

Emmanuel Reformed Church

ROMANS

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024

DIGITAL VERSION

Worship

Prelude: "Jesus Is My Lord" &

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" -Linda Tjeerdsma

"Faith of Our Fathers" -Clarabelle DenHerder

God Gathers Us

"Come, All Christians, Be Committed" #455

Call to Worship

"And Can it Be?" #203

Prayers of the People

God Speaks to Us

Children's Sermon

Romans 6:1-14, "New Life"

Pastor Cody Raak

"I Surrender All" #366

God Sends Us

*** "Doxology" (#625)**

*** Prayer for Blessing**

*** Benediction**

*** We stand, as able, to worship our great God!**

This Week at ERC

Sunday, March 10, 2024

- 9a** Sunday School for all ages
PreK-6th grade — Church Basement
Jr & Sr High — NO CLASS THIS MONTH!
Adults — Church Basement
- 10a** Worship Service: Romans 6:1-14, "New Life"

Monday, March 11, 2024

- 7p** God's Garden Circle- Hostess is Carolyn Kastein
Connie Tjeerdsma leads Lesson 6

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

- 6:50p** AWANA @ Springfield Bible Church
- 7p** CREW @ ERC Basement
LIT @ Parsonage Basement

Thursday, March 14, 2024

- 3-5p** Church Office Open*

Sunday, March 17, 2024

- 9a** Sunday School for all ages
PreK-6th grade — Church Basement
Jr & Sr High — NO CLASS THIS MONTH!
Adults — Church Basement
- 10a** Worship Service: Romans 6:15-7:6, "Freed to Serve"

***The church office will be open THURSDAY this week from 3:00-5 PM.**

Spiritual Disciplines

“Why Do We Fast”

DISCIPLINE: FASTING

“Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.”

— Matthew 9:15, ESV —

Jesus says his disciples will fast as we wait for his return. Scripture gives several different reasons why we fast.

Fasting helps us pray more passionately. The faithful have often fasted when asking God to care for needs (as in 2 Chronicles 20:1-4 or Ezra 8:21-23); when seeking God’s guidance in making an important decision (as in Judges 20:26-27); or when offering genuine, wholehearted worship (as in Luke 2:36-37 or Acts 13:2-3). Fasting intensifies and deepens prayers of all kinds.

Fasting expresses sorrow and grief. In particular, prayers that groan our sadness to God can be made much more powerful by fasting (for example, see 1 Samuel 31:11-13, 2 Samuel 1:11-12). When you need to pray your pain to God as a lament, fasting amplifies these prayers especially (see Esther 4:1-3, or Psalm 69, especially verse 10).

Fasting sharpens our repentance and returning to God. This may be the most common reason to fast. When we see our sin for what it is, and we honestly confess it to God, and we earnestly seek his forgiveness, then fasting can make sorrow over sin and seeking after God more tangible and experiential (see 1 Samuel 7:6; 1 Kings 21, especially verses 27-29; Jonah 3:6-9; and Nehemiah 1:3-4).

Explore these different reasons for fasting this week. Which do you most relate to? Which are you most curious about? And how might you plan to practice fasting and prayer?

Emmanuel's Mission

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

Staff

Pastor: Cody Raak (464-4952)

Custodian, Secretary: Gwynevere DenHerder (464-7764)

Consistory

Elders

Lawrence Namminga, Jr. - *Clerk**
Connie Tjeerdsma
Claudette Heusinkveld
Ginger Pudwill
Dr. Mel Wallinga - *VP**
Matt Den Herder

Deacons

Tom Kolecka
Jeremy Krueger - *Deacon's Secretary**
Brenda Pudwill - *Treasurer**
Blane Nagel - *Deacons' Chair**
Tom Pier
Jeremy Bertrand

** Admin team: The consistory officers oversee church personnel.*

Emmanuel Reformed Church

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