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The Monthly Newsletter of the Emmetsburg First United Methodist ChurchPastor Hojin ShinChurch Office (712) 852-2154Secretary Jackie BlackEmail UMCSecretary@iowatelecom.netCustodian John StrohmanWebsite www.emmetsburgumc.com



Happy New Year to all Emmetsburg FUMC Families! As I pass the year-end and welcome the new year, two words always come up. One is "Ebenezer" and the other is Jehovahjireh". Both are Hebrew from the Old Testament.

"Ebenezer" commemorates the past

אָבָן הָעָזָר eben hā -'āzer stone of the help 1 Samuel 7:12

One day Samuel gathered the people of Israel and had a revival at Mizpah. He strongly urged, "If you are truly serious about coming back to God, clean house. Get rid of the foreign gods and fertility goddesses,

ground yourselves firmly in

God, worship him and him alone, and he'll save you from Philistine oppression." The message was so strong and touching that the people began to fast and repent. However, Philistine heard the news and thought it would be a good opportunity to attack them. The people of Israel had decided to serve God well, but they feared this test. They were very terrified of the situation with Philistines. Samuel and the Israelites did pass through this crisis with a stronger faith. Giving a burnt offering to God, they prayed for salvation without ceasing. Then God caused the Philistines to be bewildered by the sound of a great thunder, and they were defeated by Israel. Samuel commemorated this victory, by taking a stone and placing it between Mizpah and Shen,



the stone "Ebenezer".

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



The Voyager

saying, "Thus far the Lord has helped us," and named Looking back at the past year, we can't deny that we made it thanks to God's grace. It would not have been possible to come here now, except the grace of God. When you can, confess this grace, and you will be able to hope for tomorrow. Praise the Lord who is our strength.

January 2019

2. "Jehovah Yireh" sees the future

יְהְוָה ו יִרְאֲה Yah-weh yir-'eh The Lord Will Provide Genesis 22:14

I believe that we have heard a lot about the story of Abraham and Isaac. Isaac was the son of Abraham, who was born when Abraham was a hundred years old. One day, suddenly, God ordered him to sacrifice the precious Isaac.

Abraham was obedient. Even though God's command was hard to imagine. Finally, at a moment when he was about to kill Isaac on Mount Moriah, God spoke urgently.

"Abraham! Abraham!" "Yes, I'm listening." "Don't touch him! Now I know how fearlessly you fear God."

Abraham looked up and saw a defined in Hebrews 11:1, ram caught by its horns in the thicket. Abraham took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. Then he named that place Jehovah-Yireh. That's where we get the saying, "On the mountain of God, the Lord will provide."

Abraham is called "the ancestor of faith." We do not



know what will happen in the new year or the future, but we Christ! If we look back on the are able to move forward because we "trust" God, who has been with us. Faith is

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

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Dear First UMC family in past with the eyes of faith, we can realize there was God's grace. Also if we see the future with the eyes of faith, we will be convinced that there will certainly be God's grace. May God of *Ebenezer* do Jehovah Yireh!

Blessings,

Pastor Hojin Shin



Prayer for the New Year

Dear Heavenly Father,

We are grateful to start another year knowing you are in our lives. You give us many blessings, and sometimes we don't realize they are blessings from you. Help us to remember others who are struggling. Many have health issues that are hard to bear. Help us to realize the ways we can help others. We lift up those who have lost loved ones. May they feel your presence and



healing love daily. We are fortunate to have people in our church who are willing to give Trinity Peace and Love their time in many ways and

do so time and time again. We are thankful for our New Family Life Center being built. We pray that we can serve you more with its existence, and we thank those who have given many hours to see that it is being built. We thank you for our men and women serving our country and for others who serve and help our communities. We give you thanks for Pastor Shin, his family, and our church staff. Father, we give you our thanks and adoration.

In Jesus' precious name, Amen

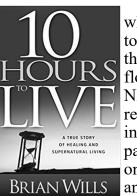
February 2019

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1 Offices Closed 9:30am Men's Prayer Group in the Narthex	2	
3 8:45am Sunday School 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:00am Worship	4 4:00pm Intercessory Prayer @Emerald Oaks 7:00pm Dig In Bible Study	5 5:30-7:00pm *Just For Kix	6 1:30pm Upper Room 1:30pm 345 ALIVE 4:30pm Shekinah Praise Practice 5:30pm Jr UMYF 6:00pm Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Sr. UMYF	7 6pm Intensified Prayer @War Room 7pm VBS Planning Meeting Men's Emmaus Walk Begins in West DSM	8 Offices Closed 9:30am Men's Prayer Group in the Narthex Men's Emmaus Walk Continues	9 Men's Emmaus Walk Continues	
10 8:45am Sunday School 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:00am Worship <i>Men's Emmaus</i> <i>Walk Ends in</i> <i>West DSM</i>	11 4:00pm Intercessory Prayer @Emerald Oaks 7:00pm Dig In Bible Study	12 5:30-7pm *Just For Kix	13 1:30pm Upper Room 3:30pm 345 ALIVE 4:30pm Shekinah Praise Practice 5:30pm Jr UMYF 6:00pm Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Sr. UMYF 6:30 pm Finance Committee 7:30 pm Admin Council	14 6pm Intensified Prayer @War Room <i>Women's</i> <i>Emmaus Walk</i> <i>Begins in</i> <i>West DSM</i>	 <i>17</i> <i>Offices Closed</i> 9:30am Men's Prayer Group in the Narthex <i>Women's Emmaus</i> <i>Walk Continues</i> 	16 Women's Emmaus Walk Continues	
17 8:45am Sunday School 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:00am Worship Women's Emmaus Walk Ends in West DSM	18 President's Day Offices Closed 4:00pm Intercessory Prayer @Emerald Oaks 7:00pm Dig In Bible Study	19 8:15am MOPS 5:00pm MOPS 5:30-7pm *Just For Kix	20 1:30pm Upper Room 3:30pm 345 ALIVE 4:30pm Shekinah Praise Practice 5:30pm Jr UMYF 6:00pm Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Sr. UMYF 7:00 pm Emmaus Potluck and Prayer	21 6pm Intensified Prayer @War Room Newsletter Submission Deadline!	22 Offices Closed 9:30am Men's Prayer Group in the Narthex	23	
24 8:45am Sunday School 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:00am Worship	25 4:00pm Intercessory Prayer @Emerald Oaks 7:00pm Dig In Bible Study	26 5:30-7:00pm *Just For Kix	27 1:30pm Upper Room 3:30pm 345 ALIVE 4:30pm Shekinah Praise Practice 5:30pm Jr UMYF 6:00pm Bell Choir Practice 6:30 pm Sr. UMYF	28 6pm Intensified Prayer @War Room			

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to my room on the thirteenth floor of the NIH-the ward incurable patients. The only way by way of the

morgue." Pretty somber words! is a quote from the non-fiction book 10 Hours to Live by Brian Wills. Now, you might ask yourself, "Why would anyone want to read this? Look at that title. It must be depressing!" Contrary to what the title indicates, this book is a book about a miracle-about hope and about faith in God's power to heal.

Brian Wills was an up-and-coming tennis player preparing to play on the professional satellite circuit in Europe. The day before his flight was to leave he suffered from chills, fever, and pain in his misery throughout this ordeal. abdomen. Needless to say, he did not get on the plane. With an alarming blood count, Brian was admitted to the hospital, and over the next nine days endured many medical tests. At the age of 22, Brian was diagnosed with a mass in his abdomen the size of a golfball. He had Burkitt's lymphoma, a rare, fatal disease.

"An orderly His prognosis was dismal, to say understanding its significance. wheeled me up the least. The tumor was growing at frightening speed, and the cancer was proving to be relentless. At one point, Brian was given only a 10 hour reserved for the window to live! Despite this fatal diagnosis, Brian and his family refused to give up. He immersed himself in scriptures BRIAN WILLS anyone left was from the Bible, and he and his family prayed over his body, his medicine, and his doctors But definitely eye-opening. This non-stop. "Using the authority Jesus gave the believer, he commanded cancer to leave his body." Little by little, Brian began to improve. First, his kidneys began to work again; then his abdomen decreased in size, and his pain subsided. After his next CT scan, he was NED-no evidence of disease. Doctors were completely baffled; no one ever left the "death ward" with Burkitt's lymphoma! Until Brian! Brian had received his medical miracle from God. His miracle was not instant, and Brian was not without pain and The book, of course, goes into greater detail on how he fought the disease, the pain, and at times the doubt of the doctors and nurses. He communicates his "Steps to Healing" in Part 2 of the book. Brian is adamant about walking by faith and not by sight, about attending to

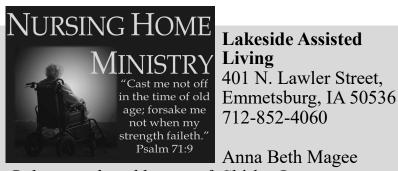
God's word, and about

Kevi

Communion was a part of his healing, as well as listening to and obeying the Holy Spirit to win the battle. He created an atmosphere for God and was steadfast in doing so. In addition, he had a vision for victory and made plans for the future. He prayed the prayer of faith relentlessly. Brian knew he needed his doctors but knew his trust could not be in man alone: he knew his ultimate source of healing was with God.

This book was/is a great comfort to me. It gives hope when riveted with fear. Brian encourages us to fight that fear and choose "Life instead of death; hope instead of despair." I know now that we must be more persistent in our faith and that we must believe God's report over any other. All things truly are possible with God. This book is definitely worth the read for anyone going through any kind of illness or hardship or even just feeling doubt. We must always remember Isaiah 53:5, "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our inequities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." Brian Wills is living proof!

-Submitted by Linda Jones



Below are the addresses of Shirley Leverenz our members, who are in area nursing homes or assisted living facilities. Care Center

Please visit or send a card Emmetsburg, IA 50536 to brighten their day. They would love to hear from you.

PARC Hall

3201 1st Street. Emmetsburg, IA 50536 712-852-5520

Joyce Muller Paul Kooker Lois Lowman Vi Sampson Pearl Whitmore Helen Merrill #203

Willow Ridge

3203 1st Street. Emmetsburg, IA 50536 712-852-5480

Pat Anderson #103 Anne Carney #216 Virginia Place #210



If you or a loved one is hospitalized,

Emmetsburg

712-852-4266

Lilian Cox

Bev Hankey

Mae Stevens

Ted Strohman

Emerald Oaks

Assisted Living

2603 17th Street.

712-852-8408

Emmetsburg, IA 50536

Gwen Carmichael # 20

Jackie Donovan #23

Doris Gustafsen #8

Rosabelle Johnson 1

Florence Malm #22

Louise Sackett # 16

2405 21st Street,

please call the church to inform us.

The hospital does not and will not call



Lord, have mercy on them, strengthen them in their weakness; protect and guide us!

Kent Klootwyk (his father passed away) Cindy Magee (her mother passed away) Kim Opheim (her father passed away) Florence Malm (Sister-in-law Doris Malm passed away) Gary Hopkins (father of Deb Opheim) Kari & Olivia Hampe Deb Weir **Rick Jones** Doris Malm Lincoln Coakley (grandson of Joann Coakley) Gene Twait **Richard Henrichs** Vicki Ellis Will Farlow Irene Goff Carol Ensley Nancy Hinrichs Joyce Muller Scott Sanne (Grandson of Pearl Whitmore) Philip Christenson (brother of Marge Solberg) Kort Freeman Lois Lowman Ted Strohman Jane Stevens Vi Sampson Marjorie Solberg Deb Nissen (sister-in-law of Deb Wickman) *The families of those who have lost loved ones this past year including: Vida Krough, Ethel DeJung, Shirley Weisbrod, Bette Miller, Vicki Truog, Mary Helen Morling, Jim Coakley, Cindy Kassel, Betty Jo Priest, Orval Hankey, Ellen Saxton, and Luke Rouse *Those who have been hospitalized and our military members.

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fellowship and maybe a little food. Hope to see you there on Wednesday, January 23rd at 7pm. Bring a dessert to share if you like.

Want to learn more about The Walk to Emmaus? Ask myself or anyone who has been through it, there are many of us who would love to talk to you about the experience.

The next set of walks is coming up! The men's walk is weekend meeting new friends February 7th -10th and the and God? Check out women's walk is February 14th – 17th. This walk will be teens. The next flight will be held in Clarion in April. in West Des Moines at the God bless each of you and I West Des Moines First United pray to meet you at Emmaus Methodist Church. There is no cost for you to attend. We someday soon! also have a summer walk for men and women in Humboldt ~ Sarah Strohman which will be in July. Do you



Used Stamp

Ministry

Several years ago an article

was given to me regarding a

program to utilize cancelled

postage stamps. Some of you

have been aware of this and

have been leaving stamps for

me. I would like see more activity in this program and it to this project, in 2017, cost nothing.

There is a basket on the desk just inside the east door of the church where cancelled stamp may be left. They like to have up to 1/3 inch of border left on them but have told me that if that is not possible, they can still use them. When I get a number of these, I send them to an address in Florida where they are, in turn, sold and the proceeds are used to prepare, print and distribute Sunday School literature in Spanish to countries in Latin America, Spain an even the USA.

RST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

have a teen that could use a Chrysalis, a weekend event for

My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you ~John 15:12

In 2016, \$46,000 was sent \$29.000 and as of the end of November of this year, \$37,000 was sent. This is a lot of good being done just by saving our cancelled postage stamps. Since this program began in 1972, \$972,000 has been donated to this project. Every penny is used for the program as all administration is done by volunteers. There is a DVD available, which I could order, if anyone is interested in learning more about this terrific project.

Rosie Argabright Outreach Committee



Agape is a Christian term meaning the highest form of love, charity and the love of God for man and of man for God. As I think about the word agape, I am reminded of introduced to and fell in love my experiences with The Walk with God and my best friend. to Emmaus. You hear me talk It continues to be at Emmaus about it often and there's a good reason why, it was life changing. I have said it before and I will say it again: I back to do the job titled will not quit inviting you until Agape. I've filled many duties within our church and our you've made the decision to go. It was for me and will be for you a mountaintop experience.

Going through the walk, I experienced true agape love for the first time and was so humbled and blessed by it. When I left at the end of my walk, I knew 2 things for sure. go back, it's a new First, I knew beyond any doubt that our Great God loves me. HE loves me. He LOVES me. He loves ME. That no matter what I do, I

cannot remove myself from His love. I felt His presence at time or the 21st time, there Emmaus so strongly. My faith will be something there for was renewed and grew beyond you and someone there who what I could imagine. The second thing I knew for sure was that God puts people in your path when the time is right and for a very distinct reason – to strengthen your faith in Him and learn to live that faith out loud through their examples.

that I meet God, new friends and reunite with old. You see, since my walk, I have gone such as housekeeping, chapel, community. dining room, Agape leader, one of my personal favorites cooking, especially when I get keeping our 4th day reunion to work with the best kitchen crew there is! And I look forward to new opportunities such as Lay Director in the summer of 2020. Each time I opportunity for personal growth and reuniting with old friends and meeting new. To all the 4th dayers in our church family, come join me!

Whether its for the first wants to meet you. Another way agape is defined is a communal meal in token of Christian fellowship as held by early Christians in commemoration of the Last Supper. This definition reminds me of the importance of gathering as a group of It was at Emmaus that I was Emmaus 4th dayers to hold each other up in prayer, hold each other accountable and commune as a group of believers. It is this reminder that compels me to dedicate myself to the revitalization of our 4th day reunion group

I will start off this new year with a new commitment to group alive for the purpose of continuing to support our 4th day family, young and old. Please join me in this renewed commitment to uphold your fellow 4th dayers during our monthly reunion group on a new day and time. We will gather at our church the 4th Wednesday of the month at 7pm to share in prayer,





Chapters in Our Life Together



Sympathies to the family of Shirley Weisbrod, who died on December 1, 2018. Services were held on December 7 2018 at Emmetsburg First United Methodist Church.

Sympathies to the family of Ethel DeJung, who died on December 6, 2018. Services were held on December 9, 2018 at Emmetsburg First United Methodist Church.

Sympathies to the family of Vida Krough, who died on December 21, 2018. Services were held on December 24, 2018 at Emmetsburg First United Methodist Church.

- 7 Howard & Rosie Argabright
- 9 Kevin & Jennifer Long
- 24 Alan & Tracey Mattice
- 26 Wendell & Judy Duhn Ted & Linda Strohman

First United Methodist Church Regular Monthly Administrative Church Council Minutes Wednesday, January 9, 2019, at 7:30 pm

In attendance: (13) Dave Ballman, Jackie Black, Ken Kassel, John Kerber, Ruth Hand, Cindy Magee, Bev Schmidt, Pastor Hojin Shin, Lisa Siebrecht, Lois Stanley, Jim Stevens, Troy Strohman, Myram Tunnicliff,

Call to order: Troy Strohman called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

Devotions: Pastor Hojin Shin's devotion focused on resolutions - He suggest we focus on three areas: Mind (Knowledge), Body (Physical) and Soul (Spiritual). Proverbs 16:9 "Trust God"

Secretary's Report: Minutes from December 5, 2018, Motion to approve: Ken Kassel, Approved as written, by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Lois Stanley reported the December, 2018 Treasurer's Report, General Fund Balance: \$19,080.23, Motion to approve: Dave Ballman, Approved as presented, by voice vote.

Committee Reports:

Nurturing Ministries Planning Team: Dave Ballman and Cindy Magee Cindy reported on youth group activities: 345ÅLIVE, Jr UMYF, Sr UMYF All youth group activities have resumed!

Outreach Ministries Planning Team: Rosie Argabright

Lois reported for Rosie the next activity will be the Easter Tree.

Witness Ministries Planning Team: No Report

Administrative Committees:

Chair of Trustees: Lisa Siebrecht and Ruth Hand

Ruth reported the following:

- Trustees paid the next installment for the Family Life Center. \$206,000.00 was borrowed from Laurens State Bank
- KW Electric has been working on the outlets, questions regarding where to install outlets for future Audio/ Visual Equipment.

Painting will be ready to be done the end of February, this will be up to the congregation.

Lisa reported the North steps are looking badly and she will try to see what can be done to fix or replace them.

Chair of SPRC: Danielle Ditch No Report

Chair of Finance: Brian Garrels No Report

Chair of Endowment Committee: Kent Klootwyk No Report

Lay Leadership: Pastor Shin

Pastor Hojin commented that Sarah Strohman provided the sermon several weeks back. He will be trying to get more lay leaders to speak.

Chair of History Committee: Myram Tunnicliff

Mvram read an article dated November, 1976, written by Florence Underwood, titled,

"True Meaning of the First United Methodist Church Growth"

Figures can tell how a church has grown in membership, or how much it has invested in building, or how it has busied itself in activities, but the comfort it offers in time of trouble, the strength it shows against evil, and the

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Celebrating God's Love in Action

Bible Studies that are Happening this month!

Dig In To God's Word Bible Study

To Be Announced We will be choosing a new bible study this month!

> Mondays 7pm All are welcome to join us!





Bible Study

Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

At Emerald Oaks

Study is open to anyone desiring fellowship and growth.



EPPER ROOM

Refreshments are not served but we do have food for the soul!



345 ALIVE 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM 1st & 3rd Wednesdays (When school has early dismissals) 3:30 PM -5:00 PM 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wednesdays Jr. UMYF 5:30 PM-7:00 PM Every Wednesday Sr. UMYF 6:30 PM-8:00 PM Every Wednesday

Youth groups will not meet if school is cancelled or out for breaks, such as Thanksgiving, Winter (Christmas & New Year's, Spring Break, etc.). Remember to always check with your youth group leader or the church office, if you have any questions.

Youth Leaders: 345 ALIVE Cindy Magee Jr. UMYF Kari Anderson & Karen Sargent Sr. UMYF Susan Embrock

Christ-like living it inspires in its members are truer measure of it stature. And these are things which man cannot measure fully: "for things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal. First United Methodist Church will continue to move forward on the feet of the men, the women and the children who love it, who believe in its mission of working for the Kingdom of God on earth, and who dedicate themselves to the service of Him who is the "church's one foundation – Jesus Christ her Lord.

Memorial Committee: No Report

Other Committee/Additional New Business:

- completed.

Weather and Church Activities Policy: Pastor Hojun presented the following as the policy: In case of special weather conditions, the Emmetsburg First United Methodist Church (FUMC or the church) can close and cancel church services, activities, or meetings that are provided by the church.

Church Close: If the Emmetsburg area IS under a Winter Weather/Blizzard Warning, There will be **no services**, activities, or meetings held on that day. In the event that the Emmetsburg are is under a Wind Chill Warning. Decisions will be made on the individual basis.

Decision Made: Pastor will confer with the Administrative Council before making a final decision. Announcement:

Radio - KICD DM 102.5 & AM 1240, (712) 262-1240 **KEMB 94.1 FM**

Phone Tree Text

TV – KTIV, KCAU Sioux City

After approval, the church will ask the congregation to choose the way they wish to be contacted. Discussion was held and policy is now in place. **Cindy Magee**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 7:30 pm **Troy Closed Meeting with a Prayer** Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm Submitted by Recording Secretary:



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Representatives Annual Conference. Jamie Christensen and Troy Strohman were asked to serve as delegates to the Annual Conference. Motion to approve: Cindy Magee, Approved by voice vote.

Jim Stevens brought several issues to our attention: Hymnal are showing wear and tear, at least 60 are in bad condition, Cokesbury cost to replace aprx. 20.79 + tax, suggestions were to see if any of the area UMC churches which has closed has any they would be will to get rid of. Several of the pew seats have tacking which needs to be fixed. A few of the pews are loose from the floor and several of the Hymnal holders are missing the bottom. Jim also brought it to our attention the Adult Sunday School Classroom is getting too small. Administrative Council will look into the possibility of the Adult SS get one of the classrooms in the Family Life Center when it is

Opportunities to Serve, Pray, Learn & Fellowship with Others!



Join the Chancel Choir! Practices: the 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month at 9:00 a.m., Sing: during the worship service following practice.

Singers of all ages and levels are welcome. The ability to read music is helpful, but not required.

High School students are encouraged to join for community service.

Choir Director - David Fog Accompanist - Kelley Fog



You are invited to join Bell Choir!

The Bell Choir practices on Wednesdays at 6:00pm and performs the 3rd Sunday of each month during the worship service. The ability to read music is helpful, but not required.

Bell Choir Director- Melanie Flynn



Every morning at 8am.

We encourage everyone to come and pray in the way that is most comfortable for you.

The sanctuary is opened at 8am but you can come anytime throughout the day.



Intercessory Prayer Group Mondays at 4:00pm Emerald Oaks

Doris Gustafson's or Florence Malm's apartment.

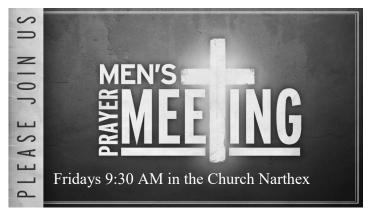
We pray for

-anyone who needs God's healing powers or comfort
-peace for our world
-our country and our community
-our churches and leaders
-anything or anyone who needs God's love and care.

So we pray for you and send God's Blessings to each of you!

СНОІ





Intensified Prayer Meeting



every Thursday at 6pm in the "War Room" at Ruth Hand's.



Potluck & Prayer

Emmaus 4th Day group meets on the 4th Wednesday of every month at 7pm at Emmetsburg First UMC.

If you have any questions contact **Sarah Strohman** or the church office for further details.