



The Red Door

September 2012

The Tail that Wags the Dog

Do you know the difference between Emanuel Lutheran Church and Emanuel Community Center? For many years they have coexisted together; we simply don't see the distinction between the two. For most purposes, there's no real difference. The way I explain it to others, is that ECC is the community outreach arm of ELC. Although it is a bit more complicated than that, it is the way in which our congregation channels our social outreach programs to our neighborhood.

One careful observing member of our church pointed out to me that the relationship between ELC and ECC seems to be a case of the "tail wagging the dog". I stood there for a second and wondered. What do you mean? Is that bad or good? Who's the dog in this case? Is this about a tail gone rogue or of a dog gone lazy? Are you concerned that the tail is calling the shots or are you happy that we got some wagging action on? If I got it correctly, the point is that in the last couple of years ECC has become a very active and dynamic part of our church. We have an engaged board, meaningful activities and events, a relatively healthy budget, and, what I think is most important, significant relationships and partnerships with several other organizations. That can only be good, right? Well, the flip side of that is that the rest of the animal does not seem to be as strong and as active as the tail is. In summary, our church, our ELC, doesn't seem to show the same healthy characteristics that our social outreach, our ECC, has.

My core question continues to be, is that a bad or a good thing? On the one hand, undoubtedly, we have reasons to wonder about this. Our demographics are not entirely what we want them to be. We seem to be an older, smaller congregation than before. With mainline churches in general in decline, I can see why our eyebrows raise and our shoulders shrug when we try to look 10 or 15 years down the road. On the other hand, isn't it meaningful that social outreach has become sort of a trademark of Emanuel? Not that we are self justifying telling ourselves "good job", but it counts for something that we do continue to stretch our hands and open our arms to our neighbor. It is not justification by works what I'm talking about here; it's signs of life what I'm pointing out! The Gospel is indeed finding shape and practice among us. Imperfect as we may be, and as needed as we are of God's grace and mercy, we inch forward (not backwards) in our effort to answer the call of Jesus to be his disciples.

There are two things I invite you to do this month. Come on a Tuesday morning and take a look at our food distribution program. Don't use it as a measuring stick to gauge the state of the church. Just try and see what we do as a community. Sit with one of our neighbors, talk with them, share in their joys and their struggles. Also, meet our partners in ministry. Ask them why they come to help, ask them what they see here. It may just gladden your heart. The second thing I want you to do is to participate in the "Food for Feedback" activity on September 16. Donna and a few others are working on trying to learn what the younger generations are looking for in a church nowadays. Invite someone in their 20's or 30's to come, ask Donna what you can do to help, pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Once again, try and get your mind off from what we will get from it and more into how is that helpful to be obedient to our discipleship call. You know, I have the suspicion that we may just find some common ground here. Younger generations do look for social activism and meaningful institutions. If we are able to put these two together, we may just end up with a happy dog with a wagging tail. Woof, woof.... Amen.

The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and good news refreshes the body. Proverbs 15:30

Emanuel Community Center Treasurer's Report

August, 2012

INCOME-EXPENSE STATEMENT

Balance	\$19,782.90
Income	2,335.00
Expense	<u>6,433.45</u>
Ending Balance	\$15,684.65

Notes

A big thanks to Suzie Estrada, Laura Chapa and Pamela Zeko at Comerica Bank for supporting the Carnival with a nice contribution. Also a big thanks to Joyce Burnes of Feather Crest Farms, Dallas, and Kathy Hilliard of Cal-Maine Foods, in Flatonia, for providing the food pantry with 645 dozen large organic eggs.

It looks like the Carnival will run a small deficit this year. We are also incurring some unexpected expenses with the new food pantry operation but our overall food expense should be lower under our new system.

BUDGET vs ACTUAL INCOME/EXPENSE (1/2 of the year's budget)

<u>Budget</u>			<u>Actual</u>		
<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>In-kind</u>
\$ 27,701	\$ 28,447	\$ 11,910	\$ 30,473	\$37,7751	\$ 8,993

CALENDAR OF ECC CLASSES 2012

August

Family Hair Care	Mondays	20 & 27 th	12-1:30 PM
Creation of Hearts	Fridays	24 & 31	9:30-12 PM
Food Pantry	Tuesdays	21 & 28	8:15-11:00

September

Family Hair Care	Monday	10 th (off rest of Sept)	12- to 1:30 pm
Creation of Hearts	Fridays	7, 14, 21 & 28	9:30-12 PM
ESL	Tuesday s	4, 11, 18, 25	6-8 PM
Cooking Class	Wednesday	26 th	10-12 pm
Food Pantry	Every Tuesday		8:15-11Am

October

Family Hair Care	Mondays	1, 8, 15, 22 & 29	12-1:30 PM
Creation of Hearts	Fridays	5, 12, 19 & 26	9:30-12 PM
ESL	Tuesdays	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	6-8 PM
Cooking Class	Wednesday	3, 10, 17, 24 & 31	10-12 PM
Angel Tree Registration	Tuesdays	2, 9, 16, 23	8:30-10:30 AM
Food Pantry	Every Tuesday		8:15-11:00 AM

November

Family Hair Care	Mondays	5 & 12	noon-1:30
ESL	Every Tuesday		6-8PM
Food Pantry	Every Tuesday		8:15-11
Global Market GHMC	Sat/Sun	3 & 4	

December

Food Pantry	Every Tuesday		8:15-11
ESL	Every Tuesday	(per DISD schedule)	6-8 PM
Angel Tree	Distribution	13 th	10-12 PM

News from ESL

ESL kicks off on September 4 with registration. We're looking forward to a great year and hope to add two more class levels. We're also planning resource fairs, holiday parties, and many other fun things. We'd love for you to join us!

ESL is every Tuesday from 6:30 to 8:00pm. We need teachers and teaching assistants. Our goal is to have one teacher and one assistant for each class level. We also need additional help with our children's program. Would you like to help with the large group or tutor children individually? We have the place for you! ESL is a great volunteer opportunity for high school students and retirees. Let me know if you're interested by emailing Kelly at ESLinDallas@gmail.com or calling 214-659-1ESL. Or just stop by one evening. We'll be sure to find a place for you!

Kelly Archambault
mobile - 214.315.9338



An NTNL Mission Territory Vision for Mission

The vision is to equip leaders from many different backgrounds (that means YOU) to live, proclaim, and share the Good News of the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ in joyous, innovative, and exciting new ways.

The idea is to remind us that God calls each of us to be about mission in our own community as well as around the world.

The vision highlights several mission outreach programs including:

- The Mission Endowment Fund – through the years Emanuel has received several grants from this fund to help further our Food Pantry Ministry and the Summer Reading Program. Now it is time to restructure the fund into an endowment fund to ensure it will be able to fund ministry well into the future.
- The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sierra Leone Jubilee Center in Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa – Since 2000 we have been helping our sister synod build their main worship facility that will include an education center, a school, and a center for mission outreach in their community. Building is almost complete and dedication celebrations are scheduled for February 2013.
- The NTNL DiscipleLife Center for Mission at Briarwood – plans are being made to create a central location for mission training at Briarwood.
- The NTNL Leadership Formation Fund – this new fund would help leaders receive the training they need through grants, scholarships, and trainer stipends.

Watch for more information in future newsletters and bulletin inserts about how we as a congregation and you as an individual can participate in this Vision for Mission in the NTNL Mission Territory.

September 2012 Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7 Creations of the Heart 9:30 a.m.	8
9 English service – 10 11 – Sunday School Rally Day Spanish service – 11:30	10	11	12	13	14 Creations of the Heart 9:30 a.m.	15
16 English service – 10 Sunday School - 11 Spanish service – 11:30	17	18	19	20	21 Creations of the Heart 9:30 a.m.	22
23 English service – 10 Sunday School - 11 Spanish service – 11:30	24	25	26	27	28 Creations of the Heart 9:30 a.m.	29
30 English service – 10 Sunday School - 11 Spanish service – 11:30						

Youth Group Report

August was a month with a few activities for the Youth Group, but when they worked, they worked very hard. On Saturday September 11th, they were part of the volunteers who helped to prepare the school supplies for the Back to School Carnival. Sunday the 12th, was a long day. Earlier they watched the hall of bathrooms to guide the people who were waiting before the Carnival. Then helped with the distribution of the backpacks to children after they were blessed; once they finished the distribution of backpacks, they were also volunteers support during the Carnival in games, ultimately helped to clear games, tables, and pick up the litter. Finally had a lunch break and after that they help to clean Erickson Hall.

Thank you very much for your Service to Emanuel and your Community. Thanks to the parents of the Youths for supporting them to help.



Birthdays for the Month of September:

2 Alexas Jones	21 Eunice Dovenmuehle
4 Elsie Frybarger Brenda L. Patterson	22 Christopher Hill Rhett Tucker
5 Marea Magdalena Carrillo	23 Zoe Haedge
7 Luis Alberto Torres	24 Sally Kilgore
8 Len Fasick	25 David Haedge Summer Painter
9 Ted Tucker Christian Caldwell	Elizabeth Cerda
16 Chad Sohl	26 David Boothe Erika Hernandez
17 Brandon Valdez	27 Rosa Palacios Michael Burgess
18 Herman Thompson	
20 Mary Tomas Tim Barcus	



Announcements

Please join us for a nutrition and cooking class. "Food Matters" is a program run by the North Texas Food Bank to teach healthy eating habits. Classes are free and are taught by a professional chef and a nutritionist. The program is six weeks long beginning on September 26 in our fellowship hall. Space is limited. For more information, talk to Pat McDonald.

Sunday School is Back! Our new Sunday School year begins this coming Sunday with the annual Rally Day. Bring your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews (neighbors too!) to get them registered for their corresponding class. The first instructional Sunday will be September 16 starting at 11 a.m.

Feeding for Feedback! This will be an opportunity to converse with young adults (20's and 30's) as to what the church looks like to them. The idea here is to try to reach out to younger people and respond to their needs. We will gather on Sunday, September 16 at 5 p.m. in Erickson Hall. Please RSVP to Donna Miller by September 9th.

HEALTH TIP!!

DEFINING FITNESS

Physical fitness is to the human body what fine tuning is to an engine. It enables us to perform up to our potential. Fitness can be described as a condition that helps us look, feel and do our best. More specifically, it is:

"The ability to perform daily tasks vigorously and alertly, with energy left over for enjoying leisure-time activities and meeting emergency demands. It is the ability to endure, to bear up, to withstand stress, to carry on in circumstances where an unfit person could not continue, and is a major basis for good health and well-being."

Physical fitness involves the performance of the heart and lungs, and the muscles of the body. And, since what we do with our bodies also affects what we can do with our minds, fitness influences to some degree qualities such as mental alertness and emotional stability.

As you undertake your fitness program, it's important to remember that fitness is an individual quality that varies from person to person. It is influenced by age, sex, heredity, personal habits, exercise and eating practices. You can't do anything about the first three factors. However, it is within your power to change and improve the others where needed.



These are the graduates of the first Cooking Class held at Emanuel.



These are the kids who come for the hair cutting class. Marilyn Haggard does crafts with the kids.



Hair cutting class.