

THE GABRIEL

THE NEWSLETTER OF EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

We press on in the ministry of faith in action in our local community and the world.

April 2024

A Message from Pastor Jim

By the time you may be reading this April Newsletter, the season of Lent will be over and the season of Easter will be a dawning upon us. As I ponder the season of Lent and Easter, I am made more aware that it is a stark reminder of the rhythms of life. There are moments where we are bubbling over with exceeding joy...weddings, new births, a promotion, a raise, a beautiful vacation, or an incredible sunset. There are also moments filled with incredible difficulty...illness, death, loneliness, an argument with a friend, or a stressful situation. In either case, there is always a part of us that needs God. In these moments of life we long to be close to God in some way.



That is when I remember how much I love Easter! Easter, I believe, gets somewhat overlooked as far as Holidays are concerned. There often is no extra time allotted for this celebration and it lacks a lot of the fanfare seen with other holidays. That is unfortunate because Easter, in my opinion, is the holiday crescendo none of us should neglect.

More often than not, it seems as though we get stuck in those shadowy, dark places and wonder how we will ever again see a way out.

Just when I have turned all in on myself and think that I am stuck, along comes God with a new rhythm of life...a new morning...a promise that no matter what difficulty I find myself in...Joy returns!

The Rhythms of Life...

Christ has died!

Christ has Risen!

Christ will come again!

In Easter Celebration,

Pastor Jim

WORSHIP

Worship conducted at 9:30 AM each Sunday morning

In-person (please see In-person Guidelines)

Connect by phone

The number to call: 1 877 309 2073

The access code: 591 680 557 followed by the pound sign #

View on our website www.newberlinucc.org later in the day.

- April 7 Second Sunday of Easter (White)
Marks of Faith
Pastor Jan preaching and liturgist
Organist Pastor Jim
- April 14 Third Sunday of Easter (White)
Christ Among Us
Pastor Jim preaching and Pastor Jan liturgist
Organist Audrey Bingaman
Social time hosted by Mary Beckley
- April 21 Fourth Sunday of Easter (White)
Enfolded by Love
Pastor Jan preaching and Pastor Jim liturgist
Organist Audrey Bingaman
- April 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter (White)
Abiding in Love
Pastor Jim preaching and Pastor Jan liturgist
Organist Audrey Bingaman



Once Again, Spring

By Elaine G. Brock

Oh, the beauty and refreshment that nature brings
When the earth, once again, breaks into spring.
The birds, in their song, with excitement sing,
All hail to the Creator, Christ the King!

Our Life Together In Prayer

Those in Nursing Homes/Assisted Living:

Heritage Springs: Patricia and Robert Seebold

Family and Friends of those who have died:

Gail Leitzel, Ray Peters, Clair Zimmerman, Dale Brouse, Susie Smith, Gary Weikel

Church Members with Concerns:

Lucille Cope, Donna Sauers, Harry & Mary Kratzer, Scott Leitzel, Barb Stamm, Bill & Toni Hauck, Jodi Cope, Marvin Wagner, Mary Beckley, Velma Solomon, Jill Benfer

Friends and Family with Concerns:

Jim Ranney, Francis & Nancy Griffin, Don Groner, Ron Trick, Sue Mapes, Jeremiah Spade, Karen Trautman, Debby Hummel, Danny Brouse, Estelle Klingler, Betty Krazter, Carmen Maurer, Andrew Clouser, Glenn Keister, Parker Culp, Marie Snook, Tim Shell

Around the World and Close to Home:

Pray for Peace in our World
All those serving in the Armed Forces



Names will remain on the Prayer List for 6 weeks.

If you wish they remain longer than 6 weeks, please contact the Church Secretary or the Pastors.

Our April Birthdays & Anniversaries



April 3 - Chris Dauberman
April 8 - Ami Goudreau
April 13 - Audrey Bingaman
April 17 - Theresa McCool
April 19 - Dale "Pap" Smith



April 12 - Anthony & Cinda Buoy
April 14 - William & Martha Hockenberry
April 27 - James & Debra Benfer

Our Life Together In Service



Remember our ongoing mission project...the New Berlin Food Pantry. Please help us continue to support this vital mission in our local community.

Next distribution: *Thursday, April 18*

Suggested food items from Emmanuel for the month are canned fruits, spaghetti sauce, soup, and peanut butter. Also the Food Pantry greatly appreciates your monetary

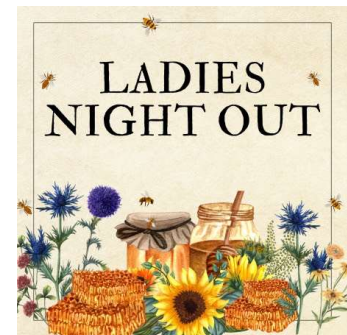
contributions as well. This allows them to purchase other items that are needed. We do thank all those who make donations and offer their time to make this mission and service possible for those who are in need.

Ladies Night Out

Ladies Night Out will be *Tuesday, April 16*, 6:00 pm, at the Perkin's Restaurant in Lewisburg.

Sign-up sheet will be in the Fellowship room.

Hope to see you there!



Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast will be *Wednesday, April 17*, 8:30 am, at the East Side Diner in Mifflinburg. Sign-up sheet will be in the Fellowship room. Hope you can attend!

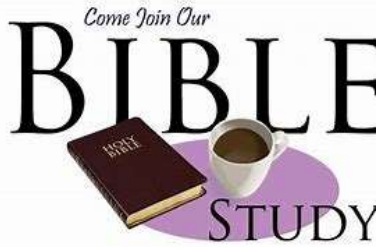
Senior Community Luncheon

Senior Community Luncheon at Emmanuel United Church of Christ will be 11:30 to 1:00 pm on

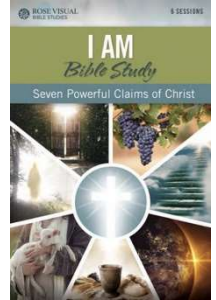
Thursday, April 25

Come socialize with your neighbors and enjoy a hot lunch and fellowship. Friends and neighbors in the New Berlin area and beyond are invited to come and enjoy this time of good food and wonderful fellowships!





It's time again for Bible Study. For this Bible Study we will be exploring the "I Am." The book we will be using will be "I Am" by Rose Visual Bible Studies. Pastor Jan has ordered the books for those that have signed up. The first class will be held on Wednesday, April 10th and will continue for a total of 6 weeks from 6PM to 7:30PM. This will be an evening Bible Study so that people who work will be able to attend.

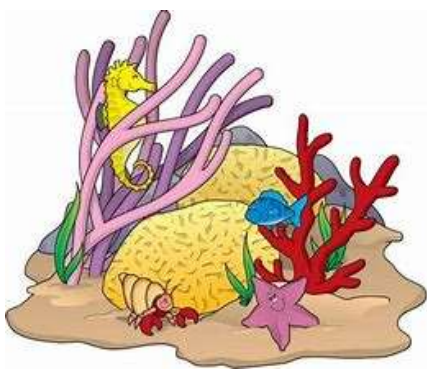


Church Yard Sales

**Friday May 3rd and Saturday, May 4th
8:00 am to 2:00 pm each day**

Emmanuel UCC will be having a yard sale with the New Berlin community on Friday May 3 and Saturday May 4. Please bring your yard sale donations to the church in April.

Please NO Encyclopedias and NO big items unless you transport and take them back if they do not sell. All items left will be donated at the end of the sale days. Nothing will be stored at the church after the sale. The "Kitchen Ladies" will also be having a Soup Sale and Food Stand those days. Donations of bake goods and volunteers will be needed for those days. More information will be announced. Please contact Deb Benfer with any questions



Bible School 2024 ***"Under the Sea"***

June 25, 26, 27, 10AM to 11:30AM

Invite your children, grandchildren, friends and neighbors to join us for an amazing voyage "**Under the Sea**". We will be exploring the stories of Jonah and the Whale, Moses Bulrushes, and Jesus Baptism.

On the last day of Bible School the children and their families are invited to join us for our Senior Community Luncheon. The children will share what they learned in Bible School, sing a song, and offer grace. Also, please give some consideration in helping us with Bible School. We can use help each day, as well as preparing a yummy snack for the students or providing craft supplies. Contact Pastor Jan for any questions that you may have. More information will be coming, as well as a sign-up sheet.



Our church leaders continually listen for that still, small voice as they discern the next steps for Emmanuel United Church of Christ.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Monday, April 8, at 7:30 pm.

2024 Emmanuel UCC Church Council

Mary, Beckley, Audrey Bingaman, Donnie Sauers, Jill Benfer,
Marie Eberhart, Bill Hauck, Ron Boyer, Scott Leitzel, Keith McCool

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
NEW BERLIN, PA

Special Consistory Meeting – Sunday, February 25, 2024

Attendance: Donny Sauers, Scott Leitzel, Keith McCool, Ron Boyer, Audrey Bingaman, Marie Eberhart, Mary Beckley, Jill Benfer, Pastor James Cope and Pastor Jan Garinger.

The meeting was called to order by President Donny Sauers.

By a unanimous vote the Consistory approved the purchase of new bottoms for the chairs in the Social Room. Cost - \$0.63 per chair. Audrey will handle ordering the chair bottoms.

Motion was made by Keith to adjourn meeting and seconded by Mary.

Secretary, Marie Eberhart

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
NEW BERLIN, PA

Consistory Meeting – March 11, 2024

Attendance: Donny Sauers, Ron Boyer, Scott Leitzel, Marie Eberhart, Audrey Bingaman, Mary Beckley, Keith McCool, Jill Benfer (via phone), Pastor James Cope and Pastor Jan Garinger.

The meeting was called to order by President Donny Sauers with a devotional reading based on Matthew 11:30 by Pastor Jim.

Secretary's Report: Audrey made a motion to accept the February 12th and February 25th reports as presented and seconded by Mary. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: It was questioned why the amount for Workman's Comp is shown as a credit. Donny will discuss it with Jay. Motion was made by Ron to approve the February 29, 2024, report subject to audit and seconded by Marie. Motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Kenny Hoover (Weatherproof Roofing) checked out the roof leak at the Educational Building. He feels it's not a roof problem but it's the window right under the roof which is in bad shape. Keith will contact Chris Hostetler about the window.
2. Checking with Jared Stumpff about ambulance coverage.
3. The trustees met with the insurance agent.
4. The company had informed us the chair gliders we were interested in purchasing are no longer available. Checking with local businesses.
5. Sanctuary Committee - no report.

New Business:

1. There was a question whether the consistory would consider changing their meeting time to a Sunday after church. It was decided to keep it the second Monday of the month.
2. Replacing the wax candles in the Advent wreath with oil candles. Pastor Jim will talk with Joan.
3. Furnace not working properly. Donny will have Jay contact Klose's.
4. Better lighting in the Sanctuary.
5. Redo the Secretary's office.

Pastor's Time:

Pastor Jim - Palm Sunday brunch; Meditations on the website for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday; Good Friday "A Day of Prayer" - Four stations will be set up in the Sanctuary for meditating.

Pastor Jan - Bible Study; Bible School; Hartman Center

Motion made by Keith to adjourn meeting at 8:25 pm and seconded by Mary. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting - Monday, April 8 at 7:30 pm

Secretary, Marie Eberhart



Emmanuel United Church of Christ

Church Address: 326 Market Street, PO Box 329, New Berlin, PA 17855

Church email: newberlinucc@windstream.net

Church website: www.newberlinucc.org

Church Phone: 570-966-2880

Church Secretary: Shirley Wilhelm

Office Hours: As noted in the bulletin

Pastor: Dr. James L. Cope

Pastor Email: newberlinuccpastor@windstream.net

Pastor's Phone: 570-898-5748

Pastor in Care: Jan Garinger

Pastor in Care Email: jang58@ptd.net

Pastor in Care Phone: 570-259-2968