



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org

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

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

November 6, 2024

I really like Psalm 146. When I am pleased with the leaders in government (or other human organizations), this Psalm reminds me that they are not God. When I am disappointed with the leaders, I am reminded that God is really who I need. And the Psalmist reminds me that God is the protector of the vulnerable even when government does not.

¹ *Praise the Lord!*

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

² *I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.*

³ ***Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.***

⁴ *When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.*

⁵ *Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,*

⁶ *who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;*

⁷ *who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.*

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

⁸ *the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.*

***The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.***

⁹ ***The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.***

¹⁰ *The Lord will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.*

Praise the Lord!

Thankoffering Sunday, November 17

Thankofferings are gratitude in action. A daily response to God's grace and love. An offering above and beyond regular offerings.

Everyone is encouraged to give thanks daily. When you set aside coins (or more) as an expression of your gratitude to God, that is a thankoffering. **On Sunday, November 17, we will collect our thankofferings at Emmanuel.**

The founders of Women of the ELCA decided back in 1988 that Thankofferings are to support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women's organization. (The practice of Thankoffering had been carried by the church women's organizations long before the merger that created the ELCA.) Our founders would be amazed to see what that covers these days! Our ongoing ministries include our many online and printed communications channels including Bible Studies which we have used at Emmanuel, training and development for elected leaders throughout the women's organization, our constant work in support of congregational and synodical women's organizations, the administration of our grants and scholarship programs, and so much more.

It's time to order poinsettias for Christmas Eve! They're 6-inch pots with 7-9 blooms, cost \$11 each and are available in red, pink, white or marbled. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the entry, or you can call the church office to place your order. **The deadline for orders is Sunday, December 1.**



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.

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.

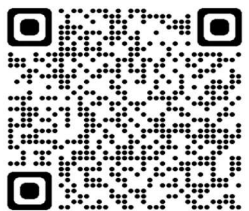
Worship and pray

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.



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.

WHAT DOES THE ELCA TEACH ABOUT ????

This fall, we are studying six of the social statements using a series prepared by United Lutheran Seminary (Gettysburg and Philadelphia). **You can participate on Sunday after worship on selected Sundays. You can also watch the recorded presentation at home on YouTube.**

The remaining topics are

ELCA Earth's Climate Crisis Study Guide -
Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture -

The dates at Emmanuel are

November 10
November 17



Fri., Nov. 22, 11 am – Parish Life Meeting

Sun., Dec. 1 – Advent begins

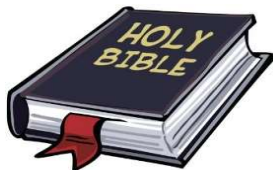
Tues., Dec. 3, 1 pm – Church Council Meeting

Wed., Dec. 4, 11, 18 – 12:30–1:15 pm – Advent
Midweek Holy Communion

Tues., Dec. 24 – 3 pm – Christmas Eve Worship

MEALS FOR FRIENDS CHRISTMAS CANDY SALE

Meals for Friends is selling delicious Betsy Ann Chocolates for Christmas. The brochure and order form are attached to the email version of this newsletter, or you can pick up a copy at the church. Orders are due November 22 (checks payable to Glenn Seddon), and the candy will be ready for pickup at Emmanuel on December 9.



BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH: Leviticus

The Bible Book of the Month for November is Leviticus. The introduction to Leviticus was included in last week's 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.

How did Covid affect your worship?

Our congregation has the unique opportunity to participate in a national study of worship attenders. The study is being conducted by Faith Communities Today (FACT), a research partner of the ELCA. Since 2000, FACT has conducted research that provides religious leaders of all traditions with critical information about the changing nature of congregational life and how to respond effectively.

For participating in this survey, our congregation will receive a \$200 Amazon gift card and, if at least 10 people respond, a report of our responses.

Anyone 18 or older who is a regular participant can complete the survey. It should take between 12 to 15 minutes. To take the survey, please click the link below.

https://covidreligionstudy.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9GYI89a3NMOwuFw?congregation=20224.

Please complete the survey by Friday, Nov. 22.

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please visit: <https://www.covidreligionresearch.org/attender-survey/>

WELCOMING REFUGEES WORKSHOP

Monday, November 18, 2024, 7:00-8:30 pm via Zoom

How do we best welcome our refugee neighbors? News stories about the treatment of refugees in Springfield, OH and Charleroi, PA have raised concerns for our migrant neighbors' safety and well-being, along with desire for the church to respond with welcome, hospitality, and support. The workshop will discuss the fundamentals of refugee resettlement (and a larger look at forcibly displaced persons worldwide); the basics of trauma-informed care and cultural humility (which can apply to anyone, not just refugees); and how we can apply trauma-informed care and cultural humility as new neighbors and friends. Joy Givens, a member of St. Andrew (Shadyside) and Immigrant and Refugee Youth Specialist at JFCS, and Rev. Linda Theophilus of Emmanuel (Eastmont), who coordinates Emmanuel's Welcoming Immigrants Housing Project, will lead the conversation. Please plan to take part in this important and timely conversation!



Zoom Link Information: Meeting ID: 861 8409 7067; Passcode: 078815

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86184097067?pwd=of2QILjXz8MHS22CW0I5a4sivyflaA.1>

Responding to Domestic Violence Competently, Compassionately, and Faithfully

Saturday, November 23: 10AM - 3PM

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (2500 Brandt School Road, Wexford, PA, 15090)

Domestic violence affects every community, yet most of us are not confident in our knowledge or resources to support victims. This workshop is for all who want to be equipped to help those experiencing domestic violence, and to be empowered to speak to the issue in public spaces, to learn from a local magistrate judge, a shelter worker, a therapist, and a pastor about how to provide practical help. RSVP by Saturday, November 16, \$10 includes lunch.

You are invited to join pastors and laypeople from around the Pittsburgh area on **Wednesday, November 20, at 6:30pm in the John Knox Room at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary** for

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**RECKONING WITH
ANTISEMITISM
AS CHRISTIANS**



the next program in the series: "Reckoning with Antisemitism: Listening to Jewish Voices." You'll hear from a panel of Jewish leaders to share how antisemitism has affected their lives and community and what they hope their Christian neighbors will come to understand about the Jewish experience. For more information about the panelists and to register before the deadline of November 19, click here:

https://www.casp.org/reckoning?mc_cid=8ba5e4a5d9&mc_eid=cf57a417fd#listening
