their efforts...until now!

“All those years, they trusted God was saving lives even though they had never experienced a save,” wrote Michele, our 2020 leader of the year.

“God rewarded their faith yesterday. A baby was saved during the time they were out praying!” A tearful man dressed in military fatigues told Mary Jo and Brenda, “We just couldn’t do it!” The vigil participants offered to pray for the couple and their baby and also shared resources to help equip them to welcome their baby.

That child’s father vowed that the family would find a way to work things out.

### **[Calendar](#)**

April 12, 9:30 am Lutherans for Life at Emmanuel

April 16, 6:30-8:30 pm A Hope Center Banquet, make reservations by April 10<sup>th</sup>

May 10, 9:30 am Lutherans for Life at Emmanuel

### **[Executive Board](#)**

**President:** Karen Blank – 797-3348

**Vice President:** Harriet Stennfeld – 747-5001

**Secretary:** Dennis Brink – 238-4046

**Treasurer:** Lynn Francis – 749-7472

**Spiritual Advisor:** DCE Larry Hencye – 348-8483

**Resource Person:** Carolyn Beitz – 432-9189

**Access Fort Wayne:** Patty Hunter – 467-3966

### **[National LFL Email Addresses](#)**

General Information

**[info@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:info@lutheransforlife.org)**

Catalog and Life Sunday Orders

**[orders@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:orders@lutheransforlife.org)**

National LFL Phone Number

888-364-5433

# Religious Liberty: Free to be Faithful: A religious liberty education and awareness campaign from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

In response to increasing intrusions by government in the realm of the church, the LCMS launched this "Free to be Faithful" campaign in September 2012 to educate and move people to take informed action to protect religious freedom and all the cultural issues that pertain to it: the definition of marriage, the work of social service organizations, confessing the faith in the public square, aspects of the Health and Human Services mandate and the like. The website is: [www.lcms.org/freetobefaitful](http://www.lcms.org/freetobefaitful).

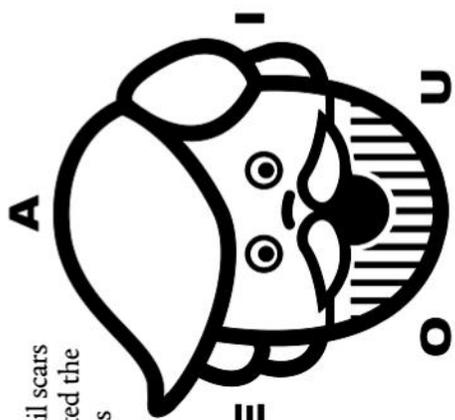
Topics covered include: responses from our Synodical president on Planned Parenthood controversy, The Boy Scouts of America and the recent Supreme Court rulings, as well as many others. Stay informed about these and many other events that affect the religious liberties of Emmaus Lutheran, as well as Christians all across our nation.



## PUZZLE

## SEEING AND BELIEVING

Until Thomas saw Jesus' nail scars with his own eyes, he doubted the resurrection. What did Jesus tell Thomas?



**Directions:**  
Use the code to fill in the vowels and complete  
*John 20:29, NIV.*

“B \_ c \_ \_ s \_ y \_ \_ h \_ v \_ s \_ \_ n m \_ ,  
y \_ \_ h \_ v \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ d ;  
bl \_ ss \_ d \_ r \_ th \_ s \_ wh \_ h \_ v \_ n \_ t  
s \_ \_ n \_ nd y \_ t h \_ v \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ d .”

**JOHN 20:29, NIV**

Answer: “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” John 20:29, NIV

## Moving?



Please be sure to notify the Church Office of your new address, so that we can keep our records up to date. This will help save money on postage when we need to mail something to you. Thanks for your cooperation!

## Going to the Hospital?



If you know in advance that you are scheduled for a hospital stay, please call the church office so that we can include you in our prayers. If you are admitted unexpectedly, please be sure to have a family member or friend call and inform us. The voice mail on the phone system is "on" 24 hrs. a day, seven days a week, so please call any time!

## Newsletter Deadline: Friday, May 24, 2024



Please take note of the deadline for submitting information for the **June/July 2024** newsletter. Information can be mailed or dropped off at the church office, faxed to (260) 459-7766, or e-mailed to: [dheeren@emmausfortwayne.org](mailto:dheeren@emmausfortwayne.org). Thank you!



"I thought you invited me to be a Premises Keeper!"

## 2023-2024 Officers, Board Chairmen & Head Elders of Emmaus Lutheran Church

### President:

*Paul Stockinger*

### Vice-President:

*William E. Bradley, Jr.*

### Secretary:

*Dr. David Reichwage*

### Treasurer:

*Gregg Kiess*

### Business Manager:

*Jamelyn Rigdon*

### Board of Outreach:

*Vacant*

### Board of Christian Service:

*Vacant*

### Board of Christian Education:

*Vacant*

### Board of Finance:

*Gregg Kiess*

### Board of Parish Publicity & Promotion:

*Vacant*

### Board of Properties:

*Chris Durlacher*

### Emmaus School Board:

*Tiffany Diehm*

### Emmaus Principal:

*Esther Spanos*

### Emmaus Foundation:

*Paul Stockinger, Gregg Kiess, Tim Durnell, Phil LaBrash, Stan Veit, William E. Bradley, Jr., Rev. Olsen*

### Board of Elders:

*James Heeren, Chairman  
Jacob Bushur, Rodney Peters, David Rosenkoetter, William G. Schmidt, Jesse Steinbacher, Stan Veit*

### Pastor:

*Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III*



### ***Our Mission Statement***

*Empowered by God's gift of never-ending love in Word and Sacrament and responding to the forgiveness won for us by Jesus Christ on the cross, the mission of the family of Emmaus Lutheran is to*  
**COURAGEOUSLY CONFESS CHRIST**  
*through worship, life together, teaching and service.*

## **Emmaus Lutheran Church, School & Preschool**

8626 Covington Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46804  
Phone: 260-459-7722 FAX: 260-459-7766  
[www.emmausfortwayne.org](http://www.emmausfortwayne.org)

YouTube Channel: Emmaus Lutheran Fort Wayne  YouTube

**Rev. Roy C. Olsen, III, Pastor**  
[revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org](mailto:revolsen@emmausfortwayne.org)

**Darlene Heeren, Church & Preschool Administrative Assistant**  
[dheeren@emmausfortwayne.org](mailto:dheeren@emmausfortwayne.org)

Church Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 8:00a.m.- 4:15 p.m.; Friday 8:00am-Noon

**Esther Spanos, Principal**

E-mail: [principal@emmauslutheranfw.org](mailto:principal@emmauslutheranfw.org)  
Website: [www.emmauslutheranfw.org](http://www.emmauslutheranfw.org)

**Debbie Fairchild, School Administrative Assistant**

**Joann Olsen, Preschool Director**

**Teachers:** *Amanda Dahnke, Michael Dahnke, Stacey Durlacher, Kenzie Hensley, Meg MacKenzie, Faith Korte, Julie Mueller, Terri O'Brien, Joann Olsen, Megan Rosswurm, David Stellwagen, Elizabeth Stockinger, and Tricia Wilkin.*

### **Worship Schedule Sunday Mornings**

9:00 a.m. Worship Service  
*Holy Communion will be celebrated on the 1st thru 4th Sundays of the month and all festival dates. Matins Service will be held on the 5th Sunday of the month.*

10:20 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes