

*Is there more to
life than this?*

Who is Jesus?

*Why did Jesus
die? How can we*

*have faith? Why
and how do I*

pray? Why and

how should I

read the Bible?

How does God

guide us?

How does
God guide
us? Who

is the

Holy
Spirit?

What does

the Holy

Spirit **Knowing Christ**

a Lenten Program at Emanuel

do?

can I be

filled

with the

Holy

Spirit?

How can I resist evil? Why

and how should I tell

others? Does God heal

about the

can I make

the rest of my

more to life

how can we have

and how do I

love the church?

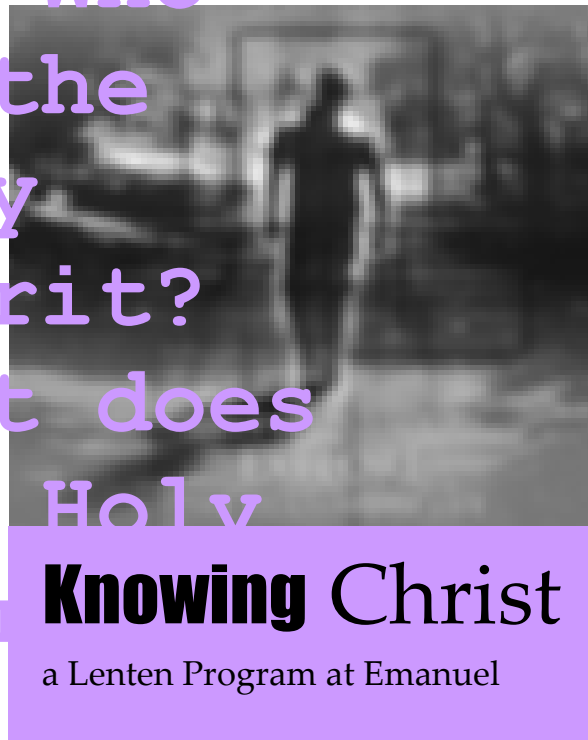
more to life than

this? Does God heal today?

What about the church?

How can I make the most of

the rest of my life?



Wednesdays in Lent at 6:45 p.m.
February 29, March 7, 14, 21 and 28
in Luther Hall at Emanuel



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Sunday Morning Service Schedule

8:00 a.m. - Contemplative Liturgical Service in the Chapel

9:45 a.m. - Traditional Liturgical Service with Choirs

11:15 a.m. - Casual Contemporary Service

Sunday School will be in session 10:15 - 11:00 a.m. Children attending the 9:45 a.m. service will be dismissed after the Children's Sermon at 10:15 a.m.

Families attending the 11:15 a.m. service, who would like their children to attend Sunday School, may bring them directly to the Sunday School classroom at 10:15 a.m.

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Dear Friends in Christ,

“The time is fulfilled; the Kingdom of God has come near . . .”

These words of Jesus from Mark, chapter 1, make it clear:

God is on the move!

God is still at it, of course, working through people like you and us and all who are empowered by the Spirit.

Watch for God’s dynamic activity this month and join in. Partnering with God’s people and the Spirit, we can participate in some amazing work together. Here are some of the opportunities coming in February:



If you have enough to eat, please share.

Help Feed the Hungry

Sunday, February 5

Souper Bowl Sunday

Bring cans of soup and dollar bills of any denomination.

Sunday, February 12

Kids Care Sunday - Meal Packaging Event

On February 5 and 12, worship at 8:00, 9:45 or 11:15 a.m. Then spend 20 minutes to help package meals for Foodshare’s Pantry. We’ll be in Luther Hall, set-up to pack meals quickly and easily - believe it or not - we’ll do 8,000 meals that day! Members of our dynamic Youth Group will be there to help and inspire us all!

All of this on these two Sundays in February to do just what Jesus calls us to do - **Feed the Hungry.**

God is on the Move!

The Season of Lent

- † Ash Wednesday, February 22, 12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m. services
- † The First Sunday in Lent - February 26, worship at 8:00, 9:45 or 11:15 a.m.
- † The Mid-Week Lenten Series begins Wednesday, February 29, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
 - 6:00: Soup Supper in Luther Hall
 - 6:30: Holden Evening Prayer in Luther Hall
 - 6:45: “Knowing Christ” Program in Luther Hall
 - 6:45: Confirmation Class in the Gym
- † Thursday Lenten Worship in the Chapel, 11:30 a.m., March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

Engage, Participate, Worship, Serve
God is on the Move!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Corgan



Emanuel is on Facebook!

Join Facebook, you’ll be able to see:

1. Your friends at Emanuel
2. Beautiful pictures of Emanuel
3. Scripture Texts and Bible Readings
4. Video clips (with sound!) such as Pastor E. J. Sweeney teaching Bible Study
5. Information about services and special events . . .and more!

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Emanuel-Lutheran-Church/118693741517102>



FROM PASTOR SWEENEY

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the gospel passage from a few Sundays ago taken from the first chapter of John's gospel, Philip invites his friend Nathanael to "come and see" this Jesus who he believes is the Messiah.

Nathanael's response is far from flattering: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth." It's a slam, a putdown, a sarcastic jab leveled against this Jesus of Nazareth. Nathanael responds to Philip's invitation with skeptical disparagement. The last thing he is inclined to believe is that this Jesus from backwards Galilee could be the Messiah. But still, Philip invites him to come and see. And to his credit he does. And lo and behold, when he sees Jesus for himself, he comes to believe that Jesus is indeed the Son of God!

Come and see. This is the essence of how we come to faith in Christ. Coming to Him through church, scripture, other believers, life experiences and/or prayer and seeing for ourselves Who He is. Come and see. This is also the essence of evangelism, the invitation Jesus calls us to make on His behalf. It's as simple as that. He wants us to invite those who don't know Him, those who might be skeptical and full of doubt, even those who are outright antagonistic, to come and see for themselves. Every follower of Jesus is given this call - to invite

others to come and see what we have found in Him. These next few months at Emanuel there are several exciting opportunities to come and see for yourself, and to invite others to come and see:

- **The first Sundays of February, March, April, and May at the 11:15 a.m. Casual Contemporary Service are "Check us out" Sundays.** Following the service, lunch will be provided. We encourage you to come to the service and **invite a friend.** This is a great way to introduce new folks to our community of faith.
- **During the Wednesdays of Lent and continuing through the Easter Season** we will have a program called **"Knowing Christ"** which will deepen not only our understanding but also our experience of Christ. During Lent, we will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a simple meal for those who are able to make it. Then at 6:30 p.m. we will gather for worship. **And at 6:45 p.m. the "Knowing Christ" program will begin.** Each of the ten sessions will begin with a short twenty minute video from the Alpha program and then we will facilitate an interactive discussion that will pursue participants' questions and areas of interest.

- **"The Doubting Thomas Society"** continues to meet on the **first Sunday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the church Lounge.** This is a great venue to ask questions, express doubts, and explore your faith more deeply. It's also a great place to invite friends who, when it comes to God and faith, are searching, struggling, skeptical, or simply don't believe.

These are three great opportunities to deepen your faith and invite others to explore theirs. So, Come and See!

Christ's Peace,

Pastor E.J.

Lutheran Social Services thanks Emanuel Lutheran Church for donating \$500 to help serve people need.

“Check us out” Sundays

At the 11:15 a.m. Casual Contemporary Service!

On the first Sundays of February, March, April and May we invite you to bring a friend to or tell someone about our 11:15 a.m. service.



Some reasons to come to this service:

- To hear contemporary Christian music - *Move if you want! Clap if you want!*
- To experience holy communion gathered around the altar
- To engage your mind and know more of the things of God
- To truly experience God's presence
- To feel free to be yourself
- To unwind and relax
- To feel the profound peace of Christ
- To be moved by the spirit

We will provide lunch after the service on these “Check us out” Sundays. This is a great way to reach out to **individuals and families** who may not really know Christ and are looking for an experience of His love. Stay tuned for more details!

Invite others into this community of Christ
-From Our Mission Statement

Bible Readings for the Month

- February 5** **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**
1st Lesson: Isaiah 40:21-31
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c
2nd Lesson: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39
- February 12** **Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**
1st Lesson: 2 Kings 5:1-14
Psalm 30
2nd Lesson: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
Gospel: Mark 1:40-45
- February 19** **Transfiguration of Our Lord**
1st Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-12
Psalm 50:1-6
2nd Lesson: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Gospel: Mark 9:2-9
- February 22** **Ash Wednesday**
1st Lesson: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Psalm: 51:1-17
2nd Lesson: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10
Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
- February 26** **First Sunday in Lent**
1st Lesson: Genesis 9:8-17
Psalm: 25:1-10
2nd Lesson: 1 Peter 3:18-22
Gospel: Mark 1:9-15

Casual Contemporary Service

11:15 on Sunday Mornings at Emanuel.

Please join us and bring a friend!

worship God in joyful celebration!

Confirmation News

by Natalie Bloomquist

We've spent the last four months studying the ministry, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We think we have a pretty good idea who Jesus is and why Jesus matters. Yet, much like the early Christians, we still have questions and aren't really sure about everything. This month we'll look to our earliest ancestors in the faith for help.



We will be accompanied by a stranger on the way to Emmaus as we ponder what happened to Jesus and how it all went so wrong (or did it?). We will remember Jesus' promise that the Holy Spirit would come as we experience a very unusual Pentecost celebration. Learning that the Holy Spirit equips Jesus' followers to share the Good News, we will jump into the Ethiopian's chariot as we join Philip in helping this "outsider" know Jesus. We will finish the month getting to know a man named Saul who, though the most feared persecutor of Jesus' followers, becomes the apostle named Paul who survives all manner of hardship as he passionately teaches that Jesus' love is not only truly unique but is for everyone.

Lent 2012

We will continue to hold class as usual during the season of Lent this year. Our class and Lenten experience will be enhanced by participating in Soup and Bread and Holden Evening Prayer as part of the **Congregational Lenten Experience**. The details are as follows:

- 6:00 to 6:30 Soup and Bread in Luther Hall
- 6:30 to 6:45 Holden Evening Prayer in Luther Hall
- 6:45 to 8:00 Confirmation Class in the Gym
Siblings are welcome to join us for Confirmation.
Parents are welcome to participate in the
"Knowing Christ" sessions.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

The details of our March 16-18 spring retreat were not finalized at the time of this month's submission deadline. Confirmation families will be informed by email as soon as all the details are in place.

Sunday School News

by Justine Wolgemuth, Superintendent

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 1 John 4: 7-8

- February 5 - Women at the Well - John 4: 5-42
- February 12 - A Storm - Matthew 8 23-27
- February 19 - Jesus Blesses the Children - Mark 10:13-16
- February 26 - Jesus Heals Two Blind Men - Matthew 20:29-34

The Sunday School's Lenten Project focus this year will be to financially support the efforts of "Kids Care", a ministry of Outreach, Inc. that provides food for the hungry and food-insecure. Pastor Matthew Martin from Outreach Inc. will be here on February 12 to preach at each of the services, including the children's sermon. After each service he will help us package meals for children that will be given to Foodshare and MANNA. We hope to package at least 6,000 meals that day. We hope all the Sunday School families will be able to stay for 20 minutes that day and help package meals. Outreach Inc. is able to provide these meals at a cost of only 25 cents. They are nutritious and appealing to children. The senior high youth packaged meals at the New England Youth Gathering at Hammonasset in September. They, along with the confirmation students, will be supporting this ministry through monetary donations as well as helping Pastor Martin lead the packaging process on February 12. During each of the children's sermons during Lent we will refer to the meals we packaged and explain that the special offering during Lent will go towards paying for the meals. Look for more information in the bulletin on Sundays.



Dear "Everyone at Emanuel,"

We would like to thank you for the beautiful bouquet of flowers sent to us on our 55th Wedding Anniversary. Through the years, Emanuel has provided us with Christian Education, spiritual support, fellowship and the leadership of dedicated clergy.

*Thank you for your caring and support,
Nancy and Dick Smith*

Come Get Your Wings!

And support the Youth Group's efforts to attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering in July 2012!

Are you looking for some delicious appetizers for your Super Bowl Party or just to enjoy on your own? If yes, order some delicious Buffalo "Dirt" Chicken Wings from the Youth Group. The wings come in a "Cold Wing Kit" and include:

- A 5 lb. bucket of fully cooked wings (approximately 40 wings);
- Sauce on the side;
- Celery and blue cheese dressing; and
- Heating instructions.

The cost per order is \$25 paid at the time of your order. You can pick up your orders at Emanuel on Saturday, 2/4/2012 (time is TBD), or on Sunday, 2/5/2012, after Church Service.

NOTE: The wings are genuine J. Timothy's wings and you are receiving a \$4 discount by purchasing the wings from the Youth Group instead of purchasing the wings directly from J. Timothy's! J. Timothy's Taverne in Plainville is "famous" for their wings and you'll know why after you enjoy your order of wings! Thank you to Greg Gardner (Kara Gardner's Dad) from J. Timothy's Taverne for all his help with this fundraiser.

To place your order, send in the below order form or look for Youth Group Members down in Luther Hall starting on Sunday, 1/8/2012. **The last day to place an order is 2/1/2012.** Remember payment is due at the time of the order. All profits will support the Youth Group's efforts to attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering in July 2012.



Questions: Contact Diane Durant at 860-953-4918 or via email at DDurant5@cox.net



Youth Group Buffalo Wings Order Form

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Number of Orders: _____ X \$25 per order (Payment must be included with order)

Total Amount Due: _____

Preferred Pick-up Date (check one):
_____ Saturday 2/4/2012 or _____ Sunday 2/5/2012

Make your check out to Emanuel Lutheran Church and mail to:

Diane Durant
Youth Group Wings Order
186 Brookside Road
Newington, CT 06111

ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 2/1/2012



by Nancy Gray

February finds us displaying our Valentine books and videos. The video, *First Valentine*, tells the story of Tess, who meets the 3rd century martyr Valentine and his Christian friends. They show her what it means to love others as Jesus loves us and how to receive love from others in return.

Our collection of Valentine books includes *It's Valentine's Day* and *Heart to Heart*. *It's Valentine's Day* is a delightful book of poems by the popular poet Jack Prelutsky. *Heart to Heart* is about best friends squirrel and mole. Squirrel makes mole a one-of-a-kind Valentine that shows what the real gifts of friendship are all about. These, along with our other Valentine books, can be found on our library table and are awaiting checkout by our Sunday Church School families.



If you have questions about cancellations of church services, classes, events, etc., due to the weather, announcements will be made on:

CBS RADIO - WTIC-AM
NBC CHANNEL 30 TV
CBS CHANNEL 3 TV and
ABC CHANNEL 8 TV

In any emergency, you may call Pastor Corgan at 860-712-1895

The **Conference of Churches** thanks Emanuel Lutheran Church for donating \$1,000.00 to their mission to "create healthy communities for all."

**March Madness returns!
Sunday, March 25 at 12:15 p.m.**

A fundraising event to support the Youth Group



Please mark your calendar to attend the Youth Group's March Madness Event on March 25 which involves fun basketball activities such as:

- Pastor free throw shooting - how many free throws do you think Pastor Corgan can make in a row? Can he beat his record of 76 free throws from last year? We hope he is practicing!
- 3 on 3 basketball teams.
- Open basketball games for the whole family to enjoy.

This year's event will include youth and families from Our Savior's Lutheran Church (Newington) and St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (Wethersfield). Look for more information on March Madness in early March. The Youth Group looks forward to having a great turnout at this event. We hope to see you there!

ELCA National Youth Gathering In New Orleans, July 18 -22, 2012

Registration for the ELCA National Youth Gathering opened on Sunday, October 9, 2011. Over 22,000 people registered on just the first day! Emanuel has ten youth and two adult chaperones who will travel to New Orleans, LA, in July 2012 to take part in this wonderful experience. Those attending are Emma Barresi, Kyle Bellis, Zachary Bellis, Katherine Durant, Maria Flanders, Matheus Kloss Foerste, Kara Gardner, Toby Hollertz, Lily Hollertz, Max Nowak, Molly Swanson, Diane Durant (Chaperone) and Mark Hollertz (Chaperone).

**PLEASE NOTE: THE DEADLINE FOR THE
SUNDAY NEWS IS ON TUESDAY, BY 5:00 P.M.**

**LARGE PRINT WORSHIP BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE EACH
SUNDAY MORNING. PLEASE LET AN USHER KNOW IF YOU
WOULD LIKE ONE.**

THERE'S A VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET IN LUTHER HALL FOR THE "FRIDAY PROGRAM!"

Volunteers are needed weekly in order to successfully run Emanuel's Friday Program. You may sign up on the blue sheet, call Judy Johnson or the Church Office OR, for your convenience, you can add your name to the sign-up sheet in Luther Hall.

SCHEDULE OUR CHURCH SEXTON THROUGH HARLAN AND ELLEN IN THE CHURCH OFFICES!

If you need assistance (such as getting into the church after hours, bringing in items from your car, etc.) from our church sexton Rachid, please schedule him with Ellen or Harlan at 860-525-0894, extension 5.

WE ARE COLLECTING WINTER COATS TO HELP HANDS ON HARTFORD'S MANNA PROGRAM

In addition to coats, we are collecting winter sweaters and winter accessories, such as gloves, hats and socks. Please provide only clean, used or new items. You may place your items in the box in Luther Hall marked "WINTER COATS, WINTER SWEATERS AND WINTER ACCESSORIES for Hands on Hartford's MANNA Program."

HERE'S ONE WAY TO BE A GOOD ROLE MODEL FOR YOUR CHILD (REN) IF YOU ONLY HAVE ONE HOUR TO SPARE: serve your church any Friday morning at Emanuel!

Bring your child(ren), we'll set you up to fold and collate bulletins for **one hour** in the Adult Classroom of Emanuel. You'll be able to show your child(ren) how you're helping the church *because God helps other people through our church!*

Contact Karen: 860-525-0894
office@emanuelhartford.org

DID YOU KNOW . . .

Emanuel has 175+ members over the age of 71. The over-60 crowd brings that total to 250+. And our 40-60 middle age group currently totals about 200. And think about this - 65 has now become the new 75 when it comes to the average age for hip replacements, and many people are choosing to have joint replacements in their 50's. So, it's really not a stretch to understand why it is appropriate and practical to make our facilities easier to get into and move around in - for everyone! We really need to move ahead on the accessibility project; it's a *must-do* to meet our needs and keep our congregation strong and vibrant in the future!

SCOUT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

We would like to invite all Scouters: Boy Scouts and Adult Scout Leaders to wear their uniforms to church on Scout Sunday. Scout Sunday is observed in the United States, in recognition of Baden Powell's birthday, the founder of Scouting. A Lieutenant General in the British Army, he fought in the Boer War in Africa. One of the things that he recognized is that many of the young men that were assigned to him were not prepared for life in the world let alone a battlefield. When he returned to Britain after the wars, he set about establishing an organization that would influence and reinforce moral principles and skills that would help them establish a life when they became young men and women. Today, Scouting still provides an environment where a boy can experiment with leadership, morals and receive guidance furthering those basic principles. We invite all Scouts and Adult Scout Leaders to wear their uniforms in recognition of Scouting and what it provides for our young men and women in the community, nation and world.



Birthdays and Anniversaries are noted each month for persons who are:

- 80 years of age and every year thereafter.
- Married for 50 years and every year thereafter.

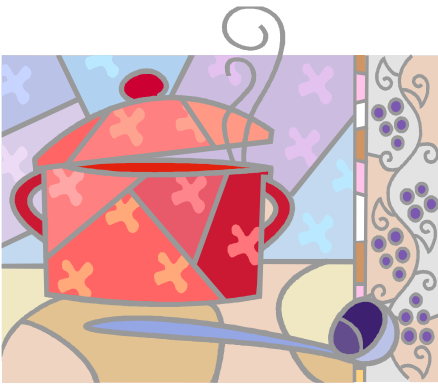
Special Emanuel Birthdays During February!

Kenneth Johnson - February 2
Alice Milner - February 14
Harold R. Carlson - February 15
Elsie Arcand - February 19
Betty-Lois Benson - February 19
Lillian Rekas - February 20
Virginia Nilson - February 22
Harlan Pergande - February 22

Special Emanuel Anniversaries During February!

Karin and Kenneth Stetson -
February 19, 57th
Ans and Robert Swanson -
February 22, 50th

LOVE WINS! At least that's what Rob Bell claims in his new book by that title. And if love wins, then there is no such thing as Hell - a loving God wouldn't send anyone to Hell. ***Does Rob Bell claim that Hell doesn't exist? As Christians, what do we believe about Hell? What does Scripture say? What does Jesus say?*** If you're interested in exploring these very provocative and controversial questions and many others during a book study in the spring, please let Pastor E. J. Sweeney know.



WE ARE LOOKING FOR COMMITTEES OR INDIVIDUALS TO PROVIDE SOUP FOR OUR LENTEN PROGRAM

For each of the five Wednesdays in Lent, we will need volunteers to provide and serve one regular soup and one gluten-free soup. The soup dinners will start at 6:00 p.m. on these dates: **February 29, March 7, 14, 21 and 28.** Each pot of soup needs to be enough to feed 25 - 30 people.

Please note: we are looking for someone to coordinator volunteers providing gluten-free soup.

Please contact Brook Nowak at 860-647-8569 or sign up on the blue "Welcome to Emanuel" insert in the Sunday Bulletin and your information will be forwarded to Brook. Thank you.



IN AN EMERGENCY. . .

Don't hesitate to call Pastor Corgan on his cell phone 860-712-1895 if you need assistance. If another outage or storm condition threatens your safety, please call Pastor Corgan. We have a church family, ready and eager to help. You're not alone.

ANY GUITARISTS OUT THERE?

We could use you at our 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Service. A great way to show off your skills! If interested call Karen at 860-525-0894.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN USHER FOR OUR 9:45 A.M. SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE, LET US KNOW!

Please contact Arnie Benson at Mrfixit93@aol.com or (860) 645-0588 or Pastor Corgan at john.corgan@emanuelhartford.org.

HELP NEEDED

The Worship Committee needs some volunteers to clean and put away the communion plate and chalice after the 11:15 service. We estimate that this service would take 15 minutes. It would be great if you would consider offering your time for one Sunday beginning in February. Sign up on the Blue Sheet in the bulletin or call Lynn Sherman at 860-550-0518. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this need.

THE DOUBTING THOMAS SOCIETY

The Catholic Monk Thomas Merton, arguably the greatest Catholic spiritual writer of the twentieth century, said "You cannot be a person of faith unless you first learn how to doubt." Sincere doubt, the kind of doubt that sincerely seeks answers about and/or from God, is not antithetical to faith. This kind of doubt is actually the substance of faith. The Doubting Thomas Society meets on **the first Sunday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in Emanuel's Lounge.** We discuss any and all questions of faith. There will be selected topics for discussion, *but you can bring any questions you have and we will discuss them!* For more information, please contact Pastor E.J. at j.sweeney@emanuelhartford.org or 860-525-0894.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND MANY, MANY MORE!

Pay special attention each month in "God With Us" to the folks listed under "Special Birthdays." In this issue on page 9, birthday wishes go out to 8 people who are celebrating 80+ years in February. ***How blessed our Emanuel family is to have numerous octogenarians and older - more than 95 individuals!*** Our older members are faithful and robust in their commitment to worshipping and participating at Emanuel - and with that in mind, implementing changes that will make our facilities safer, more usable and more comfortable just makes sense! As we all grow older, we don't want physical barriers to keep us from the community and activities we enjoy. Just as we make our own homes safer as we or our parents age, we should be considering similar changes throughout our church home. And even apart from age-related changes, our church family also has current members and possible new members who have birth-related or acquired special needs; we want to incorporate and welcome their presence and talents into our faith community. Let's get connected - let's approve the accessibility project!

IMPROVED HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES WILL MAKE WORSHIP SERVICE EVEN MORE MEANINGFUL!

"Hearing Assistance" devices are available at Emanuel. If you are interested in trying one of these units, please ask an usher on Sunday morning. These units can be borrowed or are available for purchase. Contact the church office (860-525-0894) for more information.

February



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 pm: Confirmation Class	2 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: Bible Study Choir Rehearsals Bell: 6:30-7:35 pm Emanuel: 7:45-9 pm	3 Friday Night Program 3:30 – 5:30 pm: Gr. K-8 5:30 – 9:00 pm: High School and Post High School	4
5 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 8, 9:45 and 11:15 am: Services of Holy Communion 10:15 am: Sunday School “Souper Bowl Sunday,” see pages 3 and 15 “Check us out” Sunday, see p. 5 7 pm: “Doubting Thomas Society” in the church Lounge	6	7 9:30 am: Staff Meeting	8 6:30 pm: Confirmation Class	9 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: Bible Study Choir Rehearsals Bell: 6:30-7:35 pm Emanuel: 7:45-9 pm	10 Friday Night Program 3:30 – 5:30 pm: Gr. K-8 5:30 – 9:00 pm: High School and Post High School	11
12 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany 8, 9:45 and 11:15 am: Services of Holy Communion 10:15 am: Sunday School “Kids Care Sunday - Meal Packaging Event” (following each service) see pages 3 and 15	13	14 9:30 am: Staff Meeting Happy Valentine's Day! ♥	15 Deadline for “God With Us” 6:30 pm: Confirmation Class	16 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: Bible Study Choir Rehearsals Bell: 6:30-7:35 pm Emanuel: 7:45-9 pm	17 Friday Night Program 3:30 – 5:30 pm: Gr. K-8 5:30 – 9:00 pm: High School and Post High School	18
19 Transfiguration of Our Lord 8, 9:45 and 11:15 am: Services of Holy Communion 10:15 am: Sunday School	20 Church Office Closed in Observance of Presidents’ Day	21 9:30 am: Staff Meeting	22 Ash Wednesday 12:00 noon and 7:30 pm - Services of Holy Communion 6:30 pm: Confirmation Class	23 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: Bible Study Choir Rehearsals Bell: 6:30-7:35 pm Emanuel: 7:45-9 pm	24 Friday Night Program 3:30 – 5:30 pm: Gr. K-8 5:30 – 9:00 pm: High School and Post High School	25
26 First Sunday in Lent 8, 9:45 and 11:15 am: Services of Holy Communion 10:15 am: Sunday School	27	28 9:30 am: Staff Meeting 7 pm: Church Council in Luther Hall	29 Mid-Week Lenten Series, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. 6:00: Soup Supper in Luther Hall 6:30: Holden Evening Prayer in Luther Hall 6:45: “Knowing Christ” Program in Luther Hall 6:45: Confirmation Class in the Gym			

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering to be a Coffee Hour Host, Greeter or Lector, please contact the coordinators below.

Coffee Hour Hosts: Eleanor Doyle, 860-561-1582

Greeters: Eileen Mitchell, 860-688-4867 or gemitch@comcast.net

Lectors: Zachary Bellis, 860-644-6139 or zach.bellis1@yahoo.com

Thank you Eleanor, Eileen and Zachary for your service to these important ministries.



Altar Flower Distribution

Each Sunday morning volunteers are needed to distribute the altar flowers after the 11:15 a.m. worship service. Please consider delivering a bouquet to someone who is unable to attend worship. See Claudia Bellis or Brook Nowak in the Luther Hall kitchen following worship. They will have a bouquet ready for you to deliver. It puts sunshine and a smile into the hearts of the recipients — and it will truly do the same for you!

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Please remember, there are always prayer shawls available for anyone in need of this symbol of love and caring. Speak to Helen Johnson (860-649-6661) or Karen in the church office.



Do you have a recipe you'd like to share for the 2014 Anniversary Cookbook?

If you have a recipe you'd like to share, please write it on a 3" x 5" card and give it to Brook Nowak on Sunday in Luther Hall or email it to her at maximama@att.net. Please contact Brook at 860-647-8569 if you have any questions.

"Christ in our Home"

Be sure to look on the radiator shelves in the back of the Nave and near the Guest Book outside the Chapel on Sundays. There you will find the January, February, March complimentary issue of *Christ in our Home*, a wonderful devotional that offers daily opportunities for reflection and prayer.

Each day provides a short Bible text with a brief, thoughtful message and simple prayer. It is especially helpful to read the texts and reflections written for Friday, Saturday and Sunday of each week as they prepare the reader for the lessons and Gospel texts that will be read in worship that Sunday morning.

The Blue Sheets

Thank you to all who make good use of the blue "Welcome to Emanuel" insert sheet on Sundays. The office has received great responses to volunteer opportunities as well as important information that's passed on to the pastors and other staff members.

Please do make frequent use of these blue sheets. They really do serve as an excellent means of communication for us as a congregation. One request: if you have a comment or suggestion, please be sure to include your name, so that we can respond in a helpful way. Thanks!

Happy Valentine's Day!



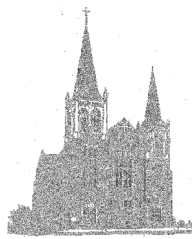
mark your calendars

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ST. LUCIA PAGEANT – DECEMBER 2013

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 2014

Ideas and planning are beginning for the above mentioned anniversaries. If you are interested in being a part of the planning, or if you have any suggestions or ideas, please contact Judy Johnson (860-953-3064 or rjmets@sbcglobal.net).

EAST and WEST for "61," a time for elevation!



As we begin the events of the sixties for our Emanuel Lutheran Church in Hartford we can now forget about searching the map for a place named Augustana believing it's either somewhere in the state of Minnesota or somewhere in Sweden. Now we are all of one greater church in America, the LCA! Home cottage meetings were held for details and preparations that involved twenty-five member homes of Emanuel. The ladies of Emanuel gathered for a district meeting in Middletown as they took on a new identity – LCW/Lutheran Church Women – with a generous donation by Emanuel of \$1,844 to assist new purposes of the synod.

by John Starkes

Of major interest was the purchase by the New England Synod of Camp Calumet in New Hampshire. Located near North Conway on Lake Ossipee it would become one of the first summer campgrounds for boys and girls – co-ed – in the nation. Probably to assist in that new effort Emanuel sold our own camping grounds – Birchwood – in the hills above Farmington. Other than some use by Emanuel's Boy Scout troop and Emanuel's men it was a source of problems more than enjoyment, and was hard to maintain against intruders.

Before the task of new grass to cut, Pastor Sandberg and his wife Gladys took a nice trip to Sweden to explore the home areas of forefathers in the past for the first time. As I would learn a bit later it was discovered that Gladys and my mother, Verna, were distantly related as second cousins through family ties in Sweden and the mid-west. I received a color photograph of the Swedish cottage home in the farmlands of Smaland that would be the subject for a small painting to treasure along with a carved wooden box for letters that was artistically cut by the same great grandfather for my Swedish grandmother when she was a young girl in that cottage long ago.

When Pastor and Gladys returned home, and to their new house shortly thereafter, once settled they prepared for its dedication and an open house tour for the congregation. The new parsonage was located at 108 Brookside Drive in West Hartford,

a beautiful pride for them and the congregation some of whom were the actual builders of the home, a colonial that would be a favorite place for church meetings and gatherings. Soon afterward the churchmen of Emanuel sponsored a meeting of Emanuel with the State Highway Department for our members, "Expressways in the Hartford Area," how Emanuel's members would be impacted for the better with the "East-West Highway," between West Hartford and the city, that would in time become I-84.

As we end this interesting writing the East and West of our national church met for the first time in the Pacific Northwest at Seattle, Washington for the 102nd synod meeting concluding with the wonderful service of ordination where two more "Sons of Emanuel" entered into the ministry. Joseph L. Carucci and Philip H. Kylander were ordained on what was also Pastor Sandberg's 30th anniversary of that very moving event – "Praise be to God!"

Source – God with Us, by Norma Westlund Sandberg

We would like to thank everyone for the vase with the nice flowers for our 57th Anniversary.



Roy and Inge Levin

Altar Flowers—\$45.00

There are plenty of Sundays in 2012 available for flower donations. Please use the form below and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

Today's Date: _____

Date for Flowers: _____

In Honor/Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

Phone Number: _____

Questions? Call the Church Office 525-0894

Serving this Month for February

Acolyte and Crucifer

February 5	Kyle O'Brien and Tolan Halstead
February 12	Tucker Wieber and Emma Barresi
February 19	Samantha Johnson and Lindsey Anderson
February 26	Sharonda Williams and Rhiannon Kiersznowski

Altar Flowers

February 5	In memory of Sylvia Constantine, given by her loving family In loving memory of Elizabeth B. Gaydos, given by the Gaydos Family
February 12	In memory of our mother, Helen Carlson Sandalo, given by Shirley August and Peg Zachariasen
February 19	In memory of Helen J. and Arvid S. Carlson and my sister Norma C. Mellor, given by Betty Lois
February 26	In loving memory of Marion Peterson, given by Al and Joan Johnson

Childcare in the Nursery

February 5	Volunteer Needed
February 12	Volunteer Needed
February 19	Volunteer Needed
February 26	Volunteer Needed

Children's Library

February 5	Nancy Gray
February 12	TBD
February 19	TBD
February 26	Deborah Corgan

Coffee Hour Schedule

February 5	Souper Bowl Sunday - Youth Committee
February 12	Holly Aronson, Lynn Sherman, Terri Dwyer
February 19	Amy/Marcus Mignone and family, Chris and Claudia Bellis and family, Mike Coons and Celine Bailey
February 26	Grant and Jan Kiehne and family, Becky and Tom Thomas, Jim Ferguson

Communion Preparers

February 5	Ellen Anderson and Bobbee Canfield
February 12	Val and Craig McDonald
February 19	Linda Cutler and Shirley Leich
February 26	Pauline Cochrane and Joan Feldmann

Communion Servers

February 5	Mary Welker, Brook and Mike Nowak
February 12	Volunteers Needed
February 19	Volunteers Needed
February 26	Volunteers Needed

Greeters

February 5	Ken Weeks
February 12	Joan and Al Johnson
February 19	Pam and Randy Olson
February 26	Carol and Brad Dennler

Lectors - 8:00 a.m.

February 5	Kathy Haller
February 12	Nancy Gray
February 19	Randy Olson
February 26	Sue Johnson

Lectors - 9:45 a.m.

February 5	Brook and Mike Nowak
February 12	Mike and Cooper Johnson
February 19	Janice Favreau and Alan Meeds
February 26	Grant and Noah Kiehne

Member Visits for week of:

February 6	Marjorie Johnson
February 13	Ellie and Wes Ertelt
February 20	Lily Hollertz and Keren Paquette
February 27	Susan Johnson and Lois House

Sound and Recording

February 5	Brian Topolski
February 12	Ben Altschuler
February 19	Zach Bellis
February 26	Eric Carlson

Sunday School Aide Schedule

February 5	Deirdre Volk, Kathryn Wieber, Zach Wieber, Carson Bloomquist
February 12	Greta Gabriel, Lily Hollertz, Katherine Durant, Rebekah Strand
February 19	Kathleen Graulich, Kelsey Anderson, Kara Gardner, Max Nowak
February 26	Rebecca Johnson, Toby Hollertz, Tessa Wunder, Zach Bellis

Ushers

8:00 am	Ron Lindlauf
9:45 am	Head Usher: Arnie Benson; Captain: Michael Coons James Ashwell, Celine Bailey, Russ Bjorklund, Gary Bloomquist

A family in our church is in need of a gas stove

Please call Karen if you can help.

The Samaritan Fund

Just to remind you, the loose offering received on the first Sunday of the month goes to the Samaritan Fund. The Samaritan Fund, administered by Pastor Corgan, is used to assist people in need.

Two Sundays of Helping to Feed The Hungry

Souper Bowl Sunday, February 5



Would you like to help us feed the hungry? Then come to worship and bring two things:

1. Cans of soup
2. Dollar bills (\$1, \$5, \$10. . .)

Some Facts:

14,315,257 people live in New England.

1,736,854 are food-insecure.

If each of the 12,578,403 who aren't gave **\$12.60** and **packaged meals for 20 minutes**, those who don't have enough food could all eat a Kids Care meal every day all year.

\$12.60 from your pocket and 20 minutes of your time feeds everyone in New England.

Kids Care Sunday Meal Packaging Event, February 12

Do you know that every man, woman, and child in America spends an average of \$704 on Christmas? What if we invested a little of that in feeding hungry kids instead?

On Sunday, February 12, make a difference:

- Worship at Emanuel,
- then spend 20 minutes after worship and help package meals (don't worry: it's fun and easy, just ask some of our youth who did this at Hammonasset in September) and,
- if you can, make a donation of \$12.60 or any amount . . .

All of this to feed the hungry . . . to do just what Jesus calls us to do! Thanks be to God!

**The cans of soup we collect and the meals we package will go to local food shelves.
If you have enough to eat, please share.**

ELCA Disaster Response

Central America Flooding - Southeast Asia Flooding - Horn of Africa Drought - U.S. Floods

Please see their website at www.elca.org/disaster for more information.

Give Online at www.elca.org/disaster

Give by Mail

ELCA Disaster Response
39330 Treasury Center
Chicago, IL 60694-9300

Give by Phone

800-638-3522, Questions? Call 800-638-3522

Lutheran Social Services

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) is one of the largest social service organizations in New England.

Online donation: www.lssne.org

Donation by mail: Lutheran Social Services of New England

888 Worcester Street

Suite 160

Wellesley, MA 02482

Donation by phone: 1-877-500-8263

God With Us

Emanuel Lutheran Church
311 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Address Service Requested

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Postage Paid at Hartford, CT



Growing in Faith Together.

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Opposite the State Capitol Grounds

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Pastor John Corgan: Cell Phone: 860-712-1895

Pastor E. J. Sweeney: Cell Phone: 860-970-5494

Church Office: 860-525-0894

Fax: 860-246-3720

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 a.m. in the Chapel

9:45 a.m. in the Church

11:15 a.m. in the Church

Sunday School

Pre-K through Grade 5

10:15 a.m.