



# Emmanuel Lutheran News

Located at the corner of Laurel & Cottonwood Streets

PO Box 207, Reardan WA 99029

Telephone: 509-796-2531 Email: [Reardanlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:Reardanlutheran@gmail.com)

Website: [www.emmanuelreardan.org](http://www.emmanuelreardan.org)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Hallelujah! Jesus is Risen! I love Easter and the celebration but afterwards I am always left with a sense of “now what?” After the joy of the Resurrection, there’s always the question of what is the next step? What is the rest of the story? This year we have been reading through the Gospel of Luke and the cool thing about that is there is a sequel to it! It’s the Book of Acts. In Acts we see how the early church develops, its triumphs and its struggles. We see believers wrestling with how to live into the future without Jesus physically present. We see people breaking out of old habits and routines to be a part of something new.

It seems to me that this is exactly where the church still is today. We live in a post Easter reality. Jesus is Risen. He has ascended to heaven. The Holy Spirit has come to counsel and lead us in faith. So, like the early church, we often find ourselves asking “what happens now?” That is a good question. It is one we should ask ourselves often but what usually happens is we fall into our old routines. We develop patterns and embrace predictability because it is much more comfortable to simply stay in our comfort zone and keep doing the same things the same way. But is that what the Spirit is calling us to do? Is that living faithfully as Easter people? Is there something more God is inviting us to be a part of?

I believe the answer is a resounding yes! God invites each of us to be a part of God’s mission in the world, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ in new and sometimes challenging ways. That means welcoming people who are different than us into our fellowship. That means seeking out the hurting in our world and loving them just as Christ first loved us, offering peace and comfort and grace. It means standing up against injustice and oppression. This is what it means to be the Church today. Of course, it is far easier to simply stay in our safe, little cocoon where we are never challenged to grow or try something new. It is as if a caterpillar refuses to leave its cocoon and never breaks free. If it remains as it is, it will never become the butterfly God intends to become. Likewise, when we refuse to change or reach out in new ways, we do not live fully into who God created us to be.

This is what comes next, Easter people. God is calling you to break free of your old habits and embrace the new creation God calls you to be. Will this be easy? Will it be comfortable? Probably not. But it will be worth the effort and the struggle to fully live into who God intends you to be!

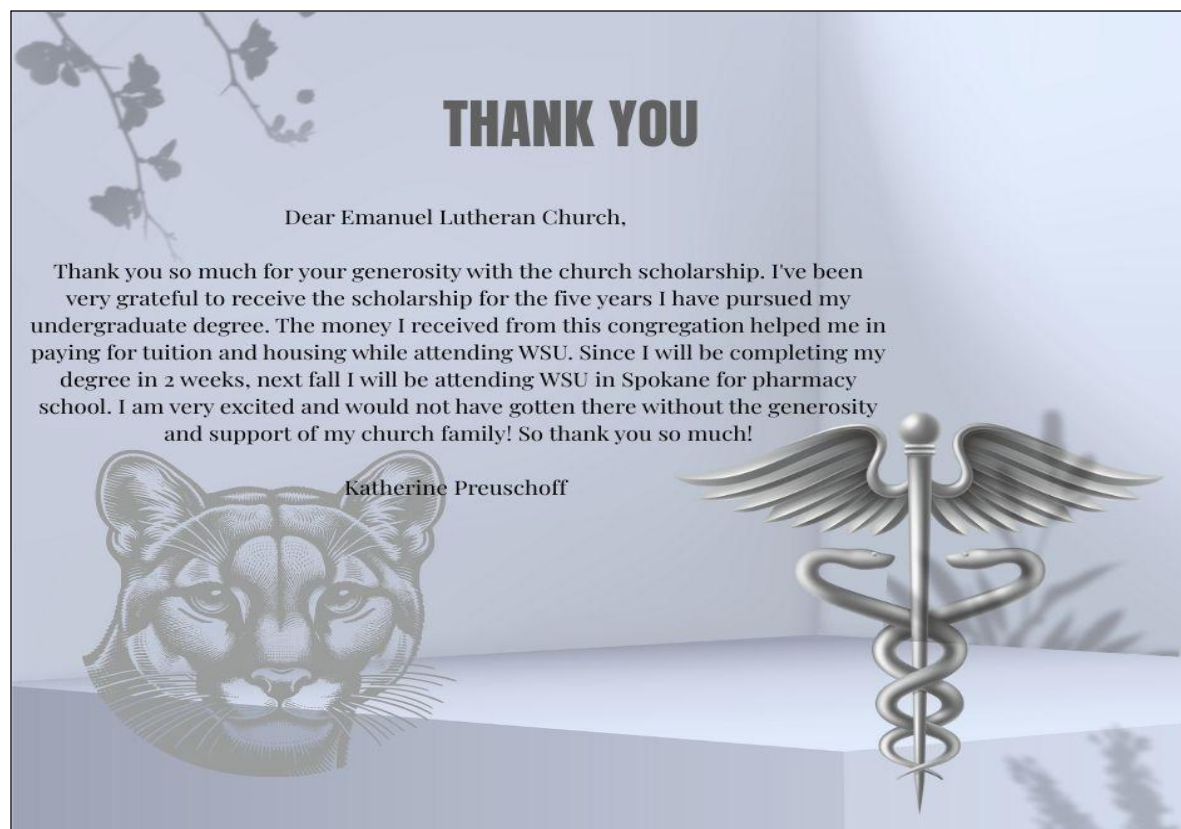
So, let’s try new things. Let’s reach out to strangers. Let’s be willing to learn new songs, or prayers, or try new ministry ideas. After all God tells us in Isaiah 43:19 “See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” Together let’s follow the Spirit and see this new thing God is up to!

See you in church,

Pastor Carol

Coffee with Pastor Carol  
is cancelled for May due to a  
Bishop's meeting scheduled at the  
same time!  
Join her in June!

Any questions, please contact Pastor  
Carol  
at 509-768-5719.



**WAY TO GO KATHERINE! We are so proud of you!**  
**Congratulations on your college graduation!**

(\*Special note-The minutes have been approved electronically by the council prior to publication)

*Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council Minutes*

*April 8, 2025*

Members present: Charlotte Preuschoff, Chris Falk, Tessa Wicks, Gary Cook, Barbara Hamilton, Pastor Carol Yeager and Pastor Greg Yeager.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by President Charlotte Preuschoff, with Pastor Carol delivering an opening prayer.

March 4<sup>th</sup> minutes were approved prior to the meeting via email by the council.

**Pastors' report:**

Pastor Carol reported she was able to accompany a previously ill member to the party gals last month and that Lenten activities were going well. Maundy Thursday, Palm Sunday and Easter planning are underway, with food, music and musicians being scheduled. Pastor Carol attended the Dean's meeting, which reported on congregation status and plans for Synod Assembly, which is online on May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Upcoming events:

Maundy Thursday Dinner – April 17 6:30pm (RSVP to Pastor Carol)

Palm Sunday – April 13

Easter Sunday – April 20

Pastor's Vacation – May 6-13

**Financial report:**

The financial report for the month of March was presented. Discussion followed. Charlotte will reach out to the Church Secretary with questions/clarification on some expenses from the month. Pastor Greg moved, and Barbara Hamilton seconded to accept the report. Motion carried.

**Committee reports:**

**Property & Remodeling:** Pastor Carol again advised that we be proactive on church repairs and policies prior to the insurance renewal in order to maintain and retain coverage, specifically the roof, which has a 25 year "life", but is 28 years old. Our current insurance company will probably inquire and require roof and electrical updates. Gary will obtain three bids for a new church roof. Potential funding sources mentioned were a special offering or low-interest loan.

An estimate has been received from Chartwell Homes for the parsonage front door. The church donor will be contacted to see how much of the expenses they are willing to cover.

Regarding the basement leak, there has been no further damage. The consensus is that downspout maintenance may help prevent this from happening in the future.

It was brought to the committee's attention that the light above the front door of the church needs to be replaced.

**Worship & Music/Outreach & Fellowship:** The church fed ten youth at Crosswalk. Aside from some delivery issues, a pizza dinner was served on March 29.

Palm Sunday will start from the back of the church instead of downstairs.

Nancy, Paul Lillengreen and church orchestra members will play for Easter services.

The congregation will enjoy readers for both Palm Sunday and Easter, and the Johnson family will serve treats.

**Old Business:**

Goals for 2025-2026: Regarding the Rostered Minister Self-Review, which Pastor Carol reported on last month, Pastor Greg shared some of his thoughts on the questions asked pertaining to joy and fulfillment of the ministry, challenges, favorite things about our ministry site and biggest struggles. Council Members have homework for the May meeting complete our own review and report back to the Pastors.

Increasing Congregational Engagement: The Pastors are looking forward to taking part in more home visits this spring/summer and will look at potentially changing office hours to accommodate more engagement.

**New Business:**

It was mentioned that online streaming of the March 30<sup>th</sup> service wasn't available. There seems to be confusion on which page/group can be accessed and who has admin rights to post. Charlotte will be in contact with Johanna to get the kinks worked out.

**The next meeting will be on Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.**

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:06pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tessa Wicks, Council Secretary





### ***Sunday School at Home for May***

I think Spring has finally sprung! Trees are budding and blooming, and the hum of lawn mowers can already be heard in some places on the weekend. As I write this it is the day after Earth Day was celebrated. I am reminded that Adam and Eve were the first caretakers of Creation, and that responsibility has been passed down through generations to us here and now. As a family, talk about ways that you care for the land, and ways we might come together as a community to preserve, protect and responsibly use our natural environment and resources. Have the kids help plant flowers or prep the garden for planting. Read the **story of creation in Genesis**, then read **Psalms 148** and have the kids provide the sounds of the animals and nature as you read it aloud. Then go out and marvel at God's beautiful, amazing and miraculous creation this month!

Remember the next time you visit church in person, you'll find brightly colored activity bags filled with a clipboard, crayons, and activity pages for kids to work on while attending church service in the sanctuary. There are colored pipe cleaners to make shapes and symbols, and you may even find a special treat too! Kids can even color and decorate the bag! Pastor Carol and Pastor Greg will provide a special children's sermon for those in attendance. Children can take home the coloring pages or leave them here and we'll display their work downstairs in our Fellowship Hall. We even have activity packets for big kids! We ask that you leave the clipboard, bag and crayons so they can be cleaned and re-used.

If you would like to be part of our Advisory Committee, donate items for the activity bags, volunteer as a teacher, or have any questions or comments about our Sunday School program, please reach out to Charlotte Preuschoff [candepreuschoff@gmail.com](mailto:candepreuschoff@gmail.com) or any of the Advisory Committee members.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **June 4<sup>th</sup> 11 am Memorial Planning Potluck**



Have you ever thought "I really like that hymn-I want it sung at my service someday"? Do you have a preference on where and how you are buried or cremated? Do your loved ones know your wishes after you pass? Have you ever written down your thoughts or talked about them with others?

None of us like to talk about our death or what will happen after we pass. But what a gift it is for our loved ones not to wonder about our wishes when they are grieving for us. Pastor Greg and I have sat so often with families who have no idea what their loved one's favorite

hymn or meaningful bible stories are. In some cases, the families don't know where to even begin planning a service to remember and honor their loved one.

In an effort to help families and you, we are inviting you to join us on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 11 am for a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall where we can help you think about your wishes and even get them written down. Bring a dish to share and a creative, vulnerable mind set. We will have bibles and hymnals to look through along with a guide to start planning. These plans aren't set in stone, nor do they cost you anything, but it is a helpful tool for you and your loved ones. Please feel free to see Pastor Carol or Pastor Greg if you have any questions.



Soon, all of the previous videos will be available only our YouTube account. If you want to view any of the streamed worship videos, please subscribe to our YouTube account.

Additionally, the Facebook group will be phased out. Please follow the Facebook **PAGE** for the church instead. The live stream videos will be shown from **ONLY** the Facebook PAGE beginning May 1!

As always, if you have any trouble with ANY of the social accounts or connecting or such, please contact Johanna Ellis at reardanlutheran @ gmail.com or 509-796-2531. She is HAPPY to help!

## Emmanuel Lutheran Social Accounts

Fastest Way to hear the most recent happenings!

Follow one and/or all!

Point your camera at the QR code to be instantly connected to the corresponding account!  
(Select the yellow box that appears on your camera screen)

Website: [www.emmanuelreardan.org](http://www.emmanuelreardan.org)



Facebook **Page**: Emmanuel Lutheran Reardan



Instagram Account: emmanuellutheranreardan



You Tube: EmmanuelReardan



HAPPY  
MOTHER'S  
DAY  
TO ALL MOMS OF ANY KIND  
OUT THERE



Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 207  
Reardan, WA 99029

May 2025