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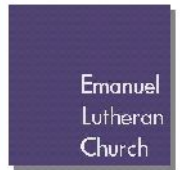
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July 2018

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



WHAT MAKES A COMMUNITY? MUTUAL LOVE & MISSION-MINDED!

So as we continue to explore what it means to be a *community*—especially, a *community of faith*, we move from...

C = Coming Together... and ...

O = Outreach... to—

M = Mutual Love and ...

M = Mission Minded!

So let's start with **mutual love**.

- **Mutual** – directed by each toward the 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 have 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
- **Jesus said...** 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
- **All you need is love...** - John Lennon

So what does mutual love look like in the faith community? Well let's look at what it looks like here at Emanuel. Here **are just a few** examples. I'm sure you can think of many more.

- ♦ Friendly visitor ministry
- ♦ Healing Ministry
- ♦ Prayer Shawl ministry
- ♦ Funeral ministry
- ♦ Stephen Ministers
- ♦ Welcoming the stranger
- ♦ Reconciling in Christ
- ♦ Housing Corporation ministry
- ♦ Creative Living Community ministry
- ♦ MACC ministry
- ♦ Fellowship events
- ♦ Service projects by children & youth

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MACC Needs Summer Volunteers

From the Pastor...

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Mutual love. What greater gift has there ever been, than that of the gift of love given to us when our God came down to earth as a baby in a manger, to live among us, to teach us about true love, to model faithful love, to build a community of love—and, ultimately, to give the greatest gift of love—his own life—for all people, for the world, for us.

The love of **God with us—Immanuel**—the gift we share with our families, our friends, our faith community. The love that inspires us to smile at a stranger... to help those less fortunate. The love we have come to know in God's grace—a love our broken world so desperately needs. A gift given to be shared.

Mutual love.

And let's be Mission-minded!

Jesus gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith. Ephesians 4:11-13

We now arrive at the heart of the matter...the very purpose for which God created the Church...

Mission.

In his letter to the new Christian church in Ephesus, the Apostle Paul talks about the *service* that they are called to do together as the body of Christ - *the community of faith*. The word we translate as **service** comes from the Greek word **diakonia** - which can also be translated as **ministry** or **mission**.

The body of Christ - *the community of faith* - is "built up" through the gifts God has given to each of us, and through the **services**—the **ministries**—that make up the **mission** we are called to do for the church & the world.

The church's ministries and mission have always been broad in scope. For example, **diakonia** as seen in Acts 6 is the mission of ensuring that the whole faith community is taken care of, that no one is neglected and all are fed. By looking at **diakonia** in the New Testament we can see how, as a community of faith, we are all ministers of the Gospel. We are called to be people who are **mission-minded**.

Here are a few examples of where in the Bible you can go to read about what it means to be a **mission-minded** individual and congregation...

- The ministry of the women who helped care for Jesus and the disciples by providing financial/material assistance. (Mark 15; Luke 8)
- Feeding widows in Jerusalem (Acts 6)

- Preaching & teaching the Word (Acts 6)
- The prophets' call to care for those in need & turn away from idols (1 Peter 1)
- Prayer & providing other assistance (Acts 19; 2 Timothy; Philemon 13)
- Financial gifts for the needs of others (Acts 11 & 12; Romans 15; 2 Cor 8 & 9)
- Various ministries to the saints (the broader church) (Hebrews 6)
- Apostolic ministry (Acts)
- Ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor 5)
- Various short-term acts of service (Acts 12)

These ministries are inspired & empowered by the Holy Spirit, and are to be embraced by the **community** as a whole.

Now there are different gifts, but the same spirit... different ministries, but the same Lord. And there are different results, but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. (1Cor 12:4-6)

As we continue our transition journey, let's covenant to grow in **mutual love** & faith as a community. And from that mutual love—let's commit to using our God-given gifts for the ministries to which we are called—as we go into the world as **mission-minded** co-workers in God's earthly Kingdom!

Thanks be to God! Pastor Maria

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

Over the next several months the Healing Ministers will be 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) or Pastor Maria (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

Dementia Caregiving

Recently, I had a conversation with a woman whose husband has been living in a dementia facility for the past five years. She said she had to make the hard decision to move him into the facility because both his mental and physical health was declining and it was no longer safe to keep him at home. Although he is nonverbal and he no longer recognizes her or any family members, his heart is still strong. I then asked her what advice she would give to a newly diagnosed individual and their family. I was surprised at her answer. She said the first thing they should do is consult with a reputable elder attorney; the second is to participate in an Alzheimer's support group.

She continued that any type of dementia, especially Alzheimer's, is a long and at times arduous journey that will impact one's emotional, physical and financial well-being. There may also be legal issues that the family must be aware of, such as Medicaid or Medicare funding. Once the family has gathered this information, she recommends the development of a family plan. It is important to develop this plan early enough so that the diagnosed person can participate in the planning. The plan should identify a caregiver's support system, a financial plan and the utilization of community resources such as respite or daycare.

The one thing that all people who provide long-term care experience is stress. Stress can be both positive and negative. If it's positive, it motivates; if negative, it debilitates. Sometimes caregivers, individuals and other family members do not always recognize their level of stress because it becomes a part of their daily routine; therefore it is important to recognize the signs and symptoms of stress.

One of the first signs of stress is denying the reality of the situation. As the person begins to lose some of his or her skills, the caregiver may become angry or frustrated and begins to think that the person is just being stubborn or looking for attention. As the disease progresses, the caregiver tries to protect their loved one from others noticing the changes in their loved one's behaviors, so they begin to withdraw from social events, setting the stage for social isolation that further increases their stress level. At some time in this process the caregiver will begin to experience depression, anxiety, exhaustion and that in turn may lead to sleeplessness, irritability and lack of concentration. This can lead to a wide variety of health problems

such as blurred vision, stomach irritation, high blood pressure and changes in appetite. Since it is unrealistic that one can eliminate negative stress, the key is how to manage it.

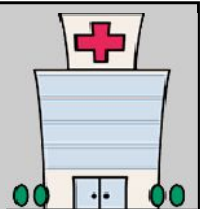
The first is to become educated about this disease and know that one needs to develop "a new normal". During this journey, one will need to learn new skills in order to manage the new behaviors. This is where a support group can be beneficial. Caregivers can share their experiences and offer creative ways to deal with this new normal.

It is essential that the caregiver takes time for him or herself. Referring to the plan, the caregiver needs to feel free to ask members of the support team to be with the person so that she or he may participate in a stress reducing activity such as taking a yoga class, attending a musical event or just taking a walk in a park. One cannot continue to give care without being renewed. And when the journey becomes arduous, a sense of humor becomes an important safety valve.

What can we do as a faith community to help families who are on this journey? First, we too need to learn about the disease and how it impacts families. Keeping in touch either by phone or in person shows we care. While visiting, be sure to include the person in the conversation. You may also offer to help them with their "to do list". At times the caregiver will just need a shoulder to lean on.

Again, I need to stress that this is a long journey so patience, love and support, prayer, friends and family support will help tremendously. The last piece of advice from my friend: Know that you are doing your best, be kind to yourself and remember the precious moments when you all laughed together and shared your family stories. It will lighten the load.

If you, or someone in your family, will be in the hospital, please contact the church office at 860-643-1193 so that the Pastor and Hospital Visitors will be aware of the situation and can make hospital visitations. The hospitals do not contact churches regarding church members that are admitted. Thank you!



Church Events

Patriotic Hymn Sing Sunday, July 1st



Beginning promptly at 10 AM, at the start of worship we'll have a Patriotic Hymn Sing. Please join us as we begin worship a little differently this Sunday.

Healing Prayer Worship Service Sunday, July 1st



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

The Church Office will be CLOSED on
Wednesday, July 4th and Friday, July 20th.

Women's Breakfast Thursday, July 5 at 8:30 AM The Gathering, Hartford Rd., Manchester



There will be a Children's Sermon
on Sunday, July 22nd and
Sunday, July 29th
during the 10 AM worship service.



*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!*

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



Family Fun Events for Summer 2018

Come join the fun, fellowship and service during the summer months at Emanuel! The following events will be held on Sundays following Emanuel's single, 10:00 AM worship service, where there will also be a children's sermon during the service for the children. **The August 12th and August 19th events are INTERGENERATIONAL EVENTS, so people of ALL AGES are invited and encouraged to attend.**

July 22nd Smores Sing-a-long: following worship, join us in fellowship for a wonderful afternoon of singing children's hymns and enjoying a smores snack mix!

July 29th Movie Day: following worship, join us in the Community Room (Sunday School room) for snacks and a movie! Bring your sleeping bags, pillow, favorite stuffed animal and join us as we watch a movie and have snacks. This is a great time to invite a friend to join you at church and stay for the movie event!

August 12th Game Day: following worship, join us in Luther Hall for an intergenerational game day event (open to all ages)! Come play various board games and card games as you enjoy the fellowship of multi-generations at Emanuel! We would love to have some of our older members teach our younger members how to play various card games or teach them strategies of various board games. Fun and fellowship for all! Best yet we will also be having make your own sundaes!

August 19th Rock of Kindness Garden: following worship, join us in Luther Hall for an afternoon of painting and fun. It's service project time! The Sunday School children would like to start a rock of kindness garden here at Emanuel. This service project hopes to spread kindness and happiness to all who need it. What is a Rock of Kindness Garden? Well we will paint positive images or sayings on rocks and place them in a designated area on church grounds where people can take what they need for inspiration for the day. People will also be able to leave a rock at any time to replenish this Garden of Kindness. This is an intergenerational event (open to all ages), we would love your help in making our garden grow!

We hope to you can make it to these events as we share in Family, Fun and Fellowship!

Christine Carlson, Director of Family Ministries

JULY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>Farewell and Godspeed for Laurel Dumont and Lily Mertens</i> <i>Healing Prayer</i> National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas <i>Patriotic Hymn Sing at the start of worship</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	2	3 7:00 PM Emergency Management Team - CR	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY - OFFICE CLOSED	5 8:30 AM Women's Breakfast Group at The Gathering 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - YR	6 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	7
8 10:00 AM Worship Service 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	9 7:00 PM Property Comm. Mtg. - Library	10 VISITOR NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9:00 AM Music Together class - MR	11 9:00 AM Music Together class - MR 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library	12 5:00 PM Music Together class - MR 6:30 PM CLCC Finance Meeting - LH 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - YR	13 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	14
15 <i>Youth Service for NYG group</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:15 AM Special Congregational Meeting with Lunch - LH 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	16 6:30 PM CLCC Board Meeting - CR	17 9:00 AM Music Together class - MR	18 9:00 AM Music Together class - MR 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library 5:00 PM Worship & Arts Meeting - Library	19 5:00 PM Music Together class - MR 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - CR	20 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	21
22 <i>Children's Sermon</i> <i>Pastor Danny Hammons - preaching</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Family Fun Event: Smores Sing-a-long - LH 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	23	24 9:00 AM Music Together class - MR 6:00 PM CLCC Program Meeting - YR 7:00 PM Emanuel Housing Corp. - Library	25 9:00 AM Music Together class - MR 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library	26 9:30 AM Visitor mailing - LH 5:00 PM Music Together class - MR 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - CR	27 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	28 9:00 AM Celebration of Life for Don Benson (Lisa Little's step-father) - LH
29 <i>Children's Sermon (Rebekah Hebert)</i> <i>Pastor Will Baumgartner presiding & preaching</i> 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Family Fun Event: Movie Day - CR 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	30 12:00 PM Red Cross Blood Drive - LH	31 9:00 AM Music Together class - MR	1 8:30 AM Women's Breakfast Group at The Gathering 9:00 AM Music Together class - MR 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library	2 5:00 PM Music Together class - MR 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - YR	3 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	4

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.

Emanuel has a Single Worship Service on Sunday mornings during the summer.

10:00 AM

Coffee Hour may follow at 11:00 AM if people are willing to host. Please call the Church Office at 860-643-1193, if you would like to sign up for a particular Sunday this summer.

Transition Times

From Pastor Maria Hammons

Dear Friends in Christ...

Our transition journey is almost complete—as we prepare to move into the call process. At our meetings on Friday and Saturday, June 15 and 16, parishioners gathered to hear the interpretation of the CAT results (Congregational Assessment Tool) and to begin drafting the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) – the document that will be given to the pastoral candidates. Now the Transition Team is taking all that input, along with the worship survey and small group meeting feedback, and they are drafting the MSP. Once the draft is ready, the Council will review and approve it, before the congregation meeting on Sunday, July 15, for the final review. So be sure to save the date!



In the meantime, here are the top results I promised you from the “five questions” that you discussed at our May 6 meeting.

What Would God Love about Emanuel?

- It's People ... sincerity, faithfulness, willingness, joyfulness unto the Lord
- Worship & Music
- Community outreach; Support of wider church ministries; generosity

What Would God Change about Emanuel?

- Increased participation; fellowship, relationship, community-building
- Unity among congregation
 - ♦ No more internal squabbling
 - ♦ More tolerance/compromise
 - ♦ more love; transparency
- Need to be more outward looking/increase social ministry; more outreach

Where is God leading Emanuel?

- Towards living out the gospel; discipleship building; to put God 1st
- Towards promoting greater social justice in the world
 - ♦ Out into the community; be involved in the community
 - ♦ Bigger community presence
 - ♦ Remain vital to community
 - ♦ To use our gifts & talents for mission in community/world
- To be a cohesive community; to love and support each other
 - ♦ Understanding each other; move towards reconciliation
 - ♦ Being more accepting of each other (parishioners)
 - ♦ Vibrant church community

“Oh ... that's the Church that _____”

(i.e., If you told someone that you belong to Emanuel Lutheran on Church Street, how would you want them to fill in this blank ... “Oh, that's the Church that _____”?)

- That is so welcoming & friendly to all ... Reconciling in Christ congregation
- Center of Manchester community; an important part of the community
- Involved in many social ministry/outreach programs
 - ♦ Supports MACC
 - ♦ affordable housing
- Shares their space:
 - ♦ community groups
 - ♦ Chestnut Hill Preschool
 - ♦ with a (non-Lutheran) congregation for worship and study
- Has great music; including the FME and other concerts

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Transition Times (continued from page 6)

From Pastor Maria Hammons

Why Emanuel?

(Since most parishioners live outside Manchester, if you met a person who was looking for a church, what would you tell them about that would make them want to make the trip to Emanuel instead of going to a church in their neighborhood?)

- Great Worship Services – Traditional & Contemporary Worship & Music
- Preaching and teaching of the Word; great, relevant sermons; uplifting message
- Sunday School program; family friendly, young family ministry
- Welcoming congregation; non-judgmental
 - ♦ Everyone is welcome
 - ♦ People of all ages
 - ♦ Reconciling in Christ congregation, LGBTQ safe/friendly

Once you articulate Emanuel's faith-filled **dream**, it will help define your **identity** as a congregation, and your **faithful purpose** in the world. It will also help you to call a pastor who shares your passion, sees your vision, and will lead and walk with you in your mission from God...a Pastor who understands Emanuel's challenges & gifts, and is excited about taking the next step with you, on your journey of faith.

With prayers for the journey!

Pastor Hammons

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

FOR THE **VERY LAST** TRANSITION MEETING!

Sunday, July 15

**Immediately following 10 a.m. Worship
Fellowship Hall**

Lunch will be Served

**This is the congregation's opportunity
to review & discuss
the Ministry Site Profile (or MSP) -
which is the congregational profile that will be given
to Emanuel's Pastoral Candidates -
before it is sent to the Bishop.**

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

“STIR IT UP”—SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2018

The theme of this year's New England Synod Assembly was “STIR IT UP”. This report to the congregation by delegates Ray and Kathy Purtell shares some of the highlights. First, the annual gathering in Springfield, MA on June 7-9 attracted more than 500 lay leaders, pastors, deacons, partner ministries, and others from throughout New England.

First and foremost, we are pleased to report that the church is blest with a wide variety of new pastors and other emerging leaders, all supported by those who have served for many years, who are bringing new life and energy to the ministry. They are ‘stirring it up’ by starting ministries in the urban core, Latino communities, on college campuses, and in other places where the unchurched and others are in need of the spiritual blessings offered by the Holy Spirit working through God's people. They are extending ministry beyond the walls of their church buildings (if they even have a building) to stand up to injustice, feed the hungry, welcome the disenfranchised, and speak to overt and institutional racism, sexism, gender inequality, and other cultural issues on the front pages of our newspapers every day. We are pleased to report that the church is alive in New England.

Other “take-aways” from this year's assembly include the following:

- Bishop James E. Hazelwood was re-elected to serve a second six year term as our Bishop.
- Bradford E. Cook, Synod Legal Counsel, shared a “Legal Audit” that can be used by Emanuel to check its policies and practices with regards to real estate, use of church, insurance, employment, computer policies, recordkeeping and other matters important to church administration.
- The New England Synod budget, which relies on support from all member congregations, supports wider ministries of the church including; the United Lutheran Seminary, Camp Calumet, seminarians from our synod, campus ministries, and the ELCA.
- The assembly adopted resolutions celebrating the ELCA's 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women and endorsed the “Earth Charter”, a document that addresses issues related to environmental protection, human rights, equitable human development, and peace.
- The assembly adopted updated Compensation Guidelines for Rostered Ministers: Pastors and Deacons for 2019. One noteworthy addition is the extension of paid Family/Parental Leave from six to twelve weeks for the birth, adoption, or pre-adoption placement of a child.
- **The church as we know it in the U.S., a building-based center of ministry, is a relatively recent form. Its growth was derived from two sources: immigration and procreation. Both are in decline today. Future growth will come from “invitation” and “innovation”, while keeping the love and grace of God, as expressed through Jesus Christ, at the center.**
- **The church as we know it is undergoing significant transformational change. Clergy age 55 and older make up a significant percentage (61%) of our rostered leaders in New England. They are expected to retire in increasing numbers over the next several years. There are not a sufficient number of rostered leaders coming out of seminary to replace them. As a result, the church continues to explore avenues for having trained lay leaders assume greater responsibility for ministry. The church is also being intentional about developing the financial resources needed to support those who feel called to ministry so that the cost of a seminary education is not a barrier or disincentive to heeding the call. Both efforts need our support.**
- More churches are considering shared ministries with other nearby Lutheran congregations. Some are merging while others are doing shared ministry. Some churches are partnering with ecumenical partners from other main line protestant churches. The church is transforming.
- Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services (LIRS) continues to need support for its ministry to those seeking asylum in the United States as they seek to escape persecution, war, famine, and a host of other horrific atrocities. Families with children are particularly vulnerable and this ministry needs our support.
- The diversity in styles of worship, music, places where worship is held, and languages spoken is expanding in New England. The Latino community is one of the fastest growing church populations and there is a new Chinese congregation in Quincy, MA. We are becoming increasingly diverse.
- **Emanuel was second of all congregations in New England giving to the ELCA World Hunger Program with \$7,765 donated in 2017.**

There are many challenges ahead, but, the Holy Spirit is alive and stirring things up in New England. God is present with us every day if only we will take the time to see God's presence.

Submitted: June 14, 2018

Lay Minister Schedule for July 2018

One Worship Service at 10:00 AM

	July 1	July 8	July 15	July 22	July 29
Worship Assistants					
Greeters	Bev Fuss Marci Lombardo	Joe & Teri Ferron	Andy & Jenn Davis	Matt & Barbara Heinrich	Kris Fournier Anne Heinrich
Acolyte	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Assisting Minister	Marge Andersen	--	Doug Johnson	--	Ron Erickson
Lector	Kaitlin Anderson	Valerie Norris	Adela Garmendia	Jim Reuter	Kim Boerner-Mercier
Communion Assts.	Helen Johnson Marci Lombardo Barton Sattler Nancy Whiton	Elsa Robinson Marianne Wilcox Kim Boerner-Mercier Donna Connolly	Rod Andersen Lynne Gustafson Jenn Davis Meg DePrato	Carol Kohl Matt Heinrich Kris Fournier Ben Grant	Carol Adams Sylvia Hellstrom Justin Guerrero Dean Soares
Ushers	Judy Anderson Barbara Bahan Eric Haaga Volunteer Needed	Kurt Buescher Rich Marsh Jon Norris Volunteer Needed	Vyrjil Buus Jodi Eskin Matt Heinrich Ruth Lehrach	Sylvia Hellstrom Dave Kent Ray Purtell Marianne Wilcox	Carol Adams Nelson & Elsa Robinson Dean Soares
Hospital Visitor	Martha Eddy	Susan Plese	Carol Kohl	Sylvia Hellstrom	Martha Eddy

Treasurer's Report

May 2018 Treasurer's Report

Account	May 2018 Actual	May 2018 YTD Actual	May 2018 YTD Budget	Annual 2018 Budget
Income	\$29,360	\$172,226	\$173,565	\$414,505
Expense	\$34,742	\$180,270	\$181,882	\$437,371
Net Income	(\$5,382)	(\$8,044)	(\$8,317)	(\$22,866)
Member Contributions	\$23,764	\$138,605	\$144,250	\$338,153

The month of May ended with a deficit of \$5,400, about \$900 worse than expected in the budget. Most of this excess was attributable to transition expenses such as the cost of lunches and the fee for the CAT survey. Year to date, income and expenses are very close to budget. Note, however, that without the unplanned \$5,200 gift in April from a charitable gift fund, we would be much worse than budget; this gift offset most of the \$5,600 shortfall in member contributions.

In one of the Transition meetings, there was a brief comment on how long the congregation could remain financially viable. While there will undoubtedly be different views on how to define financial viability, critical to that determination will be the level of member contributions. With that in mind, we would offer the following facts about member contributions:

- Member contributions in the 2018 Budget represent just over 80% of total income.
- Member contributions declined \$36,000 from 2013 to 2017 but it is estimated they will decline another \$26,000 this year. As of the end of May, 2018, member contributions are \$17,000 lower than through May of last year.
- An analysis of 2016 member contributions, excluding loose collections and special offerings like Easter and Christmas, revealed that 35% came from giving units 75 or older; 25% were from units between 65 and 75; 26.5% from units between 55 and 65.

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/06-066212>



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 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 or call the Church Office, 860-643-1193.

Caring

July Birthdays

James Reuter	7/8		Jon Norris	7/18
Paula Braithwaite	7/13		William Noren	7/19
Emma Johnson	7/14		Marianne Wilcox	7/20
Leslie Haney	7/16		Frederick Spaulding	7/30



Pastoral Acts

Wedding

Elizabeth Wahlberg & William Boylan III

Dear Family of Emanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you for being kind to the poor with your generous gift of \$3,000.00 to the MACC Charities. No words can describe the gratitude I feel for our partnership and your support of our work.

Kindness is powerful. I always hope those we serve feel the kindness of others as much as the food they taste, clothes they put on or the emergency assistance they may receive to ease a financial or medical burden. May you be blessed as you have blessed today.

Beth Stafford
Executive Director/CEO
MACC Charities

Thank you to Emanuel Lutheran Church, Manchester, CT
from ELCA World Hunger

Thank you for your financial service in sharing your God-given financial resources with the ELCA World Hunger Program! Your generosity is helping people have sustainable lives. Through gifts like yours, people in over 60 countries have better agricultural resources, access to clean water, nutritious food, education for children, effective ways to earn a living and better healthcare. According to the ELCA World Hunger Program, your church for fiscal year 2017 has given \$7,765.95 to the ELCA World Hunger Program. This reflects #2 in congregational giving in the New England Synod!

Pastor David Rinas and Doreen Rinas
Co-Chairpersons
New England Synod World Hunger Team

Members of the Emanuel Call Committee would like to hear from you!

If you have any questions or concerns that you'd like to share, please get in touch with any of the following people:

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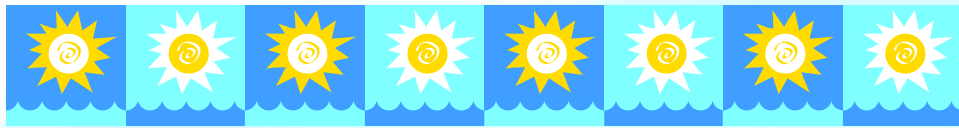
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Worship Support Specialist



SUMMER VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AT MACC

Positions open in the Soup Kitchen, Food Pantry & Thrift Shop

Soup Kitchen: 9 am—1:30 pm

Monday-Friday

- Help with prepping, cooking, and serving the lunch meal

Food Pantry: 9 am—12:30 pm

Wednesday mornings

- Help with sorting donations, bagging groceries and carrying items out to the car

Food Pantry: 9 am—12 pm

Tuesday and Thursday mornings

- Help with bringing in and sorting donations

Thrift Shop: 10 am—2 pm

Monday & Saturday

- Help with sorting donations and organizing the store

Visit macc-ct.org/volunteer to fill out an application.

MACC Charities, 466 Main Street, Manchester CT 06040

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED