



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

September 11, 2024

In the Gospel reading for Sunday, September 15, Jesus asks the disciples "Who do you say that I am?" A similar question is "What am I to you?" Peter's answer to Jesus was "You are the Christ, the son of the living God." The Christian answer to the second question is "You are my Lord and Savior." Lord means the God in charge of my life.

In our denomination, there is great care taken to understand the connection to Jesus as Lord and issues we encounter in daily life. There is a process for writing a social statement. If you want to know what the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America teaches about _____, you may turn to the social statement on that topic: hunger and economic life, the justice system and imprisonment, racism, sexuality, climate crisis, gender and more. When bishops, pastors and church representatives speak publicly, we are expected to speak based on these statements. The social statements are available at www.elca.org (search for social statements) or ask Pastor Linda. We have a collection at Emmanuel.

This fall, we are studying six of the social statements using a series prepared by United Lutheran Seminary (Gettysburg and Philadelphia).

We begin with Introduction to Social Teachings on Sunday, September 15. This will immediately follow worship. There is a video presentation and discussion among ourselves. The presenter for the first session is the Rev. Dr. Roger Willer, Director of Theological Ethics for the ELCA. If you would like to watch the videos at home, please contact Pastor Linda.

The topics are

Introduction to Social Teachings -
Corporate Social Responsibility -
Abortion -
Sexism and Justice -
ELCA Earth's Climate Crisis Study Guide -
Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture -

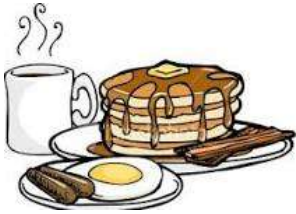
The dates at Emmanuel are

September 15
September 22
October 13
October 20
October 27
November 3

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.



Trinity Lutheran Church in Verona is hosting a free community breakfast on Saturday, September 21, from 9-11 a.m. Eggs, sausage, toast, pancakes, cereal, and beverages will be served. All are welcome! No rsvp needed. Trinity is located at 701 Allegheny River Blvd.

Worship and pray in person in the sanctuary OR

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.

Spaghetti Dinner – October 6, 2024, 3-6 pm

Plans for the annual spaghetti dinner on the first Sunday of October are underway. Your help and support are needed.

We will do this again with Meals for Friends as a takeout meal. All profits will be shared equally.

Can you help prepare sauce, desserts and more on Saturday, October 5?

Can you help welcome, take orders and package meals on Sunday, October 6?

There's a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Or contact Darlene Neill at 412-825-0790.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Spaghetti Dinner
Meals for Friends
Sunday, October 6
3:00- 6:00
Adults \$12.00
Children ages 3-10 \$3.00
Drive Through Only
1229 Jefferson Heights
Pittsburgh, PA. 15235

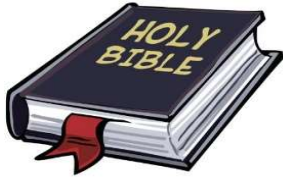
This will be take-out only with spaghetti, salad, bread and dessert.
\$12 for adult meals, \$3 for children ages 3-10.
Invite friends, neighbors and acquaintances for this delicious meal!!

ANTI-SEMITISM TRAINING – ST. JOHN'S NORTH VERSAILLES

The pastors of the ELCA congregations in the eastern suburbs of Pittsburgh are planning ways for our congregations to get to know each other and support each other. The first event is an anti-Semitism training through the Holocaust Center in Pittsburgh. We have planned this for Sunday afternoon, October 20, at **St. John's Lutheran Church** in North Versailles. Lunch will be provided at 12:30 and the program will follow. Stay tuned for information on how to sign up.

Dismantling Antisemitism 101 – This 1.5-2 hour interactive workshop, taught by Noah Schoen of the Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh, invites participants into greater understanding of antisemitism and its impact on Jewish people. The content blends teaching of historical and present-day dynamics of antisemitism with conversation and discussion. Participants begin to develop their own stake in dismantling antisemitism and leave with actionable knowledge.

Mon., Sept 16, 10 am – WIHP meeting
Sat., Sept. 21, 9-11 am – Community Breakfast, Trinity Verona
Sat., Oct. 5 – Setup for Spaghetti Dinner
Sun., Oct. 6, 3-6 pm – Spaghetti Dinner
Sun., Oct. 13 – Harvest Home
Tues., Oct. 15, 1 pm – Church Council Meeting
Fri., Oct. 18, 11 am – Parish Life Committee Meeting
Sun., Oct. 20 – Healing Service
Sun., Oct. 20, 12:30 pm – Anti-Semitism Training at St. John’s

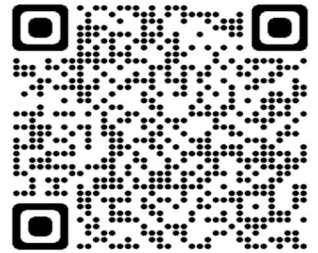


BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH: Song of Solomon & Titus

The Bible Books of the Month for September are Song of Solomon and Titus. The introduction to these books 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.

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.



Stewardship Reflection
by Pastor Dennis

Mark Allan Powell in his book, *Giving to God*, emphasizes that our giving to God is not the same as giving to the church. He makes the point that the gospel calls us to give 100% to God. So, if I have given all have to God, then what portion of my finances am I to give to the church? Let’s look at some definitions, which are also principles that have been emphasized over the years in stewardship programs.

First Fruits Giving comes from ancient Israel in an agricultural setting. Jewish law called for the first of the harvest to be offered to the Lord. In our modern world this means giving to the church first from our paycheck, or other sources of income. In our modern world some have set up a direct deposit of a set amount to the church’s bank account. First fruits giving insures that what we have committed to the church is what the church will receive.

Tithing, a tenth part, is prescribed by Jewish law to bring a tithe as an offering to the Lord. The gospel does not require us to tithe. However, freed from the law by the gospel, we are free to tithe, or commit to any other percent of our resources to the church. A friend of mine said, “My wife and I have set things in place so that ten percent of our estate will go to the college we attended.” I also heard of a church janitor who left everything he had to the congregation – C.D.’s with the congregation’s name on them.

Set free by the gospel, whatever one gives to the church is to be done voluntarily.

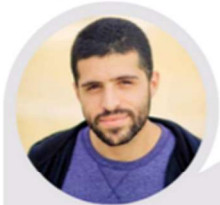
Two Truths in One Heart Two Peoples in One Land

Sunday, September 22nd, 1:00 - 3:00 PM
at Redeemer (5700 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217)

Church of the Redeemer with Congregation Beth Shalom Invite You to

Roots שורשים جذور

Learn from Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger and Noor A'wad, who are leaders in the West Bank Roots/Shorashim/Judur, an Israeli-Palestinian grassroots initiative for understanding, non-violence, and transformation. Roots challenges assumptions the two communities hold about one another, representing a unique network of Israelis and Palestinians who have come to see other as partners in the work to make changes to reduce tension, prevent escalation, and end conflict.



They will discuss personal experiences, having spent most of their lives in the heart of the conflict, both before and since the events of October 7, 2023. They will share how their perspectives, work, and societies have and have not been changed recently and what they see for the future.

Admission is free with free parking available.

Register by September 18th at:

<https://tinyurl.com/RootsinPgh>



Learn more about Roots at: <https://www.friendsofroots.net>

An Evening with Mohammad Darawshe Faculty Member of the Shalom Hartman Institute

Wednesday, September 18, 7-8:30 pm • JCC Squirrel Hill

What is life like being an Israeli Arab?

How do you create a shared society with Israeli Jews?

From Mr. Darawshe:

The October 7 Hamas attack deeply impacted all of Israel's ethnic groups. The Jewish majority experienced indescribable fear, while the Arab minority, which makes up one-fifth of Israel's citizenry, faced its own toll. Many Arab citizens, distraught and afraid, chose silence and seclusion, fearing that Jewish Israelis might not distinguish between Arab citizens and Hamas terrorists.



Mohammad Darawshe is also the Director of Strategy at Givat Haviva Center for Shared Society. He will share personal stories and discuss his work with Givat Haviva and its impact on Jewish-Arab relations to foster dialogue and mutual respect in Israel and beyond. Darawshe lives in Iksal, Israel with his wife and four children.

RSVP here:

https://jccpgh.formstack.com/forms/mohammad_darawshe_rsvp