

# God's work. Our hands.



**Emanuel Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**

60 Church Street  
Manchester, CT 06040

860.643.1193  
[www.emanuelmanchester.org](http://www.emanuelmanchester.org)

**Annual Report 2017**





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**Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church is a welcoming Christian community that cultivates Disciples:**

- To study and live out the Word of God
- To celebrate the Gospel through worship with a variety of musical expressions
- To love and serve our neighbors, both locally and worldwide
- To learn at all stages of life what it means to be a follower of Christ
- To connect faith experiences across generations and stages of life
- To discern and utilize the spiritual gifts of each member
- To seek others to grow with us as a community



### ***The Congregation Council***

#### ***Terms Expiring January 2018***

Joseph Berneski (2-year term)  
James Blair  
Campfield Heinrich (1-year term)  
Joseph Jauss (2-year term)

#### ***Terms Expiring January 2019***

Donna Connolly  
John Helmke  
Julie Kamp ( 2-year term)  
Steven Lazarus  
Lisa Little

#### ***Terms Expiring January 2020***

Ann Cook  
Kathy Purtell

### ***The Church Staff***

Ministers	The People of Emanuel
Pastor	The Rev. Maria Hammons
Deacon	Cynthia Hall
Director of Family Ministries	Christine Carlson
Director of Music	Jun Lee
Youth Worker	Eric Heinrich
Secretary	Anne Heinrich
Administrative Assistant	Nancy Whiton
Parish Nurse	Lynne Gustafson, RN
Property Supervisor	Kathy Hatch
Financial Secretary	Eric Carlson
Co-Treasurer	James Hamilton
Co-Treasurer	Rosemary Johnson
Worship Support Specialists	Berkley Little
	Rachel Helmke



## *Annual Report of the Pastor*

January - September 2017

First, let me thank you all for the opportunity to serve among you over the past 11 years. Emanuel is a great community of faith. I will always treasure my time with you.

My ministry over the last year was marked by two major items: Amy's health, and the choosing of a new Director of Music.

With good support from the staff and volunteers, and with much prayer and understanding, we were able to carry on with all the routine ministries of the parish. The Council continued to work on its Visioning plan, Stewardship put on a good Ministry Fair, Christian Ed continued to be excellent, and Property completed the lift. We were able to put some effort into the 500th Reformation commemoration, and to make some movement to strengthen both ecumenical and interfaith relationships. The transitions at Faith, St. Mark, and St. Mary's all created both challenges and opportunities for Emanuel.



The music search was intensive, but with good leadership from Ed, the process brought us to a decision which I feel will be very beneficial for the congregation. I am sorry I was not able to work more with Jun before my leaving.

We also were blessed to be part of Eric Heinrich's journey toward ordination. This is a win-win for us all. Eric was able to glean some excellent ministry experience from Emanuel's many programs, and Emanuel, especially the youth, were able to have some events that he organized.

So 2017 became a pivotal year for Emanuel. Cindy's superb work continues, but in a reshaped form, Eric brought his gifts more fully to the overall ministry, the building itself became more accessible, the music program will be energized by Jun's combination of skill and personality, and my own departure sets the stage for a good review and renewal of the direction of the parish. Add to that the change in leadership in other congregations, and Chestnut Hill, and 2018 can become a truly new beginning for Emanuel.

Each of these changes has the potential to energize and enliven the whole life of Emanuel. I trust each of you will seek a part in moving this fine congregation forward, for your own sake, for the good of greater Manchester, for the Synod, and for the fullest possible witness to the promise of God as we have seen it in Christ.

Your Brother in Christ,  
Scott Cady

## ***Annual Report of the Minister of Programs Cindy Hall***

This past year, the people of Emanuel have engaged in the ministry of the church both within the church walls, in the local community and throughout the world! I am grateful for each and every one of you who is a partner in ministry and shares Christ's light in the world.

At the Synod Assembly last June, I was recognized by Bishop Hazelwood for completing 30 years of service to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as a called Deacon. It was a special moment and greatly appreciated.

2017 was also a year with many transitions. My call went from full time to part time this past June. The major responsibilities of my call now include: Planning and implementing the Head to Heart Confirmation program; planning, promoting and participating in the National Youth Gathering 2018; supervising the Director of Family Ministries in planning and implementing the Sunday Church School program; and continued participation in staff meetings to assist in coordinating other staff duties within the overall mission of Emanuel Lutheran Church. We also received the news that Pastor Cady would be taking a new call in Torrington and it was time to say farewell and Godspeed.

I give thanks for the following people and programs that happened in 2017!

- To Susan Leach-Hebert, Jeni Minicucci and Krista Steindl for saying "yes" to accompany me and 14 youth to the National Youth Gathering in Houston this coming June.
- To all of the families of the youth going to the National Youth Gathering for their fund raising efforts!
- To Sylvia Hellstrom and her team for coordinating and hosting the Annual Used Book Sale that supports the NYG.
- The Head to Heart Confirmation Families who are committed on a weekly basis to bringing their middle school youth to the confirmation program so that they can grow in their faith, build friendships and begin to discover the gifts that they will have to offer the world as they mature into young adults. These families are also a great gift to our extended church community as they deliver Christmas cookies to homebound members of the congregation! Last year has been especially engaging, too, as we have visited a different faith community each month here in Manchester.
- Christine Carlson, Director of Family Ministries, in her development of many wonderful family fun activities that invited the entire church community into relationship with each other through fun family activities!
- To Julie Kamp, Donna Connolly and Joe Jauss for serving on the Christine Education Committee.
- To Linda Jackson who has shared her gifts of leadership, organization, enthusiasm and care with the Seasonal Sharing program for over 18 years!
- To Tammy Kearney, Lynne Gustafson, Eric Carlson and Vyrjil Buus who continue to support and develop Creative Living Community of CT whose mission is to establish a farm community for adults with and without developmental disabilities to live, work and play.
- To each and every one of you who have served in some way at a Sunday morning worship service as an usher, greeter, lay minister, reader, communion assistant, musician, singer, youth or acolyte.
- To each and every one of you who have brought food for the food pantry, made a meal for a committee or group, donated to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal or purchased a "good gift."
- To each and every one of you who have served on the church council, a committee, a task force or volunteered to support the mission and ministry of Emanuel Lutheran Church!

As we continue in the transition process this year, may we each be fully engaged in thinking about and working toward where God is calling Emanuel to minister!

***Annual Report of the Director of Music***  
***Jun Lee***

First of all, I am very happy to be Emanuel's Director of Music, and I thank you for your warm welcome. I enjoy getting to know all of you. It amazes me how much the people of Emanuel value music and how many see it as a way to build community and utilize their gifts to glorify God. I am excited to share music with you in the next liturgical year.

I feel very fortunate to work with the singers and players in the Anthem Choir and New Day Singers and appreciate their commitment. Also, I would like to give special thanks to Pastor Maria Hammons and the entire staff, the Worship and Arts Committee, Kathy Hatch, Matthew Heinrich, the entire Property Committee, Carol Kohl (Music Librarian), Jim Hamilton (Co-Treasurer), Church Council, and the congregation for all the support they provide to the music ministry.

During my three months at Emanuel, because of generous contributions to the Special Music Fund, I have been able to bring talented instrumentalists to Emanuel who provided special music for Christmas services, as well as some Sunday services. Bringing instrumentalists to Emanuel is meaningful, not only to enhance worship, but also to give college musicians the opportunity to perform and benefit from some financial support.

There have been other services with Concordia and St. Mary's: Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays during Advent and an ecumenical service at St. Mary's on Thanksgiving Eve. I am proud to say that the participation of Emanuel's choir in the combined choir was good and that our singers were on time and always ready to sing.

In celebration of the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation, there were two joint services held at Concordia: One on Sunday, October 22nd, at 10:00 AM, which was followed by a Social Hour at 11:00 AM and Oktoberfest at noon; the other on Sunday, October 29th at 4:00 PM, which was a Lutheran/Roman Catholic service of Solemn Vespers. Presiding Bishops for that service were Bishop Jim Hazelwood, New England Synod of the ELCA, and Archbishop Leonard Blair, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Hartford. The combined choirs lead the singing for the services and provided special music.

In carrying on Emanuel's Swedish tradition, the children and youth of Emanuel presented the St. Lucia Procession on December 17th. Being in charge of the music gave me the opportunity to meet and work with the children and youth. There is great potential in our young singers, and I hope to work with them more often. I thank Ed Gawlinski for his help in preparing for St. Lucia.

