



EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Public Access Code: EmanuelNH
Central Lutheran School: (260) 493-2502

December 22, 2024

News & Notes

SATURDAY EVENING - 5:00 p.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
DIVINE WORSHIP SERVICES EACH SUNDAY - 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
THE GATHERING – Every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in Central Lutheran’s Auxiliary Gym.

MISSION STATEMENT

Emanuel Lutheran Church furthers God’s Kingdom by connecting people, strengthening families, and proclaiming God’s Word.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY but we will have rehearsal for our Christmas Eve Nativity during the Sunday School hour. All participants (grades 2-6) should attend.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are placed to the glory of God by Randy and Angie Sommer, in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.



FOOD BANK - OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE: We are looking for 2 or 3 couples to help at the Food Bank Warehouse on Thursdays for 1 hour approximately once every 5-6 weeks.

This is where we fill the bags that are distributed from the food bank trailer. Time flexible - training provided - some lifting (5 to 20 lbs.). Spend some quality time with spouse or good friend and serve your community! Interested parties should contact the Church Office or Greg Peters at 402-2658. Thank you for considering this opportunity.



The Emanuel staff wishes you a Blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year. May Christ fill your lives with His joy and peace.

DAILY LECTIONARY FOR THIS WEEK

- December 22:** Is. 43:1-24 / Rev. 9:13-10:11
- December 23:** Is. 43:25-44:20 / Rev. 11:1-19
- December 24:** Is. 44:21-45:13, 20-25 / Rev. 12:1-17
- December 25:** Is. 49:1-18 / Matt. 1:1-17
- December 26:** Is. 49:22-26; 50:4-51:8, 12-16 / Matt. 1:18-25
- December 27:** Is. 51:17-52:12 / Matt. 2:1-12
- December 28:** Is. 52:13-54:10 / Matt. 2:13-23

BIBLE CLASSES

- United & Growing:** 2nd Saturday of the month from 8-Noon
- Monday Morning Bible Study:** Conference Room at 6:45
- Women’s Bible Study:** Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the FLR
- Monday Night Bible Study** at 7pm in the FLR
- Sunday Mornings from 9:15-10:15 a.m.**
- Adult Bible Class** in Fellowship Hall
- Sunday School** for 3 years – 7th grade begins in the sanctuary, then heads downstairs to classrooms.
- Confirmation Class** for 8th graders & their parents in FLR

EMANUEL’S BUDGET SNAPSHOT

Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ~ 2 Corinthians 9:7

As of November 30, 2024

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual vs. Budget</u>
Receipts	\$807,989	\$916,667	\$(108,678)
Expenses	761,865	913,946	(152,081)
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 46,124	\$ 2,721	\$ 43,403

RESPONSE TO HIS LOVE (attendance last week)

Saturday = 75 Sunday = 280 Gathering = 90
Visitors = 65 Communion = 332 Advent Midweek = 130

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

TODAY

Worship.....8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Class.....9:15 a.m.
The Gathering.....10:30 a.m.

MONDAY

Bible Study.....6:45 a.m.

TUESDAY ~ Church Office Closed

Food Bank.....9:00-11:45 a.m.
Service of Lessons & Carols.....3:00 p.m.
Family Christmas Service.....6:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.....11:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY ~ Church Office Closed

Christmas Day Festival Service.....10:00 a.m.

THURSDAY ~ No events scheduled.

FRIDAY

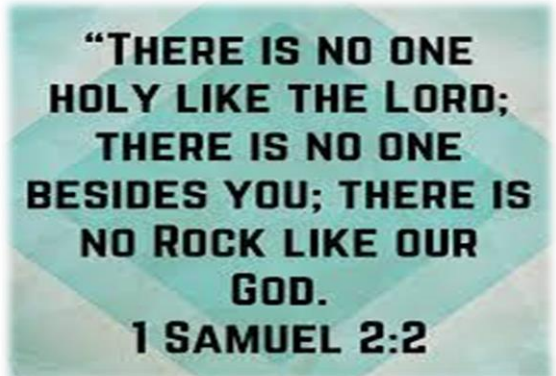
Newsletter Mailing.....9:00 a.m.
Private Party in FLR.....Noon

SATURDAY

Saturday Evening Service.....5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY

Worship.....8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Class.....9:15 a.m.
The Gathering.....10:30 a.m.



IN OUR PRAYERS

- † Randy & Angie Sommer who are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary; Dave & Kim Doster who are celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary
- † Mike Mackin (Rehab)
- † Vicky Schmidt, Marlene Poling (health concerns)
- † Aiden Bearman and Michael Shaffer (Mary Bearman’s grandson and nephew) both with health concerns

A LIFE THOUGHT IN THE CHURCH YEAR FOR DECEMBER 22:

Whether the hamlet of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) or gestating babies (Luke 1:41-44), the God of Christmas loves to elevate what seems insignificant. Indeed, the heart of the Gospel consists in exalting those of humble estate (Luke 1:52). Rejoicing in the Lord who creates, redeems, and calls regardless of size, skills, or circumstances, the sanctity of life delights to declare nothing less!

EMANUEL'S ENDOWMENT FUND: Since its inception, the Emanuel Endowment Fund has provided in excess of \$1,566,833.00 from its earnings to enhance Emanuel's ministry. Contributions to this fund are legacy gifts. Pamphlets explaining this opportunity are available in the narthex hallway. DID YOU KNOW? During 2024, the Endowment Fund provided \$934.00 for paraments which will be used to enhance the altar area during The Gathering worship services.

IF YOU SPONSOR A CHILD AT POINT OF GRACE in Kenya, or wish to sponsor a child, please stop at the table in narthex and complete a new sponsor form. In January all payments will be made directly to 4KenyasKids instead of to the church. We need to get your information updated. OR you can contact Cheryl Brockmann (260) 341-0167 at your convenience.



EMANUEL IS HOSTING A BLOOD DRIVE on Monday, December 30 in the Fellowship Hall from 1-6 p.m. Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: elcnh to schedule an appointment.

UPDATE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: Does Emanuel have *your* family membership record correct? Here's your chance to update *your* record for our annual Guide Book & Directory. It's time to update our database with any changes, additions, or deletions that may have occurred in *your* family over the past year. Have you changed your phone number? Have you moved? Are you preparing to move soon? Are all of your children still at home and are they all still attending Emanuel? Please let the church office know of any updates you may have by emailing us at churchoffice@emanuelnh.org.

GIVE HOPE: At the beginning of January, you'll get the chance to give hope by supporting our local Christian crisis pregnancy center, A Hope Center. On January 4&5, we'll be handing out baby bottles for you to fill with coins, cash, or checks and return to the box in the narthex or the church office by Sunday, January 19. When Jesus came down from heaven & became flesh, Mary's womb was His home for 9 months. When the angel Gabriel 1st came to Mary, she was overwhelmed at the surprise announcement that she, a virgin, was to give birth at all, let alone to the Son of God. Joseph could've left her when he found out she was pregnant. Yet, they both trusted God's word & anticipated Jesus' birth in hope. There are many women who are told of their surprise pregnancy, are scared & feel hopeless. A Hope Center shares the hope of God's love by caring for moms and their babies before and after birth.

A LIFE QUOTE FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22: "Merry Christmas! And may the certainty of God's love for you in Jesus Christ give you strength, comfort, and confidence this day to face whatever comes tomorrow. For, nothing can overpower the persevering power and blessing of Christmas." *Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty*

DEAR EMANUEL FAMILY, I would like to share a heartfelt thank you for the prayers and kind words of concern on behalf of my grandson, Aiden, and my nephew, Mike. Although both are continuing to struggle with health issues, we are so grateful for your prayers. These prayers are a wonderful source of comfort, support and encouragement. May each of you be blessed with the joy and peace of Christmas! *Mary Bearman and the families of Aiden Bearman and Mike Schaefer*

BETTY PATERSON THANKS EVERYONE for remembering her birthday by sending cards and well wishes. 😊

SERVING AT EMANUEL

December 24:

Elder:
3:00 ~ Ben Koeneman
6:00 ~ John Colter
11:00 ~ Wade Benjamin

Ushers:
3:00 ~ Group 1 (Sam Bender)
6:00 ~ Group 2 (Ben Koeneman)
11:00 ~ Group 3 (Mark Schuller)

Choir:
11:00 ~ Handbells, Adult choir

December 25:

Elder: Mark Schuller
Ushers: Group 4 (Bill Bremer)
Communion Assistant: N. Wissman

December 28:

Elder: John Colter
Ushers: Group S2

December 29:

Elder: Mark Schuller
Ushers: Group 6 (G. Peters) (8:00)
Group 5 (M. Schultz) (10:30)

Gathering: Steve Poling

December 31:

Elder: Benjamin Castens
Ushers: Group 1 (Sam Bender)
Communion Assistant: Nick Gehl



LIFECARE CONNECTIONS

OUR NEXT GRIEF SUPPORT LUNCH OUTING will be Tuesday, January 7 @ Noon at Zianos, 10520 Maysville Rd. We welcome any newcomers to join us for great food and fellowship!

YOUTH GROUP

Call or text 260-222-1434 Youth Director Andrea Hoover with questions. Follow us on Instagram at lyfe_ejy! & Facebook under Emanuel Youth Group
EJY = Emanuel Junior Youth (Grades 6-8)
LYFE = Lutheran Youth Fellowship at Emanuel (High School)
LYFE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 6:30-8:30 PM, is our New Year's kickoff! Who will be crowned the King or Queen of 2004 trivia? Also watch your text messages to vote for our specialty pizzas to try!

SKI TRIP TO SWISS VALLEY in Jones, MI, is Sunday, January 12. We will attend the 8:00 AM service together and then leave right after. Cost is \$75 and includes your lift ticket, equipment (skis, boots, poles OR snowboard and boots and helmet), and a lesson for our group! Please bring a sack lunch and money for fast food dinner. We will be back at Emanuel by 8:00 PM. You must register at <https://tinyurl.com/LYFESki25>, turn in your money, and medical/permission slip by Friday, January 3.