



Author: Jeffrey D. Enderle Volume 106, Number 6

Someone was bound to invent an easy button. One office supply company has already used an “easy button” to advertise solutions to office headaches. But we could use simple solutions for all kinds of issues.

Enter prayer. It’s a tremendous comfort to know that God wants us to come to him ([Matthew 11:28](#)). When we are faced with problems outside of our ability to handle, it’s a relief to entrust them to the One who has limitless ability to effect real change in our chaotic world ([Philippians 4:6](#)). God wants to know what’s on our hearts and has the power to handle the burdens we are facing in life ([1 Peter 5:7](#)).

Not just an easy button

Yet it is healthy for us to pause and consider why we are praying. What are we hoping to get out of prayer? Our reasons for turning to God in prayer might be different than some of God’s reasons for inviting us to pray. Essentially, are we asking God to be our easy button for every problem area in life? While God invites us to come to him in prayer, God may desire something more personally beneficial and durable from prayer for his children than what we’re after.

Consider Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane. Even as our Savior engaged in prayer, he expressed his own personal desires. He unloaded the deepest concerns troubling his heart. Yet in childlike humility, Jesus resolved to submit to his Father’s will ([Matthew 26:39,42](#)). Scripture was clear: “It was the LORD’s will to crush him and cause him to suffer” and finally make “his life an offering for sin.” The same Scripture promised “the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand” ([Isaiah 53:10](#)). Jesus accepted his cup of suffering and turned to the promise of his Father for strength.

That pattern reflects the way Paul often prays for fellow believers. He repeatedly prays that they grow to know God better ([Ephesians 1:15-21](#); [Philippians 1:9-11](#); [Colossians 1:9-12](#); [Philemon 6](#)). Didn’t they have serious doctrinal issues in need of correction? Of course, they did. Weren’t there precarious situations around them threatening their spiritual and physical safety? Undeniably so. Weren’t there pressing practical matters to be resolved among fellow Christians? Absolutely. Could he have gotten right to the point of the urgent needs they faced? Certainly. All of those issues were important. And their prayers were no doubt filled with requests for solutions. But Paul had told the new believers they would have many hardships ([Acts 14:22](#)). Yet he prays that God would send them the Spirit “so that you may know him better” ([Ephesians 1:17](#)).

A way to know God

Knowing God better isn’t simply about gaining information so you are the champion of Bible trivia. It’s about gaining a personal appreciation for who your Savior is and what he has done and still does for his children. Above all else, God desires the salvation of sinners ([1 Timothy 2:4](#)). Internal uncertainty swirls around our hearts. He has given us great promises that stand as monuments to divine truth (e.g. [Romans 8:28](#)).

The Spirit works through God’s promises. Knowing God through his revealed Word produces growth in faith. Prayer produced as a byproduct of Scripture study might not immediately change your circumstances or eliminate obstacles in your life. All your problems might not be resolved instantaneously by means of some divine easy button. Rediscovering God’s truth and realigning yourself to God’s will will fill you with the joy of the hope you have in Christ. Knowing God will allow you to become more confident in God’s actions being carried out in our world. Knowing God better will build appreciation of the blessings you already have in Christ.



OUR NEW MEMBER, Sean Kuhl from Fowlerville, was received in fellowship through adult confirmation this morning, along with his 2 children Annaliese and Kurt who were baptized earlier this year. Please welcome the Kuhl family.

SUMMER WORSHIP hours have begun. There will be one service on Sundays only, @ 9:00 AM.

LADIES FELLOWSHIP will meet on *Monday, June 2 at*

A PASTOR CALL meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, June 13 at 7:00pm

A PLAYLIST/HYMSOFT VOLUNTEER list for July-Dec 2024, has been distributed to current volunteers. If anyone is interested in helping our worship service in this manner, please contact Bob Briggs.

THE GRASS MOWING SCHEDULE has been posted. A big thank you to the volunteers for keeping our school looking good.

GET READY for an action-packed day of basketball excitement! We're thrilled to announce our One-Day Boys' Basketball Camp on June 8th from 9am to 11:55am, catering to grades 1st through 8th. This intensive day camp is designed to help young athletes sharpen their skills, make new friends, and enjoy some well-deserved refreshments together.



Here's what's in store for your child at our upcoming camp:

- **Skill Development:** Led by experienced coaches, campers will participate in a series of focused drills and exercises aimed at improving their dribbling, shooting, passing, and defensive techniques. Whether your child is just starting out or looking to take their game to the next level, our camp offers something for everyone.
- **Fun and Friendship:** Beyond basketball, our camp emphasizes the importance of teamwork, sportsmanship, and camaraderie.
- **Refreshments:** After a morning of hard work and dedication, it's time to refuel! Following the camp sessions, all participants will be treated to refreshments, providing a chance to relax, unwind, and celebrate their achievements.

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to help your child elevate their game and have a blast doing it! Be sure to secure your child's spot today by emailing Principal Adam Bilitz at pb@emanuelfirst.org Let's make June 8th a day to remember on the court!

PICTURES REQUESTED The Board of Evangelism & Stewardship is working on a new church directory. We kindly ask members to submit a family photo. You can do so by texting your photo to Karl Remus at 517-490-6208, sending your photo via email at remuskarl77@outlook.com , or by asking Karl, Joe Janecke, or Jason Leitz to take a photo for you at church.

CHURCH COUNCIL REPORTS

BOARD OF ELDERS:

- The playlist/organist schedule for July through December is being prepared
- The Elders thank our voice choir members for beautifying our Pentecost/confirmation worship service.
- Summer worship schedule will begin June 2 nd and run through September 1 st . Worship will be Sunday mornings at 9:00am, there will be no Sunday school or Bible class. Additionally, there will be no Thursday evening worship services.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

- The outside drain at the church was cleaned and holes in the concrete wall filled. Thank you, Victor Domke.
- Since the last trustees meeting 3 more sewage spillages happened at school. Stevens Construction & Excavating was called out and found issues with root infusion on 2 additional septic tanks and the drain field. They completed the work.

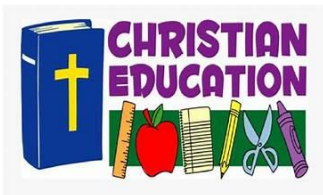
BOARD OF EVANGELISM & STEWARDSHIP:

- We would like to thank the Church Secretary for placing the service on our Facebook pages for the members.
- We are thankful for all our thankoffering counters and all their work.
- We plan to show WELS connection on the 3rd Sunday of the month.
- Will continue to have the smaller 1 Sunday a month refreshments after the service.
- We would like to thank all those that helped out with the once a month refreshments

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

- We would like to thank our faithful Sunday School Teachers for sharing God's word with the children of our congregation each Sunday, God bless you for your faithful service to our children.
- The 2023-2024 school year enrollment was consistent at 36 students.

BADGER NEWS from SCHOOL



FROM MRS. DOMKE AND GRADES 1-5:

This past month in our study of God's Word we have learned about believers from long ago and how God used them to spread the message of salvation, to support each other in the good fight, and to persevere during persecution. We heard about Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Zechariah. God helped these people when the going got tough. God helps us, too. We put our trust in Him because he is the Holy One who has power over all. Thanks to all of you at Memorial who make it possible for these lambs of Jesus to hear the Word daily!

We've had a couple busy weeks with off campus activities as well. We sang a preview of our play songs at the Williamston Senior Center early in May. A week later we performed our play twice to large crowds (thanks to so many members who came to support us!). As a school we headed to the Binder Park Zoo for an all school field trip. This week we went to the Sun Theater where we celebrated going over (way over) our 500 mile challenge for our Memorial Mileage Club. What a fun month it has been!

This week we'll finish up our course work, tidy up our work and play areas, have a few extra recesses, eat some snacks, and say "so long" to friends for a few weeks. It's hard to believe the school year is almost at the end, but it has been a good year and we are grateful for the Lord's blessings.

SERVING OUR LORD FOR OUR MAY SERVICES:

	<u><i>Ushers</i></u>	<u><i>Altar Guild</i></u>	<u><i>Playlist</i></u>	<u><i>Greeter(s)</i></u>	<u><i>Cleaners</i></u>
06/02	B. Briggs, D. Miller	Karen Unruh	Karl Remus	V & J Domke	(to be done 06/01) Coulter
06/09	T. Marion, H. Clark, D. Fortin	Shelly Unruh	Judy Domke	A & J Rusnak	(to be done 06/08) Crandall
06/16	V. Domke, D. Hoag	Ruth Hoag	Nancy Hart	P & S Crandall	(to be done 06/16) Domke
06/23	Joe Janecke, L. Vogt	Robin Olin		G Withey	(to be done 06/22) Douglas
06/30	Jim Janecke, N. Schlicker	MaryAnn Groop	Carol Lycos	J & S Janecke	(to be done 06/29) Engman