

Emmanuel's Informer

January 2022 Volume 54, Number 1



Why We Attend Church *from Pastor Paulette*

A few years ago at a Synod Assembly, Professor Mark Allan Powell, professor of Biblical Studies at Trinity Seminary in Ohio, talked about two things: the importance of reading the Bible, the Word of God – and the importance of attending church. He said reading the Bible was an important Lutheran tradition. After all, Martin Luther took a great risk by translating the Bible from Latin into German so that all families could read and understand the Word of God. Other reformers had been put to death for such a thing.

Luther once said that Lutherans are a “Jesus people.” Jesus is at the center of Lutheran beliefs and it is the Bible that reveals Jesus, the Christ, to us. It brings us to Christ – and it keeps us grounded in Christ. The Bible also reveals to us both Law and Gospel. And, as we read certain verses, the same passage can serve as both Law and Gospel, depending on the reader and the reader’s situation. Reading the Word of God, according to Professor Powell, can “comfort the afflicted or afflict the comfortable.” Hearing or reading the Word of God increases and sustains our faith. *It would be great to encourage one another to read the Bible more frequently.*

The second thing we heard from Professor Powell was the importance of attending church regularly. He gave us 3 specific reasons:

- ◆ You should attend church to worship God, to give thanks for all that God has given us. After all, “It’s not about you” – it’s about God.
- ◆ You should attend church for other people. Other people enjoy seeing you at church, participating with them. That’s what the body of Christ is all about. And, the body has many parts to make it function. You *are* one of those parts.
- ◆ You should attend church because you *do* get something from it – even if you don’t think so. You receive the Word of God – and you are strengthened by the presence of Christ in the Lord’s Supper. As Isaiah said, God’s Word goes out and doesn’t come back empty.

It would be great to encourage one another to attend worship more frequently.

Invite someone to attend church with you – today!

“The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don’t, the parts we see and the parts we don’t. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.” – 1 Corinthians 12:25-26



8:45am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

10:00am Celebration Worship in Fellowship Hall

10:00am Sunday School

Holy Communion is celebrated at all services.

Each service will also be live-streamed and will be available on Emmanuel's Facebook page - see [emmanuelsofchicago.org](https://www.emmanuelsofchicago.org) or the weekly eNews for the link.

Dial-In Call 610-477-0100 to listen to our services at any time.

Bulletins/announcements for all services can be found on our website:
[Emmanuelsofchicago.org](https://www.emmanuelsofchicago.org)



Sundays at 10:00am Old Fellowship Hall

We are excited to offer Sunday School for children ages 3 to 8th grade! It is a time for our children to learn about God's love and many other lessons from his work, our Bible.

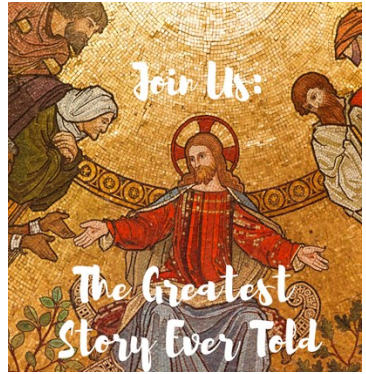
We need help! Please sign up for a time to be with our children in grades 1-5. Please sign up online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044aa8a723aafd0-sunday4>

Any questions? Please contact Heather Bennett-Knerr at 610-392-9750.



You're Invited: Jesus: The Greatest Story

A 16-week series that journeys through the four Gospels beginning the week of January 18, 2022. The video series will be posted each Monday by Trinity Lutheran Church, Robesonia, PA on its Facebook page. Each session will include a narrated PowerPoint video including inspirational Sand Art by renowned artist Joe Castillo. Each lesson will be posted for a week so you may view it at your leisure. Members of all congregations are encouraged to take advantage of this learning experience.



Downstairs Parlor Clean-Up

The Property Committee is asking for your help in the downstairs parlor in preparation for some repairs and renovations. The first step is to clean out the space so that we can better determine where repairs need to be made and to formulate plans for renovations.. There will be a "Parlor Clean-Up Day" on **Saturday, January 15 at 9:00am**. Donuts, coffee and a dumpster will be provided. Please come and help us reclaim this space!



The furniture currently in the parlor is available for the taking BUT.....it **MUST** be removed by January 13. First come, First served.



Blessing of a Home during Epiphany

In the gospel of Matthew, it's written that when the Wise-men noticed the star they followed stopped overhead, they were "filled with joy." "On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother."

As a way to celebrate Christ's presence in our homes, it's appropriate to gather with family and friends to offer a blessing at the new year. Pastor Paulette is available to come to the home of congregational members during the season of Epiphany and offer the Service for the Blessing of a Home.

If you are interested in having your home blessed for 2022, please call the church office (610-837-1741) to arrange a day and time for this occasion.



Bath Area Food Bank

During the month of **January** Emmanuel's will help the Bath Area Food Bank by collecting:

Personal Care Items (shampoo, deodorant, soap, etc.)

There is also an ongoing need for **Ramen Noodles**. They are no longer accepting Jell-o or pudding.

Donations for the food bank can be dropped off in the bins in Fellowship Hall or the upstairs Gathering Area. We are no longer collecting Food Bank items in the vestibule (red door).

Grocery gift cards (preferably Ahart's) are needed for emergencies. Please drop all gift cards in an envelope marked "Food Bank" into the lockbox located on the wall in the vestibule or bring them to the church office.

The Bath Area Food Bank is always in need of monetary donations which stretch farther than any amount of food that we can give.



Piano Available

The piano currently located in the upstairs parlor is available to anyone who wants it. You must make your own arrangements to have it moved. Please contact Lynne in the office for details or if you are interested.



UPDATE: Your Redner's Rewards Card **MUST** be used to participate in this program.

Please remember to turn in your Redner's receipts. All receipts are totaled and submitted to Redner's. A check will come to the church and be deposited into the Youth Group account. If you have any questions, please contact: **Cheryl Reeser at 610-759-6492.**



Your Blood. Their Hope.
MILLER-KEYSTONE
BLOOD CENTER

When donating blood at Miller Keystone Blood Bank please ask them to credit **Emmanuel's Bath** and the code is **0656**. This way we will receive credit for your donation.

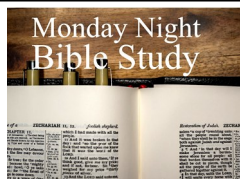
Help Wanted: Emmanuel's is in need of someone to take over as our Blood Drive Coordinator. It involves working with the Blood Center to set up our blood drives twice a year. If you are interested in helping with this important ministry please contact the church office.



Prayer Partners

Prayer Partners have moved inside for the winter months (Nov. into March).

Prayer Partners are available every weekday (Mon - Fri) from 1:30 - 2:30pm in Old Fellowship Hall and on Sundays after worship. The times are also listed on the monthly calendar.



Monday Night Bible Study

The Men's Group is now the **Monday Night Bible Study** and **EVERYONE** is welcome to attend. The group meets on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm in the **Old Fellowship Hall**.



Needlecrafters Group

If you enjoy needlecrafts please join us every other **TUESDAY** at 1:00 pm at the home of Susan Walker for stitching and fellowship. January dates are 1/4, and 1/18. Contact Susan Walker for more info. **All are welcome!**



The Ladies Morning Bible Study is continuing to meet online via Zoom. Gloria Wallery has organized the group and is the host for this platform. They meet on Thursday mornings at 10:30am. During January they will zoom together for

“Meet, Greet and Tweet” meetings. They will also be deciding on their next course of study. **Everyone is Welcome to join! Contact Gloria Wallery at gjwallery@gmail.com if you would like to join .**



Yoga Classes

Denise from Creative Action Yoga will be holding a class in the Fellowship Hall on Monday evenings at 5:30pm. She is also offering a class on Thursday afternoons at 2:30pm. Cost is \$5 per class (pay as you go). Please bring a yoga mat or towel and wear comfortable clothes.

All are welcome!



SYNOD NEWS

NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD, ELCA

JANUARY 2022 • ISSUE 1 • VOLUME 30

Covid-19 Update & Guidelines

The Latest Situation: The Covid-19 pandemic continues to generate fear, concern, confusion and division across the country and within our own Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. The most recent developments – some troubling, some hopeful – include:

- The rise of new variants, especially “omicron”;
- The ongoing and in many cases, increasing numbers of new cases;
- The continued reluctance and refusal of some to get vaccinated, or to wear masks;
- On the good side: the increased opportunities for testing, for boosters, and for vaccines for all ages.

Here in our Synod, I now encourage us to use another trustworthy source of information to help guide our decisions concerning the pandemic: the “Covid Act Now Coalition.” This non-profit, web-based resource brings together non-partisan experts in medicine, law, and public policy, to provide objective data and analysis. Their website is being consulted as a reliable source by synods and congregations across the ELCA. From their site, we can see clearly that things are still very threatening here in NE Penn: all 14 of our counties have threat levels of “VERY HIGH” or “SEVERE” – Berks, Carbon, Lehigh, Northampton, and Schuylkill all are in that worst category. Additionally, the vaccination rate is at or below 60% for 7 of those 14 counties. Most of these numbers are worse than the data for many of our neighboring synods, including the Southeastern Penn Synod, whose leaders have nonetheless chosen to put in place stricter guidelines than we have. I believe we can become safer and return to “normal” sooner if we follow their lead.

Dr. Luther Shows The Way:

Almost exactly 500 years ago – in November 1520 – Martin Luther published one of his most ground-breaking treatises: “On the Freedom of a Christian.” He begins the document with this famous declaration: “A Christian is the most free lord of all, subject to none. And a Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone.”

He goes on to describe how God, through Christ’s sacrificial love for us on the cross, has granted us the grace and the freedom to make our own decisions; but this freedom does not release us to disregard the truth, or our call to care and concern for our neighbor. Luther writes: “Therefore [Christians] should be guided in all [their] works by this thought and contemplate this one thing alone, that [they] may serve and benefit others in all that [they do], considering nothing except the need and the advantage of [the] neighbor.”

So “what does this mean?” The inconvenience of mask wearing; and even the threat of temporary cold-and-flu reactions to vaccinations – these are simply the sacrifices we are called to make, as “the dutiful servants of all, subject to everyone.” It is within this traditionally and theologically Lutheran framing that we maintain our vigilance; and update our guidelines here.

Covid-19 Continued...

Latest Synod Recommendations:

As we prepare for the larger crowds of Christmas Eve – and with Lent, Holy Week and Easter not far away – I am recommending the starting, the continuation, or the resumption, of any and all common-sense and good-neighbor precautions, including:

- Proof of vaccination or a negative test for all indoor events
 - Indoor masking
- Good air circulation, including open windows where feasible
- Social distancing, frequent washing and other effective protocols

Furthermore – at their January 15 meeting, I am encouraging our Synod Council to discuss and decide upon further appropriate actions, which may include mandates that all Synod-sponsored indoor events require masking, proof of vaccination, and/or proof of a negative test. As the duly elected governing body of this Synod, your Synod Council has the right and responsibility to make these decisions for Synod gatherings. When it comes to our individual worshipping communities, our authority is more limited; Synod Council (and myself) can only make clear and strong recommendations – based on the best science, on good conscience and on our common love for our neighbors, especially those who are most vulnerable. In other words, all congregations have the “freedom of a Christian” to decide for themselves how they will choose to act – or refuse to act. I invite us all to follow our baptismal call and Lutheran heritage, to follow God’s will and God’s love for all.

In God’s Love,
Bishop Christopher deForest

MISSION SUPPORT 2022



Send in your mission support commitments for 2022. You can find the form on the synod website, under the resources tab.

boundless
god beyond measure

JULY 24-28, 2022
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
REGISTER NOW AT ELCA.ORG

Save the date **SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2022**
June 10-11
Reading

EMMANUEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, October 14, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

Justin Fallenstein, President	Mercedes Kasper	Andrea Roberts*
Pete Coccetti, V. President	Rachel Lebron	Pastor Paulette Obrecht
Kristin Butz, Secretary	Kathy Milander	
Jane Fried	Win Miller	
Paul Honett	Karl Monroe	Bob Siegfried, Treasurer
		Bob Bennett, Financial Secretary
		*denotes not in attendance

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by President Justin Fallenstein.

Devotions: Meeting was opened in prayer by council in honor of Veteran's Day by prayer supplied by Pastor Paulette Obrecht.

Review/Approval of Minutes: It was moved by Win Miller and seconded by Pete Coccetti to approve minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary Report: Submitted by Bob Bennett. Improvement in giving noted, increased by \$3000 from previous month to \$23,000. Attendance is still decreased.

Treasurer Report: Submitted by Bob Siegfried. Year to date surplus of \$9,836. Discussed upcoming budget for new year. It was moved by Win Miller and seconded by Pete Coccetti to increase rental property rent to \$950 a month. Motion carried. It was moved by Mercedes Kasper and seconded by Rachel Lebron to approve budget to present to congregation at congregational meeting. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: submitted by Pastor Paulette Obrecht.

- Pastor Paulette has been working on the Confirmation class with Art Krieger for both first and second year students, and there will be a second year confirmation retreat in Nov.
- Pastor Paulette continues to work with Win Miller on the 300 year anniversary celebration.
- Pastor Paulette continues to call congregation members and is up to E in the directory.
- Pastor Paulette has also been visiting homebound members.
- Continues to work with volunteers to update/obtain their child abuse clearances.

Committee Reports:

HR Committee: No report submitted

Outreach: No report submitted

Property:

- Report submitted by Paul Honett from meeting on Nov. 2. Next meeting will be Dec. 2 at 7 pm.
- Discussed emptying/cleaning up the church parlor. What is causing the water damage in parlor. Possible purchase of a dehumidifier to assist with mustiness and possible mold development in parlor.
- Several quotes for snow removal and grass cutting were discussed.

EMMANUEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES (Continued)

Worship Committee:

- Congregational meeting on Nov. 21, there will be one service at 9:30, followed by refreshments and meeting.
- Community Thanksgiving service will be at Covenant, Klecknersville on 11/24 at 7 p.m.
- Advent begins on 11/28 and worship committee is asking for assistance following the 11/28 services to put up the Christmas trees. Help is requested on 12/08 at 10 am to decorate the church and trees both upstairs and downstairs.
- Cantata participants will put out poinsettias out after dress rehearsal on 12/18.
- Christmas Eve services will be at 5pm, Celebration service, geared toward families with children, with children's sermon; 7 pm Celebration service with carols in Fellowship Hall. and 11 pm Traditional service in Sanctuary.
- 12/26 - Service of Lessons and Carols, one service in Fellowship Hall at 9:30 am.
- Next meeting on 11/30 at 7 pm via ZOOM.

New Business:

- 3 council positions will need to be filled, Karl Monroe, Pete Coccetti and Kristin Butz will have fulfilled their 3 year commitment.
- Pete Coccetti, Jane Fried and Karl Monroe will review the policy for cemetery fees.

Next Meeting: Next meeting will be December 9, 2021 at the church at 7:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn made by Karl Monroe, seconded by Kathy Milander. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristin Butz
Council Secretary

GOOD NEWS!

Council is pleased to announce that Pastor Paulette's contract as our Transitional Pastor has been extended until the end of August 2022.



Catechetical Class Reminders

After a slow start our Catechetical Classes are finally in full swing:

1st Year Class - being taught via Google Meet by Art Krieger. Be sure to log on at 12 noon on the first Sunday of the month (1/2, 2/6, 3/6, 4/3, 5/1).

2nd Year Class - The retreat dates for the rest of 2022 are as follows:

Monday, January 17 Saturday, March 26 Saturday, May 21

Confirmation will be celebrated on Pentecost - Sunday, June 5, 2022.

JANUARY 2022

Sunday			Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
26	9:30 AM Service of Lessons and Carols - FH		27	Secretary Vacation Day - building will be closed 6:00 PM Christmas Potluck - OFH 7:00 PM Monday Night Bible Study - Old FH	28	Secretary Vacation Day - building will be closed	29	Secretary Vacation Day - building will be closed	30	Secretary Vacation Day - building will be closed	31	New Year's Eve Secretary Vacation Day - building will be closed	1	New Year's Day
2	8:45 AM Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM Prayer Partner available 10:00 AM Celebration Worship - FH 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM Prayer Partner available 12:00 PM 1st Year Cat Class - Google Meet		3	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 5:30 PM Yoga Class - FH 7:00 PM Evangelism Team / Bible Study	4	1:00 PM Needlecrafters available - OFH 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	5	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	6	Epiphany 10:30 AM Ladies Bible Study - Zoom 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 2:30 PM Yoga Class 8:00 PM Worship Comm Mtg - Zoom	7	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	8	
9	8:45 AM Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM Prayer Partner available 10:00 AM Celebration Worship - FH 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM Prayer Partner available		10	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 5:30 PM Yoga Class - FH 7:00 PM Monday Night Bible Study - Old FH	11	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	12	10:00 AM Undecorating Party 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	13	10:30 AM Ladies Bible Study - Zoom 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 2:30 PM Yoga Class 7:00 PM Church Council - old FH	14	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	15	
16	8:45 AM Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM Prayer Partner available 10:00 AM Celebration Worship - FH 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM Prayer Partner available		17	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM 2nd year Cat Class Retreat 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 5:30 PM Yoga Class - FH 7:00 PM Evangelism Team / Bible Study	18	1:00 PM Needlecrafters available - OFH 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	19	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	20	10:30 AM Ladies Bible Study - Zoom 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 2:30 PM Yoga Class 6:30 PM Outreach Committee - Zoom 7:00 PM Property Committee	21	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	22	
23	8:45 AM Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM Prayer Partner available 10:00 AM Celebration Worship - FH 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM Prayer Partner available		24	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 5:30 PM Yoga Class - FH 7:00 PM Monday Night Bible Study - Old FH	25	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	26	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	27	10:30 AM Ladies Bible Study - Zoom 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 2:30 PM Yoga Class	28	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	29	
30	8:45 AM Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 9:15 AM - 9:45 AM Prayer Partner available 10:00 AM Celebration Worship - FH 10:00 AM Sunday School 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM Prayer Partner available		31	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 5:30 PM Yoga Class - FH 7:00 PM Evangelism Team / Bible Study	1	1:00 PM Needlecrafters available - OFH 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 7:00 PM Worship Comm Mtg - Zoom	2	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	3	10:30 AM Ladies Bible Study - Zoom 1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH 2:30 PM Yoga Class	4	1:30 PM Prayer Partner available - OFH	5	

2022 Council Members

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Emmanuel's Meals from the Heart

This ministry at Emmanuel's provides meals to anyone from the congregation in times of need. Meals might be needed after the birth of a baby, after surgery or hospitalization, or during a time of crisis. The more help we have, the less frequently our volunteers will need to provide meals. Please contact Michele Geiger by phone (610-442-7680) or via email (mlgeiger520@gmail.com) if you'd like to become a part of this ministry. Please contact the church office or Michele Geiger if you are in need of meals.





Volunteer Clearances - It's time to Update!

At the end of 2014 new laws took effect that required all employees and volunteers working with children to receive background checks every five years. These laws also put into place the new reality that our church volunteers are now mandated reporters if they become aware of or suspected abuse or neglect toward a child. The laws requires these two background clearances for ALL mandated reporters every 60 months (5 years) :

This year – 2022 – marks the time when most of Emmanuel's volunteers must update their clearances and turn them into the church office. A form describing the process for obtaining clearances can be found on the table in the back of Fellowship Hall. Volunteers who have obtained clearances for their employment may bring copies of those clearances for our files. If you have questions about this process or the laws requiring clearances, please contact Pastor Paulette or the church office. Some helpful links:

Child Abuse History Clearance Form (CY-113) – Obtained from the Department of Human Services - **[Pennsylvania Child Welfare Information Solution \(state.pa.us\)](#)**

Pennsylvania State Police Request for Criminal Record Check Form (SP4-164) - **[Pennsylvania Access To Criminal History - Home \(state.pa.us\)](#)**

Financial Secretary Report for November 2021

Account	Period Activity	YTD Balance
<i>Giving Accounts</i>		
100 - Regular Offering	22,400.85	233,411.33
Total Regular Offering	\$22,400.85	\$233,411.33
110 - Plate Offering	310.00	2,148.00
Total Regular & Plate Offering	\$22,710.85	\$235,559.33
120 - Special Offering - Regular	0.00	10.00
121 - Christmas Offering	0.00	310.00
122 - Easter Offering	0.00	1,695.00
123 - Holy Thursday Offering	0.00	42.00
124 - Initial Offering	10.00	320.00
125 - Lent Offering	0.00	473.00
126 - Palm Sunday Offering	0.00	770.00
Total Special	\$10.00	\$3,620.00
130 - Miscellaneous Income	0.00	175.00
131 - Flowers	100.00	1,252.06
132 - Bulletins	0.00	122.72
133 - Easter Flowers	0.00	192.00
134 - Poinsettias	180.00	180.00
136 - Church house	0.00	7,875.00
Total Misc. Offerings	\$280.00	\$9,796.78
Total Reg. Misc. & Spec	\$23,000.85	\$248,976.11
200 - Building Offering	3,555.00	41,145.88
220 - Improvement Offering	603.00	2,055.00
Total Build & Imp Offerings	\$4,158.00	\$43,200.88
138 - Use of Church Facilities	0.00	550.00
140 - Snow Removal	10.00	175.00
260 - Streaming Equipment	0.00	6,130.44
270 - Sanctuary Windows - Painting	0.00	1,260.00
383 - Memo - Leonard Frey	0.00	725.00
384 - Memo - Edith Grim	0.00	175.00
385 - Memo - Theresa Schafer	0.00	1,540.00
386 - Memo - Edward Lavenburg	0.00	50.00
387 - Memo - Melissa Mast	305.00	305.00
410 - Social Ministry Offering	123.00	817.00
412 - Bath Area Food Bank	160.00	1,946.00
420 - World Hunger Offering	148.00	1,169.00
421 - Kasper Family	0.00	400.00
422 - Ladies Group	0.00	1,008.00
423 - Behavioral Health Assoc.	0.00	60.00
424 - Meals on Wheels	0.00	110.00
450 - Souper Sunday	0.00	276.00
472 - Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering	0.00	310.30
475 - God's Work. Our Hands.	0.00	962.50
500 - Christian Education	0.00	35.00
510 - Sunday School Offering	2.00	280.18
600 - Cemetery - Grave Service	1,000.00	6,500.00
Total Giving Accounts	\$28,906.85	\$316,961.41

Treasurer's Report as of November 2021

Total General Fund Income	\$ 252,312.
Total General Fund Expenses	\$ 238,606.
Income over Expenses	\$ 13,706.

A detailed Treasurer's Report with expense listings can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Options for Giving

Thank you for your faithful giving during the pandemic. Our members have continued to support our church and other ministries, both monetarily and with other donations. Now that we are back in person there are many ways to continue giving:

1. **Bring** your offering to church with you on Sunday mornings
2. **Sign up for electronic giving** through Vanco (formerly Simply Giving) - see Bob Bennett for information and/or forms.
3. **Mail** in your weekly/monthly contributions:
(3175 Valley View Dr. Bath PA 18014)
4. **Drop your contribution into the lockbox** located in the vestibule to the downstairs parlor. It is on the wall to your right as you enter from the outside. The vestibule is unlocked during normal business hours.
5. Use **Text+Give** (text the \$ amount to 610-463-0435)
6. Vanco Give+ Mobile App. Download the App and follow the prompts.
NOTE: This app is being discontinued by Vanco. Please download their NEW APP: Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement.
7. **Donate directly from our website** (www.emmanuel.org). Click on the DONATE page and follow the prompts.

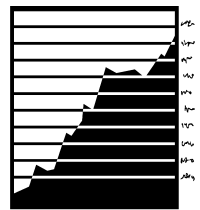
***A note about GIVE+ Mobile App and online donations through our website: Donating through the website will allow you to choose "Other" and then to specify which special appeal you would like your donation to benefit. Unfortunately this feature is NOT available on the Mobile App. We are working towards a solution to this issue - stay tuned for further updates. If you have any issues or problems with any of these giving choices please contact the church office.

Thank you for helping!



2021 Yr-End Financial Statements

Sign-up sheets are located on the table in the Gathering Area and Fellowship Hall to receive your year-end financial statement. You can also call the church office to let us know that you would like one. **You must sign up or call the office in order to receive one.** Statements will be mailed to the address we have on file. If you have any questions, please contact Bob Bennett.



Annual Giving Statements

Communion and Giving Record Reminder

In order to remain an active member on the church's rolls, a person must commune and give a contribution of record at least once in a calendar year.

Now that we are back at church please fill out a communion card for 2022. You only need to fill out one per year..

Also when contributing to the church, please use your offering envelopes or write a check or place money in an envelope with your name and/or church envelope number on it. Thank you for making it easier to keep our church records accurate.



Annual Report Reminder

Just a reminder that all annual reports are due to the church secretary by **January 28, 2022**. If you are a church officer or head of a ministry/committee, please check your email for items you are responsible for. Submit reports to the office or email to: emmanuelchurch@gmail.com

OH, THE WEATHER OUTSIDE IS ...

You get up on a Sunday morning, look out the window and see nothing but white, or your street is a sheet of ice ... you wonder if Sunday School and/or the Worship Service has been cancelled because of this "inclement weather". To make sure:



1. Go to WFMZ Channel 69 & watch for Emmanuel's Lutheran, Bath on the crawl at the bottom of the screen
2. Check updated message on church answering machine at 610-837-1741
3. Check Emmanuel's website at www.emmanuel.org



Deadline for the February Informer articles is: **Monday, January 17, 2022.**

Worship Attendance for November 2021

Sunday School	Week of	Traditional 8:45 am		Celebration 10:00 am		Total	
9	Nov. 7 (All Saints Sunday)	In-Person	46	In-Person	48	In-Person	94
		Online	53	Online	38	Online	91
5	Nov. 14	In-Person	32	In-Person	35	In-Person	67
		Online	213	Online	132	Online	345
-----	Nov. 21 (Cong. Meeting)	One Service at 9:30				In-Person	82
		In-Person	82			Online	143
		Online	143				
14	Nov. 28	In-Person	20	In-Person	40	In-Person	60
		Online	116	Online	130	Online	246
Average Weekly In-Person Attendance: 76							
Average Weekly Online Attendance: 206							



Are You in the Hospital?

When you are admitted to the hospital it is important for you or a family member to call the church office and let us know - so the pastor can make sure to visit you before you are discharged. You can also tell them at the hospital that your "church code" is 222 or that you are a member of Emmanuel's Lutheran Church in Bath.

Call the church office at 610-837-1741 and please leave a message if no one answers.

Funerals

Anthony Hnatow, 92, passed to his eternal rest on Sunday, November 28, 2021. He and his wife Betty, who passed away previously, will be buried in the spring.



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Betty A. Wambold, 78, passed to her eternal rest on Wednesday, December 1, 2021. A funeral service was held on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at George G. Bensing Funeral Home. Pastor Paulette Obrecht officiated at the service. Her final resting place is Mountain View Cemetery.

William R. Witmer, 74, passed to his eternal rest on Tuesday, December 7, 2021. A funeral service was held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at George G. Bensing Funeral Home. Pastor Paulette Obrecht officiated at the service. His final resting place is Mountain View Cemetery.

