



Emanuel Lutheran Church

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

Sunday Opportunities:

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Worship 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

NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES AT EMANUEL

Nov 1 – Bible Study 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
Nov 5 – Sunday School 9 a.m.
Nov 5 – Worship 10 a.m.
Nov 7 – Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Social Hall
Nov 7 – Worship & Music 6:00 p.m. Social Hall
Nov 8 – Bible Study 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
Nov 12 – Sunday School 9 a.m.
Nov 12 – Worship 10 a.m.
Nov 12 – LCW Meeting following Worship
Nov 13-16 – Pastor Mark away for Disaster Response Meeting
Nov 18 – Men’s Group 8:00 a.m. Elmer Diner
Nov 19 – Sunday School 9 a.m.
Nov 19 – Worship 10 a.m.
Nov 21 – Council 6:00 p.m.
Nov 21 – Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Social Hall
Nov 22 – Bible Study 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
Nov 22 – Thanksgiving Eve Service 7:00 p.m. Elmer United Methodist
Nov 26 – Sunday School 9 a.m.
Nov 26 – Worship 10 a.m.
Nov 28 – Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Social Hall
Nov 28 – Anniversary Committee 6:00 p.m. Social Hall
Nov 29 – Bible Study 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
Oct 29 – Sunday School 9 a.m.
Oct 29 – Worship 10 a.m.
Oct 31 – Bible Study 10:00 a.m. Social Hall

STEWARDSHIP

Financials as of September 2023:
YTD Income: \$143,831.70
YTD Expense: \$123,326.42
YTD Net Income: \$20,505.28
Total yearly budgeted income/expense: \$182,672.00

NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD

Chrissy Smith

NOVEMBER USHERS

Cindy Cairone
Brenda Mace

NOVEMBER LECTORS

November 5 — Wayne Knerr
November 12 — Barbara Sinnema
November 19 — Karen Wirsing
November 26 — Elle Cobb

NOVEMBER SOUP KITCHEN

Karen Wirsing
Julian Kidd
Pam Casella
Nancy Cobb

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

The following folks will celebrate birthdays in November:

3 George Shimp
25 Scott Smith
29 Mona Hess
30 Joan Bell

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

Friesburg Filisophy

Speak to people in a way that if they died the next day, you would be satisfied with the last thing you said to them.

POLO SHIRTS

Have you seen the nice-looking red polo shirts being worn by some of our members? Would you like to get one for yourself? Perhaps instead of a polo shirt, you'd prefer a simple T-Shirt? The 300th anniversary committee is now taking orders for anyone who would like to purchase a shirt(s). Why now? It is a good conversation starter as you are wearing it. It brings attention to our church. It not only gives you a chance to talk about Emanuel Lutheran Church, but the one who is Emanuel, Jesus, God with us.

Orders will be taken on the first three Sundays in November. To place an order, see one of the members of the Anniversary Committee. There is an order form attached to this newsletter.



THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

The Elmer Areas Churches will be offering a Thanksgiving Eve Service. The service will be held on Wednesday, November 21st at 7:00 p.m. at the Elmer Methodist Church. Come, let us worship together and give thanks to the Lord.

LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Next meeting will be November 12, 2023 after Church.

LCW will be selling WaWa tickets again this year. Price is \$6 as WaWa put the price up a \$1 per ticket. The money made will be given to the 300th Anniversary Committee for 2026. Baby bottles for Cornerstone Pregnancy were collected during October. The Christmas luncheon will be Sunday, December 10 at noon at Chobiana's in Pennsville. A signup sheet is posted.

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS

FEEDNE2023

Look what we did!

Now we wait to see if we were in time to get the additional \$500 from Thrivent Financial for the soup kitchen. We sure did get well over the 500 food items.



ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

The 300th Anniversary Committee will be meeting on November 28th at 6:00 in the social hall.

USHERING

Anyone that would like to be an usher next year, that is not already on my list, please contact Wayne May 856-358-8288, waylormay@alo.com or in person. I will be making up the 2024 schedule in December.

Thanks, Wayne M.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE LIAISONS

Anniversary Committee - Kyle Knerr

Christian Education - Wayne Knerr

Fellowship - Brenda Mace, Chrissy Smith,

Kathy Willis

Finance - Steve Kennedy

Mutual Ministry - Steve Kennedy, Chrissy Smith

Property - Jimmy Cobb

Safety & Security - Kyle Knerr

Stewardship - Wayne Knerr

Witness/Outreach/Evangelism - Chrissy Smith

Worship & Music - Wayne Knerr

GRAYING IN GRACE

On September 30, I had the privilege to attend a workshop on aging held at Reformation Lutheran Church in Lancaster, PA. This workshop was run by Pastor Brad Hales, who has worked extensively with congregations of older adults. Pastor Brad challenged us with the following question: “Do we see an aging congregation as dying or an opportunity?” He pointed out the tremendous opportunity we have in reaching this enlarging group in our society.

Every eight seconds, someone turns 65 and by 2005 there will be more older adults than children. Although we need to continue to reach out to children, youth and families, there are many older adults who desperately need Christ.

Brad suggests that those of us in retirement need to really be in “refirement.” That is, we should be on fire about sharing our faith in Christ with all those around us. How many of our neighbors and friends of all ages don’t know Christ? What can we do to rectify this situation?

Isaiah 24:3-4 says, “Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the womb; even to your old age I am He and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and I will save.”

Wayne Knerr



REJOICE, PRAY, AND GIVE THANKS!

By Pr. Brian Triller

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)

When God reveals Himself to us and acts on our behalf, do we rejoice in Him, continue speaking to Him in prayer, and give Him thanks? Sometimes we do, but sometimes we don't.

And what about when things around us seem so bad that we see little or nothing to rejoice about? How can we be motivated to keep praying when it appears that God has not been answering any of our prayers? And how can we give thanks to Him when our lives are severely challenged by negative circumstances?

If rejoicing, praying, and giving thanks to God depended on human power, we would never be able to obey His commands in the verses above. And He gives us these commands to keep us close to Him, and so we may serve as witnesses to His Son in a world of people that all need to be saved.

In good times and bad, the only way we can rejoice, continue to pray, and give thanks to God in all circumstances is by the working of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. St. Paul reminds us of this truth in the sentence immediately following the verses quoted above. In I Thess. 5:19, we read: “Do not quench the Spirit.”

The Holy Spirit is constantly at work in us who are baptized. However, we can do things that work against the Spirit, things that grieve Him as is spoken of in Ephesians 4:30. The opposite of quenching the Holy Spirit is yielding to Him—letting Him lead us, and relying on His power in us so that we may obey the Word of God as disciples of Jesus.

Prayer: Dear Father, just as You poured out the Holy Spirit upon Your Son Jesus, our Savior, at His baptism, He has poured out the same Spirit on us. Please forgive us for anything we have done that has hindered the work of the Holy Spirit. By Your grace, may we live in surrender to the Holy Spirit. May we allow Him to work in us so that we may rejoice in You always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks to You in all circumstances—all to Your glory! Amen!

Pastor's Perspective

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! Psalm 95:1-2

When the Apostle Paul wrote letters to the churches mentioned in the New Testament, he frequently began his letters with a word of thanks to the congregation. Second Thessalonians 1:3 serves as an example of this approach to his writing. "We ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers, as it is right because your faith is growing abundantly, and the love of every one of you for one another is increasing." The opening to First Corinthians reads, "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus..." 1 Corinthians 1:4. In this same manner, I offer to God my thanks for each and every one of you.

In the same way, I give thanks to each of you at Emanuel Lutheran Church for the love you have shown to our neighbors. This month alone, we have assembled 100 school kits for disaster response. No one wants a disaster, but should one strike, we can respond. Additionally, we accepted Thrivent's Feed Northeast challenge. We have collected over 700 items for the Bridgeton Soup Kitchen. I delivered 511 items this week and it filled up their shelves. I'll be delivering the rest of the food in two weeks. So, if you want to add to what we collected you still can. And that is not all, for we have collected numerous baby bottles for Cornerstone Women's Resource Center. They will tally the count, but our donations are important to support the Christian, life-affirming care for women facing the reality that they are pregnant. Our prayer always is that they will make a decision that preserves the life of the child they carry.

Thank you! Thank you for taking time to give thanks to God and returning a portion of what He has given you. That is the giving point of thanksgiving. We give in response to God's giving of all that we have. Consider the offertory prayer that is a part of the liturgy each Sunday morning.

"Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—ourselves, 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."

We can never out give God. All we call our own from the food we eat to the friends we have, from the clothing we wear to what appears in our bank accounts, from our homes to our very bodies comes from God. Our giving, is a return to God of what is His very own. Thus, there is joy in giving for we know that God does provide. God gives us daily bread, as we pray in the Lord's Prayer.

In the month of November when we celebrate the holiday of Thanksgiving, remember that for children of God the thanks and giving are a part of our identity. Children of God are called to follow Jesus. Such followers are disciples. Disciples of Jesus are stewards of what God has given.

Giving of ourselves is not solely limited to the stuff we donate. We are givers of our time and our presence. Simply coming to worship is a gift of yourself to your brothers and sisters in Christ, who are encouraged by your prayers. Taking time to pray with someone is a gift of your compassionate heart, directing the person you are praying with and for to God.

One of the most meaningful ways in which we give thanks to God is in the giving of our very selves. Thanks to each of you who give of yourself, for the benefit of our neighbors and the building up of the body of Christ.

*Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices
Who wondrous things has done, In whom his world rejoices
Who from our mother's arms, Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love, And still is ours today. LBW 534.*

God bless,
Pastor Mark

SHIRTS FOR 300TH ANNIVERSARY – 2025-2026
Order Form

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Description	Quantity	Size	Price	Total \$
Red Polo Shirt S, M, L, XL \$28.00 2XL \$29.00 3XL \$30.00				
Red T-Shirt – short sleeves S, M, L, XL \$12.00				
Red T-Shirt – long sleeves S, M, L, XL \$15.00 2XL \$16.00 3XL \$18.00				
TOTALS				
Paid \$ _____				
Date _____				