



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

1229 Jefferson Heights Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

eastmontelc@hotmail.com

www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org

412-824-4525 (office); 412-401-5742 (Pastor's cell)

Office Hours: Wednesday 10-3, Thursday 9-1

January 15, 2025

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully receive the prayers of your people and grant that we may know and understand what things we ought to do and also may have the grace and power to accomplish them. Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor, that we may lead a peaceable life of integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, especially to the President of the United States, the Governor of Pennsylvania, and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws, and help them to serve this people according to your holy will. *(from the LBW)*

JANUARY 18-25

2025

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

"Do you believe this?"
(John 11:26)

1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea

ECUMENICAL SERVICE
January 21, 7pm
at
The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
4503 Old William Penn Hwy.
Monroeville, PA 15146

For more info

The service will be livestreamed on YouTube at bit.ly/tgsletube

Prayer for Christian Unity Tuesday, January 21, 7 pm Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

The traditional period in the northern hemisphere for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is January 18-25. Those dates were proposed in 1908 by Paul Wattson to cover the days between the feasts of St. Peter and St. Paul, and therefore have a symbolic significance. In the southern hemisphere churches often find other days to celebrate the Week of Prayer, for example around Pentecost which is also a symbolic date for the unity of the Church and to pray together for that full unity which is Christ's will.

"Do you believe this?" (John 11:26). This year marks the 1,700th anniversary of the first Christian Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea, near Constantinople in 325 AD. This commemoration provides a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the common faith of Christians, as expressed in the Creed formulated during this Council; a faith that remains

alive and fruitful in our days. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 offers an invitation to enter more deeply into the faith that unites all Christians.

Spanish Language Worship begins Sunday, January 19 at 6 p.m.

Sunday evening Lutheran worship in Spanish begins this week!!!

This will be held at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 1516 Beechview Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216. Worship is at 6 pm. English classes for adults will be held at 7 pm. Bible in English for children at 7 pm. **Volunteers are needed to teach.**



THE ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING IS SUNDAY, JANUARY 26 IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING. You may give in person, send a contribution in the mail or donate online.

Go to <https://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org/> and you'll see the link. Or use the QR code for easy connection on your smart phone.



To order altar flowers for our weekly worship services, contact Judy Mayhood (412-760-0986), call the church office, or sign up on the Flower Chart in the entry way. The cost is \$50, or \$25 per vase. You can pay for flowers online or by check.

Worship and pray

Come in person at 10 am every Sunday

By phone: Call 312-626-6799. When prompted, enter the meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

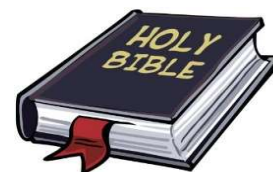
By computer or smartphone: Go to www.zoom.us. Enter Meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

At home without technology: Read the bulletin. Read the Scripture. Pray. Meditate.

BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH: II Samuel

We are entering the last phase of the Bible Book of the Month. Usually, the chosen book is one that we read during worship in that month. In the final six months of this project, that will not be the case.

The Bible Book of the Month for January is II Samuel. The introduction to II Samuel was included in a prior mailing. As a reminder, introductions to all the Bible Books of the Month can also be found on the home page of our website, www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org.



PRAYER REQUESTS: Call Pastor Theophilus for yourself or others to be included in prayer. Contact Marsha Kennedy also; she sends cards to let people know that we are praying for them. You can reach Marsha at 412-824-4966 or Marsha_Kennedy@verizon.net or 415 Kingston Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

**THE ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING IS SUNDAY, JANUARY 26
IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP.**

Tues., Jan. 21, 1 pm – Church Council Meeting
Sun., Jan. 26, 11:15 am – Annual Meeting (snow date Sun., Feb. 2)
Sun., Feb. 2, 11:15 am – Black History Month discussion



On **Sunday, February 9 at 7:30 p.m.**, St. Olaf Lutheran College Choir will perform at East Liberty Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh. Composed of 75 mixed voices, the St. Olaf Choir is hailed as one of the nation's premier a cappella ensembles, renowned for its artistry and beauty of sound. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$10 for all students, and are available at stolaf.edu/tickets/choir or 800-363-5487.



FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Do you know the song "Old Man River"? Maybe you have seen the movie "Show Boat"? If so, you have already encountered Paul Robeson, the singer and actor.

This year we will focus on **Paul Robeson's** life's journey during four sessions in February - a very interesting journey combining his artistic gifts and his commitment to social justice.

The four sessions are scheduled for the Sundays in February, beginning February 2 immediately after worship. Let us know if you would like us to order a copy of his book *Here I Stand*. The cost for a personal copy is \$10. One will be ordered for Emmanuel's library.

ELCA National Day of Racial Healing – Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Welcome by ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. There are a wide variety of workshops and musical performances. The event closes with worship at 2:20 pm. Musical performance by Benhi !Khabeb, closing sermon and sending song by the Rev. Felix Malpica, bishop of the La Cross Area Synod. For more information and to register, click this link: <https://www.elca.org/our-work/publicly-engaged-church/racial-justice-ministries/national-day-of-racial-healing>

**Taize Prayer Service for Bishop Election
Sunday, February 2, 2PM
The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
4503 Old William Penn Hwy, Monroeville, PA 15146**

You have heard that Bishop Kusserow is retiring. There will be a synod election at the next synod assembly. The Bishop Election Team is planning a contemplative prayer service to support our synod in discernment. All are invited to attend in person or online.

MLK WORSHIP SERVICE

JANUARY 19, 4 pm

United Methodist Church on Center Ave in Monroeville

The preacher is Dr. Joe Smith, who is an Adjunct professor Duquesne University and the Director of spiritual formation, First United Methodist Church in Pittsburgh. All are welcome to attend!



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

“When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.” (Isaiah 43:2).

Dear church,

The images of leaping flames, smoke-choked skies, and the wreckage of homes and habitats in and around Los Angeles are hard to bear. The ongoing, deadly California wildfires have claimed lives, displaced hundreds of thousands of people, and destroyed homes, businesses, schools and houses of worship. The devastation continues as winds spread the flames. So far we know that Bishop Brenda Bos of the Southwest California Synod and her wife, Janis, lost their home in the Eaton fire. We believe that the fires have touched the lives of many more ELCA members and several congregations as the synod continues to receive damage reports and assess the immediate needs for support.

The prophet Isaiah writes that even when fires rage, the final word is faith, not fear. God redeems us and calls us by name to be agents of healing and hope, even amid staggering loss. In faith, we respond through prayer, accompaniment and action.

Please join me in praying that God’s love and care be manifest among all who are impacted by these wildfires. Pray for the firefighters battling unrelenting blazes and for first responders, health care providers and public servants providing safety and support for those impacted. Pray for ELCA ministries as they care for the many needs of their communities. Pray for the long-term well-being of all who are affected by the widespread devastation and who face ongoing danger.

[Learn](#) how your church is responding and how you can get involved.

In Christ,

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

[A Message from Bishop Eaton on the California Wildfires](#)

About the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States, with 2.8 million members in more than 8,500 worshipping communities across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region. Known as the church of “God’s work. Our hands.,” the ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world. The ELCA’s roots are in the writings of the German church reformer Martin Luther.

For information contact:

Candice Hill Buchbinder
Public Relations Manager

Candice.HillBuchbinder@ELCA.org