



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 Mark Werner

M-25 Initiative

The Cumberland County religious community has a program called M-25, based on the bible passages in Matthew 25 where Jesus tells his disciples they have fed, clothed, provided water and visited him while sick and in prison. The disciples are perplexed and asked when they have done these things for Jesus. Jesus' reply is "when you do it for the least of these my brothers, you do it for me." M-25 is doing just that. Homeless people are given a new chance with a place to live, fully furnished. To do this, they need the help of people who are willing to donate new or VERY gently used items. As they place people in homes, they draw on the generosity of those of us who have heard Jesus' call and are answering. So if Jesus has called out to you for help, please go over the list provided in the Acolyte. If you have anything that could be of use, please contact Nancy Cobb at 856-451-1254, 856-776-1088 or shorebirdcobb@comcast.net. I will let the good Samaritans know that we have items they need. As items are donated, the list will be updated so you can see what Emanuel is doing for God's people.

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 for you. The family is asked to supply the entrée and the LCW will provide the sides, desserts, beverages and set up.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 2020 – Annual Congregational Meeting following 10:00 am Worship

Confirmed Emanuel Members are reminded of the Constitutional requirements to be considered an Active Member with voting privileges:

1. Have one (1) Holy Communion on record during the last 2 years- please use Communion Cards! AND
2. Have a record of donation in the last 2 years- please use your Church Envelopes, a check or some form of identification for your offering!

Bible Study

Bible study will be starting on Wednesday, January 22nd from 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. Elaine Williams has graciously offered to host this Bible Study at her home. The six week Bible study will be on Ephesians. Any questions, please see Pastor Mark.

PRAYER LIST

Bobby Hiles	Sarah Romig
Leona Knerr	Dolores McLaughlin
Ed Gheysens, Sr.	Elaine Williams
Mona Hess	Edna Halter
Betty Heil	Jennie Lillie
Pauline Benjamin	Walt Plummer
Cookie Weaver	Rick Pfeffer
Ruth Peterson	Kelly Thistle
George Moore	Ron Roedell
Walter Richman	Margaret Long
Pastor David	Harold Tyson
Richard Pierson	David Duffield
Michael Reed	

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.

Anniversary Planning Committee

If anyone is interested in serving on the planning committee for the 300th anniversary of Emanuel Lutheran Church, please speak to a council member. While it is seven years away, and that may seem like a long time, careful work is needed so that the story of our ministry may be told well.

TELEPHONE CHAIN

Patsy Madden
(856) 935-5552



SPECIAL DATES

Happy New Year and Happy Birthday to all celebrating in January:

- 1 Donald Bell
- 15 Parker Smith
- 19 Courtney Pilling
- 24 Pastor David McGettigan
- 28 Sam Manno
- 29 Ellenore Cobb

Many blessings are wished for the year to come.

Pastor's Perspective

Merry Christmas! Yes, we are still in the season of celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior which continues a full 12 days, concluding on January 5th. Most of you have received gifts. Maybe that gift isn't your style or in accord with your taste. Maybe the gift you received is just what you wanted. Whatever your opinion of the gifts you received, there is one gift that God has given the entire world.

"For God so loved the world, that He *gave* His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16. Indeed, all gifts come from God. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17 Through Jesus, our relationship with God torn apart by sin is made right through his sacrifice on the cross.. "...and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith." Romans 3:24-25.

As you can clearly see, we have been the recipient of God's greatest treasure. We have received the Christ.

One of the first things that we generally do when we receive a gift is to say, "Thank You!" Parents teach their children to say thank you. We may send a Thank You note to someone who has given us a gift. So, how might we say "Thank You" to God for every good gift he has bestowed upon us, particularly the gift of his only Son, Jesus.

We pray. Throughout the Scriptures there are prayers and songs of thanksgiving. "Praise the Lord! Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever." Psalm 106:1. During the Sunday liturgy we pray an offertory prayer as the offerings are presented.

We bear witness to God's wondrous deeds. There is the Song of Moses that was sung after God's people crossed the Red Sea safely. King David offers testimony to God's great work in Psalm 105.

We can do what we have been called to do. We can show acts of kindness and love in our daily lives following the example of Jesus. "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35.

We can also return to the Lord a portion of what He has given us. In the Old Testament it was taught that God's people should return a tenth of what they have received. This is called a tithe. Now, the church does not mandate that you give a certain amount. It is noted that to be an active member one must commune or make a contribution of record (using the offering envelop or a check) in the current or preceding hear. But the amount you contribute is your decision.

As we prepared to move forward into our 294 year of ministry at Friesburg, I invite you to prayerfully consider how God is inviting you to give thanks for what He has given you. Your gift of time, talent and treasure is deeply appreciated in needed among our community.

Lastly, thank you for your generous gift to us this Christmas. It was certainly unexpected. We appreciate the many ways you have welcomed us and made us feel at home here. We love you and share with you the joy of ministry in this place and at this time.

Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. Lutheran Book of Worship, pg. 108.

God bless,
Pastor Mark

HOSPITAL/PASTORAL CARE

If you or a family member has been admitted to the hospital, please contact Pastor Mark at 856-521-0771 or 724-244-4248. 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.

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JANUARY ALTAR GUILD

Mary Ellen Knerr

JANUARY USHER

Donald Bell
Allan Hermanson

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

- **Sunday, January 26, 2020**
Annual Congregational Meeting-Immediately following church

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.....Brenda Mace, Anette Manno
Finance.....Terry Cellmer
Mutual Ministry.....Judy Cellmer
Property.....Wayne May, Jason Cobb
Stewardship.....Wayne Knerr
Witness/Outreach/Evangelism.....Judy Cellmer
Patsy Madden, Cindy Cairone
Worship/Music.....Patsy Madden
Cemetery.....Wayne May

Check out our website
www.emanuelmer.church



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