Emmanuel Reformed Church



Sunday, August 20, 2023

DIGITAL VERSION

Worship

Prelude: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" with "Thou Art Worthy, Great Jehovah" Lord, You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations. -Psalm 90:1

God Gathers Us

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

"'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" #350

"Day by Day" #56

Prayers of the People

"Under His Wings" #356

God Speaks to Us

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm 121, "Relying on God" Pastor Cody Raak

Prayer for Blessing on the Word

God Sends Us

- * "Doxology" (#625)
- * Prayer for Blessing
 - * Benediction
 - * We stand, as able, to worship our great God!

This Week @ERC

August 20-27

Sunday, August 20, 2023

10AM Worship Service

6PM Praise Team practice

Monday, August 21, 2023

7:30PM Consistory

Wednesday, August 23, 2023

5-7PM Church Office Open

*Starting Wednesday, August 23, office hours go back to WEDNESDAY evenings for the school year. Thank you!

Sunday, August 27, 2023

10AM Worship Service

6PM Praise Team practice

Discipleship

<u>Sunday School</u> — we meet together at 9:00AM, before the worship service, in the church basement!

Music — Krystal Williams, Linda Tjeerdsma, Jill Tolsma

PreK-Kindergarten — Hillary Tjeerdsma

1st-3rd — Amy Vanderlei

4th-5th — Pastor Cody

Jr. High+ — Matt DenHerder, Connie Tjeerdsma

Adults (New!) — Mel & Danielle Wallinga (see below)

Youth Room Wish List — The students of the LIT youth group express our overflowing thanks to those of you who have purchased from our Amazon wishlist and contributed to our new space and our gatherings. Thank you for your continued support and generosity in the new year!

If you'd like to help equip our space for ministry, search the Amazon gift list "LIT" to view our ideas.

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RightNow Media is like a Netflix for Bible studies, offering thousands of video series taught by Christian pastors, teachers, and writers. We've subscribed to this service for our members. To create your free account and get started, use the QR code here, or text EmmanuelRC to 49775. Or, go to www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/Emmanuel ReformedChurch.

Mission

The BH Food Pantry asks for the following: gravies, shampoos, soups, cereals, canned or dried fruit, canned vegetables, taco fixings. As always, any and all donations are greatly appreciated. The pantry is seeing an increase in the number of folks visiting the pantry!

Bon Homme County Food Pantry

105 E 17th Ave Tyndall, SD 57066

Open Wednesdays 8-12PM (2nd Wednesdays open 2-6PM)

Our Mission Partners

Living Stone Prison Church, Springfield SD Grace Covenant Ministries, Annville, KY Bon Homme & Avon Fellowship of Christian Athletes Dakota Senior Meals Northwestern College, Orange City, IA Center of Hope, Sioux Falls, SD Words of Hope

The Mission Team and Deacons are reviewing our support of mission partners, and looking to increase our participation in local mission efforts. If you have any input or ideas, please contact the deacons or Beth Namminga!

Prayer

This guides prayer for those who are battling cancer, suffering from serious illness, enduring chronic pain, and experiencing the difficulties of aging.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

As Job suffers, he declares, "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in him" (Job 13:15a). As you become aware of yourself in God's presence, pray to him this same confidence. Lift the hurting into God's hands, to experience the care of the heavenly Father.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Invite God's power to heal and to help into the lives of those who need his strength today. Pray for these men and women, that they would have opportunities to show in their lives an example of deep faith and full reliance on God. Pray for courage, that, instead of resisting the pain, or fantasizing about a day without the struggle, they can surrender to God's will for them today.

Give us today our daily bread.

In his moment of need, Moses asks God, "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here" (Exodus 33:15). As you pray for strength, for healing, for peace, ask God to be near to them today.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Prayerfully read and ponder James 5:13-16. Pray that God would heal our spiritual disease, our sinful hearts, just as he heals our bodies.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

Include in your prayers a time of lament, acknowledging in God's presence that these diseases and conditions are not what God intended for us, and that his kingdom is a kingdom of life abundant. Call on him to rescue us, to heal and restore his people for his glory.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Rejoice in the truth that all power is his. Surrender, and rest.

Welcoming Strangers

-Luke 14:12-14 -

At this dinner party in Luke 14, Jesus continues to comment on the table manners of the other guests. It seems that the host has invited the "who's who" and well-to-do to come and eat with him (which explains why they all thought they each deserved the place of honor). Jesus tells this man (and everyone else listening), that it is more blessed to welcome in "the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind" (Luke 14:13). Jesus explains that people like this "cannot repay you" (v.14). The poor cannot repay our efforts, but God can, and Jesus promises that he will repay "at the resurrection" (v.14).

When Jesus asks us to pray, or resist temptation, or humble ourselves, or believe in him, we can obey him gladly, without having to rearrange our schedules or relationships or commitments. But when Jesus starts asserting his authority over our bank accounts, and how and with whom we spend our time, and our conveniences and comforts, then we start to make excuses. And here, Jesus goes even further. He intrudes on our very homes, our personal space, and he insists that we bring *strangers* into these private areas. And not just any strangers, but desperate and pitiable ones.

For starters, imagine what it would look like for you to obey this command. **Who** would you invite? Do you know anyone who would be unable "to invite you in return" (v.13)? That's the first part of obedience to this command, making yourself available to and familiar with those less fortunate than you are. You might start there.

Next, consider **when** you would host this get-together? Do you have time in your schedule to plan a meal, prepare it, and then actually sit down and enjoy it with someone openly and genuinely? Make space in your life by saying no to some things, and enjoy that time with the people who are already near you.

Read: Leviticus 19:33-34; Matthew 25:34-35; Hebrews 13:2

Emmanuel's Mission

"To serve God and share the message of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Emmanuel Staff

Pastor: Cody Raak (464-4952)

Office Manager: Tanya Krueger (830-2734)

Emmanuel Consistory

<u>Elders</u> <u>Deacons</u>

Beth Namminga (*Mission*) Amy Cooper

Bryan Nagel (Worship) Craig Vanderlei (Treasurer)

Lawrence Namminga, Jr. (Clerk) Tom Kolecka

Connie Tjeerdsma (Hospitality) Jeremy Krueger (Deacon's Secretary)

Claudette Heusinkveld Brenda Pudwill
Ginger Pudwill Blane Nagel

Emmanuel Reformed Church

1112 College Street | PO Box 525 Springfield, SD 57062 (605) 369-5596

erchurch@gwtc.net

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