



Seasons

One of the blessings of life in Minnesota is our seasons. The four seasons are very distinct, and each have their own beauty. Spring reminds us of new life, summer fun is outdoors, fall is full of color, and winter is a season of rest. We are also very aware of the times when those seasons collide with each other, giving us 40-degree temperature swings within a matter of hours.

There are also seasons in our personal lives; each with its own beauty. The energy of youthfulness, the creativity of a young adult, the stability of maturity, and the wisdom of age. Those seasons each have their own blessings and challenges. Each one is necessary to prepare us for the next season. Sometimes we long for the seasons ahead or behind us rather than appreciating the one we are in. Sometimes the youthfulness of our mind collides with the age of our body, and we are reminded which season we are in.

This year Easter was on April 5th, and Pentecost will be on May 24th. Those fifty days are filled with the Children's Musical, Confirmation, Mother's Day, Worship in the Park, and Memorial Day weekend. June and July are equally filled with graduations, our Annual Meeting, the AFLC Annual Conference, the Respond mission trip to Mexico, Vacation Bible School, and family camp at the Association Retreat Center. August provides a short break before we start celebrating our 75th Anniversary as a church. All of these are important, but if we are not careful, our personal lives, our church activities, our work, and our energy can collide.

Worship with us!

Sunday, May 3rd

COMMUNION SUNDAY
8:30a - Traditional Service
9:40a - Classes for all ages
11:00a - Contemporary Service

Sunday, May 10th

8:30a - Traditional Service
9:40a - Classes for all ages
11:00a - Contemporary Service

Sunday, May 17th

10:30a - Worship in the Park

Sunday, May 24th

8:30a - Traditional Service
10:30a - Contemporary Service

Sunday, May 31st

8:30a - Traditional Service
10:30a - Contemporary Service

Continued on page 2

Connect with us online!



@EmmausAFLC



emmaus@emmauslutheran.org

The Lord intentionally designed the week with seven days and the seventh being a day of rest. The Lord also designed the worship year with different seasons. In the Jewish calendar, there are seven festivals that all point to Jesus. In the Christian calendar, there are seven seasons that are divided up based on the events of Jesus' life. Each of these seasons are intended to point us to and remind us of Jesus, because in Christ we find our rest and in Him we find our purpose. As we move from one season into another, it is important to set aside time to meet Jesus.

In the middle of Jesus' ministry, Mark 6:30-32 records, "The apostles returned to Jesus and told him all that they had done and taught. And he said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while.' For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a desolate place by themselves." As a church family, we need to be reminded in this season that we also need to set aside time to meet Jesus and to be at rest. We need to be quiet enough to hear the Lord's direction, clarity, wisdom, discernment, admonishment, and discipline. Time that allows the Holy Spirit to fill our lives and give us His power. That is what happened at Pentecost when "they were all filled with the Holy Spirit" and the disciples were transformed.

I was called as a pastor of Emmaus in January of 2018. The council encouraged me to take a sabbatical this summer. I am looking forward to this time to spend time with Jesus. People have asked me, "What are you going to do?" The first two weeks I am going to focus on the six spiritual disciplines that we looked at in our Lenten series: fasting, prayer, meditation, worship, silence, and serving. The second two weeks we are going to take a trip to Banff, Canada and marvel at God's creation. I also hope to observe what other churches are doing, to be a recipient, and to hear God's Word proclaimed to my own heart. It is important to listen so that we can hear the Lord tell us what He wants us to do next.

As we make plans for our summer, let's all set aside time in every season to be still, listen to the Lord, and hear Him speak to us. You might just hear Him say, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Pastor Kevin Olson



Summer Staff Update

Summer brings a new schedule and new opportunities for our church and staff. As many of you are aware, full-time ministry is demanding. It is a great blessing to serve you, but it also takes a physical and spiritual toll. Lifeway Research reports that 1700 pastors leave the ministry every month! The most common reason is burnout. It's a big job, and that's why God established sabbath rest. Jesus modeled this, often retreating to places where He spent time alone with His Father God. The sabbatical is not a vacation, but rather a very active part of ministry and spiritual growth for the pastor and the church body.

This summer, Pr. Kevin Olson will be taking a three-month sabbatical. The church council is asking that we respect his time away during this period. We are thrilled He has the opportunity to recharge. Along with this transition, our Worship Director, Ben Webb, will be filling the pastoral role. Ben is entering his third year of Seminary and is currently serving his required seminary apprenticeship while fulfilling his job duties. This new role will give him an opportunity to fulfill all of his seminary requirements and serve Emmaus. Additionally, we will be filling Ben's role on staff with Rachel Bang, who has served on our praise team for the past four years. She will fill this part-time role from June 1st through the end of August.

Please keep your staff in prayer as we head into a new season. We look forward to all that the Lord will do along the way!

- Pr. Nick Dyrud



Please remember in prayer...

Our Emmaus Family:

Praise the Lord for the healing He has already accomplished and pray for continued healing & strength for:

Beth Arneson, Lou Blake, Lea Byboth, Karen Cardwell, Robin Caselius, Marv Christian, Clarice Garske, Wade Gibbons, Hilde Goebel, Gayle Gottfried, Linda Johnson, Quentin Johnson, Lois Kompelien, Katherine Lange, Candy Lohonen, Lola Lunde, Marge Monson, Thomas Putman, Will Schultz, Sue Yarker, Diane Wetherell

Pray for our Military:

1SG Nathan Carlsrud - National Guard

PFC Jerrick Miller - National Guard

SSGT Andrew Johnson - Air Force

Pray for all First Responders and their families in our midst as they serve our communities.

Pray for troubled marriages in our midst, for God's healing, reconciliation, and forgiveness.

Pray for peace in Jerusalem according to God's directive: *"You who call on the LORD, give yourselves no rest, and give Him no rest until He establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth."* (Isaiah 62:6c-7)



Need Prayer?

During the week, you can contact the church office by phone during office hours **(952) 884-4751** or visit emmauslutheran.org/prayer.

There are over 200 recipients of our prayer chain emails who believe in the power of prayer! We'd love to lift you up in prayer!



Twin Cities Prays

Our Emmaus commitment is to pray for 24 hours on the second Thursday of the month.

This comes up next on **April 9th, 2026**



Children & Youth

Sunday May 3rd @ 8:30 & 11a Confirmation Sunday!

Featuring Micah, Lela, and Rylin! Come and celebrate those who are being confirmed in their faith on this very special Sunday!

Wednesday May 6 we will be **honoring our 6th graders** as they move to the next chapter in the church and join the youth group! If you would like to be apart of the evening we will be meeting in room 111 for a presentation and prayer before they join the youth.

Wednesday May 6 youth group Senior Testimony Night!

This is the last regular youth group of the school year. Seniors, consider having something to share during this time about how God has worked in your life while in youth group and how He is leading you now. This is a time to encourage the younger students with your testimonies as we lift you up in prayer for your future.



Friday May 8 Youth Talent Show!

A fundraising opportunity for all youth, especially those who are going to Mexico. More details to come!

Sunday May 10 @ 8:30 & 11a Honoring our Graduates!

Our 3-year-olds, 6th graders, and High School Seniors will be honored at both services.

Wednesday May 13 @ 6:30-8p EFFA Park Party!

For our last Wednesday night of the school year. After dinner we will all be going to Effa Park to have a night as one. Come join us for an evening of fresh air and laughter.



Wednesday May 20th @ 5-7p Volunteer Appreciation Event!

If you have been a volunteer over this last school year we want to recognize and appreciate you! Hope you can come join us!

Children's Ministry Schedule

May 3, 10 | Sunday King's Kids @ 9:40a - 10:40a
May 6, 13 | Wednesday King's Kids @ 6:30p - 8p

Youth Ministry Schedule

May 3, 10 | Youth Sunday Studies @ 9:40a - 10:40a
May 6, 13 | Youth Group @ 6:30p - 8p



Celebrating 75 Years - Sep 18-20, 2026!

Plans to celebrate Emmaus' 75th anniversary continue to unfold, and there's a lot to be excited about! A full weekend of celebrations and opportunities is being planned, and we hope you are saving the dates to be a part of it! And spread the word! Contact friends and family who were part of Emmaus in the past and share the information with them!

We're grateful to those who've stepped up to volunteer for various parts of the celebration, but we will need more help for the actual anniversary weekend. The tasks are many and varied: tech/media production, decorating*, greeting*, hospitality/food service, child care. (*At Emmaus and Cedar Valley) Please contact Mavis Miller (mmiller@emmauslutheran.org) to volunteer.

Friday, Sep 18 - The weekend will kick off with an evening of worship, music, and praise, featuring favorite hymns and praise songs from the decades and video clips of Christmas at the Inn, the Vienna Choir trip, and children's musicals. We're gathering as many musicians as possible to make this "walk down memory lane" an enjoyable evening of remembering and celebrating God's goodness through the gift of music. This is a free event at Emmaus, including dessert and coffee afterward.

Saturday, Sep 19 - Saturday morning will hold three opportunities to have fun together. 1) A 9-hole golf tournament at Birnamwood Golf Course in Burnsville. 2) A disc golf tournament at Moir Park in Bloomington. 3) A 5K run at Valleyview Park in Bloomington. Anyone can participate, but registration is required. Watch for details and contact information in the June edition of the Light.

Our Diamond Anniversary banquet will be held at Cedar Valley Church (86th & Bloomington Avenue) at 4:00p. A very special evening is being planned, and ticket information will be available in June.

Sunday, Sep 20 - We'll mark this important anniversary with a fellowship and remembrance time, a single worship service at 10:30, and followed by an open house from 12:30-4:00p that will include lots of "over the years" ministry displays and informal reunion opportunities.

If your memory is jogged and you'd like to share something, please email us at 75@emmauslutheran.org. Your testimony, photos, and memories will be a blessing to the generations who lived them as well as the future generations. Don't forget to check the Anniversary page on our website for developing information and our blog: emmauslutheran.org/75years

Save the date!

A Night of Music & Praise

September 18th @ 7p

Golf Tournaments* 5K Run*

September 19th @9a

Anniversary Banquet*

September 19th 4p @
Cedar Valley Church

Worship & Open House

September 20th (10:30-4p)

* Registration and/or tickets required in advance. More details to come



generations
saying yes to Jesus
EST 1951

New Church Directory Photos

If you have missed getting your picture taken at church for our new church directory, you may submit a photo to be included. Please make sure your photo is of good quality, clear and well-lit, and **submit it by May 15, 2026.**

Photos may be sent electronically to 75@emmauslutheran.org, OR you may also bring hard copies to the Church Office. Please make sure your name[s] are included, and they will be returned to you.



Women's Ministries

Challenging Women to Say "Yes" to Jesus

Upcoming Events!

May Women's Ministries Meeting

May 14 at 9a in Room 209. All ladies are invited to join this wonderful group for devotions, fellowship, and event planning.

Mark your calendars!

Wednesday, May 27 at 6p – Our Salad Supper theme is Generations, which is a part of our 75th Anniversary Celebration.

This annual event brings together food, fellowship, music, and a devotional. We will also honor the Emmaus women who have gone home to be with the Lord. Sign-ups begin May 10! A free-will offering will be taken.

Wednesday, Jun 10 – AFLC National WMF Day at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN.

This year's theme is: "I Believe, Help My Unbelief" from Mark 9:24. This is a great way to meet other Women's Missionary Federation members. Registration is now open at aflc.org/conferences

Choose the option: WMF Day Registration Only

Financial assistance for registration is available. Please contact Ruthie George at (ruthiedutch2013@gmail.com) or an Emmaus WM Board Member for more information.

The Women's Ministries Team is looking for help with "short-term" assignments, like Publicity, Decorations, Photography at Events, Planning Retreats, etc. Attending monthly meetings is not a requirement.

We are also looking forward to helping with our Emmaus 75th Anniversary Weekend – September 18-20, 2026 with table settings for the Saturday Banquet and food preparation for the Open House on Sunday.

Contact the church office (952.884.4751) to share your gifts and talents with us.

Our events are designed to promote fellowship with other Emmaus Ladies, share the Gospel of Christ, and serve as an invitation to your neighbors and friends to experience the love of God.





Loss Of A Spouse

Navigating the Pain of Grief
Thursday, June 4th 1:30-3:30p & 6:30-8:30p

The pain of losing your spouse can feel overwhelming, impossible, and everything in between. This single-session seminar is open to anyone, but it is especially designed for those who have lost their spouse. No matter how recently you've experienced such a loss, you're invited to attend this seminar where you'll find comfort, encouragement, and hope. You're not alone in your pain.

There's no charge to attend, but registration is encouraged, either online at griefshare.org/find a group where you can register for either the afternoon or evening session OR you may register with the Emmaus Church Office.

GriefShare Friends Gatherings

"Although the winter cycle of GriefShare has been successfully completed (with great attendance by the 20 participants!), plans are being made for monthly gatherings of all GriefShare alumni to gather for encouragement and support. These "Plus" gatherings are not official GriefShare functions but rather a way to support and encourage one another as we process our losses in the coming months. The first gathering will be on April 23rd at 10:00-11:30a with the topic of "Questions for God"; Pastor Kevin will be joining us for the morning to share insight into this topic.

Future gatherings (listed below) will include a variety of topics with additional guests and videos. No books are required for these informal gatherings.

May 21 - 10-11:30a*	August 13 - 1:30-3p
June 25 - 1:30-3p	September 10 - 1:30-3p
July 16 - 1:30-3p	(*Note time)

The fall cycle of GriefShare is scheduled to begin October 1st.

If you have questions regarding these gatherings or about Emmaus' GriefShare ministry, please contact Mavis Miller at 952-431-1132.



Golden Hearts

Friday, May 15 @ 4:30p in the Fellowship Hall

\$14 Meal: Sliced Turkey, Gravy & Dressing, Garden Salad w/dressing, Assorted Dinner Rolls, Dessert.

Sign up and reserve your spot in the atrium between services on Sundays, May 3rd & 10th.

Our program will feature the Band CODA. A saxophone/keyboard duet consisting of Scott Dorff on soprano, alto & tenor saxophones, and Malcolm Anderson on piano & keyboard. A very versatile group, performing in a diversity of venues.

Praying Around the World

- Praise the Lord for the ministry of the **Marie Sandvik Center**, especially in these spring months, when the needs of those who are vulnerable look to this mission of mercy to meet needs for food and clothing. Pray that the ministry will stand firm in faith and continue to reach out to meet needs, always sharing the message of the Gospel and reaching out with the love of Christ to those in need.
- Please pray for **the Ajibero Family** as they return to Nigeria for an extended period of time. Toba will be teaching online for the Community College in the US, where he is currently teaching, and Laura will be teaching in an international Christian school in Nigeria. This will enable them to be on the ground as they continue to work with African Hope Ministry and the building up of Hopeful Academy. Pray for God's provision and protection over their family of 6 as they prepare to leave in July. Laura grew up at Emmaus and is the daughter of Scott and Debbie Hintermeyer.
- Please pray for **Trinity First School** as they come to the conclusion of another year of School in the coming weeks. Pray for the families that attend the school, as they are on summer break during the upcoming months. Pray that the Lord will continue to put believers in their path, and that the students and their parents will come to know the truth that will set them free.
- **Mission of the Month Prayer Requests**
 - Please pray for the means to reach new countries and encourage the training in the existing countries.
 - Praise the Lord for Pastor Nate's training that occurred in Honolulu, Hawaii. Please pray that this will be a useful tool for Pastor Brady Arneson and the leaders of the Waikiki Beach Gathering.
 - Please pray for the outreaches to Muslims in Minneapolis. Pastor Nate is actively working with three separate ministries.
 - Praise the Lord for his provision for the ministry. Please pray for his financial provision to go through the open doors the Lord is providing.

Operation Christmas Child

Emmaus is full of opportunities to serve, and there are so many willing hands to fill these. Operation Christmas Child is one of those opportunities. Because we are not getting any younger, we need to solicit more help. Also, if you can donate any items for the packing party in November, we will have a list of some ideas that you can pick up in the office. There are opportunities to help many weeks before the packing party in sorting and putting together items by age and gender. Saturday, November 14 & 15 are the big packing days where we will need the most help. We need you and hope many respond! Please contact: Mary Kaluza 612-991-4841
mary4occ4now@gmail.com or Nancy Anderson 651-278-8670
nancygrandmaanderson@gmail.com

Mission Events:

April 9th - 11:00am
Missions Committee Mtg

Happy
Birthday!

Jill Mork
May 7

Todd Schierkolk
May 25

Call the church office for contact information.



Mission of the Month: Pastor Nate Jore with The Orality Institute

Our mission focus for the month of May is Pastor Nate Jore, his wife Rhoda, and their family, who are currently serving alongside Pastor Kevin Olson with the International Orality Institute.

Nate began with intentional training in the United States when he joined the staff in August of 2024. Nate's experience in Uganda prepared him for the variety of training that he has been involved in. Since he started with the ministry, Nate has worked with many local congregations, family camps, trips to Uganda, Ukraine, New Brunswick, Canada, and recently to Hawaii. Trained leaders have multiplied because of his calling.

After a recent trip to Hawaii, Nate shared the following account;

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. Romans 15:5-7

In January, IOI was invited to Hawaii by the Waikiki Beach Gathering and Pastor Brady Arneson(AFLC). The purpose of the trip was to train the members of the church in the orality teaching method, so their leadership would be able to use the stories to introduce people to Jesus.

Following the training, the church organized an outreach called "Plates in the Park," where the members of the church visited a local park to hand out Chick-fil-A sandwiches and share Jesus stories with people. They learned and shared the stories of The Blind Man, Levi, Martha, and Mary, Who is the Greatest, and The Pharisee and the Tax Collector. After prayer, the group disbursed through the park 2-by-2 with the offer of a sandwich and a story about Jesus. The people were very open to hearing the stories, and many conversations were had by the groups that day. The stories afforded a natural way of introducing people to Jesus that was not a sales pitch.

The church is excited to continue using the stories to share Jesus with people as both a means to disciple their own members in small groups as well as an evangelism tool to reach their community. Our training for the rest of this year includes: the U.S., New Brunswick, Canada, Malawi, Mozambique, Kenya, Burundi, Zambia, and possibly Ukraine.

As the Emmaus Family looks forward to learning more about this ministry during this month, please join in prayer and consider how the Lord might want you to become involved.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Phone: 952-412-1366

Email: kevin@oralityinstitute.org

Address: 317 Maple Island Road,
Burnsville, MN 55306

Web: oralityinstitute.org



Respond!

Thank you, thank you, thank you! We're so grateful for you!

Thank you for your participation & partnership in our Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser. We greatly appreciate your prayers, financial giving, encouragement, & help. We really do enjoy making our delicious Danish pancakes for you.

Please be in prayer for our diverse June 14– 21, 2026, Baja Short Term Mission Teams:

- **Baja Orphanage Team:** 12 people of various ages coming together to serve the children, staff & community. We will be investing our time, energies, financial giving & skills to be involved in Kingdom work. We want to bless those we are serving. We will be hosting personal skin care classes for the young ladies & staff- teaching skills, giving products & talking about 'inner beauty' as God sees them. There will also be work on a variety of projects. We are excited to do outreaches into the surrounding community.
- **House Build Team:** This team of 14 will be building a house, yes, a house, for a very needy family! From start to finish: cutting the wood, pounding nails, making walls, putting up trusses, roofing, hanging windows & doors; yes, they will do it all. AMAZING!! It's hard work, long days, short nights to get it all done in a week. Besides that, they will bless the family with needed supplies. Beds, bedding, dishes, etc (whatever is available, affordable, & needed). The team has needed to raise funds for the supplies. This team will be investing in Kingdom work & blessing this family.
- **The Triple B Boys:** There will be 3 Triple B Boys who will be driving down from Minnesota to Vicente Guerrero— a trip of 2500 miles. They are bringing a van & pulling the enclosed trailer full of supplies. This group will be leaving Sunday, June 7 (after the commissioning service). We are excited to be able to bring the much-needed supplies & vehicle.



We are asking for your:

- **Prayers**
 - Travel mercies & all details of transporting 26 people & their luggage & supplies to our locations. No time for lost luggage. We have about 1/2 hour from plane arrival to departure in vans down to Baja.
 - Safety & health for all team members, before, during & after our STM. We will be working with power tools.
- **Generosity:** for God's people to generously give financially from their hearts to be a part of this Kingdom work. We know that not everyone can go, but all can PRAY & GIVE. Thank you!
- **Blessings:** that each team would be a great blessing in serving these, "the very least of God's people."



MAY 2026

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:30a - 4:30p

Office Phone # 952-884-4751

emmauslutheran.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 8a Men's Bible Study
3 Communion & Confirmation Sunday 8:30a Traditional Service 9:40 Sunday Study 9:40 Kings Kids 11:00a Contemp. Service	4 9a Quilters	5 10a Tuesday Bible Study 7p Adult Choir Rehearsal	6 5p Children's Choir 5:45p Simple Supper 6:30p King's Kids 6:30p Emus Youth Group 6:30p Adult Studies 6:30p Worship Rehearsals	7 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER 9a Pickleball 1p Visitation Team 1p Stepping on	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9 7a Men's Breakfast 8a Men's Bible Study
10 Graduate Honors 8:30a Traditional Service 9:40 Sunday Study 9:40 Kings Kids 11:00a Contemp. Service	11 9a Quilters	12 10a Tuesday Bible Study 6:30p Church Council Meeting 7p Adult Choir Rehearsal	13 5p Children's Choir 5:45p Simple Supper 6:30 Effa Park Family Night 6:30p Adult Studies 6:30p Worship Rehearsals	14 Twin Cities Prayes 9a Pickleball 9a Women's Ministries 10a GreifShare 11a Missions Committee 1p Stepping on	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16 8a Men's Bible Study
17 10:30 Worship in the Park	18 9a Quilters 6:30p Respond Committee Meeting	19 7p Adult Choir Rehearsal	20 6p Volunteer Appreciation Night 8p Worship Rehearsals	21 9a Pickleball 1p Stepping on	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23 8a Men's Bible Study
24 8:30a Traditional Service 10:30a Contemp. Service	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 7p Adult Choir Rehearsal	27 6p Women's Salad Supper 6:30p Worship Rehearsals	28 9a Pickleball	29 OFFICE CLOSED	30 8a Men's Bible Study
31 8:30a Traditional Service 10:30a Contemp Service						

EMMAUS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 14, 2026

Present: Pastor Nick, Pastor Kevin, Paul Eikom, Nate Anderson, Keith Grinde, Mike Anenson, Chuck Scott, Ben Webb, Jennifer Hanson, Aaron Bogott, Mark McGaffey, Eric Ringquist, Kyle Anenson, Al Spadine, Gary Gilbertson, Mark Stowman

Opening Devotions: Gary G "Living Hope"

Jesus defeated death in the empty tomb. We have a living hope, not wishful thinking. It is eternal and anchored in certainty.

1 Peter 1:3 ...He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Romans 5:5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Secretary Report: approved by email

Executive Committee Report: Paul

- Music Director Position Update: Rachael Bang has accepted the position and will begin June 1
- The Nominating Committee is working on candidates for the upcoming Annual Meeting

Trustee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Al

- We are right on budget for the year
- Giving in March was lower, but we did miss a Sunday due to bad weather
- Motion from Al to approve the March Financial report: Seconded. Vote and approved

Deacon Reports: Paul & Pastor Nick

Membership: Our constitution says that we are to keep track of communion attendance. Looking at improving ways to do this, one being using the existing Planning Center app

Vision Path Evangelism Focus: Looked at and discussed Pastor Nick's Evangelism Discussion questionnaire. We will continue discussion at our next meeting

Pastor Nick Report: April 2026

1. Vision Path Discussion (VP3)

As we finish VP2 and enter VP3, it may be helpful for our leadership teams to consider why we go through these phases as a church council. VP1 is intended to remind us of the vision, assess the vision, monitor progress against current strategies, and consider new strategies. VP2 is designed to be more of an implementation phase before we finalize our vision and partner our goals to the upcoming 2026 church budget in phase 3 (VP3). During our April council meeting, we will discuss the implementation of program planning and our budget.

2. Evangelism Committee Report

What is evangelism? How is the Lord leading Emmaus to disciple as we reach people with the gospel of Jesus Christ? During our deacons' meeting, we will discuss our new evangelism strategies for Emmaus.

3. Church Stewardship

As we prepare for our Annual meeting and the ministry year-end, we should discuss and consider a Sunday morning financial summary report in May. - Discussion of making a video similar to what was done last year.

4. Office Manager Position Staffing Update

5. Annual Meeting Preparation

- Prepare a presentation for 75th Anniversary weekend

Pastor Kevin Report: April 2026

1. Missions

April: Jon & Heidi Nelson - Journey Missions

May: Nate and Rhoda Jore - Orality Institute

- The mission committee voted to support the Ragnar runners with \$5000 for their
- MN Adult and Teen Challenge fundraiser. Vote to approve: approved
- The Baby Bottle Boomerang raised \$2620.10 for the City Life Center
- The trailer that missions purchased for Jessica Brown will be given to a family in Baja
- The committee is planning for the 75th Anniversary mission month in October
- On the back is an income and expense spreadsheet for the mission budget since 2023
- Missions Comm recommendation to give \$1,200 to Fellowship of Christian Athletes (Adam Laposky). Vote: approved
- Missions Comm recommendation to give \$1,000 to the Hospitality Center. Vote: approved

2. Visitation Committee every year we approve those on the visitation committee here is a list of those actively visiting our shut-ins. We have 34 people on our shut-in / reduced access list.

Donna Bogott, Dikka Brummer, Keith Grinde, Jan C. Johnson, Gary Tenneson, Deb Rustad, Diane Schmiess, Kim Livingston, Keith Kedrowski

Vote for approval will be done at the May council meeting

3. Important Dates:

4/11 Riley & Matt's Wedding

4/19 Children's Musical

4/21 AFLC day at the Capital from 8:30-1:00

4/25 Marion Willgoh's funeral

5/3 Confirmation

5/10 Mother's Day

5/17 Worship in the Park 10:30 - One Service

5/24 Memorial Day weekend - Summer Schedule

6/10-13 AFLC Annual Conference at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

7/20-24 Vacation Bible School

Old Business:

- Carpet Replacement: (Al) Work is scheduled to begin April 20. Karla is overseeing the project
- Sidewalk Project: (Al) Goal is to begin work the week of May 18
- Security/Observers/Greeters: (Gary) Forming a sub-committee to look at security, observers, greeters teams and procedures. The goal is to develop guidelines and preparation for routine and non-routine situations.

New Business:

- Youth/Respond Request: Request to hold a car wash fund raising event, for the YWAM house build, at Emmaus this Spring. Motion to decline the request (Keith) motion seconded (Nate) Vote: motion to decline approved
- 75th Anniversary Weekend Sunday Service: Aaron

Discussion on doing a single 10:30am - 12pm service on Sunday September 20th. Council will discuss more at the May meeting

• Sanctuary Audio Visual Upgrade Proposal: Paul/Mark

Discussion on AV proposal for new projection and microphone options

• 75th Anniversary T-Shirts and Hoodies: Aaron

These items are coming from a company in Pakistan that supports persecuted Christians

Motioned to adjourn meeting (Kyle) second (Keith)- Motion approved.

Minutes submitted by Mark Stowman

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PLEASE DELIVER BY May 1st, 2026

Helping People Say 'Yes!' to Jesus

WORSHIP IN THE PARK

May 17 @ 10:30a

We will be gathering to worship & seek the presence of God together in our city.

There will be a Youth Fundraiser lunch, or you can bring your picnic lunch.

Bush Lake Shelter #1
East Bush Lake
9301 W Bush Lake Rd
Bloomington, MN 55438



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