



**D**uring the Lenten season we are having **Soup and Conversation** sessions facilitated by Dick Allison. Discussion will focus on the book of John, specifically Chapters 13-17, which contains Jesus' talk with his disciples and prayer at the Last Supper. It is "an interpretation of Jesus' completed work on earth and relation to both believers and and the world after his resurrection and ascension."

**The sessions will take place at 6:00 p.m.**, prior to the Lenten Service. Soup and bread will be provided.

There is a sign-up sheet in Luther Hall for those interested in taking part in this Bible Study.

## MID - WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays: March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5

6:00 p.m. - Soup, Bread, and Bible Study in Luther Hall

7:00 p.m. - Holden Evening Prayer Service with Communion

## ASH WEDNESDAY



Service of Holy Communion  
with Imposition of Ashes

March 1, 2017

Service at 7:00 p.m.

*Please note: due to the lack of parking available on weekdays, we are unable to offer a mid-day Ash Wednesday Service. We are truly sorry.*

## LENTEN SUNDAYS IN MARCH

March 5 – *Good Samaritan*

Services of Holy Communion at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

March 12 – *Tower of Siloam*

Services of Holy Communion at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

March 19 – *Sheep, Coin, and Prodigal Son*

**One Service** of Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m.

**Special Congregational Meeting and Lunch at 11:30 a.m.**

Presentation of the results of the meetings regarding Hopes & Dreams, Concerns & Fears  
*(please see page 4 for more information on this meeting)*

March 26 – *The Rich Man and Lazarus*

Services of Holy Communion at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

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**The Mission of Emanuel Lutheran Church -**

**In response to Christ's love we:**  
**Worship God** in joyful celebration,  
**Invite others** into this community of Christ,  
**Serve those in need** in the community and in the world,  
**Nurture all people** in faith through Christian education,  
**Encourage and support one another** in Christian living and fellowship.



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

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**If you are calling after hours or on a weekend and have a pastoral emergency, please call: 860-300-0019, and a Pastor will return your call as soon as possible.**

From the Pastor. . .

## Spiritual Breakfast

Have you ever awoken early in the morning to the smell of coffee brewing, or bacon and eggs cooking in a skillet? Your mouth waters as you walk to the kitchen. There, someone who loves you, has made breakfast for you - eggs just the way you like them, bacon, toast, coffee, and some nice cold OJ. As you take your first bite, you think to yourself "now this is a great way to begin a new day".

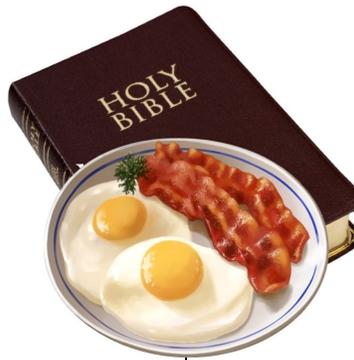
Since I'm a night person, I'm prone to sleeping in – hitting the snooze alarm one too many times, so that I don't allow for the time needed to eat a healthy breakfast. And yes ... this is despite the fact that, since I was a child, I've been told by my mom and almost every doctor I've ever seen that breakfast is the most important meal of the day.

Studies have shown that children who eat breakfast do better in school. It doesn't take much to make the connection that adults will also perform better if they eat a good breakfast. Skipping breakfast causes us to become tired as our brains & bodies run low on fuel. Eating a healthy breakfast sets the tone for the rest of the day.

The spiritual part of every Christian also requires "fuel" to set us on the right path for our day. Without a *Spiritual Breakfast* – we may not have the strength of faith to deal with those things (or people) that challenge us. Without a steady practice of taking time for our *Spiritual Breakfast*, it doesn't take too long for our spirit to feel depleted, empty. And when our spirit becomes weak, we tend to make unhealthy, even unfaithful, decisions - at work, at play, at home, even in church! As much as our physical body desires food to keep us going, our spirit desires the food that feeds our souls.

Just like we can train ourselves to get up and eat a healthy breakfast, we can train ourselves to make time to feed our souls. It is this *Spiritual Breakfast* that makes us ready to meet the challenges of our day and to share God's love with those we meet. Martin Luther taught that **Morning Devotion** was the first thing we should do upon waking up, even before fueling our physical bodies with breakfast. He lays out the morning devotion like this.

*As soon as you get out of bed in the morning bless yourself with the sign of the Holy Cross and say:  
May the will of God - the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be done! Amen.*



Then, kneeling or standing, say the creed and pray the Lord's Prayer. If you wish, you may then pray this little prayer as well:

*My Heavenly Father, I thank You, through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, that You kept me safe from all evil and danger last night. Save me, I pray, today as well, from every evil and sin, so that all I do and the way that I live will please you. I put myself in your care, body and soul and all that I have. Let Your holy angels guide me, so the evil one will not gain power over me. Amen.*

*After that, with joy, go about your work and perhaps sing a song inspired by the Ten Commandments or your own thoughts. (Luther's Small Catechism).*

Those are Luther's guidelines, or here's another version to try. Begin with Luther's prayer, then take a few minutes to do one of the following options:

1. Simply get out your Bible and read a short passage. Be still and let God speak to you. Think about what the Scripture is saying to you. Then say a short prayer asking God to help you apply what you have learned from your reading in your life that day.
2. Use one of the devotional resources like "Our Daily Bread". Read the selection for that day and let God speak to you through the reading. End with your own prayer asking for God to help you live faithfully.
3. If you like to use the computer, there is a wonderful online site called "Sacred Space" at <http://www.sacredspace.ie/> that will lead you through your devotion. Again, take the time to ask God to help you remember and apply what you have learned.

Our **Lenten journey** begins this month with our Ash Wednesday Service on March 1. If you don't already have a *Spiritual Breakfast* practice – Lent is a very appropriate time to begin. Will you consider trying to make this your Lenten discipline? Perhaps you will find that this *Spiritual Breakfast* time gives you so much joy and strength of faith that you don't want to stop. I hope so!

