



## Emanuel Lutheran Church

366 Cohansey-Friesburg Road

P.O. Box 363

Elmer, NJ 08318

Phone: 856-451-5669

## Sunday Worship:

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

*Pastor David McGettigan, Interim-Pastor*

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## LCW MEETING

Tuesday, May 14, 7 pm

Social Hall

Our LCW meeting is coming up next month. Please mark your calendar for this very important meeting. As always it will be held in the social hall.

We have a guest speaker coming to talk to us about the M25 Initiative. Her name is Deborah Oglesby. She is very special in that she has placed all the 63 people that have so far been placed in homes through M25. M25 gets its name from the bible verses in Matthew 25:34-40. In these passages, Jesus tells us how we are doing his work when we help those in need. Please read these verses to understand the mission reasoning of M25. It is our hope that Emanuel will become involved with M25 in whatever way we can. I'm sorry I don't have more information on how M25 works. But from what I have been told, M25 sets clients up completely in living quarters. That's why it's important to come out and hear what Deborah has to say. I think you will be amazed with what they are doing.

All women of the church are urged to attend to hear Deborah's message of hope.

Nancy Cobb

## CORNERSTONE BABY BOTTLES

During the month of May, we will be filling baby bottles for Cornerstone Women's Resources with cash, check, or coins to be used to help educate young women with unplanned pregnancies to care for themselves and their babies. Please take a bottle home and fill during May. They will be collected Sunday, June 2.

## EMANUEL CEMETERY

At this time, I would like to ask members of our church and families that have loved ones in our cemetery, to consider how we can keep our cemetery looking beautiful.

We thank Donald Bell for the wonderful mowing job he has been doing for the past several years. He has kept the price for mowing to a minimum while maintaining the beauty of the cemetery.

I am asking that you give a thought to the future of our cemetery. Donations are always greatly appreciated. Also, if you find it in your heart, consideration could be given to leaving a bequest to our cemetery so we can continue to provide a beautiful resting place for our loved ones.

To supplement this very important part of the church, we are accepting donations to help pay for this year's mowing and trimming. Please use the small manila envelopes in the pew and mark it "Cemetery Fund", add to your offering envelope and mark the "Cemetery" or give your donation to me.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Wayne May, Cemetery Treasurer

## FROM THE PASTOR...MAY 2019

***“Jesus said to Thomas, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed’”.*** (John 20:29)

There are many takes on the story of good old Thomas and his famous “doubting”. One that has always fascinated me is that faith as the ultimate exercise in risk taking. I see Thomas like I see myself – struggling spiritually with the ability to take a risk which is at the heart of the gift of faith. What does Hebrews say? ***“Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”*** Well, so often, I find myself in Thomas’ corner – I’m a lot more comfortable with the tangible evidence!

But faith, by its very nature, calls me to risk -- to risk for Christ. I’m not talking about physical risk to which I am also averse – although if you ask Kathy about my driving, she would argue the opposite! I mean deeper risk. Risking my need for security, for control, for having all “my ducks in a row” before I will step out and do something, especially if I have never done it before. My desire to have the assurance that I – notice the ego here! – that I will be able to accomplish without too much pain or strain what is before me.

Faith flies in the face of that measure of self-delusion. Thomas and his shaky partners, for indeed the Gospel witnesses to their weak knees as well, were drawn by the resurrected Jesus out of a cocoon of fear, self-protection, and even comfort to a new Way born of resurrected life even now to be His body here on this earth. To leave aside all assurances of physical or factual evidence, and, relying on the assurance of His word and His miraculous life alone, to step out in ways that they had never done before to be...well...Church...the visible body of Jesus...speaking and acting on His behalf. And to risk it all.

As I struggle with risk, I have also come to recognize risk as a sign of the movement of the Holy Spirit. When I see an individual or a community literally step out in faith for the Lord and actually take a risk, I take that as one authentic sign of God’s will being fulfilled. Congregations who take risks for the Lord grow and flourish because Jesus makes it clear that faith, risky faith, is blessed.

One reason I feel so positive about your Pastoral Call is simply put...both you and your Pastor-elect are wholeheartedly taking a risk for the Gospel, for its proclamation, for Jesus. It has not been an easy process and all of us have probably had faint-hearted moments – we are human, we are like Thomas. Good news...Jesus understands and He loves us into faith again. And you and your Pastor-elect have at every stumbling block in the process been loved and drawn back in faith by your Lord Jesus to trust Him and each of you to place your future in His hands. Your risk will be blessed.

Some among you surmise that the great risk for Emanuel may be financial with which I disagree. Sure, there is a financial challenge but it is far from your highest summit to climb. This a new moment and a new life for you and for your new Pastor in discipleship...in finding a new way to bring Jesus out there to the world. In fact, it is really an old way. It is Jesus’ original way this discipleship way that we are just rediscovering in its fullness.

Your Pastor-elect committed himself well before he began interviewing with you to be mentored by another trained Pastor to deepen his understanding of discipleship and using it in his shepherding as a Pastor. He is a Pastor who desires to renew himself in the ministry of shepherd to which he is called. Emanuel through the efforts of Pastor Brian has also been on that same journey with the Discipleship Seed Group now ready to sprout out further among you and beyond.

There is the real challenge and the risk of your faith – to embrace the Lord’s call to a new dawn in your commitment to bring His Word, the Gospel, and His presence, the very presence of Jesus, to many who do not yet know Him or who have grown cold in their relationship with Him through personal walk and relationship with them by sharing your life with Jesus, praying, encouraging, giving them His Word. Now that will be stepping out in risk...but it will be blessed...and you will experience a bountiful harvest in every way as you faithfully take up that challenge.

Bless you, risk takers for Jesus and His Word. Continue to be of strong faith.

*Pastor David*

## HOSPITAL/PASTORAL CARE

If you or a family member has been admitted to the hospital, please contact Pastor McGettigan, interim-pastor at 609-742-2449 or Wayne Knerr at 609-685-5246. As a result of HIPPA Privacy Rules, most hospitals no longer inform churches of admissions, even if you specify a church affiliation on your paperwork. A call from you or a family member is the only way we will know.

## FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

If you are in need of a luncheon following a loved one's funeral at Emanuel, contact any member of LCW and we will help coordinate it for you.

## MAY ALTAR GUILD

Karen Wirsing

## MAY USHER

Donald Bell- Head Usher

Allan Hermanson

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR!

September 29- Tractor Sunday

## CHURCH COUNCIL

Wayne Knerr, President.....2020  
Patsy Madden, Vice-President.....2022  
Cindy Cairone, Corporate Secretary.....2022  
Anette Manno.....2020  
Jason Cobb.....2020  
Wayne May.....2021  
Brenda Mace.....2022  
Elizabeth Brooks, Recording Secretary, Bookkeeper  
Dianne Hermanson, Financial Secretary  
Elizabeth Brooks, Church Secretary

## COMMITTEES

**Christian Education**.....Helen Cobb, Wayne Knerr  
**Fellowship**.....Patsy Madden, Anette Manno  
**Finance**..... Terry Cellmer  
**Mutual Ministry**.....Judy Cellmer  
**Property**.....Wayne May, Jason Cobb  
**Stewardship**.....Ed Kuebler, Wayne Knerr  
**Witness/Outreach/Evangelism**.....Judy Cellmer,  
Wayne Knerr  
**Worship/Music**.....Patsy Madden  
**Cemetery**.....Wayne May

Check out our website  
[www.emanuelelmer.church](http://www.emanuelelmer.church)



Like and Follow us on Facebook



[facebook.com/Emanuel Lutheran Church](https://facebook.com/EmanuelLutheranChurch) – Friesburg

# PRAYER LIST

Georgie Carl	Bobby Hiles
Sarah Romig	Bill Bollentino
Leona Knerr	Ed Gheysens, Sr
Elaine Williams	Mona Hess
Brenda Mace	Edna Halter
Otto Wirsing	Nancy Heck
Betty Heil	Jennie Lillie
Pauline Benjamin	Walt Plummer
Colin Weiderholt	Betty Lowery
Harry Heck	Holly Hall
Jillian Sayre	Lois Conklin
Cookie Weaver	Jeff Kunkle
Rick Pfeffer	Bob Moore
Julie Dodge	Kay Fogg
Tom Hills	Joan Hills
Pete Toner	Ed Wiker
Margaret Law	Emma Rutherford
George Moore	Norma Miley
Pastor David	Bob McHarness
June Bostwick	Sharyn Fooks
Tammy Stubbins	Laurie Betts
Katie Robbins	Nancy Wilson
Kelly Thistle	Pastor Brian
Ruth Peterson	



# Celebrate

In the month of May the following folks will be celebrating birthdays:

- 5 Caitlin McAllister
- 10 Emery Allen
- 18 Mary Ellen Knerr
- 30 Les Sutton

Celebrating their wedding anniversary are:

- 22 Dan and Courtney Pilling

Enjoy your special day and have a blessed year to come.

## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Beginning Sunday, May 19 thru Sunday, September 22, 2019**

**8:00 am Outdoor Lakeside Holy Communion Service under Pavilion**

**9:00 am Adult Bible Study under Pavilion**

*(In bad weather BOTH 8:00 Service & 9:00 Adult Study will take place in Social Hall)*

**10:00 am Worship Service in Sanctuary**

## September 29 - Tractor Sunday -- Lakeside under the Pavilion

*8:30 am Continental Breakfast as Tractors Arrive*

*10:00 am Special Community Worship Service*

*11:30 am into the afternoon -- Picnic with Hamburgers,*

*Hot Dogs, music, hay rides, fun, and games for kids and adults*

## Offering Envelopes

*Please don't forget Offering Envelopes are convenient, mail-in envelopes in the event you are away from Sunday Worship or you would like to catch up on offering.*

*Offering needed to date \$36,878.00*

*Offering collected to date \$32,692.00*