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May 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

*When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind,
and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.*

—Acts 2:1-2

The story of Pentecost is one filled with fear, beauty, and mystery. In some ways, it's fitting for the Holy Spirit—the Spirit that blows where she will—because it's part of the Trinity that leaves us in awe and one that we have a hard time explaining. The Spirit, like the wind, is something we can't see but we can feel. We feel the wind as a gentle breeze rustles the leaves on trees. We really, really feel the wind in the midst of a violent storm—a storm that uproots trees from their roots.

Barbara Brown Taylor talks about the book of Acts as the gospel of the Holy Spirit. In the gospels, we hear the stories of Jesus. And in the book of Acts, we hear what God did through the Holy Spirit—blowing into a room and leaving them a changed force for the world.

Barbara Brown Taylor writes,

"The question for me is whether we still believe in a God who acts like that. Do we still believe in a God who blows through closed doors and sets our heads on fire? Do we still believe in a God with power to transform us, both as individuals and as a people, or have we come to an unspoken agreement that our God is pretty old and tired by now, someone to whom we may address our prayer requests but not anyone we really expect to change our lives?" (Home By Another Way, pg. 146).

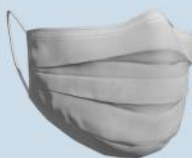
Do you believe in a God who acts like that? Have you experienced a God like that? What was that experience like?

As we celebrate Pentecost at the end of May and move into the season after Pentecost, let's pay attention to the wind—how it feels, how it changes us.

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

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**Masks are OPTIONAL inside
Emanuel's building.**



Masks are RECOMMENDED
inside if you are unvaccinated
or at high risk for COVID-19
due to any chronic health
condition.

Thank you.

Community Conversation on Sunday, May 7 during Coffee Hour

Join us for our next community conversation on Sunday, May 7 during coffee hour following our 10 AM worship service.

At our last conversation, we discussed the changes we have experienced at Emanuel in the past 10 years. It was clear that there is a feeling of great hope in our congregation as well as some grief we're naming. At the coffee hour on May 7, we'll discuss the changes we have noticed in the city of Manchester in the past 10 years.

We hope you can join us!

From the Vicar

Ryan Heckman

I want to offer the whole congregation at Emanuel a prayer of thanksgiving for the ways you have supported me during my internship and given me an opportunity to learn and grow with you.

Holy God of presence and guidance,

I pray for the people of Emanuel as I end my internship and depart from this congregation. I pray to God giving thanks for a congregation that stepped forward into the future of the church by accepting me, a future leader. God, the generosity of support and opportunity extended and entrusted to me was large, and I give you thanks for your guidance throughout the journey and for the trust given to me by this congregation. I pray for all the members of Emanuel, that they see how their commitment to me as an intern is a commitment to the whole Body of Christ: The Church. That in raising up new leaders, it shows belief and hope in the continuation of the Body of Christ into the future. It is standing beside Martin Luther who said, "If I knew the world were to end tomorrow, I'd plant an apple tree today."

People of Emanuel, your generosity is courageous; hold on to that! Your caring is deep; keep it up! Your love runs freely; don't forget about it!

I pray that God's Spirit continues to guide you as you do ministry together. I pray that you discern what it means to be a part of the wider church's ministry in the future. Overall, I pray that you keep coming together, supporting one another, and listening together for God's call.

It's been an honor to be a part of this congregation's ministry. It's been a blessing from God to have gotten to know you all. I will deeply cherish the relationships we have together and my experience at Emanuel. You will be held in my heart always.

May God bless you and keep you;

May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you;

May God lift you up and bring you peace. Amen.

In Christ's love, Vicar Ryan

Red Geraniums for Pentecost

Orders will be taken during the month of May for geraniums that will decorate the Sanctuary for Pentecost Sunday on May 28th. An order form is printed on the back page of this newsletter. You may also pick one up in the Church Office or Sanctuary as well as through a link on the Weekly Update.

Orders must be returned to the Church Office by Sunday, May 21st. Geranium plants are \$5.50 and can be ordered "in honor of", "in memory of" or "to the Glory of God".



Bella Rose Carlson and Matthew Halmers
will **Affirm their Baptism** at a **Confirmation Service**
on **Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023**
during the 10 AM worship service.



All are welcome to join us for a **Special Coffee Hour in Luther Hall in Honor of Vicar Ryan on Sunday, May 14th immediately following our 10 AM worship service.**

We will gather together to say goodbye and send our blessings and best wishes to Vicar Ryan on his last day at Emanuel. He'll be graduating from Luther Seminary on May 21, 2023 and will be open for a Call in the New England Synod in June!

Although we will miss Vicar Ryan immensely, we are thankful and grateful for his strength in leading us through some difficult times at Emanuel over the past two years. We look forward to seeing where Vicar Ryan is Called next as Pastor Ryan!

If you are serving as a Communion Assistant or Assisting Minister during Sunday morning worship, please note that mask wearing is mandatory at this time for those serving the wafer, wine and grape juice for communion.

From the Parish Nurse

Lynne Gustafson

As we continue the history of religion and medicine, there are two other components to add to our mix: Private medical Insurance and government insurance.

Although the concept of insurance has been around for many years, the first United States health insurance firm was established in 1850 but it only offered insurance against injuries received during an accident. The insurance firm would give the policy holder a pre-determined amount of money to pay for the injury. It took another 79 years before health insurance became available.

In 1929, Baylor University Hospital in Texas offered health insurance to Dallas teachers for a premium of \$.50 per month to cover their hospital bills. If we factor in inflation, this is equal to \$7.00 a month, a 1000% increase but still nowhere near what we are paying now.

Then in the 1930's, a group of employers in the lumber and mining industries came together to offer physician health insurance to their employees. This plan developed into the National Association of Blue Cross (hospital side) and Blue Shield (which was the physician side). After World War II, union or employer-based health insurance became common place as it was offered as a recruiting tool for jobs that were in high demand.

During President Roosevelt's first term, he notified Congress of his plan for old age insurance as a safe guard "against the hazards and vicissitudes of life" His plan was given to Congress and in August of 1935 he signed into law what we now know as Social Security. It provided for the general welfare of those 65 and older, so they would have continued income in retirement. The first person in the United State to receive Social Security was Ida May Fuller, a Vermonter who was born in 1874.

While developing the US plan for old age insurance, Roosevelt asked at what age should a person retire or could collect Social Security. He reached out to Germany for some advice. Germany had an old age insurance program from the early 19th century. So, the story goes, Roosevelt asked at what age do most people retire? He found that a person born in 1930, their life expectancy for a man was 58 years and a woman was 62 years. Thus 65 was chosen for the retirement age. In 2022, the life expectancy rate for a man is now 78 years and a woman is 82.5 years.

President Roosevelt's Social Security plan included a government sponsored health care plan. Upon arrival in Congress, it was quickly defeated. When Truman became President, he tossed around the idea of a government sponsored health care plan but it was not until 1965 when President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the Medicare and Medicaid Act.

As we are aware the cost of health care has increased exponentially. Over the years employers provided more health coverage and the health care industry expanded. United Health Care was founded in the 1970's and is currently the largest health insurer in the US. Aetna, which started as a life insurance company specializing in fire insurance, through its many acquisitions became the largest and best know health care insurer in the 1990's.

Since government is now playing a larger role in health care, they are setting the rules on what procedures they will pay for and at what price. Often, we feel like the government or insurance companies are dictating our health care and the patient's needs are often ignored. Today, the health care industry has morphed into a billion-dollar industry. But it remains that health care in the US is both expensive and hard to access.

References: Risk Strategies: " Brief History of Private Insurance in the Untied States." and Dr. Michael Roizen MD Internal Medicine "What are the origins of health insurance."



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 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.

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
Thursdays at 10 AM in the Library

Confirmation Class is held on Sunday evenings in Luther Hall from 6:30 to 7:30 PM on 5/7, and 5/21.

If you would like more information about the program, please contact Pr. Joanna (pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org).

Ruth Circle
Tuesday, May 2nd
7:00 PM in Luther Hall

Program: *Black Bears in CT* with speaker Paul Colburn, Master Conservationist. The meeting is open to the congregation.

Hostesses for the evening: Marianne Wilcox, Kris Fournier and Marlene D'Addario.



Women's Breakfast
Wednesday, May 17th
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, May 16th.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Gathering
Monday, May 22nd
10:00 AM in Luther Hall

We hope you can join us! Thank you to everyone who continues to make prayer shawls—it is very much appreciated. We look forward to seeing you on the 22nd!



Pastor Joanna taught some of the Sunday School children about Communion on April 2.

Sammy Garmendia took his first communion on Easter Sunday and many others will do so in the coming weeks!

It's springtime once again so it's time to fill up Emanuel's Rocks of Kindness Garden with painted rocks!

Our Kindness Garden that began four years ago 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 times the garden is empty of rocks within days of adding newly painted rocks!

If you are able to 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. Thank you!

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 May 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.

Emanuel Visitation Ministry Training
Wednesday, May 10th
from 6:30 – 7:30 PM in Luther Hall

For more information, please contact Lynne Gustafson in person or by email to cgustafson01@snet.net.

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 <i>Assisting Minister - Kathy Rusch</i> <i>Jackson Pocius Baptism during worship</i> <i>Sunday School Service Project presentation during worship service</i> <i>Temple Talk by Lynne Gustafson</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 11:15am In-Depth Sunday Bible and Sermon Study - Youth Room 5:00pm Christ Church Worship Celebration in the Sanctuary	1 7:00pm (ELC Visioning) Ad Hoc Committee Meeting - Library	2 10:00am Staff Meeting via Zoom 7:00pm Ruth Circle Gathering - LH	3	4 10:00am Bible Study - Library 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	5 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR	6 8:45am Music Together Class - CR
7 <i>Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier</i> <i>Cian Stephanou Baptism during worship</i> <i>Healing Prayer following worship at the Altar</i> Last Day of Sunday School <i>Sunday School teacher - Vicar Ryan</i> 10:00am Sunday School - LH 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 11:00am Community Conversation - LH 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Worship Service at Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor 6:30pm Confirmation Class - LH	8 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting - LH	9 10:00am PEO Meeting - LH 10:00am Staff Meeting via Zoom	10 6:30pm Visitation Ministry Training - LH	11 10:00am Bible Study - Library 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	12 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR 3:00pm Friday Brew with Vicar Ryan at Urban Lodge Brewing in Manchester	13 8:45am Music Together Class - CR
14 <i>Assisting Minister - Vicar Ryan Heckman</i> <i>Children's Sermon during Worship Service</i> <i>Vicar Ryan Heckman preaching</i> <i>Vicar Ryan Heckman's last Sunday at Emanuel</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 11:00am Farewell Coffee Hou for Vicar Ryan - LH 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	15 Visitor newsletter deadline	16 10:00am Staff Meeting via Zoom 7:00pm Council Meeting - LH	17 8:30am Women's Breakfast - Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor	18 10:00am Bible Study - Library 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	19 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR	20 8:45am Music Together Class - CR
21 <i>Assisting Minister - Beverly Niemann</i> <i>Deadline for Ordering Geraniums for Pentecost</i> 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary 6:30pm Confirmation Class - LH	22 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry - LH	23 CHP - Last Day of Class 10:00am Staff Meeting via Zoom 7:00pm Emanuel Housing Corp. Meeting - LH	24 9:30am CHP - End of School Year Celebration - Outside (in LH if rain)	25 10:00am Bible Study - Library 6:00pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:30pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	26 Visitor newsletter mailing 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR	27 8:45am Music Together Class - CR
28 <i>Assisting Minister - Kathy Rusch</i> Confirmation during Worship DAY OF PENTECOST 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	29 OFFICE CLOSED - MEMORIAL DAY	30 10:00am Staff Meeting via Zoom	31	1 10:00am Bible Study - Library	2 7:00am HGLHC - LH/MR	3 8:45am Music Together Class - CR

Coffee Hour Hosts

A sign up sheet is posted in the office hallway. We would love to have Coffee Hour every Sunday in Luther Hall at 11 AM. Are you willing to host? The host is responsible for making the coffee and providing either individual, pre-wrapped treats or act as the "server" behind the banquet table to plate any items that are not individually wrapped. The host is also responsible for providing half & half, milk or cream as well as juice.

Designated Giving to Disburse Funds

Emanuel's Designated Giving Committee will be disbursing funds from the Emanuel Memorial Fund in May.

If you would like to have your group and/or cause considered to receive funds, you must submit a request form to Nancy Whiton in the Church Office by Wednesday, May 17th. You can pick-up a Request Form in the Narthex or Church Office or print one off of the link on the Weekly Update.

Historical Notes

By Matt Heinrich

In the last installment of this brief history of Emanuel, we discussed the approval of plans and contracting for the construction of the Parish Building or Parish Wing. Ground was broken on October 20, and the cornerstone was laid on June 10, 1951 with more than 300 people on attendance including members of the congregation, the contractor, visiting pastors and state and local authorities.

The building was completed and utilized before the official dedication. It was used for Vacation Church School during the summer and the Sunday School began using the facility in September 1952. The formal dedication was held on October 12, 1952 and was performed by Dr. Eskil Englund, who had presided at the laying of the cornerstone, and pastors of the Hartford District. Among those in attendance was Erik C. Boheman, the Swedish Ambassador to the United States as well as Arthur J. Anderson, a former member of Emanuel, who was then the Vice-Consul at Boston as well as state and local dignitaries. Following the dedication of the building, on All Saints Day, November 2, 1952, the Memorial Chapel and memorial gifts were dedicated at four services that were held in the Chapel. It should be noted, the Chapel is now also referred to as the Community Room and is used for meetings, Sunday School and other purposes as well as occasional worship services. The availability of the Parish Building provided much needed space for Sunday School and it was no longer necessary to hold Sunday School classes in the sanctuary, choir loft, kitchen and sacristy.

Once the Parish Building was completed the decision was made to redecorate the sanctuary, enlarge the kitchen and build a stage in the vestry which was then named Luther Hall. In addition, on September 21, 1952, Emanuel began to have two services each Sunday, at 9:00 AM and at 10:30 AM. This action resulted in a significant increase in total attendance.

The congregation continued to grow and it was necessary to increase the staff. In June 1949, Miss Lorraine Peterson became the parish worker and served for one year. She was followed by Doris Mae Johnson who continued in that role until 1952. Emanuel then decided to replace the parish worker with two people, a secretary and an intern. J. Philemon Anderson came to Manchester to serve as an intern. He was the first person to serve in that role which has since been filled by many people including Vicar Ryan Heckman who is currently serving in that position.

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.



Please remember that we have an AED (Automated external defibrillator) at Emanuel 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.

One last "Friday Brew with Vicar Ryan"

Vicar Ryan will be at Urban Lodge in Manchester on Friday, May 12 from 3-6 PM to host a "going-away" version of "Friday Brew with Vicar Ryan."

This is a mini-revival of the faith and study series he hosted in October of 2021. **All are welcome to join.** There are many beverage options (beer, and non-alcoholic) and families of all ages are welcome!

Beverages and snacks are on-your-own, but fellowship and conversation will be provided!!

Hope to see you at Urban Lodge!



Faith Story

By Doris Johnson

The summer of 1985 contained events that my husband and I were not prepared for! Our daughter, Nancy, had just moved to Columbia, South Carolina and we went to visit. While there, Len went golfing one warm and humid day. A short while later he returned home saying he wasn't feeling well and thought if he got to rest in AC he would feel better. Len was 54 years old and had had a yearly physical a short while ago and got a clean bill of health so we did not think too much of it.

A while later the ache he was experiencing did not go away so we finally got him to agree to go to a walk-in clinic we had seen when we went to the grocery store. At the clinic the doctor told Len he was having a heart attack!! His response was, "but I had a physical and was told I was in good shape" – "Sir, you are having a heart attack" – "but the doctor told" – "Sir, you are having a heart attack!" Off to the hospital he went in an ambulance – us following as we did not know where the hospital was. He was admitted and we met with the doctor and found out they would be doing tests, etc. and we would find out more the next day. I have never prayed harder or more in my whole life. As is said – Pray unceasingly and I did. A feeling of peace came over me like I had never felt before and I know God was watching over us.

Len underwent open heart surgery on the evening of July 3rd and the morning of the 4th his first words to me were Happy 4th of July! It sure was one I will never forget. I was never more grateful and thankful that God was with us every step of the way. Len went on to live 33 more years including another open heart surgery! God had plans for him and he accomplished much good in that span of time.

We never faced another day after that first attack that we did not thank the Good Lord for giving us the gift of another precious day. How one gets through times like this without faith I do not know!!



Join us for Greater New Haven Congregational Watershed Stewardship Workshop

Faith Communities as Stewards of the World's Waters, presented by Rev. Dr. Nancy Wright

April 30, 2023

Watershed Stewardship Workshop with Lunch 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

(optional join us for Worship at 9:30 am; Rev. Dr. Nancy Wright preaching)

Workshop is Free. Registration is Required.

Caring for water orients a congregation in a new and deep way to its spiritual, social, cultural, and ecological community, while also positioning it to develop supportive ties to other congregations and groups in the area to foster watershed health. When a congregation cares for its local watershed, it potentially promotes awareness and action to ameliorate worldwide water justice issues, including those compounded by climate change and the feminization of poverty. The two-hour workshops will include a PowerPoint description of watersheds, water rituals, information about local collaboration, and reflection on the meaning of "living water." All surrounding Christian congregations and interfaith communities are welcome.

Registration:



<https://forms.gle/pahP2geooWf7CbNA8>

This workshop is made possible by Bethesda Lutheran Church New Haven, New England Synod Green Team, Thrivent Action Teams, and Bethesda's Mission Endowment Fund.

Thrivent Financial

By Ray Purtell

Thrivent—Financial Clarity for a Meaningful Life

Most of you probably associate the name Thrivent with the benefits Emanuel derives from its fraternal benefits programs; Thrivent Choice and Thrivent Action Teams. It occurs to me that despite hearing the name Thrivent in church, many people might not realize that Thrivent is much more than its member benefit programs. The brief summary provided below provides a flavor for the company as well as the products, services, solutions, and the benefits that it offers. I hope that you find it informative and helpful.—Ray Purtell

What Exactly is Thrivent?

Established in 1902, Thrivent is a Fortune 500 diversified financial services organization, providing advice, investments, insurance, banking and generosity programs and solutions so people can make the most of all they have been given.



Thrivent is the original purpose-based company

Thrivent is a membership-owned fraternal organization dedicated to serving the unique needs of its clients—guiding them toward financial choices that will help them live the lives they want today and tomorrow. As a fraternal benefit society, Thrivent has clients who share a common Christian bond. Thrivent offers insurance to eligible clients and provides clients opportunities to support their local communities through regional Thrivent Member Networks. Thrivent helps people achieve financial clarity, enabling lives of meaning and gratitude. Thrivent has inspired generations to make financial choices guided by their Christian values. Thrivent provides the expertise and support that enable our clients to take care of themselves and others. Thrivent's unique business model as a fraternal benefit society allows it to take a client-focused, long-term view to all it does and the investments it makes—helping people and their communities thrive.

How does Thrivent serve its clients?

Thrivent provides financial advice, investments, insurance, banking and generosity programs and solutions.

Advice

Thrivent gets to know its clients and understand their values so it can create financial strategies customized for them. Thrivent can help you meet your financial goals whether it's creating a financial plan, saving for retirement, making investment decisions, protecting what's important, creating a trust, estate planning, or identifying tax strategies.

Investments

Thrivent's investment options help clients build a diversified portfolio and invest with confidence. Services include a wide range of investment alternatives including mutual funds, brokerage accounts and ETFs.

Insurance

Thrivent has the right insurance offerings to protect what matters most in life. Whether it's life, disability or long-term care insurance, Thrivent has a variety of options to meet clients' needs.

Banking

Thrivent enables its clients to manage, track, save and spend money to support their goals. Thrivent Credit Union can help you achieve your financial goals with various checking, savings and loan options.

Annuities

Annuities can help eliminate guesswork by setting you up with a reliable retirement income stream. Thrivent offers fixed, variable, immediate and deferred annuity options to meet its clients' needs.

Generosity

Thrivent helps clients give back to the causes they care about with outreach programs and charitable giving options to make a difference. Members can participate in Thrivent Action Teams and the Thrivent Choice program. Thrivent can also help you create a charitable giving plan that matches your values!

What else does Thrivent do?

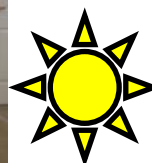
Actually, a lot! Thrivent supports Habitat for Humanity to help ensure that everyone has safe, affordable housing. Thrivent lends exclusively to Christian churches and organizations and is committed to strengthening Christian communities and equipping churches for the future. Thrivent offers identity theft protection to its members and offers programs to reduce medical costs. It also provides a wealth of educational materials and seminars on a wide range of relevant financial topics.

How can I learn more?

Talk to a real person at Thrivent by calling Jon Lindblom at 1-860-896-8380 OR Visit [Thrivent.com](https://www.thrivent.com) to peruse their website.

A Day in the Life at Emanuel

Calumet Sunday—March 26th



Easter Sunday—April 9th



Traveling Queer Movie Night

SECT TRAVELING QUEER MOVIE NIGHT



**Free Viewing &
Open to Everyone**

Time for Discussion Following Movie

Point of Contact: transgroups1gf@gmail.com

Bring Your Own Snacks ● Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited

'The Prom' PG13 April 29th @ 7pm

Updated Location: Park Congregational Church, Norwich

'Boy Erased' R May 20th @ 7pm

Location: St. Luke Lutheran, Gales Ferry

'Disclosure' TV-M June 17th @ 7pm

Location: St. Mark Lutheran, Norwich

Shorts- 'ACES', 'Tyler', 'Passing' NR

Location: St. Mark Episcopal, Mystic July 15th @ 7pm

'Rocky Horror Picture Show' R Aug 19th @ 7pm

Location: St. Luke Lutheran, Gales Ferry

'Boy Meets Girl' R Sep. 16th @ 7pm

Location: All Souls Unitarian Universalist, New London

'Paris is Burning' R Oct. 21st @ 7pm

Location: St. James Episcopal, New London

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 begins on May 15th!

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

Everyone who registers (pooches are welcome, too) 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, and September 16. Get ready to help Calumet Nation! \$25 per participant (whether two legged or four legged).

Caring

May Birthdays

Ann Cook
Carol Sullivan

5/11
5/11



Monique Falcon
Donald Anderson

5/16
5/27



Pastoral Acts

Funerals

Richard Hassett
Althea MacLean

Dear people of Emanuel,
Thank you for your generous mission support to the New England Synod.
Your generosity enables the Synod Staff to resource congregations and offer support through times of transition and discernment, create new opportunities to engage as faith communities in an ever changing time, and encourage new ministry opportunities.

Thank You!
Sara Anderson
Associate to the Bishop

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



IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR 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 (860-643-1193 or nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org) if you have any questions.

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

The Church Office will be CLOSED on Friday, May 19th and Monday, May 29th.

Emanuel Staff

(860) 643-1193

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

Vicar Ryan Heckman
vicarryan@emanuelmanchester.org
Ext. 303

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
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Ext. 309

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Khatch4@gmail.com

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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

Church Office Hours

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

Pentecost Geraniums

Please Print

I/We _____, wish to order # _____
red Pentecost geranium plants to decorate Emanuel for May 28, 2023—Pentecost Sunday.

The plants are given:

In memory of: _____

or

In honor of: _____

or

To the Glory of God: _____.

The plants cost \$5.50 each.

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

Please make checks payable to **Emanuel Lutheran Church**, designated for *Pentecost flowers*.

Deadline for ordering is Sunday, May 21, 2023.

Please mail this form, along with your check to the church office.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Emanuel Lutheran Church
60 Church Street
Manchester, CT 06040

