



## 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

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

## MAY ACTIVITIES AT EMANUEL

- May 1* – New Members received  
– Soup & Sandwich luncheon  
*May 4* – Wednesday Night Bible Study  
*May 6-8* – Atlantic Mission Region Women’s  
Retreat  
*May 8* – Mother’s Day  
– Food Pantry Sunday  
*May 11* – Wednesday Night Bible Study  
*May 15* – Confirmation with cake & punch reception  
– LCW Spring Luncheon  
*May 16* – Council Meeting in Social Hall at 6:00 pm  
*May 21* – Men’s Group at Social Hall at 9:00 am  
*May 23* – Worship & Music 7:00 pm via Zoom  
*May 25* – Wednesday Night Bible Study  
– Deadline for Acolyte articles  
*May 29* – Lakeside Worship begins at 9:00 am with  
a healing service

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study resumes on April 27. Each Gospel writer shared the resurrection story a little differently. Our Bible Study will be looking at the different accounts, starting with the resurrection as recorded by Matthew. This study is held via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. each Wednesday. Pastor Mark sends a Zoom invitation each Tuesday. Check your email and join us for some lively discussion.

### *friesburg philosophy*

Nothing will ever be perfect, so just keep moving and do your best

## MAY CELEBRATIONS

### *Birthdays*

This month, the following folks will be celebrating birthdays:

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

### *Celebrating an anniversary are:*

- 22 Dan and Courtney Pilling

May your celebrations be richly blessed.

Please let the office know if there are celebrations we have missed.



## MAY ALTAR GUILD

Karen Wirsing

## MAY USHERS

Kyle Knerr and Wayne May

## WELCOME

We are delighted to welcome into membership on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, Margaret Dare, Ken and Debbie Hinkle and Martha Hubschmidt. While these individuals have been worshipping with us for some time, we are delighted to welcome them into the membership of our congregation. Please stay for the luncheon to follow in the social hall.

On Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, Evan Harding and Jordan Werner will affirm their baptism through the rite of Confirmation. In this rite the church recognizes them as adults with all the privileges associated with every other adult voting member of Emanuel. A brief cookie and punch reception will follow.

## ATTENTION ALL LADIES



This invitation is for all the ladies of the congregation, including those who have not been active with LCW or who may not be members of Emanuel. We want all the ladies associated with our congregation to be aware of LCW and what we do.

All ladies will receive an invitation by snail mail. We ask you personally to join us on May 15 to share a light meal and learn more about the activities of Lutheran Church Women here at Emanuel.

We are excited to have a representative from Cornerstone Women's Resource Centers join us and share information about their mission. This is the mission we support each fall by filling baby bottles with loose change. Please come and here about how they are impacting young women's lives.

There are many things we do as Lutheran Church Women and so much more we could do with your ideas and hands. Is God speaking to you? Please share food, fun and fellowship with us on May 15.

*Nancy Cobb for LCW*

## STEWARDSHIP

Financials as of March 2022:

YTD Income: \$48,511.00

YTD Expense: \$37,906.92

YTD Net Income: \$10,604.08

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

## SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar now for Vacation Bible School this summer.

The dates are August 1 to 4. The theme is *The Tree of Life, God's Promise of Salvation*. This will be an early evening happening. Who will you invite?



## SHARING GOD STORIES

*By Pr. Brian Triller*

A few months ago, early on a Friday morning, a woman, whom I will call Donna, fell down her basement stairs and couldn't get up from the floor. After she fell, she realized she didn't have her phone with her. She lived alone, but she started yelling for help in hopes that someone outside might hear her. But nobody did.

As time went on, Donna realized that no one might come to save her, and she might die. She is a Christian, and she was comforted in knowing she would go to be with Jesus if she did not survive her fall.

About 35 hours after falling, some people from Donna's church came looking for her because she never showed to help with some church work as she said she would.

An ambulance was called; and when Donna was examined at the hospital, she learned that she had a broken hip. That hip was replaced, and now she is able to walk easily. One of her doctors told her that she, who is a diabetic, had a very close call; she wouldn't have stayed alive if she had remained on that floor much longer. Donna gives God all of the glory, thanking Him for her rescue.

My faith in God was strengthened when Donna told me how our Lord responded to her cries for help by working through people to save her life. I share her story with you that you may be blessed by it also.

In Psalm 145:1, 4-6, David writes: *"I will exalt you, my God the King...One generation commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty...They tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds."* (NIV)

**Prayer:** *Dear Father, I thank You for how You are at work in and around me every day through Your Son, Jesus Christ. As the Holy Spirit reveals to me ways in which You are at work, may I share with others how I have witnessed Your presence, power, and love. Sharing such stories is a means by which You, as You so choose, draw both the hearers and the story tellers closer to Yourself. For this, Father, I give You praise and thanks, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

## Worship and Music News

*Good things are happening at Emanuel!*

It was wonderful to see so many in attendance on Easter Sunday. This is the beginning of more celebrations coming up. On Sunday, May 1 we will be welcoming new members to our congregation. After the service, there will be a soup and sandwich luncheon in the social hall to enjoy fellowship with our new members.

Confirmation Sunday will be May 15 for two of our youths. There will be a small reception after the service to celebrate with them.

Our Lakeside Service will begin on Sunday, May 29 and will conclude with Tractor Sunday on September 25. The service will begin at 9:00 a.m. We will not be holding a 10:00 a.m. service in the sanctuary during the summer. However, in the event of inclement weather, the service will be in the sanctuary.

We will resume our indoor sanctuary service on October 2 at 10:00 a.m.

We plan celebrations, however, there is always a time of celebration each week as we meet together in worship and fellowship. Plan to come and worship weekly with us to always celebrate our Lord!!

*Patsy Madden*



## HOW TO HELP UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

**Lutheran World Relief**, an NALC ministry partner, is providing emergency cash support and delivering food and personal care items to Ukrainian refugees in Poland. LWR has provided essential supplies, including milk, energy biscuits, personal hygiene products and room partition panels to the Evangelical-Augsburg Church of St. Martin in Krakow, Poland, which has established a hostel for Ukrainian women and children.

LWR is shipping and distributing LWR quilts and personal care kits in partnership with Polish Humanitarian Action. The initial distribution includes 8,000 care kits and 7,400 quilts. You can learn more about LWR's response at [lwr.org](http://lwr.org).

**Spiritual Orphans Network**, an NALC ministry partner, works with Christians in former communist and Soviet bloc nations, including Ukraine. They have been supporting the ministry of Ukrainian pastors and those serving refugees. You can learn more about their ministry and Ukraine Special Fund at [SONetwork.org](http://SONetwork.org).

**Water Mission**, an NALC recognized ministry, is working with local churches and civic groups to help with evacuations and meet physical and emotional needs for refugees and people still in Ukraine. Water Mission focuses on providing safe water in crisis situations. You can learn more about Water Mission's response at [watermission.org](http://watermission.org).

Reprinted from NALC News (March 2022)

## RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

Spring has sprung! That means graduations will soon be upon us. Do you know of anyone who will be graduating from high school, college, or vocational school this year? If so, we would like to highlight them in our June newsletter. Please provide the office with the name of the graduate, school, date of graduation, future plans and how related to Emanuel.



# Pastor's Perspective

May 2022

*St. Paul writes, "For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, 'This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way he also took the cup, after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*

*(See also: Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14:22-25, and Luke 22:19-21)*

During the season of Lent, I had the joyful opportunity to offer first communion instruction for two young people of our congregation, Reed Richey and Rylee Doerr. I enjoy these opportunities to teach the basics of our Christian faith and our distinctly Lutheran understanding of the basics.

Central to our faith is Jesus. Our faith is meaningless without him. For it is in faith that we receive Jesus, trusting in him for our salvation (Acts 4:12). One of the chief ways that Jesus comes to us is in the sacrament of Holy Communion. In the scripture accounts cited above, there are slight differences in wording among the gospels, but the point is central. Jesus is giving us himself. That is to say, communion is not simply a memorial or a reenactment of the Lord's Supper. When you receive the bread and you receive the cup, you are receiving Jesus as he is truly present. In the divine mystery, we don't understand how he appears in the bread and wine we receive; we take Jesus as his word that he is present.

It is understandable then that great care and reverence is practiced when it comes to the elements of bread and wine. (I'm referencing wine here noting that we do have the grape juice option). Now, when Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, he didn't give specific instructions as to exactly how it has to be done. Over the years, the one holy catholic and apostolic church has had various ways of distributing the sacrament.

Some churches use real bread while others use wafers. Such great care was used for the bread in the church's history that ushers would hold a cloth under the pastor's hands as he put the bread on the people tongues so as not to have feet trample on any crumbs that may fall. There were, and still are some churches, that use the common cup. (Let me be clear, I'm *not* advocating for us going to common cup. However, I have communed at celebrations of the Lord's Supper with common cup and I have never gotten sick as a result.)

There are many churches that use intinction when it comes to receiving the blood of Christ. There the wafer or bread is dipped into the chalice and each person receives the body and blood of Jesus at one time. After everyone has communed, it would be a sign of reverence for the Pastor to consume what wine is left in the chalice. For Pastors who choose not to consume the remaining wine in the cup, the wine is to be reverently poured out on the ground. Likewise, if there was any bread that remained un-eaten, it would be put on the ground.

One of the things that COVID forced churches to look at is how the sacrament could be most safely distributed during a pandemic. At Emanuel, one of the decisions we made was to distribute the wine by way of a pouring chalice. The idea was to limit the amount of touch-points with the individual cups. Thus, you received an empty cup and the wine would be poured into the cup.

When finished consuming all the wine in your individual cup, there is a basket for the plastic cup to be placed for disposal. Again, to show the proper reverence we encourage you to drink all of the wine (or grape juice) in your individual cup. As for consuming the wine in the chalice, I have ceased doing this for one practical reason. The top of the chalice is slightly curved, except at the pouring spout. This makes it difficult to drink from in a reverent way, so the wine is poured out after the service.

Please know that decisions about how communion is distributed is made in consultation with the Worship and Music Committee.

In closing, please remember that these two important things: In receiving the bread and wine, you are receiving Jesus Christ who is truly present, forgiving us our sins. Secondly, the very act of receiving our Lord's body and blood is to proclaim the Lord's death (and his resurrection) until his promised return.

*God bless,  
Pastor Mark*