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**April 2024**

# 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 Pastor

*For a brief moment I abandoned you,  
but with great compassion I will gather you.  
In overflowing wrath for a moment  
I hid my face from you,  
but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you,  
says the Lord, your Redeemer.*

—Isaiah 54:7-8

In the middle of March, I attended the monthly clergy caucus for the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA). The clergy went into small groups to share with one another a personal story of something that keeps us up at night—something that we worry about. In my small group, there was a repeated concern for mental health. One story was about a parent who lost his daughter over a year ago and how he connected with an acquaintance who also lost a child around the same time. Both of them felt alone in their grief, but after cups of coffee and conversations together, they both felt less alone.

Countless individuals within our communities struggle with loneliness—if it's the elderly person living alone to the young adult struggling to find their place in the world. It is through our relationships with one another that we experience the fullness of God's presence and love. Whether it's a simple phone call to check in on a friend, a heartfelt conversation with a neighbor, or a welcoming smile to a newcomer, each act of connection brings us closer to one another and to God.

Let us recommit ourselves to building a community where all are welcomed, valued, and supported. Let us get to know one another on a deeper level—knowing what keeps us up at night.

In the words of the apostle Paul, "Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). We know that God gathers us together and has compassion for us. Let us journey forward in faith, knowing that God walks beside us, guiding us with God's everlasting compassion.

Peace to you and yours, *Pastor Joanna Hertzog Betkoski*



Thanks to everyone for supporting this year's Sunday School project – ELCA Global Barnyard – by donating on their way out of the church service on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>.

With help from the congregation, the Sunday School children raised \$860.50.

With your generosity, the children are able to purchase many animals for ELCA's Global Barnyard.

**Church Office Hours:**  
Monday—Thursday: 10 AM—4 PM  
and Friday: 10 AM—2 PM

- 1 From the Pastor
- 2 Lutheran Swag in the Street  
Camp Calumet Registration  
Health Collective Hygiene Products
- 3 2024 Endowment Proposals  
Health Collective Food Pantry  
Thrivent Highlights
- 4 Events and Items of Interest
- 5 Parish Nurse
- 6 2024 Bishop Election—Update  
Fruits & Roots at Calumet  
Coffee Hour
- 7 Caring
- 8 Piano Concert at Emanuel  
Earth Day Eve Gathering

Insert:  
April 2024 Calendar  
Thrivent Programs—May 2024

# Lutheran Swag In the Street

By Campfield Heinrich

## Seminary Update

Starting in January, I began my first semester at United Lutheran Seminary which found me venturing down to the Gettysburg campus for the weeklong intensive course, Bonhoeffer and King: Public Theologians. Diving deep into the lives and theologies of Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Martin Luther King Jr., this course was a great way to start my seminary journey. Two other intensives which I am taking this semester are Pastoral Theology (or Pastoral Care), which I enjoyed spending a week in early March on the Philadelphia campus for, and Preaching the Gospel, which I will be taking shortly after moving to Gettysburg in early June.

Over the course of this spring semester, I am also taking Congregational Formation and Education, which examines Christian education throughout all stages of life, as well as Intro to Public Theology, which looks at how we as Christians interact with the public sphere.

Outside of my seminary work, I have been busy with various church related activities, as well. On Ash Wednesday, I had the opportunity to lead a short prayer service and preach at Evergreen Crossings Retirement Community. I also had the pleasure of supply preaching and presiding at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in East Hampton on Sunday, March 10. Both communities were immensely welcoming, and I enjoyed conversations afterwards with folks about my seminary journey thus far. Most recently, on Sunday, March 17, I attended worship at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Hanover, NH, the church which I attended for almost a year during my time at Vermont Law and Graduate School. It was great to catch up with many of the folks in the congregation and also provide them with some updates.

I look forward to seeing where the Holy Spirit is leading me as I move through not only this semester, but the rest of my seminary education, and sharing more updates with you all along the way!

God's Peace,

*Campfield Heinrich*



**At Health Collective East (64 Church Street, Manchester) there is a food pantry. One area that is mostly fulfilled by donation is personal hygiene products. Below is a list of hygiene products clients and Manchester residents have asked for, but they have little or none to offer.**

- body soap/wash
- mouth wash
- pads - light days, overnight, bladder control
- peroxide
- shaving cream
- deodorant
- toothpaste
- rubbing alcohol
- shampoo/conditioner
- denture cleaner
- tampons
- razors
- aloe vera
- hand lotion

**The Health Collective**

*Be Well. Be Yourself.*

**If you would like to donate any of the above items, there is a collection basket in the narthex.**

*We thank you for your generosity!*

## Registration for 2024 Calumet Resident Camp is ongoing!

If your child is between the ages of 8-15, it is time to sign them up for the best summer ever!

Visit: <https://www.calumet.org/summercamp/residentcamp> for registration information. This year Calumet is introducing an application fee and a Tiered Pricing System. For more information, please visit: <https://calumet.org/resident-camp-program-updates-2024>

**Once again, Emanuel is able to offer Camperships for children attending Calumet Resident Camp!**

To secure a Calumet Campership from Emanuel, please email Nancy in the Church Office

([nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org)), by April 30th, along with your child(ren)'s name(s).

In your email, please specify the rate that best applies to your family situation.

Rate 1: \$1,050/week or Rate 2: \$925/week or Rate 3: \$800/week, then indicate the amount of campership that will meet your needs.

100%, 75%, 50%, 25%

*The per child registration application fee, \$50, will be added to each campership award.*



# Endowment Proposals

**The Endowment Committee is accepting proposals for use of funds available for 2024 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 must be completed. Forms are located in the narthex, the church office and through a link on the Weekly Friday Update. Proposals should be submitted by Sunday, April 7, 2024. You can mail or drop off your proposal to the church office. If you would like to get more information about each of the funds, a description of the funds is available along with the proposal forms.

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](mailto:nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org).

**On Sunday, April 14th, CLCC will be at Coffee Hour to sell eggs and microgreens.**

The eggs and microgreens are first come, first served.

A dozen eggs is \$5.00, and a package of microgreens is \$5.00.



Creative Living Community of CT has a farmstand open to the public. The CLCC Farmstand opens on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> for the summer/fall season. CLCC will not be selling eggs and microgreens at Emanuel after they are here on Sunday, 4/14. If you want to continue to purchase eggs, microgreens, other produce as well as garden products and crafts, you can visit the Farmstand at 2645 Boston Turnpike in Coventry.

## **2023 Thrivent Action Team & Thrivent Choice Highlights**

Thrivent members made a BIG IMPACT in 2023! Look at the results provided below.

157,303 Action Teams across the U.S. in 2023, +8% and a new record

- ◆ Over \$210M in funds raised
- ◆ 14M volunteer hours
- ◆ 2M volunteers engaged
- ◆ **Emanuel had 16 teams, earning \$4,000.**

Over \$31.4M Choice Dollars Directed

- ◆ 217,000 participants, +7%
- ◆ 35,000+ Organizations received Choice Dollars (St. Jude was the organization that received the highest amount (\$825,000+)
- ◆ **Emanuel received \$4,249 as over 20 members designated Choice dollars to the church.**

\$727.3M in total value was delivered to client communities.

*Thanks to Emanuel's Thrivent members for sharing your generosity! It makes a difference!*



**The Health Collective East Food Pantry at 64 Church Street, Manchester is open to Manchester residents!**

**Hours:** Wednesdays from 9 AM - 5:30 PM (Closed for lunch from 12 noon - 1 PM)

*Sign in is required.* You will need to provide your name, proof of Manchester residency (showing ID).

On the sign in sheet, it reads "TEFAP Participation Log" where people are attesting that they meet the qualification of TEFAP (Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program).

The income guidelines listed below reflect 300% of the federal poverty limit.



Household size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual Income	\$43,740	\$59,160	\$74,580	\$90,000	\$105,420	\$120,840	\$136,260	\$151,680

## 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 take after worship. Personal healing prayer is offered to people who wish to receive it at the altar immediately following the postlude.



Emanuel has an AED (Automated external defibrillator) which is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's a sophisticated, yet easy-to-use, medical device that can deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart reestablish an effective rhythm.

