



Emanuel Lutheran Church

366 Cohansey-Friesburg Road
P.O. Box 363
Elmer, NJ 08313
Phone: 856-451-5669

Sunday Worship:

Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
in-person and via Facebook live

The Rev. Mark A. Werner, Pastor

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES GO VIRTUAL

This year our Mid-week Lenten service will be held on ZOOM. As with the Bible study, you'll get a link in your email. The service will be held each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The theme for this Lent Season will be "Road to Coronation". It is a study series from Crossways written by Dr. Harry Wendt.

Session 1 (*Feb 17*): "The Royal Background"

Session 2 (*Feb 24*): "Royal Beginnings"

Session 3 (*Mar 3*): "Royalty in Action"

Session 4 (*Mar 10*): "Royalty in the Holy City"

Session 5 (*Mar 17*): "The Royal Coronation in Matthew, Mark, and Luke"

Session 6 (*Mar 24*): "The Royal Coronation in John"

With the services being over ZOOM this also means that the **Ash Wednesday** (February 17) service will be virtual rather than in-person.

ON-GOING COLLECTION

As you may recall, one of the ways the North American Lutheran Church Disaster Response assists individuals and families clean up from floods is by providing flood buckets. One type of bucket that serves this purpose are buckets that held kitty litter. If you purchase kitty litter please donate the bucket once you've used the litter to the church. We can then collect other items to make the flood buckets. Buckets can be left in the Sunday school section of the church or the fellowship hall.

LAMP – LUTHERAN ASSOCIATION OF MISSIONARIES AND PILOTS

LAMP is one of the organizations we support through our benevolence dollars. Following is some information update on their programs.

LAMP's volunteers and staff from Canada and the United States share the love of Jesus to indigenous people in communities in remote northern Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia through Christ-centered Bible studies and other outreach projects.

LAMP's outreach programs include:

- Leading Vacation Bible Schools and Christ-centered sports camps to children and youth and offering Bible study programs for adults during the summer months
- Conducting many different forms of ministry on a daily basis while on site — most importantly, establishing and growing relationships with those they have contact with
- Providing continuing ministry through technology such as Facebook, Skype and email
- Visiting various communities throughout the year as time, resources and weather allows
- Providing special events such as women's retreats
- Praying regularly for the indigenous people in general and for specific needs as they become known

For more information, please visit

<https://thenalc.org/partners/lamp-ministry-inc/>

Pastor's Perspective

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Psalm 119:105

Just before the pandemic changed our entire routine and ministry, I had suggested that we begin memorizing Bible verses. We started with Joel 2:13. "Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love." I chose this one to get us started as it is part of the liturgy for the season of Lent, and thus, would help us commit it to memory. I also have some scripture verses that you gave for future memorization.

Of course, the pandemic hit and our worship life was virtual for two and a half months. When we came back, there was a lot of challenges of how we do so safely and as a result, I didn't resume implementing this idea.

During the early part of the pandemic, one of the first people I actually knew who became ill with COVID 19 was a colleague of mine. Like so many, Pastor Rister had required weeks in a hospital. She was off and on a ventilator. She was only allowed contact with those doctors and nurses providing for her care. All she had to fall back upon was the Lord's Prayer and a Bible verse she kept repeating. The scripture provided her with the assurance that God is Emanuel, He is with us. God was with her communicating in a way that no one else could at the time.

Having the scriptures in our minds and on our hearts serve to keep us connected to God, the author of the Holy Scriptures. In this way, our thoughts may stay on him in times of our lives where we might otherwise forget that he is God.

All this serves as a backdrop to a project I worked upon during April and May of last year when we were basically told to do nothing except "Stay at home". I put together a listing of Bible verses. What is different is that I selected verses in such a way as to correspond with the month and the day so that we might more easily remember them. On my Facebook page, I've posted a verse each day. Each verse comes from the first chapter of one of the books of the Bible. I will be posting a verse all year. Over the course of the year, I will have posted at least one verse from each book of the Bible.

Now, I realize that not everyone is on Facebook. So, I am sharing with you, and I'll share it in upcoming newsletters as well, each day's verse. In sharing the verse, I also hope you'll take a moment to read the context in which the verse occurs. Context is important in how we understand what is communicated.

I hope by focusing upon a given verse each day, it will guide your heart and mind as we keep focused on Christ throughout our day. And by all means, feel free to share this idea and the verses with any of your friends, neighbors or family.

God bless,
Pastor Mark

(See last page for February's verses)

FEBRUARY HAPPENINGS AT EMANUEL

February 3 – Weekly Bible Study on Daniel
February 4 – Cottage Meeting at Social Hall
February 6 – Cottage Meeting via Zoom
February 9 – Council Meeting
February 10 – Weekly Bible Study on Daniel
February 12-14 – Pastor Mark on vacation
February 17 – Ash Wednesday Service - virtual
February 24 – Lenten Bible Study
February 27 – Cottage Meeting via Zoom

Discipleship

We've been hearing that word a lot recently. Just what is it? To put it simply, discipleship is a lifestyle of walking with Jesus. How do we do that? The main thing is to put Christ first in our lives, to develop a deeper relationship with Him. We do that by spending time in the Word, participating in worship, partaking of Holy Communion and spending time in Bible study and discussion with fellow followers of Jesus. Prayer is essential in our walk with Jesus. Our goal is to grow closer to Jesus and deepen our understanding of just who He is, what He has done for us, and how He expects us to respond.

That is what the Seed Group has been doing for over three years. Members of that initial group have reached out to other members of the congregation and invited them to walk alongside them on this discipleship journey. But this discipleship journey is not limited to the Seed Group or those they have invited. Jesus invites all to follow Him. "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Mark 1:17, from our Gospel reading on January 24)

The Cottage Meetings, where we plan to develop a mission statement for Emanuel, can provide a taste of how studying the Word with others encourages us in our discipleship journey. As we read in James 4:8, *Come close to God and he will come close to you.* Please join us as we walk with Jesus alongside each other.

FEBRUARY ALTAR GUILD

Amy Gheysens

TELEPHONE CHAIN

Patsy Madden (856) 935-5552

CHRIST LUTHERAN FOOD PANTRY

The second Sunday of each month is Emanuel's day to provide non-perishable food items to support this important food pantry in our area. Donations can be placed on the back steps of the church building.

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES

If you need to contact Pastor Mark during this time, please remember you can call him on his cell phone at 724-244-4248, his home phone 856-521-0771 or email him at revmaw98@gmail.com

FACEBOOK LIVE SERVICES

Links to the Facebook Live services can be found on the church's website under Church News

Offering Envelopes

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

PRAYER LIST

Please keep these individuals in your prayers for health and healing.

Bobby Hiles
Leona Knerr
George Shimp
Mona Hess
Betty Heil
Rick Pfeffer
Kelly Thistle
Ron Roedell
Gladys Elder
Rob Innes
Nina Pompper
Wayne Wright
Scarlett Weist
Susan Powell
Ray Dilks
Laura Bisconte
Joe Snowden
Kevin Flaim
Sharyn Fooks
Leona Knerr

Sarah Romig
Elizabeth Shimp
Elaine Williams
Edna Halter
Pauline Benjamin
Nancy Wilson
George Moore
Harold Tyson
David Duffield
Nancy Heck
Jim Wenger
Julie Sapp
Scott Smith
Pastor Polk
Rex Cobb
Patrick Whyte
Kevin Uhland
Randy Dickinson
Ken Hitchner

SPECIAL DATES

February birthdays are:

3	Keith Elder
17	Margaret Dare
18	Wayne Knerr
19	Elaine Williams
28	Mason Cobb

Celebrating anniversaries are:

9	Les and Cindy Sutton
18	Scott and Chrissy Smith

May your celebrations and your year be blessed!

THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY PLANNING COMMITTEE

If you are interested in helping plan our anniversary celebration, please speak to Kyle Knerr.

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, LCW is not currently providing funeral luncheons.

EMAIL LISTING

If you are not receiving email updates from the church and would like to be added to the email list, please email your name and phone number to:

office@emanuelelmer.church

Lutheran Church Women

Wawa tickets are still available from LCW. Proceeds will be used to support the Anniversary Committee and the events they are planning in celebration of our 300th anniversary in 2026.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

As you may by now have surmised, we will not be having Sunday school until the fall. Our hope is that in the fall we can return to both children and adult Sunday school classes.

ACOLYTE DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting articles for the March Acolyte is February 24.

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.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Wayne Knerr.....	2023
Patsy Madden.....	2022
Cindy Cairone.....	2022
Anette Manno.....	2023
Mike Clarke.....	2024
Jason Cobb.....	2023
Steve Kennedy.....	2024
Brenda Mace.....	2022
Sarah Wilson, Treasurer	

Elizabeth Brooks, Bookkeeper
Dianne Hermanson, Financial Secretary, Office Secretary

COMMITTEES

Chairpersons for the following committees were appointed for 2021.

Anniversary Committee.....	Kyle Knerr and Cindy Carione
Christian Education	Helen Cobb and Wayne Knerr
Fellowship	Brenda Mace and Anette Mano
Finance	Sarah Wilson and Mike Clarke
Mutual Ministry	Brenda Mace and Steve Kennedy
Property	Jason Cobb and Wayne May
Safety & Security	Jason Cobb and Brenda Mace
Stewardship	Wayne Knerr and Mike Clarke
Witness/Outreach/Evangelism	Patsy Madden and
.....	Cindy Carione
Worship & Music	Patsy Madden

Check out our website
www.emanuelelmer.church



Like and Follow us on Facebook



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

FEBRUARY BIBLE VERSES

- 1st – Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. Hebrews 2:1
- 2nd – I called out to the Lord, out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. – Jonah 2:2
- 3rd – This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior. 1 Timothy 2:3
- 4th – Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by faith. Habakkuk 2:4
- 5th – And whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house) they will know that a prophet has been among them. Ezekiel 2:5
- 6th – The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings low and he exalts. 1 Samuel 2:6
- 7th – For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts. Malachi 2:7
- 8th – For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, Ephesians 2:8
- 9th – But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. – 1 Peter 2:9
- 10th – When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, ‘Because,’ she said, ‘I drew him out of the water.’ Exodus 2:10
- 11th – For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, Titus 2:11
- 12th – “...we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.” 1 Thessalonians 2:12
- 13th – “Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, ‘Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.’” Matthew 2:13
- 14th – “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” Luke 2:14
- 15th – “He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.” Colossians 2:15
- 16th – “And she said to them, ‘Go into the hills, or the pursuers will encounter you, and hide there three days until the pursuers have returned. Then afterward you may go your way.’” Joshua 2:16
- 17th – “And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.’” Mark 2:17
- 18th – “Then the Lord became jealous for his land and had pity on his people.” Joel 2:18
- 19th – “But Mary treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart.” Luke 2:19
- 20th – “Daniel answered and said: Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might.” Daniel 2:20
- 21st – “And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” Acts 2:21
- 22nd – When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. John 2:22
- 23rd – Have nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies; you know that they breed quarrels. 2 Timothy 2:23
- 24th – “Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.” Genesis 2:24
- 25th – Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. Luke 2:25
- 26th – Now the young man Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and also with man. 1 Samuel 2:26
- 27th – “And he said to them, ‘The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath’” Mark 2:27
- 28th – “But where are your gods that you made for yourself? Let them arise, if they can save you, in your time of trouble; for as many as your cities are your gods, O Judah. Jeremiah 2:28