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April 2022

Emanuel Lutheran Church



A Member of the New England Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,
a "Reconciling in Christ" Congregation



Visitor

From the Vicar (on Broadway)

In this month's newsletter our "From the Vicar" article is written by Emanuel's Seminarian, Eric Heinrich. Eric has completed his classroom seminary studies and is halfway through his year-long internship serving as the Vicar at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Norwich, CT. St. Mark's happens to be at 248 Broadway in Norwich, hence he has named himself "The Vicar on Broadway".

As a member of Emanuel Lutheran Church, I must say it is weird to be somewhat removed from activity at Emanuel. As most of you know I am finishing my seminary work by serving as Vicar at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Norwich, CT. Although I have not been around Emanuel lately, I recognize it was life and involvement at Emanuel that sparked my call to seminary. I have been shown so much love and support by all of you since I began this journey back in 2017. As I move forward in my year-long internship which I will complete in early August I thought I would give you a bit of an update. I remember before I started my internship, I was wondering what a typical weekly schedule would look like. I can tell you that every week is a bit different, because pastoral needs of the congregation and individual members is fluid and changing. There are however some constants in my schedule so here is the regular happenings in my week.

- ◆ **Sunday**—9:30 a.m. worship at St. Mark, immediately following worship I hop in my car and drive to St. Luke in neighboring Gales Ferry to co-teach a collaborative confirmation program with Pastor Heidi Johnston from 11 a.m.—12:00 noon. I then return to St. Mark to work at our community lunch program. The community lunch is an effort with multiple churches in Norwich to provide a hot meal to anyone in the community who comes.
- ◆ **Monday**—Day off
- ◆ **Tuesday**—10:00—11:00 a.m.—Pericope/Bible study with Lutheran clergy. 12:00 noon—meet with Pastor Mary (my supervisor) over lunch. Pastor Mary and I have great meetings and while these meetings are only scheduled for an hour they often go well beyond. 2:00 p.m.—Lead worship in community room at local apartment complex. This is something recent which evolved after I visited with one of our homebound members living there who indicated she was really missing church.
- ◆ **Wednesday**—10:00—10:30 a.m.—contemplative prayer and meditation. 11:00 a.m.—I go out into the community to film a 2-3 minute video I call "Out and About". "Out and About" is a weekly video series I post to social media. Each week I visit a different location in Norwich, give some information or history about the location and make a connection to scripture.
- ◆ **Thursday**—9:00 a.m.—prayerful walking. Shortly after I started at St. Mark some members asked me if we could start a walking group. I thought this was a great idea. We start each week with a prayer or devotion and then set out on a walk in the neighborhood surrounding the church. We walk for about an hour each week. We are a hearty

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Insert: Cyber Security and
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**Masks are OPTIONAL inside
Emanuel's building.**

Masks are **RECOMMENDED** inside if you are
unvaccinated or at high risk for COVID due
to chronic health conditions.

Masks are **MANDATORY** in the
Church Office and Copier Room
when two or more people are in
the office at the same time.



Thank you.

From the Vicar

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- ♦ bunch and have been walking no matter the weather. I often will use Thursday as a time to visit homebound members. We have several homebound members, some live in Norwich but others require some travel taking me to New London, Jewett City, and Colchester.
- ♦ **Friday**—day off
- ♦ **Saturday**—8:00 a.m.—9 a.m.—volunteer at local soup kitchen serving coffee and sitting down with locals while they eat, listening to their concerns, praying with them, and connecting them with services. 10:00—11:00 a.m. teach a seminar of adult education at St. Mark and 6:30—7:30 p.m.—dinner church at St. Mark.

I hope this is helpful, giving you a glimpse of my weekly routine. The blocks of time not accounted for in this schedule include scheduled meetings, impromptu meetings, study, sermon preparation, worship preparation, and preparation for leading educational programs.

As I move forward in my journey, in early April I will meet with the faculty board from seminary so I can be approved for graduation in May. I will complete my internship in August and expect to begin the call process at that time.

I hope and pray you are all well. I bid you peace.

Eric Heinrich

A Lenten Reflection from Eric Heinrich...

Spring is upon us. Whenever I think about spring, I can't help but think about Easter. Easter at my church growing up was a huge celebration with a magnificent processional that involved a ton of kids. I was in the children's choir, and we would process, along with numerous other kids who were carrying banners, proclaiming "Christ is Risen!" There were massive bunches of helium balloons that were tied to the window latches and adults in the church would process with those. Together we made a huge parade that marched out of the church onto the front steps. Each child was then given a balloon and a potted flower to take home. After church my family would go to my grandparents' house for a huge dinner and family gathering. While Easter deserves pomp and circumstance, we should also find time for quiet reflection.

The risen Christ is the source of all glory for us. There is no greater gift that we could get than Christ dying for our sins. As an adult I understand that better than I did as a kid and so I recognize the importance of the season of Lent. Easter celebration is important but let's not forget Lent. It is a time for repentance, sacrifice, and spiritual focus.

I find the Psalms to be a good place to go in the Bible for Lenten reflection. I pray that this Lenten season is meaningful for you and that together we can celebrate the risen Christ. I encourage you to find a time for spiritual practice. A deliberate time for prayer and focus on God can strengthen your relationship with God. This Lent I will turn my focus to Psalm 51:10—*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.*



Worship volunteers are needed for our single, Sunday morning worship service.

We continue to need the following worship volunteers each Sunday:

Two (2) Communion Assistants, one (1) Assisting Minister, one (1) Lector, and two (2) Ushers.

A sign-up link is emailed out weekly (as volunteers are needed). If you are able and willing to volunteer, please use the electronic sign up. All Sundays for the month will be accessible through the one link.

If you need help or clarification as to what the responsibilities are of each position, you may email Anne at ahenrich@emanuelmanchester.org. She can also sign you up for a particular Sunday, if you have difficulty doing so on your own.

Items of Interest

Have you been to Calumet?

- Calumet is the best summer camp in the world—and there are thousands of former campers who whole-heartedly agree!
- Calumet is a residential camp for children/youth ages 8-18.
- Calumet is operated on behalf of the congregations of the New England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).
- Admission is on a first-come, first-served basis, and will be provided regardless of gender, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or religion. You do not have to be Lutheran to attend Calumet.

A link to Online Registration and More Information is available on their website at www.calumet.org.

Summer is a magical time for children. It is a time to laugh, run, jump, and sing. It's a time to build things up, just so you can tear them down and build them back up again. Summer is all about swimming, boating, fishing, arts & crafts, playing fort, putting on impromptu plays, and messing about in the mud. The possibilities are as endless as the days are long.

It is the spirit of the children who play here that makes Calumet such a special place to be in the summertime. It exists solely to make manifest the power of a child's imagination. It is wondrous because of their enthusiasm, inspirational because of their daring, safe because of their innocence, and fun because of their laughter. Calumet is a place where children can come to learn more about themselves and God's love for them, a place where they can forge new friendships that will last a lifetime. At Calumet, children learn things about themselves and how to treat others that have long-range, life-shaping influences.

And yet there is no way to sum up all that camp can do for your child, there is truly only one way to explain Calumet, and that is to have your child experience it. As soon as you see the smile on their face when you come to pick them up, you will understand what a summer at Calumet means to a child.

Emanuel Lutheran Church has a Calumet Campership Fund and any youth attending camp in the summer is eligible to receive this campership. If your child will be attending Calumet Resident Camp this summer, please email Nancy in the Church office (nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org) along with your child(ren)'s name to secure a Calumet Campership.



IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR MEMORIAL BRICKS

If you would like to have a Memorial Brick placed in Emanuel's Memorial Garden in memory of a loved one, please get your order form in to the Church Office by **Sunday, April 24th**. Order Forms are located in the Narthex, in the Church Office and as a PDF link on the Friday weekly update.

Please contact Nancy Whiton (860-643-1193 or nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org) if you have any questions.



Altar Guild is always looking for volunteers to help set-up & clean-up for worship

Altar Guild members are those who set-up and clean up for Holy Communion. Training is offered and work is "behind the scenes" either Saturday mornings or Sunday after worship services.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact:

Ruth Lehrach: rlehrach9@aol.com

Kim Boerner-Mercier: johnkim4@aol.com

Pass Your Keys to a Neighbor in Need

The pandemic has driven prices of used cars to record highs, leaving many of our neighbors unable to afford safe and reliable vehicles. Without a car, these families are literally



Good News Garage

A member of Ascentria Care Alliance

stuck at a standstill in their lives. Fortunately, a local nonprofit is able to help those in need. Good News Garage was founded in Burlington, VT in 1996 and over the last 25 years, has awarded over 5,500 donated cars to our neighbors. They couldn't do this life-changing work without the help of generous car donors.

There is currently an urgent need for vehicles!

Car donors receive free towing, qualify for generous tax deductions, and can feel good about putting a neighbor in the driver's seat towards a better life. Let Good News Garage help you pass your keys.

For more information and to donate, visit www.goodnewsgarage.org or call 603-669-6937.

You can also "like" GNG's Facebook page to hear stories from car recipients and other news at <https://www.facebook.com/goodnewsgarage>.



Events and Items of Interest

Healing Prayer Sundays are held on the first Sunday of every month at Emanuel.

On Healing Prayer Sundays we bless our prayer shawls. If you would like to bring one to someone in need, they are made available to sign out after worship. Personal healing prayer is offered to people who wish to receive it at the altar immediately following the postlude.



Weekly Bible Study

Thursday Morning Bible Study meets at 10 AM in the Library.



A Year of Biblical Womanhood—Book Study
Sunday, April 3rd at 6:30 PM in Luther Hall

April's Ruth Circle Gathering
Tuesday, April 5th at 7 PM
in Luther Hall



Vicar Eric Heinrich will be our guest speaker. Eric will talk about his one year internship at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Norwich.

The congregation is invited to his talk.

Please join Ruth Circle for an opportunity to learn more about what Emanuel's Seminarian has been doing since he completed his seminary studies in the spring of 2021 with his internship experiences since August 2021.

Women's Breakfast
Wednesday, April 20th
8:30 AM at Evergreen Crossings
in South Windsor

Cost per person is \$5. An RSVP to Lynne Gustafson (cgustafson01@snet.net) is required by Tuesday, April 19th.



Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Sunday (April 17th), all children ages 10 and under are welcome to join our annual Easter Egg Hunt following worship. After the 10 AM church service, please go to the Community Room for some crafts and an Easter story, followed by an egg hunt in the Sanctuary where plastic eggs filled with goodies will be hidden. Enjoy great fun for everyone!



Emanuel's Rocks of Kindness Garden started three years ago with close to 100 painted rocks and now the garden is empty of rocks.



It's wonderful to know that our Kindness Garden is making a difference and blessing the lives of the people passing by the garden, taking a rock to share with loved ones or strangers, however it means **we need more painted rocks to keep the kindness going!** If you are able to paint a few rocks and either place them in the garden or bring them to the Church Office, where we'll treat them with a protectant spray and then we'll place them in the garden. Thank you!

Help Welcome Afghans to West Springfield, MA

Ascentria Care Alliance is resettling hundreds of Afghans in Western Massachusetts. Your help is needed to ensure that they have the resources they need to access legal aid, housing, and living essentials. Ascentria has resettled **330** individuals throughout Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and expect to welcome **259** more before the process is completed.

Donate an Amazon Wishlist Item

In addition to financial contributions, they are in need of household essentials. Please use their Amazon Wishlist (link below) to donate items such as bedding, plates, glassware, and more that will help Afghan families and individuals get settled in their new homes!

https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/l/2XWVO24RR503I/ref=smi_ext_lnk_lcl_cl

EMPOWERING PEOPLE. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES.

Ascentria Care Alliance: What does "Ascentria" mean? We define it as "rising together." At Ascentria Care Alliance (formerly Lutheran Social Services of New England), we are called to strengthen communities by empowering people to respond to life's challenges. Our faith-based legacy remains the heart and soul of our mission, vision and values. For more information, please visit: <https://www.ascentria.org/>

Support Emanuel Lutheran Church through

amazonsmile

To connect with Emanuel as a charity, follow this link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-0662122>

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Anne at ahenrich@emanuelmanchester.org.

Events and Items of Interest

The Endowment Committee is accepting proposals for use of funds available for 2022 distributions from each of the Endowment Funds: Christian Education, Extended Ministries, Music Program, and Structural Preservation

All church committees, staff and members of the congregation are eligible to submit proposals. A simple one-page form (located at each entrance to the sanctuary and in the church office) must be completed. Proposals should be submitted by Wednesday, April 20, 2022. You can mail or drop off your proposal to the church office.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the committee through the church office at (860) 643-1193 or by email to nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org.

If you would like to read a description about each Endowment Fund, a one page sheet is available to pick up in the narthex or the church office.

CLCC Chicken Eggs—On Sale EVERY SUNDAY!

The eggs are \$4 per dozen and they can be purchased and picked up at the inside entrance to the Community Room/Chapel after worship each week.

For questions or reserving eggs in advance. An email can be sent to mijauss@comcast.net or they can call Jane at 860-690-5140.

Vicar Ryan's Weekly Open Office Hours

Vicar Ryan's weekly open office hours are held on Wednesdays, from 2-4 PM at Emanuel. Please email him (vicarryan@emanuelmanchester.org) in advance of your visit and limit your visit to 45 minutes. If you would prefer to meet with Vicar Ryan outside of his weekly Wednesday office hours, please email or call (860-643-1193) and he will be happy to schedule a time to meet with you.

Coffee Hours at Emanuel will be resuming soon!

A sign up sheet is posted in the office hallway for Coffee Hours to start again on April 3. This will be the first Coffee Hour held in over two years! We hope to have Coffee Hour every Sunday in Luther Hall at 11 AM, (that is, if someone signs up to host).

The host will be responsible for making the coffee and providing either individual, pre-wrapped treats or act as the "server" behind the banquet table to plate any items that are not individually wrapped.

The Property Committee is looking for volunteers to weed the grounds of Emanuel.

In April there will be a sign up sheet in the narthex with a slot open each week from May—September. If you sign up, you can weed on any day and any time during that week. It's very flexible and your service will help keep Emanuel's outside beautiful!

PLEASE SAVE THESE TWO IMPORTANT DATES:

On **Saturday, April 23**, Emanuel will host an informal "Meet & Greet" with the Pastoral candidate from 10 AM - noon. This is an opportunity to have a conversation with the candidate and to show our hospitality. What a wonderful reason to gather in Luther Hall to share some fellowship and treats!

On **Sunday, April 24**, the Pastoral candidate will preach and preside at our 10 AM worship service. The Call Vote will be held in person, immediately following the service, in the Sanctuary. The vote will be by paper ballot. Absentee ballots are not permitted so we hope to see you there!

The congregation will also vote on the compensation package recommended by the Council. A simple majority, by either voice or hand vote, is required. Pastor Sara J. Anderson, Associate to the Bishop, will conduct the meeting.

April is service project month for our Sunday School children and families.

This year they are learning about MACC and will be visiting the food pantry and thrift shop. They will be working on their project during Sunday School throughout April and will be collecting donations for the food pantry.

Needed items at MACC: instant potatoes, chili, beef stew, soup, canned veggies, sugar, flour, jelly, paper towels, dish detergent, laundry detergent, shampoo, deodorant, razors, shaving cream, body soap, toilet paper.

Baskets will be placed in the sanctuary for any donations. Monetary donations to MACC are welcome too. You may make a check out to Emanuel Lutheran Church with "Sunday School Service Project" on the memo line or put cash in an envelope marked, "Sunday School Service Project" and place either in the offering plate or in the church office. **The children will share a presentation for the congregation on Sunday, 5/1.**



Mid-Week Lenten Prayer

7:00PM Wednesdays March 9 - April 13
in-person in the Chapel at Emanuel.

Join Vicar Ryan to study scripture,
pray for our community and
experience contemplative singing.



Palm Sunday – April 10, 2022

Emanuel Lutheran Church will be celebrating Palm Sunday, also known as Passion Sunday, during our regular 10:00 AM worship service. All children are invited to take part in our Palm Procession! Cross your fingers for nice weather as we will begin outdoors with our palm branches waving!

Maundy Thursday – April 14, 2022

Join members from Emanuel Lutheran, Concordia Lutheran and St. Mary's Episcopal Church for a joint service at 7:00 PM. This will be an in-person service at St. Mary's Episcopal Church at 41 Park Street in Manchester (just to the south of Emanuel).

Good Friday – April 15, 2022

Emanuel will host Concordia Lutheran and St. Mary's Episcopal Church for a Good Friday service at 7:00 PM. This will be an in-person and online live-streamed service taking place at Emanuel.

The Great Easter Vigil – Saturday, April 16, 2022

Concordia Lutheran Church will host the Great Easter Vigil beginning at 7:00 PM on Saturday April 16. Join members of Emanuel, Concordia and St. Mary's as we recount the stories of our common faith and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter! Vicar Ryan will be preaching!

Easter Sunday – April 17, 2022

We will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ during our regular in-person worship at 10:00 AM at Emanuel. Don your celebratory outfits and join in the chorus of Alleluias as we celebrate this most important day in our Christian faith!

Caring

April Birthdays

Linda Hempstead	4/2	Marilyn Stavitsky	4/3
Ann-Linda Bray	4/8	Elsa Robinson	4/9
Margaret Gustafson	4/10	Beverly Fuss	4/19
Barbara Harris	4/22	David Morsey	4/25

Pastoral Acts

Funerals

Frederick Spaulding

Gail Porter

The Flower Chart is posted in the Office Hallway.

Please sign up for Altar or Lectern Flowers to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion for any Sunday after Easter. You may also call the Church Office at 860-643-1193 to check if a particular date is available.

Dear Anne,

Many thanks to you, and Vicar Ryan, Jun Lee, Nancy and the entire ministry team who assisted with the service for making our visit and the service for Dr. Spaulding so warm and welcoming. Your assistance with the program and your helpful suggestions were much appreciated. In my 40 years of priest ministry, I have never experienced a church that was so clean and well administered. Kudos to you all. May God continue to bless your ministries and may the Holy Spirit assist you in your search for a new Pastor.

In Christ,

*The Rev. Fr. John Wesley Westcott, III
St. Columba's Anglican Church*

Dear Emanuel Lutheran Church Community,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$3,555.00 to MACC Charities. We absolutely LOVED our Souper Bowl of Caring Event so much, we will do something similar every quarter. Find out in our Weekly MACC Minute for your "save the date." Your gift makes a big difference in the lives of those we serve everyday. It allows us to grow and build more of a presence in the community to support the need and make the most impact.

Warm thoughts,

*Shannon Baldassario
Director of Services at MACC*

Dear Emanuel Members,

Thank you for your steady and generous support of the New England Synod through your annual mission support. Your support makes possible the resources offered during transition times, assists new ministries and encourages leadership initiatives like Forward. Thank you!

Blessings,

*Pastor Sara Anderson
Associate to the Bishop*

Church Office Hours at Emanuel:

Monday—Thursday from 10 AM—4 PM and Friday from 10 AM—2 PM

Emanuel Staff

(860) 643-1193

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Berk Little and Kathy Rusch
Worship Support Specialists



The Three Days and Easter

Maundy Thursday

Thursday April 14, 2022 7:00 PM
at St. Mary's Episcopal Church



Good Friday

Friday April 15, 2022 7:00 PM
at Emanuel Lutheran Church

The Great Easter Vigil

Saturday April 16, 2022 7:00 PM
at Concordia Lutheran Church

Easter Sunday

Sunday April 17, 2022 10:00 AM
at Emanuel Lutheran Church



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Emanuel Lutheran Church
60 Church Street
Manchester, CT 06040

