

Emmanuel Reformed Church

ROMANS

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

DIGITAL VERSION

Worship

Prelude: "Hymn of Joy"

God Gathers Us

Call to Worship

"Jesus Lives and So Shall I"

Prayers of the People

"How Deep the Father's Love"

God Speaks to Us

Children's Sermon

Romans 8:5-11, "You are in the Spirit, the Spirit is in You"

Pastor Cody Raak

"Living Hope" Communion

God Sends Us

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

*** Prayer for Blessing**

*** Benediction**

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

This Week at ERC

Sunday, April 7, 2024

- 9a** Breakfast Potluck! **All are welcome!** (downstairs)
Praise Team Practice (sanctuary)
- 10a** Worship: Romans 8:5-11
"You are in the Spirit, the Spirit is in You," Communion

Monday, April 8, 2024

- 7p** God's Garden Circle– Melissa Jelsma leads Lesson 5
Kristi Chenoweth is hosting. Roll call is "Bring two packages of your favorite flower seeds"

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

- 6:50p** AWANA @ Springfield Bible Church — AWARD NIGHT
- 7p** CREW @ ERC Basement (snacks: _____)
LIT @ Parsonage Basement (snacks: Jaime Watchorn)

Thursday, April 11, 2024

- 3-5p** Church Office Open*

Sunday, April 14, 2024

- 9a** Easter Morning Breakfast Potluck! All are welcome!
- 10a** Easter Service: Romans 8:12-17, "Sons and Daughters"

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

Spiritual Disciplines

→ **Throw a Party!**

→ DISCIPLINE: CELEBRATION & HOSPITALITY

→ *“It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”*

→ — Luke 15:32, ESV —

- Celebration is the correct response to what Jesus has done. His death, his resurrection, his reigning, his giving his Spirit to live in us, is *such* good news, that the *only* thing to do about it is to *celebrate*. That’s why Jesus says that the people who find what they lost gather all their friends and throw a party (Luke 15:6, 9, 23-24).
- That’s what was going on all around Jesus. His reputation was apparently that of a party animal (Matthew 11:19), because he was known for eating and drinking with sinners (Matthew 9:10) and tax collectors (Luke 19:5-7). Of course, he ate and drank with Pharisees, too (Luke 7:36, 14:1). The first miracle he performed was to change water into “the good wine” to keep a wedding feast going (John 2:1-11). One of Jesus’ favorite pictures for what his kingdom is like was a dinner party (Luke 14:12-24; Matthew 22:2-14).
- So throw a party! The occasion can be anything or nothing. The menu can be elaborate or simple (April 13 is National Peach Cobbler Day — sounds like a good celebration to me!). Invite family, or friends, or neighbors! If you’re really daring, invite over people you know from two different areas of your life (work and church, for example), and plan an activity you know everyone will enjoy. Turn on some music, set up a game, and have fun.
- This isn’t nonsense. This is practice. C. S. Lewis once wrote, “Joy is the serious business of heaven.” Wherever Jesus is, there’s a party happening, because that’s where there is life abundant (John 10:10) and joy complete (John 15:11).

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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www.emmanuelreformed.com

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