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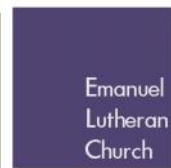
website: www.emanuelmanchester.org

March 2022

Emanuel Lutheran Church



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



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Ash Wednesday Worship

Dear church, we have entered into the season of Lent. A journey has begun for us as a community. It's a long journey, 40 days of wandering with Jesus on the path to something nobody wants to walk toward: The cross.

Though this journey is not marked with suffering but with signs of life everywhere! The days are lengthening, snow drops are starting to poke through in the grass after a long winter. The cross too will bring us life through Jesus Christ's resurrection! There is hope everywhere during this season.

This Lent I want to invite you all into a time of prayer for the community within which you live. That community may be Manchester, it may be Glastonbury, South Windsor, Ellington, Hartford, Vernon or Windsor. What matters is you are there and you are part of the worshipping body at Emanuel Lutheran Church.

Each Sunday, you will find Lenten prayer request forms in the entry to the sanctuary. I invite you to take these forms and as you go about your daily life, pay attention to those people, places, businesses, and nonprofit organizations that you interact with. Consider why you are grateful for them and then consider what you can hold in prayer. Perhaps you overheard a business owner saying they wished for something. Or maybe you can be brave and ask the person, "How can my church hold you in prayer right now?" Perhaps your prayer is just giving thanks.

Write that prayer request down on the slip of paper and bring it with you to church. There will be a basket in the entryway labeled "Lenten Prayers for Our Community." Put your prayers in that basket. The prayers you bring will become the prayers we lift up to God during the Lenten Mid-Week Evening Prayer held each Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM in the Chapel at Emanuel throughout Lent.

I pray that this season of prayer will bring you closer to your community. As you pay attention to your community and lift it up in prayer, perhaps you will learn something new. Maybe you will meet someone new! Maybe you will see a need that your Emanuel Lutheran community can fill.

Let's be open to how God is present in our prayers and in our paying attention!

For a full listing of Lenten Activities, please see page 2 of the Visitor.

**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
ahleinrich@emanuelmanchester.org.*



LENT

Continued from page 1

A Full Listing of Lenten Activities

Ash Wednesday - March 2, 2022

Join members of Emanuel Lutheran, Concordia Lutheran and St. Mary's Episcopal for a joint service at 7:00 PM on Ash Wednesday. This service will be in-person at Concordia Lutheran Church located at 40 Pitkin Street in Manchester.

Mid-Week Lenten Evening Prayer

Led by Vicar Ryan and taking place each Wednesday (March 9, 23, 30 and April 6, 13) at 7:00 PM in the Chapel at Emanuel Lutheran Church. We will gather contemplatively to read scripture and pray together. We will be experiencing a spiritual musical instrument from our siblings in India called a Shruti. All are welcome to join!

Personal Devotional Books for Lent

There are personal devotional booklets available in the entry to the Sanctuary from both the parish hallway and the narthex. This year's devotionals are called, *Grace Unbounded: Devotions for Lent 2022*. This book takes you through the final weeks of Jesus' earthly life as told by the Gospel of Luke. These are free, and it's encouraged that you use this resource!

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!

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, one (1) Usher and two (2) Usher Assistants.

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.

From the Parish Nurse



Have you ever heard the phrase: "Priesthood of all believers"? This phrase was first used by Martin Luther in 1517. Although Luther did not use these exact

words, he believed that there is a "general priesthood in Christendom". This doctrine states that ALL humans have access to God through Christ, who is the true High Priest; thus, do not need a priestly mediator. Luther used the term Priest to describe all baptized Christians. As baptized Christians, we are called to minister to one another. Baptized Christians do not replace ordained clergy who are called to preach, teach and administer the sacraments.

So how do we as baptized Christians here at Emanuel answer this call to minister to others? Through the years, Emanuel has developed at least three programs to prepare us to be a "Priesthood of believers".

The first program, the Friendly Visitor program, began under the leadership of Pastor Bill White and Pastor Julie Reuning-Scherer. Noting that parishioners are called to serve one another, they recruited members of the Parish and assigned them a homebound member. These visitors would visit at least once a month.

The second program began under Pastor David Halmers. Noting that parishioners were able to administer communion to homebound members, he started the Eucharistic Ministry. Members were given instruction in administering communion. Eucharistic ministers are not allowed to consecrate the elements but they can administer the elements that have been consecrated during Sunday worship services. Each minister is given a communion kit along with a printed communion service.

The third program is the Stephen Minister program. Stephen Ministers are lay members who are trained to provide one-to-one care to those who are experiencing a difficult time such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic and/or terminal illness. They are matched to a member who has agreed to participate in this ministry. They meet on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage and provide emotional and spiritual support. They work under a trained leader who provides continuous support for them. Presently, we have three trained Stephen Ministers but no trained supervisor.

The past two years have been a challenge for our Friendly Visitors and Eucharistic Ministers. COVID

restrictions have led to no visits in care facilities; limited visits to private homes. Even phone calls to those in care facilities was very difficult. As we emerge from this pandemic, we are restarting our Friendly Visitor and our Eucharistic programs. Presently, we have fourteen homebound members and four Friendly Visitors. It is our goal to match each homebound member with a Friendly Visitor who will visit at least once a month and administer communion. The Eucharistic Ministers will be available to administer communion to non-homebound members upon request such as those members who are in short-term rehab centers.

So, **we need you**. The only requirements for these programs are a passion for bringing Christ's love and giving care to others. Our homebound members are delightful people who have many life experiences that they can share with you and others. If you are interested in these programs, please contact the church office. We are planning a training session in the near future. Remember, as baptized Christians, we are called to minister to one another. This is one way you can answer that call.

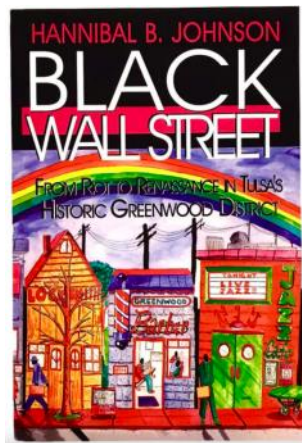
Calumet Monthly Online Book Club

Tuesday evening, March 29 at 7 PM or
Thursday morning, March 31, at 10 AM

All are welcome to join the book discussion on Zoom. Typically, the conversation lasts about 75-85 minutes and takes place on a Thursday morning at 10 AM. On occasion, Calumet is able to offer a second option during the **evening** hours, as is the case for the March discussion. As we continue to grapple with systemic racism and where we hope to one day be, it's important that we are aware of where we've been. The subject of this next book is very important to the big picture of justice and fairness for Black people in this country.

The Book Club is very informal and you aren't at all required to say one single thing! You can just come and listen! Questions or to request the Zoom link, please email: knute@calumet.org.

Consider inviting a friend. An easy way to do that is to go to Calumet's FB page and LIKE or SHARE the post about the book announcement.



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

Wednesday Evening Bible study will not meet during Lent.

Thursday Morning Bible Study meets at 10 AM in Luther Hall.



A Year of Biblical Womanhood—Book Study
Sunday, March 6th at 6:30 PM in Luther Hall

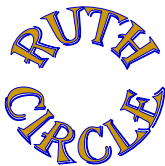
March's Ruth Circle Gathering
is open to the Congregation

For this month only, we will meet on **Monday, March 7th at 7 PM in Luther Hall.**

Vicar Ryan will be our guest speaker, informing all of us about his internship program.

The congregation is invited to his talk.

Please join us for an opportunity to learn more about this program which differs from the New England Synod's own internship program. Vicar Ryan & Ruth Circle members will be thrilled to see many members of the congregation in attendance for the program.



**Daylight Savings Time Begins on Sunday,
March 13, 2022.**

**Please remember to turn your clocks AHEAD ONE HOUR
before bed on Saturday night, 3/12.**

Women's Breakfast
Wednesday, March 16th
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, March 15th.



Although we do not have flowers in the Sanctuary during Lent, 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.

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

Thrivent Members...

The deadline to direct 2021 Thrivent Choice Dollars is March 31, 2022.

Any Choice Dollars that are earned in 2021 will EXPIRE on March 31!

If you need help with the process, please contact Emanuel's Thrivent Coordinator, Ray Purtell by email to (purt1015@gmail.com).

Don't miss out on the chance to support some great non-profits!



The Mutual Ministry Committee meets on a monthly basis to discuss concerns brought to them by you, members of the congregation. Their names and email addresses are listed below. While you may be tempted to catch them at worship, please remember, worship is a sacred time for them as individuals, too. They look forward to addressing your concerns.

Emanuel's Mutual Ministry Committee Members:

- Danielle Berneski (fournier1979@sbcglobal.net)
- Karin Buus (kabuus@comcast.net)
- Carol Kohl (ckohl@cox.net)
- Ron Lehrach (rlehrach9@aol.com)
- Lisa Little (littlezab@comcast.net)

MARCH 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 <i>The Rev. Dr. David Grafton preaching and presiding</i> TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD 10:00 AM Sunday School - LH 10:00 AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary 12:00 PM Confirmation via Zoom 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	28 Visitor newsletter mailing	1	2 ASH WEDNESDAY 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom 7:00 PM Lenten Service - at Concordia Lutheran Church	3 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 AM Bible Study - LH 7:30 PM Anthem Choir rehearsal - LH	4 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH/MR	5 10:00 AM Music Together Class - CR
6 <i>Healing Prayer following worship at the Altar</i> <i>No Sunday School or Children's Sermon</i> <i>The Rev. Dr. David Grafton presiding</i> <i>Vicar Ryan Heckman - Assisting Minister</i> <i>Vicar Ryan Heckman preaching</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30 PM Worship Service at Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor 6:30 PM Book Study - LH	7 7:00 PM Ruth Circle Gathering - LH	8 3:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting - Library	9 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom 7:00 PM Lenten Evening Prayer - CR/Chapel	10 10:00 AM Bible Study - LH 7:30 PM Anthem Choir rehearsal - LH	11 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH/MR 10:00 AM Funeral for Fred Spaulding	12 10:00 AM Music Together Class - CR
13 Confirmation - in person event at Emanuel Hartford Daylight Saving Time Begins <i>Pastor Bob LaRoche preaching and presiding</i> 10:00 AM Sunday School - LH 10:00 AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	14	15 Visitor newsletter deadline 6:45 PM Council Meeting - LH and via Zoom 7:00 PM Property Committee Meeting - CR	16 8:30 AM Women's Breakfast - Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom 6:00 PM Internship Committee Meeting - (meeting location varies) 7:00 PM Lenten Evening Prayer - CR/Chapel	17 10:00 AM Bible Study - LH 7:30 PM Anthem Choir rehearsal - LH	18 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH/MR	19 10:00 AM Music Together Class - CR
20 <i>Children's Sermon during worship</i> <i>Pastor Gloria Connery presiding</i> <i>Vicar Ryan Heckman - Assisting Minister</i> <i>Vicar Ryan Heckman preaching</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	21	22	23 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom 7:00 PM Lenten Evening Prayer - CR/Chapel	24 10:00 AM Bible Study - LH 7:30 PM Anthem Choir rehearsal - LH	25 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH/MR	26 10:00 AM Music Together Class - CR
27 <i>Pastor Gloria Connery preaching and presiding</i> 10:00 AM Sunday School - LH 10:00 AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary 12:00 PM Confirmation via Zoom 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	28 Visitor newsletter mailing	29 6:00 PM New Days Singers rehearsal - SA	30 10:00 AM Staff Meeting via Zoom 7:00 PM Lenten Evening Prayer - CR/Chapel	31 10:00 AM Bible Study - LH 7:30 PM Anthem Choir rehearsal - LH	1 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH/MR	2 9:00 AM Music Together Class - CR 10:00 AM Music Together Class - Front Lawn

The Church Office will be CLOSED on Thursday, March 3, 2022.

MACC Food Pantry needs:

Non-dairy Milk (Almond, Soy, Coconut, Oat)
 Beans (Canned, All Beans: Black Brown, Red)
 PAPER BAGS
 Mac & Cheese (Boxed)
 Condiments: Ketchup, Mustard, Mayo, Salad Dressing

Foil Baking Pans (Disposable, All Sizes)
 Beef Stew and Chili (Canned)
 Jelly and Nut Butters
 Cleaning Supplies
 Cooking Oil

Food 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.



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.



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



Caring

March Birthdays

Ruth Lehrach	3/4	Keith Carriere	3/5
Rosemary Hokanson	3/10	Frederick Hughes	3/11
Deborah Conklin	3/15	Paul Margelony	3/17
James Hamilton	3/18	Helen Johnson	3/24
Charles Henderson	3/25	Richard Marsh	3/26

Church Office Hours at Emanuel:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM—4 PM

Wednesday from 1 PM—4 PM

Friday from 10 AM—2 PM

The office will be CLOSED on Thursday, March 3, 2022.

Vicar Ryan's Weekly Open Office Hours

Vicar Ryan's weekly open office hours are held on Mondays, from 2-4 PM at Emanuel. In order to remain health conscious and cautious, Vicar Ryan requests that you 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 Monday office hours, please email or call (860-643-1193) and he will be happy to schedule a time to meet with you.

Get your free at-home COVID-19 test kits to help stop the spread of COVID!

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services is offering free at-home COVID-19 test kits. Every home in the U.S. can order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free - there are no shipping costs. Tests plan to ship within 7-12 days of ordering. To place an order, all you need is your name and residential address. No ID, credit card, or health insurance information is required. You may also share your email address to get updates on your order. All tests distributed as part of this program are FDA-authorized at-home rapid antigen tests. To order, please visit <https://www.covidtests.gov>.

At this time, masks are still required inside Emanuel's building.

If you have any reason to enter the church building, you must wear a mask. In order to keep EVERYONE safe, **a mask must be worn indoors at all times and worn properly covering the nose and mouth**. If you don't have a mask, one will be provided to you upon entering the building. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our church community safe and healthy!

WINTER STORMS ARE STILL POSSIBLE DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH

and we want you to know that if we get a big storm or have severe weather conditions, Emanuel will have any cancellations of our Sunday worship service on the television on WVIT – NBC 30; WFSB – CBS 3; and WTNH – ABC 8, and on the church's voicemail greeting. So please check before you come. We want everyone to be safe.

Emanuel Staff

(860) 643-1193

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Ext. 304

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kray524@gmail.com

Berk Little and Kathy Rusch
Worship Support Specialists



Ash Wednesday

March 2, 2022

7:00 PM

Concordia Lutheran
Church

41 Pitkin Street, Manchester, CT

