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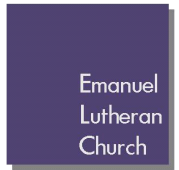
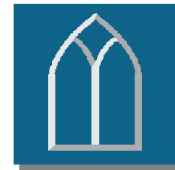
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**April 2018**

# Emanuel Lutheran Church



A Member of the New England Synod of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,  
a "Reconciling In Christ" Congregation



# Visitor

## From the Pastor

### Surprised by Easter!

Easter is upon us! And we are filled with joy as we watch the children enjoy their Easter baskets and show off new Easter outfits. I'm wondering if we may even see some "Easter bonnets".

We are blessed as we gather together to worship our Risen Lord! Hearts filled with Alleluias! Easter Worship filled with our favorite hymns, special music, beautiful flowers, and the joy of our community of faith in fellowship. A time we are especially blessed to welcome "the stranger in our midst"—inviting new faces to join with us in worship and fellowship, to hear God's Word, to trust in God's promises, and to know God's love.

Easter is a day filled with joy-filled surprises. And as we listen to God's Word, if we really listen to the Easter Story, we'll hear the Good News about the best surprise...the most joy-filled surprise ever!

One thing's for certain, the women at the tomb on that very first Easter Sunday were surprised! First by an earthquake; but that was nothing compared to the surprise of an angel appearing to them, like a lightning bolt, out of nowhere.

The angel tells them that Jesus has been raised, just as He promised. The women remembered Jesus' words; they remembered He said that He would be raised after three days, and they had **come to see**. The angel rolled the stone away and said, **Come, see the place where He was laid**. And then they encountered their next surprise—the **empty tomb**—God's promise fulfilled!

But that's not the end of the story; far from it. In so many important ways, it's only the beginning!...For these faithful disciples...and for us.

The angel sends the women on a mission, "**Go and tell** the disciples that Jesus has been raised from the dead...He's going to Galilee. You will see Him there." And as the women set out on their mission, they encounter their best surprise...because while they're on their journey, they **see Jesus**!

Jesus tells them **not to be afraid—not now, not ever**. And He gives them a command that can best be translated—**Keep going and keep telling!**

Emanuel friends—the heart of the Easter mission message can be summed up in three easy phrases...

- **Don't be afraid!** The Promise of God's mercy and love is for all people, all times, all places. Trust in those promises, they are yours!
- **Come and see!** We gather as a faith community to be nurtured & challenged by God's Word, to be strengthened & nourished by the Holy Meal. Let our God surprise you with joy!

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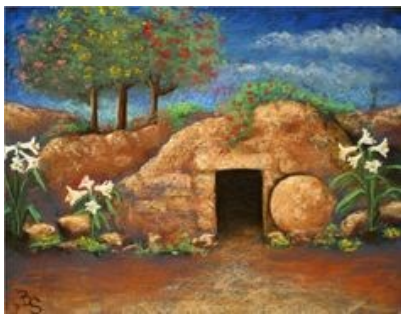
# From the Pastor...

(continued from page 1)

- **Go and Tell!** Better yet—**Keep going & keep telling!** Think about it—if those 1<sup>st</sup> century disciples had not **kept going & kept telling** the Easter story...and shared the message of God's love & forgiveness—we in the 21<sup>st</sup> century would never have heard...never have known...God's promise.

**So...Don't be afraid! Come and see! Go and tell!**

And may the joy-filled surprises of Easter warm your heart and bless your life!



*Pastor Maria*

*He is not here ...  
He is risen!*

## Worship Survey Results

Two worship surveys were taken during the months of February and March. Thank you to all those who participated.



### Singing the Benediction at the 8:45 AM Service

The first was a survey for those who regularly attend the early service. There had been some interest expressed in singing the same benediction hymn during the early service, as is sung during the later service. We had 41 responses (excellent rate of return), and here are the results:

Every Sunday	17.5
Sometimes	18.5
Never	5

Results were shared with those attending the early Worship Service on the following Sunday. Pastor Maria said that, based on the results, the benediction would be sung "sometimes" and that those "times" would be based on Church seasons, as appropriate (e.g. we sang it during the Epiphany Season, we're not singing it during the Lenten Season; we'll sing it during the Easter Season). Those present seemed to accept this as an acceptable compromise.

### Special Epiphany Service & Hymn

Our second survey was to obtain feedback on the special Epiphany Service we used during our five weeks of joint services, along with the new Marty Haugen hymn "Choose to Hope" which we were introducing to the congregation.

First, a couple of points of clarification:

This survey was specifically to gain feedback on the *Unfailing Light* Service, rather than worship in general (that survey will come later in April); so general worship comments are not included.

- We thought we had explained that the reason we sang the hymn "Choose to Hope" each week was to give the congregation a chance to learn it (especially those of us who are not *musically-gifted*.) We're sorry if there was some confusion about that. It's worth noting that several people said that it took them a few weeks to learn it well enough to sing it, but then really liked it.
- Some people commented that the Service was too long. Jun and I are aware of that concern, and would adjust the Service if used again.

Unfortunately, we only received 24 responses to our survey, so certainly not fully representative of those who participated in each week's Worship Service. However, since that is all we have to go on, here are some overall results:

16 responses were overall positive

3 responses were on the fence

5 responses were overall negative

**Note:** some who did not like the Service overall, still liked the new hymn.

### Some specific comments of concern:

- Not fond of Marty Haugen's work or contemporary worship music (over sentimental)
- Prefer ELW liturgical settings/format
- Would like to use the traditional service more often on one Service Sundays (feels we most often use the contemporary service)
- Concerned that Lutheran visitors would not recognize the Service or find it meaningful
- Prefers a more familiar liturgy
- Too much liturgical singing required
- Missed the Psalm

### Some specific comments of appreciation:

- Liturgical prayers were thought provoking
- Loved hearing choirs together/ individually
- Singing *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying* before and after the prayers of the church
- Liked that the liturgy used the piano
- More current language; confessional prayer
- Good blend of traditional & contemporary
- Hymn—positive message of **Hope** for our times
- Liked doing something different
- Inclusion of the different instruments
- Felt like more people were engaged/singing



# From the Parish Nurse

By Lynne Gustafson

## ***Dementia—Part One***

Have you ever forgotten a name, or where you put your car keys, or you have gone into a room and wondered why you were there? When this happens, do you think am I just getting older or is there something more serious going on? So what is the difference between the normal aging process and something more serious such as dementia?

Recently, I attended a workshop entitled: Understanding Dementia. The presenter was Esther Corcoran, Program Director for the Alzheimer's Association, and caregiver to her husband Mark. It was one year after they were married that Mark, age 57, was diagnosed with atypical early onset Alzheimer's. Her expertise comes both from dementia research and her experiences in caring for Mark.

So what is dementia? Dementia is a general term for the loss of memory and other cognitive abilities serious enough to interfere with daily living. Another analogy is one we are all familiar with—cancer. Cancer is the general term for all malignancy but there are various types of cancer such as breast, lung, and lymphomas. So it is with dementia. There are eleven different types of dementia and the most common type is Alzheimer's which accounts for 60-80% of all cases of dementia. The second most common type is vascular dementia.

Of the 60-80% of Alzheimer's cases, 11% of these occur after age 65 and 33% after the age of 85. To date there is no one diagnostic test that confirms the diagnosis; rather it is diagnosed by eliminating other causes such as dehydration or urinary tract infections. In order to rule out other causes it is very important to have a complete evaluation including physical, neurological, psychiatric, nutritional and psychological evaluations including MRI and PET scans. Risk factors include age and family history.

Vascular dementia is caused by conditions that block or reduce blood flow to the brain, depriving the cells of oxygen and nutrients. Changes can occur suddenly following a stroke or blood clot that blocks a major blood vessel.

So what is the difference between dementia and normal aging? Some of the signs of normal aging include, making a bad decision once in a while, missing a monthly payment, forgetting which day it is and remembering it later, sometimes forgetting which word to use and losing things from time to time. In contrast the signs of Alzheimer's/dementia are: poor judgment and poor decision making, inability to manage a budget, losing track of the date

or season, difficulty in having a conversation and misplacing things and being unable to retrace steps to find them.

The Alzheimer's Association has identified ten (10) warning signs of this disease. I have already identified six signs and the other four will be described in more detail. The first is trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships. One may complain about their vision but when they have an eye exam the problems is not their visual acuity but the fact that the brain is unable to interpret what they are seeing. They are also unable to judge distances or space. For example they are unable to judge the space between stairs so they may often fall. Driving becomes difficult and they will often experience fender benders. Another sign is a change in mood and personality. They can become confused, suspicious, depressed, fearful or anxious. They may become upset in places where they are out of their comfort zone. Another sign is memory loss that disrupts daily life. This is the most common symptom in the early stages. They forget recently learned information, forgetting important dates or events, or asking for the same information over and over again. Because they have problems with memory, the tenth sign is withdrawal from social activities. They do not want to participate in their favorite hobby or playing games because of the changes they are experiencing.

Early identification is important because changes take place within the brain long before the person experience's memory loss. The brain is the communication system for the body. Each part of the brain consists of groups of nerve cells that have special tasks. Some groups are responsible for thinking, learning and memory, while others help one to see, hear, smell and give us mobility. Other brain cells operate like tiny factories. They receive supplies, generate energy, construct equipment and get rid of wastes. Cells also process information and communicate with other cells. Keeping this operation running requires coordination as well as large amounts of energy and oxygen. Scientists believe that the brain's communication system is compromised when there is a large buildup of plaque and tangles.

Plaques are deposits of protein fragment called beta-amyloid that builds up in the spaces between the nerve cells and tangles are twisted fibers of another protein called tau that build up inside the

*continued on page 10*

# Church Events

**Easter Story and Egg Hunt**  
**Sunday, April 1st at 11:45 AM**  
 (meet in the Community Room)



Children ages 10 and under are welcome to join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt following the second service. After church please head down to the Community Room for some crafts and an Easter story, followed by an egg hunt in the Sanctuary where 400 eggs will be hidden and six golden eggs! *Great fun for everyone!*

**Ruth Circle**  
**Tuesday, April 3rd at 6 PM**



Ruth Circle will be taking a field trip this month to the CLCC Greenhouse for a tour. Meet at Emanuel in Luther Hall at 6 PM to carpool to Vernon.

**Women's Breakfast**  
**Wednesday, April 4th at 8:30 AM**  
**The Gathering, Hartford Rd., Manchester**



**Healing Prayer Worship Service**  
**Sunday, April 8th**

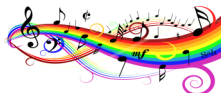


Healing Prayer is available for all who would like to receive it during both worship services at 8:45 AM & 10:30 AM. We'll also collect donations for the Samaritan Fund in the Narthex.

**Men's Breakfast**  
**Wednesday, April 11th at 8:30 AM**  
**Friendly's, Buckland Rd., Manchester**



**The Sound of Emanuel Concert**  
**Saturday, April 21st at 7:00 PM**  
**in the Sanctuary**



Please join us for a concert of wonderful music! The musicians for the evening are Andrew Secker, tenor, Grace Helmke, flute and Taryn Kuzma, soprano. A reception will follow in Luther Hall. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted and all proceeds will benefit *Emanuel's Special Music Fund*.

**Youth Led Worship Service**  
**Sunday, April 22 at 10:00 AM**

Please join us for a single worship service at 10 AM. The youth of Emanuel will lead the entire worship service. This will be a unique and enjoyable service!

*The National Youth Gathering group would like to cordially invite you to a*

**Tex - Mex Lunch and Theater**  
**Sunday, April 22, 2018**  
**11:30 AM in Luther Hall**  
 (immediately following the Youth Service worship at 10:00 AM)



Enjoy a wonderful lunch of tacos, salsa, chips, salad and desserts! Take a chance on great raffle basket prizes! You'll be entertained by the youth as they present Faith Inkubator Skits!



Free Will Offering (suggested \$12 per person donation)

*Help us reach our goal of \$1,500 to get Emanuel's group of 18 to Houston this summer!*

*There are Sundays available to host Coffee Hour. Please check the sign-up sheet in the office hallway for a Sunday to host our fellowship time!*



Concordia Lutheran Church  
 (40 Pitkin Street in Manchester)  
 would like to invite you to a

**Mother's Day Tea with**  
**"The Victorian Lady", Kandie Carle**

**Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>**

*(Program from 1:00 - 2:30 PM with High Tea served at 2:45 PM)*

Program includes audience participation and there will be a Mother's Day Basket Raffle!

Tickets are available in the Church Office at Emanuel.  
 \$12.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students ages 11-18.

*Reservations are required by Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.*



## APRIL 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <i>Children's Story at 10:45 AM</i> <i>Worship Service</i> <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:45 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:30 AM</b> Easter Story & Easter Egg Hunt - CR/SA <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>2</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>3</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:00 PM</b> Ruth Circle - field trip - meet at Luther Hall <b>6:30 PM</b> Head to Heart Confirmation - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Small Group Transition Meeting - at the Little's home in East Hartford <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Smile - LH	<b>4</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Breakfast Group at The Gathering <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library <b>6:00 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA <b>7:00 PM</b> FME Board Meeting - LH <b>7:00 PM</b> Small Group Transition Meeting - at the Lehrach's home in Glastonbury	<b>5</b> <b>4:00 PM</b> MARCH, Inc. Spring Fling - LH <b>4:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Anthem Choir - SA <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - YR	<b>6</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <i>Healing Prayer</i> <b>8:45 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:45 AM</b> Finance Committee Meeting - Library <b>10:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:30 AM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA <b>12:00 PM</b> Small Group Transition Meeting - at the Purtell's home in Hebron <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> <b>VISITOR NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> <b>5:15 PM</b> Executive Committee Meeting - Library <b>5:30 PM</b> Personnel Committee Meeting - Youth Room <b>6:30 PM</b> CLCC Finance Meeting - Library <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Smile - LH	<b>11</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Men's Breakfast Group - Friendly's on Buckland Rd. <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library <b>2:30 PM</b> Small Group Transition Meeting - at the Hellstrom's home in Manchester <b>6:00 PM</b> Small Group Transition Meeting w/ New Day Singers - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Worship & Arts Meeting - Library	<b>12</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - YR	<b>13</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:30 AM</b> Endowment Committee Meeting - Library <b>11:30 AM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA <b>12:00 PM</b> Small Group Transition Meeting - CR <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>16</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> CLCC Board Meeting - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Property Comm. Mtg. - Library	<b>17</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:45 PM</b> Council Devotions - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Council Meeting - CR <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Smile - LH	<b>18</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library <b>6:30 PM</b> Lenten Program Review/Discussion and potluck dinner - LH	<b>19</b> <b>4:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Small Group Transition Meeting w/ Anthem Choir - LH	<b>20</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>21</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Special Music Fund Benefit Concert - Andrew Secker, Teryn Kuzma & Grace Helmke - SA/LH
<b>22</b> <i>Youth Led Worship Service</i> <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:00 AM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA <b>11:00 AM</b> NYG Luncheon Theater w/ Silent Auction - LH <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:00 PM</b> CLCC Program Meeting - YR <b>6:30 PM</b> Head to Heart Confirmation - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Emanuel Housing Corp. - Library <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Smile - LH	<b>25</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library <b>6:30 PM</b> Racial Relations Kick-Off Night - Meal at Concordia <b>7:00 PM</b> Racial Relations Documentary Film Night at Concordia	<b>26</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Visitor mailing - LH <b>4:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:00 PM</b> Werner Music Studio Rehearsal - SA <b>7:00 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - CR	<b>27</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:00 PM</b> Werner Music Studio Recital and Reception - SA/LH	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:30 AM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA <b>11:45 AM</b> NYG Meeting - Luther Hall <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:30 PM</b> Ruth Circle - LH <b>7:30 PM</b> AA Smile - YR	<b>2</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Breakfast Group at The Gathering <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library <b>7:00 PM</b> Evening Book Study Group on "So You Want To Talk About Race" at St. Mary's	<b>3</b> <b>4:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - YR	<b>4</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>5</b>

The Church Office will be CLOSED on Monday, April 2.

# Transition Times

From Pastor Maria Hammons

*Dear Friends in Christ...*

Our transition journey continues! On Sunday, March 11, we commissioned Emanuel's Transition Team: Joe Jauss, Diane Gawlinski, Matt Heinrich, Krystn Ledoux, and Ray Purtell. Thank you all for agreeing to serve in this very important ministry.

That same day, more than 50 parishioners gathered for Emanuel's "Holy History" Transition event. Together we "discovered" Emanuel's history from the 1940's through 2018, learning how what was/is happening in the world, in the local Manchester community, and in religion in general, shaped what was happening at Emanuel, how it impacted your decisions and ministries, and how it contributed to your becoming the congregation you are today. It was a fun and interesting day. Thanks to everyone who participated, to Anne Heinrich for making sure we had lunch, and to all who set up and cleaned up for the event!

Small group transition meetings have also begun, and more are scheduled during April. *Please see the article with all the details on page 9 of this newsletter.*

The goal of these small group transition meetings is to provide informal opportunities for Emanuel's parishioners to share their hopes and dreams, as well as their fears and concerns, about the future of the Emanuel congregation. 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 especially important conversation to have during our transition journey. And the reality is that the more of you who actively participate, and the more diverse the participation is, 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 your local community? If you told someone that you belong to Emanuel Lutheran in Manchester, how would you want them to *fill in this blank* ...“Oh, that's the Church that does ...”?

What dream would inspire and energize you as a congregation? If we are able to faithfully “dream”—trusting in God to provide and lead us—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 passion, embraces your vision & mission, understands your challenges, and compliments your gifts.

Please join us for these small group conversations. Make sure you have a voice in the process. We need to hear you!

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

I know not the way God leads me, but well do I know my Guide.

*- Martin Luther*

## Do you shop on amazon.com?

Well, if you do, you now have the opportunity to support Emanuel just by shopping at Amazon. To connect with Emanuel as a charity, follow this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-0662122>.



You will continue to shop at the same Amazon you love, but you will enter the site through a different link. Once you sign up, then each time you shop you will enter [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) in your browser and you will automatically be connected with Emanuel as your chosen charity!

If you have any questions about the program, or if you have difficulties finding Emanuel through the Smile link, please contact Anne Heinrich by email: [aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org) or call the Church Office, 860-643-1193.

# Our Community

From Pastor Maria Hammons

## OUR COMMUNITY... Faith...Local...Global

*Peace be to the whole community, and love with faith...Ephesians 6:23*

*There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.*

—Margaret Wheatley, author

*I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can.* — George Bernard Shaw, playwright & Nobel Prize winner

*Community... a unified body of individuals.* — Merriam-Webster Dictionary

**Community**...a word we often use...but do we really think about what it means? At its most basic... *community* can be broken down to *with unity*. So what does that mean? Are their implications beyond the obvious idea of being unified? And exactly what does it mean to be unified? Does it mean that everyone has to agree? Or is it possible to have communal disagreement...disagreement *with unity*?

And what does it mean to be part of a community? Is it different than being a member of a club? Is community meant to be “exclusive” or “inclusive”? Is it to do with fellowship or ownership...or both? Are we aware of all of the communities in which we have membership...even those that we didn’t necessarily actively join?

Do we appreciate the gift of community, the gifts present in our community(ies)? Do we realize the power that comes from being “in community”? Do we accept the responsibility that is often unspoken, but inherent, in being part of a community?

These are all questions that I’d ask you to ponder for our conversations during this transition time at Emanuel. It has come up in several meetings that Emanuel seems to have, over time, lost a sense of being a community in the best and most faithful way. So this transition time provides us with an opportunity to explore why this may have happened...and why it matters. Does it? What’s the impact?

To give us additional food for thought along the way, I’ve created an acrostic representing different themes of *community* as it relates to a church body. I’ll use these themes as the topic for newsletter articles in the coming months.

**C**oming Together  
**O**utreach  
**M**utual Love  
**M**ission-Minded  
**U**nity in Spirit  
**N**ew Life in Christ  
**I**nspired to Serve  
**T**rusting & Thankful  
**Y**earning for More... Yearning for God.



**Community**...a word with many meanings. And one thing’s for sure...I thank God for each of you, for your ministry, and for bringing me here to be a part of the Emanuel *community* of faith!

With prayers for the journey!

Pastor Maria

**The Flower Chart is posted in the Office Hallway.**

Please sign up for Altar or Lectern Flowers to memorialize a loved one or celebrate a special occasion. You may call the Church Office at 860-643-1193 to check if a particular date is available.



*Jesus said, "Take up your cross and follow me."*

As Christians, we know we are a pilgrim people on this earth only for a brief while. In that way, liturgical processions are meant to symbolically represent this truth. Led by the Cross of Christ, we gather for worship – comforted, strengthened, and challenged in our faith. Then we again follow the Cross as we are sent into the world. And, ultimately, we follow the Cross to the promise of eternal life.

Therefore, it seems only appropriate, as we prepare for Holy Week, that we should turn and follow the Cross as it leads us from the joy of Palm Sunday to the betrayal of Maundy Thursday, on to the sorrow of Good Friday, until – finally - we are able to embrace the grace and wonder of the Resurrection.

It is my hope that we will be able to "follow the Cross" during this most special season of the Church, as a sign of our belief that it is "in the shadow of the Cross" that we are gathered for worship, and then sent to share and serve. The Cross of Christ leads us from our gathering as a faith community in Emanuel's beautiful sanctuary, to be a light of hope in a broken, hurting world.

**Are you willing to carry the processional cross for us on Sunday mornings** beginning on Palm-Passion Sunday, and continuing through at least the Easter Season? You don't need to wear an alb, or sit up front, or say a word. You can be any age or gender. The only requirement is that you are physically able to carry the processional cross ~ to bring it forward during the gathering hymn, and then carry it out during the sending hymn. **If you are willing and able, please contact me at [pastormhammons@gmail.com](mailto:pastormhammons@gmail.com).**

*In the shadow of the Cross...Pastor Maria*

### Lay Minister Schedule for April 2018

Worship Assistants	April 1 Easter	April 8	April 15	April 22 Youth led worship	April 29
<b>Greeters 8:45</b>	Tom & Bev Leo	Marci Lombardo Marianne Wilcox	Nelson & Elsa Robinson	<b>10:00 - Youth</b>	Barton & Lisa Sattler
<b>Greeters 10:30</b>	Meg DePrato Jodi Eskin	Kris Fournier Anne Heinrich	Ben & Misty Halmers		Wally & Roberta Irish
<b>Acolyte 8:45</b>				<b>10:00 - Youth</b>	
<b>Acolyte 10:30</b>	Ryan Carlson				Ben Grant
<b>Assisting Minister 8:45</b>	Marge Andersen	Ron Erickson	--	<b>10:00 - Youth</b>	Marge Andersen
<b>Assisting Minister 10:30</b>	Doug Johnson	--	Kim Boerner-Mercier		--
<b>Lector 8:45</b>	Jim Reuter	Elsa Robinson	Ivan Wasko	<b>10:00 - Youth</b>	Marianne Wilcox
<b>Lector 10:30</b>	Susan Hebert	Campfield Heinrich	Joe Jaus		Ron Lehrach
<b>Communion Assts. 8:45</b>	Lynne Gustafson Joy Hansen Sylvia Hellstrom Jeannine Johnson	Carol Kohl Elsa Robinson	Marianne Wilcox Rod Andersen	<b>10:00 - Youth</b>	Joy Hansen Matt Heinrich
<b>Communion Assts. 10:30</b>	Ben Grant Justin Guerrero Campfield Heinrich Paxton Heinrich	Herb Lindahl Rich Lindahl Dean Soares Cheryl Strybrat	Mark Strybrat Nancy Whiton Carol Adams Donna Connolly		Laura Dolcelli Sam Dolcelli Kris Fournier Ben Grant
<b>Ushers 8:45</b>	Judy Anderson Barbara Bahan <b>2 Volunteers Needed</b>	Eric Haaga Sylvia Hellstrom <b>2 Volunteers Needed</b>	Matt Heinrich Marianne Wilcox <b>2 Volunteers Needed</b>	<b>10:00 - Youth</b>	Nelson & Elsa Robinson <b>2 Volunteers Needed</b>
<b>Ushers 10:30</b>	Kurt Buescher Jodi Eskin Dave Kent <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Ray Purtell Dean Soares <b>2 Volunteers Needed</b>	Carol Adams Rich Marsh <b>2 Volunteers Needed</b>		Meg DePrato Ruth Lehrach <b>2 Volunteers Needed</b>
<b>Hospital Visitor</b>	Sylvia Hellstrom	Susan Plese	Carol Kohl	Martha Eddy	Meg DePrato



# Small Group Transition Meetings

From Pastor Maria Hammons

## TRANSITION SMALL GROUP DATES— COME SHARE YOUR DREAMS FOR EMANUEL!

We've already held six small group meetings, and a number more will be held in April. The conversations have been enjoyable and insightful. I want to thank those of you who have shared your hospitality and your homes by hosting one of these meetings. I also want to thank all of you who have taken the time to attend one of these meetings, I know how precious free-time is. We've had good attendance 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 Emanuel congregation. 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.

And don't forget to mark your calendars for the full presentation on Sunday, May 6, at the special congregational meeting. I'll also be introducing and explaining the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) that day, and giving you an overview of the call process.

With prayers for the journey! *Pastor Maria*

### Future Open Small Group Transition Meetings

Tuesday, April 3, 7:00 p.m.	Home of Berk & Lisa Little, East Hartford <i>(Please RSVP to Lisa, Berk, or Pastor Maria)</i>
Wednesday, April 4, 7:00 p.m.	Home of Ron & Ruth Lehrach, Glastonbury <i>(Please RSVP to Ruth, Ron, or Pastor Maria)</i>
Sunday, April 8, 12:00 p.m.	Home of Ray & Kathy Purtell, Hebron <i>(Please RSVP to Ray, Kathy or Pastor Maria)</i>
Wednesday, April 11, 2:30 PM	Home of Mel & Sylvia Hellstrom (Manchester) <i>(Please RSVP to Sylvia, Mel or Pastor Maria)</i>
6:00 PM	Meeting with New Day Singers Choir
Sunday, April 15, 12:00 p.m.	<u>Open</u> meeting at Emanuel following worship
Thursday, April 19, 2:00 p.m.	<i><b>Snowbirds Meeting (working on setting this up, Skype?)</b></i>
7:00 PM	Meeting with Anthem Choir

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Special Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, May 6, 11:30 a.m.**

**~ Lunch will be served ~**

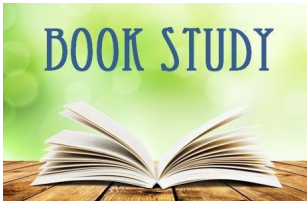
**Presentation of the results of the meetings regarding  
Hopes & Dreams, Concerns & Fears**

**Also – Worship & Music Survey feedback**

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

**And ... We kick off the Congregational Assessment Tool!**

**Please join us for this very important meeting!**



## Three Churches...One Book

Emanuel Lutheran, Concordia Lutheran and St. Mary's Episcopal Church, are teaming up to raise our awareness of racism, to learn more about how racism affects us and how we can talk about it with each other. Together we are offering a program, "Three Churches, One Book."

We'll be using a newly-release book entitled, *So You Want To Talk About Race*, by Ijeoma Oluo. On the Harper's Bazaar list of "One of 10 Books to Read in 2018", the editor said "Read it, then recommend it to everyone you know."

While we do not think this will be easy or comfortable, we do believe it is urgent for our Christian communities to be voices for racial reconciliation and forces for dismantling racism. This study gives us an opportunity to come together to begin the conversation.

There will be two book groups, one during the day and the other in the evening. The program is free and open to all. Here is the schedule.

### **Kick-Off Film Night - April 25, 2018 at Concordia Lutheran Church**

#### **A Time for Burning (1966) A Faith Based Documentary on Racial Relations**

#### **6:30 PM Meal & 7:00 PM Film and Discussion**

*From the original movie description:* "In the mid-1960s, 1200 White people attend Augustana Lutheran Church in Omaha, Nebraska. Nearby, "Negro" Lutherans worship at Hope Lutheran Church. Reverend Bill Youngdahl, Augustana's pastor, proposes that ten Augustana couples visit ten Hope couples. It's a controversial idea; within weeks, Youngdahl resigns. We watch as Augustana parishioners discuss the idea, the social ministry committee meets with Hope leaders, & Hope youth talk about race & religion. Ernie Chambers, a "Negro" barber, predicts Youngdahl's failure. Chambers' implacable questions help lead Ray Christensen, an Augustana social ministry member, to a conversion."

### **Daytime Book Study Group: Brown Bag lunch on Thursdays, May 10, 24, 31**

#### **12:00-1:30 PM at Emanuel Lutheran Church**

Co-facilitators: Karen Fedorchak, Deacon Emeritus, St. Mary's Episcopal, and Maria Hammons, Interim Pastor, Emanuel Lutheran Church

### **Evening Book Study Group: Wednesdays, May 2, 9, 16**

#### **Coffee and desert, 7:00-8:30 PM at St. Mary's Episcopal Church**

Co-facilitators: Ann Lovejoy Johnson, Pastor, St. Mary's Episcopal  
Douglas Barclay, Pastor, Concordia Lutheran Church  
Laura Hart and Mechelle OOrtegui, Leaders at St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The UCC Library in West Hartford will have eight copies available to borrow. We may use their "library ordering service" if we do a sign up from each church (watch for more information) or purchase it from your favorite bookseller.

*So You Want To Talk About Race* by Ijeoma Oluo. Copyright (c) 2018. Available from Seal Press, an imprint of Perseus Books, LLC, a subsidiary of Hachette Book Group, Inc.

*From the Parish Nurse...*  
continued from page 3

cell. Autopsy studies show that most people will develop some plaque and tangles as they age; however, in people who have Alzheimer's, they have abundance of plaque and tangles found in a predictable pattern beginning in the important areas of memory and then spreading to other sections of the brain.

In Part 2, I will describe the three stages of Alzheimer's and tips for the caregivers.

*Information for this article is from the Alzheimer's Association "Basics of Alzheimer's Disease".*

**Here is an easy way for you to help Emanuel's Youth get to Houston for the 2018 National Youth Gathering this June!**



In June, 14 youth and four adult leaders from Emanuel will be attending the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Houston. The donation site link below makes it easy for families and friends to assist in fundraising for everyone so they can attend the Gathering. All contributions will be greatly appreciated!

[www.youcaring.com/EmanuelManchesterNYG2018](http://www.youcaring.com/EmanuelManchesterNYG2018)

# Caring

## April Birthdays

Linda Hempstead	4/2	Beverly Chamberlain	4/7
Barbara Iacobucci	4/4	Beverly Fuss	4/19
Jean Rothe	4/5	Margaret Gustafson	4/19

Dear Pastor Maria,

Thank you so much for all your help with my mom's funeral. You made us so comfortable during the planning. You also made it seem like you had known her for quite awhile when giving the homily.

Our minister, Nina Schmidt, was glad to meet you and we are grateful for finding the dates for the Lucia Fest!

Please extend our thanks to your congregation for all the expressions of sympathy we have received from so many of them. Mom would have been pleased that so many of her church friends came to see her off. I'm not sure how many years she was a member of Emanuel, but it was a very long time.

Thank you again for all you did.

Sincerely,

Ingrid (Swanson) Fraize,  
Bill Fraize and family

Dear Family of Emanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$3,778.00 to MACC Charities from your quarter pledge and \$853 from Souper Bowl 2018. Showing up is half the battle for most things in life. We all can do it and we all need it. If you did not show up to help us care for people facing emergencies in life, MACC would not be here.

Keep Showing up,

Beth Stafford, Executive Director/CEO

## IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR MEMORIAL BRICKS

If you would like to have a Memorial Brick included in the Service of Dedication on Sunday, May 27, 2018 at 10:00 AM in Emanuel's Memorial Garden, please get your order form into the Church Office by Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Order Forms are located in the Narthex and in the Church Office. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Whiton ([nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org) or 860-643-1193).



## Women of the ELCA 2018 Spring Gathering

Saturday, May 5th from 8:45 AM—3:00 PM

Zion Lutheran Church, 513 Woodruff St., Southington, CT



The theme this year is: "It's better to build a longer table than a taller fence" and is based on the words written in Romans 12: 9-21.

Pastors Stephanie Pope and Pastor Joanna Hertzog Betkoski will present a work shop called "Love in Action" and IRIS (Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services) from New Haven will also host a workshop.

This event is open to all women and their friends and family. Cost is \$20. (includes morning coffee, refreshments, fellowship, a luncheon, two workshops and the closing worship service). Registration forms are available in the Narthex and the Church Office and are due to Zion Lutheran by April 30th.

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Worship Support Specialist

Rachel Helmke  
Worship Support Specialist



THE  
SOUND  
*of*  
EMANUEL

Andrew Secker, Tenor  
Grace Helmke, Flute &  
Teryn Kuzma, Soprano

Apr  
21  
7 pm




Emanuel  
Lutheran  
Church



60  
Church St.  
Manchester

Free-will offering to benefit Special Music Fund at Emanuel

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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60 Church Street  
Manchester, CT 06040