

EMANUEL CHURCH

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

April 2025 VOL. 3 ISSUE 4

101 14th St., Baraboo, WI 53913 • 608-356-8246 • office@emanuelchurch.net
www.emanuelchurch.net

FROM THE PASTOR:

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your fingers here; see my hands. Reach into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

(John 20:27)

Lent is the traditional time in the church when Christians are called to reflect on Christ's sacrifice, repent of the sins he died to forgive, and to make a point to intentionally renew our relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Lent is the "run up" to Easter when the miracle of Christ's being raised from the dead offers you and I the opportunity for eternal life, in heaven, with Jesus. The catch, you MUST believe!

Oh, we are pretty good at believing that Jesus lived. That he was tried by Pontius Pilate the governor of Palestine and was executed as a criminal. Reliable historians have documented and confirmed these historical facts. But when it comes to the Resurrection, that can be a tough one. I've had and known leaders of the church that felt the Resurrection was a nice story, but not literally true.

Faith can be defined as believing in something in the absence of physical evidence. We know Jesus lived, was tried and beaten by the authorities, and executed. However, as the Son of God who was raised from the dead for our eternal salvation is a matter of faith. Even Thomas, one of the original disciples, had his faith tested. And each year Christians around the world at least consider the viability of this amazing possibility.

John, the only gospel author who addresses Thomas' doubt, makes a point of the resurrected Jesus confronting "Doubting Thomas," having him stick his fingers into the nail holes in his hands and the spear puncture in his side with the words, "Stop doubting and believe!"

This Easter, stand on your faith in the face of modern oppression and rejection of Jesus Christ. For, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE FROM DANI:

Kentucky Mission Trip Meeting

Join us on Sunday, April 6th after either service in the fellowship hall to learn more about our upcoming mission trip to Beverly, Kentucky with Red Bird Missions.

Mission Trip Dates: July 12th-18th, 2025

Price-\$500 per person which includes travel down/back, overnight accommodation on July 12th, a ticket to the Ark Encounter, evening devotions, food/lodging during the work week and an unforgettable experience serving in the work camp.

VBS Planning Meeting

Join us on Tuesday, April 8th at 5:30p as we start to plan for Vacation Bible School at Emanuel: June 16th-19th, 2025.

American Heritage Girls

Help support Emanuel's American Heritage Girls at Culver's!

Join us Tuesday, April 15th, 4p-8p as we raise money to support our troop badges.

Women's Retreat

Join us on Sunday, May 3rd from 9a – 3p on Castle Rock Lake as we study Seasons. Seasons are part of God's grand design for this earth and also part of God's grand design for us. Breakfast, lunch are provided, and we will focus on the seasons of our life rooted in God. Stay posted for more info!

Youth Group Concert

Join us Saturday, May 10th from 4p-7:30p

This is open to area youth groups, community teens and the Emanuel Family. Join us for flag football, hamburgers, worship, and an inspiring guest speaker. This event is free but you must RSVP. Sign up will be in the narthex or contact Michelle Bahe at (608) 963-9739 or mbahe15@gmail.com .

Bible Studies Resume

Men's and Women's bible studies start back up on Wednesday, April 23rd!

Lent Wednesday Soup & Study

"The Way of Grace"

Soup Supper at 5:15p & Study at 6:00p

Nursery available

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
	April	
2 nd	The Journey Home	Luke 15:11-32
9 th	The Fragrance of Love	John 12:1-8

Holy Week at Emanuel

Maundy Thursday Service 4/17: 6p-7p

Good Friday Service: 4/18: 6p-7p

Easter Sunday: 4/20

Worship: 8a

Free Breakfast 9a – 10:30a (no Sunday School)

Worship: 10:30a

YOUTH GROUP FROM MICHELLE & JOSH:

Hello Emanuel Family. Happy Spring! Thank You again to Pastor Ron for letting the kids do a Sunday Take Over! They were amazing. Josh and I were so proud of their willingness to stand up and speak from the heart. We hope that their topic of influences spoke to you as much as it has to them. Your ongoing love and support for them is what keeps them fired up.....as well as the fruit snacks and Arnold Palmers as you heard over and over. 😊 We are starting a beautiful Easter Study for the next four weeks. We hope that this study will move their hearts even closer to Him as they pray over the hardship and sacrifices he made for each of us. The Youth Group will be serving the Community Dinner on Monday April 21st so please come down for a nice meal and wonderful conversation.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Our Lenten Series: "Christ's Passion"

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sermon Title</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
6 th	Crucified	John 19:1-37
13 th	The King's Arrival	Matt 21:1-11
17 th	Maundy Thursday (6:00p)	I Cor 11:23-26
18 th	Good Friday (6:00p)	Various
20 th	Easter Sunday (8:00a & 10:30a)	Various

SPOTLIGHT ON STAFF

Each month over the next several, we will be highlighting one of Emanuel's staff positions so the church can better understand its purpose.

Administrative Assistant— The "Admin"

Jennifer Bupp



The list of duties and responsibilities required of the church "Admin" to keep the church functioning is long and detailed. It requires computer skills, writing skills, creativity, organizational skills, planning and, above all, the ability to interact with a diverse group of personalities from both inside and outside the church. Emanuel is blessed to have Jennifer Bupp (Yes, she is the pastor's wife— the "PW") in this staff position.

Communication is a major element of the position. The Admin is responsible for all formal communication coming into and going out of the church through the church office. This requires close coordination with the pastor, ministry staff, and ministry leaders in the church. Much of this communication requires an element of creativity for the newsletter, Face Book posts, web site updates, signs and banners around the church, and Proclaim— the slide show of Narthex and Sanctuary announcements and important parts of worship like song words, scripture, and videos. Organization and planning includes managing all church supplies— from kitchen paper cups to cleaning supplies for the custodian to all office supplies. The Admin manages the church calendar and keeps the church information (files, membership roles, contribution information, etc.) up to date. The Admin is also the official recording secretary for the church Administrative Board and Charge Conference.

Interaction with folks from inside the church and outside is a big part of the job. Telephone calls, emails, text messages, and face-to-face conversations, the Admin IS the face of Emanuel— often the first person that people meet or go to with questions or ministry and pastoral needs.

While these are the major job duties, every day the Admin handles a multitude of requests and assistance for individuals and tasks to keep the church humming. The Admin is a part-time position at Emanuel.