**Our AED is located in the office hallway, just outside of the church office. Proceed down the ramp in the sanctuary, exit, and it is on the wall directly in front of you.**

**The Church Office will be CLOSED on Monday, April 1, 2024**

**Weekly Bible Study meets on Thursdays at 10 AM in the library.**

**Ruth Circle Gathering  
Saturday, April 6th at 10 AM  
in Luther Hall**

(Please note the day of the week and time)

The congregation is invited to the program: "Artificial Intelligence" by Eric Brown.

*Hostesses are Joyce Halmers, Marlene D'Addario, and Carol Kohl.*



**Women's Breakfast  
Wednesday, April 17th at 8:30 AM  
Evergreen Crossings, 900 Hemlock Avenue  
in South Windsor**

Cost per person is \$8.

An RSVP to Lynne Gustafson: [cgustafson01@snet.net](mailto:cgustafson01@snet.net) is required by Tuesday, April 16th.

**If you are a Communion Assistant or the Assisting Minister during Sunday morning worship, please note that wearing a face mask is required when serving the communion elements.**

**This is just a reminder for all members of Emanuel (new and old), that we have an Online Member Pictorial Directory.**

You can access the directory on your laptop or desktop computer or on your phone (through the *Instant Church Directory* app). You'll need to create an account using the email listed for your family's profile in the directory and create your own password. To access the directory please go to: [members.instantchurchdirectory.com](https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com). If you need assistance setting up your account, please email Anne: [ahenrich@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:ahenrich@emanuelmanchester.org)

**Newcomers Brunch  
Sunday, April 29th at 11:30 AM  
in Luther Hall**

This is for anyone who's new to Emanuel and would like to get to know more about Emanuel's ministries and get to know one another. It's an informal gathering where we'll share a light lunch and joyful conversation.

Please let Pastor Joanna know (either in person or by email to [pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org)) if you would like to attend or if you have questions.

### **SAVE THE DATES...**

Come spend the weekend of November 1-3, 2024 at Calumet for a congregational retreat especially for us! Everyone of any age is welcome.

Fall is an excellent season to enjoy Calumet!

There will be programming geared toward kids and adults and plenty of free time to explore camp and NH. More information and registration details coming this summer!

**Worship volunteers are needed for our Sunday morning 10 AM worship service.**

*We continue to need the following worship volunteers each Sunday: two Communion Assistants, one Lector, and four Ushers.*

A sign-up link is emailed out weekly (if volunteers are needed). If you are able and willing to volunteer, please use the electronic sign up. All Sundays from now through June 2024 are accessible through the one link.

If you have difficulty signing up for a particular Sunday, Anne can sign you up. Just email Anne at [ahenrich@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:ahenrich@emanuelmanchester.org) and let her know what date and what volunteer position you would like.

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*Dear Friends,*

I wish to thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your Parish Nurse because it has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my nursing career. Typically, the nursing profession has always tried to meet the physical, mental, psychological, and social needs of their patients, but their spiritual needs were often left to others. As a nurse, I felt that spirituality was the missing link in holistic nursing. Parish Nursing or as it is now called Faith Based Nursing is this missing link.

So, in 2004, when Pastor Halmers asked if I would consider the position of Parish Nurse, I realized that I could now provide the type of nursing that specializes in health care grounded in Spirituality. To help me get started on this new journey, I enrolled in the Certificate Parish Nursing program provided by St. Francis Hospital. I completed the program in November 2004.

I begin this new ministry by writing articles for the *Visitor*. My first article contained information on the history of parish nursing and how I envisioned this new role within our church. Next I implemented a Blood Pressure Screening Clinic. Since our church had two services, I conducted the screenings in between services. Having this clinic, gave me an opportunity to meet parishioners individually and during this time I could provide health resources, educational materials, and counseling. The clinic continued for several years; however, with the advent of home Blood Pressure monitoring equipment, I changed my focus from taking blood pressure to educating folks about the proper use of Blood Pressure equipment. Then in 2007, I identified a need for a flu clinic. Parishioners were already in church, so why not make the flu vaccine available to people during our coffee hours. I partnered with the VNA who provided the administration of the flu vaccine. At first, we only vaccinated adults but when the state mandated flu vaccine for students, we included children in our clinic. Our flu clinics continued until pharmacies and other medical entities began making all vaccinations readily available to the public so our clinics became obsolete.

My journey continued under the guidance of Pastor Scott Cady. He introduced the Stephen Ministry program at Emanuel. Although I was never a Stephen Minister myself, I did use their grief materials. The grief booklets, "*Journeying Through Grief*", consists of four booklets which are mailed at regular intervals to those who have lost loved ones. These booklets have been so well received that parishioners have requested that the grief books be sent to their relatives and friends. Recently, we received a Thrivent Action card to pay for these booklets.

As Parish Nurse, I was involved with several committees within the church. I was a member of the Emergency Management Team; I provided consultation to the church council on COVID protocols; a member of the COVID Reopening committee; a partner in the Stephen Ministry program; and one of the five team members of the Forward Leadership team. I am also a volunteer Consultant to the Chestnut Hill Preschool program. Working in partnership with the clergy, I scheduled and supported the Eucharistic Ministers and the Visitor Ministry program formerly known as the Friendly Visitors.

At Emanuel, the Parish Nurse programs are based on the needs of the congregation. As our congregation continues to grow and adapt to a new future, the Parish Nurse program needs to provide leadership to a new and younger congregation. At this time in my life, I find I no longer have the energy or creativity to start new programs; therefore, it is time for me to pass the "baton" to a nurse of the next generation. I have submitted my letter of retirement to Pastor Joanna affective December 31, 2023 and recommended that Donna Connolly be my successor and she has accepted the position of Parish Nurse at Emanuel. She has the nursing skills, knowledge and spiritual commitment for this ministry.

So, in closing, there are so many people who have supported and prayed for me during this journey. First, I thank God for leading me in this new ministry. I thank you, the congregation for your love, support, and trust. I thank Vi Lumpkin for giving the seed money for the Parish Nurse Fund. These monies have helped many people within our congregation and wider Manchester community. A special thanks to the men and women who served as Eucharistic Ministers and Visitors to our homebound members. They attended our mandatory training sessions and all were given background checks. I would be remiss if I didn't also thank Ed Paquette and Kitty Dudley and staff of the Adult and Family Services of Manchester for their partnership.

Several years ago, I asked Pastor Cady if he would write an article on the value of a Parish Nurse. He wrote: "The need for pastoral care in most parishes far exceeds the capacity of the ordained staff to provide. Every vital congregation must have several people who can notice and respond to the spiritual/social/psychological needs of its members. One of the most helpful sources of this kind of care is the Parish Nurse."

*With love and much gratitude,*

*Lynne Gustafson*



# 2024 NE Synod Bishop Election—Update

## April 15

### Pre-identified Persons Information Available on the Synod Website

Biographical information and a photograph of each pre-identified person choosing to move forward will be posted on the synod website for review.

As a reminder, all information as well as the overall process and timeline are available on the synod webpage dedicated to the election:

<https://www.nelutherans.org/bishop-election>

Questions may be addressed to the bishop election team via email to [bishop-election@nesynod.org](mailto:bishop-election@nesynod.org).



### Confirmation Retreat at Calumet March 1—3, 2024

Neal Benson, Logan Ledoux, Zack Guglielmono, Noah Berneski,  
Lucas Anderson, Caroline Benson, Carolyn Kamp and Pastor Joanna



Have you ever wanted to go to Camp Calumet in New Hampshire, but haven't wanted to drive the four hours it takes to get up there? Well, this April, you can travel to Calumet on a coach bus for a mid-week retreat from April 22 - 25 called "Fruits & Roots".

Though some will drive their own car to Calumet, Calumet is excited for the partnership with Emanuel Lutheran in Hartford that will have a Charter Coach Bus making stops and picking folks up in Central Connecticut, Greater Worcester, and Boston Metro—before arriving to Calumet. Visiting Calumet has never been easier for folks who don't drive or don't drive long distances anymore.

For all the details about the retreat, please visit: <https://calumet.org/fruitsandroots>.

### Coffee Hours

Coffee Hour will be held **every** Sunday following worship unless otherwise noted. The person(s) responsible for opening the building will make the coffee each week. If you are willing to bring goodies, cream and/or milk and will stay to help clean up afterward, please sign up to host the coffee hour. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex. Any food leftover may also be used for the following week's coffee hour.

**Think about hosting in teams of two! We look forward to the fellowship!**

# Caring

## *April Birthdays (Emanuel Members 75+ yrs.)*

Linda Hempstead	4/2	Barbara Macdonald	4/16
Marilyn Stavnitsky	4/3	Beverly Fuss	4/19
Ann-Linda Bray	4/8	Barbara Harris	4/22
Elsa Robinson	4/9	David Morsey	4/25
Margaret Gustafson	4/10	Marilyn Cummings	4/29
Randall Eastwood	4/13		

Dear Emanuel Lutheran Church Members,  
Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$725.98 to MACC Charities. Though February is short, it has the opportunity to be filled with lots of love and support to a community most in need. Love cannot remain by itself. Love has to be put into action and that action is service. Service to others and self. We may never know what results come with our actions, so spread love always.

Many Blessings,  
Shannon Baldassario – CEO of MACC

### **The Flower Chart is posted in the Office Hallway.**

You can sign up for Altar or Lectern Flowers to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. You may also call the Church Office at 860-643-1193 to check if a particular date is available. Please be sure to fill out a flower order form (located next to the sign up sheet). *On the order form, you can even designate the type and/or color of flowers that you prefer in the arrangement.*

Leave the form for Anne in the Church Office. She will order the flowers and Park Hill Joyce will send the bill directly to your mailing address.

*Altar flowers are \$50 and Lectern flowers are \$35.*

*Thank you all so much for attending our Soups and Songs fundraiser to support the Seminarian Fund on Sunday, February 18. With all your generosity, \$1,051 was raised! This will be immensely helpful in supporting my seminary education over the next few years; and I am deeply grateful for the support I have received from this congregation, the congregation which played such a vital role in forming me and planting the seeds for my continued discernment over the years. I look forward to all the future holds and what God has in store for this next chapter in my life and can say I wouldn't be where I am without the support of Emanuel.*

*God's Peace,  
Campfield Heinrich*

### **QR Code**

You may have noticed a QR code has been added to the front cover of the bulletin and on small cards placed in the pews of the sanctuary. If scanned, the code will take you directly to Emanuel's secure donation page. Once you are on the donation page, you can choose to designate your donation to a specific fund or the General Fund. We wanted to give people the option to easily donate online at any time.



### **Emanuel Staff**

(860) 643-1193

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Barton Sattler  
Treasurer  
[treasurer@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:treasurer@emanuelmanchester.org)

Jodi Eskin  
Financial Secretary  
[jeskin67@hotmail.com](mailto:jeskin67@hotmail.com)

Berk Little and Kathy Rusch  
Worship Support Specialists

# Free Piano Concert!



BEETHOVEN MOONLIGHT SONATA  
BEETHOVEN SONATA OP. 109  
FRANZ LISZT SELECTED WORKS

# MELODY FADER

[www.melodyfader.com](http://www.melodyfader.com)

SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH, 2024 AT 3PM  
EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
60 CHURCH STREET  
MANCHESTER, CT

The Greater Hartford Lutheran Conference invites you to an

## EARTH DAY EVE GATHERING

Sunday, April 21 3:00-5:00p.m.  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church: 311 Capital Ave., Hartford



As People of Faith,  
Caretakers of God's  
Creation what is and  
what can be our  
response to helping  
create an...

Environmentally  
Sustainable  
Spiritually Fulfilling  
Socially Just  
Human presence on  
this Earth.

Join with others from Greater Hartford Congregations in this dynamic, interactive program. Using resources from New England Green Team, Lutherans Restoring Creation and Awakening the Dreamer, we will explore our current situation and hopeful possibilities for now and into the future.

A light supper will be served.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
60 Church Street  
Manchester, CT 06040

