

sanctuary, then heads downstairs to classrooms.

Confirmation Class for 8<sup>th</sup> 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

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

through him." Colossians 3:17

do everything in the

name of the Lord

Jesus, giving thanks

to God the Father

**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.

**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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 29: "We long to hear those words from the master, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! Come! Share your master's happiness!' Someday you will hear them as He welcomes you into eternal dwellings. But for now, there is much to do for Jesus. So, as you go to live for Him, let those words echo in your mind and spur you on to be faithful and fruitful servants in His kingdom." Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls

> The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow His precepts have good understanding. To Him belongs eternal praise.

Psalms 111:10

**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* 

**<u>BETTY PATERSON THANKS EVERYONE</u>** for remembering her birthday by sending cards and well wishes.

# A LIFE THOUGHT IN THE CHURCH YEAR FOR DECEMBER

**29**: The Old Testament ritual of redeeming firstborns clearly declares that the Lord lends us our children, but they belong to Him (Exodus 13:11-12). Little ones are gifts and privileges, not property, preferences, accessories, or rights. The coming of Christ extends this designation to every neighbor, including those of advanced age (Luke 2:25-26, 36-38). Let us not neglect to teach and admonish one another about it (Colossians 3:16)!

### SERVING AT EMANUEL

December 31: Elder: Benjamin Castens Choir: Adult Choir Ushers: Group 1 (Sam Bender) Communion Assistant: Nick Gehl January 4: Elder: Wade Benjamin January 5: Elder: Benjamin Castens Communion Assistant: Steve Hormann (8:00) Tom Trzynka (10:30)

# 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 2024 trivia? Also watch your text messages to vote for our specialty pizzas to try!





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

SKI TRIP TO SWISS VALLEY in

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.