



60 Church Street  
Manchester, CT 06040

(860) 643-1193  
Fax (860) 645-0830

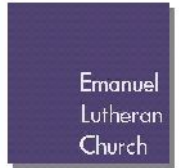
Email: [aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org)  
Website: [www.emanuelmanchester.org](http://www.emanuelmanchester.org)

**January 2019**

# 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

### Just As I Am... But Even Better!

*Yet you are our LORD;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.*

*Isaiah 64:8*



Many years ago, my mother-in-law introduced me to a hymn that would become one of my favorite old, traditional hymns. You may know it...it's called "*Just As I Am*." While all of the lyrics are beautiful, I have always found the following verses to be especially meaningful...

*Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yes, all I need in Thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
Just as I am, Thou will receive,  
Will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.*

The idea that Jesus is with us whether or not we're afraid or doubtful... that we can find all the healing we need—body, mind, and soul—through Christ...that we are forgiven, accepted & renewed through Jesus' faithfulness...And that God promises to love us **Just As I Am (we are)**... **NO MATTER WHAT**...is beyond amazing!

But it's even better than that! Max Lucado is a favorite Christian author. His books somehow seem to touch our hearts through humorous and simple faith stories. One of my favorite books is called "Just Like Jesus." On the back cover it says:

*From where did we get this idea that we can't change?  
From whence comes statements such as,  
'It's just my nature to worry.'  
'I'll always be pessimistic. I'm just that way.'  
'I can't help the way I react. I have a bad temper.'*

*Such thoughts are not from God.  
God can no more leave a life unchanged,  
than a mother can leave a tear untouched.  
God's plan for you is nothing short of a new heart.*

*continued on page 2*

1

From the Pastor

2

Get Involved at Emanuel in 2019!

3

From the Parish Nurse  
Inclement Weather Information  
Grief Videos

4

January Church Events  
Healing Prayer

5

January 2019 Calendar

6

January Lay Minister Schedule

7

Opportunities for Worship Ministry

8

Opportunities for Worship Ministry (cont.)

9

Bistro on Main and MACC Charities

10

Transition Times

11

Caring  
Message from a Seminarian

12

Notice of Emanuel's Annual Meeting

## From the Pastor...

(continued from page 1)

*God loves you just the way your are,  
But He refuses to leave you there.  
He wants you to have a heart like His.  
God wants you to be... Just like Jesus.*

Now... if the idea of God changing you doesn't exactly sit well, then maybe it will help to think of it in one of these two ways...

If you're a parent, then no doubt you love your child just the way they are...but can you honestly say that you don't work to change them in some way? Don't you teach them and guide them and challenge them in the hopes that they become all that you know they have the potential to be? My guess is that you do...exactly because you love them so much, you want the best for them.

And if you're not a parent, you're still someone's child. Would you have wanted your parents to love you, but basically let you do anything you want? (Yes, I know it sounds tempting, but read on...) This would mean that, while they may not like it if you flunk out of school, they'd accept it because, after all -- that's "just who you are". It means they wouldn't give you any guidance when you acted out (whether or not you knew in your heart you needed it), because "that was just who you are". It would mean that they wouldn't challenge you to live up to your potential when your self-esteem might be low, because "that's just who you are." Doesn't sound so good does it? We want our parents to love us (and believe in us) more than that...more than we even believe in ourselves.

Well the same is true of our heavenly parent...

God knows us better than we know ourselves, and knows better than any of us what we are capable of being. God knows the gifts that we have been given, the ministry we are capable of, the mission that we are called to. And God believes in us even more than we believe in ourselves.

God loves us so much that He's not willing to leave us working at "less than our potential." So God gently, but firmly, guides us, molds us into the people we're intended to be...

*Will what is molded say to the one who molds it, "  
Why have you made me like this?"  
Has the potter no right over the clay,  
to make out of the same lump one object  
for special use and another for ordinary use?*

*Romans 9:20-21*

This doesn't just apply to us as individual children of God ...it also applies to us as a faith community, the people of God together at Emanuel!

As we have been praying together, worshiping together, serving together, and discerning together over this last year, we have been talking about, even dreaming about, where God might be calling Emanuel. What is the mission God is now calling you to—in this Manchester community and in the world? Where is your faith journey leading?

As children of God we are being guided & molded into the faith community that God knows we can be, intends us to be. God is working in us—changing us for holy purposes in this time and place. God will be challenging us little by little so that we might be transformed—as individuals & as a faith community—to be "just like Jesus."

No doubt it will be a little unsettling, sometimes frustrating, perhaps even a little scary...and it will certainly take longer than some of us might like ... but just think of what could happen if, instead of resisting whatever changes God might be trying to work in & among us, we gave ourselves over to this transformation—reformation—and allowed God to bring us to our full, faith-filled potential! What wonderful things God would accomplish in us and through us! God's work...our hands, feet, voices!

*Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many a conflict, many a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.*

Keep the faith my friends! Look to Jesus...  
*Pastor Maria*

---

### **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 7&8 for the various ways that you can get involved.**

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

## From the Parish Nurse

By Lynne Gustafson

Last month I wrote an article about our automatic external defibrillator (AED) that is located on the wall next to the office entrance and I hope that you have all noticed where it is located. The first aid kit is located on top of the AED and the wheelchair is located beneath it.

If during any church event we should have a person experience symptoms of cardiac arrest or a heart attack, a person will be instructed to get the AED and bring it to the scene. While the person is retrieving the AED, someone needs to assess the person. If the person is unconscious, no pulse and is not breathing; one starts CPR. However, church is not the only place that a person may experience cardiac arrest so knowing CPR may save someone's life even someone in your own family. Therefore, the Emergency Management Team feels it is important to provide CPR training for our church community.

During the Emergency Management Training sessions, thirty one (31) people said they would be interested in attending a CPR course. I contacted Jason Race of R&M Associates LLC. His company services our AED and they provide CPR training. In order to have a class we need a minimum of eight (8) people. The class lasts about three (3) hours and the cost is \$45.00 per person. We would like to offer this class in January. If interested, please contact the Church Office or indicate your participation on the Connection Card.

### Emanuel's Housing Corporation is looking for new members!

If you are interested and would like more information about the Housing Corporation and how you can get involved, please contact Berk Little at [littlezab@comcast.net](mailto:littlezab@comcast.net) or 860-568-5008.



### 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.



## 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!*

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, January 6th



Healing Prayer is available for all who would like to receive it during our worship service at 10:00 AM. We'll also collect donations for the Samaritan Fund in the Narthex.

### Women's Breakfast Wednesday, January 16th at 8:30 AM The Vernon Diner, Vernon



Beginning this month and continuing through 2019, the Women's Breakfast Group will gather at the Vernon Diner on the third Wednesday of the month. All women of the congregation are welcome!

We have a 10 AM single worship service  
on Sundays January 6th—February 24th.

### Coffee Hour is held on Sundays at 11 AM.

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.

There will be a Children's Sermon on Sunday,  
January 20th at the 10 AM worship service.

### Prayer Shawl Ministry Gathering



The first meeting of the  
new year of the  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
will take place on Monday, January 21, 2019  
at 9:30 a.m. in Luther Hall.

*Everyone is invited to attend! Please join us!*

If you have any questions or if you would like  
more information, please contact  
Doris Johnson at 860-871-1498  
or Norma Wirta at 860-875-5163.

### Annual Meeting of the Congregation

Sunday, January 27th  
at 11:30 AM  
in Luther Hall



*Please join us!*

## amazon smile

### 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: [ahenrich@emanuelmanchester.org](mailto:ahenrich@emanuelmanchester.org) or call the Church Office, 860-643-1193.

### 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.





# JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<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</b> <b>WEEK - OFFICE</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>1</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> <b>- OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>2</b> <b>10:30 AM</b> Staff Meeting - Library	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - YR <b>7:30 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR	<b>4</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:00 AM</b> Finance Meeting - Library <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> <b>9:15 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>5:15 PM</b> Executive Committee Meeting - CR <b>6:00 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA	<b>9</b> <b>9:15 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>7:00 PM</b> Emergency Management Team - LH	<b>10</b> <b>VISITOR</b> <b>NEWSLETTER</b> <b>DEADLINE</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - YR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - YR <b>7:30 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR	<b>11</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>12</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Music Together class - CR
<b>13</b> <b>BAPTISM OF OUR LORD</b> <i>Pastor Andrea Hoslett presiding  and preaching</i> <i>Staff Appreciation Sunday</i> <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>14</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> CLCC Finance Meeting - CR <b>7:00 PM</b> Property Comm. Mtg. - Library	<b>15</b> <b>9:15 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:45 PM</b> Council Devotions - LH <b>7:00 PM</b> Council Meeting - LH	<b>16</b> <b>8:30 AM</b> Women's Breakfast Group at The Vernon Diner <b>9:15 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>17</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - YR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - YR	<b>18</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>19</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> Audit of Emanuel's Financial Records - LH <b>9:30 AM</b> Music Together class - CR
<b>20</b> <i>Children's Sermon</i> <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>21</b> <b>MARTIN LUTHER</b> <b>KING, JR. DAY -</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Prayer Shawl Ministry Gathering - LH	<b>22</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> MARCH, Inc. Gathering - LH <b>9:15 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:00 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA <b>7:00 PM</b> Emanuel Housing Corp. - Library <b>7:00 PM</b> Worship & Arts Meeting - CR	<b>23</b> <b>9:15 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>24</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - YR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - CR <b>7:30 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR	<b>25</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>26</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Music Together class - CR
<b>27</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> Sunday School <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship Service <b>11:30 AM</b> Annual Meeting - LH <b>1:30 PM</b> Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> MARCH, Inc. Gathering - LH <b>9:15 AM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>6:00 PM</b> New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA	<b>30</b> <b>9:15 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>31</b> <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - CR <b>5:00 PM</b> Music Together class - YR <b>7:00 PM</b> Christ Church Bible Study - CR <b>7:30 PM</b> Anthem Choir - MR	<b>1</b> <b>7:00 AM</b> HGLHC - LH <b>6:30 PM</b> Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	<b>2</b> <b>9:30 AM</b> Music Together class - CR

**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.

## Lay Minister Schedule for January 2019

### One Service at 10:00 AM

Worship Assistants	January 6 Epiphany	January 13 Baptism of Our Lord	January 20	January 27 (Annual Meeting)
<b>Greeters 10:00</b>	Barton & Lisa Sattler	Andy & Jenn Davis	Joe & Teri Ferron	Jodi Eskin Kris Fournier
<b>Acolyte 10:00</b>	Bella Carlson	Pam Rowett	<b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Carol Kohl
<b>Assisting Minister 10:00</b>	Ryan Carlson	Ron Erickson	Joe Griffin	Marge Andersen
<b>Lector 10:00</b>	Barton Sattler	Carol Adams	Ivan Wasko	Danielle Berneski
<b>Communion Assts. 10:00</b>	Carol Kohl Marci Lombardo Nancy Whiten Carol Adams	Lisa Sattler Kathy Rusch Kim Boerner-Mercier Jenn Davis	Marianne Wilcox Rod Andersen Donna Connolly Kris Fournier	Lynne Gustafson Matt Heinrich Laura Dolcelli Sam Dolcelli
<b>Ushers 10:00</b>	Judy Anderson Barbara Bahan Eric Haaga Marianne Wilcox	Carol Adams Kurt Buescher Jodi Eskin Sylvia Hellstrom	Vyrjil Buus Matt Heinrich Dave Kent Ruth Lehrach	Rich Marsh Ray Purtell Nelson Robinson <b>Volunteer Needed</b>
<b>Hospital Visitor</b>	Martha Eddy	Sylvia Hellstrom	Carol Kohl	Martha Eddy

---

## *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 worshiping 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.



## A word cloud of religious terms. The most prominent words are 'Jesus', 'God', 'Lord', and 'purpose'. Other visible words include 'faith', 'love', 'spirit', 'life', 'peace', 'joy', 'hope', 'grace', 'mercy', 'kindness', 'patience', 'gentleness', 'self-control', 'faithfulness', 'goodness', 'beauty', 'purity', 'peace', 'kindness', 'patience', 'gentleness', 'self-control', 'faithfulness', 'goodness', 'beauty', 'purity'. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with 'Jesus' and 'God' at the top, 'Lord' on the left, and 'purpose' on the right.

## Lectors



### Communion Assistants



*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.*

8



## Bistro On Main and MACC Charities



**Did you know that Bistro on Main is owned and operated as a social enterprise by the Manchester Area Conference of Churches, Inc. (MACC Charities)?**

As a social enterprise, the restaurant is central to MACC's mission to **BREAK CYCLES OF POVERTY.**

They do this through:

- Job-readiness training through our 18-week Culinary Jobs Training Program
- Mentoring & Life Skills Training
- On-the-job skills development
- Transitional Employment Opportunities

All while providing high-quality hospitality and delicious food.

But MACC Charities is far more than just Bistro on Main. MACC, in partnership with member churches, guarantees a hot meal is available in Manchester 7 days a week, 365 days a year. These meals, served through the MACC Community Kitchen, provide fresh, scratch-made meals for our neighbors in need.

In addition, MACC runs the Community Emergency Food Pantry, the Community Kitchen, Community Threads Thrift Shoppe as well as a Community Engagement Program. The Community Engagement Program focuses on outreach to the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless, as well as emergency services that address unexpected financial and medical needs of our community. MACC also provide meals to our local senior center, weekend snacks for elementary school kids, and support for families through the holidays and in emergencies all year round.

In the new year, will you consider a special gift to MACC Charities?

Thank you for your partnership in breaking cycles of poverty—it really does take a community!

Thanks again,

*Chef Ben*

General Manager/Executive Chef, Bistro on Main

---

**More about MACC Charities...**

[www.macc-ct.org](http://www.macc-ct.org)

**#NOHUNGERFORMANCHESTER**

What they do...

- Provide 567 households representing 1,310 people of which 499 children and 168 seniors with a weeks worth of groceries each month free of charge.
- Prepare 25,548 hot noontime meals each year in our Community Kitchen and 3,000 more at the Salvation Army on Sundays with up to 12 of those hosted by MACC each year to make sure anyone who is in Manchester can enjoy an all you can eat meal, 7 days a week.
- Deliver 9,758 meals to our Senior Center each year.
- Package MACC weekend snack packs for 369 children each week.
- Send pre-packaged meals and extra produce to Manchester Community College's Food Pantry each week for low income or homeless students.

How you can collaborate with MACC...

- Give a monetary gift. Money stores well, has no expiration date and is useful for items we need but do not get in food drives.
- Volunteer: call 860-647-8003 x.12
- Donate staples to the pantry: canned goods, veggies, fruits, pasta, tuna, mayo, jelly/peanut butter, pasta/sauce, beef stew and all beans

## Transition Times

From Pastor Maria Hammons

### TRANSITION TIMES UPDATE ... **YIKES! NOW WHAT?**

- ♦ Call Committee Chairperson, Danielle Berneski, and Council Representative to the Call Committee, Lisa Little, informed the congregation on Sunday, December 16th, that after having had a number of meetings with the two candidates – including hearing multiple sermons – they believe that, while the candidates are both clearly good pastors in their current ministries, neither has the experience and gifts needed at Emanuel at this time. This decision was made after numerous hours reviewing both of the candidates' profiles, alongside the priorities and desires reflected in Emanuel's Ministry Site Profile created using the congregation's input. The Call Committee vote was unanimous.
- ♦ This is clearly disappointing – as I know that you were hoping (as were they) that one of these two candidates would be “the one” – the pastor that would lead and walk alongside of you in this next stage of Emanuel's journey. I know you are ready and anxious to move forward – and I want that for you too. I understand your disappointment, even your frustration if that is how you are feeling – but I am also sure that you would rather wait than end up with a pastor who may not be a good match.
- ♦ I ask you to try to set aside your disappointment and frustration and trust that we just need to be patient for a little longer as we wait for a new candidate who may be a great match for Emanuel's future. I truly do believe that the Holy Spirit works through the call process if we just make room for that work...and I believe the Holy Spirit was working through the Call Committee in their deliberations and decision. This truly is the time to believe in “**Emanuel**” – to believe that **God is with us**.
- ♦ So...now what? The Call Committee will be meeting with Associate to the Bishop Paul Sinnott next week to provide additional feedback on the candidates and to provide additional input to guide the Synod's search for new candidates. Then the Bishop and Synod Staff will do additional research to see if new candidates may have become available in the past couple of months who may better meet Emanuel's needs. And then we wait to hear from Pastor Sinnott. As soon as we receive another candidate's profile, the Call Committee will begin their faithful ministry and keep the congregation informed.
- ♦ I know it's hard to wait...patience is not one of my virtues either. I think of all those sayings, like “Good things come to those who wait” – but they just frustrate me more. But there is one “saying” that does often help me ... if I can be open to it...and that is... **Be Still, and know that I am God**. I remember those words from God, given to us in Psalm 46, and I take a deep breath and will myself to “be still”. If that doesn't work, I pray for the patience and peace to “be still” – and take another breath. Sometimes it doesn't work because I'm too intent on being impatient (smile)...but most of the time – in that breath, in that moment – I can “Be. Still.” I pray that you can be too.
- ♦ Please know I am here for you - for questions, for venting, for prayer, and for faith-filled assurance that God **IS** at work here, in and among the people of Emanuel, we just need to try to be patient, to trust and to pray “thy kingdom come, thy will be done.”

*With prayers for the journey! Pastor Maria*



### Emanuel's faith journey continues!

*Remember...*

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

Danielle Berneski, Chairperson  
Lisa Little - Council Representative  
Karin Buus      Campfield Heinrich  
Carol Kohl      Ron Lehrach      Marc Polito



# Caring

## December Birthdays

Clinton Bowman II	1/18	Eris Jenack	1/26
Loren Davis	1/19	Dorothea Ritzen	1/31
Nancy Scott	1/24		



## Safety and Emergency Preparedness

As part of an on-going effort to ensure we are prepared for emergency situations, during the month of January, we will have a fire drill during a worship service. The congregation will be notified at the beginning of the service and will be provided specific instructions on what to do when the alarm is heard. During the drill, and in the case of an actual fire, everyone should exit the building quickly and cross Church Street to the parking lot. If Sunday School is in session, parents will be reunited with their children in the parking lot. Vehicles should not be moved until directed to do so by the Fire Department or members of Emanuel who are coordinating the drill.

*Dear Family of Emanuel Lutheran Church,*

*Thank you for being kind to the poor with your generous gift of \$2,500 to MACC Charities. No words can describe the gratitude I feel for your partnership in this work. Your generosity will help us care for families in times of emergency or in navigating their way through the issues of generational poverty.*

*It takes a Community,  
Beth Stafford, Executive Director/CEO*

*A message from one of Emanuel's Seminarians (written in November 2018)*

*People of Emanuel,*

*Grace and peace to you from Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Brookfield, Connecticut. As I move into my final semester of internship and seminary classwork I wanted to provide an update into what has been happening over the last several months. Last week, I was officially approved for Ordination in the ELCA. It was especially meaningful to share that moment with Joe Jauss, a member from Emanuel serving on the candidacy committee. In addition to that major piece of good news, the church council voted to extend my stay at Prince of Peace, on a month by month basis until I take a call, or until the end of June, whichever comes first. My time here at Prince of Peace has truly been a blessing and I look forward to continuing my ministry here for a little while longer.*

*As always, I am deeply grateful for the ways that Emanuel has been spiritually and financially supportive. It was particularly enjoyable to be able to connect with Emanuel's youth over the summer at the National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas. It was great to share in fellowship and service together as we worked to clear a historic cemetery in one of the outlying parts of the city. Truly a powerful, fun, and exhausting week!*

*In this season of Thanksgiving, I give thanks to you, the people of Emanuel, who have been such a staunch supporter on my journey towards ordained ministry. Emanuel has played a pivotal role in my faith formation and I am blessed to call Emanuel my church home throughout the years. I look forward to continuing to be in touch throughout the years, especially as I prepare to move into my first call.*

*With deepest gratitude, Dan Partell*

## **Emanuel Staff**

(860) 643-1193

Pastor Maria Hammons  
pastormhammons@gmail.com  
Ext. 301

Cindy Hall, Deacon  
chall@emanuelmanchester.org  
Ext. 303

Dr. Jun Lee  
Director of Music  
jlee@emanuelmanchester.org  
Ext. 307

Danielle Berneski and Julie Kamp  
Co-Directors of Family Ministries  
familyministry@emanuelmanchester.org  
Ext. 304

Nancy Whiton  
Administrative Assistant  
nwhiton@emanuelmanchester.org  
Ext. 309

Anne Heinrich  
Church Secretary  
aheinrich@emanuelmanchester.org  
Ext. 300

Kathy Hatch  
Property Supervisor  
Khatch4@gmail.com

James Hamilton  
Co-Treasurer  
jim.hamilton2@cox.net

Rosemary Johnson  
Co-Treasurer  
rcjohnson77@gmail.com

Eric Carlson  
Financial Secretary  
eric.carlson4191@gmail.com

Lynne Gustafson  
Parish Nurse  
cgustafson01@snet.net

John Helmke  
Congregation Council President  
johnhelmke@me.com

Donna Connolly  
Congregation Council Vice President  
ds3connolly@gmail.com

Berk Little  
Worship Support Specialist

Bianna Gustafson  
Worship Support Specialist



---

***SAVE THE DATE . . .***

# **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**

**Sunday, January 27, 2019**



**11:30 AM  
in Luther Hall**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Emanuel Lutheran Church**  
60 Church Street  
Manchester, CT 06040

