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August/September 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 I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

—Romans 8:38-39

When I was a child and even as an adult, once the beginning of August arrives, I begin to anticipate the changes September will bring. I start to yearn for sweaters and cooler weather. I anticipate the routine of the school year—feeling ready for more structure and also missing the openness of the summer. I take time to sit with the calendar—the church's and my family's—to see what the new school year will bring and how to make it all fit.

September is a time for new beginnings—a new school year, sports seasons, and rally day at church. It is often in times of change that growth tends to happen—and the growth process is a painful one—but we tend to make it to the other side a new and different person.

The Bible is filled with stories of change—the Israelites who leave the certainty of Egypt to wander in the wilderness towards the Promised Land. The disciples who drop everything to follow Jesus. Sarah finds out she is going to have a child in her old age and laughs at the prospect.

What remains our constant, whenever we are experiencing change, is God. God was the constant for the Israelites and the disciples. God is our constant as we begin a new school year or as we move out of our home to downsize. In change, we cling to the knowledge we hear from Paul that nothing can separate us from God's love.

*Peace to you and yours,
Pastor Joanna*

These are some of the things that are starting back up:

- **Choir** will begin its regular rehearsals on Thursday, September 12—New Day Singers will rehearse in the Sanctuary at 6 PM and Anthem Choir will rehearse in Luther Hall at 7:30 PM. If you'd like to learn more about choir, please email Jeff at jsirois@emanuelmanchester.org.
- **Sunday School** will begin on Sunday, September 15. Kids will meet teachers at the beginning of worship—after the announcements—and will be brought back to worship before communion. You can register for Sunday school at Rally Day on Sunday, September 8 or you can email Katie Kurlak at familyministry@emanuelmanchester.org.
- **Confirmation Class** will meet on Sunday, September 15 at 11:30 AM in the Youth Room. If you are in at least in 6th grade or haven't been confirmed, you're welcome to join us. This will be an informational meeting, so parents are encouraged to attend. Please email Pastor Joanna if you have questions at pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org.

Church Office Hours:

**Monday, Wednesday and Friday:
10 AM—2 PM**

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Reflections on the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

By Lucas Anderson

Good morning everyone! If you don't know, I'm Lucas, and I was recently given the opportunity to travel to New Orleans for the ELCA Youth Gathering. And let me tell you. It was amazing! Since I was the only youth from Emanuel to go, I traveled with St. Matthew's in Avon. It was really amazing to make that connection with another church in our synod. I made some great friends, and had a great time exploring a wonderful city. It's my pleasure to share my experience with all of you.



So, I'd first like to tell you about the city of New Orleans. The Big Easy! Or at least my time out and about. As I'm sure you can imagine, it was beautiful! From the palm tree

lined Canal Street to the gorgeous architecture and delicious food of the French Quarter, NOLA had something for everyone. St. Matthew's and I had a great time wandering the streets, going to a mall down the bank of the Mississippi, exploring the French Quarter, and appreciating the floats and props of Mardi Gras World. It was a city with so many different spectrums of culture. The food itself was one of these blends of so many unique parts of the world. Creole food uses food caught right outside the city, combined with African spices and Acadian techniques, to create some of the most delicious food in the world. Jambalaya, gumbo and etouffee.



Southern classics, like po-boys, grits, and we of course had to try alligator bites. The food was so incredibly delicious, and a great representation of the spirit of New Orleans.



And now for the ELCA Youth Gathering itself. Oh my goodness. Every night, every congregation at the gathering would come together at the end of the night for the "Mass Gathering," where we would all worship, sing, and experience our faith together in the arena where the New Orleans Pelicans play. The first time I sat down in that arena, my mouth dropped. I was amazed at how many Lutherans there were! There were 16,000 youth in NOLA that week. 16,000. I couldn't believe how impossibly enormous our church in the US is. It was brought to my attention that in our New England Synod, there are 8 states. In the Midwest, they have so. Many. More. In the state of Minnesota, there are 8 SYNODS. 8 synods for 1 state! It was so incredible to see how many people shared in my faith and love. Truly eye and heart opening.

