



The Red Door

August 2013

This and That

I have so much to say and so little space, so let's get right to it. Between my vacation and the youth trip to Tennessee, I've been away from the congregation for three weeks. So much has happened during that time, both here at our church and personally. Our family trip to Puerto Rico gave me some time to relax but at the same time we had to take care of a family emergency which involved a lot of unplanned business. We must have logged a thousand miles of car driving in two weeks going back and forth—which is a great feat on an island of a little more than 3,500 square miles. So much so, that our “vacation” time became a very busy time. By the end of it we were physically and emotionally exhausted but very grateful for God's help and blessing as everything turned out to be alright.

The very next day after our flight back to Dallas, I emptied my suitcase and prepared my backpack to go this time with the youth group to their Tennessee trip. This was one I was expecting to be a lot of work and a little bit of relaxation but again it turned out to be the opposite. The youth group, and the adults traveling with them, had the opportunity to enjoy a very beautiful place with lots of fun included. Just in case you want to know, we also had daily devotionals, Bible study and worship. In fact, God had a great blessing in disguise for us since this trip was actually all about building up friendships and our relationship with God. The youth came back with stronger connections to each other and to the church where they are members and active participants. On their behalf, I want to thank Roger and Trudy for giving them this great gift and to the congregation for their support. I cannot forget to thank María Torres and Will Dorward for accompanying them and to Julia Hernandez who coordinated the whole thing.

On the church business side of all this, there has been a lot of action lately. The process to purchase the empty lot by the church house is almost finished and we should be able to close on it in the next few days (again, hopefully). These are indeed very exciting news and we look forward to more ministry opportunities with the added piece of land. Look for more info in the next several days. Our appreciation to Miles Schulze who has spearheaded such a time consuming and very stressful process. We wouldn't be where we are without him!

One more important piece of business has to do with our church life. On August 26 we will have a presentation by Rev. Stephen Kanouse, ELCA Director for Evangelical Mission, on church renewal. This will be a very important event in which we will consider taking on a congregational process designed to redevelop the ministry of our church. Our hope and desire is that as many Emanuel members as possible be here on that night. We will gather together to talk about the life of our church and about things we can do together to continue to minister in our neighborhood for many more years to come. Please, pray for this meeting and plan to be here. Pray also for the leaders of our community of faith that they may be encouraged and strengthened in the leadership they provide for us.

As you can see a lot is going on and much more is still to come. Let us keep our eyes and ears open as I believe we are in a very crucial time in the life of our church. There is one lesson I've learned in the last few weeks. Don't think that you have everything planned and under control. I ended up having to work when I planned to relax and relaxed when I planned to work. Let God guide you as God is always in the lookout preparing an unexpected blessing for you. Amen.

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

Emanuel Community Center Treasurer's Report

July, 2013

INCOME-EXPENSE STATEMENT

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Beginning Balance | \$21,179.50 |
| Income | 1,600.00 |
| Expense | <u>5,794.84</u> |
| Ending Balance | \$16,984.66 |

Notes

We had an operating deficit of almost \$4,200.00, due largely to more food pantry expense than usual and paying all our Summer Reading Program (SRP) expenses. Although the SRP expenses were actually under budget, our contributions were way under what we had anticipated and the SRP operated at a \$600.00 deficit. The deficit would have been larger had we not received \$728.00 in food for our participants from Healthy Living Outreach.

One bright spot was that Feather Crest Farms and Cal Maine Foods gave us almost \$2,900.00 of organic eggs, which will supply our clients for over a month. Our Food Pantry expense was over \$2,300.00 this month.

Liability insurance continues to be a big expense.

August will be another expensive month as we conduct the annual Pat Painter Back-to-School Carnival. However, once we get past August, we will have mostly Food Pantry expense until our December Angel Tree Program. We have already received several nice contributions for the Carnival.

Dear friends,

Thank you for all your thoughts & prayers while I've been laid up after dislocating my right knee in June.

I'm doing better, still walking with a cane. I'll have more therapy through 8/23 & I'm going to start water aerobics.

It was great to be in church today.

Thanks again.

Peace & Love,

Alice Ann Parsons

ECC Board Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2013

Absent: Pastor Julio, Blanca Ilades, and Amanda Quicksall.

Quest: Stewart Strickland

Minutes from April and May were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Miles gave a report on our finances and progress on our insurance coverage.

Stewart Strickland, Boy Scout, came to the meeting to introduce himself and to get ideas for his Eagle Scout service project.

New Business: Miles discussed the option to purchase the lot next to the church house that is for sale. The board approved the earnest money.

Fundraising/Grant: We talked about the various ways to raise monies and get grant money. Miles expressed interest in becoming the Coordinator to plan fundraising campaigns, meet with different agencies to broaden our opportunities for grants and to bring new programs to the Center.

Board Nominees: We are still interested in Blanca's friend, Claudia, to fill the vacant board position that came for an interview at our last board meeting. We plan to be proactive finding new board members for 2014.

SRP: We have about 40 kids registered. Jennifer Plietgen is the Director. She scheduled a brief volunteer training meeting. There were about 15 volunteers that attended.

Unidos Podemos: Mary agreed to send a letter to Unido Podemos asking them to keep the rooms they use clean at the church house.

Carnival: The program is progressing as scheduled with the concern of the progress of procurements of school supplies. The committee will be asking for volunteers from Gloria Dei, Christ Lutheran, Preston Meadow and GHMC. Emanuel Youth have volunteered to set up the games and take them down.

ESL: We will continue this program for another year and then reevaluate the need of ESL as attendance has been low this year. Kelly has agreed to be the director for the fall term.

Food Pantry: We are serving 150 clients each week. We are considering capping the number of clients due to cost.

Pay Pal: Nancy agreed to check into setting up an account for the ECC board.

Next Board Meeting July 9, 2013

Food for Thought

by Ted S Brown

I hope everyone is having a great summer and keeping the heat at bay. We are closing in on the first year under our new system at the Food Pantry. It has caused a lot of growing pains in the last year, but we have also seen many great things come out of the change. In the next year we are looking to increase the services that we offer our neighbors and help them increase their quality of life. One positive thing I have noticed is that many of our FP clients are utilizing many of our other programs. We have increased the number of individuals that we serve on a weekly basis from 150 to 160. We are able to do this because of funds we received from our Dallas Foundation grant. While we have made large strides to increase the quality of products distributed to the kitchen clients, we are struggling to provide quality foods to our homeless population. Crossroads Community Services has not had a lot of the canned proteins that we once received from North Texas Food Bank. Ladan and Amy prepare between 40 to 50 non-kitchen sacks each week. Amy spends a lot of her personal time looking for sales and shopping for deals to save money to provide quality products to distribute weekly. I feel that the work we are doing for the homeless population is very important but we need to provide them with more high proteins foods. The boiled eggs we distribute are good but other proteins that don't need to be cooked are often canned. The problem is these proteins are expensive and most times more that we can afford on our budget. I would like to ask everyone reading this month's Food for Thought to help us collect as many canned proteins as they are able. If you have any ideas for how we can do this on a large scale please contact me at tedsbrown@gmail.com. I have attached several pictures from this month's non-kitchen distributions. Well that is enough to chew on for now. Thanks for your time and God bless you all.



August 2013 Church Calendar

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|----------------------------|----------|----------------------------------|----------|
| | | | | 1 | 2 Creations of the Heart 9 a.m. | 3 |
| | Council Meeting – 6 p.m. | | | | | |
| 4 English service – 10 8:45 – Choir starts Spanish service – 11:30 | 5 | 6 Food Pantry – 8 a.m. ECC Board Meeting 7 p.m. | 7 Food Matters – 10 a.m. | 8 | 9 Creations of the Heart 9 a.m. | 10 |
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| 11 Back-to-School Carnival | 12 | 163 Food Pantry – 8 a.m. | 14 Cooking Matters 10 - 12 | 15 | 16 Creations of the Heart 9 a.m. | 17 |
| | | | | | | |
| 18 English service – 10 Spanish service – 11:30 | 19 | 20 Food Pantry – 8 a.m. | 21 Cooking Matters 10 - 12 | 22 | 23 Creations of the Heart 9 a.m. | 24 |
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| 25 English service – 10 Spanish service – 11:30 | 26 Presentation by Rev. Stephen Kanouse | 27 Food Pantry – 8 a.m. | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
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Birthdays for the Month of August:

| | |
|---|--|
| August 2 Jolene Rego Mercedes Villareal | August 14 Judy Kline Howard Scheib |
| August 3 Ali Rayo | August 15 Tonia Herman |
| August 5 Will Dorward | August 16 Steve Good |
| August 7 Barry Russell | August 17 Fernando Javier Valdez |
| August 8 Jeanne Schulze Douglas McLouth | August 18 Kimberly Helen Carey |
| August 9 Juan Carlos Martinez | August 19 Susan Scheib |
| August 10 Thomas Leonard Carey Carole (Lauren) Carpenter Will Burgess | August 20 Marilyn Haggard |
| August 11 Araceli Reyes Kenneth Evans | August 26 Alejandra Goodno |
| August 12 Darius Jones | August 27 Sonia Cerda |
| | August 28 Aaron Painter Agustin Cerda |
| | August 31 Anthony Jordan-Parker Ortiz Leland Jones Anita Lidbury |

August Anniversaries - 26 – Leland & Melody Jones
27 – Bob & Linda Moody



The choir will begin to meet for weekly practice at 8:45AM on August 4th. We have an ambitious schedule made through Christmas. Anyone who is interested in choir may come at this time. You don't need to be able to read music - just share a love for singing. -- Donna

A Lutheran Hymn Festival will be held at the Morton Meyerson Symphony Center on September 29th at 7:00 PM. Tickets cost between \$5.00 and \$15.00. Group discounted tickets are available for 12 or more people at \$2.00 a ticket. If you are interested, please contact Donna. A poster will be placed on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall with all the details.



Announcements

Pulpit Supply – Thanks to Pastor Mel Hammer for preaching and presiding over the sacrament while Pastor Julio was away on vacation. May God bless you always!

Youth Trip – The youth group left on Monday, July 29th along with Will Dorward, Maria Torres and Pastor Julio. They went to Tennessee to Roger & Trudy's for a retreat.

Back-to-School Carnival – Remember that this year the carnival will be on Sunday, August 11th. Talk with Tim Barcus or any of the members of the ECC board for more information.

Newsletter – We want to make sure that our monthly newsletter is reaching everybody. Blanca has agreed to build up a new list of recipients with their correct and current addresses. If you have not been receiving the newsletter regularly, please get in touch with Blanca at 214-854-9523 or at her email address pattyillades@yahoo.com.mx

Update Directory – Please fill out the sheets that you can get from the office with all of your family information to update the Board of the Church and directory. Thanks for your help.

ESL will be starting again in the fall. Classes begin September 3 with testing and orientation. Classes will be from 6:30 to 8pm every Tuesday. If we have enough interest from students and volunteers, we will add an additional class day.

Students may come September 3 to sign up. Classes are free. Childcare will be provided. Tutoring will be available for all school-age children.

We need volunteers. Come and teach or help the children. English speakers or bilingual speakers are encouraged to help teach. You need not speak Spanish to teach. If you are a Spanish speaker and would like to volunteer, we'd love to have you. You can help with registering new students and can be a big help in the children's program. If you can't help every Tuesday, sign-up to be a substitute. We need your help!

If you want more information about the classes, whether you want to attend or volunteer, call Kelly at 214-659-1375 or email at ESLinDallas@gmail.com

Araceli Reyes wants to thank everyone for attending her mom's memorial service and wants to thank you all for all the phone calls to express condolences. She also wants to express gratitude for all the sympathy cards, prayers and encouraging words she received from Emanuel members. She wishes everyone to receive many blessings for all your kindness towards her.