



Emanuel Lutheran Church

366 Cohansey-Friesburg Road
P. O. Box 363
Elmer, NJ 08318
Phone: 856-451-5669

Sunday Worship:

Lakeside Worship at 8:30 am starting May 9
Sanctuary Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
in-person and via Facebook live
The Rev. Mark A. Werner, Pastor

****IMPORTANT CONGREGATIONAL MEETING****

Council has called for a meeting of the congregation next Sunday, May 2nd, to finalize a *Mission Statement* for Emanuel Lutheran Church. After a series of cottage meetings, where scriptures were reviewed, the hosts met to discuss the participation and feedback given at those meetings and developed a proposed Mission Statement. A summary of that review was previously mailed and emailed to members. None of us walks alone. With the Holy Spirit as our guide, we walk together as a community of faith. We ask that all members join us next Sunday as we seek God's will and mission for Emanuel. If you choose not to attend in-person, you may participate via Zoom. The proposed Mission Statement is:

Emanuel Lutheran Church is a community of faith, leading people to Christ.

LAKESIDE WORSHIP BEGINS

Early morning worship will once again be offered at the Lakeside on Sundays starting May 9 and continuing through September. Worship begins at 8:30 am. as we praise God while experiencing the beauty of his creation. In-person and live streaming will continue with the sanctuary service at 10:00 am. May 9 is also Mother's Day. Why not invite Mom to join you on her special day as we worship our Lord and celebrate our mothers! Don't forget your lawn chairs and masks.

ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE!

Have you signed up for online giving yet? It's convenient, flexible and efficient, and confidential through *myEoffering*. It works much like online bill pay. You can have your contribution to Emanuel withdrawn directly from your account on a weekly, monthly or one-time basis. You can change it at any time. There is no cost to you for this easy-to-use method of making contributions. No more offering envelopes, no more checks, no more making sure you have cash in your pocket on Sunday morning. (Offering envelopes may continue to be used.)

Check it out on our website at
www.emanuelelmer.church.

MAY HAPPENINGS AT EMANUEL

May 1 – Seed Group Meeting
May 2 – Congregational Meeting
May 9 –Lakeside Worship begins
Mother's Day and Food Pantry Day
May 11 – Council Meeting
May 12 – Weekly Bible Study
May 17 – Worship & Music Committee
May 19 – Weekly Bible Study
May 23 – Pentecost Sunday
May 26 – Weekly Bible Study
May 27 – Acolyte article deadline
May 30 – Healing Service during Worship

HEALING SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

The pandemic kept us from many things during the past year. One of those was our quarterly healing service. With five Sundays in May, we are taking the opportunity to provide this opportunity at both services on May 30.

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. Online giving is also available through myEoffering.

Pastor's Perspective

"But Peter said, I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk! And he took him by the right hand and raised him up, and immediately his feet and ankles were made strong." (Acts 3:6-7)

One of the powerful ways in which God used the disciples was to be vehicles of healing. Much in the same way that the disciples witnessed Jesus heal with a touch or with a mere word, the disciples were blessed with that miraculous ability.

While such miracles are still possible, we see God work in ordinary ways when it comes to bringing healing for the sick. He has equipped men and women to serve as doctors, nurses, technicians, counselors, therapists, researchers, LPNs, first responders and so on. He has given us medicines and revealed ways in which the mind and body can recover from horrific injuries and illnesses.

At the same time the church still has a vital role to play in healing ministry. You are well aware that we pray for those who are sick by listing those names on our prayer chain and holding them in prayer during the Sunday liturgy. You may also recall that with the many restrictions brought on by COVID 19, we put on hold the healing service that the discipleship seed group led whenever there was a fifth Sunday of the month.

It may seem odd that a pandemic would cancel a healing service. It would seem that we should have had more of them during this time. Nonetheless, given the service includes a personal anointing with oil, individual prayer that could not be done easily with social distancing, it seemed that the responsible thing to do was to postpone healing services until such a time as seemed appropriate.

The Worship and Music Committee at their last meeting has prayerfully concluded that with the number of individuals vaccinated, with the outdoor service starting (May 9th), and that the month of May has five Sundays we would provide elements of the healing service. Those who want individual prayer will be given opportunity to gather with Pastor for an individual prayer and anointing with oil. There may be others who assist with the service depending upon their comfort level in participating. The healing service is one component of the liturgy for that Sunday. Those who do not desire individual prayer are encouraged to sing during that portion of the service.

I will say that this is somewhat tentative. Should COVID positivity rates remain high, we may push this off until later in the summer. For now, we are making plans to proceed.

Also, while the Lakeside service will resume on Sunday, May 9th at 8:30 a.m., all current protocols established by council remain in effect. This is for both the indoor and outdoor services. Masks must be worn. Individuals are asked to sit six feet apart. Communion distribution will remain the same, with Pastor and communion assistants using hand sanitizer and wearing gloves. There will be hand sanitizer for your use at the Lakeside. We will not do a collection of the offering, but have the baskets available on the picnic tables. A few copies of the bulletin will be printed, but you are also welcome to download the service on your tablet, phone or iPad.

"And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven...The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." James 5:15 and 16b.

God bless,
Pastor Mark

(See last page for May's Bible verses)

Like and Follow us on Facebook 
[facebook.com/Emanuel Lutheran Church – Friesburg](https://facebook.com/EmanuelLutheranChurch-Friesburg)

Check out our website
www.emanuelelmer.church



WHY LITURGY?

Being Lutheran, we like our traditions. Have you ever thought about our liturgy? You know – those little tunes and responses we use every Sunday. Most of the time, we can probably say it without even looking at the bulletin or hymnal because we've done it most of our lives. Being overly familiar with something may cause us to gloss over it or not pay particular attention.

Who made up the liturgy? Where does it from? Most of it comes directly from the Bible. For example, *If we say we have no sin...* comes from 1 John; *Glory to God...* is from the gospels where the angels sang at the birth of Jesus; *Worthy is God, the lamb who was slain...* is found in Revelation; *Create in me a clean heart...* is from Psalm 51. When we celebrate Holy Communion and sing *Holy, Holy, Holy...* we are quoting Isaiah. We are using God's own words to worship and praise Him!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

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

Celebrating a wedding anniversary are:

- 22 Courtney and Dan Pilling

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

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES

If you need to contact Pastor Mark for any reason, 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

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.

GRADUATIONS!

June is usually the month for graduations. If there is someone in your family who is graduating from high school or college this year, please let the church office know so that they can be recognized in next month's Acolyte.

Send the information about your graduate by email to office@emanuelelmer.church. Please include the name of the graduate, the name and location of the high school or college, possible future plans (e.g., attending Penn State in the fall), and how related to you or the congregation.



PRAYER LIST

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

| | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Sarah Romig | Leona Knerr |
| Elizabeth Shimp | George Shimp |
| Elaine Williams | Mona Hess |
| Edna Halter | Betty Heil |
| Pauline Benjamin | Rick Pfeffer |
| George Moore | Harold Tyson |
| Joe Snowden | Kevin Ulhand |
| Nancy Heck | Rex Cobb |
| Dawn Colonna | Julie Sapp |
| Wayne Wright | Annabelle Cobb |
| Lucy Colon | Cindy Condello |
| Mary Jane Gray | Shawn Krueger family |

If you have a prayer concern to be shared with the congregation, please email Patsy Madden at pbmadden11479@gmail.com or call her at 856-935-5552.

MAY ALTAR GUILD

Karen Wirsing

TELEPHONE CHAIN

Patsy Madden (856) 935-5552

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

Following Jesus, Sharing Jesus

(By Pr. Brian Triller)

“Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, 'We have found the Messiah' (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus.” (John 1:40-42 NIV)

Being disciples of Jesus involves both our following Him and our sharing Him with others so they can follow Him, too. I am thankful that the leaders of the NALC have been guided by the Holy Spirit to encourage, provide training, and otherwise direct our pastors and congregation members to learn more about how to share the Gospel of Christ to persons both within and beyond the boundaries of our local congregations.

In our congregation, I see clear evidence of the Holy Spirit encouraging and guiding us to look both within and beyond the boundaries of family and congregation as we seek to share Jesus with others. The Holy Spirit leads us to build loving relationships with people so they may be open to receive the Gospel as we share Jesus with them by our words and deeds.

Let me tell you a story of how such relationship building, led by the Holy Spirit, brought one of my friends into a personal relationship with Jesus.

Dave and I met in 1999 and became good friends. He did not express faith in God, but he listened when I expressed my faith to him. I do not remember proclaiming the Gospel to him in words. I do remember listening to him, both when he was hurting and when he was celebrating good things that had happened. I remember telling him that I was praying for him and other family members when they were facing crises. He told me that he appreciated my prayers.

Over Dave's lifetime, there were several other people who helped lead him to Jesus. Among them are another Christian teacher and his wife, with whom both Dave and I have been friends. They had lengthier conversations with Dave about who Jesus is and how He came to save all who believe in Him. Most instrumental was the impact that Dave's mother had on him, taking him to her church when he was growing up, even though he was never baptized.

When Dave's Mom died about five years ago, he started to change. After receiving his mother's Bible as a keepsake, he soon found himself motivated to read it. Next, he felt the desire to start worshiping at his mother's church. He was befriended by the pastor and members of that congregation who welcomed him. He began taking instruction there in preparation to be baptized. God orchestrated a series of events that led to my presiding at Dave's Baptism a few months later.

Fast forward to this winter. The last time I spoke with Dave was on the phone in January while he was in a hospital being treated for COVID-19. He hoped to get better and be out of the hospital within the next week or two. Within three weeks, he went to be with our Lord.

In conversations with that other Christian teacher, his wife, and the pastor of the church where David received Baptism instruction, we praised and thanked God for how He worked through us and many other people to bring Dave to believe in Jesus Christ and be baptized. We thanked our Lord Jesus for saving Dave, forgiving his sins, and sharing with him the gift of eternal life. Because of our Lord calling Dave to Himself through the Gospel words and actions of many of His disciples over time, I am comforted knowing that I will see my friend when I go from this life to the next.

Let us pray: *Dear Jesus, by Your Father's undeserved favor we have been saved through Spirit-given faith in You. As the Father sent You, so You send us, Your disciples, to make other disciples. Thank You for keeping Your promise to be with us always, even to the close of the age. By the power of the Holy Spirit whom You have bestowed upon us, may we be faithful in following You and in sharing Your life-giving Gospel with those whose lives touch ours. Amen.*

ON-GOING COLLECTION NEED

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.

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 on that Sunday.

FACEBOOK LIVE SERVICES

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

FUNERAL LUNCHEONS

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

CHURCH COUNCIL

| | |
|------------------------------------------|------|
| Wayne Knerr, President | 2023 |
| Patsy Madden, Vice President | 2022 |
| Cindy Cairone, Corporate Secretary | 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

ACOLYTE DEADLINE

The deadline for submitting articles for the June Acolyte is May 26. This is your newsletter, a means of sharing ideas and thoughts. If you have something to share or an idea for an article, let us know by speaking with Pastor Mark or sending an email to office@emanuelelmer.church.

COMMITTEES

The following committees are part of the mission and ministry of Emanuel. Anyone is welcome to participate on a committee. If you are interested, contact one of the chairpersons listed below and contact the church office.

Anniversary Committee Kyle Knerr and Cindy Carione
 Christian Education Helen Cobb and Wayne Knerr
 FellowshipBrenda 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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

It is hoped that Sunday School classes will resume in the fall for both children and adults.

In the meantime, there is an ongoing Bible study on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. The study of the book of Daniel has resumed. To be included in this learning opportunity, let the church office or Pastor Mark know of your interest. This study is held via Zoom, and an email invitation will be sent to your email address.

PROPERTY

A special thanks to the Boy Scouts for helping in dismantling the playground and the general grounds clean-up last month. Now that spring has sprung, mowing and weed-whacking have begun in the cemetery. Donations to the Cemetery Fund help to fund the work needed to maintain the cemetery.

Replacement of the social hall roof is scheduled for the week of May 10th. Signage has been ordered to replace the one damaged in the recent windstorm.

STEWARDSHIP

2021 YTD Financials through March 2021

Actual Income: \$65,817

Actual Expenses: \$38,355.29

Net Income: \$27,461.71

2021 Yearly Budgeted

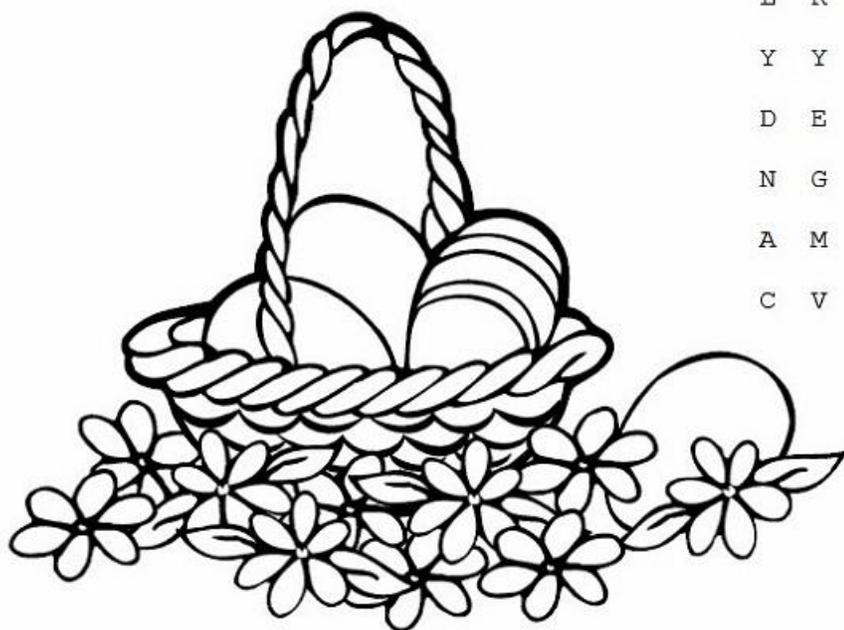
Income/Expense \$165,009.00

MAY BIBLE VERSES

- May 1* – Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. Ephesians 5:1
- May 2* – For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. (1 Thessalonians 5:2)
- May 3* – And all the men of Israel assembled before the king at the feast that is the seventh month. (2 Chronicles 5:3)
- May 4* – For thus says the Lord to the house of Israel: Seek me and live; (Amos 5:4)
- May 5* – He who prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. (2 Corinthians 5:5)
- May 6* – For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. (Romans 5:6)
- May 7* – You shall have no other gods before me. (Deuteronomy 5:7)
- May 8* – You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. (Deuteronomy 5:8)
- May 9* – Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. (James 5:9)
- May 10* – And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. (1 Peter 5:10)
- May 11* – You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. (Deuteronomy 5:11)
- May 12* – For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favor as with a shield. (Psalm 5:12)
- May 13* – For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. (Galatians 5:13)
- May 14* – Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. (James 5:14)
- May 15* – Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph. (Amos 5:15)
- May 16* – Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. (James 5:16)
- May 17* – Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- May 18* – We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. (1 John 5:18)
- May 19* – Remember for my good, O my God, all that I have done for this people. (Nehemiah 5:19)
- May 20* – You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (Deuteronomy 5:20)
- May 21* – Little children, keep yourselves from idols. (1 John 5:21)
- May 22* – At destruction and famine you shall laugh, and shall not fear the beasts of the earth. (Job 5:22)
- May 23* – He dies for lack of discipline, and because of his great folly he is led astray. (Proverbs 5:23)
- May 24* – But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. (Amos 5:24)
- May 25* – If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. (Galatians 5:25)
- May 26* – For wicked men are found among my people; they lurk like fowling lying in wait. They set a trap; they catch men. (Jeremiah 5:26)
- May 27* – You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ (Matthew 5:27)
- May 28* – For she said, ‘If I touch even his garments, I will be made well.’ (Mark 5:28)
- May 29* – Oh that they had such a mind as this always, to fear me and to keep all my commandments, that it might go well with them and with their descendants forever! (Deuteronomy 5:29)
- May 30* – They will growl over it on that day, like the growling of the sea. And if one looks to the land, behold, darkness and distress; and the light is darkened by its clouds. (Isaiah 5:30)
- May 31* – So may all your enemies perish, O Lord! But your friends be like the sun as he rises in his might. And the land had rested for forty years.” (Judges 5:31)

Easter

WORD SEARCH



H O P Y Y N N U B Z C
 Y E F F E T D H A R M
 B V Z I A H J G O H Y
 M Y C P S N I S G U K
 A P D L T I S I Y H T
 L K W A E R K V C J E
 Y Y U F R M J R E J K
 D E L B I B U S L W S
 N G T M K H U Y J Q A
 A M L Y C S M H F S B
 C V Q P P Q N E G G S

| | |
|--------|--------|
| BASKET | CROSS |
| BIBLE | EASTER |
| BUNNY | EGGS |
| CANDY | JESUS |
| CHURCH | LAMB |