My hope for the next year is to continue to contribute to Emanuel's tradition of musical excellence and make it even better. If you have been thinking about joining the New Day Singers or the Anthem Choir, please do not hesitate. We will be happy to have you.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

*"The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God  
and the refreshment of the soul." J.S. Bach*

***Annual Report of the Director of Family Ministries***  
***Christine Carlson***

The Sunday school children participated in a stewardship project in February, learning about Lutheran World Relief. This concept was reinforced through crafts, role playing, and storytelling. The Sunday school Children were challenged to raise money to buy as many water jugs as we could. With help from our congregation the children were able to raise \$1,520, enough to buy 8 emergency water systems! The children worked very hard to raise money by educating the congregation with a temple talk, hosting a coffee hour, and challenging the congregation to join them in their ELCA mission.

Early Communion Workshop did not take place this year due to low enrollment. However we look forward to having a nice group of children who will be ready for the communion workshop in March of 2018.

On Easter Sunday, we had an amazing group of children for our Easter egg hunt! Children gathered in the community room for a fun craft, followed by an Easter story. Then they were off to our Easter egg hunt in the sanctuary. This event had over 300 eggs filled with candy/toys and the six special golden eggs this year (three more than last year)...find a golden egg and win a special prize! This year's winners of the special golden eggs were Bella, Taryn, Noah, Soren, Evan and Carolyn - who won a special chocolate cross or Jesus fish!

Sunday school children continue to have their Sunday school lessons during the 2<sup>nd</sup> service. This format has continued to be successful for both the children and the parents as they worship as a family. As part of their Christian education, I feel it is important to familiarize the kids with all portions of the worship service. By having the kids attend portions of the service, they learn the opening liturgy, hear a variety of hymns, and feel more a part of the congregation while still allowing learning time that speaks to them at their levels. The children also continue to rejoin the service at the sharing of the peace which allows families to commune together. I believe that this format will continue to help children now, and in the future, participate and feel welcome in worship.

This past summer, families were invited to participate in a family fun event at the church, in June, called "Movie Night" where children enjoyed cuddling in their sleeping bags, eating fun snacks and watching "Trolls" as they shared in fellowship together. They also had an opportunity to participate in 2 church events held in July and August following church service. Both of these events were Bible Study learning events which included singing, dancing, Bible stories (through book & video), crafts and a fun snack. All of these activities related to the Bible story of the day. These activities are a great way for the whole family to participate.

In the fall, we held Rally Day where 26 children registered for Sunday school. This number has been on the rise since I started this position 7 years ago when we only had 11 kids registered.

Sunday school children enjoyed our popular Halloween/Harvest Family Fun Day where we did several crafts and trick or treat fun. To round out the year, we had children participate in the St. Lucia Processional and hosted a wonderful coffee hour.

Children at Emanuel have so many wonderful opportunities for faith, fun and fellowship!

Thank you to all my wonderful parents, Sunday school children, church staff and the congregation for their continued support.



## *Annual Report of the Youth Worker*

### *Eric Heinrich*

A variety of activities have been offered for the youth of Emanuel in 2017. Activities have been focused around worship, fellowship, and service.

Initially I was working with youth leaders from St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Concordia Lutheran Church, and St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Glastonbury as part of a group called Youth Fusion which was previously established. While a couple of planning meetings happened, participation from the other groups was not happening. As a result, I started planning activities for Emanuel youth and then invited participation from the other churches.

It should be noted that two attempts were made to organize participation at overnight functions at Camp Calumet. Emanuel ended up not participating in either event because of lack of interest by youth or lack of chaperones. The long drive for a weekend combined with the busy schedules of kids with extracurricular activities seems to be an obstacle. As a result, I decided to plan a one night overnight event at Zion Lutheran Church in Portland, CT. This event was from late afternoon on Saturday, October 21 and concluded with Emanuel youth traveling to Concordia for worship on Sunday, October 22. The event was a success and hopefully Emanuel can host Zion youth in the upcoming year for a sleepover.

#### **Below are highlights of youth events for 2017**

**February**—pizza night, and packing of emergency food bags with groceries for persons in need

**March**—National Youth Gathering lunch and organizational meeting

#### **April**

- Confirmation retreat at Calumet—tried to coordinate with Concordia, did not have enough interest from kids or chaperones for this to happen for our kids.
- (Good Friday) hot cocoa and treats at Silk City Coffee followed by participation in Way of the Cross
- Tacos and Teens—fellowship, making tacos and eating together
- "Savers" fundraiser—started collecting used clothing and household items to donate to Savers to earn cash for National Youth Gathering

#### **May**

- Savers fundraisers continued, sorting and packing items, transport to Savers
- Night out at the movies—Rick Steves movie about Martin Luther at Parkade Cinemas

#### **June**

- Mini golf and ice cream—canceled due to weather
- Root Beer Float/Coffee hour on the lawn after worship, fund raiser for National Youth Gathering

**August**—Yard Goats baseball game in Hartford

**September**—Hammo—Weekend at Calumet, offered and tried to get kids to go. Limited interest and lack of chaperones. Emanuel did not participate

**October**—Overnight event at Zion Lutheran Church combined with youth and chaperones from Zion. Saturday to Sunday overnight. On Sunday Emanuel youth attended worship at Concordia Lutheran Church for a joint worship service in recognition of the Reformation.

**November**—Pasta dinner and Lutheran trivia night for the congregation. This was a fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering. Youth participated by leading trivia games and helping with clean up and dishes.

***Annual Report of the Parish Nurse  
Lynne Gustafson RN, BS, FNASN***

Activities for 2017 include:

- Submitted six *Visitor* articles related to health and spirituality.
- Direct services and consultation were provided to four parishioners.
- A Flu Clinic was held on November 5, 2017. Vaccine was given to 18 people by the Visiting Nurses Association.
- Healing service continues on the first Sunday of each month at both services. Although three members of our Healing Team have moved away, we are happy to welcome John Helmke and Campfield Heinrich to the team. In addition, the following members continue to serve: Marianne Wilcox, Sylvia Hellstrom, Jennifer Davis, Lynne Gustafson, Ann Linda Bray, Doti Dienst, Kim Boerner-Mercier, Meg DePrato, Susan Plese, Lisa Sattler, Carol Adams, Barbara Bahan.
- The series "Journeying Through Grief" were mailed to 24 people who lost love ones during this year. The book *Widow to Widow* was given to three widows.
- Remained Treasurer of the Parish Nurse Coordinators State of Connecticut.
- Partnered with the Manchester Family and Adult Services and the Social Worker at the Senior Center to help parishioners find needed resources.
- Provided equipment to four church members.
- In December, the Friendly Visitor program was established. Members of the congregation volunteer to visit monthly with a homebound member.

Several members have donated medical equipment such as wheelchairs, shower chairs, walkers, etc. If you are in need of any equipment, please contact me and if the equipment is available, you are more than welcomed to it.

Goals for 2018:

- To increase the number of Friendly Visitors.
- Continue the annual Flu Clinic.
- Continue the mailing of the Stephen Ministry Grief material and *Widow to Widow* books.
- Meet with individual members as needed.
- Review and update medical emergency procedures and to offer a CPR course for those interested.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all who have contributed to the Parish Nurse Fund. This fund supports individuals with needed resources. This year I was able to help several families and individuals in need. I wish to thank the staff and members of Emanuel for their continued support and prayers.

***Annual Report of the Congregation Council***  
***John Helmke, Council President***

Hi friends,

What an interesting and amazing year!

I really thought that 2017 would be a breeze for Emanuel's Council. We'd get the lift built, start a long overdue visioning process, strengthen our connections with our community of churches, celebrate the 500th anniversary and put a bow on another successful year. And we largely did that. However as the old saying goes, "People make plans and God laughs."

So, there were some unexpected hurdles. Brett Judson resigned and we went through a long, thoughtful and prayerful process to identify and bring on board Dr. Jun Lee as his successor to continue building on our already strong music programs. Pastor Cady took another call which was clearly the right and best decision for him and for his family, but one that we'd not anticipated. And, in this environment of national tension, we experienced a threat of violence against one of our neighbor churches. I'm personally proud to be part of a Council able to work through these challenging issues with calm dignity and with respect for each other and for the members of our church.

The lift is complete and is now available to ease access for any who need it. Unexpectedly, this project led to a larger discussion around changes we can make to eliminate or reduce other building obstructions for those with limited mobility. Pastor Cady's departure inspired us to enter into an intentional interim ministry agreement with Pastor Hammons which is a year long process of healing, self discovery and transition that dovetails brilliantly with our planned visioning process. And the reminder that the evil of the world is not just 'out there' pushed us to start creating a policy and plan to deal with, and respond to, threats of violence—work that has begun and that we hope to complete early in 2018.

2017 was truly an interesting and amazing year.



### ***The Parish Registry***

Membership at end of 2016: 1,171

**Members Gained in 2017:**

Baptism (15 years or younger):	5
Adult Baptism	0
Affirmation of Faith:	6
Affirmation of Baptism:	0
Transfer from other denomination:	0
Transfer from other Lutheran:	0
Transfer from Evangelical Lutheran:	0

Total Members Gained in 2017: + 11

**Members Removed in 2017**

Death:	11
Inactivity:	0
Removal Requested:	1
Transfer:	7

Total Members Removed in 2017: - 19

**Membership Total at End of 2017 = 1,163**

**Attendance Record**

Total Sunday worship services:	79
Total weekday worship services:	21
Total Holy Communion services:	94
Average weekly worship attendance:	139

**Pastoral Acts**

Baptisms:	5
Adult Baptisms:	0
Confirmations:	4
Weddings:	0
Funerals of members:	11
Funerals of non-members:	10

## *Emanuel's Seminarians*

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**Dan Purtell** is pursuing a Master of Divinity from United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia.

**Eric Heinrich** is pursuing a Master of Divinity from United Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia.

### ***Emanuel commemorated and celebrated the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in various ways in 2017.***

- Hosted a Reformation Bookstore (March 19—26, 2017)
- Showing of Rick Steves' Luther and the Reformation film at the Parkade Cinemas in Manchester (May 24, 2017)
- Included "fun and interesting facts" about Martin Luther and the Reformation in the monthly newsletter as well as Sunday bulletins and the weekly email update throughout the year.
- Historical information about Martin Luther hymns was shared in Sunday bulletins throughout the summer.
- Pastor Cady presented at program about Katie Luther for Ruth Circle (October 3, 2017).
- Three Wednesday evening worship services were held jointly with Concordia Lutheran and Faith Lutheran Churches during the summer (one at each house of worship). The sermon for the June worship service (June 21, 2017) focused on the German influence on the Reformation, the sermon for the July worship service (July 26, 2017) focused on the Scandinavian influence on the Reformation and the August worship service (August 23, 2017) focused on the North American influence on the Reformation.
- Held a joint service with Concordia (October 22, 2017). Eric Heinrich, seminarian, preached.
- Participated in the New England Synod Reformation 500th Commemoration Service held at Concordia. (October 29, 2017).
- Hosted a Trivia Game Night focused on Martin Luther and the Reformation as part of our annual pasta dinner (November 22, 2017).







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### ***Prayer Shawl Ministry***

This ministry brings together women of Emanuel who knit or crochet shawls for distribution to those in need of comfort, peace and joy. Since this ministry was started in 2003 we have distributed many, many shawls. How wonderful is that! Also when we have extra shawls we have contributed them to the Hospital Chaplincy Program for which they have been extremely grateful. We thank all who have contributed to this wonderful ministry. We hold our meetings every other month on the third Monday. We welcome all to join us.

Coordinators: Doris Johnson (860-871-1498) and Norma Wirta (860-875-5163)

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### ***Ministry to the Bereaved***

It has been a wonderful ministry and we are sorry to say that we are unable to continue. Our hope is to have someone take this over or to be able to set up and clean up when food is brought in. We would be glad to give you ideas as to how we have been doing this. We would like to thank all those who have volunteered to help us make these receptions possible.

Coordinators: Doris Johnson (860-871-1498) and Norma Wirta (860-875-5163)

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### ***The Cards for Caring***

The Cards for Caring Team consists of seven caring individuals who take the time to connect to several of our homebound members by sending cards each month. The members of Emanuel who receive these cards very much appreciate this connection with their church family. Thank you to the members of this group: Marge Andersen, Alice Carlson, Jane Jauss, Ruth Lehrach, Jennie Macione, Barbara Soares, and Nancy Whiton.

Coordinator: Nancy Whiton (860-643-1193) [nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org)

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### ***Visitor Volunteers***

Our dedicated group of members gathers once each month to assemble, fold, label and stamp the *VISITOR*. We enjoy each other's company and share devotions once the work is finished. In addition to the *VISITOR*, we may do additional projects when the church office has need of assistance. With so many of our members receiving the *VISITOR* electronically, the time we spend has lessened. We now start at 9:30 AM each month, so there is no conflict with parking during nursery school drop-off. We look forward to continuing this fellowship and work in 2018.

## ***Seasonal Sharing***

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Emanuel was able to provide food and gift support during the 2017 holiday seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas for many of our Manchester neighbors from MACC and Head Start. Through generous money and gift donations from members of our congregation, we were able to provide food for 30 families at Thanksgiving and food and gifts for 4 families at Christmas. Also, many members of our congregation donated time to pack and deliver food orders and shop and wrap for gifts at Christmas. We also received two Thrivent gift cards of \$250 from Sue and Bruce Tracey which allowed us to purchase ten, \$50 gift cards of which two went to Head Start families who were added to our list after the food order was placed. The remaining cards were given to families associated with Emanuel. Lastly, we also received a special donation this year from Shop Rite when it decided to not charge us for our Christmas order of food. Cindy, Sallie and I are so grateful to all of you for the support that you provide this ministry. We cannot do this without your support. Thank you!

### **Seasonal Sharing**

Total Donations/Little White Church: \$2,097

### **Thanksgiving**

Total Cost of Food: \$2,086.26

Total Number of Families: 30      MACC: 10    Head Start: 20      Adults: 51    Children: 71    Total: 122\*

(\*—This number does not include the late addition of 2 Head Start families who received gift cards.)

### **Christmas**

Total Cost of Food: \$0

MACC Families: 4      Adults: 4    Children: 5    Total: 9

Coordinator: Linda Jackson

## ***Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC)***

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MACC's mission is to provide food, clothing, shelter and advocacy for the unmet basic needs of people in our community. Established on January 19, 1973, Emanuel was a charter member of the Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC), which has grown to become Manchester's primary social services agency. MACC serves residents of the towns of Manchester and Bolton and is the largest private, nonprofit social services agency in the state located east of the Connecticut River. Currently, 36 area churches govern MACC policy. MACC employs a dedicated staff of professionals and relies on thousands of volunteers every year to fulfill its mission. Every day, 365 days a year MACC provides needed social services to the community. Their work is excellent, and consistently reflects Christian compassion. Anyone interested in local, hands-on service, should consider offering time to MACC, as well as gifts of food, clothing and cash.

MACC Charities located at 466 Main Street, Manchester, hosts a Community Kitchen, a Food Pantry, and the Community Threads Thrift Shoppe. They recently opened a restaurant, *Bistro on Main*, in downtown Manchester. Each of these missions continues to need volunteer support. If you would like to volunteer, call: 860-647-8003.




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### ***Sunday Church School***

“Whirl” from Augsburg Fortress is a faith formation program that hosts children ages Pre-K through Grade 5 each Sunday during the school year. Whirl lessons are lectionary based. Every Whirl lesson follows a four-part sequence: Welcome, Hear, Respond, and Launch (WHRL!). Each week, kids and leaders start their time together by identifying where they are in the church year and watching an animated video to set up the lesson. Next, they dive into the Whirl Story Bible or Whirl NRSV Bible together, respond to the scripture lesson with creative leaflet activities, and circle up to review the lesson and pray before being sent out. The students are dismissed to Sunday School from the second service and return at the passing of the peace to participate in communion with their families. On holiday weekends, a Children’s Sermon is offered by the pastor.

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### ***Faith Stepping Stones***

The intention of the Faith Stepping Stones program is to bless the child, gift the family, and call the parents to the promises of baptism. Emanuel hosts several of the Faith Stepping Stones including:

***Bonded into the Body*** - Parents and sponsors are invited to learn about baptismal promises with the pastor as they prepare for their child’s baptism. It is an opportunity to learn about resources in place at Emanuel for families.

***Splash!*** - Families that have been baptized at Emanuel receive a monthly, age appropriate newsletter to support the faith development of children up to 36 months of age. It’s a wonderful resource and comes with a CD each year.

***Entry into Sunday Church School*** - On Rally Day in September, all three-year old children are invited to come and be blessed at the altar as they begin their Church School years. Families are gifted with a Bible for Preschoolers.

***My Bible*** - Students in Grade 3 are invited to receive the Whirl Children’s Bible on Rally Day in September. The children are encouraged to bring this bible to the **Sunday Church School** program.

Contact: Christine Carlson at [ccarlson@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:ccarlson@emanuelmanchester.org) or (860-643-1193) for more information.

### ***Head to Heart Confirmation Grades 6, 7 & 8***

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Hosted on Wednesday evenings September through April, Head to Heart is a well-loved program for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. 9<sup>th</sup> grade students are also part of the program until their Affirmation of Baptism service on Reformation Sunday each fall. Worship at the conclusion of the Wednesday evening event continues to be an important component of the program. Through student led prayer, music and communion, the youth, guides and even some parents experience a mid-week worship.

Affirmation of Baptism is typically held in October to confirm our youth. The small group philosophy that “bonds kids into the body of Christ” with the help of caring guides and the hands-on experience of theater, art, and community service projects has nurtured these middle school students on their faith journey.

Contact: Cindy Hall (860-643-1193) or [chall@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:chall@emanuelmanchester.org)

### ***Communion for all God’s People***

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Education on Holy Communion occurs in March or April each year. Emanuel’s curriculum has three themes—Circle of Forgiveness; Come, Lord Jesus; and the Welcome Table. One theme is explored each year through hands-on learning experiences. Families receive several resources during these courses to use at home. Christine Carlson and the Pastor lead the workshop as well as engage in a dialogue with the families to answer any questions. All baptized children are encouraged and invited to the table each Sunday and also to come each year to this education process.

### ***Chestnut Hill Preschool***

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Chestnut Hill Preschool (CHP) began on September 16, 1974, as part of the weekday social ministry at Emanuel Lutheran Church. CHP is a state licensed preschool that serves 3-5 year old children. Our goal is to help children become enthusiastic learners. CHP provides the essential components of a positive beginning school experience: a child-oriented environment; a developmentally appropriate curriculum; a professional teaching staff; and family involvement. The school is open to all children regardless of race, nationality, or religion. It is our privilege to help children begin their educational journey based on the love and joy of learning.

Our community involvement includes Manchester School Readiness Council, Manchester Early Childhood Fair, Valentine Food Drive for MACC and the Relay for Life. The CHP Relay for Life team has raised over \$50,000 for the American Cancer Society since 2003.

Thank you to Lynne Gustafson, RN, Consultant, the Property Committee and the people of Emanuel Lutheran Church for their support of early education. Big news in 2017, Linda Wiley has retired from CHP after being CHP’s director for 41 years! Her dedication to CHP is greatly appreciated by all the teachers, parents and children.

Contact: Robin Toomey and Tiffany Buzzell, CHP Co-Directors (860-649-8383)

## ***National Youth Gathering 2018***

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We are excited to share with you the theme for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering, “This Changes Everything.” Our primary scripture will be Ephesians 2:8 *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”*



Grace is a foundational and distinctive piece of the Lutheran faith. This gift, undeserved and freely given, changes lives and perspectives as people realize they are enough because of what Christ has done and are called into the world to serve their neighbor and share the good news.

Our logo is a visual representation of our theme and the 2018 Gathering experience. It incorporates the coming together of a mosaic to reflect the diverse host city of Houston, as well as the idea that we are a church where *all* are imperfect and incomplete, yet we each belong in—and have an important place in—God’s masterpiece. The cross at the center of the logo is the focus—it is

God’s grace, through Christ’s life, death and resurrection, that changes everything for all people.

In her book “Woo: Awakening Teenagers’ Desire to Follow in the Way of Jesus,” Morgan Schmidt identifies the three central desires of teens.

*All youth desire:*

- Someone to become
- Somewhere to belong
- Something to do [that changes the world]

This past year the youth, families and adult leaders have been busy doing a lot of fundraising to make this trip possible. We are grateful to all the members of Emanuel who have supported us along the way. The plane tickets have been secured for 14 youth and 4 adult leaders who will be attending. There were many fundraisers in 2017 including: the Annual Used Book Sale, Monthly Can and Bottle redemption, Monthly Coffee Hours hosted by the youth, A Saver’s Used Clothing Collection, the Red Robin Fundraiser and Silent Auction, Setback Game Night, Thanksgiving Eve Pasta Dinner and the Holiday Scrip Fundraiser.

In 2018 the youth will continue to host monthly coffee hours and bottle collections. They will sell soup on Super Bowl Sunday, host a Dinner Theater Night and offer a Stock Sale in the late spring so that you can invest in the youth’s trip.

We look forward to sharing the experience with the congregation in early July after we return.

As young people desire and struggle to find someone to become, somewhere to belong and something to do, the Gathering seeks to be a ministry that helps define some of that or at least open up pathways of discovery. Ultimately, we want youth to understand the fierce love that God has for them, just as they are, and that by grace, through faith, they have been saved. When young people (or really any age person!) truly claim this reality, it indeed changes everything.

**Thank you Emanuel for your continuous support of this event for our high school youth & adult leaders!**



### *Friends of Music at Emanuel*

The concert season 2017-2018 marks the seventh series of the Friends of Music at Emanuel (FME). Since 2011, FME has been successful in bringing the finest quality chamber music to Emanuel Lutheran Church, the Manchester community and the greater Hartford area. Each year, FME sponsors six—occasionally seven—free concerts, which are widely publicized in the media and draw an increasing attendance each year.

To offer these concerts free to the public, FME's board sends an annual solicitation letter to music lovers at Emanuel and in the community. The board is very grateful to all of those who respond with their generous donations. To supplement those dollars, FME submits applications for grant money. The 2017-2018 season was supported in part by the Foulds Family Foundation. All monies received support the series in paying performers' fees, administrative costs, publicity, and the maintenance and tuning of Emanuel's instruments prior to each concert they are to be played. Members of the board receive no compensation. The concert series is totally independent from Emanuel's operating budget.

Because the concert season overlaps from one year to the next (October to May), FME presented three concerts in the second half of the 2016-2017 season and three programs in the current concert season. The following is a listing of the 2017 concerts: March 11, 2017 – The Alturas Duo, joined by Andean woodwind specialist Gonzalo Cortes, gave a program of Latin American music featuring flutes, guitar and viola; April 8, 2017 – FME presented two remarkable young musicians in their early teens, Martim Almeida from Portugal and Tyler Tan of Connecticut, who displayed incredible talent during their virtuosic program; May 14, 2017 – The Sebastians returned to the series offering an exceptional program of Baroque music by Handel, Telemann and Bach; (Preceding this program, Dr. Robert Galloway gave a pre-concert talk about the Bach composition, *Musical Offering*.); October 7, 2017 – FME welcomed Renaissonics, a Boston-based ensemble that specializes in rarely heard music from the Renaissance (Dr. Galloway enlightened the audience during a pre-concert talk); November 11, 2017 – Harmonia V, an innovative woodwind quintet, performed contemporary works by international composers; December 23, 2017 – Chorus Angelicus and Gaudeamus, two acclaimed choruses based in Northwestern Connecticut, presented a beautiful, inspiring program of Christmas music. After each concert, the board hosted a reception in Luther Hall, where concertgoers had the opportunity to meet the evening's performers and fellow friends of music.

In December 2017, Dr. Jun Lee, Emanuel's Director of Music, was welcomed to the board.

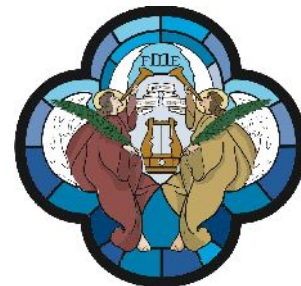
FME would like to thank Pastor Cady, Nancy Whiton, Anne Heinrich, Jim Hamilton and Rosemary Johnson for all they have done to help FME, and all of our contributors for their past and ongoing support.

Please visit [www.FriendsOfMusicAtEmanuel.org](http://www.FriendsOfMusicAtEmanuel.org) and [www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMusicAtEmanuel](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMusicAtEmanuel) for updates and concert schedule. The roster of artists for our eighth season will be announced soon.

Respectfully submitted by the Board of Directors:

Marjorie Andersen (Secretary), Rod Andersen, Ann Cook (Treasurer), Nick DuBaldo (Vice President), Ronald Erickson, Robert Galloway, Jun Lee and Susan Lionberger (President)

Artistic Director: Matthew Burry      Artistic Director Emeritus: Woosug Kang



## ***Altar Guild***

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Ruth Lehrach, Lay Leader (860-633-0575) [rlehrach9@aol.com](mailto:rlehrach9@aol.com)

Carol Adams, Linda Anderson, Kim Boerner-Mercier, Linda Eckblom, Linda Hempstead, Roberta Irish, Lisa Little, Judy Polito, Gail Porter, Elsa Robinson, Barbara Soares, and the "indispensible" assistants: Nelson Robinson, Berk Little, Martin Johnson, Mel Hellstrom, Doug Porter, Jack Soares, and Maylord Hempstead. We mourn the passing of Carl Eckblom.

Once again **"Thank You"** to the Emanuel staff, particularly Pr. Cady, Nancy Whiton, Anne Heinrich, and Kathy Hatch for their continued support. "Thank you" to Emanuel's present Altar Guild members. I personally appreciate Kim, Elsa, Nelson, Lisa and Berk who are now managing many of my leadership AG tasks! It still is my pleasure to serve as lay leader, 18 years and counting.

**The members of Altar Guild** serve Emanuel as part of the Worship and Arts Committee. The Lord's Supper brings all of us together as believers in Him who died and rose again for our sake. To be a member of our church's ministry that makes this sacrament possible



each week is an honor. The duties of the Altar Guild, like the work of so many involved in preparing for a service, may go unnoticed or taken for granted unless they are not done. Our role as caretakers, primarily "behind the scenes", is to prepare the chancel for corporate worship, communion, and to see that all is kept in good order. Once again Emanuel has been beautifully decorated for each Church season with appropriate

paraments, candles, flowers and banners.

**One of our 2018 goals will be to add additional members to our team.** We are looking to have YOU join us! In particular, we would appreciate one or two new AG members who attend Sunday's 8:45 AM service to reset the communion



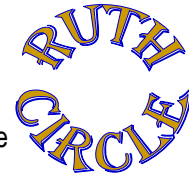
ware before the 10:30 AM service. You will have a chance to share in our ministry and fellowship and feel involved in a meaningful part of your church life. Training will be provided. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Pastor Maria Hammons or Ruth Lehrach.



## ***Ruth Circle***

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Ruth Lehrach, Co-Coordinator of Ruth Circle, (860-633-0575) [rlehrach9@aol.com](mailto:rlehrach9@aol.com)  
Marianne Wilcox, Co-Coordinator of Ruth Circle, (860-646-0455) [rowfamily@att.net](mailto:rowfamily@att.net)



**Ruth Circle had an interesting year in 2017** with monthly programs, planned by our Circle women but enjoyed by others in the congregation with selected programs open to guests. The Ruth Circle meets the first or second Tuesdays during eight months of the year to share friendship, faith, and service. We invite new members to join, as always. We mourn the loss of long time Ruth Circle members, Jean Hultgren and Barbara Bowman.

### **Highlights of 2017's programs were:**

Our noon February 7<sup>th</sup> Craft meeting was led by member Rene Goff. March 7<sup>th</sup> we enjoyed a "Yankee Swap" together. The April 4<sup>th</sup> evening meeting was highlighted by an informative program, "Planning Your Final Journey—End of Life Decisions", presented by Deena Steinberg, who has worked at the State Department of Social Services. At the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, we planned our programs for the September 2017-May 2018 meetings and enjoyed a potluck dinner together. Members discussed a change of leadership positions from elected coordinator, recorder, etc. to monthly responsibilities which was adopted as the format for the remaining 2017-2018 Ruth Circle year.

September 5<sup>th</sup> was "kicked off" with another potluck dinner....(we love to get together over food and just enjoy each others' company and 'catch- up'), especially after the summer months. Next it was October 3<sup>rd</sup> when Pastor Cady gave a very interesting presentation about the life of Katie Luther, wife of Martin Luther, and her impact on the Reformation.

The Annual Ruth Circle Christmas Luncheon was held Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Manchester Country Club. Our guest speaker, Beth Stafford, the director of MACC, joined us again this year. She gratefully accepted our monetary donation for diapers and our array of donated new layette and baby clothing which she distributes to clients of MACC throughout the year. Her service to the greater Manchester area is always educational and heartwarming to hear about.

Hope **YOU** join us in the coming months of 2018. You won't be disappointed! Guests are always welcome.

## ***HGLHC East***

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The Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective (HGLHC) is located in the Parish House. HGLHC's mission empowers individuals of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions to lead healthy lives through the provision of health and support services, education and advocacy. The vision of HGLHC will continually address, anticipate and respond to the comprehensive health needs of people of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions in Connecticut, while maintaining a financially stable and viable organization.

## ***Nominating Committee***

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Chair: Joe Jauss

Members: Eric Heinrich, Carol Kohl, Judy Anderson, Meg DePrato

The Nominating Committee seeks to identify and engage members of the Emanuel congregation to serve on Council, Nominating Committee, Finance Committee, and Endowment Committee.

In 2017, the Committee met to discuss term expirations and possible member candidates to fill open positions. The Nominating Committee wishes to extend its thanks to all members currently serving, as well as those whose terms have been completed. Without the involvement of our members, Emanuel's continued dedication to mission and ministry would be impossible.

Following is a summary of the expiring terms for these positions:

### **Congregation Council**

James Blair and Campfield Heinrich have completed their terms and have chosen not to serve an additional term. With our current slate of candidates we'll have 10 members serving; there are still two available positions on Council, though our By-Laws state we may seat 9 to 12 members.

### **Nominating Committee**

Eric Heinrich has completed his term and chosen not to serve an additional term, largely due to his Seminary commitments. We are seeking interested members to serve.

### **Endowment Committee**

The terms for Ray Purtell and Sylvia Hellstrom both expire in January. Sylvia and Ray have both agreed to continue to serve, although Ray will serve primarily in an advisory capacity. Katrice Sponzo resigned from the Committee December 1, 2017. We are still seeking other interested members to serve.

### **Finance Committee**

Barbara Bahan will be leaving the Committee in January. No replacement members have been identified for Finance and we are still seeking other interested members to serve, however, all current members are willing to serve an additional term.

### **The slate of candidates nominated for election at the January, 2018 Congregation Meeting is as follows:**

#### **Congregation Council**

Joseph Berneski (1 year term)

Joseph Jauss (3 year term)

Kyle Polito (1 year term)

#### **Endowment Committee**

Sylvia Hellstrom

Ray Purtell

Barbara Stephens

#### **Nominating Committee Terms**

Expiring in January 2018    Expiring in January 2019

Eric Heinrich

Judith Anderson

Joe Jauss

Meg DePrato

Carol Kohl

Joyce Halmers (left Emanuel 8/17)

#### **Endowment Committee Terms**

Expiring in January 2018    Expiring in January 2019

Sylvia Hellstrom

Jane Jauss (resigned 3/17)

Ray Purtell

Judy Polito

Katrice Sponzo (resigned 12/17)

Expiring in January 2020

Ben Halmers

## ***Property Committee***

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Chairman: Matt Heinrich

Members: Neal Benson, Michael Carroll, Mel Hellstrom, Sylvia Hellstrom, Berk Little, Paul Maulucci, Nelson Robinson, Dean Soares, Ray Wilcox and Kathy Hatch

During the year, the members of the Property Committee, supported by the diligent and extensive efforts of the Property Supervisor, Kathy Hatch, were busy with the never-ending tasks required to maintain and improve the buildings and grounds. These tasks were performed by members of the committee and occasionally by contractors. In addition, other members of the congregation also assisted and their contributions are recognized and appreciated.

The most significant project was the installation of the vertical platform lift that is now in place and facilitates the movement of people with mobility challenges. This project also required relocating the offices of the Receptionist (Copier Room), and the Director of Music as well as moving the computer servers to a more secure location in the lower level of the Parish Wing. In addition, the Committee also addressed many other projects that were anticipated as well as others that arose during the year. A partial list of additional tasks performed by the Committee is shown below:

- Installed more efficient LED lights in the sanctuary
- Installed automatic door openers at the exterior entrance to Luther Hall
- Repaired/replaced some of the flashing on the roof over the sanctuary
- Conducted an energy audit and replaced lights in the parking lots with more efficient LED lights
- Installed more efficient storm windows in the offices of the Minister of Programs and the Director of Music
- Repaired sidewalks to remove tripping hazards
- Replaced the seal between the building and the sidewalk near the entrance to Luther Hall
- Added hooks to the ceiling in Luther Hall to facilitate the installation of decorations while minimizing damage to the ceiling
- Repaired the sink and faucets in a restroom in the Parish Wing
- Pruned trees over the garage
- Repaired the dishwashers
- Repaired some of the chairs used in Luther Hall and the choir loft
- Replaced the mat in the narthex
- Re-pointed the front steps
- Painted the walls in the choir loft
- Repaired and insulated a pipe in the Parish House

During 2018 the Property Committee will continue to address various projects that will be required to maintain and enhance our facilities. Projects planned include:

- Evaluate building security and make any necessary changes
- Install new literature racks and/or cabinets to hold literature and food collection baskets in the narthex
- Repair and paint exterior wood trim

During 2017, Emanuel was inspected by state agencies, the Town Fire Marshall and Town Health Department. During these inspections, the inspectors spoke very highly of the condition of the facilities and identified a small number of minor items that needed to be addressed. The matters cited by the inspectors have all been remedied and at little or no monetary cost.

*(continued on next page)*



New members were added to the Committee this year and other members of the congregation are invited to join our efforts to enhance and preserve the facilities.

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Heinrich (860-643-2668) email: [fmheinrich@snet.net](mailto:fmheinrich@snet.net)

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PROPERTY COMMITTEE  
MAJOR MAINTENANCE ITEMS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS  
FIVE YEAR PROJECTED EXPENDITURES (ESTIMATED)  
January 8, 2018

MAINTENANCE

<u>Task by Priority</u>	<u>Total Estimated Cost (\$)</u>
1. Exterior Door, Office Entrance	13,000
2. Repair and paint exterior trim	10,000
3. Seal brick walls	15,000
4. Sidewalks, Parish House	7,000
5. Parish Wing Roof	20,000
6. Parish House Chimney Repair	4,500

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

<u>Task by Priority</u>	<u>Total Estimated Cost (\$)</u>
A. Snowbrakes/Snowguards – Sanctuary Roof	50,000
B. Air Condition Chapel/Community Room	10,000
C. Air Condition Parish Wing Classrooms, Offices, Library, Nursery	20,000

Prepared by Property Commission  
Matt Heinrich, Chairman

## **Designated Giving Committee**

The objective of the Designated Giving Committee is to disburse money from the Emanuel Memorial Fund and the Emanuel Benevolence Fund. Requests for funding come from church members and other sources. The committee members attempt to divide disbursements into three equal parts aimed at the following categories:

Church: Disbursements are used to improve conditions or assist members and staff at Emanuel.

Local: Disbursements are directed toward causes which impact conditions in our town, state or country.

Worldwide: Disbursements may be used to fund needs of global organizations.

At their February 20, 2017 meeting, the Designated Giving Committee decided to make the following distributions totaling \$3,725.00. The Congregation Council approved these disbursements at their meeting on March 21, 2017.

Request from the Property Committee for a new logo mat for the Narthex	\$675.00
Request from Pastor Cady for the Samaritan Fund	\$300.00
Donation to Emanuel's Youth for the National Youth Gathering	\$300.00
Donation to Syrian family for preschool tuition	\$600.00
Donation to Creative Living Community	\$700.00
Donation to LGBT Asylum Task Force	\$300.00
Donation for Sunday School's service project Lutheran World Relief – God's Gift of Clean Water	\$400.00
Donation to ELCA Good Gifts – to stock a health clinic for 6 weeks @ \$75 per week	\$450.00

Members of the Designated Giving Committee are: Elsa Robinson (Chair); Linda Eckblom, and Rich Marsh.

**CHURCH**



**LOCAL**

**WORLDWIDE**



## ***Stewardship Committee***

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Members of the Stewardship Committee:

Pastor Scott Cady; Susan Phillips Plese: Chairwoman; Nick Argentina: Secretary;  
Linda Anderson, Vicki Hoover, Kaitlin Anderson, Meg DePrato



The Stewardship Committee met roughly eight times during the past year. We planned one major event and a more inclusive stewardship campaign for 2017.

Our first Ministry Fair, May 7, highlighted the committees and work groups that make up the in-service mission of Emanuel Lutheran Church. Held in Luther Hall, members of the committees set up tables with informational material on our various groups, including Altar Guild, Creative Living Community of CT, Endowment, Emanuel Youth, Nominating Committee, Shawl Ministry, Stephen Ministries, Stewardship, Sunday School and several others. Through Thrivent, Linda Anderson purchased small gifts such as tote bags with uplifting messages, small bracelets for men or women and polished stones with a Christian word or symbol.

The committee also held a fellowship hour on Stewardship Sunday, Oct. 1, after each service. Both were well attended. By year's end Nancy J. Whiton reported that 112 households together pledged a total of \$272,270.00 for 2018.

We had often talked about teaching even small children how to give to the church. So this past year we initiated a way to encourage children ages about 5 to 10 to set aside some of their own money for Emanuel. We produced an illustrated paper-bound book called "Even Kids Can Help!" Our Church Secretary, Anne Heinrich, designed, stapled and printed the book. Written by Susan and illustrated by Kaitlin, all drawings were done in black outline, and the book was paired with crayons in a tote so children could color as they read. The children received their packages on Rally Day.

Several members have left the Stewardship Committee citing conflicts. New members are cordially invited.

Submitted by: Susan Phillips Plese, Chairwoman

## ***Men's Breakfast***

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On the Second Wednesday of each month, all men of Emanuel are welcome to come to breakfast at Friendly's on Buckland Road, just west of Buckland Hills Mall. On any given month, between 8 and 12 men have been attending. There is no agenda; just a time for men to spend easy time together. The conversation might revolve around jobs, cars, sports, politics, church issues, or favorite jokes. We meet at 8:30 AM and are usually on our way by 9:30 AM. This is a very pleasant way to begin the day, and helps build up the relationships that are so important to the overall ministry of Emanuel. We hope you can join us.

## ***Women's Breakfast***

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During the year 2017, a small group of women met the first Wednesday of each month at The Gathering at 471 Hartford Road, Manchester at 8:30 AM- 9:30 AM. We enjoyed the great breakfast food of delicious pancakes, egg sandwiches, omelettes and much more that is prepared daily. We enjoyed conversations about family, friends, health concerns, and some church issues. This is a great way to meet women of our congregation and to get to know each other better. The women invite members or friends who would like to join us.

## Endowment Committee

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The Endowment Committee is charged with overseeing the congregation's Endowment Fund which is invested with and managed by The ELCA Foundation. Since its humble beginnings in December 2006, fund balances have grown significantly as a result of additional donations and appreciation of invested assets. On September 30, 2017, the fund balance totaled \$238,238.88. YTD returns were 12.72% as compared to benchmark results of 11.69% for the ELCA Pooled Trust. Fund balances by category were: Education (\$48,094); Extended Ministries (\$45,549); Structural Preservation (\$62,507); and, Music (\$82,089). The funds are performing well and are being administered with their original intent.

As a living, breathing source of funds for the work of the church, the Emanuel Endowment has supported a variety of ministries. This year funds were disbursed to fund energy efficiency improvements at the church, support the Reformation 500 celebration, make repairs to musical instruments and to support the choirs, assist a new ELCA congregation, feed a refugee family, support Emanuel's seminarians, make irrigation canal and well water improvements in third world countries, and support students at the Milner School in Hartford. The ministries supported by Emanuel's Endowment are many and diverse. Disbursements are making a difference within the congregation, in the broader community and across the globe!

All these benefits are occurring while simultaneously providing a stable source of revenue to support Emanuel and its ministries well into the future. Thanks to additional donations and the positive impact of compounding of interest and investment gains, our fund continues to grow as does our ability to support worthwhile ministries each year.

This year the Committee presented two temple talks to increase awareness of the fund and participated in the ministry fair. The Committee also solicited proposals for fund disbursements from members of the congregation and made recommendations to Council. On behalf of the church, we thank you for your continued support.



Committee members include Judy Polito, Sylvia Hellstrom, Ben Halmers and Ray Purtell. A full committee would total six members. If you have an interest in serving, please see a member of the Endowment Committee or a member of the Nominating Committee.

### Expiring in January 2018

Ray Purtell  
Sylvia Hellstrom

### Expiring in January 2019

Jane Jauss (resigned in March 2017)  
Judy Polito  
Katrice Sponzo (resigned in December 2017)

### Expiring in January 2020

Ben Halmers

## **Finance Committee**

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### **Members**

Jim Hamilton (Co-Treasurer), Rosemary Johnson (Co-Treasurer), Stephen Quatrocelli (Chair, Secretary), Bruce Johnson, Thomas Leo, Eric Carlson (Financial Secretary), Barbara Bahan, Barton Sattler, Stacey Himler, Ann Cook (Council Liaison)

**Finance Committee Description:** This committee assists the Congregation Council in its responsibilities for the financial matters of this congregation and shall consist of a minimum of six voting members of the congregation serving staggered three-year terms with respective tenures arranged so that one third of the terms expires annually. Members of the Finance Committee are eligible for two full consecutive terms of three years. This committee shall:

- Prepare a draft budget for the succeeding year and shall submit such draft budget to the Congregation Council for its action and later presentation to the congregation meeting.
- Exercise oversight of all the financial affairs of the congregation including the current budget, off-budget accounts, insurance program, and the computer network to make sure that they are being conducted efficiently and report monthly to the Congregation Council.
- Recommend to the Congregation Council distribution of the congregation's special funds (e.g., legacy gifts), insurance coverage and maintenance and upgrades to computer network.
- Recommend investment allocation of the congregation's funds to the Congregation Council.

A Finance Committee member provides monthly reports to the Congregation Council. When significant expenditures arise, the Finance Committee solicits assistance from congregation members who have expertise in evaluating proposals.

### **Perspectives on 2017 Congregation Budget**

#### **INCOME:**

- Member contributions, the sum of pledges, unpledged and use of special/loose exceeded budget by \$1,658. The actual pledge income exceeded 100% of the amount pledged, better than the 95% - 98% in most years.
- Income from external sources was \$4,753 over budget.
- Total income exceeded budget by \$6,412.

#### **EXPENSES:**

- Total expenses were \$5,817 less than budget.
- Most of the savings was in the compensation line where total compensation expenses were lower than expected.

#### **NET INCOME:**

- The combination of higher income and lower expenses produced a \$9,393 surplus, verses an anticipated budget deficiency of \$2,836.

### **Benevolence:**

Emanuel's 2017 benevolence includes \$43,768 to the New England Synod and \$6,000 to MACC.

We acknowledge and thank our treasurers, Jim Hamilton and Rosemary Johnson, and our Administrative Assistant, Nancy Whiton, for their service to Emanuel. We acknowledge and thank the Emanuel Housing Corporation for its continued support of Emanuel's extended ministry.

Stephen Quatrocelli, Finance Committee Chair

***Operating Budgets—2017 Budget—2017 Actual—2018 Proposed***

	<b>Congregation Approved</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<b>Council Proposed</b>
	<b>2017 Budget</b>	<b>2017 Actual</b>	<b>2018 Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Pledges/Envelopes	\$292,196	\$292,795	\$266,825
Unpledged/Anticipated Giving	\$53,822	\$60,404	\$58,628
Special/Loose	\$17,000	\$11,477	\$12,700
Use of Church/Misc	\$21,500	\$26,253	\$22,400
Sprint	\$26,952	\$26,952	\$26,952
Housing Board	\$27,000	\$27,000	\$27,000
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$438,470</b>	<b>\$444,882</b>	<b>\$414,504</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Benevolences			
New England Synod	\$43,562	\$43,768	\$40,578
MACC	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$10,000
Subtotal	\$49,562	\$49,768	\$50,578
Compensation			
Car/Cellphone Allowance	\$2,220	\$1,682	\$1,500
Education	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,500
FICA/Medicare	\$22,519	\$21,109	\$18,725
Housing	\$38,000	\$33,430	\$20,000
Benefits	\$32,480	\$29,245	\$23,495
Salaries	\$180,920	\$182,928	\$213,823
Choir Section Leaders	\$12,000	\$11,250	\$6,000
Workmen's Compensation	\$3,580	\$3,067	\$3,500
Subtotal	\$293,720	\$284,712	\$289,543
Commissions	\$15,000	\$17,531	\$15,000
Buildings			
Maintenance	\$26,000	\$28,388	\$26,000
Utilities	\$21,000	\$17,967	\$21,250
Insurance	\$17,524	\$15,925	\$16,500
Subtotal	\$64,524	\$62,280	\$63,750
Office			
Postage & Operations	\$17,000	\$20,491	\$17,000
Technology	\$1,500	\$707	\$1,500
Subtotal	\$18,500	\$21,198	\$18,500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$441,306</b>	<b>\$435,489</b>	<b>\$437,371</b>
<b>Emanuel Reserve</b>	<b>(\$2,836)</b>	<b>\$9,393</b>	<b>(\$22,867)</b>



STATEMENT OF FUNDS AND GROUPS  
FY 2017

	Balance 1-Jan-17	Deposits (Gains)	Transfers	Disbursements (Losses)	Balance 31-Dec-17
MEMORIAL FUNDS					
Augusta Bengtson Scholarship Fund	6,722			500	6,222
Emanuel Memorial Fund	4,768	2,810	-1,200	1,691	4,687
Structural Preservation Fund	57,970	6,719			64,689
SPECIAL FUNDS					
Calumet Campership Funds	2,925	349		1,000	2,274
Current Benevolence	791	149		834	105
Elevator Fund	89,095	37,188		113,096	13,186
Emanuel Reserve	104,207	42,546			146,753
Endowments					
Christian Education	43,230	8,022		1,300	49,952
Extended Ministries	40,475	8,520		1,550	47,445
Music Fund	75,032	13,236	-2,608	392	85,268
Structural Preservation	56,190	11,359		1,900	65,649
Kevin Schulz Technology Fund	8,162	104			8,266
Lay Education	5,090	0		0	5,090
Music Fund - Organ Maintenance & Repair	11,773	200	0		11,973
Parish Nurse	3,379	3,060	600	1,985	5,054
Pastoral Housing	150,000				150,000
Bill White Calumet Campership Fund	14,359	46			14,405
Samaritan Fund	3,169	1,622	800	4,962	629
Special Music Fund	4,415	3,327	3,108	2,250	8,600
Special Property	46,424				46,424
St Lucia	1,485				1,485
Thrivent Choice	5,725	3,819	-3,000	1,000	5,544
GROUPS					
					0
Friend of Music	7,877	13,910		15,480	6,306
Prayer Shawl Ministry	177				177
Youth- National Gathering 2018	6,230	9,076	2,300	7,200	10,407
Ruth Circle	612	328		400	540

### ***Benevolence Report 2017***

New England Synod (12%)	\$43,768.00	
MACC	\$6,000.00	
Total		\$49,768.00
<b>Contributions, Events, Special Funds</b>		
Bright Stars of Bethlehem	\$1,615.00	
Calumet Reach the Beach	\$1,226.00	
Community Caring (Ruth Circle, Parish Nurse)	\$2,385.00	
Creative Living Community Of Connecticut	\$700.00	
ELCA Disaster Relief	\$2,770.00	
ELCA Good Gifts	\$1,100.00	
Hartford's Milner Elementary School	\$500.00	
Holiday Baskets	\$2,086.00	
LGBT Asylum Task Force	\$300.00	
MACC		
Member Donations	\$1,629.00	
MACC Souper Bowl	\$786.00	
Samaritan Fund Disbursements	\$4,962.00	
World Hunger	\$5,263.00	
Lutheran World Relief (including God's Gift of Clean Water)	\$4,520.00	
Total Contributions, Events, Special Funds		\$29,842.00
<b>Scholarships/Camperships Awarded</b>		
Seminarian Scholarships	\$1,900.00	
Camp Calument Camperships	\$1,000.00	
Total Scholarship/Camperships		\$2,900.00
<b>Non-Monetary Benevolence</b>		
MACC (Food & personal items, MACC pantry)	\$2,000.00	
Non-Monetary Benovelence		\$2,000
Total Benevolence		\$84,510.00

### ***Emanuel Housing Corporation***

Emanuel Housing Corporation (EHC) continues its mission to provide “rental housing to elderly members of Emanuel and/or other elderly or needy people of Manchester, Connecticut, and surrounding communities.”

EHC was organized in 1990 as a separate, non-profit corporation, with ties to Emanuel Lutheran Church of Manchester, CT. (ELC)

The EHC currently maintains two properties, each with four, one-bedroom apartments located close to the church. One or two apartments normally are available during the course of a year. (Individuals desiring to be on a Waiting List for an apartment should make this known by writing to the Emanuel Housing Corporation, 60 Church Street, Manchester, CT 06040.)

All units are in good living condition. However, the buildings are approximately 100 years old and need continual maintenance to meet current housing codes.

Some major repairs were undertaken during the year. The roofing on 71-73 Church Street was replaced, as well as the outside rear stairs of 71 ½ Church Street. The cement entry walkways for both houses were replaced, and a new hot water unit to feed the four apartments at 36-38 Church Street was installed.

EHC intends to keep the same rental rates for 2018.

EHC has budgeted a \$27,000 commitment to ELC over the course of 2018.

Kathy Hatch continues to serve as EHC Property Manager, and James Willhoft, CPA, continues to provide bookkeeping and tax preparation services.

The EHC Annual Meeting was conducted by the Emanuel Lutheran Church Council on April 18, 2017. At that meeting Paul Berg and Eric Haaga were re-elected to the board for a second three-year term.

Current members and officers of the EHC Board of Directors are:

Rodney Andersen - President - term expires April 2018  
Gail Porter - Treasurer - term expires April 2019  
Paul Berg - Secretary - term expires April 2020  
Eric Haaga - term expires April 2020  
Bruce Johnson - term expires April 2018  
Berkley Little - term expires April 2019

The Board of Directors may have up to seven (7) members. Evening meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month are held at Emanuel. Individuals interested in serving on the Board are encouraged to contact any member of the EHC Board for further information.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rodney Andersen, President  
EHC Board of Directors

## *Creative Living Community of Connecticut, Inc. (CLCC)*

**Vision:** CLCC envisions adults in Connecticut with and without developmental disabilities as valued and contributing members of our society, exemplified in a model community to be created in eastern Connecticut where all members experience a sense of belonging, share resources, and enjoy a happy life.

**Mission:** CLCC seeks to create a shared, inclusive living experience for individuals with and without developmental disabilities in a farm community, by focusing upon the gifts of all in mutually rewarding relationships.

**History:** CLCC was established as an Emanuel mission team by its Council in March 2007, which provided the IRS 501(c)(3) status required to apply for grant funding. In July 2007, CLCC was awarded a \$25,000 grant by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Deaconess Community for project start-up activities. In September 2008, CLCC became a CT not-for-profit corporation. In November 2008, CLCC was awarded a \$70,000 grant over three years from Church in Society, Lutheran Services for the Elderly Endowment, of the ELCA Foundation to develop and implement the proposed Greenhouse Entrepreneurial Program. In February 2009, the nonprofit 501 (c)(3) status was obtained from the Internal Revenue Service. The financial functions provided by Emanuel's Treasurer were successfully transitioned in March 2009 to the CLCC Treasurer and CLCC became an independent entity. Early in 2012 a lease agreement was finalized with the Tolland County Agricultural Center, Inc., (TAC) Board of Trustees to place the greenhouse program on its property in Vernon. The greenhouse was ordered in March and constructed in April and May with the help of many volunteers. Growing of micro greens began in June of 2012. Propane heat and the inside water farm hydrant were installed in November of 2012. In 2014 CLCC hired three part-time employees, a Greenhouse Coordinator, a Greenhouse Program Manager, and an Executive Director.



### Key accomplishments this year include the following:

- Conducted due diligence items regarding the 78-acre farm in Chaplin including, environmental and hazardous substance testing, boundary and A-2 surveys, and worked on zoning changes. Unfortunately, the Chaplin Planning and Zoning Board denied the zoning changes that were presented and our purchase option for this land expired. Therefore, we re-established the Land Acquisition Committee and are actively looking for another suitable property for the CLCC farm community.
- Continued working with Housing Enterprises, Inc., to submit an IDASH (Intellectual Disability Autism Spectrum Housing) application for grant money from the Department of Housing.
- Secured Schadler Selnau Associates architecture firm and developed schematics for the overall farm community as well as designs for the housing components.
- Developed Service Plan and Community Programming documents for future use in the farm community.
- Held a workshop with the CT Fair Housing Center in March.
- Worked with Kiron Bhaskar to develop a Sustainability Action Plan for the farm community. Kiron has a Masters degree in Environmental Sustainability from Harvard.
- Continued to develop and expand the greenhouse program hosting 37 people that have IDD (Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities), their support persons, and over 100 other volunteers. Over 4,500 hours of volunteer time was tracked.
- Conducted greenhouse open houses in March (including a workshop on the uses of micro greens), April (Sheep and Wool Festival), and October (focusing on volunteer recruitment).
- Implemented an outdoor garden program growing edible and fresh-cut flowers and vegetables.

*(continued on next page)*

## ***Creative Living Community of Connecticut, Inc. (CLCC)***

*(continued from page 33)*

- Provided micro greens to many restaurants including 21 Oak, 2 Hopewell, Avert, Bistro on Main, Bricco's, Cafemantic, Carbone's (Bloomfield, Hartford and Rocky Hill), Costa del Sol, Deanston House, Firebox, Max Amore, Max Fish, Max Oyster Bar, Noble & Co, Pond House at Elizabeth Park, Rooster Co, Take Five Cookery, Trattoria da Lepri, Trattoria Toscana, and Vinted Restaurant and Wine Bar.
- Also provided micro greens to Nature's Grocer and Willimantic Co-Op and started taking regularly scheduled orders from individuals.
- Participated in the Coventry Winter Farmers Market and South Windsor Farmers Market.
- Attended the Harvest New England Festival in March, Plant Science Day at CT Agricultural Experiment Station in August, and CT Farm Bureau annual event in November.
- Held a volunteer appreciation lunch at the greenhouse in April.
- Retained Sallie D'Attilio as the Program Coordinator and Alex Koenigsberg as the Executive Director. Working on hiring a replacement for the Greenhouse Coordinator position.
- Continued working with students and adult staff from CREC: John J. Allison, Jr. Polaris Center from East Hartford.
- Began the "Arts in the Afternoon" program in September (which includes weaving), attended by 10 people.
- Held some workshops including making a Spring Wreath in April and Salad Bowl Garden in May.
- Began hosting bowling outings at Silver Lanes in East Hartford and Dave and Busters in Manchester.
- Held a Yard Goat game outing in May, a visit to Round Hill Alpacas in November, and a Holiday Shopping night in December.
- Hosted the Sr. Moments group from Vernon at the greenhouse in June.
- Held a CLCC Day at Foster Farms in South Windsor in October.
- Held the first annual Winter Celebration event in February at the Deanston House.
- Held the fourth annual Farm to Table dinner in July at Arrigoni Winery in Portland, CT with Take Five Cookery providing the catering and special guest Laura Hutchinson attending as emcee.
- Held the first annual Golf Tournament fundraiser in September at Twin Hills in Coventry.
- Completed the redesign of the CLCC website; <https://creativelivingcommunityofct.org>
- Distributed a Birdies for Charity mailing in the Spring and sent several news e-mail blasts.
- Distributed the eighth Annual Giving letter in November.
- Received revenue from many individuals, corporate and foundation donations, greenhouse product sales, the Farm to Table dinner, Winter Celebration event, Golf Tournament, Thrivent Financial Action Teams, Travelers Birdies for Charity program, Friends of G! Friends Fest at Rose's Berry Farm in Glastonbury, Chipotle fundraiser, Paint Nite fundraiser at On the Border in Rocky Hill, Amazon Smile, and other miscellaneous sources.
- Received several grants for allocation towards operating and greenhouse costs including, Hartford Steam Boiler, Taco White Foundation, Westfield Bank Foundation, Northeast Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc., and Peridot Foundation.
- Began the groundwork for a Capitol Campaign. Hired consultant Abbie von Schlegell for advice regarding building the organization for a capital campaign. Held a grounded visioning session in June, which confirmed our vision for the future has remained consistent. Updated the CLCC Strategic Plan in preparation for a capital campaign and began planning for cottage meetings.

- Renewed membership and participation in the CT Nonprofit Alliance, the Manchester Community Services Council (MCSC), CT Northeast Organic Farmers Association, the Eastern CT Chamber of Commerce, the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce (TCCC), and Northeast Family Credit Union.
- Continued to develop relationships with several organizations including many that support individuals with developmental disabilities such as MARC, MARCH Inc. of Manchester, Journey Found in Manchester, Community Child Guidance Clinic of Manchester, Bristol ARC, Autism Speaks, Tolland County Agricultural Center, Center Congregational Church in Manchester, Calvary Presbyterian Church, Vernon Rotary Club, East of the River Chambers of Commerce Association, CT Land Conservation Council, UCONN Extension program, EASTCONN Sustainable Energy program (ISE), CT Fair Housing Center, LISC (Local Initiatives Support Corporation), Innovative Autism Network, and Opportunity Works in Vernon.
- Attended events at the Capitol such as ASRC Family Advocacy Day and Legislative reception in May.
- Presented CLCC to the Puzzle Pieces group at Travelers in April and the North Central Community Collaborative in December.
- Participated in networking events such as the TCCC Business Showcase at Maneeley's, LEARN Disability Summit at Mohegan Sun, Emanuel Ministry Fair, and ASRC (Autism Spectrum Resource Center) Fair.
- Attended educational workshops including Letter of Inquiry, Writing Winning Proposals, Logic Models for Program Development and Evaluation, Creating a Budget, Donor Communication, Marketing, Endowment, Board Leadership, Planning for a Successful Inbound Marketing Strategy, and Finance.
- Continued participating in the Leadership Greater Hartford Leaders on Board Express Match program.
- Maintained active committees including Fundraising, Finance, Governance, Greenhouse Safety, and Program.
- Formed several ad-hoc groups during the year to achieve specific goals including Strategic Planning, Parent Advisory for various needs of our developing farm community, Community Awareness, Land Acquisition, and Capital Campaign Planning.
- Continued board development activities at monthly board of directors meetings and held a special strategy meeting in January. Expanded the board of directors from 8 to 13 members.

CLCC's primary objectives for 2018 are to continue and expand the greenhouse entrepreneurial and the arts in the afternoon programs, seek out and obtain property for the farm community, and work with Housing Enterprises, Inc., to obtain funding for the initial housing for the farm community. The board and team appreciate the nurturing support of the Emanuel community. Your support is very important to the successful achievement of CLCC's vision and mission.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tamara D. Kearney, President and Board Chair







*"...called, gathered, sent out into the world..."*



Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church is a member of New England Synod of the  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

