



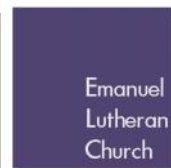
60 Church Street
Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 643-1193
Fax (860) 645-0830
website: www.emanuelmanchester.org

July 2023

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

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.

Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. —John 13:34

In his book *The Way of Love*, Episcopal Bishop Michael Curry tells the story of a fire in the congregation he was serving in Baltimore. As the news cameras were pointed at him, a reporter asked him if the church was going to rebuild. Meanwhile, off to the side was a child from the neighborhood who found a place of connection in the congregation. Bishop Curry knew how he answered mattered.

He didn't have to speak to his vestry (the term for a church council in the Episcopal Church), but he knew the congregation would want to rebuild to remain in the neighborhood. The congregation was clear about its value of serving the community that surrounds the church, even while many of its parishioners no longer lived in the neighborhood. Knowing your values is important, and we at Emanuel are defining these values.

On Sunday, May 21, we held a community conversation to help identify core values at Emanuel. We asked people to choose 3 values and write them on separate post it notes, and people had the opportunity to submit their values online as well.

The top 5 are:

1. Worship
2. Community
3. A TIE—fellowship and music
4. Acceptance
5. Making a difference



We'll continue to define what we mean by these core values and hope you'll participate in some of the small group gatherings that we'll have planned over the summer. Hope you'll join us!

Peace to you and yours, Pastor Joanna

Church Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday: 10 AM—4 PM
Friday: 10 AM—2 PM

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

ELCA World Hunger Challenge Grant

Did you know that for 2022 Emanuel was number seven in the synod for donating to ELCA World Hunger with a total of \$6,178. And in 2023, Designated Giving donated \$700 towards the ELCA World Hunger matching grant in the synod.

The New England Synod raised \$132,522.97 (plus \$100,000.00 in matching funds) for a total of \$232,522.97 to support ELCA World Hunger. This is more than double the goal set by any synod in the United States and the New England Synod raised the most money of any synod in the country!

2023 New England Synod Assembly Report

From Anne Heinrich



SYNOD ASSEMBLY

death & resurrection in the 21st century church

This year's Assembly for the New England Synod was held in Worcester, MA from Friday, June 9th – Saturday, June 10th. The theme of the assembly was "Death & Resurrection in the 21st Century Church". Pastor Joanna attended as well as Emily Braman and me, Anne Heinrich. We were appointed by Emanuel's Church Council to serve as voting members. There was a lot of information shared in a 24-hour period, however I will highlight just a few. In keeping with the theme: "Death and Resurrection", many churches in the synod have closed their doors over the last year, but in doing so have left Legacy gifts to organizations or synod supported worship communities. Some of the churches who knew they wouldn't be able to sustain themselves as vital congregations have reimagined themselves into ministries that support the communities that they reside in.

The synod has committed itself to antiracism and an antiracism team was established following last year's assembly. The advisory board was commissioned at the 2023 assembly. Trinity Lutheran Church in Worcester, MA received a grant from the "I Have a Dream Fund" to bring nationally known Lutheran ministers of color to preach at their Sunday morning worship services at 10 AM. All are welcome to join online at: www.vimeo.com/trinityworchester. The schedule for July – September 2023 is available on a handout in Emanuel's narthex.

From the beginning of Lent through Easter of this year, the New England Synod raised \$132,522.97 (plus \$100,000.00 in matching funds) for a total of \$232,522.97 to support ELCA World Hunger. This is more than double the goal set by any synod in the United States and the New England Synod raised the most money of any synod in the country. Let's think about that for a minute, our small synod raised more money than large synods filled with a lot more Lutheran's than we have in New England!

Reverend Ruben Duran, ELCA Director of Congregational Vitality spoke about the decline of the Lutheran Church in the United States, but also shared how churches are reimagining themselves to thrive in the communities where they are planted. It was interesting to hear about what congregations are doing across the United States. If you want to watch Reverend Duran's lengthy report, you can do so here: <https://vimeo.com/event/3474067>. (His presentation begins at 1 hour, 24 minutes).

Eight workshops were available to attend over the course of the assembly. One that I attended was "Worship of the Christ Who Holds All Things Together". This workshop was led by Rev. Dr. Nancy Wright, Pastor for Creation Care, Rev. Cindy Jacobson, Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Woburn, MA, Rev. Dr. Lisa Dahill, Miriam Therese Winter Chair for Transformative Leadership and Spirituality, Director of the Center for Transformative Spirituality at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace. The presenters were members of Lutherans Restoring Creation and the New England Synod Green Team. They spoke about holding worship both inside and outside in ways to celebrate God's creation with the earth and water and teaching our congregations about the Climate Crisis in a way that brings hope and action, not doom. Members of all congregations across the New England Synod are invited to join the Synod's Green Team. Monthly meetings are held online. If you are interested in learning more, email Pastor Nancy Wright, Pastor of Creation Care for the New England Synod: nwright@nesynod.org.

At the 2024 Assembly, there will be an election for a new Bishop of the New England Synod. This is an exciting time for the future of the church! The election of the bishop will be done a bit differently this time around. All members of every congregation are invited to participate in the process! The first part of the process is to fill out the survey created by the Bishop Election Team. They would like 100% participation in the survey. The survey is open until June 30, 2023 and can be taken by scanning the QR code (on the handout in Emanuel's narthex) or by visiting: <https://www.nelutherans.org/bishopelection>. The results of the survey will help the election team create a Synod Profile and Bishop Position Description. In the coming months we'll share the next steps in the process through *Visitor* newsletter articles and/or in our Sunday bulletin.

If you are interested in watching any segments of the assembly (including Saturday's closing worship service), you can do so. Friday, June 9th visit: <https://vimeo.com/event/3474061> and for Saturday, June 10th visit: <https://vimeo.com/event/3474067>. For detailed reports from the Synod Officers, Associates to the Bishop, Conferences, Teams, and Partners, as well as the 2024 synod budget that was voted on and approved at the assembly, you may visit: <https://www.nelutherans.org/assembly>.

If you have any questions about the assembly, please reach out to Pastor Joanna (pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org) or Anne Heinrich (aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org).

A Month in the Life at Emanuel—Photo Gallery

New Member Sunday—June 11th



Affirmation of Baptism—Day of Pentecost, May 28th
Confirmation Sunday

Bella Rose Carlson, Pastor Joanna, Matthew Halmers



Endowment Disbursements from Emanuel's four endowment funds were distributed as listed below on Sunday, June 25th:

- ♦ \$1,750.00 for Calumet Camperships (Christian Education)
- ♦ \$500.00 for Creative Living Community of Connecticut, Inc. (Extended Ministries)
- ♦ \$500.00 for Manchester Area Conference of Churches (Extended Ministries)
- ♦ \$3,000.00 for Special Christmas and Easter music (Music Program)
- ♦ \$2,000.00 for Property projects (Structural Preservation)

If you would like more information about Emanuel's Endowment Funds or want to know how you can make a donation, please contact Kim Boerner-Mercier: johnkim4@aol.com



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.

Coffee Hour

A sign up sheet is posted in the office hallway. Coffee Hour is held on Sundays in Luther Hall immediately following the 10 AM worship service. Are you willing to host? The host is responsible for making the coffee and providing the food, half & half, milk or cream as well as juice.

During the summer, coffee will be made each Sunday and everyone is welcome to bring in treats to share. It will be an informal time of fellowship, but a great time to connect with others who you may not have a chance to talk with before worship!

**The Church Office will be OPEN from
9 AM—noon on Monday, July 3rd
and CLOSED on Tuesday, July 4th
and Friday, July 21st.**

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

THERE'S STILL TIME TO ORDER 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, July 16th**. Order Forms are located in the Narthex, in the Church Office and as a PDF link on the Friday weekly update. We will be dedicating the memorial bricks for this year on All Saints Sunday, November 5, 2023. Please contact Nancy Whiton (nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org or 860-643-1193) if you have any questions.

**Women's Breakfast
Wednesday, July 19th
8:30 AM at Evergreen Crossings
in South Windsor**

Cost per person is \$8.

An RSVP to Lynne Gustafson: cgustafson01@snet.net is required by Tuesday, July 18th.

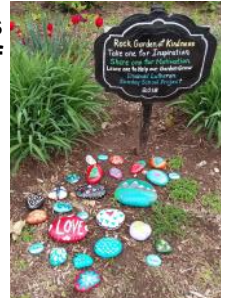


Emanuel's Rocks of Kindness Garden is in constant need of painted rocks!

Our Kindness Garden continues to make a difference in blessing the lives of the people passing by the garden.

If you can 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), we would appreciate it.

If you need some blank rocks, we have some in the Church Office. Thank you!



Weekly Bible Study during July will ONLY meet on Thursday, 7/6 at 10 AM in the library.

Bible Study will not meet on 7/13, 7/20 & 7/27.

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 August 2023 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 and let her know what date and what volunteer position you would like.

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. 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.

July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 <i>Assisting Minister - Kathy Rusch</i> <i>Endowment Distributions Presentation during Worship</i> <i>Pastor Ben Hogue preaching and presiding</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	26	27 7:00pm Emanuel Housing Corp. Meeting - LH	28 11:30am Staff Meeting	29	30 Visitor newsletter mailing	1 1:00pm Manchester Bicentennial Tour of Church with Town Historian
2 <i>Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier</i> <i>Healing Prayer following worship at the Altar</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	3 CHURCH OFFICE OPEN FROM 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	4 OFFICE CLOSED - INDEPENDENCE DAY	5 11:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Stewardship Committee Meeting via Zoom	6 10:00am Bible Study - Library	7 11:00am Funeral for Dennis McGuire	8 11:00am Funeral for Mel Hellstrom 12:00pm Funeral Reception - LH
9 <i>Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier</i> 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	10 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting - LH	11 7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting - LH	12 10:00am Friends of Music at Emanuel - LH	13 1:00pm Staff Meeting	14 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR	15 Visitor newsletter deadline
16 <i>Assisting Minister - Kathy Rusch</i> <i>Deadline for Memorial Brick Orders for 2023</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	17	18 7:00pm Council Meeting - LH	19 8:30am Women's Breakfast - Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor	20	21 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR	22
23 <i>Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier</i> <i>Pastor Bill White preaching and presiding</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	24	25 7:00pm Emanuel Housing Corp. Meeting - LH	26	27	28 Visitor newsletter mailing 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR	29
30 <i>Assisting Minister - Kathy Rusch</i> <i>Rev. Ann Lovejoy Johnson preaching and presiding</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	31	1	2 11:00am Staff Meeting	3 10:00am Bible Study - Library	4 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR	5

Would you like to serve on Altar Guild?

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: Kim Boerner-Mercier: johnkim4@aol.com

Historical Notes

By Matt Heinrich

Following the departure of Pastor Carl Olsen in the spring of 1955, Emanuel began the search for a pastor, and in August of that year Pastor C. Henry Anderson accepted a call. Soon after, he arrived in Manchester with his wife Olga and son Donald to begin a period of service at Emanuel that continued until 1976. This extensive period was a time of a great deal of activity at Emanuel.

In 1955, Earl Modean was ordained. He was the first member of Emanuel to answer the call to become a pastor but he was not the last. During Pastor Anderson's tenure at Emanuel five additional members were ordained - Eric Gothberg (1955), Earl Werdelin (1968), Lawrence Wogman (1971), Alan Anderson (1971) and Ruth Johnson (1974). In 1958, Emanuel recognized the importance of assisting members who were called to become pastors and established a scholarship fund in memory of Mrs. Augusta Bengtson.

In 1956, Emanuel celebrated its 75th Anniversary, the Diamond Jubilee. Pastors Olsen and Pastor Gustafson returned to Emanuel to participate in the celebration. In addition, a fund was established to purchase a new parsonage and to modify the existing parsonage for use by the Sunday School. A Children's Worship Center was dedicated in memory of Mabel Swanson. This area was utilized by the Sunday School and for worship services for other small groups and was referred to as "The Chapel". Although it has now been repurposed and designated as the Community Room, it is still used for Sunday School as well as for meetings and other activities.

In 1959, Emanuel had several women's groups – Ladies' Aid, Dorcas, the Missionary Circle and the Women's Missionary Society. These groups were reorganized and combined into the Augustana Lutheran Church Women, with 127 charter members. This group was renamed the Luther Church Women in 1962 after the merger of Augustana with other Lutheran church bodies.

In 1960, Emanuel purchased a new parsonage on Pitkin Street and the pastor and his family moved to the new home. The older parsonage then became additional space for the Sunday school and, at different times, was later used as a residence for Assistant Pastors or to house interns as well as being used to provide support for social services.

In 1960, Emanuel, once again, demonstrated its support for higher education when it established the Upsala College Scholarship Fund to assist members who planned to attend Upsala College. In 1964, following the merger with other Lutheran bodies, it was renamed the LCA Scholarship Fund and in 1975 it became the Scholarship Fund.

Additional information about the history of Emanuel including more information about the construction and dedication of the Parish Building will be provided in subsequent issues of The Visitor. If you have questions or comments about the history of the Church or the extensive archive including newspaper articles, photographs and objects, please contact me. I can be reached at fmheinrich73@gmail.com or by telephone at the number in the Church Directory.

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. If you need assistance setting up your account, please email Anne: aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org

MACC Food Pantry needs:

Shampoo	Instant potatoes	Mayonnaise	Fresh fruit & veggies
Deodorant	Chili	Cake & Brownie mix	Dish detergent
Razors	Beef stew	Paper towels	Laundry Detergent
Shaving cream	Soup	Sugar	Baby wipes
Body soap	Canned veggies	Flour	Toilet paper
Body wash (liquid)	Jelly		



Food donations are in great need now that summer is here and children are out of school. Donations can be dropped off at the Community Food Pantry, 460 Main Street in Manchester. Monday through Thursday 9 AM—4 PM and Friday 9 AM—2 PM or donations can be left in the designated baskets located in the Narthex at Emanuel on Sunday morning.

Caring

July Birthdays

Karen Culver	7/8		Leslie Haney	7/16
James Reuter	7/8		Jon Norris	7/18
Roberta Irish	7/12		Marianne Wilcox	7/20

Pastoral Acts

Funeral

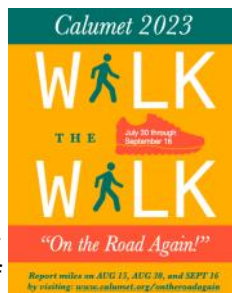
Sylvia Hellstrom

Be part of a HUGE community of people walking for Calumet by signing up for Walk the Walk 2023.

The theme this year is **"On the Road Again!"**
Registering is easy and is going on now!

Visit: <https://www.calumet.org/ontheroadagain>

Everyone who registers will log miles during a seven week period beginning July 30 and ending on September 16. Most participants will walk. But many will choose to bike, or run, or swim or hike—or all of the above. It doesn't matter HOW those miles are done. It just matters THAT those miles are completed—and reported. Three times during the program, people will be asked to report their miles: August 15, August 30, & September 16. \$25 per participant.



Dear Emanuel Lutheran Church Members,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$1,273.40 to MACC Charities as part of your monthly donations. Your thoughtful kindness blesses our work to help those in desperate need of compassion in their lives.

We do our best to project costs and gather our resources in front of an expected challenge, to be prepared and ready to respond to emergencies within our community. With your partnership we are ready to tackle any obstacle that non-profits face today!

*Many Blessings,
Shannon Baldassario
MACC Charities
Assistant Executive Director*



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 you'll see it on the wall directly in front of you.

Emanuel Staff

(860) 643-1193

Pastor Joanna Hertzog Betkoski
pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org
Ext. 301

Jeff Sirois
Director of Music
jsirois@emanuelmanchester.org
Ext. 307

Danielle Berneski and Julie Kamp
Co-Directors of Family Ministries
familyministry@emanuelmanchester.org
Ext. 304

Nancy Whiton
Administrative Assistant
nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org
Ext. 309

Anne Heinrich
Church Secretary
aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org
Ext. 300

Kathy Hatch
Property Supervisor
Khatch4@gmail.com

Barton Sattler
Co-Treasurer
barton.sattler@gmail.com

Rosemary Johnson
Co-Treasurer
rcjohnson77@gmail.com

Eric Carlson
Financial Secretary
eric.carlson4191@gmail.com

Lynne Gustafson
Parish Nurse
cgustafson01@snet.net

Berk Little and Kathy Rusch
Worship Support Specialists



MACC Charities—Household Starter Kits

MACC helps new homeowners get up and running with essential items for the home.

They provide dishes, crock pots, silverware, pots and pans, cooking utensils, towels, sheets, comforters, and more to each recipient based on items donated to MACC.

If you have new or gently used items that they can utilize in home starter kits, please consider donating them, as each kit depletes their limited inventory.

Here is a complete list of items they need:

plates, bowls, cups/drinkware, coffee mugs, silverware, kitchen knives, coffee pot, crock pot, microwave, can opener, hand mixer, blender, food processor, pots and pans, cooking utensils, bakeware, measuring cups, kitchen towels, potholders, bath towels, washcloths, shower curtains, blankets, sheets, comforters.



Please call 860-647-0440 for a convenient time to drop off Household Starter Kit items.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED