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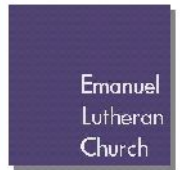
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November 2018

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



COMMUNITY

T = Trusting & Thankful

As I sit here running through a mental checklist of all the things I need to get done in these very busy weeks leading up to an even busier holiday time (getting my newsletter articles done being at the top of the list), I can't help but think about how blessed I am as your pastor.

I feel blessed because I'm able to **trust** that this special congregation & all the faithful ministries we do together in this place & for the world, are in good hands - the gifted and faithful hands of:

Our Council members & lay leaders!

Our wonderful volunteers!

Our dedicated staff!

And – most especially - Our awesome God!

Trust is such an amazing gift and it's essential to our life together as a faith **community**! Trusting we are here to faithfully care for and support one another as sisters & brothers in Christ. **Trusting** that we are a faith community *on a mission from God* (to borrow a phrase from the *Blues Brothers*), and while we may not always agree on *how* we carry out our mission, we can agree on the *why*—because of the love we share for this place, for each other, for the Gospel message, and for the God who gave us life. And for that—we can be **thankful**—another **essential part of life together as a community** of faith. **Thankful** to and for each other, **thankful** for all the gifts God has given our faith community, **thankful** for God's love!

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you, will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

—Philippians 1:3-5

Trusting and so thankful that all is well in God's Hands!

Pastor Maria



1

From the Pastor

2

Racism...Our Conversation Continues
Amazon Smile
Thanksgiving Eve Service
Healing Prayer

3

From the Parish Nurse

4

November Church Events

5

November 2018 Calendar

6

November Lay Minister Schedule

7

Faith in Action

8

Faith in Action (continued)

9

A Budget is a Statement of Faith
Emanuel's Church Council

10

Martin Luther's Rose

11

Caring
All Saints Sunday

12

Women's Retreat Photos

From the Pastor...

(continued from page 1)

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

amazon
smile

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.



HAVE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING!

JOIN US AS WE THANK THE LORD
FOR OUR MANY BLESSINGS!

Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 21
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
7:00 PM

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.

Everyone enjoys this time of fellowship!

LET'S TALK
ABOUT IT

Racism...Our Conversation Continues

If you were part of our Spring book study regarding racism, you will know that there was significant interest in continuing the conversation. If you weren't able to participate—perhaps you heard about how compelling our discussions were and would like a chance to participate. So...here's a chance to join in or continue the conversation.

Emanuel, Concordia and St. Mary's are sponsoring a documentary film series on racism in America. The series will be held on the 4th Wednesdays. The series began on September 26 and the last date is November 28. There will be two identical programs on that day—one held at 12 noon (bring a brown bag lunch) at St. Mary's, 41 Park Street, Manchester, and the other at 6:30 p.m. (supper served at 6 p.m.) at Concordia, 40 Pitkin Street, Manchester. Each film will be followed by 45 minutes of conversation. We hope you can join us for this important conversation. Bring a friend—all are welcome.

For more information about the film series, please see Pastor Maria.

*The first step towards
change is awareness...*

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) 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

As we prepare for Thanksgiving, let us all take time to thank God for all the blessings he has bestowed upon us. He has provided us with food, shelter and a loving and caring Emanuel community. Within this caring community, there are three faithful servants and their helpers who have provided funeral receptions for bereaved families and friends. For the past fifteen years, Doris Johnson, Norma Wirta and Carol Sullivan, have brought comfort and support to many bereaved families with their love of cooking and serving.



When I asked how this ministry began, I was told that it was started by Joyce Stephenson thirty years ago. The Stephenson family came from a church in Minnesota where their members provided funeral receptions for their parishioners. Joyce brought up the idea that perhaps this is a ministry that could be provided at Emanuel. Doris joined her in this ministry. Their menu consisted of sandwiches, beverage and desserts and in cold weather, soups. When Joyce and her husband moved from Connecticut, Doris continued it along with Irene Hughes, Helen Johnson and many more. Then fifteen years ago, Doris, Norma and Carol, along with several other men and women, carried on this tradition.

After all these years, these women decided it was time to find another team of people to take over. After many attempts to find their replacement, Ruth Circle members asked them to come to a meeting and discuss the details of their mission. They explained that some families provided the food and they did the set-ups, serving and clean up; for other receptions they cooked the food, completed the set ups, served the food and did the clean up. There was a charge for providing the food and it basically covered their costs. Their menus included a hot luncheon or sandwiches or sandwich platters or just desserts and coffee. As they were speaking it became evident how much love and pleasure they received in providing this service.

After much discussion, Ruth Circle members voted to continue this wonderful ministry. Helen Johnson and I agreed to be co-coordinators. We also had fourteen members agree to help with the setup, serving and clean up. It was also agreed that the families would be asked to provide the food. A list of vendors will be given to the church office for the families' consideration or they may provide their own food. In the past, Ruth Circle provided desserts and they may continue to do so when asked.

After the Ruth Circle meeting, Helen and I met with Doris and Norma to review in more detail the nuts and bolts of their service. It was decided that we would provide the paper goods and beverages for the event at no charge to the family. We sent a proposal to the Finance Committee requesting funds from the Thrivent Choice Dollars to fund this need. We have also written up Guidelines to be shared with the families.

In conclusion, I want to personally thank Doris, Norma and Carol, as well as the others who helped in this endeavor. I personally benefited from their caring and supportive services when they provided the reception at my husband, Gus's, Memorial Service. It was one less thing that I had to think about and it allowed me time to spend with friends and family. These will be hard shoes to fill but with the support of Ruth Circle members and with the help of the congregation, we will continue this wonderful mission of care and service to bereaved families. If others wish to get involved, please contact the co-coordinators or the church office. We can also use a few good men.

God's Blessings and have a wonderful Thanksgiving.

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



**There will be a
Children's Sermon
during the 10:30 AM
worship service on 11/25.**

Church Events

Piano and Violin Concert Thursday, November 1st at 7 PM



This concert sponsored by the Japan Society of Greater Hartford, with Emilie-Ann Gendron, violin and Melody Fader, piano will feature Mozart Violin Sonata, KV296, Chopin Ballade No. 2 and Nocturne Op. 27, Nicola Matteis the Younger Alia Fantasia, Jean Martinon Sonata No. 5, and Beethoven Violin Sonata "Kreutzer".

Doors open at 6 PM. Admission is free but donations are appreciated. A reception will follow the concert.

Friends of Music at Emanuel presents... Mohamad Shams Saturday, November 10th at 7:00 PM



Mohamed Shams began his piano studies at the Conservatoire of Music at the Academy for the Arts in Cairo, Egypt, and later earned degrees from the Manhattan School of Music and the Royal Conservatoire in Glasgow, Scotland. Winner of numerous international competitions and scholarships, Shams has appeared as featured soloist with orchestras worldwide, including the Cairo Symphony Orchestra, The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (UK), the London Chamber Players and the Repertory Symphony (USA).

Healing Prayer Worship Service Sunday, November 4th



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, November 7th at 8:30 AM The Vernon Diner, Vernon



Fall Clean-Up Saturday, November 10th at 8 AM



We invite any members and friends with rakes and muscles to aid the Property Committee in our annual fall clean-up.

No experience needed, just a willingness to work and have some fun, too. Pay is gratitude, friendship and coffee/tea and tasty treats. We should be finished within a few short hours. Please join us!

Afternoon Tea Saturday, November 10th at 1:00 PM in Luther Hall



The event will benefit *The Interval House* and *My Sister's Place*, organizations for abused and/or grieving women and children. The tea will include a brief lecture by Serina Julian from The Tea Round explaining the origin of afternoon tea and the etiquette surrounding it, especially historically in Great Britain. The afternoon will include a silent auction offering some unique items!

Tickets are going fast! The event is open to all! Tickets are available in the Church Office. The cost is \$20.00 per person.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Emanuel will be delivering Thanksgiving Baskets of Food to our Manchester neighbors in the morning on Saturday, November 17th.

There are a number of ways you can participate to help out in this worthy cause:

- 1) Donations can be placed in the little white church in the Narthex during the months of November and December.
- 2) Volunteers are needed on Saturday, November 17th to pick up the food at the grocery store, pack the food into family orders, and finally deliver the food to the recipient families.

If you have any questions on how you can help, please contact Linda Jackson at 860-965-3250 or 860-228-3043 or email louej6@aol.com.



Prayer Shawl Ministry Gathering Monday, November 19th at 9:30 AM in Luther Hall



The members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will gather together this month. We encourage all prayer shawl makers and anyone else who is interested in this ministry to join us. All are welcome!

Property Wish List: Wooden storm windows

Is there a person with knowledge and equipment who would be willing to make a few simple design wooden storm windows to protect our lower level this winter? It is a simple design, but would help with energy efficiency.

Please see Matt Heinrich or Kathy Hatch for more information.

NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 <i>Children's Sermon</i> REFORMATION SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship Service (Confirmation) (Haines baptism) 11:00 AM Confirmation Reception - LH 12:30 PM CROP Walk - begins at Center Congregational Church 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary 4:30 PM Chaimovitch Piano/Voice Recital - SA/LH	29	30 9:00 AM Music Together class - CR 9:00 AM Organ Tuning - SA 6:30 PM New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA	31 10:00 AM Music Together class - CR 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library	1 4:00 PM Violin and Piano Concert Rehearsal- SA 5:00 PM Music Together class - CR 6:00 PM Violin and Piano Concert - SA 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - YR 7:30 PM Anthem Choir - MR	2 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 9:30 AM Al-Anon - CR 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	3 9:00 AM Music Together class - CR
4 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY <i>Daylight Saving Time ends</i> <i>Healing Prayer</i> 8:45 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	5	6 9:00 AM Music Together class - CR 6:30 PM New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA	7 8:30 AM Women's Breakfast Group at The Vernon Diner 10:00 AM Music Together class - CR 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library 6:30 PM Head to Heart Confirmation - CR	8 5:00 PM Music Together class - CR 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - YR 7:30 PM Anthem Choir - MR	9 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	10 VISITOR NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 8:00 AM Property Fall Clean-Up 9:00 AM Music Together class - CR 1:00 PM Ruth Circle Benefit Tea Party - LH 7:00 PM FME Chamber Music Concert Series - Mohammed Shams - SA
11 <i>Pastor Bob LaRoche presiding</i> <i>& preaching</i> VETERANS' DAY 8:45 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	12 <i>Bishop's</i> <i>Convocation -</i> <i>Hyannis Resort &</i> <i>Conference Center</i> VETERANS' DAY OBSERVED - OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 PM CLCC Board Meeting - CR 7:00 PM Property Comm. Mtg. - Library	13 <i>Bishop's</i> <i>Convocation -</i> <i>Hyannis Resort &</i> <i>Conference Center</i> 9:00 AM Music Together class - CR 5:30 PM Personnel Committee Meeting - YR 6:30 PM New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA	14 <i>Bishop's</i> <i>Convocation -</i> <i>Hyannis Resort &</i> <i>Conference Center</i> 10:00 AM Music Together class - CR 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library 6:30 PM Head to Heart Confirmation - CR 7:00 PM Emergency Management Team - LH	15 5:00 PM Music Together class - CR 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - YR 7:30 PM Anthem Choir - MR	16 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	17 8:00 AM Thanksgiving Baskets - LH 9:00 AM Music Together class - CR 10:00 AM Altar Guild Cleaning Day - SA/LH
18 <i>Temple Talk by George Reider re</i> <i>NE Synod Seminarian Education</i> <i>Fund</i> 8:45 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 12:30 PM Dubaldo Family Gathering - LH 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	19 9:30 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Gathering - LH	20 6:30 PM New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA 6:45 PM Council Devotions - LH 7:00 PM Council Meeting - LH	21 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library	22 THANKSGIVING - OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - CR	23 DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING - OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:30 PM Christ Church music rehearsal - SA	24
25 <i>Children's Sermon</i> CHRIST THE KING WORLD HUNGER SUNDAY 10:00 AM Worship Service 1:30 PM Christ Church Worship Service - Sanctuary	26 9:30 AM Visitor mailing - LH	27 9:00 AM Music Together class - CR 6:30 PM New Day Singers Rehearsal - SA 7:00 PM Emanuel Housing Corp. - Library	28 10:00 AM Music Together class - CR 10:30 AM Staff Meeting - Library 12:00 PM Racism in America documentary film series - at St. Mary's (brown bag lunch) 6:30 PM Head to Heart Confirmation - CR 6:30 PM Racism in America documentary film series - at Concordia (supper served at 6PM)	29 5:00 PM Music Together class - CR 7:00 PM Christ Church Bible Study - CR 7:30 PM Anthem Choir - MR	30 7:00 AM HGLHC - LH 6:00 PM Manchester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale Concert Rehearsal - SA/LH	1 9:00 AM Music Together class - CR 12:00 PM Ruth Circle - Christmas Luncheon at Manchester Country Club 7:00 PM Manchester Symphony Orchestra & Chorale Concert - SA

Daylight Savings Time Ends on Sunday, November 4th.

Please turn your clocks **BACK ONE HOUR** before you go to bed on Saturday night.



The Church Office will Be CLOSED on Monday, November 12th and
Thursday and Friday, November 22nd & 23rd.

Lay Minister Schedule for November 2018

	November 4 All Saints Sunday	November 11	November 18	November 25 Christ the King
Worship Assistants				
Greeters 8:45	Marianne Wilcox Ann Linda Bray	Barton & Lisa Sattler	Joe & Teri Ferron	10:00 – Beverly Fuss Ruth Lebrach
Greeters 10:30	Jodi Eskin Kris Fournier	Ben & Misty Halmers	Anne Heinrich Jane Jauss	
Acolyte 8:45	Pam Rowett	--	--	10:00 – Volunteer Needed
Acolyte 10:30	Bella Carlson	Ben Grant	--	
Assisting Minister 8:45	Marge Andersen	--	Ron Erickson	10:00 – Volunteer Needed
Assisting Minister 10:30	Ryan Carlson	--	--	
Lector 8:45	Lynne Gustafson	Matt Heinrich	Sylvia Hellstrom	10:00 – Bev Leo
Lector 10:30	Justin Guerrero	Campfield Heinrich	Susan Hebert	
Communion Assts. 8:45	Marci Lombardo Rod Andersen	Lisa Sattler Marianne Wilcox	Lynne Gustafson Matt Heinrich	10:00 – Helen Johnson Jeannine Johnson Herb Lindahl Rich Lindahl
Communion Assts. 10:30	Mark Starybrat Donna Connolly Jenn Davis Justin Guerrero	Carol Adams Kim Boerner-Mercier Kris Fournier Ben Grant	Laura Dolcelli Sam Dolcelli Nancy Whiten Campfield Heinrich	
Ushers 8:45	Judy Anderson Barbara Bahan 2 Volunteers Needed	Eric Haaga Matt Heinrich 2 Volunteers Needed	Vyrjil Buus Sylvia Hellstrom 2 Volunteers Needed	10:00 – Rich Marsh Nelson & Elsa Robinson Marianne Wilcox
Ushers 10:30	Kurt Buescher Ray Purtell 2 Volunteers Needed	Carol Adams Ruth Lebrach 2 Volunteers Needed	Jodi Eskin Dave Kent 2 Volunteers Needed	
Hospital Visitor	Martha Eddy	Martha Eddy	Sylvia Hellstrom	Sylvia Hellstrom

Faith in Action...

From Pastor Maria Hammons



Faith in Action... The "Cross"-over between Church & State

*The Lord has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you, but
to do justice, and to love kindness, and
to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8)*

Ok...so, like many of you, my husband Danny and I have been watching the build up to the mid-term elections. We've been listening to the journalists and reading about the candidates. It kind of makes your head spin. I'm thinking it might be time to re-read the book *God's Politics*¹—an excellent work by Sojourner's author Jim Wallis—just to refocus.

Given we're in the midst of a contentious and very important time in our country, it seems like it is also an appropriate time to be thinking about how God calls us to be a "public church." How we're called to put our faith into action—even in politics!

Former Presiding Bishop Hanson put it this way...

As a public church called to witness to God's love for all God has created, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) affirms the importance of participation in society by all people, including people of faith. The ELCA social statement, "The Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective," which guides our public speech and ethical actions, commits us to "work with and on behalf of the poor, the powerless, and those who suffer, using [this church's] power and influence with political and economic decision-making bodies to develop and advocate policies that seek to advance justice, peace and the care of creation.

*Scripture reveals God's presence in all realms of life, including political life. This church understands government as a means through which God can work to preserve creation and build a more peaceful and just social order in a sinful world. The electoral process is one way in which we live out our affirmation of baptism to "serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus," and "to strive for justice and peace in all the earth."*²

As people of faith, we are called to be advocates for those who don't have the ability or opportunity to influence public policy in the same way that we do. In other words, this is the Church's call to the Ministry of Advocacy!

What exactly do we mean by **advocacy**? It's simple really. **Advocacy** is about embracing a cause that we believe in and representing the interest of those less fortunate—those who are unable to fight for themselves—people in need in our congregation, our community, and around the world.

The ELCA lists the following as its first principle of this important ministry... "**Advocacy** is public witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ where the church speaks...on behalf of others in need, articulating positions consistent with our faith."

Some people may say that, while they accept the importance of this goal and the need to advocate for those who are less fortunate, they're not clear on why the Church needs to be involved.

Why is **advocacy** considered to be a ministry of the Church? Good question—and the response is key to our understanding our God-given call to mission in the world. So let's take a look at how the **Ministry of Advocacy** is grounded in Scripture...

First it's important for us to realize that God's call to **advocacy** didn't begin with the Christian Church. Hebrew Scriptures of the *Old Testament* contain numerous examples of individuals being chosen to be advocates for God's people or to deliver God's message to the people, calling them to work for justice. Here are a couple of examples...

Exodus 3: God sends a reluctant Moses as an advocate to Pharaoh to intercede for the people's freedom... "Let my people go!"

continued on page 8

Faith in Action...(continued)

From Pastor Maria Hammons

Psalm 82: God tells us to give justice to the weak; to maintain the right of the destitute; to rescue the needy & deliver them from the wicked.

So what about the *New Testament*? What do the Gospels and the early Christians have to say about **advocacy**? Again, just a couple of examples...

Matthew 25: Jesus tells us that when we feed the hungry, welcome a stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit those in prison...that it is the same as if we are doing it for Him.

1 John 3: Here we're asked how it could be possible for God's love to abide in anyone who sees another in need & yet refuses help? We're also instructed! We're told to love—not only in word or speech, but in truth & action.

God clearly calls us to work for justice for those in need. The **Ministry of Advocacy** is grounded in Scripture!

So how do we **advocate**? Well, there are many ways...but the one we're focused on here is by being an informed citizen. Informed not only about the issues and our personal thoughts and preferences—but about how our faith “speaks” to those issues. What does the gospel of Jesus Christ have to say about the various issues that we're being asked to consider?

The answers are not always easy, or clear, or straight forward, which is why—as people of faith—we need to study God's Word, pray for God's guidance, and talk with one another as a community of faith.

And we also pray for God's guidance for our elected officials, asking that they be inspired by God's strength to advocate for all those in need!

Praying for justice & peace for all people!

Salaam! Shalom! God's Peace!

Pastor Maria

1. *God's Politics: A New Vision for Faith and Politics in America*, Jim Wallis, Harper San Francisco, 2005.
2. Excerpt from *Called To Be A Public Church: 2008 ELCA Voting and Civic Participation Guide*.

Note: If you'd like to read more about our call to be Public Church, here are some additional resources
If you do not have internet access, let me know and I will get a paper copy for you.

The ELCA Social Statement “Church in Society”:

http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Church_SocietySS.pdf
[ga=2.114529027.563570789.1539663121-617012905.1533175482](#)

Called to be a Public Church: ELCA Civic Participation Guide

[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Called to Be a Public Church Guide 2014.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Called_to_Be_a_Public_Church_Guide_2014.pdf)
[ga=2.13760051.563570789.1539663121-617012905.1533175482](#)

Being a Public Church: Guidance for Churches and Clergy Participating in the Electoral Process

[http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Being A Public Church.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Being_A_Public_Church.pdf)
[ga=2.22870719.563570789.1539663121-617012905.1533175482](#)



A Budget Is A Statement of Faith

From Pastor Maria Hammons

Food for Thought... A Budget Is a Statement of Faith!

What does your church's annual budget represent?

Is it a proud menu of hopes, dreams and missionary ministries your congregation wants to accomplish in the year to come?

Or is it a *life-support* prescription for how the congregation expects to pay the staff, keep lights burning, the sanctuary heated, and grass mowed?

In a workshop when she was Stewardship Officer of the Episcopal Church, Terry Parsons gave this "Devil's Dictionary" definition of a church budget: "It is the means by which we notify the Lord of the limitations we intend to impose on his gifts for the coming year."

If we view the budget—and present it to our congregations—as an administrative necessity to ensure proper financial management, then we shouldn't be surprised to wind up with bare-bones measures that are grudgingly funded. If funded at all.

But if we present the budget to our congregations as opportunities to invest in the Kingdom of God and stretch ourselves to see how much we can do with even the nickels and dimes God has given us, then the possibilities increase.

In the end, a budget is a statement about how a congregation views the future. Do you trust that ours is the God of abundance who rewards faithful stewards and will stand behind servants who proclaim the Kingdom of God? Or not?

Put it this way: If an outsider looked at your budget, what would he or she conclude about your congregation's faith?

And what would be a *God's Dictionary* definition of a church budget? How about, "*It is the means by which we make the most of the abundance the Lord is giving us.*" Hmmmm. That will look nice on the cover of the annual report.

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Emanuel's Council meets on the 3rd Tuesday of *most* months, beginning with devotions at 6:45 p.m. Meetings are held in the Community Room.

Parishioners are welcome to attend regular meetings of the Council.

(Please understand that, while it is infrequent, there are times when the Council needs to go into Executive Session. When that happens, only elected members of the Council and the Pastor are permitted to stay.)

If you would like to come to address the Council on a particular matter, please contact Council President John Helmke at johnhelmke@me.com or Vice President Donna Connolly at ds3connolly@gmail.com

Please keep the Council members in your prayers.

Joe Berneski
Julie Kamp

Donna Connolly
Steve Lazarus

Ann Cook
Lisa Little

John Helmke
Kyle Polito

Joe Jauss
Kathy Purtell

Martin Luther's Rose

Just in Case You Were Wondering...

MARTIN LUTHER'S ROSE

You may have heard references to the *Luther Rose* and wondered what it was.

We thought we'd let Martin Luther explain in his own words...



The first thing expressed in my seal is a cross, black, within the heart, to put me in mind that faith in Christ crucified saves us. 'For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness.'

Now, although the cross is black, mortified, and intended to cause pain, yet it does not change the color of the heart, does not destroy nature - i.e., does not kill, but keeps alive. 'For the just shall live by faith' - by faith in the Savior.

But this heart is fixed upon the center of a white rose, to show that faith causes joy, consolation and peace. The rose is white, not red, because white is the ideal color of all angels and blessed spirits.

This rose, moreover, is fixed in a sky-colored ground, to denote that such joy of faith in the spirit is but an earnest and beginning of heavenly joy to come, as anticipated and held by hope, though not yet revealed.



And around this ground base is a golden ring, to signify that such bliss in heaven is endless, and more precious than all joys and treasures, since gold is the best and most precious metal. Christ, our dear Lord, He will give grace unto eternal life.

Amen.

Martin Luther

Caring

November Birthdays

Norma Wirta	11/1		Paula Haney	11/15
Doris Johnson	11/2		Jack Soares	11/18
Doti Dienst	11/4		Lore Welch	11/19
Sharon Hamilton	11/4		Bruce Johnson	11/24
Ray Wilcox	11/6		Joseph Macione	11/29
Lynne Gustafson	11/13			

Pastoral Acts

Baptism
Stella Rizzo

Funeral
Louis Albasi

My heartfelt thanks to all who sent cards and prayers while I was in the hospital.

Jean Reed

All Saints Sunday
November 4, 2018
8:45 & 10:30 AM

(remember to turn your clocks back an hour!)

Well done, good and faithful servants!

*We'll read the names and light a candle
for all the saints from the past year.*



*The faithful departed who have joined the
saints triumphant since last All Saints Day.*

Nils Allan Holmquist
Leonard A. Johnson
Richard G. Sauer
Don A. Carpenter
Terry Gene Davis
Arnold R. Sauer
Summer B. Little
Elsie K. Swanson
John D. Enderle
William F. Noren
Donald E. Benson
Doris E. Stephenson
Louis J. Albasi
Charles J. Cyr

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Berk Little
Worship Support Specialist

Brianna Gustafson
Worship Support Specialist



A group of women from Emanuel went on retreat from October 12-14, to the Blue Gentian Lodge in Vermont. Pastor Maria led the group. All women of Emanuel are welcome to join them next October for this annual event!

