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October 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

Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.—Luke 12:33-34

When I was a kid, my Dad counted money at our church after worship. Of course, that meant that I also had to be in the room. It was often my job to count the Sunday school offering and any change that was given—hence the reason, I still arrange bills to face the same direction when I am given cash.

I remember asking my Dad, why do people give money to the church? I am sure I would have rather bought another book of Lisa Frank stickers than give my four quarters to church. I am sure my Dad would have rather paid an extra payment towards our mortgage than give to the church. But nevertheless, he still gave a check to the church each week.

My Dad's answer: because God calls us to be generous with all parts of our lives—our time, our talents, our money, and our possessions. Not just one part—all of those parts. When we see it through that lens, we're invited to reprioritize and to trust that God wants good things for us.

Whenever my family considers our intention for giving each year, this is what comes to mind. Thanks for your generous participation in this community of faith! Your gifts make a difference.

*Peace to you and yours,
Pastor Joanna*



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").

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Insert:
October 2023 Calendar

Lutheran Swag In the Street

By Campfield Heinrich

Hi all, Campfield Heinrich here. I'm pleased to be launching this new monthly column in the visitor while I continue my discernment journey. For those who don't know, I am discerning a call to ministry in the ELCA and have begun the candidacy process toward ordination in the New England Synod with plans of beginning seminary in 2024. Throughout my discernment journey thus far I've had discussions with many folks about faith and the presence of God in their lives as well as mine. This stirred a curiosity in me to explore how other folks worship and connect with God in Christian community, including in traditions outside of the ELCA.



Once a month I plan to intentionally church hop and attend a church from a different denomination. Some churches will be vastly different. For instance, I could visit a Baptist or nondenominational church. Whereas some churches will be closer in similarity to the ELCA. For instance, I'll likely visit many of our full communion partners such as congregations in the United Church of Christ (UCC), the Episcopal Church (TEC), and United Methodist Church (UMC), among others. I look forward to the journey ahead as I explore a variety of faith traditions in the coming months and to discuss my experiences with you!

God's Peace, Campfield Heinrich

Seeking Confirmation Mentors!

One of the most important things we can do as a congregation is support confirmation students as they grow in faith this year. We know that confirmation isn't a graduation, but a step in their faith journey. We hope to pair each one of our Confirmation students with a Confirmation Mentor from the congregation.

What does a Confirmation Mentor do? It's very simple! Confirmation Mentors will periodically reach out to their Confirmand by snail mail. You just need a desire to help and get to know your Confirmand, and a commitment to keeping him or her in your prayers!



Please contact Pastor Joanna (pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org) if you're interested in learning more.

Doris Johnson has a "special" birthday coming up and she would like to share her thankfulness at attaining this milestone with the Ladies of Emanuel.

All are invited to be her guests at a Celebration Luncheon on Wednesday, October 25th at Noon in Luther Hall.

Please let Nancy (nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org or 860-643-1193) know by October 16th if you will be attending. Thank you.

MACC Charities

After a successful summer with families requesting the little extras as the children were home enjoying their beautiful summer, MACC's Community Emergency Food Pantry took a hit to their reserves and are now requesting community support to restock their shelves so they may continue providing families with the important staple items they need. Check out the need list below for the best items to donate.

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.

EMERGENCY PANTRY NEEDS LIST

The following items are always in need and donations are welcomed.

All products must be unopened and within expiration dates.

Toiletries:	Instant Potatoes	Fresh Fruit and Veggies
Shampoo	Chili	Coffee (Decaf or Instant)
Deodorant	Beef Stew	Paper Towels
Razors	Ketchup	Toilet Paper
Shaving Cream	Canned Fruit	Sugar & Flour
Toothpaste	Canned Veggies	Dish Detergent
Body Soap	Peanut Butter & Jelly	Laundry Detergent
Body Wash (Liquid)	Mayonnaise	Baby Wipes
Pads / Liners	Baking Mix (Cake & Brownie)	Pasta
	Cooking Oil	Pasta Sauce
	Rice/Rice Mixes	Ramen Noodles

*Big shout out to **Lynne Gustafson** and the **residents** at the **Evergreen Crossings Retirement Community** for donating items on our "Outreach Starter Kit" needs list that provides families in need of basic household items such as small appliances, kitchen cookware, dinnerware and utensils, towels, sheets, blankets, etc. The Evergreen Crossings residents came through and helped replenish our needs, allowing us to keep providing a little relief to those most in need. Thank you for thinking of us and the communities we serve.*

Timothy Bohr, Community Outreach and Emergency Services Manager at MACC

Emanuel's Emergency Procedures

Are you new to Emanuel or have you been around for a while and would like to refresh yourself on what steps to take if an emergency happens at Emanuel? A few years ago, Emanuel created *Emergency Procedures* for many different situations that may happen inside Emanuel's building. Anything from a fire, flood, electrical power outage, medical emergency, etc. is covered in the manual. If you would like to take a look through the procedure manual, you can find the blue and orange binders hanging on the wall in various areas of the church building.



If you have any questions, please contact Anne in the Church Office by email to: ahleinrich@emanuelmanchester.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.

Ruth Circle

Tuesday, October 3rd at 7 PM
Luther Hall



Program: **Trip to Egypt** presented by Teri Ferron. The program is open to everyone in the congregation. Please join us!

Hostesses: Diane Gawlinski, Elsa Robinson, and Barbara Stephens

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



Blessing of the Animals (real or stuffed)

Wednesday, October 4th at 6:30 PM
Emanuel's Memorial Garden

Bring your dogs, cats, hamsters...the caterpillar you found in your backyard...or a stuffed animal for a blessing on Wednesday, October 4th. If it is too stressful for your pet to be around people or be brought outside the house, you are welcome to bring in a photo of the animal to be blessed!

October 4th is the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi who was known for his love and care of creation and God's critters. Hope you can join us!

The Church Office will be CLOSED on Monday, 10/9.

Women's Breakfast

Wednesday, October 18th
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, October 17th.



Focus on Stewardship in October

Beginning on October 1, we will be sharing about our stewardship program and hearing stories of generosity and faith during worship. Keep your eye on the mail for a letter in October too—to let you know more.

On Sunday, October 22, we will collect intent cards and we'll celebrate the generosity of our community on Sunday, October 29. Hope to see you!

PS: If we receive 100 pledge cards, a generous individual will donate \$10,000 to Emanuel!

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

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 January 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.

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.



Rally Day—Sunday, September 10th

Farewell & Godspeed to Emanuel Cruz—Sunday September 17th

Church Office Hours:

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

Historical Notes

By Matt Heinrich

In addition to those discussed previously, many other events and activities occurred at Emanuel during the period that Pastor Anderson served Emanuel. One such event was the creation of the church library. It began in 1964 through the efforts of Marilyn Bodeman and for many years Gloria Kjellson served as the Librarian. It has grown and continues to serve as a repository of many useful and interesting volumes including an extensive collection of photographs of classes of confirmands.

In 1965, the final payment was made on the mortgage that had provided some of the funding for the construction of the Parish Wing, and at the celebration of the 85th anniversary in 1966, the mortgage was burned. At the mortgage burning ceremony, the Reverend Thorsten Gustafson was a guest speaker. Pastor Gustafson had served Emanuel from 1939 until 1944 and shortly before his departure, he had participated in the burning of the mortgage on the main part of the building that includes the sanctuary.

In 1971, membership had increased to 1160 members with 260 children in the Sunday School. At the Annual Meeting the congregation approved a plan to hire a Director of Christian Education and to call a co-pastor who would serve with Pastor Anderson in a team ministry. As discussed in an earlier column, Emanuel had first called an Assistant Pastor in 1963, however, no one had served in that position since 1969.

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: ahheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org



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.**

FME Chamber Music Concert Series—Merz Trio **Saturday, October 21st at 7 PM**

As a leading chamber music ensemble that has performed in the US, Australia, and the UK, the Trio's last season included Carnegie Hall, Amsterdam's Concertgebouw, Chamber Music Houston, and the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society. The ensemble earned top prizes at the 2023 Naumburg, 2019 Concert Artists Guild, 2019 Fischoff, and 2018 Chesapeake competitions.



Coffee Hour

Thanks to a few volunteers and a dedicated Hospitality committee, coffee hour was held each Sunday during the summer. We really appreciate the dedication of the folks who made sure the coffee was brewed each Sunday and sometimes provided food. Now that fall is here, Coffee Hours will only be held on Sundays if someone signs up to host. The sign-up sheet is now on a table in the NARTHEX.

Coffee Hour is held on Sundays in Luther Hall immediately following the 10 AM worship service. The host is responsible for making the coffee and providing the food, half & half, milk, or cream as well as juice.

Caring

October Birthdays

Valerie Norris	10/3		Peggy Johnson	10/14
June Roncarti	10/4		Jennie Macione	10/18
Marilyn Eastwood	10/11		Linda Verbarg	10/19
Lynda Brown	10/12		Carol Pender	10/23
Vyrjil Buus	10/13		Patricia Margelony	10/28

Pastoral Acts

Baptism

Savannah Pereira

Funeral

Donna Armstrong

Dear Emanuel Lutheran Church,
Thank you for the Calumet campership! I had a lot of fun as a first time camper in unit 2. I made many new friends and met lots of different people from different backgrounds. I really enjoyed boating. Riding in the kayaks was a lot of fun. I can't wait to go back next summer! Thank you again!

From,
Noah Berneski

Dear Emanuel,
This thank you note is a few months overdue, but as heartfelt as ever! Thank you so much for helping our family (and others!) in sending our youngest to Calumet (again!). It is such a gift for all of these young people, I wish more kids would go! Everyone loves to get away, to have a break from normal life and just.... be! But I think kids need it even more than us adults. A social media break, a break from screens..... The opportunity to see that we don't actually miss all that "stuff" when it goes away, not one bit! The kids get to enjoy the people in front of them, the nature around them, deep breaths, being silly, a different perspective of life for a bit... We need to show this next generation what is real in the world and what is not so real... Calumet is one way we can do that for them. THANK YOU so much for supporting Calumet and supporting our kids! We are so grateful!

Jim and Liza Ringuette

Dear Members of Emanuel Lutheran Church,
Thank you so much for your generous gifts of \$644.84 and \$649.78 to MACC Charities through your monthly congregational and individual support.

Generous giving helps MACC respond quickly and effectively to emergencies in our community; and certainly brings rest and rejuvenation to the people who receive help with their basic emergency needs. Thank you!

Many Blessings,
Shannon Baldassario,
MACC CEO

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

Emanuel Staff

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cgustafson01@snet.net

Berk Little and Kathy Rusch
Worship Support Specialists



Did you know?

Hebron Evangelical Lutheran Church in Madison, VA (a member of the Virginia Synod of the ELCA), is the oldest Lutheran worshipping community in the South (1717) and their church building is the oldest in the United States in continuous use as a Lutheran church (built in 1740).

Hebron Lutheran Church also has an original Tannenberg organ built in 1802. It is one of only eight left in existence. This Tannenberg organ was made to support congregational singing, as was (and still is) common in Lutheran churches.

For more information about Hebron Lutheran Church, visit: hebronlutheranva.com



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

