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March 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

*All those days
you felt like dust,
like dirt,
as if all you had to do
was turn your face
toward the wind
and be scattered
to the four corners
or swept away
by the smallest breath
as insubstantial –
did you not know
what the Holy One
can do with dust?*



—Beginning of Jan Richardson's poem "Blessing the Dust"

When I lived in Charlestown, Rhode Island, I rented a small cottage that bordered a fairly large salt pond. This tiny cottage had two sliding glass doors that went out to a large wrap around deck that looked out onto that pond. You'd look out and see a blue herring stalking through the water. Every spring, white egrets would nest in the trees surrounding the pond at dusk with their babies. It was beautiful to see how the pond would transform throughout the Lenten season.

In the month of March, we will complete our Lenten journey to the cross and will celebrate Easter—the resurrection of our Lord—on the last day of the month. Lent, Holy Week, and Easter is a time for us to engage with the message of the gospel in a new way. It is a time to for repentance—a chance to turn around and refocus. It is a time open ourselves up to how the Spirit and the gospel message transforms us.

Rachel Held Evans asks a wonderful question for us to consider in the month of March, *When I wake up on Resurrection Sunday morning, how will I be different? What am I preparing for?*

That is a question that is worthwhile sitting with and praying about—no matter where you are in your faith journey. It can be easy for us to skip over Lent and Holy Week and bask in the celebration of Easter. However, my encouragement to you this year is to let the message work in your heart. Let it chip away at some of the walls you built up. Rest in the promises of God.

*Peace to you and yours,
Pastor Joanna*

1

From the Pastor

2

Soups & Songs Event—Photos
Camp Calumet Registration
Thrivent Choice Dollars

3

Lent and Holy Week
Health Collective Food Pantry
FME Chamber Music Concert—
Wynona Wang, pianist

4

Events and Items of Interest

5

March 2024 Calendar

6

2024 Bishop Election—Update
Fruits & Roots at Calumet

7

Caring

8

Easter Flowers Order Form

Camp Calumet



Thank you to everyone who donated to the Seminarian Fund on Sunday, 2/18 at the Soups & Songs fundraising event, Through your generosity we raised \$1,051! It was an afternoon filled with fellowship, great soup, and wonderful music. A memorable time was had by all.

The event was made possible through a Thrivent Action Team.

If you would like the soup recipes, they are available to view and print through a dropdown tab on the MEMBERS ACCESS page of emanuelmanchester.org. If you can't access the Member page on the website, please email aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org and she will email you the recipes.

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), 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.



Important Message for Thrivent Members...

If you designated your 2023 Thrivent Choice Dollars BEFORE January 1, 2024, please check your Thrivent account because you may have additional Choice Dollars that accrued in the last month or two of 2023. You don't want to leave any Choice Dollars behind and miss out on donating to a chosen non-profit organization.

All 2023 Choice Dollars need to be directed by March 31, 2024.

If you have any questions or need help designating your Choice Dollar, please contact Ray Purtell at purt1015@gmail.com



Lent and Holy Week 2024



Lent and Holy Week 2024

Concordia/Emanuel/Ministerio Nueva Creación



Midweek Lenten

- Wednesday, February 21 & 28—Worship—7 PM via Zoom
- Thursday, March 7—Dinner Church at Emanuel—5:30 PM in Luther Hall
- Wednesday, March 13—Worship—7 PM via Zoom
- Wednesday, March 20—Dinner Church at Concordia—6 PM in Kaiser Hall

Holy Week

- March 24—Palm Sunday at Emanuel—10 AM or at Concordia—10 AM
- March 28—Maundy Thursday at Concordia—7 PM
- March 29—Good Friday at Emanuel—7 PM
- March 30—Easter Vigil at Concordia—7 PM
- March 31—Easter Sunday at Emanuel—10 AM or at Concordia—10 AM



The Health Collective East Food Pantry at 64 Church Street, Manchester is now 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
Annual Income	\$43,740	\$59,160	\$74,580	\$90,000
	5	6	7	8
	\$105,420	\$120,840	\$136,260	\$151,680

SAVE THE DATES...

Calumet is reserving the weekend of November 1-3, 2024 for Emanuel for a congregational retreat! Anyone of any age is welcome. There will be programming geared toward kids and adults and plenty of free time to explore camp and NH. More details to come!



FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT EMANUEL
CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES 2023 - 2024

Wynona Wang, pianist

Winner of 2018
Concert Artists
Guild International
Competition -
Performances in
major concert
venues and festivals
throughout the world.



**Saturday
March 9 at 7 pm**

Emanuel Lutheran Church

60 Church Street
Manchester, CT
860-643-1193

FREE ADMISSION

DONATIONS APPRECIATED

FriendsofMusicatEmanuel@gmail.com

www.FriendsOfMusicAtEmanuel.org

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.

Ruth Circle

**Tuesday, March 5th in Luther Hall
Meeting at 7 PM, Program at 7:30 PM**

Members will gather in Luther Hall for a business meeting promptly at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, 3/5, followed by a program on "Honeybees" presented by Kent Schwendy at 7:30 PM. ***The Congregation is invited to attend the program.***

Hostesses are Linda Eckblom, Helen Johnson and Marianne Wilcox.

**Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 10, 2024.
Please remember to turn your clocks AHEAD one hour
on Saturday, 3/9.**

It's time to order flowers for Easter Sunday

We'll be offering lily, tulip, and daffodil plants from Woodland Gardens again this year.

All plants are in 6" pots.

The lilies are \$11.00 each and the tulip or daffodils are \$10.00 each.

Orders must be received in the church office **no later than Sunday, March 3rd.**

Order forms are located at both entrances of the sanctuary and in the church office and on the back page of this newsletter.



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

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.

Women's Breakfast

**Wednesday, March 20th 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, March 19th.

Church Office Hours:

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

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

Creative Living Community of CT (CLCC) will be selling eggs and a variety of microgreens in Luther Hall during Coffee Hour on Sunday, 3/10 following worship.

The eggs and microgreens are first come, first served. A dozen eggs is \$5.00, and a package of microgreens is \$5.00.



SAVE THE DATES: November 1–3, 2024.

See page 3 for details!

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 <i>Assisting Minister - Kathy Rusch</i> 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	26 7:00pm Endowment Committee Meeting - via Zoom	27 Visitor newsletter mailing 10:30am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Emanuel Housing Corp. Meeting - LH	28 6:30pm Personnel Committee Meeting via Zoom 7:00pm Lenten Service offered by Concordia via Zoom	29 10:00am Bible Study - Library 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	1 <i>Confirmation Retreat at Camp Calumet</i> 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	2 <i>Confirmation Retreat at Camp Calumet</i> 9:00am Music Together Class - CR
3 <i>Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier</i> <i>Confirmation Retreat at Camp Calumet</i> <i>Pastor Sara Anderson preaching and presiding</i> 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	4 <i>Deadline for Ordering Easter Plants</i>	5 10:30am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Ruth Circle Gathering - LH	6	7 10:00am Bible Study - Library 5:30pm Lenten Dinner Church - LH 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	8 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	9 9:00am Music Together Class - CR 7:00pm FME Chamber Music Concert Series - Wynona Wang, Pianist
10 <i>Assisting Minister - Ben Hogue</i> <i>Daylight Saving Time Begins</i> <i>Sunday School Service Project presentation during worship service</i> 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 11:00am CLCC sale of eggs & microgreens in Luther Hall 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Worship Service at Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor	11 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting - LH	12 10:30am Staff Meeting	13 7:00pm Lenten Service offered by Concordia via Zoom	14 10:00am Bible Study - Library 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	15 Visitor newsletter deadline 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	16 9:00am Music Together Class - CR 12:00pm Braman Birthday Party
17 <i>Assisting Minister - Ray Purtell</i> <i>Children's Sermon during Worship Service</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 11:30am Confirmation Class - Youth Room 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	18	19 10:30am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Council Meeting - LH	20 8:30am Women's Breakfast - Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor 11:00am CHP - Pizza Lunch - LH 6:00pm Lenten Dinner Church at Concordia	21 10:00am Bible Study - Library 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	22 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	23 9:00am Music Together Class - CR
24 <i>Assisting Minister - Beverly Niemann</i> PALM SUNDAY 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 11:15am Early Communion Workshop - LH 5:00pm Christ Church Anniversary Worship Service in the Sanctuary	25	26 10:30am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Emanuel Housing Corp. Meeting - LH	27	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00pm Worship Service - at Concordia Lutheran Church	29 GOOD FRIDAY Visitor newsletter mailing 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR 7:00pm Worship Service at Emanuel	30 EASTER VIGIL 7:00pm Worship Service - at Concordia Lutheran Church
31 <i>Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier</i> <i>Children's Sermon during Worship Service</i> EASTER DAY 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 11:30am Confirmation Class - Youth Room 11:30am Easter Egg Hunt following worship service - Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	1 EASTER MONDAY - OFFICE CLOSED	2 10:30am Staff Meeting	3	4 10:00am Bible Study - Library 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	5 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	6 9:00am Music Together Class - CR 10:00am Ruth Circle Gathering - LH

2024 NE Synod Bishop Election—Update

March 20

Pre-identified Person Information Due

Those whose names have been submitted will be contacted to determine if they are willing to discern a call to serve as bishop. If so, they'll be asked to provide biographical details and a photograph, as well as submit to a background check.

April 15

Pre-identified Persons Information Available on 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/bishopelection>

Questions may be addressed to the bishop election team via email to bishopelection@nesynod.org.



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 - UPDATE

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!

MARCH CAN BRING WINTER STORMS

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.

Caring

March Birthdays (Emanuel Members 75+ yrs.)

Ruth Lehrach	3/4
Keith Carriere	3/5
Carol Adams	3/8
Rosemary Hokanson	3/10
Deborah Conklin	3/15
Paul Margelony	3/17
James Hamilton	3/18
Jeannine Johnson	3/18
Helen Johnson	3/24
Charles Henderson	3/25
Richard Marsh	3/26

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

PRAYER SHAWLS...HELP!

The Prayer Shawl Ministry needs your help.

Our supply of prayer shawls is depleted, and we are looking for anyone who knits or crochets to be moved to make one.

Lent is a great time to spend some effort doing this.

Please, please consider giving this gift of love.

Thanking you in advance.

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. *Please note: We do not have flowers in the sanctuary on Sundays during Lent.* 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.

The Sunday School program is excited to announce upcoming spring events:

SERVICE PROJECT: Our service project began on Sunday, February 4th and will end with a presentation for the congregation on Sunday, March 10th.

FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP: On Sunday, March 24th, Pastor Joanna will be holding a First Communion workshop after the church service for families interested in their children receiving first communion on Easter Sunday. This event is for children to learn about communion and the whole family is welcome to come and learn together, ask questions and share in fellowship.

EASTER EGG HUNT: On Easter Sunday, March 31st, all children ages 10 and under are welcome to join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt following worship. After the service please join us in the community room for a story and crafts followed by an egg hunt in the Sanctuary.

The last day of Sunday School will be Sunday, May 5th.



Emanuel Staff

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Barton Sattler
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treasurer@emanuelmanchester.org

Jodi Eskin
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jeskin67@hotmail.com

Berk Little and Kathy Rusch
Worship Support Specialists

2024 Easter Flowers—Order Form

Please Print

I/We, _____, wish to order # _____ lily, # _____ tulip,
_____ daffodil plants to decorate Emanuel for **Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024.**

The plants are given:

In memory of: _____
or

In honor of: _____
or

To the Glory of God: _____.

The **lily plants (6" pot) cost \$11.00 each**; the **tulip or daffodil plants (6" pots) cost \$10.00 each**.

I have enclosed a check for the total amount: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to **Emanuel Lutheran Church** and designated for *Easter flowers*.

Deadline for ordering is **Sunday, March 3, 2024.** Place this form with your check in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office. Thank you.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED