Emmaus Lutheran Church 1224 Laurel Street Indíanapolís, IN 46203



# January/February 2025 The Emmaus Companion Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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#### Parish Planning Council Meeting

November 12, 2024

Present - Jeff Frownfelter, Carol Chandler, Dave Duncan, Norm & JoAnn Riemer, Jerry Campbell, Robert Carey, Tim Birtchman

Open with Prayer Last months minutes approved

#### **Treasure Report**

We are in the black and and bills are on current. The Endowment helped us with \$10K. Working on paying the pantry. Pastor Irmer has agreed to do confirmation class. We will pay him \$50 per class.

#### Fellowship

Fellowship meals are being well attended. The pitch-in was a huge success.

November's meal is planned for the 17th.

We had our first Game Night on Nov 8th and had a wonderful turnout. Looking forward to December.

Advent meals will take place in December. Outreach has Dec 11th. We still have two open spots. Breakfast with Santa will be held on December 7th from 9 - 11am. We did receive a Thrivent card, thanks to the Riemer's.

#### **Property Board**

Sanctuary boiler is providing good heat for the church. Boilers under the Kitchen are responding to the new thermostat in the Gym. More branches have been cut on the north side of the Parish Center.

Citizen's Energy has updated the gas meter on the south side of the church(Orange St.).

Organ maintenance guys are preparing an estimate for some repairs.

Mike Lee and Tim will recharge the refrigerator to see if this will fix it.

#### Elders

Rev Mierow, our circuit consular, attended the Elders meeting. We discussed the duties expected of a vacancy pastor and his compensation. The Vacancy Pastor shall be compensated \$200 per Sunday, \$150 for evening services (Advent, Lent, etc.) plus mileage reimbursement at the standard federal rate. All other incidental compensation shall be at the discretion of the Board of Elders. The Board of Elders voted to have Rev. Doug Irmer serve as Vacancy Pastor.

An Agreement for Vacancy Pastor outlining duties was signed by the Circuit Visitor, Head Elder, Emmaus Chairman and Vacancy Pastor. This agreement would then be brought up before the congregation to ratify this agreement (which was done on Sunday Nov 10). For your info, Pastor Irmer's phone number is: 317-457-5391.

Rev Irmer will start conducting Confirmation classes on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM in November.

#### **Outreach Board**

Members in attendance at our November 5 meeting were Sandy Duncan, Robert Carey, JoAnn Riemer, and Katie Arritt. Tresa Strakis, Kenny Colton, and Betty Foster were unable to attend. The meeting was opened with prayer by JoAnn.

Robert informed us that the **PANTRY** had served 1500 persons last month. We were also told that there was a need for more volunteers. The congregation has been encouraged to contribute to the "reverse advent calendar" printed in the church newsletter. This is a good way to donate to the pantry in December. Also, there will be a Gleaner's pick-up date on Monday, November 18. We then made available the tablet with the listing of the dates to sign up for the next 2 months of **AFTER CHURCH TREATS.** 

At the time of our meeting we had no final details about the **THANKSGIVING DINNER** which will be on November 28. In the next few days of checking, it was finalized and Jeff Frownfelter has agreed to be in charge of this event. A flier is going home with clients at the pantry. It was decided that our board will do the **ADVENT DINNER** on December 11. We will probably serve some type of soup as the main course at this meal.

We had a discussion of what we might do to help in the **<u>CHURCH GROWTH</u>** process here at Emmaus. The discussion at this meeting was about what we might do to get back some members who are not coming very often at all.

Earlier in the fall We had talked about adding a **CHILDREN'S SERMON** to our service and it still hasn't happened. At tonight's meeting we decided to do this as of January, 2025. Sandy Duncan is our person in charge of handling this.

Our board will meet again after the first of the year to plan upcoming activities. The meeting was closed with prayer.

#### **Pantry Report**

Numbers are up and quite a bit. We are up to 1500 people a month.

#### **New Business**

Got a proposal to talk about ideas for the old school building to help bring in revenue. Pastor Mierow is interested in buying the science tables in the upstairs classroom.

Closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Chandler

#### Parish Planning Meeting

December 10, 2025

Present- Jeff Frownfelter, Carol Chandler, Jerry Campbell, Tim Birtchman, Robert Carey, Dave Duncan Absent - Norm & JoAnn Riemer

Open with prayer Read and approved last month minutes

#### **Treasurer Report**

Bills are all paid and we are still on the black. PPE Loan is still in the process We are getting reimbursed for short term disability from Pastor. All

#### **Elders Report**

No Report this month

#### **Fellowship December**

Advent meals are happening. Low attendance for the first one. The Outreach Board will do the 2nd Advent dinner and The Frownfelter's will be hosting the last one.

Christmas Breakfast went well and will have a detailed report from the Outreach Board. Our first game night went great. Our next one will be Friday, December 13th.

#### **Properties Report**

Branches are gone from the area north of the kitchen. Heat is good in the gym/kitchen area and sanctuary. School areas have enough warmth to prevent frozen pipes. God willing we'll have a peaceful Christmas Eve service this year

#### **Outreach Board**

In addition to doing the regular Sunday morning social time after church, several members of our board were helping at the Christmas Breakfast on December 7.

The Outreach Board will be doing the December 11 Advent meal. We are going to serve 2 kinds of soup, with salad, crackers, rolls, fruit, dessert, and beverages.

Our next event will take place in 2025 and will probably be in February or March. We will meet after the first of the year to make plans for events in the new year.

#### **Pantry News**

Numbers are coming down a little bit. We had a lot of donations from parishioners and from Ellwyn's concert.

1353 individuals last month.

#### Christmas Breakfast Report

The Christmas Breakfast 2024 took place on Saturday December 7 and was co-sponsored by the Fellowship Board and the Outreach Board. The estimated attendance for this year's event was 100. We were pleased to see people attend who were clients from the Pantry. There were also former school families in attendance as well as people from the neighborhood.

The gym was converted into a "Christmas Wonderland" on the evening of Friday, December 6 by Carol Chandler and her crew consisting of Dave & Sandy Duncan, Addison Lee, & Morgan Chandler. They used lots of holiday decorations including a Santa tree, a nativity banner, and colorful table decorations.

People were greeted at the door by two members of the Outreach Board who passed out slips of paper that informed people of the variety of activities available. Instead of a formal guest registration, the children were encouraged to write letters to Santa and these were placed in an addressed envelope in "Santa's Mailbox". These then received a reply from "Santa". This letter will talk about the church and mention how glad that "Santa" was to see them at this year's event. It is hoped that we can have these come to the families/children with the return address of the North Pole (cooperation of the U.S. Postal Service). Target date to be mailed is 12/13/24.

We had an amazingly efficient kitchen crew who produced a menu of pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, cinnamon rolls, orange juice, water, and milk. The activities were several different crafts, cookie decorating, and face painting. Hot cocoa was also available, made up in individual cups with mini-marshmallows on top.

Our Santa was an acquaintance of one of our church members and donated his services. He brought along his own elf to join in the festivities. We also had 28 other people in attendance who helped in various ways, 6 of whom were Thrivent members. All children who visited Santa were given a candy cane.

This event was paid for by \$250 in Thrivent money and the church incurred no debt. JoAnn Riemer applied for the Thrivent funds, and Carol Chandler did all the shopping. A separate sheet details how all the funds were spent.

#### New Business

Semi Annual meeting will be January 19th.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Chandler



Join us on Fridays, January 10th and February 7th at 6:00pm for our monthly game night. There are board games, card games, and anything in between. Bring a snack to share and come enjoy a fun night of fellowship!

# **Ladies Society**

We will meet Thursday, January 9 at 12 noon at Happy Days Drive- In, 2126 S. Sherman Drive. Come for a delicious lunch and good conversation!

We will meet Thursday, February 13 at 12 noon in our Ladies Society Room for a Happy Valentine's Day lunch and also have a short Bible Study. Bring your Bible, a sack lunch and drinks and dessert will be furnished.

# PANTRY NEWS

Thank you for you reverse Advent donations and for all your generous contributions in 2024. Our pantry volunteers wish to thank our generous donor for a pre-Christmas meal at the Golden Corral Happy New Year! The holiday joy has led to winter cold. Life becomes a little more difficult for those struggling to make ends meet! Thank you for continuing to provide hope to our clients by bringing in soups, crackers and canned SpaghettiOs or similar items that help pass the cold through January

In February we would like to supplement our Gleaner's orders with spaghetti and spaghetti sauce and warm cereals like oatmeal and cream of wheat

Remember you may also contribute by check made out to the Emmaus Food Pantry which our treasurer will deposit in our account

The Emmaus Food Pantry is the mission outreach of Emmaus, but receives no budgeted funds from the church and all our workers are volunteers. We appreciate all your support.

# **Outreach Board News:**

Most every Sunday our board is busy with the Sunday Fellowship Time after church. This takes very little effort each week, and any member of the congregation is welcome to provide the treats (they're almost always store bought). It's also a good chance to get time to visit with your fellow church members. Talk to any board member if you'd like to help out.

"Praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you." Joel 2:26 ESV





**PARISH PLANNING MEETINGS** are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month. This month our meeting will be

January 19th for the semi annual meeting. The business of the church is conducted at these meetings and any church member is welcome to attend, to ask questions, express concerns, make comments, ect. Please let the Church office know the day before that you will be attending.

# LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

## The Together Project

We are making big strides in our Together campaign! Several projects are completed or underway. The most recent project was a Weight Room remodel, and new permanent outdoor bleachers have arrived. Will you accept together? the invitation to be part of Help us cross the finish line! Email kanderson@lhsi.org for more information.

## LuFest - February 7, 2025

Invite your friends and join us for an unforgettable night celebrating and supporting Lutheran High School at the beautiful Biltwell Event Center. Tickets are available at LuFest.org.

We also seek donations of new, high-quality items, services, or experiences to include in the live and silent auctions. These may be dropped off at the LHS office weekdays between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm through January 24. Please call the Development Office with any questions.

# **Applications for Lutheran High School**

Applications are open for the 2025-2026 school year. Visit LHSI.org for more information!

## Saints on Stage presents Annie

Sing along as our spunky Annie takes the stage in this classic production. Performances will take place February 28, March 1 & 2. Tickets will go on sale in February. More information can be found at LHSI.org.



CONTACT INFORMATION Phone: 317-632-1486 Fax: 317-632-2620

Email:emmausindy@gmail.com Website: www.elcindy.org Facebook: www.facebook.com/ emmausfountainsqaure

# Senior's Bible Study Class

Wednesday mornings @ 9:30 a.m. Now would be a great time to join us. Anyone who is free on Wednesday at that time would be welcome to join our lively discussion as we learn more about our Christian walk with Jesus. Norm Riemer is the leader of this group.



# ELDER MEMBERS

Members in need of ministry care or with spiritual concerns should call one of the Elders:

Tim Birtchman	317-788-0021
Dave Duncan	317-783-3726
Scotty Jett	317-490-9742
Norm Riemer	317-862-4344
Jeff Frownfelter	812-929-2495
Gary Strakis	317-445-2553

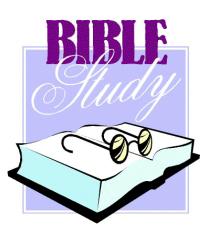
# **Adult Sunday School**

**Book of the Bible** Starting January 2nd we will begin to explore this during the Sunday School hour. Come join us in the conference room from 8:45-9:45am.



**Thursday Night Bible Study** Brice Tressler will conclude his study of the Early church.

7pm—8pm





# WINTER WORD SEARCH FIND THE WORDS!



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Х	D	Х	J	Q	Х	G	М	S	S	Ν	0	W	F	L	А	Κ	Е	U	Q
E	Ι	W	Т	G	Q	Ι	Ν	В	Т	G	J	С	Y	С	G	Т	Т	Ι	М
G	Ν	Ι	D	D	E	L	S	Ι	Т	0	R	L	Н	Y	Κ	А	W	S	W
V	F	Е	В	R	U	А	R	Y	Ι	Ζ	0	F	R	E	Е	Ζ	Ι	Ν	G
Ν	Р	А	Q	Q	Н	s	Т	L	Р	Κ	Ι	В	L	U	D	Q	Ζ	С	В
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Ι	М	Ν	D	V	U	С	V	Т	М	А	L	G	L	0	V	E	S	W	Ι
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М	Q	K	Т	Y	Ι	W	0	K	U	U	N	Ζ	С	S	V	V	Н	Q	Ζ
А	F	R	Н	Х	Х	Х	J	А	U	R	K	W	F	Q	L	Р	S	V	С

BOOTS	CHRISTMAS	COAT
COLD	DECEMBER	FEBRUARY
FREEZING	FROST	GLOVES
HAT	ICE	JANUARY
SCARF	SHOVEL	SKIING
SLEDDING	SNOWANGEL	SNOWBALLS
SNOWFLAKE	SNOWMAN	WINTER

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# January Birthdays

1/1 1/4

1/4 1/5 1/9 1/10 1/17 1/18

Tim Burton
Abigail Smallwood
Trace Thomas
Sue McFarland
Scotty Jett
Elizabeth Whitney
Joseph Riley
Josh Pulley
1

Lisa Smith	1/22
Kenneth Colton	1/22
MaryJane Mack	1/23
Karén Roesener	1/25
Noah Pulley	1/25
Joseph Taylor	1/27
Tammy Pulley	1/28



# January 2025 SCHEDULE

1/5	Jeff Frownfelter
1/12	Jerry Roesener
1/19	Tim Birtchman
1/26	Bob Groth



1/5	Dave Duncan
1/12	Norm Riemer
1/19	Garald Evans
1/26	Jerry Campbell



1/5 1/12 1/19	Robert Carey Bob Groth Bob Groth Pat O'Connor
1/26	Pat O'Connor

Frownfelter





1/5	Carol Chandler
1/12	Bob Groth
1/19	Jeff Frownfelter
1/76	Haret Hildohran

1/26 Horst Hildebrandt





- 1/19 B Whitsit/D Herndon 1/26 Rosetta Cantwell



