

2014 Easter Egg Hunt Draws Hundreds

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Clovis, again became the center of activity for hundreds of children looking forward to the traditional egg hunt. For the sixth consecutive year, Emmanuel has invited the young and the not-so-young to join in an afternoon of games and music, art and eating, bounce-houses and praise bands, punctuated by a photo op with the Easter egg bunny. Prizes, gifts, eggs and candy, were offered free of charge. Children and adults also had occasion to meet firemen and the Clovis police, to go inside their vehicles, and learn about safety tips.

The main purpose for this outreach event is to help the community take notice of a church that is an integral part of Clovis, and who has a vibrant ministry to the children and youth in this area. All who registered were given an invite to Easter worship and a bag full of Christian education material.

According to Dan McNicholas, coordinator of the event, *“This was by far the largest attended egg hunt to date with an estimate of over 400 children and parents. I applaud the many workers from the congregation—youth and adults—who helped make this day possible. Once again this year I believe that several families will become part of our worshipping community as a result of this.”*

Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Clovis had recently entered into a revitalization process to bring about viability as a congregation. From 2009, when Pastor Ed Krueger arrived to now, the church has grown in worship attendance from 65 to almost 200. Our mission reflects Christ’s Great Commission with the vision that we exist *“to make followers of Jesus who love God, love others, and show it.”* Recently, the church renovated its narthex to incorporate that vision and its values in banners and wall art. The leadership has come to expect excellence in communication by way of its webpage, emmanuelclovis.org, its Facebook and Twitter accounts, and its weekly electronic newsletter. Already more people follow the weekly sermons online than attend the weekly worship service. The *“branding of Emmanuel”* continues through such “fishing pool” events and igniter activities as the Easter Egg Hunt.

