



60 Church Street
Manchester, CT 06040

(860) 643-1193

website: www.emanuelmanchester.org

October 2025

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

*A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.*

—Isaiah 11:1-2

Over the summer, during a children's sermon, a four-year-old in our congregation asked when we were planning to have a costume Sunday. I said that I wasn't sure. He asked, "How about next Sunday?" And I responded, "How about on Rally Day?"

And so, on September 14, 2025, our rally day worship was filled with superheroes, baseball players, cheerleaders, farmers, construction workers, butterflies, an Ed Gawlinski look-a-like, even a "cloudy with a chance of meatballs" wide brimmed hat. It was a Sunday where the joy was palpable. All because a four-year-old thought it would be fun and all of you embraced his idea.

That same spirit of imagination and togetherness invites us into our stewardship focus for October. Our stewardship campaign will center on becoming—on how we are continually growing in faith, not alone, but together. Becoming means more than believing; it means allowing our faith to shape how we show up for one another, both within these walls and far beyond them. It calls us to create a community where we can be honest and curious, where we wrestle with hard questions, grow through challenge, and care deeply—even when it's messy or difficult.

I believe God is shaping something beautiful in and through our community. And you are part of that. I am grateful to be on this journey with all of you.

Peace to you and yours,
Pastor Joanna



Church Office Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday:
10 AM—2 PM



Rally Day 2025—Costumed Characters

Flowers, Stewardship, Nominating, and Coffee Hours

The 2025 Flower Chart is posted in the office hallway and available online!

You can sign-up for Altar or Lectern Flowers to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion.

You can sign-up for altar or lectern flowers in one of three ways:

- ♦ On the paper sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Church Office hallway. Please be sure to fill out a flower order form (located next to the sign-up sheet), and leave the form for Anne in the Church Office. *On the order form, you can even designate the type and/or color of flowers that you prefer in the arrangement.*
- ♦ Through the online sign-up sheet:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1N7YC_4StAVRRQGedU4_xUewyRK4VnsT1elyJR9GKLa4/edit?usp=sharing
- ♦ Call or email Anne in the Church Office: 860-643-1193 or ahleinrich@emanuelmanchester.org

Anne will order the flowers, and Park Hill Joyce Florist will send the bill directly to your mailing address. *Altar flowers (two arrangements) are \$50, and the Lectern flowers (one arrangement) are \$35.*

You may also sponsor the Sunday bulletins. Each Sunday is \$20.

Please send payment to the Church Office. You can sign-up for bulletins in the ways noted above.

The online link is: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1BtdtsMiKUnTFv_xz4Gh5iBsH71H0j4sF_JQ8P02_mik/edit?usp=sharing

Building, Belonging, Becoming—Focus on Generosity throughout October

“Building, Belonging, ***Becoming***” is the theme of our fall Stewardship Appeal—with an emphasis on **becoming**. In this community, we are called to reflect Christ not just in what we believe, but in how we live with and love one another—those within our building and beyond. That means creating a space where we can be vulnerable, ask the questions that worry us, grow together, and care deeply — even when it’s uncomfortable or hard.

In October, you will be hearing more about the exciting ministry plans for 2026—focusing on our ministry partners, worship and music, and becoming. Bulletin inserts, temple talks, letters, and a brochure will inform you of our congregation’s mission plans for the coming year.

You’ll receive a letter in the middle of October with a statement of intent and brochure. On Sunday, October 26, we will observe Stewardship Sunday by presenting our Statements of Intent during the worship service. You are also welcome to snail mail your Statement of Intent to the church office or to submit it electronically if you will not be present in worship on October 26. Thank you for being part of this community! Pray for our common work together as we continue to proclaim the Gospel.

The Nominating Committee is soliciting interest from members of the congregation for these committees: *Congregation Council, Endowment, Finance, Nominating.*

Each position is for a three-year term that begins immediately following the annual congregation meeting in January 2026. (Information on the role of the Council/Committees can be found in chapters 12 and 13 of Emanuel’s Constitution). The Nominating Committee will present nominations for elected positions at the annual meeting of the congregation scheduled for January 25, 2026. **If you have an interest in serving on any of these committees, please complete and return the brief form to the church office as soon as possible but no later than Sunday, October 19. Copies of the form are available in the narthex, the church office and as a link on the Friday weekly update.**

Coffee Hours

You can sign-up to host coffee hour in one of three ways:

- ♦ On the paper sign-up sheet in the narthex
- ♦ Through the online sign-up sheet:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1uFDDtVaSqBAXWhfcOeNICaNBfsM6oeYYcdt7IMOD_ZE/edit?usp=sharing
- ♦ Call or email Anne in the Church Office: 860-643-1193 or ahleinrich@emanuelmanchester.org



Endowment Distributions—2025

The Endowment Committee is pleased to present the 2025 disbursements from our four endowment funds. The endowment funds provide opportunities for members to help provide long-term security for the church and create a perpetual legacy aligned with the member's area of interest and passion. This perpetual legacy allows us to make these annual distributions. Thanks to donations made since the inception of the funds in 2008 as well as compounding interest and investment gains, the endowment funds continue to grow, as does our ability to support worthwhile ministries each year.

Three distributions are being made from the Extended Ministries Endowment Fund. \$1,000.00 will go to Interval House to help offset losses of funding for services, \$500.00 will go to the Reverend Bill White Campership Fund to support families sending children to Camp Calumet, and \$250.00 will go to Lutheran World Relief to support global ministries.

The Christian Education Endowment Fund distribution, in the amount of \$2,400.00 will go to Campfield Heinrich to help with housing/living expenses for his Summer Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) training.

The Music Endowment Fund distribution, in the amount of \$2,700.00, will be used to help pay for professional instrumentalists and vocalists to enhance the music for the Christmas 2025 and Easter 2026 services.

The Structural Preservation Endowment Fund distribution, in the amount of \$2,100.00, will be used to help pay for the sanctuary organ repairs.

Symbolic distributions of the funds were presented during worship on Sunday, September 28th followed by a special coffee hour.

Notes of appreciation from the recipients, as they are received, will be shared as part of the weekly updates and in the *Visitor*.

If you would like more information about the Endowment Funds, please contact one of the Endowment Committee members – Marianne Wilcox, Ben Hogue, Rosalynn Gryzwinski, Adela Garmendia, Patrick Byrne, or Kim Boerner-Mercier.



FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT EMANUEL
CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES 2025 - 2026



Elqui Trio

South American folklore and western classical training are revealed in their performances featuring folk music, Baroque compositions, and recently commissioned works.

**Saturday
October 4 at 7 pm**

FREE ADMISSION

DONATIONS WELCOMED

Emanuel Lutheran Church

60 Church Street, Manchester, CT 06040

860 - 643-1193

FriendsofMusicatEmanuel@gmail.com

www.FriendsOfMusicAtEmanuel.org

Organ Concert *within* Evening Prayer

Reformation Sunday - October 26th - 4:00 P.M.

Please arrive by 3:50 for the introduction to the music and liturgy

Concordia Lutheran Church

40 Pitkin Street, Manchester, CT

Reformation-themed music by Bach, Messiaen, Bender, and Manz, plus musical surprises from recent years!

John Anderson, Organist

The Concordia Choir — Linda Hilliard, Director

Reception Following in Kaiser Hall



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 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 also 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, and the AED is on the wall directly in front of you.**

Emanuel's Church Office Hours

The Church Office is OPEN on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 AM—2 PM.

The Church Office is CLOSED on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

If you need to come to the church outside of office hours, please contact Pastor Joanna at pastorjoanna@emanuelmanchester.org to make an appointment.

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 volunteer, please use the electronic sign-up. All Sundays through December 2025 are accessible through one link. If you have difficulty signing up for a particular Sunday, email Anne at aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org and let her know what date and what volunteer position you would like. If you would like to try something new, training is provided!

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

Everyone is welcome! Contact Pastor Joanna with questions or for more information.

Women's Breakfast

**Wednesday, October 15th at 9 AM
Cosmic Omelet, 485 Hartford Road,
Manchester**



If you would like to attend, a RSVP to Lynne Gustafson: cgustafson01@snet.net is required by MONDAY, October 13th.

Ruth Circle Gathering

**Tuesday, October 7th at 7 PM
in Luther Hall**



The congregation is invited to attend.

Joyce Halmers will present a program on her recent trip to Portugal where she experienced the beauty of Portugal. Portugal is the world's leading producer of cork with about one-third of the global cork oak forest area located in this country. This vital industry uses the sustainable, renewable bark of the cork tree to produce many products from wine stopper to fashion items. Come and hear all about this beautiful country.

Hostesses: Carol Kohl, Kris Fournier, Betsy Grupe

This is just a reminder for all members of Emanuel that we have an Online Member Pictorial Directory.

You can access the directory on your laptop, desktop computer or on your phone (through the *Instant Church Directory* app).

You'll need to create an account using the email listed for your family's profile in the directory and create your own password.

To access the directory please go to: members.instantchurchdirectory.com.

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



Children's Sermon & Pumpkin Painting Sunday, October 12th

There will be a Children's Sermon during worship and then following worship at Coffee Hour, there will be pumpkin painting for children in Luther Hall. Please join us!



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

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 <i>2025 Endowment Distributions During Worship</i> <i>Assisting Minister - Campfield Heinrich</i> 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 11:00am Endowment Coffee Hour 11:30am Oktoberfest at Concordia Lutheran Church - 40 Pitkin Street, Manchester (Reservations are required) 1:00pm Congregation Event: Corn Maze at Lyman's Orchards in Middlefield, CT 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	29 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR	30 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED	1 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM	2 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library 5:45pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	3 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	4 9:00am Grow With Me Music - Community Room 10:00am Christ Church Pastor's Anniversary Tea Party - LH 7:00pm FME Chamber Music Concert Series - Elqui Trio
5 <i>Assisting Minister - Kim Boerner-Mercier</i> <i>Pastor Mark Lingle, Associate to the Bishop - preaching</i> <i>Stewardship Temple Talk #1</i> 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	6 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR	7 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED	8 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM	9 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library 5:45pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	10 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	11 9:00am Grow With Me Music - Community Room
12 <i>Assisting Minister - Ben Hogue</i> <i>Pumpkin Painting for the Children During Coffee Hour</i> <i>Stewardship Temple Talk #2</i> 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Worship Service at Evergreen Crossings in South Windsor 5:00pm Christ Church Pastor's Anniversary Celebration Worship Service in the Sanctuary	13 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM OFFICE CLOSED - INDIGENOUS PEOPLES DAY 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR 7:00pm Property Committee Meeting - LH	14 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 7:00pm Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom	15 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM Visitor newsletter deadline 9:00am Women's Breakfast - Cosmic Omelet, 485 Hartford Road, Manchester	16 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library 5:45pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	17 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	18 9:00am Grow With Me Music - Community Room 10:00am Congregation Event: Apple Picking at Belltown Hill Orchards in South Glastonbury, CT
19 <i>Assisting Minister - Ray Purtell</i> <i>Stewardship Temple Talk #3</i> 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary	20 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR	21 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 7:00pm Council Meeting - LH	22 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM	23 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library 5:45pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room	24 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	25 9:00am Grow With Me Music - Community Room
26 <i>Assisting Minister - Adela Garmendia</i> REFORMATION SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP/COMMITMENT SUNDAY 10:00am Sunday School - Youth Room 10:00am Worship Service in the Sanctuary 1:30pm Christ Church Worship Service in the Sanctuary 4:00pm Reformation Organ Concert/Evening Prayer at Concordia Lutheran Church - 40 Pitkin Street, Manchester	27 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 10:00am Music From the Heart Band rehearsal - MR	28 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 7:00pm Emanuel Housing Corp. Meeting - LH	29 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM Visitor newsletter mailing 7:00pm Stewardship Committee Meeting via Zoom	30 CHURCH OFFICE - CLOSED 10:00am Bible Study - Library 5:45pm New Day Singers Rehearsal - Sanctuary 7:00pm Anthem Choir Rehearsal - Music Room 7:00pm Nominating Committee Meeting via Zoom	31 CHURCH OFFICE: OPEN 10 AM - 2 PM 8:30am Health Collective - LH/MR	1 9:00am Grow With Me Music - Community Room

For the most current calendar that updates in real time, please visit our website: emanuelmanchester.org and click on the "Latest News" tab where you will see the highlighted link to the MONTHLY CALENDAR.

On Sunday, September 14 we celebrated the beginning of Emanuel's program year with Rally Day - a festive celebration for families and folks of all ages! One of our preschoolers asked this summer if we could have a costume Sunday, and Pastor Joanna thought that there was no better day to do that than Rally Day! We gifted Bibles to our preschoolers and third graders during worship, offered a children's sermon during worship and ended the day with a pizza lunch, Kona Ice, and a ping pong tournament. Below is just a small sample of photos from the day. If you would like to view the full gallery of photos, please visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/EmanuelLutheranManchester>. You do not need to have a Facebook page to view Emanuel's Facebook page.



Caring

October Birthdays (Emanuel Members 75+ yrs.)

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



There is a bulletin board outside of the Parish Nurse's Office (on the main floor down the hall from the Church Office). ECHN (Eastern Connecticut Health Network) hosts Community Health Education Programs. Some programs are offered in-person and others are offered virtually. Programs for October are posted on the bulletin board.

*Dear Emanuel Lutheran Church Members,
Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$1,048.87 to MACC Charities.*

Your support helps unite the community and bridge some of the social, and economic challenges we face today.

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—CEO

Thanks to Emanuel and the Prayer Shawl Committee for the brightly colored prayer shawl which I will thoroughly enjoy.

Jeannine Johnson

Copies of the "Christ In Our Home" devotionals for October - December 2025 are available to pick up in the narthex or on the bookcase by the ramp to the sanctuary. Large print copies are available.

A QR code has been added to the front cover of the bulletin, inside back cover of this newsletter, and also on small cards placed in the pews of the sanctuary. If scanned, the code will take you directly to Emanuel's secure donation page. Once you are on the donation page, you can choose to designate your donation to a specific fund or the General Fund. We wanted to give people the option to easily donate online at any time. On the backside of the QR Code card in the pew is also a form you can fill out for prayer requests. You can drop the card in the offering plate and the church office and Pastor Joanna will receive your request.

Special Offering Envelopes

Folks who contribute their offering online, and folks who do not receive offering envelopes do not receive the "Special Offering" envelopes that come in the box each year.



Special Offering envelope for October: Technology Fund

If you would like to give to this special offering, you can drop your check in the offering plate (or mail your check to the church office), made out to Emanuel Lutheran Church with the specific special offering listed on the memo line. You may also give online through the secure donation page at www.emanuelmanchester.org.



Emanuel Staff

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Berk Little and Kathy Rusch
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EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

FUN, FESTIVE, & FULL OF FALL!



CORN MAZE: SEPTEMBER 28TH

Meet at Lyman Orchards
(32 Reeds Gap Rd Middlefield,
CT 06455), Sunday, 9/28 at
1 PM. We'll meet at the parking
lot closest to the corn maze!

APPLE PICKING: OCTOBER 18TH

Meet at Belltown Hill Orchards
(483 Matson Hill Rd, South
Glastonbury, CT 06073),
Saturday, 10/18 at 10 AM.
Join us for apple picking,
fellowship and fresh air!

COOKIES & CARE PACKAGES: NOV. 16TH

Join us in Luther Hall after worship on
Sunday, 11/16 for cookie decorating and
assembling care packages for Emanuel's
homebound members. And we'll need
help with delivery, too! If you're willing to
bake or make something for the care
packages, please contact Katie Kurlak:
familyministry@emanuelmanchester.org

All are welcome to join us for these fall, intergenerational activities.
Let's experience the magic of the season - TOGETHER!

SAVE THE DATES!

For more details please contact Katie Kurlak:
familyministry@emanuelmanchester.org