Who knows ... maybe I'll even try to make time for a healthy breakfast for my body as part of my Lenten discipline ... as we all try to make time for the *Spiritual Breakfast* that feeds our soul!

*With prayers for the journey!  
Pastor Maria*

## Mark your calendars!

### Special Congregational Meeting Sunday, March 19 at 11:30 a.m.

Presentation of the results of the meetings regarding Hopes & Dreams, Concerns & Fears  
Also – Worship & Music Survey feedback

So now what? What does this mean for Emanuel's future?

&

We kick off the Congregational Assessment Tool!

Lunch will be served!

Please join us for this very important meeting!



**First Communion classes begin soon! Our children receive First Communion on Maundy Thursday (April 13) of Holy Week.**

*If you are wondering what the guidelines are for children to receive their First Communion – this note is for you!*

First Communion at Emanuel is generally offered to children 8 years old, or older. **However**, if your younger child is asking to receive communion and you would like to discuss this possibility, please talk with Pastor Maria.

You can reach Pastor Maria at the Church Office, either by phone on 860-525-0894 x11, or by email at [pastormhammons@gmail.com](mailto:pastormhammons@gmail.com).

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14*

### To our "able-bodied" Emanuel friends. . .

Please be kind to our elder parishioners and to those who have trouble walking a distance, and remember to park in the state parking lot on Sundays. We've had some folks who cannot walk that distance who have been unable to find a space in our very limited parking lot on Sunday mornings, and so therefore could not attend worship. Thank you so much for your consideration! Blessings!



### Transition Process Worship & Music Survey

The Worship & Music Survey that you read about in the February issue of *God with Us* is now available. The survey was handed out for the first time at both Services on Sunday, February 19, accompanied by a heartfelt Temple Talk by W&M Survey Team member Alan Meeds. The survey will be available again at Services on Sunday, February 26 & Sunday, March 5. The survey will also be emailed to the congregation newsletter list.

Paper copy responses can be placed in the specially marked box in Luther Hall, or can be given to the Pastor or any member of the Survey Team – Doug Larson, Alan Meeds, Rae Ann Gremmel, and Glenna Brodnicki. Email responses can be sent to Pastor Maria at [pastormhammons@gmail.com](mailto:pastormhammons@gmail.com).

### Responses are due no later than Monday, March 6.

If you have any questions, or need any help with the survey, please contact any member of the Survey Team.

We hope you will participate in this important survey – sharing your thoughts and ideas as to what makes worship meaningful to you. This information will then be compiled, presented at the special congregation meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>, and – finally – it will be included in the congregational profile which will be shared with candidates for Emanuel's new pastor.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this very important survey.

*Emanuel's Worship & Music Survey Team*



### PLEASE NOTE!

Effective immediately,  
please send any input or announcements  
for the Sunday News and the *God with Us* newsletter  
to Pastor Maria at [pastormhammons@gmail.com](mailto:pastormhammons@gmail.com).

**Thank you!**



## Transition Together

Dear Friends in Christ. . .

Our transition journey continues! Small group meetings have begun, and more are scheduled. Please see the article with all the details in this newsletter.

As you know, the goal of these small group transition meetings is to provide informal opportunities for Emanuel's parishioners to share hopes and dreams, as well as your fears and concerns, about the future of Emanuel. Small groups allow us to have more in depth conversation. It also provides a space for those who hesitate to share in a larger group setting.

This is an important conversation to have during our transition journey. The reality is that the more of you who actively participate, the better idea we will have of who Emanuel is called to be as a faith community - today and for the future.

What gifts has God given the Emanuel faith community? What makes you unique... and what mission could grow out of that uniqueness? How would you like to be known in the Hartford community? If you told someone that you belong to Emanuel Lutheran in Hartford, how would you want them to *fill in this blank* ... "Oh, that's the Church that does ..."? What "dream" would excite you as a congregation?

If we are able to articulate Emanuel's "dream" – it will help define your identity as a congregation, and what your faithful purpose is in the world. It will also help you call a pastor who shares your vision and mission goals, understands your challenges, and compliments your gifts.

Please join us for these small group conversations. Make sure you have a voice in the process.

*With prayers for the journey!*  
*Pastor Hammons*

**I know not the way God leads me,  
but well do I know my Guide.  
~Martin Luther**



## Transition Small Group Meetings Come share your dreams for Emanuel!

We've already held nine small group meetings, and several more will be held in February. The conversations have been enjoyable and insightful. I want to thank all of you who have taken the time to attend one of these meetings – we've had an average of 15 people at each of the meetings, which is great! Our time together has been meaningful and helpful, and we've even had some fun.

If you've not yet attended a meeting, I hope that you will be able to make time to join in on one of these informal conversations – to share your hopes and dreams, as well as any concerns or fears, you might have for the future of your beloved congregation Emanuel!

By the time you receive this newsletter, only a couple of more meetings will be scheduled before the full presentation on Sunday, March 19, at the special congregational meeting. That said, please let me know if you have a particular group that would like to meet together – and we can look at possible dates and times that might work. There's room for a couple of more in early-mid March.

Peace on the journey!  
Pastor Maria

## Future Small Group Transition Meetings *(Note: weather permitting)*

**March 5, Sunday, 11:30 a.m., Luther Hall –  
meeting with all Sunday School parents**

**March 12, Sunday, 11:30 a.m., Luther Hall –  
Small group meeting OPEN TO ALL!  
*(This will be the final small group transition meeting.)***

**Bible Readings**

**For the Month of March**

**March 1 – Ash Wednesday**

Psalm 51:1-4, 9-12

Text: Luke 9:51-52, 57-62

**March 5 – Good Samaritan**

Text: Luke 10:25-37

**March 12 – Tower of Siloam**

Text: Luke 13:1-9, 31-35

**March 19 – Sheep, Coin, and Prodigal Son**

Text: Luke 15:1-32

**March 26 – The Rich Man and Lazarus**

Text: Luke 16:19-31

**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 March**

- Joan Johnson - March 3
- Doris Johnson - March 5
- Lois House - March 7
- Jean Wiltse - March 7
- Alice Gustafson - March 13
- Kenneth Stetson - March 20
- Myrtle Bloomquist - March 21
- Karin Gottier - March 28

**Special Emanuel Anniversaries During March!**

None

**2017 Church Council**

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**“Christ in our Home”**

Be sure to look in the back of the Nave and in Luther Hall on Sundays. There you will find the January, February, March complimentary issue of *Christ in our Home*, a wonderful devotional booklet that offers daily opportunities for reflection and prayer. Each day provides a short Bible text with a brief, thoughtful message and a simple prayer.

**St. Lucia DVD’s are available.**

If you have any questions or would like to purchase a DVD, please contact Kim Halstead at kimmya73@yahoo.com.

**The “Tuesday Crafters” meet weekly at the home of Judy Johnson at 10:00 a.m.**

**On Thursdays, “Prayer Shawl Ministry” and “Bible Conversation” will meet at the home of Lee and Lynn Sherman. “Prayer Shawl Ministry” meets at 9:30 a.m. and “Bible Conversation” at 10:00 a.m.**

**Sunday School is held in the Music Room.**

## Communion at the Rail

As you may remember from last month's article, some of our Emanuel parishioners miss at least periodically being able to have communion at the rail at the 10:00 a.m. Service (*the 8:00 a.m. Service regularly receives communion at the rail*).



In an effort to respect that spiritual need and honor the desire to be "fed" in this way, I am working with the Altar Guild to offer communion at the rail on occasional Sundays, beginning March 5. It may take us some time to work out the logistics among ushers, assisting ministers, communion assistants, musicians, and pastors – so we thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Because we are concerned about those who may have some difficulty navigating the steps up to the altar rail, we are going to offer both communion at the rail and "station communion" from the bottom of the steps as we do now.

As always, we will also continue to bring communion to parishioners in the pew as it is needed.

As the body of Christ - we come together to the Lord's Supper *gathered* "as the Church." Then, having been

fed and nourished by the Word and Meal, we are *sent* into the world to be "witnesses to these things."

The idea is that this *journey* - this *gathering & sending* - is continuous - Christians of all times & all places continuously gathering for worship and being sent into the world to serve.

So whether we gather at the rail or at a station, in the pew or in our homes - we serve as 21<sup>st</sup> century disciples who are claimed, gathered, and sent by our Lord. We carry God's Word of comfort to a broken world - God's amazing grace - forgiveness, mercy and love – and serve in Jesus name!

*Come to the Table.  
All are welcome!*

*Pastor Maria*

## Members & Friends in Prayer

Virginia Nilson † The Donini family  
Elaine Wilson † Elinor McCue  
Inge and Roy Levin † Rose Dooley  
Betty-Lois Benson † Diane Roule  
Judy Johnson † Deedee Lewis  
Bob Bridgett † Eric Hammons  
Carla Petry † Ron Rounds  
Dr. Daniel McMenamin  
Lauren and Steve † Pamela Vigil  
Dominick DeMartino † Gloria Burke  
George Leaphart and family

## In Memoriam

Emanuel Brother-in-Christ,  
Walter Ekwall died on  
February 4, 2017.



Emanuel Brother-in-Christ,  
Arnold Hanson died on  
February 7, 2017.  
A funeral service was held  
at Carlson Funeral Home on  
February 10, 2017.

Emanuel Sister-in-Christ,  
Ingrid Hedling, died on  
February 14, 2017.  
Ingrid's Service will be private.

*May the comfort and hope of the  
resurrection be with the family and  
friends of these saints.*



\*\*\*\*\*

## MANNA FOOD PANTRY

**Please remember to bring  
in donations of food  
(canned, non- perishable)  
for the MANNA Food Pantry!**  
**We have a collection box in  
Luther Hall. Spaghetti sauce,  
toiletries and pet food are all  
especially needed.**

***Thank you!***

## Join the Usher Team! No Experience Necessary!

We are looking for a few new members to join our four usher teams. Each of these four teams will serve for a total of 3 months per year. With our existing, experienced team members, new ushers will find serving to be easy. Ushers greet and seat folks arriving for a worship service, provide the bulletins, collect the offering, provide assistance with wheelchairs or walkers, hand out crayons for the younger ones, keep communion logistics flowing smoothly, and help keep a watchful eye on our entrances. Consider this ministry – and help make Emanuel welcoming for all who attend our services. Please speak with Jim Ashwell or Bob Graulich to learn more.



**Ushers Needed!**

## Sunday School News

BY NATALIE BLOOMQUIST

### Lent Focus 2017: *Caring for Each Other and Sharing God's Love*

This Lenten season, the children will focus on sharing God's love by making Easter cards to be delivered with the lily plants for our homebound members, and collecting new and gently used shoes for children in Hartford area preschool programs.

Each Sunday in Lent – March 5 through April 2 – the children will return to worship during the Offertory with a ziplock “kit” to make a card for one of our homebound members. They will bring their completed cards up front at the close of worship and help Pastor Maria offer the Blessing.



There will also be a special box in the sanctuary for

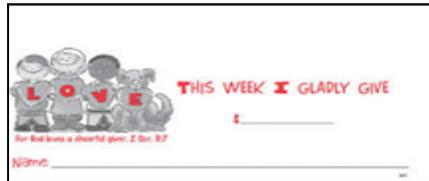
collecting new and gently used shoes. Our focus is to collect shoes for Hartford area preschool children whose feet grow so fast. Any shoes that cannot be used by the preschools will be sent to Soles4Souls, an organization that creates sustainable jobs and provides relief through the distribution of shoes and clothing around the world ([www.soles4souls.org](http://www.soles4souls.org)).

All donated shoes must be clean and rubber banded or tied together.

**A reminder to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade parents - First Communion Instruction** will be offered with Pastor Maria and Deacon Natalie on:

- ♦ March 26 and April 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- ♦ We will bake communion bread for Maundy Thursday on Sunday, April 9 at 11:30.
- ♦ First Communion will be received during Maundy Thursday worship at 7:00 p.m. on April 13.
- ♦ First Communion at Emanuel is generally offered to children in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, or older. However, if your younger child is asking to receive communion and you would like to discuss this possibility, please talk with Pastor Maria. You can reach Pastor at the Church Office by calling 860-525-0894 x 2 or by email at

[pastormhammons@gmail.com](mailto:pastormhammons@gmail.com).



### Offering Envelopes

Just a reminder that if you do not have any offering envelopes left over from previous years, let me know. I have leftover boxes from last year that I can give you.

### SPARK Lessons in March:

*How do these stories help you understand God and how God works in our lives?*

**March 5: Good Samaritan.** The children will remain with all the generations in worship to explore Jesus' story of the man who got off his donkey to share God's love. They will help lead worship by singing "Jesus, Lamb of God." Luke 10:25-42

### March 12: Parable of the Fig Tree.

When Jesus used everyday things to help people learn about God, we call the story a parable. Jesus told this story about a fruit tree to remind people that every day is a gift from God that we should use wisely. The gardener in the story wants to take special care of the fig tree and give it another chance to do its best. Luke 13:1-9

### March 19: Lost Sheep, Coin, and Son.

Every day the shepherd in the story counted his sheep to make sure they were all safe – but one was missing! He was so happy when he found the missing sheep that he wanted to celebrate with everyone. And the woman had saved ten coins but when she went to count them, one was missing! She looked everywhere for the missing coin and was so happy when she found it that she had a party to celebrate. Jesus told us this story because God is like the shepherd and the woman; God would never stop looking for someone who was lost. Luke 15:1-32

### March 26: The Parable of the Rich Man.

Jesus told us this story to help us understand that God wants us to listen. When we listen, we know that we are to care for all people, rich and poor alike. Jesus wants us to open our ears so we can hear God's Word and open our eyes so we can see people who need our help. Luke 16:19-31

### Prayer for the Month:

*Dear Jesus, thank you for teaching us that God will always give us another chance. Thank you for grace. Thank you for patience. Thank you for calling us to be the best we can be. Amen.*



Confirmation youth are busy putting into practice God's command to love and serve others. After reflecting on where they see need, hurt, and sadness in the world, and doing research on these areas, they have each chosen where and how they wish to serve. Some are working independently and others are working in groups. Middle school youth are growing in responsibility and independence, and it is our hope that this experience will be more meaningful than jumping in to an already planned service project that may not be a passion of theirs. When you see one of our Confirmation youth, ask them about the work they are doing.

**Parents & Confirmands - Remember that all paperwork for the Confirmation Camp Retreat at Calumet is due by March 8.**

**Our schedule for the remainder of 2016-2017 is:**

- March 1 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmands meet at 6:30 p.m.
- March 1 Attend Ash Wednesday Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- March 8 Lent Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- March 15 Lent Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- March 22 Lent Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- March 29 Lent Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- April 5 Lent Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- April 13 Attend Maundy Thursday Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- April 14 Attend Good Friday Worship at 7:00 p.m.
- April 21-23 Confirmation Retreat at Camp Calumet in New Hampshire**
- April 26 Youth and Parent Gathering
- May 10 Youth and Parent Gathering
- May 24 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmands and Parents only
- June 7 Potluck for Confirmands, Families, and Prayer Friends
- June 11 Affirmation of Baptism

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**New Baby**

Congratulations and God's blessings on the birth of Linnea Arielle Deibel, on February 24 to Laura and Russell Deibel. Linnea's grandparents are Bill and Susan Kasmarzyk from Emanuel!



*Lillian Rekas thanks Emanuel for the beautiful Christmas plant that was delivered to her.*



*January 3, 2017*

*Dear Staff of Emanuel,*

*This note is to thank you and members of Emanuel for the beautiful poinsettia plant that you had delivered to me at Hughes Health and Rehabilitation a couple of days ago. I really appreciate it very much.*

*When the plant was delivered I was eating noontime dinner where I usually do, was so surprised to receive it after eating and happy.*

*Thank you all members of the church for remembering me. I'm so delighted.*

*With great thanks,  
Carolyn Hattie*

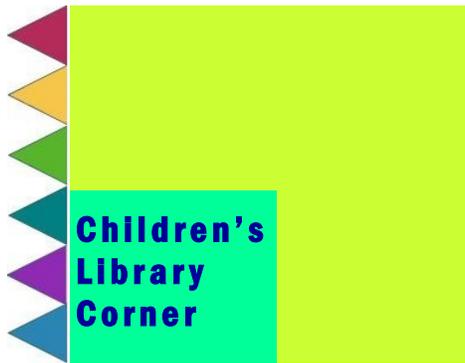
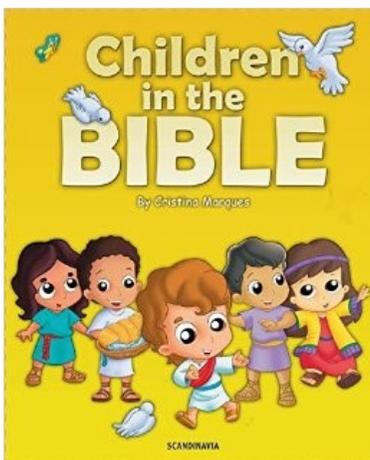


**The Church Council expresses its appreciation to Lee Sherman** for his willingness to take on the position and responsibilities of Financial Secretary, formerly held by Pastor Marschhausen.

*-Chet Brodnicki*

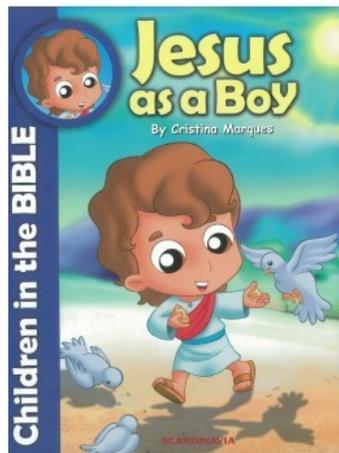
## Children's Library News

The library currently has new books focusing on children who are in the Bible. They are books that bring attention to the littlest of Jesus' flock. The Children in the Bible tells the stories of both Old and New Testament children, some very familiar and some less familiar. Isaac tells us a story about trust, Miriam a story about intelligence and Moses a story about determination. The book continues with Naaman's servant girl teaching us about compassion, Samuel showing devotion and David showing courage and teaching that size is not what counts. The Old Testament stories end with Josiah, who teaches us about loyalty to God. New Testament stories tell us about the wisdom of Jesus as a boy and the love he shows to children. It teaches that we can be close to Jesus by loving the people around us. The story of the boy and the fish teaches us that the simplest act of kindness can be the most important and sometimes the smallest child can make the biggest difference. What a great lesson in sharing and generosity. Each of the stories in The Children in the Bible are also available in individual books. The library currently has Jesus as a Boy and The Children and Jesus.



We have also added to our collection of popular VeggieTale books. A First Look and Find board book allows young children to find objects hidden in familiar Bible stories. Stories include creation, Noah's Ark, Joseph's colorful coat, the parting of the Red Sea, Joshua's battle of Jericho and Jonah and the whale. The book ends with additional learning activities based on each story that parents can do with their children. These activities include identifying colors, counting and recognizing shapes.

These books can all be found in our library corner in the music room. Please come and visit us during coffee hour in Luther Hall.



## Craft NEWS

The craft groups are up and going full steam ahead on Tuesdays at the Johnson's in Newington and Thursdays at the Pergande's in Manchester. New faces are welcome. Please call or email. Come when you can.

Thanks to Judy Larson for her wonderful patience and talent for cutting out all our ornaments and items to be painted. We still need wood cutters or people with knowledge of what to do with wood! Don't be shy! Your help will be appreciated. We will miss Emanuel member Hop Wiltse who did so much of that for the craft ladies. Ingrid Hedling will be missed as she was a part of the craft group for years as well.

The group is looking forward to having the FAIR in the gym this year and is exploring ideas to make it bigger, better and fun! Your ideas are certainly welcome (as is your work at home and your help with it all).

Judy Johnson  
860-953-3064  
[Rjmetts@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Rjmetts@sbcglobal.net)

### The Samaritan Fund

Did you know  
... that the loose offering  
received on the first  
Sunday of the month goes  
to the Samaritan Fund?

The Samaritan Fund is used  
to assist people in need.

Thank you for your generosity!



**Walk with Emanuel to raise money to fight hunger and food insecurity.**

**Foodshare's Walk Against Hunger on Sunday, May 7, 2017.**

**When: Registration at 12:30 p.m., walk starts at 2:00 p.m.**

**Where: The Hartford, Asylum Avenue, Hartford**

**Contact at Emanuel: Bob Graulich, bobgraulich@comcast.net**

*Please see the flyer in Luther Hall for the Kick-Off Open House for this event.*



**Brighten someone's day by taking our beautiful altar flowers to them!**

Each Sunday after the late service, we try to make arrangements for the delivery of the altar flowers to our hospitalized and/or shut-in members. Claudia Bellis, Brook Nowak, Marjorie Johnson, Ellen Anderson, and Rae Ann Gremel do a great job with our flower ministry. If you'd be willing to help on a Sunday with a delivery, please look for one of them near the Luther Hall kitchen. Thanks. You'll surely brighten someone's day!

**WONDERING "WEATHER" THERE'S CHURCH???**



In case of bad weather, the cancellation of Emanuel's Sunday services and other congregation activities will be available on our Emanuel Facebook page, on CBS Radio, and on the following TV channels: NBC, WFSB, and WTNH.

**Please remember. . .if there is a parking ban in Hartford there will be no Worship Services or activities held at the Church.**

**8:00 a.m. Worship attendees!**

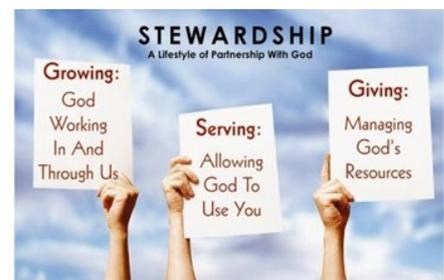
Remember. . .

if there is snow on the ground or it's snowing when you wake up, there will be no 8:00 a.m. Service.

And finally, If Hartford City and/or State Government Offices are closed, the church offices will also be closed.

This is especially important this year with the construction projects and limited parking situation – so please check before you come!

**God Bless and Be Safe!**



*Clearly, the purpose of wealth is not security. The purpose of wealth is reckless generosity, the kind that sings of the lavish love of God, the kind that rekindles hope on dark days, the kind that reminds us that God is with us always.*

*—Theologian, Joan Chittister*

### Calling All E-mail Addresses

Please be sure to keep the Church office updated with your most current email address. More and more communications are sent out through electronic means rather than paper mailings. If you have any questions, please contact Jane Wunder at 860-525-0894 x5 or [jane.wunder@emanuelhartford.org](mailto:jane.wunder@emanuelhartford.org)

Thank you.

Note: If you prefer to receive *God With Us* at a different email address, please let the office know.

Thanks for your patience as we make this transition!

**Large print worship bulletins are available each Sunday morning. Please let an usher know if you would like one.**

### Would you like to help with Sunday Worship?

#### Here are Volunteer Opportunities

Please contact the coordinators below:

**Greeters:** Eileen Mitchell,  
860-688-4867 or  
[gemitch@comcast.net](mailto:gemitch@comcast.net)

**Lectors:** Lynn Sherman,  
860-523-1702

**Ushers:** Jim Ashwell  
860-667-0264

**Assisting Ministers:**  
Janice Favreau  
860-644-8315

**Sound System:** Mal Doyle  
860-561-1582

**Thank you for your service to these important ministries.**

### LutherHostel at Camp Calumet in New Hampshire, April 17 - 20, 2017

Pastor Richard Olson will serve as chaplain, giving an overview of the basic practices and beliefs of Islam. Our presenters, Bill Ayadi and Joyce Hinckley, will bring art as well as music and scents of the region. There will be plenty of time for discussion and questions.

**Please contact Janet and John Starkes for information at 860-561-2897.**

### Recycling cans and bottles

While the Youth Group no longer collects cans & bottles for recycling, we are again inviting you to bring your deposit cans and bottles to church. Our sexton, Rachid, gives these bottles and cans to people on the street who then turn them in for money. So, if you typically put your deposit cans and bottles into your town's recycle bins, rather than return them for the deposit, consider bringing them to church for Rachid to distribute to those in need.

*Remember – only cans or bottles that have deposits!*

Watch for the bin in Luther Hall!

*On behalf of Rachid, thank you!*



### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Please remember, there are always prayer shawls available for anyone in need of this symbol of love and caring. Speak to Lynn Sherman, Eileen Mitchell, or Jane Wunder in the church office.



### Ladies Who Lunch, Ladies Get-together, or Lambda Nu Omega (Ladies' Night Out)

Empty nester? Kids out of school and you don't have that network of friends anymore? Your bestie has retired to another state?

Let's get together, have a meal, and create a new ladies group. We can't possibly keep abreast of everything going on in the world, and having more friends can keep you in the loop for information about church activities, good and bad experiences in healthcare, and what is going on in our state/country/world. Layer on top of that a few good stories and jokes and there's our opportunity to be connected. All of that brain power has to result in something good!

**First meeting:  
Lunch at Tapas in Bloomfield  
March 15, 2017; 12:30 p.m.**

RSVP to:  
[lisa.martin@cruiseplanners.com](mailto:lisa.martin@cruiseplanners.com) or  
[terri.dwyer@comcast.net](mailto:terri.dwyer@comcast.net)

*Please contact us by March 12 so we can assure our space at the restaurant.*

## Council Highlights

January 2017

### COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Council President Chet Brodnicki called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

**Interim Pastor's Report:** In her absence, Pastor Hammons' report was distributed and discussed with prayers for quick healing after her fall.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Tim Elwell was unable to attend the meeting. His reports were distributed and a motion was passed to accept the 2017 Budget for recommendation to the congregation at the upcoming annual meeting.

**2017 Pledges:** Follow-up calls are being made to members who previously pledged and have not made a pledge yet this year.

**Pastor Marschhausen's Resignation:** Pastor Marschhausen's letter of resignation as Financial Secretary and Chair of Finance Committee was accepted with regret. As a new pastor will be called and a new year has started, Pastor Marschhausen felt this was a good time to step aside. Heartfelt gratitude and appreciation were expressed for the work he has done.

**Operations Report:** Jane Wunder's report was distributed with updates on the Tower Project, Accessibility Project, and 315 Capitol Avenue.

**Transitions Update:** Small group meetings are well underway and there are more to happen.

**Finance leadership positions:** Council approved the following leadership changes:  
Treasurer - Bobbee Canfield,  
Finance Chair - Tim Elwell, and  
Financial Secretary - Lee Sherman.



#### Approval of Call Committee -

Council approved the Emanuel Call Committee members, to be announced to the congregation on March 19.

#### Synod Convention Delegates –

Pastor Hammons had indicated that the Church Council President should attend the Assembly, if available. As such, Chet and Glenna Brodnicki will be presented as the delegates.

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**At a brief Special Council Meeting following the Annual Meeting on Jan. 29,** the following individuals were elected to Council offices:

Chet Brodnicki, President  
Mark Hollertz, Vice President  
Bobbee Canfield Treasurer  
Mindy Olsen, Secretary,  
Jim Flanders, Exec Committee  
Member-At-Large.

#### A New Office Mailbox

Now that our Luther Hall "tunnel" mail slots are no longer accessible, we've re-purposed the old suggestion box as an office mailbox. You'll find the bright red "POST" mailbox on the wall immediately to the right of the big bulletin board outside the music/Sunday School classroom.

So if you have anything you'd like to drop off for the Office, any staff member, the Council president, or Treasurer, just place it in the box.

Thanks!



## March

### Hardhat Zone:



**Accessibility:** Work continues at a steady pace -- check out the photos in Luther Hall for a glimpse of the world behind the construction doors!

New walls have been framed, and plumbing, heating system pipes, and electrical circuits are being installed and rerouted to support the new restroom layouts and the new corridors.

Last month uncovered a “surprise” during excavation; building debris and organic materials were encountered, no doubt buried in 1955 during parish building construction. The materials were tested and determined to be non-hazardous. There was only a slight cost impact to remove the debris-contaminated soil and replace it with suitable fill.

The new foundation, footings and slab have since been poured and erection of the structure and exterior “envelope” of the new vestibule are in progress. For certain, the south face of Emanuel’s parish building has begun to change dramatically!

Luther Hall continues to be the point of entry for our contractors and we expect the muddy traffic will get worse before it gets better!

While we’ve run into a few surprises, overall the project is progressing well and completion is still targeted for June. We continue to appreciate everyone’s flexibility and patience as the construction happens all around us!



### Farewell & Godspeed Karen!

As you may have heard, Emanuel’s Administrative Assistant Karen Rudewicz will be leaving her position on staff as of Tuesday, February 28.

Karen has served Emanuel faithfully for almost 9 years, and her gifts to the staff and the congregation will be missed.

Thank you for your service Karen! We wish you all the best and will keep be keeping you in prayer during your transition time!

*Farewell & Godspeed!*

*The Pastor & People of Emanuel Lutheran Church*

### ***Don't forget to ...***



**On Sunday,  
March 12th!**

### The Flower Chart

In order to encourage people to sign up for altar flower donations, please note the “**Flower Chart**” on the bulletin board near the kitchen in Luther Hall. You may use this chart to pick a Sunday, or Sundays, when you would like to donate altar flowers.

Checks (indicating the date for flowers on the memo line) may be sent to the church office or placed in the offering plate with the form from the blue sheet.

We hope to have flower donations for every Sunday of the year! Thanks for your help.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>M A R C H</b>			<b>1</b> 6:30 pm: <b>Confirmands meet and then attend worship at 7 pm</b>  7 pm: <b>Ash Wednesday Service of Holy Communion</b>	<b>2</b> 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: "Bible Conversation" (the groups above meet at the home of Lee & Lynn Sherman)  6:30 pm: Bell Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 10 am: SPROUT
<b>5</b> <b>Services of Holy Communion at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Children remain in Worship</b> 11:30 am: Small Group Meeting with Sunday School Parents in Luther Hall	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 10 am: Tuesday Crafters at the home of Judy Johnson	<b>8</b> 6:00 pm: <b>Lenten Bible Study</b> 7 pm: <b>Evening Prayer Service, Nave (Confirmands please attend)</b>	<b>9</b> 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: "Bible Conversation" (the groups above meet at the home of Lee & Lynn Sherman)  6:30 pm: Bell Choir	<b>10</b>  <div style="background-color: black; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><b>Youth at Camp Calumet March 10 - 12</b></div>	<b>11</b> No SPROUT
<b>12 Time Change!</b> <b>Services of Holy Communion at 8:00 and 10:00 am with Baptism</b> <b>Sunday School</b> 11:30 am: Small Group Transition Meeting in Luther Hall Open to everyone	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 10 am: Tuesday Crafters at the home of Judy Johnson	<b>15</b> 11:00 am: Staff Meeting 6:30 pm: <b>Lenten Bible Study</b> 7 pm: <b>Evening Prayer Service, Nave (Confirmands please attend)</b>  <div style="background-color: black; color: white; text-align: center; padding: 5px;"><b>Deadline for "God With Us"</b></div>	<b>16</b> 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: "Bible Conversation" (the groups above meet at the home of Lee & Lynn Sherman)  6:30 pm: Bell Choir	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10 am: SPROUT
<b>19</b> <b>One Service of Holy Communion at 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Sunday School</b> 11:30 <b>Special Transition Meeting - Presentation from Small Groups and "CAT" kick-off</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 10 am: "Tuesday Crafters" at the home of Judy Johnson  7 pm: Executive Committee Meeting	<b>22</b> 11:00 am: Staff Meeting 6:30 pm: <b>Lenten Bible Study</b> 7 pm: <b>Evening Prayer Service, Nave (Confirmands please attend)</b>	<b>23</b> 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: "Bible Conversation" (the groups above meet at the home of Lee & Lynn Sherman)  6:30 pm: Bell Choir	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10 am: SPROUT
<b>26</b> <b>Services of Holy Communion at 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Sunday School</b> 11:30 am: <b>First Communion Preparation Class</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 10 am: Tuesday Crafters at the home of Judy Johnson  7 pm: Church Council Meeting	<b>29</b> 11:00 am: Staff Meeting 6:30 pm: <b>Lenten Bible Study</b> 7 pm: <b>Evening Prayer Service, Nave (Confirmands please attend)</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30 am: Prayer Shawl Ministry 10 am: "Bible Conversation" (the groups above meet at the home of Lee & Lynn Sherman)  6:30 pm: Bell Choir	<b>31</b>	



## Holy Week Services

**Palm and Passion Sunday, April 9**  
8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday, April 13**  
7:00 p.m. Special Service with  
First Communion and  
Prayer Stations  
(The Stripping of the Altar  
will follow the Service)

**Good Friday, April 14**  
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service



## Easter Sunday, April 16

Celebratory Services of  
Holy Communion at  
9:00 and 11:00 a.m.





by John Starkes

**The church cannot entrench or curtail, it is a time to spread our message.”**

- Pastor Hulteen

In our last archives article we referred to “Bright lights” in the organizations of Emanuel in their activities during the years of the Depression in the early thirties. And of course everything we hear of that we are experiencing in our current times of severe economic turndown were still much worse then. As our source states, the best way to grasp the accomplishments of Emanuel’s various organizations is to look at the minutes of their meetings. For starters, the Dramatic Club of the Luther League donated over \$1,000 to the trustees so that a telephone would finally be installed in the church.

The Luther League drama club also performed other plays for Emanuel’s interest with the community of Hartford in programs of the Father-Sons banquet with the sports editor of the Hartford Times; the Women’s Missionary Society in a performance at Hartford Public High School on Broad Street that drew 600 of the audience. Later the pastor showed slides of the Passion Play at Oberammergau for the Mother-Daughter banquet attended by 240; tables served by the men in white jackets.

To top off the year 1931, the annual Christmas service in Swedish, “Julotta,” starting at 5 a.m. at Emanuel was assured to those that

did not have a way to attend when Pastor worked out a deal with the Connecticut Company to have a special trolley run from Park Road and Quaker Lane in West Hartford to the church via Laurel and Capitol where they would get off. In looking at all these events, did Emanuel cut back?

The men of Emanuel did their best to keep track of the many repairs a large church requires - doing most of the tasks themselves and watching over lights and power, water and heating through the seasons. But there was no question when it came to the ladies in the kitchen.

All the ladies organizations did special things on the part of the church responsibilities to assist the general operations endangered by the bank failures and congregational shortfalls that could not be avoided. But some of the action for the general and working community of Hartford was the kitchen, that same one we still have off Luther Hall, give or take what’s there these days we plead to replace or update.

Real meals were served daily during the depression. The ladies had a schedule to work two days per week, the first to prepare the potatoes and vegetables, and to set the tables for about 300 people. On the next day

they would cook and roast the meat; then to tend to the details of final preparation and serve the meal and beverage.

Their reward beyond the cost and coverage for profit was the droves of people who came to eat from the nearby offices and factories; Swedish food prepared by Swedish ladies in the Swedish church. Everyone was pleased.

With their funds gathered from gifts, dues, and proceeds, the Emanuel ladies groups also did many other things to help the church and needy members, besides the neighborhood about them. The Ladies Aid paid for the acoustical ceiling tiles we see above us in church; the men installed it. The West Hartford Ladies paid the mortgage on the Park Road Chapel. Emanuel Daughters paid for a new oil burner. The Burnside Ladies helped pay the mortgage. The Friendly League was formed in 1930 to assist those in times of need and sickness.

All the women of Emanuel worked to collect clothing, food, and shoes for children that was available every Wednesday to the members and community about the church.

\*Source – [God With Us-1889-1989](#), by Norma Westlund Sandberg



## Serving in March

### Acolyte and Crucifer

#### Mar. 5

Acolyte: Griffin Fairchild  
Crucifer: Noah Kiehne

#### Mar. 12

Acolyte: Lily Maynard  
Crucifer: Grace Maynard

#### Mar. 19

Acolyte: Addison Fastiggi  
Crucifer: Gavin Emmons

#### Mar. 26

Acolyte: Sam Johnson  
Crucifer: Braden Hazard

### Altar Flowers

Mar. 5 Open

Mar. 12 Open

Mar. 19 Open

Mar. 26 Open

### Assisting Ministers

Mar. 5 Brook Nowak

Mar. 12 Mal Doyle

Mar. 19 Alan Meeds

Mar. 26 Monica Swanson

### Children's Library

Mar. 5 Diane Troutman

Mar. 12 Monica Swanson

Mar. 19 Diane Troutman

Mar. 26 Carol Dennler

### Coffee Hour

Mar. 5 Dwyer family

Mar. 12 TBD

Mar. 19 Special  
Congregational  
Meeting  
and Lunch

Mar. 26 TBD

### Communion Preparers

Mar. 5 Eileen Mitchell

Mar. 12 Bobbee Canfield

Mar. 19 TBD

Mar. 26 TBD

### Greeters

Mar. 5 Mrs. Martha Kannah

Mar. 12 Chris and Claudia  
Bellis

Mar. 19 Sarah Parmelee

Mar. 26 Ed and Susan  
Maher

### Lectors - 8:00 a.m.

Mar. 5 Rosie Vojtek

Mar. 12 Randy Olson

Mar. 19 No 8:00 a.m. service

Mar. 26 Kathy Haller

### Lectors - 10:00 a.m.

Mar. 5 Janice Favreau

Mar. 12 Jonathan Fairchild

Mar. 19 Elaine Krause

Mar. 26 Joy Elwell

### Sound and Recording

Mar. 5 Mal Doyle

Mar. 12 Lindsey Anderson

Mar. 19 Rhiannon

Kiersznowski

Mar. 26 Noah Fairchild

### Sunday School Aide Schedule

#### Mar. 5

PreK-Kindergarten: Lindsey  
Anderson

Grades 1 and 2: Luke Johnson

Grades 3 and 4:

Meredith Swanson

#### Mar. 12

PreK-Kindergarten:

Samantha Johnson

Grades 1 and 2: Matthew Graulich

Grades 3 and 4: Rhiannon

Kiersznowski

#### Mar. 19:

PreK-Kindergarten:

Lindsey Anderson

Grades 1 and 2: Griffin Fairchild

Grades 3 and 4: Matt Graulich

#### Mar. 26:

PreK-Kindergarten: Maire Hollertz

Grades 1 and 2: Luke Johnson

Grades 3 and 4:

Trey Hazard

### Ushers

8:00 a.m. Bob Vojtek

10:00 a.m. Robert Graulich,  
Abby Stadlander,  
Eric Carlson



**2017 Easter Plant Order Form**  
**\$18.00 each - Deadline is Sunday, April 9, 2017**

In Honor/Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Person responsible for payment:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Altar Flowers—\$45.00**

Please use the form below for a flower donation and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. Thank you.

In Honor/Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date for Flowers: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Call the Church Office 860-525-0894

God With Us

**Emanuel Lutheran Church**

311 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, CT 06106

Address Service Requested

**Periodical**

Postage Paid at Hartford, CT



*Growing in Faith Together.*

**Emanuel Lutheran Church**

Opposite the State Capitol Grounds

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

**Maria J. Hammons, Interim Pastor**

Church Office: 860-525-0894

Fax: 860-246-3720

**Sunday Worship Schedule**

**Sunday Services of Holy Communion:**

**8:00 and 10:00 a.m.**

***(Please note: On March 19 we will have  
only one service at 10:00 a.m., to be  
followed by a Special Congregational Meeting)***

**Sunday School**

Sunday School begins after the Children's Message

at the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service