The program was great too. There were speakers from all over the world, extremely talented musicians, fun games and presentations at the Convention Center. So many things to do and experience. During our Synod Day, I was lucky enough to have performed with the musicians as well. I made new friends from all over the country, heard one of the best sermons I've ever listened to (by a 16 year old by the way), and went to a lecture on mental health for our Community Accompaniment Day. It was such an amazing experience, and it wouldn't have been possible without the support of our congregation here at Emanuel, and its financial support for my wonderful trip. Thank you all so very much.



This is a transcript of Lucas Anderson's presentation to the congregation during worship on Sunday, August 11, 2024.

Emanuel's Rocks of Kindness Garden is ALWAYS in need of painted rocks.

Our Kindness Garden continues to make a difference in blessing the lives of the people passing by the garden. People love taking a rock to share with loved ones or strangers. Often the garden is empty of rocks within days of adding newly painted ones. We would be grateful if you are able to paint a few rocks. Bring them to the Church Office, we'll treat them with a protectant spray and then we'll place them in the garden. Thank you! *If you need blank rocks to paint, there are some available on the counter in the Church Office.*

Seeing Christ in Detroit in 2015 and Today (9 years later)

By Eric Heinrich

It's hard to believe that it was nine years ago that I, along with Marina Halmers, Sue Hebert, and Brett Judson chaperoned 12 youth from Emanuel (Katie Arner, Sam Dolcelli, Ben Grant, Justin Guerrero, Rebekah and Luke Hebert, Campfield Heinrich, Zach Hoover, Kevin Maulucci, Lilli Minicucci, and Kyle and Jessica Polito) to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Detroit. The trip created many fond memories for me because of the experiences our youth had interacting with Lutheran youth from all over the country as well as the public of Detroit.

During the week of July 2015 part of our experience was a service day. It started with pouring rain, and we were transported by school bus to the Detroit enclave known as Highland Park. As we drove down this busy road, lined with businesses we saw many vacant buildings. We saw side streets with some houses occupied and others long ago abandoned with broken windows and trees and shrubs overgrown. We also saw abandoned cars and piles of debris and trash. We were dropped off in a vacant lot of a commercial area. The lot was adjacent to a family-owned business (a bakery) and the lot was behind a fire house. Across the street from this relatively new firehouse was a large, abandoned brick building, missing windows. We later learned it was the former firehouse and vandals had stolen copper from it and caused other damage.



Our task for the day was to clean up a vacant lot. We cut brush, cut back trees, and eliminated leafy and woody weeds from the cracks in the pavement. This work was to help make the business adjacent to the lot more visible, so more customers would come. After a day of hard work, the firefighters gave us a tour of the firehouse and spoke of the challenges the city was facing. They also spoke proudly of the resilience of the people of Detroit. The conversation included stories of generations of their families that had lived in the area and how they had benefitted and suffered loss from trends in the auto industry.

Thirty thousand Lutheran young people and chaperones descended on the city causing excitement spreading the light of Christ. There was hope in the city and appreciation from the residents, but I couldn't help but think what would happen in Detroit after this week.

Nine years passed and Paxton (my 21 year old son) who was too young to go to the youth gathering in 2015, and I were on a road trip. Our trip led us to Detroit to watch a Detroit Tigers baseball game and to visit nearby Dearborn to visit the Henry Ford Museum. We were dedicated to getting off the beaten path to experience local Detroit. We headed to Highland Park to see the area where Emanuel youth had done service nine years earlier. What I found was the vacant lot wasn't perfect, but it had not been completely neglected either. A new business occupied the building adjacent to the lot and the piles of junk and many of the abandoned houses had been removed. There is still a lot of work to bring the area back, but things are happening.



Paxton and I, being dedicated to supporting the locals (and wanting to meet some) sought out the oldest bar in Detroit. It is called "The Two Way Inn" and has been operating continuously since 1876 (even during prohibition). The owner of the bar and bartender was a nice lady who grew up in the building and took over the business from her father. Her adult children are now involved with the business. Paxton and I each enjoyed a Stroh's Beer, a Detroit original brew. We talked with the bartender hearing her stories of growing up in Detroit. She was very positive about the direction the city is moving in. She is seeing life come back and positive change.

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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 also 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.**

Emanuel's Church Office Hours

the Church Office is OPEN on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 AM—2 PM.

The Church Office is CLOSED on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

If you need to come to the church outside of office hours, please contact Pastor Joanna at pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org to make an appointment.

Rally Day

Sunday, September 8th beginning at 10 AM

Join us on Sunday, September 8th as we get back into the swing of things after the summer. During the 10 AM worship service, there will be a Children's Sermon and we'll be gifting Bibles to 3 year olds and 3rd graders or young children who have not already received a Bible on Rally Day. Families will register their children for Sunday School after worship. Also, after worship we'll have lunch in Luther Hall and the Kona Ice Truck will be in the Luther Hall parking lot! Yard games, music and Karaoke, along with some other surprises will add to the excitement of the day! It's going to be a lot of fun for all ages—join us!

When you come to worship on September 8th, to ensure that the children of Manchester start off the new school year in a healthy way, we're asking people to bring in boxes of cereal, instant oatmeal, large bottles of juice or juice boxes, or healthy snacks for after school that we will donate to the MACC Food Pantry.

Women's Breakfast

**Wednesday, August 21st 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 is required by Tuesday, August 20th.

Women's Breakfast

**Wednesday, September 18th 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 is required by Tuesday, September 17th.

Ruth Circle Gathering

**Tuesday, September 3rd at 6:00 PM
in Luther Hall**

In September, Ruth Circle will begin their monthly gatherings for the new program year with their Annual Potluck! *Hostesses: Diane Gawlinski, Carol Kohl, and Marianne Wilcox.*

In addition to the potluck, the gathering is also a Service Project for Head Start. **Donations of boys and girls underwear, shorts and pants (jeans & sweatpants) would be greatly appreciated. The sizes most needed for shorts and pants are 4T, 5T, and 6T and underwear sizes 4T and 5T.**

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

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 December 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 ahleinrich@emanuelmanchester.org and let her know what date and what volunteer position you would like.

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	2 LABOR DAY - OFFICE CLOSED	3 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED	4 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM	5 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library	6 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	7
8 <i>Assisting Minister - Kathy Rusch</i> <i>Children's Sermon during worship</i> RALLY DAY 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Worship Service at Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor	9 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting - LH	10 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED	11 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM	12 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library	13 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	14
15 <i>Assisting Minister - Ben Hogue</i> <i>Confirmation Class</i> <i>First Day of Sunday School</i> Visitor newsletter deadline 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	16 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR	17 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 7:00pm Council Meeting - LH	18 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Women's Breakfast - Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor	19 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library	20 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	21
22 <i>Assisting Minister - Beverly Niemann</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	23 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR	24 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 7:00pm Emanuel Housing Corp. Meeting - LH	25 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM	26 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library	27 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM Visitor newsletter mailing 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	28 1:00pm Braman Family Gathering - LH
29 <i>Assisting Minister - Ray Purtell</i> <i>Endowment Temple Talk during worship and Coffee Hour following worship</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	30 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR	1 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED	2 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM	3 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library	4 CHURCH OFFICE - OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	5

For the most current calendar that updates in real time, please visit our website: emanuelmanchester.org and click on the "Latest News" tab where you will see the highlighted link to the MONTHLY CALENDAR.

Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA)

By Kathy Rusch

As a lay leader, I would like to speak to all the members of Emanuel concerning the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA) and reasons why we, as a congregation, should consider joining this alliance. The following excerpts are directly from GHIAA's website:

Regarding its founding:

In 1850, the Young Men's Missionary Society – most recently known as the Christian Activities Council and now the Center for Leadership and Justice (CLJ) – was established out of concern for the plight of the poor and new immigrants in Hartford. Over the years, CLJ has created numerous nonprofit organizations, established the first kindergarten in Hartford, started the Newington Children's Hospital, established mission centers, built a congregational home for the elderly, played a pivotal role in the effort to obtain universal healthcare in Connecticut, and created over 200 units of affordable housing.

In 2016, the CLJ extended invitations to houses of faith throughout Greater Hartford to explore establishing a broad based social justice initiative for churches, synagogues, mosques, and meeting houses. The goal was to build a diverse organization of lay leaders and clergy from across bounds of race, class, gender identity, religion and geography to build relational power to address social justice issues in local communities and beyond. After three years of building relationships and learning about the history and practice of faith-based community organizing, this group of diverse faith communities and allied institutions officially launched the Greater Hartford Interfaith Action Alliance (GHIAA) on October 28, 2019.

GHIAA's mission is to develop leaders who act collectively for social justice in Greater Hartford. GHIAA has been instrumental in helping to get state legislation passed concerning education, the environment, housing and being able to cast eligible absentee ballots during elections. The organization has also helped to increase the state budget for gun violence prevention work and for expanding HUSKY insurance so that thousands more young people who have been excluded will now have access to physical and mental health care.

How GHIAA works:

It starts with small house meetings where issues of the Greater Hartford area are discussed. Common issues that arise from the house meetings are then researched and cut into campaigns that are specific and resolvable. Then structured public actions are held where leaders and organizers confront decision makers who are capable of effecting desired change. 2023 was an "action year." This year, 2024, is a "house meeting year" to determine what issues will be addressed and acted upon for 2025.

Both Pastor Joanna and the Congregation Council are advocates for joining GHIAA. We feel that we can do more to help folks in our local and state community by working together rather than trying to 'go it alone.'

There are over 50 faith-based institutions who are in GHIAA, including:

Beth Shalom B'nai Israel, Manchester
Ministerio Nueva Creación, Manchester
St. John's Episcopal Church, Vernon

Concordia Lutheran Church, Manchester
Emanuel Lutheran Church, Hartford
Trinity Lutheran Church, Vernon

Emanuel leadership wants to hear from you. If we, as a congregation, decide to join GHIAA, it will be wholeheartedly! We will not be a member in name only. Conversations over the next few months are encouraged and welcomed! At some point we will hold a coffee hour meeting after worship to discuss the pros and cons of joining. To research on your own, please go to: <https://cljct.org/ghiaa/>

"We are not in the church just to hear the Word of God; we are in the church to do the Word of God."

Yours in Christ, Kathy Rusch, Council President

Seeing Christ in Detroit...

Continued from page 3

I don't know if the owner of the bar is a Christian or not, but I could not help but think of Jesus' and his healing ways reflected in the city. I am home from my trip now and am preparing my sermon for July 21. The Gospel is Mark 6:30-34, 53-56. As I read verses 53-56 about people flocking to Jesus just to touch his cloak to be healed it brought back images to the youth of 2015. Many at the gathering bought t-shirts that said, "Free hugs". The kids were hugging other Lutheran kids they didn't know and even some of the locals, got hugs. I wonder, was that like folks flocking to touch Jesus' cloak? Detroit has a lot to offer. I suggest if you are able and looking for a destination consider it.

Christ is alive at Emanuel, and all around. Even in Detroit.

Peace, Eric Heinrich



The Lynne Gustafson Parish House

This article originally appeared in the Evergreen Crossings RLC, August 2024 newsletter.

On a memorable Sunday, June 30th, Emanuel Lutheran Church bestowed a remarkable honor upon Lynne Gustafson, dedicating a building in her honor: the Lynne Gustafson Parish House. This dedication serves as a tribute to Lynne's extraordinary contributions as Emanuel Lutheran's first Parish Nurse over the span of 19 years. Her unwavering commitment and dedication to both the church and the Manchester community have left an indelible mark on all who have had the privilege of knowing her.

Lynne's impact extends far beyond her role as Parish Nurse. She played a pivotal role in the founding of MANA (Manchester Area Network on AIDS), an organization dedicated to supporting individuals affected by HIV/AIDS. Lynne's vision and leadership were instrumental in providing crucial assistance not only to Manchester, but also to neighboring communities, embodying the spirit of compassionate service.

The dedication of the Lynne Gustafson Parish House symbolizes Emanuel Lutheran Church's deep appreciation for Lynne's selfless service and tireless advocacy. It stands as a testament to her legacy of caring for others and advocating for positive change in the community. The Parish House will continue to serve as a hub for community outreach and support, honoring Lynne's legacy by continuing her mission to meet the needs of those in our community who require assistance and care. May the Lynne Gustafson Parish House continue to inspire and serve the community for generations to come.

Congratulations to Lynne on this great honor!



Dear Friends and Members of Emanuel,

I wish to thank you for making my retirement luncheon such a wonderful experience. I was totally surprised! I thought it was going to be a coffee hour, so I was completely overwhelmed by the whole event. A special thanks to the hospitality committee for the wonderful luncheon; to Pastor Bill and Pastor Joanna for sharing their memories of my ministry; and to all who contributed to the Parish Nurse Fund. I also wish to thank two other people who are no longer with us: Pastor David Halmers whose vision and support started the Parish Nurse program; Vi Lumpkin whose financial support started the Parish Nurse Fund. To these two people, I will always be grateful. I also wish to thank the congregation for the picture of Emanuel's stained-glass windows. I hung it on the wall outside of my apartment, for all to see.

A special thanks to Kathy Rusch, Council President, and to the Church Council for naming Emanuel's Parish House after me. It was in 1981, that AIDS/HIV became an epidemic in the United States. Emanuel, working in conjunction with the Manchester Health Department, established MANA (Manchester Area Network on AIDS). The Parish House became MANA's home. When I heard that the building was named after my work in MANA and for establishing the Parish Nurse program, I am unable to find the words to express my gratitude. I only can say I am overwhelmed and humbled.

I am also humbled that the Parish Nurse program has been accepted by church leaders, staff and members, and to those who have entrusted their care to me. I have learned so much about courage, faith, trust, prayer and love and it has certainly impacted my own faith journey.

With a grateful heart and with God's continued Blessings, Lynne Gustafson

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.

Archived copies of 2022, 2023 & 2024 Visitor newsletters are available on our website under the password protected MEMBER ACCESS tab (pull down to "VISITOR NEWSLETTERS").

Calumet Welcomes Pastor Sara J. Anderson

Calumet Lutheran Ministries and its Board of Directors are delighted to announce that the Rev. Sara J. Anderson has accepted the newly created position of Associate Executive Director. Pastor Anderson (Sara or Sara J to many) had this to share about this new call: *"I am overjoyed to be called to serve as Associate Executive Director of Calumet. It has been a lifetime dream of mine to be a part of camp's Spirit-filled ministry and serve among the people of Calumet Nation!"*

Sara J brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to her new position. Her work as Associate to the Bishop has focused on innovation, congregational engagement, and adaptive change exploration. She designed and implemented the New England Synod's Forward Leadership Community. Additionally, she supported numerous congregations and led transition training, conflict mediation, and mentoring for first call pastors. Prior to her role on synod staff, she served several congregations in Massachusetts and Connecticut.



"My ministry as Associate to the Bishop has been a deeply cherished call. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity and gift of walking alongside the congregations and people of the New England Synod over these last eleven years. I will hold all of the New England Synod, especially Bishop Piphio, in prayer with thanksgiving for our shared ministry and look forward to supporting a smooth transition as Bishop Piphio begins his work."

Bishop Nathan Piphio had this say about the appointment: *"I'm grateful for Pastor Anderson's enthusiastic and genuine support in my initial transition into the bishop's office. I'm equally grateful she will remain on staff through the first three months of my ministry to provide stability and continuity. She has served the New England Synod faithfully and well as Associate to the Bishop for 11 years and I look forward to the Holy Spirit continuing to work through her in powerful ways in her new ministry with Calumet."*

Sara J earned her Master of Divinity from The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg (exchange year, Yale Divinity School '05-06), 2006, and her BA in Communication and Religious Studies from Stonehill College, 2002.

In addition to her academic work and professional expertise, Sara J. brings many personal connections to Calumet having attended as a resident camper, served on summer staff, and visited numerous times as summer chaplain working with leadership around conflict mediation and curriculum education. She's also enjoyed time at the family campground with her husband Gary and two children who attend Calumet's Resident Camp for Kids.

Sara J will begin her full-time work for Calumet in November. Her last day as Associate to the Bishop will be October 27, 2024. Please join us as we look forward to welcoming her to our staff.

The above article/announcement was posted on Calumet's Boom Chicka News (August 12, 2024).

Congregational Getaway Weekend at Camp Calumet **November 1-3, 2024**

For the first time, we're having an intergenerational getaway weekend at Camp Calumet in New Hampshire from Friday, November 1 - Sunday, November 3.

There is still time to sign up!

The weekend will begin with a campfire and Holden Evening prayer at 7:00 PM on Friday (it's ok if you'll be late too!) and end with lunch on Sunday. We will have time to rest, explore, worship and learn together. A time for adults to connect with one another and time for kids to hear the stories of God and God's people.

It's going to be FUN!

Please sign up in the narthex or by emailing Pastor Joanna (pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org) to receive more details regarding pricing for accommodations and meals as well as a tentative schedule for the weekend. Financial help is available.



God Delights In...

God Delights In...

In late spring, Pastor Joanna invited us to share things we believe God delights in. Below are what people have written on the doves which are displayed on the ribbons by the harpsichord.

- Logan
- Lucas
- Each of us
- Children's laughter
- Children building friendships
- How we and our family lead a Christian life
- Pastor Ryan's ordination
- All things in nature
- God delights when people share their gifts – like the many leaders who were installed on Sunday
- The sounds of birds singing in the morning as the world awakens
- Confirmands
- Zachary
- Caroline
- New members
- When a child hugs their parent and they squeeze with all their might
- Diversity of humankind made in his image
- The spring flowers
- Carolyn
- Music
- God delights in the pure joy and awe of a child experiencing something for the first time
- Pastor's wisdom
- Neighbors helping neighbors
- Long time members
- The children in our congregation
- Young people planning Earth Day celebrations
- Everyone who worships here at Emanuel
- People who give freely
- Rain sparkling on the trees and grass
- First Communion
- National Youth Gathering
- The joys of sharing new experiences with others
- The excitement of the congregation to worship together each Sunday



We invite you to continue to share what you think God delights in. The basket of paper doves is in the narthex on Sunday mornings. Every week we'll add to the doves already on the ribbons.

Coffee Hours

Coffee Hour is held every Sunday following worship, unless otherwise noted in the bulletin or on the sign-up sheet. The person 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. There are MANY Sundays available this fall to sign-up! Our "regular" hosts would love a break after a busy summer! 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!

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 (two arrangements) are \$50 and the Lectern flowers (one arrangement) are \$35.

An Abundance of Thanks

Dear Emanuel Members and the Emanuel Endowment Committee,

On behalf of Creative Living Community of Connecticut, I thank you for your support of \$1,250.00 on 5/29/2024! Through this generous donation from the Extended Ministries Endowment Fund, CLCC will be able to develop a pollinator garden that will enhance the CLCC sign on Route 44. This will draw people's attention more to our property and Farmstand so that they will feel welcome to stop by, visit the Farmstand and learn more about our mission.

Creative Living Community of Connecticut (CLCC) serves dozens of individuals with Autism or intellectual developmental disabilities each week through our vocational, respite, recreation and social programs in Vernon and Coventry. Our vocational programming provides participants with transferable job skills while providing real work opportunities at our Farmstand, on our farm during the summer months and in our greenhouse year-round. Our participants also show off their incredible talents in the Arts in the Afternoon program and can socialize and recreate through various outings, meet-ups, and dedicated events.

From the recent letter you received, you can see that there is an abundance of excitement and progress at 2645 Boston Turnpike. Thanks to people like you, CLCC's programs focus on vocational training for neurodiverse workers that is provided at no cost to our participants. These programs not only build skills, but also confidence and friendships. Our residential housing community aims to create an inclusive neighborhood where all members are valued and have a place to call their own.

Your support is critical to our success in offering all of this and more. On behalf of the individuals and families we serve, as well as our Board of Directors, I thank you again for your contribution and look forward to connecting with you soon.

Sincerely,

Lynn Zerba, CLCC President and Board Chair

Dear Emanuel Lutheran Church Members,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$780.28 to MACC Charities. Your donation comes during a crucial time economically for our neighbors in need.

Your donation helps support our communities most basic emergency needs of food, clothing, and shelter. Necessities that are hard to sustain during these challenging times economically. We know you have a lot of choices when it comes to donating and we are so grateful that you chose to donate to our cause of building partnerships to break cycles of poverty in our community. Thank you for our partnership!

Many Blessings,
Shannon Baldassario, CEO of MACC Charities

Dear Emanuel Lutheran Church Members,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$804.31 to MACC. Your thoughtful kindness blesses our work to help those in desperate need of compassion in their lives. Thank you for being a great partner to fight food insecurity in our neighborhoods.

With your partnership we are ready to tackle any obstacle that non-profits face today!

Many Blessings,
Shannon Baldassario, CEO of MACC Charities

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.

On the backside of the QR Code card in the pew is also a form you can fill out for prayer requests. You can drop the card in the offering plate and the church office and Pastor Joanna will receive your request.



Caring

August Birthdays (Emanuel Members 75+ yrs.)

Paul Berg	8/1	Karen Davis	8/5
David Torstenson	8/12	Janet Bono	8/19
Jean Reed	8/28		

September Birthdays (Emanuel Members 75+ yrs.)

Ida Anderson	9/2	Marjorie Andersen	9/3
Alfred Meier	9/6	Patricia Nelson	9/6
Nelson Robinson	9/6	John Reed	9/9
Judith Anderson	9/10	Susan Horton	9/10
Barbara Heinrich	9/20	Katherine Kalugira	9/21
Patricia Anderson	9/22	Diana McVicker	9/24
Ann Dreisbach	9/27		

Dear Emanuel family,

Thank you very much for the heartfelt recognition as I graduated from high school. Also, thank you for the generous Amazon gift card! I am excited to see what the future brings!

Geno Dolcelli

Dear Emanuel,

Thank you so much for contributing to my experience at Camp Calumet. I'm so glad that I got to attend weeks one and two, and am so very grateful for your help in getting me there. This year was one of my best yet, and you were all part of what made it so special.

Sincerely, Lucas Anderson

Dear Emanuel Family,

Thank you so much for the wonderful celebration for my retirement on June 30th! Thank you to the Hospitality Team for the delicious luncheon and everyone who helped coordinate the event and make it so special. Thank you to Pastor Bill White and Carol Kohl for sharing their thoughts and memories when we worked together at the beginning of my time here at Emanuel. Thank you to the congregation for the beautiful stained glass Jesus windows picture and for the gift cards to some of my favorite restaurants. John and I will enjoy those! Thank you also for the donations to the Samaritan Fund. This is a great way to honor my ministry here by helping others when they need it the most. Thank you for all of the cards filled with words of gratitude and well wishes. And thank you for the blessing in worship. It was very moving and touched my heart.

I have loved working here at Emanuel for the past 20 and ½ years. The pastors and staff I have had the privilege to work with and the people of this congregation have made my time serving here an experience like no other. I love you all and I will truly miss being in the Church Office and doing the work of the church, but I am looking forward to this new retirement phase of my life.

God Bless you all!

Nancy Whiton



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Berk Little and Kathy Rusch
 Worship Support Specialists





New England Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



The New England Synod invites you to a
Festival Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
at the Installation of

The Rev. Nathan D. Pipho

as the Fourth Bishop of the New England Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Saturday, September 7, 2024, 1:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

73 Lancaster Street

Worcester, MA 01609

Service to be livestreamed at www.vimeo.com/trinityworcesterc.

Rostered and ecumenical clergy are invited to vest and process; the
color of the day is red.

Childcare provided. Please contact Christy Fyfe to RSVP no later
than August 30, 2024 at youthministry@trinityworce.org.

A reception will follow at Trinity.

Additional information is available at www.nelutherans.org.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED