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**December 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

### THE MERRIEST GIFT OF ALL MUTUAL LOVE...



**Mutual** –directed by each toward other(s); shared in common;  
enjoyed by all

**Love** – strong affection for other(s) arising out of kinship or personal ties;  
unselfish, loyal, benevolent concern for good of other(s)

—Merriam Webster Dictionary

**Let mutual love continue.** Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing so some have entertained angels without knowing it. - Hebrews 13

**You purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.** - 1 Peter

**All you need is love...** - John Lennon

Jesus said to his disciples...

*A new command I give you.*

**Love one another.** As I have loved you, so you must love one another.

*By this all people will know you are my disciples, if you love one another.* - John 13

Over this last year we've been talking a lot about what it means to be **community** – a community that comes together to worship, grow in faith, listen to & support one another, share fellowship, and reach out & serve those in need. A community sharing **mutual love**.

As we begin our season of Advent, a time of waiting and anticipating God's gift of love in the Christ Child... it seemed like a good time to look back and see the signs of mutual love in that 1<sup>st</sup> century faith community... the faith community of that very first Christmas.

Here are a few...

- ◆ God's love for Mary, a young girl asked to give birth to the most precious gift of love ever, the baby Jesus.
- ◆ Mary's gift of love-accepting & trusting that "nothing is impossible with God."
- ◆ Joseph's love for Mary, as he marries her despite the scandal of her pregnancy... and Mary's love for Joseph as they move forward in their lives together.
- ◆ The love Mary and her cousin Elizabeth share as they celebrate their pregnancies.
- ◆ Mary and Joseph's love for this special newborn entrusted to their care.
- ◆ And, as he grew, we see Jesus' love for his mother and stepfather.

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## From the Pastor...

(continued from page 1)

It's no surprise that we find examples of **mutual love** in the Christmas story – it is, after all, the story of God's most wondrous gift of love to all creation.

And so it's no coincidence that even in the 21<sup>st</sup> century the Christmas season tends to be a time we feel communal love more deeply—not only in our Emanuel faith community, but also in our local communities and our global community. This time of joyful gift-giving is the best example we have of **mutual love**...for what greater gift has there ever been, than that of the gift of love given to us when our God came down to earth to live among us, to teach us about love, to model faithful love, to build a community of love, and to ultimately give the greatest gift of love in sacrificial love for all the people of the world...for us.

*For God so loved the world that God gave his only Son, so everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.* - John 3

The good news is that **mutual love** abounds here in our 21<sup>st</sup> century Emanuel community of faith. Here are just a few examples:

- ◆ Our Sunday School leaders & children
- ◆ Confirmants, Youth and Young Families who participate in our service projects
- ◆ *Friendly Visitors* & our homebound
- ◆ Our prayer shawl and healing ministers
- ◆ Those who volunteer time and money to support the ministries of MACC, the Creative Living Community, and the Emanuel Housing Corporation
- ◆ Our altar guild and everyone who participates in our worship services
- ◆ Our choirs and musicians who gift us with their love of music
- ◆ Our Council and Ministry leaders who donate their time
- ◆ Emanuel's staff who faithfully serve the congregation with dedication and joy.

Yes, mutual love abounds here at Emanuel! And I thank God for bringing me here to share in the faith-filled, joy-filled, **mutual love** of this faith community - with all of you!

One of my favorite Christmas hymns is *Love Has Come* by Ken Bible (*what a great name*). It reminds me that the true, best and most incredible **gift of Christmas** is **love**. The love of our God for us. The love of our *God with us* – *Emanuel*. The love of a baby in a manger, the Christ Child. A love that warms our hearts and makes us feel a little kinder, a

little more hopeful, during this special season. The love we share with our families, friends, our faith community. The love that inspires us to smile at a stranger and help those less fortunate. The love we have come to know in God's grace...a love the world so desperately needs to know right now. *A gift of love ...given...to be shared.*

So I want to share the hymn's final verse...along with my heartfelt wish that you & yours will have a Christmas filled with mutual love!

*Love has come and never will leave us!  
Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us.  
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift of Christmas;  
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!*

*Wishing you the peace, joy,  
& **Love of Christmas!** Pastor Maria*



### Healing Prayer Sundays are held on the first Sunday of every month at Emanuel.

The Healing Ministers are located in the Narthex. After taking communion those who wish to have healing prayer may proceed down the side aisles and through the back doors. There they may go to either healing minister. Jun will continue to provide music until the healing team returns to the altar. We have made these changes in order to provide a quieter and more private environment.



Please note, if you are unable to attend worship on the first Sunday of any month, but would like healing prayer, please contact Lynne Gustafson, Parish Nurse ([cgustafson01@snet.net](mailto:cgustafson01@snet.net)) or Pastor Maria ([pastormhammons@gmail.com](mailto:pastormhammons@gmail.com)) in person or by email and they will arrange a convenient time and place to pray prayers of healing with you. You may also call the Church Office (860-643-1193) for help.

# From the Parish Nurse

By Lynne Gustafson

In 2009, Manchester was designated by the Connecticut State Department of Public Health as a Heart Saver Community. To receive this prestigious designation, Manchester met the program requirements that stated a community must foster an environment that improves the survival odds for people suffering from sudden cardiac events such as cardiac arrest (SCA) or heart attacks by placing AEDS in public locations and to train community residents, and emergency responders. As part of the Manchester community we were able to purchase an automatic external defibrillator (AED) at a reduced rate. At that time we had seventeen members who were trained in CPR/AED.

During the Emergency Management Training, several people asked if we had an AED. Emanuel's AED is located on the wall next to the entrance to the church office. A First Aid kit is located on the top of the AED and a wheelchair is located under it. The AED is simple to use.

An AED is used when a person experiences sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) or a heart attack. A SCA differs from a heart attack. A heart attack occurs when the heart's blood supply is reduced or blocked and the heart muscle becomes injured or begins to die. During a heart attack the person is conscious and may be able to tell how he/she feels. In a SCA there is an electrical problem that causes the heart to beat in an irregular inefficient manner so that the blood can't circulate to the brain and the person passes out. In a heart attack the person has a pulse; in a SCA the person does not. However, one does not have to remember the difference between these two events because the AED will do it for you.

How does the AED work? When a person is in need of defibrillation, the machine sends an electrical shock to the heart. This shock resets the heart's electrical system and allows the heart to return to a normal heart rhythm.

The AED is safe and easy to use. If an individual passes out and is unconscious, you first check for a pulse and assess if the person is breathing. If there is no pulse and/or the person is not breathing, start CPR; call 911 and send someone for the AED. That person will retrieve the AED by pulling the handle on the door of the box to the right and removing the AED. Quickly bring it to the scene. With the AED are two sets of pads: one set for adults; one set for children. The machine is voice activated and it will simply and clearly give directions for its use. Place the appropriate pads on the chest as instructed. The machine will analyze the heart and will tell you if

the person needs to be defibrillated. As long as one follows the machine's directions, there is no fear of making a mistake. Again if the person does not need defibrillation, the machine will not be activated.

What if I do something wrong? The AED is designed to tell you exactly what to do. It keeps monitoring what you are doing and will adapt its instructions so that it doesn't overwhelm you. If necessary, it will reframe or repeat the instructions until you understand and take the appropriate action. If the person is unconscious and has no pulse, the person is clinically dead; so whatever you can do is better than nothing.

Another question that is often asked: Do I need to be trained to use the AED? The AED is designed so that anyone can use it immediately. The more familiar one is with the signs for SCA and how to use the AED, the more confident you will feel if a heart emergency occurs.

Presently, the Emergency Management Team is identifying members of the congregation who are CPR/AED trained. If you are trained, please contact the church office and give them your name. If you wish to be trained, also contact the church office or sign up on the connection card.

As 2018 comes to a close, I want to thank all of you who generously donated to the Parish Nurse Fund. Together we were able to help many who were in need. I also want to wish you all a very Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

God's Blessings,  
*Lynne*

**If you or a loved one are grieving, you are welcome to access a series of FREE videos** through the link listed below. There are seven videos in all covering various topics and most are about an hour in length. The following topics are covered in the videos: Caring for a Loved One with Alzheimer's, The Transforming Power of Caregiving, Changed Forever, Footprints on our Hearts, Grieving a Sudden Death of a Loved One, Helping Children Grieve, Helping Parents Grieve, Hope for Healing following a death by Suicide, Grieving the Loss of a Pet.

If you would like to access these videos from Paraclete Press, visit:

<http://paracletevideostreaming.com/>  
USERNAME: grief password: 1530



# Church Events

## Healing Prayer Worship Service Sunday, December 2nd



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

## Women's Breakfast Wednesday, December 5th at 8:30 AM The Vernon Diner, Vernon



# FME

FRIENDS OF MUSIC AT EMANUEL CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES  
2018 - 2019

**SUNDAY**  
**December 9, 2018**  
**at 4 p.m.**

RenMen, New England's professional male vocal chamber ensemble, will perform close harmony arrangements of old and new Christmas favorites.



## **Renaissance Men** **Emanuel Lutheran Church**

60 Church Street  
Manchester, CT 06040  
860-643-1193

**FREE ADMISSION**

**DONATIONS WELCOME**

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

[www.FriendsofMusicatEmanuel.org](http://www.FriendsofMusicatEmanuel.org)

### Designated Giving to Disburse Funds

Emanuel's Designated Giving Committee will be disbursing funds from the Emanuel Memorial Fund and the Current Benevolence Fund in December.

**If you would like to have your group and/or cause considered to receive funds, you must submit a request form to Nancy Whiton in the Church Office by Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.** You can pick-up a Request Form in the Church Office or print one off of the link on the Weekly Update.

*Please turn to page 10 for many exciting events and worship opportunities at Emanuel in December!*

## **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE ON CHRISTMAS EVE!**



We need volunteers to serve in the following ways for our three Christmas Eve worship services:

- 11:00 a.m.** Greeters, Acolyte, Assisting Minister, 2 Communion Assistants, 4 Ushers
- 4:00 p.m.** 1 Greeter, Lector, 4 Communion Assistants, 4 Ushers
- 9:00 p.m.** Greeters, Acolyte, Assisting Minister, Lector, 3 Communion Assistants, 4 Ushers

If you are willing to serve at one of the services on Christmas Eve, please contact Nancy in the Church Office at 860-643-1193 or email her at [nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org). Thank you!

Coffee Hour is held on Sundays at 9:45 AM between worship services. We'd love for you to host! The coffee is usually measured out and most often the first pot is even brewed! All you need to do is bring treats for the table, half & half for the coffee and juice for the kids!



You may call the Church Office at 860-643-1193, to reserve a date or sign up on the sheet posted in the Office Hallway.

### **Are you looking for ways to get involved at Emanuel as we look ahead to the new year?**

We have many opportunities for you to volunteer during worship. It is a rewarding and fulfilling experience to participate in worship in a different way than you are used to.

Training is provided and new volunteers are always welcome! *Please take a look at page 9 for the various ways that you can get involved.*

**Make 2019 the year you try something new!**

**Emanuel's Emergency Management Plan is posted on our website.** Visit: [www.emanuelmanchester.org](http://www.emanuelmanchester.org), click on the "Resources" tab on the upper left side of the page, then click on "Emergency Management Plan" on the tab that pops up on the right.

## DECEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> <i>Children's Sermon</i> <b>CHRIST THE KING</b> <b>WORLD HUNGER SUNDAY</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:30 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA <b>7:00 PM</b> Emanuel Housing Corp. - Library	<b>28</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library <b>12:00 PM</b> Racism in America documentary film series - at St. Mary's (brown bag lunch) <b>6:30 PM</b> Head to Heart Confirmation - CR <b>6:30 PM</b> Racism in America documentary film series - at Concordia (supper served at 6PM)	<b>29</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - CR <b>7:30 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR	<b>30</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:00 PM</b> Manchester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale Concert Rehearsal - SA/LH	<b>1</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>12:00 PM</b> Ruth Circle - Christmas Luncheon at Manchester Country Club <b>7:30 PM</b> Manchester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale Concert - SA
<b>2</b> <i>Healing Prayer</i> <i>Pastor Andrea Hoslett presiding and preaching</i> <b>8:45 AM</b> Worship Service <b>9:45 AM</b> Finance Meeting - Library <b>10:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary <b>4:00 PM</b> Lessons & Carols for the Season of Advent at Concordia Lutheran Church	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:30 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA	<b>5</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Breakfast Group at The Vernon Diner <b>10:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library <b>6:30 PM</b> Head to Heart Confirmation - CR	<b>6</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - YR <b>7:30 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR	<b>7</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>8</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR
<b>9</b> <b>MUSIC APPRECIATION SUNDAY</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:30 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>12:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary <b>4:00 PM</b> FME Chamber Music Concert Series - RenMen - SA	<b>10</b> <b>VISITOR NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Property Comm. Mtg. - Library	<b>11</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> CHP Baking Cookies in the Kitchen <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>5:15 PM</b> Executive Committee Meeting - Library <b>5:30 PM</b> Personnel Committee Meeting - YR <b>6:30 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA <b>6:45 PM</b> Council Devotions - LH <b>7:00 PM</b> Council Meeting - LH	<b>12</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library	<b>13</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> CHP Baking Cookies in the Kitchen (Snow Date) <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - YR <b>7:00 PM</b> Emergency Management Team - CR <b>7:30 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR	<b>14</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>15</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>4:00 PM</b> Hockanum Valley Ringers Christmas Concert - SA
<b>16</b> <i>St. Lucia Processional during both services</i> <b>ST. LUCIA SUNDAY</b> <b>8:45 AM</b> Worship Service <b>10:30 AM</b> Worship Service <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>17</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> CLCC Board Meeting - CR	<b>18</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA	<b>19</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library	<b>20</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - CR <b>7:30 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR	<b>21</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>9:30 AM</b> Visitor mailing - CR <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:30 AM</b> Altar Guild to set-up poinsettias - SA <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>24</b> <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> <b>11:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>4:00 PM</b> Worship Service <b>9:00 PM</b> Worship Service	<b>25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> <b>- OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>26</b> <b>CHRISTMAS WEEK</b> <b>- OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>27</b> <b>CHRISTMAS WEEK</b> <b>- OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - CR	<b>28</b> <b>CHRISTMAS WEEK</b> <b>- OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Lessons & Carols Worship Service <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>31</b> <b>CHRISTMAS WEEK</b> <b>- OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>1</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> <b>- OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA	<b>2</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Breakfast Group at The Vernon Diner <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library <b>6:30 PM</b> Head to Heart Confirmation - CR	<b>3</b> <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>

We are accepting pledge cards through the end of the year. If you would like a pledge card, you may pick one up in the Church Office or at both entrances of the Sanctuary.

## Lay Minister Schedule for December 2018

	December 2 Advent 1	December 9 Advent 2	December 16 Advent 3 <i>St. Lucia</i>	December 23 Advent 4	December 24 Christmas Eve*	December 30 Lessons & Carols
<b>Worship Assistants</b>						
<b>Greeters 8:45</b>	Lynne Gustafson Marci Lombardo	Matt & Barbara Heinrich	Tom & Beverly Leo	10:00 – Nelson & Elsa Robinson	11:00 AM – Volunteers needed 4:00 PM – Ann Linda Bray Volunteer needed 9:00 PM – Volunteers needed	10:00 – Marianne Wilcox Kim Boerner- Mercier
<b>Greeters 10:30</b>	Marc & Judy Polito	Mark & Cheryl Starybrat	Bruce & Sue Tracey			
<b>Acolyte 8:45</b>	Pam Rowett	--	--	10:00 – Volunteer Needed	11:00 AM – Volunteer needed 4:00 PM – Bella Carlson 9:00 PM - Volunteer needed	10:00 – Volunteer Needed
<b>Acolyte 10:30</b>	--	--	Bella Carlson			
<b>Assisting Minister 8:45</b>	Ron Erickson	--	Marge Andersen	10:00 – Kim Boerner-Mercier	11:00 AM – Volunteer needed 4:00 PM – Ryan Carlson 9:00 PM - Volunteer needed	10:00 – Doug Johnson
<b>Assisting Minister 10:30</b>	--	Kim Boerner- Mercier	Ryan Carlson			
<b>Lector 8:45</b>	Sylvia Hellstrom	Elsa Robinson	Barton Sattler	10:00 – Kim Boerner-Mercier	11:00 AM – Sylvia Hellstrom 4:00 PM – Volunteer needed 9:00 PM – Volunteer needed	10:00 – Mark Starybrat
<b>Lector 10:30</b>	Joe Jauss	Ron Lehrach	Ruth Lehrach			
<b>Communion Assts. 8:45</b>	Carol Kohl Marci Lombardo	Elsa Robinson Marianne Wilcox	Lisa Sattler Rod Andersen	10:00 – Lynne Gustafson Matt Heinrich Herb Lindahl Rich Lindahl	11:00 AM – 4 Volunteers needed 4:00 PM – 4 Volunteers needed 9:00 PM – Marci Lombardo 3 Volunteers needed	10:00 – Helen Johnson Jeannine Johnson Cheryl Starybrat Sue Tracey
<b>Communion Assts. 10:30</b>	Sue Tracey Laura Dolcelli Sam Dolcelli Kim Boerner- Mercier	Donna Connolly Jenn Davis Carol Adams Nancy Whiton	Kris Fournier Ben Grant Justin Guerrero Campfield Heinrich			
<b>Ushers 8:45</b>	Judy Anderson Barbara Bahan 2 Volunteers Needed	Vyrijil Buus Eric Haaga 2 Volunteers Needed	Matt Heinrich Sylvia Hellstrom 2 Volunteers Needed	10:00 – Rich Marsh Elsa Robinson Marianne Wilcox Volunteer Needed	11:00 AM – 4 Volunteers needed 4:00 PM – 4 Volunteers needed 9:00 PM – 4 Volunteers needed	10:00 – 4 Volunteers Needed
<b>Ushers 10:30</b>	Kurt Buescher Ray Purtell 2 Volunteers Needed	Carol Adams Jodi Eskin 2 Volunteers Needed	Dave Kent Ruth Lehrach 2 Volunteers Needed			
<b>Hospital Visitor</b>	Martha Eddy	Sylvia Hellstrom	Carol Kohl	Sylvia Hellstrom		Carol Kohl

Christmas Blessings  
from the Staff!



This Christmas...  
Our prayer is that you & yours  
Will be filled with...

The joy of the angels  
The wonder of the shepherds  
The wisdom of the Magi  
The faith of Mary & Joseph  
And the peace of the Christ Child.

Wishing you the gift of love  
this Christmas & always!

Nancy Anne Kathy  
Deacon Cindy  
Jun Danielle Julie  
Pastor Maria

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



In case of bad weather...  
the cancellation of Sunday services  
and other congregation activities  
will be announced on TV –  
NBC 30, WFSB 3 and WTNH 8.

Here are some simple reminders...

**If there is a parking ban in Manchester,  
there will be no Worship Services  
or activities held at the Church.**

**Also, 8:45 a.m. Worship attendees!**

... if it's snowing when you wake up,  
there will be no 8:45 a.m. Service.

**And finally ... During the week -  
If Manchester schools are closed  
or there is a parking ban,  
the church office will also be closed.**

This is important for everyone's safety.

So please check before you come...  
and then say a prayer for the safety of  
all those who have to be on the road!

God Bless & Be Safe!

**Christmas Poinsettias**

It is time to order the beautiful poinsettia plants for decorating Emanuel for Christmas! This year we would again like to offer two sizes. The 8 inch diameter pots with two red healthy, beautiful poinsettia plants are \$19.00 each. The 4 ½ inch diameter pots with one red healthy, beautiful poinsettia plant are \$5.25 each. These poinsettias are locally grown in Woodland Gardens' hot-house. Please complete an order form (on the back page of this newsletter) and submit your payment to the Church Office. **The deadline to order is Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.** You may designate them "in honor of", "in memory of", or "in gratitude for". You may pick up the poinsettias following the last service on Christmas Eve or when the Church Office reopens on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.



**HOCKANUM  
VALLEY RINGERS**  
CHRISTMAS HANDBELL CONCERT

Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 4:00 p.m.  
Emanuel Lutheran Church  
60 Church Street  
Manchester, CT 06040

Please join us this holiday season!

All concerts are free and open to the public. A free will donation will be graciously accepted.  
www.hvringers.com; 850-375-0333; www.facebook.com/hvringers

# Transition Times

From Pastor Maria Hammons

## TRANSITION TIMES UPDATE ... NOW WHAT?

- ◆ Call Committee Chairperson, Danielle Berneski, informed the congregation that the Call Committee has now received the profiles of pastoral candidates from the Synod Staff, and are in the process of interviewing the candidates.
- ◆ Once the Call Committee believes they have a potential candidate match for Emanuel's Pastor, they see the candidate preach at a "neutral site", i.e. not Emanuel and not the Pastor's current church.
- ◆ If, after the neutral site visit, the Call Committee feels the candidate is a good match for Emanuel, they will forward the profile to the Council and meet with Council members to talk about the candidate.  
*(If, at any time in the process, the Call Committee does not feel like they have found a match, they will contact the Associate to the Bishop and request additional candidates.)*

**Please remember the Call Committee's work is strictly confidential. They aren't permitted to talk about the candidates or interview dates, or basically anything except to explain how the process works. As chairperson, Danielle will make periodic Sunday announcements to keep the congregation informed. Please honor the need for confidentiality.**

- ◆ The Council then schedules a time to interview the recommended Candidate. Council can vote for the candidate to move forward to the congregation, or they can inform the Call Committee and Bishop of the reason they do not feel this person is a good match for Emanuel. If that happens, the Synod staff works to identify additional candidates and the process begins again with the call committee.
- ◆ Once Council approves a candidate, a financial package is negotiated by the Executive Committee with the candidate, and with the review/approval of the full Council and the Bishop.
- ◆ A special congregational meeting is then held on a Sunday morning, starting with worship, so parishioners can experience the candidate as they preach and preside. A representative of the Bishop will be present. The day before the worship service a reception will be held at Emanuel so the congregation and candidate have a chance to meet in a social setting.
- ◆ After worship, the candidate is asked to wait elsewhere, while the Synod representative leads the meeting. They will invite questions and discussion, after which a vote is taken for the congregation to approve the candidate as Emanuel's new pastor, and then to approve the financial package.
- ◆ Once the votes are completed and the candidate is approved, Emanuel's newly-called Pastor is invited back to the sanctuary and enthusiastically welcomed by the congregation.
- ◆ A start date is set with the new Pastor. If needed, the Synod Staff will help arrange for Supply Pastors for Sunday coverage until the new Pastor begins.
- ◆ The Pastor's first Sunday should be a Celebratory Worship Service (one service Sunday). ***The pastor and their family*** are warmly welcomed at worship and a celebration is held following the Service!

**And Emanuel's faithful journey continues!**

***Remember... A sign of God is that you will be led where you did not intend to go!***



Karin Buus

Danielle Berneski, Chairperson  
Lisa Little - Council Representative  
Campfield Heinrich  
Ron Lehrach

Carol Kohl

Marc Polito



## Opportunities for Ministry during Worship at Emanuel

### What is a lay minister?

A lay minister is a person whose spiritual gifts include the gift of service through hospitality and leadership. We welcome your participation in one or more of these important ministries. Together, they communicate God's grace to all. Ways to assist at worship:

- Greeters
- Ushers
- Acolytes
- Assisting Ministers
- Lectors
- Communion Assistants

### Greeters



Greeters have the gift of hospitality, the ability to joyfully welcome and receive everyone. Greeters are the first people guests meet upon entering for worship. The greeters' welcoming smile and handshake "set the tone" for how guests perceive the attitude of the worshipping congregation.

### Ushers



Ushers have the gift of hospitality by distributing worship bulletins and assisting with special needs of guests (i.e. assistive listening devices, cushions for your back). Ushers receive the offering and enter the attendance in the log book. After each worship service they return the sanctuary to pre-service order.

### Acolytes



Acolytes who serve are typically from 6<sup>th</sup> Grade through High School. Their duties are:

- Light the candles at the altar prior to the worship service
- Collect the offering plates from the ushers
- Extinguish the candles at the close of the worship service

We also have Acolytes who are adults. Their duties are to light the candles prior to the worship service and extinguish the candles at the close of worship only.

### Assisting Ministers



Along with the pastor, assisting ministers lead the congregation in worship by leading various parts of the liturgy (i.e., the Psalm, the Creed, Prayers of the People, Offertory Prayer, Post Communion Prayer, and Dismissal). Assisting Ministers at the second service assist the Pastor by distributing the host at one of the stations during Holy Communion.

### Lectors



Lectors read the first and second lessons during the worship service. The lessons are emailed and/or mailed to you 10 days prior to the Sunday when you are reading so that you may become familiar with the readings. A lesson read well contributes greatly to the worship service.

### Communion Assistants



Communion Assistants have the gift of hospitality in the distribution of Holy Communion. The 8:45 AM traditional worship serves Holy Communion at the altar railing, which utilizes two communion assistants – one distributes wine with a common chalice and one distributes wine and white grape juice with two separate chalices for intinction of the host. The 10:30 AM contemporary worship serves Holy Communion by stations at the front of the altar area, which utilizes four communion assistants – one at each station distributes wine with a common chalice and one at each station distributes wine and white grape juice with two separate chalices for intinction of the host.



*Training for each of these roles is offered for those who want it.*

*Scheduling is done on a rotation basis and the schedule is emailed/mailed to you, along with a list of substitutes and their phone numbers, prior to the beginning of each period. If you are unable to serve on your designated week, we would appreciate it if you can contact a substitute from the list.*

To participate in any of these Lay Ministries, contact Carol Kohl at [ckohl@cox.net](mailto:ckohl@cox.net) or 860-648-1648 or Nancy Whitton in the Church Office at 860-643-1193 or [nwhitton@emmanuelmanchester.org](mailto:nwhitton@emmanuelmanchester.org)

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel!*

*Advent Services*



Sunday, December 2  
First Sunday of Advent

8:45 & 10:30 a.m.



Sunday, December 9  
Second Sunday of Advent  
*Music Appreciation Sunday*

8:45 & 10:30 a.m.



Sunday, December 16  
Third Sunday of Advent  
*St. Lucia Procession*

8:45 & 10:30 a.m.



Sunday, December 23  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
*One Service at 10:00 a.m.*



*Christmas Eve Services*

*December 24th*



10:30 a.m. *Special Pre-Service Music*

11:00 a.m. **Traditional Service  
of Holy Communion**

3:30 p.m. *Special Pre-Service Music*

4:00 p.m. **Family-friendly Service**

8:45 p.m. *Special Pre-Service Music*

\*9:00 p.m. **Candlelight Service  
of Holy Communion**

(\*Please note change in Service time;  
due to declining attendance at the  
11 p.m. Service over the last few years,  
we're trying an earlier time this year.)



*Sunday, December 30th*

One Service at 10:00 a.m.

**SERVICE OF CHRISTMAS  
LESSONS & CAROLS**



# Caring

## December Birthdays

William Braithwaite	12/4	Carol Kohl	12/25
Vilma Anderson	12/5	Howard Madsen	12/26



## Pastoral Acts

### Baptisms

Georgia Haines      Jonathan McNulty, Jr.      Kailani Lozada

### *The 2019 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.*



### **Do you shop on amazon.com?**

Well, if you do, you 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 trouble finding Emanuel through the Smile link, please contact Anne Heinrich: [aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org) or call the Church Office, 860-643-1193.



### **Report on Ruth Circle's Benefit Tea**

*Thanks to all who attended, provided raffle items, a Thrivent gift card, served at the door, etc. Due to all the efforts in selling tickets, as well as helping in so many ways, we earned \$1,800.00!!! This was wonderful! Checks for \$900.00 each will go to Interval House and My Sister's Place. The members of Ruth Circle can feel proud of this endeavor. Thank you all.*

Sylvia & Lynne

*Service of Lessons and Carols for the Season of Advent  
Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 4 PM  
Concordia Lutheran Church, Manchester*

Join Concordia as they celebrate the opening of their 125th Anniversary year. Festive reception to follow.



### **Reminder to the Members and Friends of Emanuel –**

Emanuel's financial records will be closing for the year on Monday, December 31, 2018. If you want your donation to be credited to your account and included on your giving statement for this year, we will need to receive it by December 31. Any donations received after this date will be posted in 2019. As always, we thank you for your generosity and support.



## **Emanuel Staff**

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Congregation Council Vice President  
[ds3connolly@gmail.com](mailto:ds3connolly@gmail.com)

Berk Little  
Worship Support Specialist

Brianna Gustafson  
Worship Support Specialist

# Christmas Poinsettias



**Please Print**

I/We, \_\_\_\_\_, wish to decorate Emanuel for Christmas 2018 with:

# \_\_\_\_\_ red 8" pot poinsettia plant(s). Each **8" potted poinsettia (2 plants per pot) cost \$ 19.00.**  
*and/or*

# \_\_\_\_\_ red 4 1/2" pot poinsettia plant(s). Each **4 1/2" potted poinsettia (1 plant per pot) cost \$ 5.25.**

The plants are given:

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

*or*

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

*or*

To the Glory of God: \_\_\_\_\_.

I have enclosed a check for the total amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **Emanuel Lutheran Church** and designated for *Poinsettias*.

**Deadline for ordering is Tuesday, December 11, 2018.** Place this form with your check in the offering plate or turn it in to the church office. Pick up after 12/24 late service or when the Church Office reopens on 1/2/19. Thank you.

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED