



## Emanuel Lutheran Church

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

## Sunday Opportunities:

Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.  
Sanctuary Worship Service 10:00 a.m.  
in-person and via Facebook live  
The Rev. Mark A. Werner, Pastor

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

## Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart

### THANKFUL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Let's face it – the church simply could not function without dedicated lay people to carry out mission and witness in our community of faith and our neighborhoods. The Protestant Reformation in the 1500s helped the church re-discover the importance of laity in the work of the church and affirmed the priesthood of all believers. (Thank you, Martin Luther!) The Wesleyan Revival of the 1700s extended the work of the laity even further, as both lay men and women were allowed to preach and lead classes – something previously unthinkable. Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries in America, the laity carried out day-to-day ministry and kept the church going between visits by pastors who maybe visited a church once a month. How do the necessary things get done here at Emanuel? Let's take a moment to look at and thank those behind-the-scene volunteers who make sure what needs doing gets done.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ✚ Who cuts the grass?                       | ✚ Who sends cards of encouragement and support?                  |
| ✚ Who pays the bills?                       | ✚ Who orders and places flowers?                                 |
| ✚ Who counts the offerings?                 | ✚ Who updates the bulletin boards?                               |
| ✚ Who copies the bulletin?                  | ✚ Who leads and/or teaches Sunday School and discipleship?       |
| ✚ Who fills the candles with oil?           | ✚ Who assists with worship?                                      |
| ✚ Who prepares the wine for communion?      | ✚ Who puts water in the font for baptisms?                       |
| ✚ Who monitors the <i>Live Streaming</i> ?  | ✚ Who serves as leaders on council?                              |
| ✚ Who shovels the snow?                     | ✚ Who contributes to the soup kitchen and food pantry?           |
| ✚ Who provides food for luncheons?          | ✚ Who prepares giving statements at year-end?                    |
| ✚ Who makes sure gravesites are ready?      | ✚ Who makes sure the Social Hall has appropriate supplies?       |
| ✚ Who schedules ushers and readers?         | ✚ Who sings in the choir?  |
| ✚ Who changes the paraments?                | ✚ Add your own "who" to this list. We don't want to miss anyone! |
| ✚ Who takes pictures for our Facebook page? | ✚ Who decorates the sanctuary for church year seasons?           |
| ✚ Who updates the Facebook page?            | ✚  |
| ✚ Who leads committees?                     | ✚  |
| ✚ Who organizes events?                     | ✚  |
| ✚ Who deposits offerings?                   | ✚  |

All of these "jobs" are done by volunteers. There cannot be too many volunteers. Where might you fit in this volunteer ministry? What gifts, skills, talents might you be blessed with to serve with this community of faith and lead others to Christ? Can you play an instrument? Are you creative? Do you enjoy working with youth? Do you have technological skills? Think about it. Talk to Pastor Mark or any council member and find out where you can best serve Jesus here at Emanuel.



## NOVEMBER HAPPENINGS AT EMANUEL

*November 3* – Wednesday Night Bible Study

*November 6* – Discipleship Seed Group

*November 7* – All Saints Day (Remembrance Sunday)

*November 9* – Council Meeting

*November 10* – Wednesday Night Bible Study

*November 12* – Game Night at Social Hall at 6:30 pm

*November 13* – Men's Group in Social Hall at 9:00 am

*November 14* – Food Pantry Sunday

LCW Meeting after worship

*November 17* – Wednesday Night Bible Study

*November 21* – Altar Guild meeting after worship

*November 25* – Thanksgiving Day

*November 28* – First Sunday of Advent

## LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

The next meeting of LCW is scheduled for Sunday, November 14, immediately after worship. All ladies are welcome. You may want to bring a sandwich for lunch. Beverages and desserts will be provided. We are a busy group of ladies. Please join us and see how you can serve Jesus and Emanuel.

Current activities include:

- Wawa tickets to purchase a shortie for only \$5. These make great stocking stuffers. The proceeds for this activity will go to support the Anniversary Committee as they prepare for our 300<sup>th</sup>!
- Collecting toys for the Salvation Army for Christmas. This ministry is open to the entire congregation. Bring unwrapped toys and place in the corral inside the Sunday School room. Deadline for donations is December 19.

## ALTAR GUILD

What is the Altar Guild? A group of ladies who maintain the altar and prepare the chancel area for worship each Sunday. Paraments are rotated based on the church season (Pentecost, Epiphany, etc.). The candles are filled with oil. Communion elements are prepared for serving and cleaned up afterwards.

There will be a short meeting of the Altar Guild on Sunday, November 21, immediately after the worship service. We will be updating the schedule for 2022 and discussing any concerns or issues. You can be a part of this vital ministry of Emanuel. See Susan Shields for additional information and join us on November 21.

## CELEBRATIONS THIS MONTH

The following folks are celebrating birthdays this month.

3 George Shimp

25 Scott Smith

29 Mona Hess

30 Joan Bell



Wishing all a happy birthday and a blessed year to follow.

## MEN'S UPDATE for NOVEMBER

Still looking for some more "Good Men" to join us each month. If the time or day is what is holding you back from attending, please let me know. We are not locked into the current schedule. You can call me at 832-4400 or email me at aahermanson@comcast.net.

Last month we spent time assembling Flood Buckets for the NALC Disaster Response. Our next meeting will be on Saturday the 13th of November at 9:00 a.m. We usually meet for about an hour with a short devotion. The rest of the time is spent in sharing things we have experienced since the last meeting and thinking of ways we can serve our congregation and the community. We are still in the organization phase of our group and are looking for ideas.

Please mark your calendar and try to make it this month as we need your participation. P.S. There is always coffee and carbs to enjoy. *Allan Hermanson*

## CONVOCATION 2021: A LAY DELEGATE'S PERSPECTIVE

I had the pleasure of serving as Emanuel Elmer's delegate to the Atlantic Mission Region's annual Convocation held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Nazareth, Pa. The theme of the Convocation was "Worship" and dealt with the differences of "Traditional Worship" and "Contemporary Worship," including looking at the strengths and weaknesses of both. As an older member of the church, I may personally appreciate the traditional service better; however, I will tell you that I was emotionally moved during the actual worship in a contemporary style.

During the discussions, it became apparent that the need for the "Word" to be preached and the Sacraments administered in a reverent manner never changed, and a lot of "elbow room" in between was quite evident. As Pastor Rick Warren continually hammered home in his book, "The Purpose Driven Church," the methodology may change but the message of Christ's Grace and Mercy on us remains a constant. Another thought-provoking fact is that, at one time, the beloved hymn "How Great Thou Art" would have been considered, contemporary music.

The bottom line is that, although we older folks love our liturgical worship and shun the entertainment draw of the contemporary service, let's agree that anything that brings folks of any age to hear God's word preached faithfully and receive the sacraments administered with the reverence they deserve is well worth our support.

We heard wonderful speakers, including the President of the North American Lutheran Seminary, Rev. Dr. Eric Riesen. We worshipped in both styles to the joy of all. We heard from one of our seminarians, Mrs. Lara Bhasin, and realized the wonderful hearts and minds that God is calling to lead us in worship in the future.

We honored our outgoing Dean, Pastor David McGettigan, and elected our new dean of the AMR, Pastor Steve Shipman. The ladies had a great meeting as well as and did God's work in preparing health kits and school backpacks to be distributed as part of disaster relief.

I would encourage all of you to consider attending in the future. May God continue to "Bless" all the congregations and members of the NALC!

*Wayne Knerr*

## ATLANTIC MISSION REGION BENEVOLENCE

The AMR does not receive any financial support for its ministries from the NALC. Any money received is from the generous support of its members and member congregations. As a congregation who is supporting AMR financially, we thank you for your continued generosity. It is only through prayer and your offerings that we are able to support the many ministries and conduct the business of the AMR as we work together to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to the world,

Some of our support is to member congregations, pastors, the NALC and its ministry partners, including the NAL Seminary and our seminarians, and includes:

- Assisting victims of natural disasters
- Providing financial assistance to member congregations and pastors to attend the NALC and AMR convocations
- Supporting NAL Seminary and seminarians through scholarships
- Reimbursing our Dean and AMR Council members as they conduct the work of AMR
- Covering administrative costs of regular business and annual convocations
- Granting mission outreach assistance to congregations and organizations of the NALC
- Pledging financial support for the NALC Domestic Ministry position

The AMR is blessed to have the support of congregations like yours that give so generously and lift our pastors, members, congregations and the NALC up in prayer. Thank you! *Kathaleen Lilley*  
*AMR Treasurer*

## NORTH AMERICAN LUTHERAN SEMINARY

Thank you for your continued support of theological education in the NALC. Without your support, the vitally important work of recruiting and forming the next generation of pastors and lay leaders would not happen. We live in an increasingly complex and confusing world. Pastors need formation that prepares them to engage this world with the truth of the biblical Gospel. The NALS is committed to providing this kind of information. Good things are happening. Thanks be to God!

*The Rev. Dr. Eric M. Riesen*  
*President, North American Lutheran Seminary*

## WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

We continue to meet on a monthly basis, planning for upcoming observances and special services. Some of those remaining this year include:

*All Saints Sunday* is November 7 where white roses and a candle will be available in remembrance of loved ones who have gone home with the Lord since last year.

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath* will begin the first Sunday of Advent on November 28. "Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah."

*Preparing for Christmas* begins the following Saturday, December 4. The Wilson family will put up the tree and the rest of us will decorate it beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please join us for this fun event in preparation for our celebration of the Birthday of the King.

*Blue Christmas* will be observed on December 21, the longest night of the year. There will be a worship service at 7:00 p.m. to include individual prayer for those who struggle during this time of year.

*Christmas Eve Worship* will be held at 7:00 p.m. on December 24

Worship & Music also reviews the prayer list periodically. If you wish to add someone or need to remove a name, please let Pastor Mark or Patsy Madden know. *Live streaming* is up and running. To watch the service, go to [Facebook.com/Emanuel Lutheran Church-Friesburg](https://www.facebook.com/EmanuelLutheranChurch-Friesburg). *Patsy Madden*

## SOUP KITCHEN NEWS!



What a generous community Emanuel is! Our contributions to the soup kitchen allow them to provide nutritious meals for the less fortunate in our area. It's heartwarming when a client comes through the door and the first thing they say is how delicious yesterday's meal was. Pastor was able to spend \$228 on veggies and baked beans this month. Looks like hot dogs and baked beans will be on the menu shortly, a favorite. With the donations that keep coming in, we have \$798 to spend. Pick up a meal and see how well the clients are fed!

*Nancy Cobb*



## WNALC CONFERENCE

The Women of the Atlantic Mission Region held their Third Annual Women's Conference on Friday morning, October 22, 2021 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Nazareth, PA. The conference theme was "*Caring... Bearing... Sharing.*"

The meeting started with singing "*Here I Am to Worship*" and prayer led by Amy Werner. A virtual visit with Mary Bates, our NALC Disaster Response Coordinator, shared the importance of keeping the warehouses stocked, distributing to those affected and assisting with rebuilding. She sincerely thanks the WNALC women for all the materials and kits which makes her job possible. She shared with us how a family was blessed by receiving quilts. Mary answered questions from the women.

Amy Werner updated the women about WNALC by guiding them around the website, showing how to find information and several ways to be included as a congregation, including newsletters and opportunities for giving.

Amy and Deborah Kern then promoted an upcoming retreat at Camp Twin Pines on May 6 to 8, 2022 in Stroudsburg, PA. The retreat's theme will be "Beautiful Feet." based on the verse "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news" (*Romans 10:15*).

Participating congregations brought in elements for school kits and health kits. All the women enjoyed working together to gather, organize, assemble and box up 172 health kits and 88 school kits for NALC Disaster Response. The kits were included in "Stuff the Truck" later in the day, which will replenish the warehouse in Baltimore (Middle River), MD.

Surrounded by kits, the conference closed with singing "*You Raise Me Up*" and prayer led by Amy. It was a true joy to see the completed kits, knowing that these gifts would make a difference in the lives of people at a time of their deepest need.

*Amy Werner*



## GIVING THANKS TO GOD

*Pr. Brian Triller*

With Thanksgiving Day coming soon, we are reminded to express thanks to God for all the ways He has blessed us. The food on our table, the roof over our head, the clothes that we wear—all this and more is provided by our loving Father in heaven.

We who have been baptized have received the ultimate gift—entrance into the family of God because of what Jesus Christ did for us and for the world by His death and resurrection.

Because of everything that God has done for us, it is right that we give thanks to Him. We give Him thanks every Sunday as we gather to worship Him. In I Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV), we hear these words: *“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”*

So, in addition to thanking God during weekly worship, it is right for each of us to give Him thanks “in all circumstances.” To me, “all circumstances” means that it is fitting for us to give thanks to God day in and day out, all year round, whether or not things appear to be going well.

**Prayer:** *Dear Father, we cannot count the number of ways You have blessed us. We thank You for all of Your gifts, most especially for the gift of Your Son Jesus, who has saved us from our sins to live with You forever. As disciples of Your Son, may we follow His example of continually giving thanks to You. May we follow the prompting of the Holy Spirit to rejoice in You always, pray to You without ceasing, and give thanks to You in all circumstances. In the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

## STEWARDSHIP

Financials as of September 2021:

YTD Income: \$130,853.70

YTD Expense: \$118,529.23

YTD Net Income: \$12,324.47

Total yearly budgeted income/expense: \$165,009.00

## 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](mailto:office@emanuelelmer.church)

## NALC DISASTER RESPONSE UPDATE

NALC Disaster response is active in several different areas. The tool trailer is currently at the NALC Disaster response warehouse in North Carolina awaiting its next assignment after recovery work related to areas affected by Hurricane Sally. There are 8 NALC disaster response warehouses throughout the United States.

During the month of October, Emanuel hosted three volunteers who came out to aid in response efforts in Mullica Hill. These men slept in our social hall. Thanks are extended to Patsy Madden, Nancy Cobb, Susan Cobb, Helen Cobb, and Cindy Plummer for donating meals and food for the volunteers.

In the recovery phase from a disaster where a congregation wishes to engage, the tool trailer and shower trailer can be transported to the site for volunteer groups. NALC Disaster Response seeks first to help those who may not have insurance and cannot afford to pay workers. This phase usually starts three or four months after the disaster as that is the time when individuals learn if their insurance will cover the loss and what assistance they may receive from FEMA.

If you have any questions about NALC Disaster Response or what we can do to respond to individuals needing assistance in Mullica Hill and surrounding areas, please speak with Pastor Mark.

## NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD

Chrissy Smith

## NOVEMBER USHERS

Helen Cobb and Karen Wirsing

## TELEPHONE CHAIN

Patsy Madden

(856) 935-5552



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

## Pastor's Perspective

You likely have seen the pictures of large cargo ships sitting in the Pacific Ocean. You likely have heard it said that you'll need to do your Christmas shopping early so as to guarantee that you get the gifts you want in time for Christmas. It has also been reported that there are sooner deadlines for mail and delivery letters and packages.

All of this, the topic of this newsletter article, not to mention 24 hours a day of Hallmark Christmas movies, the playing of Christmas music and store decorations, is taking place before Halloween. After last year of being told to keep socially distant from family and friends because of COVID, travel arrangements have become a little trickier to schedule.

As Christians, very little of what I just described has anything remotely to do with the incarnation of God. That the Lord God, out of love for the world (*John 3:16*) and longing to redeem us from our sinful nature, the work of the devil, and death, sent his Son for the explicit purpose of saving the people God (*Matthew 1:21*) made in His image (*Genesis 1:27*). Regardless of whether that card gets sent, the cookies baked or the right gift is purchased, Christmas is about Jesus!

One of the significant things we as a congregation achieved this year was the development of our mission statement. ***"Emanuel Lutheran Church is a community of faith, leading people to Christ."*** Allow me to ponder with you the question; How might we as a congregation lead people to Jesus as Christmas approaches?

The first one is to schedule your time with God. We are busy people. We can easily become distracted, especially as the pace of our lives quickens. So, to keep in perspective the reason we celebrate Jesus' birth, I invite you to read one chapter of the Gospel according to Luke each day in December. If you accept this challenge, it will bring you to Christmas Eve.

Secondly, as you make plans to attend worship on Christmas Eve, invite visiting family members or friends to join us. If attending in person is still a concern because of COVID, be sure to watch the service on our church Facebook page. Not everyone is on Facebook; however, for those who are, please click on the share button as this will then be included on your Facebook page for your friends to see should they so choose.

Third, if you are sending out Christmas cards, consider what message is included in the cards. Many Christmas cards have scripture verses printed in them. This is an easy way to share the Gospel with those in your circle of family and friends.

There are of course people who prefer to let their actions speak for themselves. One of the highlights of the book of James is that our faith leads us into acts of love. Let me be clear, good works do not earn us any merit before God. We are made right with God, not by works, but through faith in Jesus (*Romans 3:24*) That said, there is a saying attributed to Martin Luther that states, "God doesn't need your good works, but your neighbor does." When you think of the people on your list that you want to remember with a gift, consider the gift of your time and what you might be able to do for someone. Perhaps you could watch your neighbor's children so that the parents could have a date night. If you are handy, you might want to offer a helping hand to someone who needs it. You may have people in your life who say that they don't need anything. That might be the person or persons to whom you would donate a financial gift in their honor to a charity they are passionate about.

Christmas is also the time where we think of people who are struggling in some way, particularly financially. One of the most important gifts that people give is boxes of food. That is a great gift. However, keep in mind that for folks who receive non-perishable food, a gift certificate to a local grocery store would be a significant help in rounding out the meal.

Yes, this may not be the article you were expecting to see in November. And no, I'm not trying to rush us into Christmas. What I am asking us to do is give thanks to God for all the gifts we have received, that we may use what we have received to lead people to Christ.

*"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!" Psalm 118:1*

*God bless,  
Pastor Mark*

## NOVEMBER BIBLE VERSES

- November 1* – There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. *Isaiah 11:1*
- November 2* – And he said to them, ‘When you pray say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.’ *Luke 11:2*
- November 3* – So all the elders of Israel come to the king at Hebron, and David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord. And they anointed David king over Israel, according to the word of the Lord by Samuel. *1 Chronicles 11:3*
- November 4* – The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord’s throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man. *Psalms 11:4*
- November 5* – So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace. *Romans 11:5*
- November 6* – And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. *Hebrews 11:6*
- November 7* – The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. *Isaiah 11:7*
- November 8* – You shall therefore keep the whole commandment that I command you today, that you may be strong, and go in and take possession of the land that you are going over to possess, *Deuteronomy 11:8*
- November 9* – Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth. *Genesis 11:9*
- November 10* – Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh, and the Lord hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he did not let the people of Israel go out of his land. *Exodus 11:10*
- November 11* – After saying these things, he said to them, ‘Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.’ *John 11:11*
- November 12* – for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God. *1 Corinthians 11:12*
- November 13* – Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, ‘Give us meat, that we may eat.’ *Numbers 11:13*
- November 14* – Where there is no guidance, a people falls, but in an abundance of counselors there is safety. *Proverbs 11:14*
- November 15* – Just as the Lord had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that the Lord had commanded Moses. *Joshua 11:15*
- November 16* – And those who had set their hearts to seek the Lord God of Israel came after them from all the tribes of Israel to Jerusalem to sacrifice to the Lord, the God of their fathers. *2 Chronicles 11:16*
- November 17* – saying, ‘We give thanks to your, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign.’ *Revelation 11:17*
- November 18* – And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching. *Mark 11:18*
- November 19* – For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! *2 Corinthians 11:19*
- November 20* – But, O Lord of hosts, who judges righteously, who tests the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them for to you have I committed my cause. *Jeremiah 11:20*
- November 21* – By faith, Jacob, when dying, blessed each one of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. *Hebrews 11:21*
- November 22* – Then the cherubim lifted up their wings, with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel was over them. *Ezekiel 11:22*
- November 23* – And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. *Romans 11:23*
- November 24* – Then the archers shot at your servants from the wall. Some of the king’s servants are dead, and your servant Uriah the Hittite is dead also. *2 Samuel 11:24*
- November 25* – And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. *Mark 11:25*
- November 26* – For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. *1 Corinthians 11:26*
- November 27* – Whoever diligently seeks good seeks favor, but evil comes to him who searches for it. *Proverbs 11:27*
- November 28* – And he shall return to his land with great wealth, but his heart shall be set against the holy covenant. And he shall work his will and return to his own land. *Daniel 11:28*
- November 29* – But Moses said to him, ‘Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, that the Lord would put his Spirit on them.’ *Numbers 11:29*
- November 30* – By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. *Hebrews 11:30*

