



# Emmanuel

United Church of Christ

1306 Michigan Street  
Oshkosh, WI 54902  
920.235.8340  
[emmanueloshkosh.org](http://emmanueloshkosh.org)

the lamplighter

Hearing Loop Installed in Sanctuary.  
Switch Hearing Aid to Telecoil.





# EASTER SUNDAY

March 31, 2024 | 7:30a & 9:00a

*with Communion*



## From the Desk of Pastor Andi

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MARCH 2024

I am always amazed—and a little dismayed—at the way we pick and choose what rules, ordinances, commands, and laws we follow. We tend to overlook the things that don't fit into our own life while being offended by the actions of others. It's not something new; in the gospel of Matthew as Jesus was teaching against judging others, he said, 'Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?' (Matthew 7:3). We justify our own terrible acts while condemning our neighbor for theirs. It seems that since the beginning of time we have been all about pointing the finger of blame and shame at others to keep it from resting on us. Jesus also spoke of this when he rescued a woman caught in adultery from getting stoned to death by telling the gathered accusers, "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone.' (John 8:7). Ironically, the only one who would be able to throw that stone was advocating against it.

It feels like we are getting more and more judgmental. With the increase of the sin of judging others, we are getting more rigid and stingy with our own love and grace. The chain of sin starts with judging others and continues with us justifying our unwillingness to love our neighbor as commanded. This snowballing sin eventually becomes our own undoing because we spend so much time and effort justifying our lack of love and mercy that it never occurs to us to repent. Oftentimes this judgement is starting from some place of piousness and our own misunderstanding of Christ's call places us in the same category as the Pharisees, Scribes, and other religious leaders of Jesus's time.

Lent is the time for us to break through this cycle of hate and/or apathy. Spending some real and intentional time in prayer and study can help the scales of ignorance fall from our eyes so we can see the real path of discipleship Jesus calls us to take. Jesus calls us to love; love those like us, love those different from us, and love those we don't understand. We may not always agree (and I think that is ok) but we always, always, always, have to love.

Yes, friends, Lent is the time. Let's all commit to plucking the log from our eye so that we might better understand our neighbor. And when anger and piousness fill us with poison and we find ourselves picking up that stone, look to Jesus before you decide to throw it. If we loved more and offered forgiveness more, and threw a lot less stones, our entire world would be better. When we all concentrate on walking the best faith path we can, and worry less about what that neighbor of ours is doing, we find ourselves closer and closer to Jesus. Make the choice to walk with Jesus--really walk and learn from Jesus--this Lenten season. You will find that is the path you want to take for the rest of your life!

**Pastor Andi**  
**[pastor.andi@emmanueloshkosh.org](mailto:pastor.andi@emmanueloshkosh.org)**

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MARCH 2024	
Sunday, March 3, 2024	Earl & Laurie Dorst
Sunday, March 10, 2024	Ron & Sandy Golliher
Sunday, March 17, 2024	Dan & Rene Rogers
Sunday, March 24, 2024	Brad & Liz Schultz
Maundy Thursday Thursday, March 27, 2024 – 7:00p	Volunteers Needed
Good Friday Friday, March 28, 2024 – 1:00p	Volunteers Needed
Easter Sunday Sunday, March 31, 2024 – 7:30a	Volunteers Needed
Easter Sunday Sunday, March 31, 2024 – 9:00a	Volunteers Needed

*If you would like to help out with Ushering, please contact the church office at 920-235-8340 or by email at [office@emmanueloshkosh.org](mailto:office@emmanueloshkosh.org)*

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# Treasurer's Nook

The start to 2024 is off and we ended January with a small deficit of (\$862).

Thank you to all that supported our pizza and candy sale and if you had either of them, they were delicious!

Another great way to support Emmanuel is through the use of our Scrip program. If you have any questions, please stop by the desk where the cards are sold every Sunday morning or call the church office.

With our anticipated sidewalk expenses being approx. \$13,000, the sidewalk fund is currently at \$6,300.

