

# The Emmaus Lutheran

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. Luke 24:27 ESV

Volume 5, Number 4

Fall 2009



And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. John 1:14 ESV

**The new church year begins** by focusing on the humble coming of the Lord. "Advent" is from the Latin word that means "coming."

### Prayer for the Coming of the Lord:

Almighty God, heavenly Father, bestow on us Your grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility, that in the Last Day when He will come again in His glorious Majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may then rise to the life immortal; through Him who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.



*In your prayers,  
please remember...*

### Emmaus' church council:

Rev. Scot Kinnaman, Kathryn Landskroener, Rev. Ben Mayes, Rebecca Mayes, and Kurt Rolland

### Friends of Emmaus:

Debbie Costedt, Paris Hunt, Fran Krupp, Charles & Mary LaRocco, Dorothy Neuhauser, Tina Wren

### Emmaus members:

Chaz Brown, Catherine Cheeks, Gus & Georgette Grady, Deborah McIntyre, Diane McIntyre, Barb Pisani, LaToya Talton, Leta Valendy, Carol Velten, Emil and Walinda Weidenhoffer

### Members on Vicarage:

Josh and Diane Hayes

## December, 2009

- 2: Advent Soup Supper/Vespers
- 6: Canned Good Sunday
- 9: Advent Soup Supper/Vespers
- 13: Church Council meeting
- 16: Advent Soup Supper/Vespers
- 19: Decorate Sanctuary
- 20: Christmas Concert/Caroling
- 24: 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve worship
- 25: 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day worship

## January, 2010

- 8: Home school Co-op and Growing Kids God's Way classes resume
- 9: Take down decorations
- 10: Church Council Meeting
- 14: 7:00 p.m. Theological Discussion at Gelateria del Leone

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# Upcoming Worship Opportunities and Events at Emmaus

## Wednesday December 2, 9, 16:

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper at Emmaus Lutheran School

7:00 p.m. Vespers at Emmaus Lutheran Church (Rev. Dr. John Hellwege, preacher)

Theme: Savior of the Nations.

## Saturday December 19:

9:00 a.m. Christmas decorating at church

## Sunday December 20:

5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas concert, potluck supper, Christmas caroling in Fox Park, hot chocolate and Christmas cookies. (See page 6 for details.)

## Thursday December 24:

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service (Rev. Scot Kinnaman, preacher)

## Friday December 25:

10:30 a.m. Christmas Day Divine Service with Holy Communion (Rev. Dr. John Hellwege, preacher)

## Every Sunday:

9:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Study

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

!!! Happy Birthday !!!

November	
2	LaToya Talton
December	
1	Diane McIntyre
3	Roy L. Seidenstricker
12	Caleb Mayes
23	Tina Stark
January	
11	Barb Szofran
15	Becky Benz
24	Trista Sullivan



## Happy Re-birthday!!!

To everyone celebrating their baptism during November through January, we want to wish you a blessed Re-birth day! May the promise of God's forgiveness refresh you and strengthen you every day.

## Happy Anniversary!!!

to all Emmaus members who are celebrating this fall. We are still in the process of updating our records and would appreciate knowing your anniversary so we can rejoice with you. God thinks highly of your marriage

If we missed your special day, please call the church office at 776-1274.

# Gregorian Chant Class and Solemn Vespers

"He who sings prays twice," said St. Augustine, the doctor of grace. That is what twenty singers did at Emmaus Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 18. People came from the St. Louis, Illinois, and from as far away as Tennessee to take part in Emmaus' second Gregorian Chant Class and Solemn Vespers. The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Mayes led choir practice, explaining the ancient form of Christian music, known as Gregorian Chant.



He explained that Martin Luther and the Reformation retained this ancient form of music and cultivated it. The participants also heard a fascinating presentation on celebrating the seasons of the church year in church and at home, by the Rev. Heath Curtis. Emmaus volunteers provided delicious snacks and a dinner, which was followed by a lovely service of Vespers (that is, Evening Prayer), complete with incense as a biblical symbol of prayer and God's gracious presence. The entire service, except for the sermon, was sung. All were blessed by the preaching of Rev. Dr. John Hellwege, and Mrs. Karen Rolland added beauty to the beginning and end of the service with her organ playing. Dr. Mayes remarked, "The singing at our Gregorian chant events gets better each time. More and more heirs of the Reformation are re-discovering this ancient, reverent music and embracing it as their own.



# Local Lutheran Students Get to Work



“Many hands make for light work,” says an old proverb, and the students from Lutheran High South were able to prove this recently at Emmaus Lutheran School. On October 30<sup>th</sup> several students from LHS, along with their advisor, Mrs. Jayne Lauer, came out to Emmaus for one of their bi-annual community service work days. The students had two projects to tackle: clean out the library filled with books and then the classroom filled with old desks, which are located on the second floor. This was no easy task, but they accomplished it in less than three hours with time left to help do some cleaning in the basement as well. The books and desks were all taken to the basement in preparation for a possible rummage sale in 2010 (more on this in upcoming newsletters). We couldn't have done these jobs without them – they were great workers. Thank you, LHS, for all your labors!

Many other handiwork projects have been completed at church since July:

- Church light fixtures washed and new light bulbs. (Thanks to Andrew Oster and Chad Rolland.)
- Took down canvas flap over choir loft. (Thanks to Andrew Oster, Chad Rolland, and Frank Szofran.)
- Bathroom hallway patched and painted. (Thanks to Pr. Hellwege and Rebecca Mayes.)
- Stained glass windows repaired. (Thanks to Dorothy Wilhite, who donated most of the cost.)
- Holes on west wall of church (from installation of HVAC system) cemented.

Projects completed at school since July:

- Railings fixed. (Thanks to Revs. Hellwege and Trinklein.)
- Basketball goals installed. (Thanks to Rev. Hellwege and homeschool basketball team parents.)
- Two large fans fixed. (Thanks to Revs. Hellwege and Trinklein.)
- Fuse socket and lights in classroom #2 fixed. (Thanks to Revs. Hellwege and Trinklein.)
- Copings cemented and firewall patched on the school roof.
- Boiler room vent area cemented.



Dear friends of Emmaus,

Thank you so much for your gifts to Emmaus Lutheran Church! Through your support we have been able to do some much-needed repairs. I am happy to tell you that Emil Frei Studios came out this past week to do repairs on our stained glass windows (two had been broken). Now, for the first time since I've been a member at Emmaus (three years) the windows look fantastic and are keeping out the cold fall and winter air. See some photos in this newsletter showing how the windows looked before and after the repair.

Recently, after teaching a parenting class in the Emmaus school building, one of the students (a 40-year-old mother of two) thanked us for the class. She said, "I just really want to thank you for providing this wonderful teaching. This is the sort of teaching I never had until now and I'm so thankful to be learning what God says about raising Christian children. I'm really glad that even though you are a small congregation, you are providing this important service."

Yes, we are small, but we believe that the people of Emmaus are doing important work in the city. Even more importantly, we thank God for His Son's work on the cross, His grace in the Gospel and Sacraments, and for giving us friends like you, who are helping to support the important work that happens here.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. Benjamin T. G. Mayes, Ph.D.  
Steward, Emmaus Lutheran Church

Before



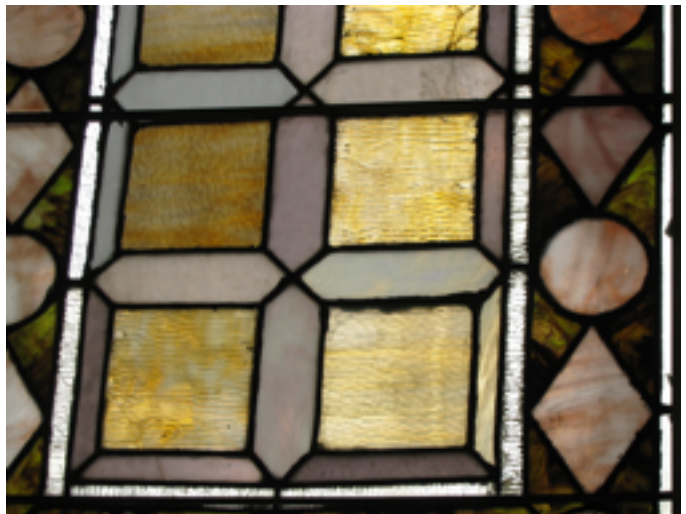
Before



After



After



# Home School Co-op Puts Emmaus School Building to Good Use

## **Classes build character and wisdom:**

As reported in the last Emmaus newsletter, the Home School Co-op started meeting in the Emmaus school building on September 11. Drop by on Friday at noon and you will hear the animated Rev. Dr. John Hellwege get very excited as he brings history to life for 13 students ages 5-16. From the St. Louis Art Museum to the Tabernacle, you'll hear the students discussing the geography of Egypt, the three ways to number the 10 Commandments, and the significance of the cherubim on the Ark of the Covenant. By mid afternoon, Karen Rolland has the music room ringing with handbells and everyone counting to stay on beat as the Partners in Chime handbell choir learns the difference between martelatto and suspended mallets. Two hours later, these energetic young people still have enough left for an hour of kickball or volleyball under the expert coaching of Pastor Hans Trinklein of Olive Branch Lutheran Church in Okawville, IL. Just as energy starts to wane, the moms have dinner ready for all to share and for laughter and the latest jokes to abound as friendships are forming at a wonderful rate. When Pastor and Rebecca Mayes start their knowledgeable teaching of the Growing Kids God's Way parenting course, the students and are busy gardening and polishing the evening off in song.

## **Emmaus gym brought back to life**

Our gym is being put to good use once again as two home school girls basketball teams have been practicing on our court every Thursday afternoon and Saturday morning. The teams are doing well, finishing high in their tournaments. Neighbors are starting to ask what we have going on at Emmaus. One Sunday, six neighborhood children walked into church and joined us in our Sunday School class. We'd like to host some of the basketball games but we still need a scoreboard. Perhaps you would be interested in helping us fund it or find one no longer being used.

## **Growing strong!**

Have you noticed the Emmaus sandbox? If you happened to stroll by as we were weeding you might have heard songs about skunks or sandwiches and you would have heard plenty of laughter. The weeds are gone; leaves and Starbucks coffee grounds have taken over! Now we're letting God winterize it and break everything down as we look ahead to good crops to grow this next year to share with the neighbors. You probably can't tell yet, but thanks to generous donations and the good work of our young people, there will also be beautiful blooms around the church building next spring. Every Friday evening, the students have gardened and picked up trash around the campus. Before going inside for more music, they have a rousing game of some kind of tag. We're noticing neighborhood kids starting to wander by as we play and we are hoping that God will open doors to more hearts this way.

## **Christmas Concert - a joy to share!**

We've let you know how busy we've been on Fridays. Now we'd love to have you come be part of the rewards. Fourteen young people and three moms have been working hard all semester to learn choir music and handbell pieces to bring joy to you as we celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. We'll have our concert in the Emmaus school building on Sunday, December 20th at 5:00 p.m. We'll celebrate on the first floor so you don't have to worry about climbing too many stairs but do watch out for a stray donkey and sheep. Be sure to bring your singing voice because there are a few parts of the concert that will involve you as well. After the music, we will enjoy a potluck dinner and then bundle up to head out into the Fox Park neighborhood for an hour of caroling and putting your wonderful voice to more good use. (The shepherds couldn't keep the Good News to themselves and neither can we!) Coming back to the school, we will warm back up with delicious hot chocolate and home made Christmas cookies.



## How can you provide for your heirs and the Lord's work?

The LCMS Foundation can help. Since 1958, our experienced gift planning professionals have helped thousands of fellow Christians create their own Lifetime Plan for Giving™. The Foundation is the only Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod organization that offers comprehensive charitable expertise and services to help you plan and direct your passion for giving to family and all ministries for the Lord's work today, tomorrow and forever.

We will help you understand tax benefits and establish gifts consistent with your personal goals. Each year, our experienced gift planning professionals help thousands of faithful Christians like you support a variety of Lutheran ministries through:

- Gift Annuities
- Direct Gifts
- Wills
- Family Gift Funds
- Endowments
- Trusts

No matter what your age or financial circumstances, we can customize a Lifetime Plan for Giving™ that best suits you.

### **Strengthening ministry for your children, your grandchildren and generations to come**

The Foundation will help you make a lasting gift to provide support for your favorite ministry. You can use your God-given resources to strengthen any LCMS ministry, including:

- Your congregation
- A ministry in your district
- An LCMS school, college or seminary
- An LCMS recognized service organization
- Special ministries like
  - LCMS World Relief/Human Care
  - LCMS World Mission
  - Worldwide KFUEO Radio
  - LCMS Joint Seminary Fund

The LCMS Foundation can help you support whatever Lutheran ministry touches your heart, now and for the future. To learn more about how the LCMS Foundation can benefit you and ministry, contact:

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Chapel of the Cross  
11645 Benham Road  
St. Louis, MO 63136  
(314) 704-4389  
[kirk.mueller@lcms.org](mailto:kirk.mueller@lcms.org)

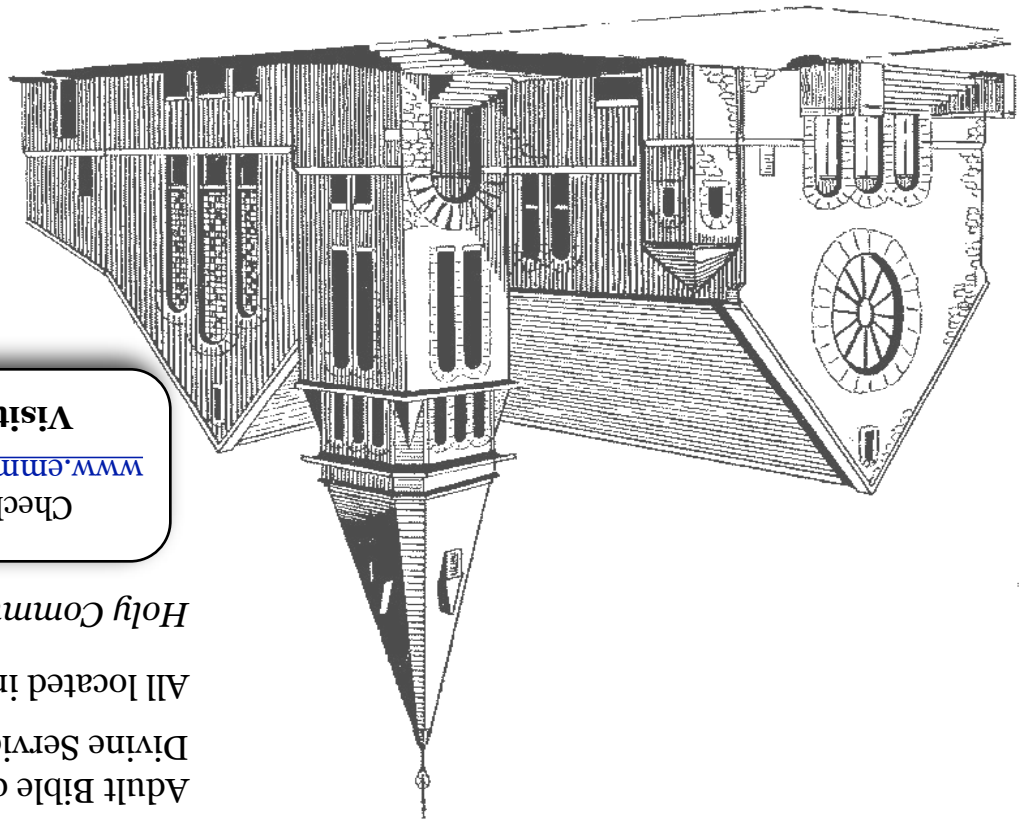
# EMMAUS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH U.A.C.

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St. Louis, MO 63104

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[www.emmaus-stl.org](http://www.emmaus-stl.org)

Serving South St. Louis with Christ's love since 1889.



Check out the calendar inside and  
[www.emmaus-stl.org](http://www.emmaus-stl.org) for more information.  
Visitors are always welcome!

*Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday.*

All located in the Church, 2241 S. Jefferson

Divine Service **10:30 a.m.**

Adult Bible class **9:15 a.m.**

Children's Sunday school **9:15 a.m.**

**Schedule:**