## January 2024 Results

The Numbers	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
Direct Giving	16,800	16,302	16,800	16,302
Other Income	(2,473)	1,316	(2,473)	1,316
Total Income	14,327	17,618	14,327	17,618
Total Expenses	23,075	18,480	23,075	18,480
Cashflow/(Deficit)	(8,748)	(862)	(8,748)	(862)

Kim Winter  
Treasurer

*Your 2023 Giving Statements are available in the upper narthex. If you would like to have your statement sent or emailed to you, please contact Lori in the church office (920-235-8340), [lori.holland@emmanueloshkosh.org](mailto:lori.holland@emmanueloshkosh.org). Thank you!*

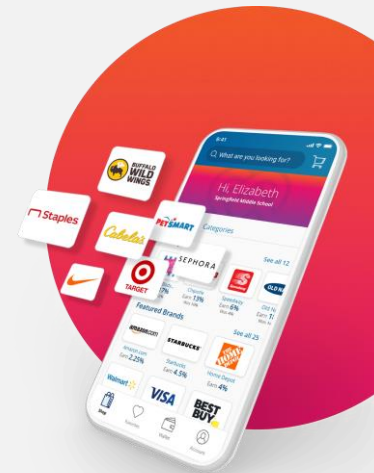
## RaiseRight Gift Cards

Raiseright gift card orders are due on Sunday, March 3, 2024

We will give you a call and let you know when your gift cards are available. We appreciate your support of this program. This program is really beneficial to Emmanuel. We receive a percentage of **EVERY** gift card we sell! How great is that?!!

Need Easter basket supplies? There are gift cards for all of those Easter treats. Pick up a gift card for your Easter dinner shopping.

Our continued thanks to **LISA SMITH & LEANNE MONROE** for managing the program and to **MARGARET YODER & SANDY GOLLIHER** for their help with the sale of the cards on Sunday mornings.



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## Food Pantry

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### *Food Pantry Update....*

***Please bring in canned soup during the month of March for the food pantry.*** Our numbers continue to grow and the need for food is increasing. We can't always get everything we need through our resource centers and with the Government commodities, so any donations you bring in would be a great help.

With the increase in numbers, we also need more help. We could really use help with filling bags, stocking the shelves and handing out food during our curbside pick-up. If any of these tasks appeal to you, please call the church office 920-235-8430 and we will see what's right for you!

We would like to thank our dedicated volunteers, **Henry Caron, Gail Hable, Cheryl Peppler, Sandy Folske, Deb Kraemer, Lisa Smith, Margaret Yoder, Jody Schaick, Mary Dinkins, Peter Smith, Dan Monroe, Rick Peppler, Ron Gorchels, Ray Hitz and Jim Schaick.** We appreciate all that you do on a weekly basis to keep the food pantry running so efficiently.

Thank you also to **Jay Koepke and Festival Foods and Red's Piggly Wiggly** for your continued support!

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## Thank you!

*Thank  
You*

- Thank you to Meg Hable, Lisa Smith, Kim Winter, Leanne Monroe & The Craig Geiger Family for cleaning around the building.
- Thank you to Lisa Smith, Jody Schaick, Kim Winter and Leanne Monroe for running the projector during the Lenten services as well as the Thursday night and Sunday worship services.
- Thank you to Deb Kraemer, Leanne Monroe, Linda Stowe, Peter Smith and Julie Barthels for reading during the worship services.
- Thank you to Ann Stark for supplying the children's activity bags in the upper narthex. The children look forward to what's inside!
- Thank you to Cory Schultz & Zach Wolf for videotaping and live streaming our worship services. If you would like to learn how to do this and help out, just talk to Cory or Zach, they would be happy to show you how it's done.
- Thank you to Dennis & Karen Chapin, Mary Dinkins & Marilyn Morrison for picking up donuts, setting up and cleaning up for Coffee Hour every Sunday.
- Thank you Ray! 😊

Carolyn, Marilyn and Valeria would like to thank all the wonderful members of Emmanuel who donated to The Giving Tree! We were thrilled to have so many wonderful donations. The original plan was for the Day by Day Warming Shelter, but those need to be adult only and mainly for men, and we had a lot. The second grouping was for children -- hats and scarves, mittens and gloves -- which were given to a local guidance counselor who had them on hand for littles who came to school without any (sadly, there are those, and our gifts were most welcome). The third grouping was an assortment that was delivered to Father Carr's, to be put in the adjoining clinic, for people who needed them. Because of you, we were able to make this cold winter a little warmer and happier, knowing that there are people who care. During the year, remember -- at sales or while wondering what to knit -- as we will be doing this again!! (We will accept donations on a year-round basis) Thanks again, everyone!!

The Giving Tree Three



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### CHIME CHOIR REHEARSALS

Wednesday Evenings | 5:00p

*\*March 27 – 5:30p*

### CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSALS

Wednesday Evenings | 5:45p

*\*March 27 – 6:30p*

### CONFIRMATION CLASS

Wednesday Evenings | 6:00p

*\*No Class March 27<sup>th</sup>*

### LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays 12:00p

*\*March 6<sup>TH</sup>, 13<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup>*

### LENTEN WORSHIP

Wednesday | 7:00p

*\*March 6, 13 & 20*

### CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, March 12 | 6:30p

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, March 10 | 10:00a

Sunday, March 24 | 10:00a



### DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

Sunday, March 10, 2024

### PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 24, 2024 | 9:00a

### MAUNDY THURSDAY WITH COMMUNION

Thursday, March 28, 2024 | 7:00p

### GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, March 29, 2024 | 1:00p

### EASTER SUNDAY WITH COMMUNION

Sunday, March 31, 2024 | 7:30a & 9:00a

# Memorials & Honorarium

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## FEBRUARY MEMORIAL & ENDOWMENT REPORT

In loving memory of **AUDREY PEPPLER**

A gift to the **Memorial Fund** by

Valeria Basler

Jim & Jody Schaick

Margaret Yoder

Family & Friends

Joy Konrad

Mike & Kim Winter

Peter & Lisa Smith

In loving memory of **AUDREY PEPPLER**

A gift to the **Sidewalk Fund** by

Earl & Laurie Dorst

*A gift of was given to the General Fund*

*In memory of Gary R. Freiberg and*

*In honor of Bill and Joyce Freiberg*

*By Kelly Freiberg*

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## Church Council

### Council Meeting Highlights January 16, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Leanne. Opening prayer by Pastor Andi.

**President's Report:** Eaton's Pizza - Going well, but not as strongly as other years; Vandewalle's Candy Bar - Start the first Sunday of Feb, sell both the first and second Sundays for Valentines day. If we have some left to sell, sell in March for Easter; Discussed candlelight service candles holder as opposed to the shield. Decision next month.

**Secretary's Report:** Accepted as corrected.

**Treasurer's Report:** Reviewed December's financial reports. We had a positive cash flow of \$9,560.69 with a positive YTD of \$9,221.55. Alliant Energy stock was + \$0.73 (1.44%) this month, with a YTD of -\$3.91 (7.08%). No sidewalk bill yet. Treasurer's Report accepted as printed.

**Pastor's Report:** General: I have been having computer issues. Ray at Link reported that my hard drive is close to maxed out. They can fix the issue for about \$150, but that would be a temp solution. He thought he could replace my laptop for around \$600. I think the Christmas Eve services went well. I am comfortable with having two services. This Month: Nolan Schultz's Boy Scout Troop will be using the Fellowship Hall for their Pinewood Derby January 26-27. I officiated the funeral of Tim Raddatz, uncle of Kelly Lallier, on Wednesday, January 10. I am meeting with Quinn and Bruce Bursack January 17 to discuss joining the church. Memorial and Endowment meets January 30, so if we have anything for them to discuss it needs to be passed along. For the Future: We had a baptism scheduled on Sunday, January 14, for Charlotte Lubenow, daughter of Kayla Lubenow and Alejandro Zevallos. This was postponed due to weather. Thursday evening services resume February 1. Ash Wednesday is February 14. We will have a 7:00 service with the imposition of ashes. I will not be offering ashes to go this year as it really didn't seem to be something Emmanuel needs. Throughout the season of Lent I plan on doing a noon bible study that goes with the Lenten services each week. So, rather than having two services I will have a noon bible study and a 7:00 Lenten Service every Wednesday. It will be centered on the story of Jonah. I believe the Lenten Services will be live streamed.

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Council Meeting Highlights January 16, 2024

*Continued*

**Vice President's Report:** New members got keys and codes, old members gave keys back. Key check needs to be updated and saved digitally, currently a work in progress.

**Deacon's Report:** Green paraments looked good after the cleaning, they've been picked up. Deacon's schedule is out.

**Trustee's Report:** Luebke coming out this month to give estimate for roof shingle replacement. More info for the annual meeting. Ray removed the porcelain drinking fountains. Heat on the South Park side is repaired and working. Lower Narthex air handler valve replaced. Shoveling concerns--first person here can try and shovel, if necessary, and lay some salt.

**Old Business:** 2024 budget: Money for the sidewalk was put under maintenance, but was put on its own line. Adjusted proposed budget approved. Sidewalk payment: no new info. Ads in Herald - worship directory \$500 for the year but you cannot change, display ad \$3000 annually.

**New Business:** Better communication throughout the church (lights not turned on, tree not on), just talking more specifically with council members so things can run smoothly. Fundraiser ideas: Panda Express, Pizza Ranch, Waterfest, (always open to add to the list with any ideas from Council or Members).

**Good & Welfare:** Questions about Easter breakfast have been raised, but the structure to do so isn't in place. If it's wanted, a member of the congregation who is willing would be able to look into getting it all set up. Lori sent out the agenda for the annual meeting. Received an email from Sovereign Insurance Group looking to give us some quotes. Lori asked about the binders of financial records for the last 30 years. Call Shred-It to see pricing; if reasonable throw out the extra information pre-2016. Kim Henning asked if he could come speak about the WI Conference and is planning to come to Feb meeting. Kim Winter asked about an offering plate upstairs, there used to be a wooden one.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

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## Church Council

### Church Council Meeting Highlights

February 13, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Leanne. Opening prayer by Pastor Andi.

**Guest Speaker:** Kim Henning spoke about Leadership Forward, giving some information about their group and what they are asking for donations for. Their group is asking that we pledge over the next 4 to 5 years.

**President's Report:** Eaton's Pizza sale, so far 188 coupons sold, which is a profit of \$607. Vande Walle's Candy Bars, 176 sold which had a profit of \$120. Lakeview plot info - \$1500 value but there are other costs involved than just the plot, which is something that we should make any prospective buyers aware of. Voted to purchase 200 of the 6.5 inch candles with the plastic shield for Christmas Eve services. Called Ray at link computing, it seems their records aren't entirely accurate with our hardware and should be updated before we continue with information about upgrades.

**Secretary's Report:** Small corrections, and January Minutes accepted as corrected. Annual Meeting minutes accepted as printed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Reviewed Jan financial reports. We had a negative cash flow of \$862.07 with the same YTD. Alliant Energy stock was - \$2.64 (5.15%) this month, with the same YTD. Treasurer's Report accepted as printed.

**Pastor's Report:** General: Quinn and Bruce Bursack would like to join the church. I have not done anything regarding my computer. Mike Bober, pastor at St. Paul UCC, is retiring. Last Month: I officiated the funeral of Audrey Peppler Jan 23. Nolan Schultz's Cub Scout Troop used the Fellowship Hall for their Pinewood Derby January 26-27. Sounds like everything went well. This Month: I officiated the funeral of Jerry Hohenwalter Feb 9. Thursday evening services resumed February 1. Ash Wednesday is tomorrow, February 14. We will have a noon bible study (Imposition of Ashes will be offered) and a 7:00 service with Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. We should discuss the Lenten Services being live-streamed. For the Future: Baptism for Charlotte Lubenow, daughter of Kayla Lubenow and Alejandro Zevallos has been rescheduled for March 17. Northeast Association Annual Meeting is April 20 at Daycholah Center from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Delegates are needed.

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# Church Council

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**Vice President's Report:** Key inventory log has been updated and shared.

**Trustee's Report:** Roof pricing info - Scott at Luebke gave ballpark numbers for what a roof replacement would cost this year, but we shouldn't need to worry about that for a few years and this is to have the estimates and start working towards it in the future. New motor and pump will eventually be needed for the old hot water heater. It works if we need it, but the pump will leak a little bit. This is NOT the heater itself, just the pump.

**Old Business:** Fundraisers: Pizza ranch - August 19, Kwik trip car wash cards at any time - spring, April/May, Panda express -perhaps April 30<sup>th</sup>. Kim asked about going through papers - Iron Mountain shredding bin \$130 for 65 gal bin—Craig says he has an industrial shredder at work, and should be able to take care of the shredding. Lori is waiting for info from Sovereign Insurance. Financial audit after Easter, Deb Bartel offered to help with the process.

**New Business:** Kim got the sidewalk donation goal graphic made and set up.

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.



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**2024 Annual Meeting Minutes | February 11, 2024 | Present:** 38 members

### **Call to Order:**

- Meeting called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Leanne Monroe.

### **Opening Prayer:**

- Pastor Andi offered the opening prayer to start the meeting.

### **Adoption of Agenda:**

- Motion made by Jeff Stark, seconded by Sandy Golliher to adopt the meeting agenda as printed. Motion carried.

### **2023 Minutes:**

- Motion made by Ann Stark, seconded by Dan Rogers to accept the minutes from the 2023 Annual Meeting on February 12, 2023 as printed. Motion carried.

### **Recognition of Church Council:**

- Leanne recognized 2023 retiring members of the council:
  - Robin Wilson and Connie Whittaker, both former Deacons.
- Leanne also recognized the new members joining the council in 2024:
  - Earl and Laurie Dorst, filling the open Deacon positions.

### **Non-Financial Reports:**

- Leanne asked if there were any questions or discussion on the following reports - President's, Pastor's, Technology Committee, Other Non-Financial Reports.
  - No questions or concerns were brought forward.
- Debbie Kraemer made a motion to accept the reports as printed, seconded by Cory Schultz. Motion carried.

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2024 Annual Meeting Minutes | February 11, 2024

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### Financial Reports:

- Leanne asked if there were any questions or discussion on the Treasurer's Report.
  - No questions or concerns were brought forward.
- Motion made by Robin Wilson to accept the report as printed, seconded by Lisa Smith. Motion carried.
- Leanne asked if there were any questions or discussion on the Memorial and Endowment Committee's financial reports as well as the new members.
  - No questions or concerns were brought forward.
- Motion made by Jeff Stark to accept the reports as printed, seconded by Kim Winter. Motion carried.

### Old Business:

- Nothing to report.

### New Business:

- Leanne asked for approval of the 2024 Proposed Budget, and whether there were any questions or discussions surrounding it.
  - No questions or discussion.
- A motion was made by Jim Schaick to accept the budget as printed, seconded by Rene Rogers. Motion carried.

### Good & Welfare:

- Craig Geiger just got information on the roof, which he wants to share:
  - Luebke roofing did repairs back in 2022, showed some pictures of damage on the roof from 2022 and mentions he and the trustees would like to be proactive in looking towards repairing the roof.
  - Currently just spreading the awareness of the fact the roof may need replacement within the coming years and the costs that would come along with that.
  - More discussion in depth will be had at future council meetings.
- Leanne mentions other financial needs for the church:
  - Specifically, the sidewalk replacement, which Kim said is currently estimated \$13,000, of which we have raised about \$2,300.
- Meg Hable asks about a visual aid for the sidewalk replacement fund.

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### Good & Welfare: *Continued*

- Ron Golliher asks about advertising our church, both as a church and a facility to be used.
  - He asks if M&E could set up any sort of a fund.
  - Ann states that the council will need to officially request that fund before they can look at it.
  - Cory also adds that sharing Facebook posts is another way to get our name around, and that is without cost.

### Adjourn:

- Motion made by Cory Schultz to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Val Basler. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:33 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted by: Zach Wolf



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Would you like to help with running the Projector, Cleaning or doing the Readings on Sunday? It's easy to sign up! Just go to our website [www.emmanueloshkosh.org](http://www.emmanueloshkosh.org) click on Get Involved, then click on how can I help. Scroll down the page to what you would like to sign up for such as the Cleaning, this will take you to the sign up page and you can select what days and tasks work for you! Thanks for your consideration!

### EATON'S PIZZA SALE RESULTS...

Thank you to **EVERYONE** who bought pizza coupons and fresh pizzas. We had a profit of **\$643.00** from this fundraiser!! Thank you so much to **LEANNE MONROE** for organizing the sale and having fresh pizzas available for pick up on Sunday mornings.

### *Wheelchair available...*

If you or someone you know is in-need of a brand-new wheelchair, please contact the church office for further information.

**Coming in April & May...**You will have a chance to order Kwik Trip Car Wash cards in time for Spring! \$40 each good for 5 Ultimate Car washes.

***We have another Fundraising opportunity coming in April...*** We are looking forward to having an Emmanuel UCC day at Panda Express | 570 S. Koeller Street in Oshkosh | Look for more details in your April Lamplighter and upcoming bulletins!

We are still collecting metal tabs from beverage cans for the Ronald McDonald House in Wisconsin. You can bring them in and drop them off in the office or in the little white church in the upper narthex. Thank you to **EARL & LAURIE DORST** for picking up and delivering these to St. Paul.

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### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.

***Please us the envelope enclosed in this Lamplighter for your donation to OGHS. Please be sure to write your name on the envelope to receive proper credit to your account. Thank you!***

### **Making the Most of Today -- This devotional was written by Jim Burns**

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. -Psalm 118:24

Today you were handed from God 24 hours to live life to the fullest. That's 1440 minutes or 86,400 seconds. Sometimes we get so busy and distracted we miss the fact that each rising, sun brings new opportunities and adventures on this planet we call Earth. God gives us one new day at a time so that we aren't distracted by the future or paralyzed by the past. Today is the first day of the rest of your life. Make the most of today. Enjoy God's gift to you. You can accomplish a great deal with the 1440 minutes in a day. Today stop and take advantage of all that God has provided for you. Here are a few suggestions:

- Tell someone you love him/her.
- Write a kind note to a friend.
- Stop and enjoy the sunset.
- Take 20 minutes of the 1440 you have today and talk to God.

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# Miscellaneous

## EASTER MEMORIAL & HONORARIUMS

We are once again offering the option of ordering your choice of Easter flowers. Either an Easter Lily or Tulip Plant is being offered. If you don’t want to purchase a flower, a donation can be made to Emmanuel’s General Fund.

**\*\*DEADLINE FOR EASTER FLOWERS & MEMORIALS IS SUNDAY MARCH 17\*\***

\*\*\*\*\*

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY \_\_\_\_\_

EASTER LILY (\$11.00)                      HOW MANY \_\_\_\_\_

TULIP PLANT (\$11.00)                      HOW MANY \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION TO GENERAL FUND \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT DUE \$ \_\_\_\_\_



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## Miscellaneous

If you have any questions or concerns for the Church Council, Memorial and Endowment Committee and Pastoral Relations Committee, please find the contact information below:

### Church Council

Leanne Monroe	Zach Wolf
Kim Winter	Dan Rogers
Debra Kraemer	Earl Dorst
Rene Rogers	Laurie Dorst
Craig Geiger	Noah Wilson
Tom Stark	Jim Schaick

### Memorial/Endowment Committee:

Gerry Keuler	Ann Stark
Kathleen Hable	Henry Caron
Sandy Golliher	Margaret Yoder
Emily Reyes	

### Pastoral Relations Committee:

Sandra Golliher	Kay Lund
Julie Barthels	Lori Potratz
Faith Lueck	

*Please consider volunteering for any of these committees, please contact the church office 235-8340 if you are interested.*

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## Additional Resources

We'd love to hear from you!  
Click [here](#) to give us your feedback.

Visit us on social media.