January Flowers

(\$25.00 per vase)

Jan 2

Traditional - In honor of the people of Emmanuel's Church by Paulette Obrecht.

Celebration - In honor of God's Blessings by Doreen Davidson.

Jan 9

Traditional - In honor of the 90th birthday of Pearl Silfies by Al and Karen Miller

Celebration - Open

Jan 16

Traditional - .In memory of cousin Maryann Siter by Linda Steiner

Celebration - Open

Jan 23

Traditional - Open

Celebration - Open

Jan 30

Traditional - Open

Celebration - Open

January Bulletins

(\$6.00)

Jan 2

Traditional - Open

Celebration - Open

Jan 9

Traditional - In honor of the 90th birthday of Pearl Silfies by Al and Karen Miller

Celebration - Open

Jan 16

Traditional - .Open

Celebration - Open

Jan 23

Traditional - Open

Celebration - Open

Jan 30

Traditional - Open

Celebration - Open

Altar Flowers / Bulletins 2022

Emmanuel's has moved to online sign-ups for 2022 Altar Flowers and bulletins for our weekly services utilizing Sign Up Genius. There are two separate sign-ups - one for the 8:45am Traditional Service and one for the 10:00am Celebration Service. The online addresses are long and cumbersome so the best way to access Sign Up Genius is by using the links that are listed in the weekly eNews or on our website (www.emmanuel.org).

If you don't have computer access or are uncomfortable using Sign Up Genius, please do not hesitate to call Lynne in the church office (610-837-1741) with your requests. She will be more than happy to take your information and enter it into the online system.

Just a reminder - as of January 1, 2022 whenever there are no "live" flower sponsors at either of the services, silk flower arrangements will be used in their place. If we have no sponsor at the contemporary service, a silk arrangement will be displayed. If there are no sponsors at all upstairs, two silk arrangements will be used at the altar. If we have a sponsor for one vase of live flowers upstairs on any given week, Emmanuel's will purchase the second live arrangement (which will provide matching flowers at the altar). The extra arrangement can be then delivered to a shut-in if appropriate. In recent years, we've had fewer flower sponsors, which in turn, means the church has been responsible for the added expense. So if you want to see "live" flowers on the altars please sponsor them!

January Worship Volunteers

Volunteers, please check to see if your name is listed below. **If you are unable to be present, please find a substitute and contact the secretary at 610-837-1741 with the changes by Wednesday.** As always, thank you for all your help in serving our Lord.

	Altar Care	Greeter	Ushers	Reader	Media
Traditional Jan 2 Celebration	8:45 Karl & Sue Monroe 10:00 Bonnie H	8:45 Jessie Hnatow 10:00 Jane Loupos	8:45 Dean Chenski Susan Chenski 10:00 Wendy Whiteash Jane Loupos	8:45 Jessie Hnatow 10:00 Bonnie H.	8:45 Karl Monroe 10:00 -----
Traditional Jan 9 Celebration	8:45 Karl & Sue Monroe 10:00 Bonnie H	8:45 Jane Fried 10:00 Nancy Karc	8:45 Jane Fried Paul Honett 10:00 Nancy Karc Krista Kreiger	8:45 Nancy Marsh 10:00 Amy Hower	8:45 Michele Geiger 10:00 -----
Traditional Jan 16 Celebration	8:45 Karl & Sue Monroe 10:00 Bonnie H	8:45 Gary O'Brien 10:00 Mercedes Kasper	8:45 Cindy O'Brien Gary O'Brien 10:00 Mercedes Kasper Bill Kasper	8:45 Lois Voorhees 10:00 Deb Fisher	8:45 Win Miller 10:00 -----
Traditional Jan 23 Celebration	8:45 Karl & Sue Monroe 10:00 Bonnie H	8:45 Terry DeGroot 10:00 Nancy Karc	8:45 Bob Bennett Barbara Bennett 10:00 Dianna Schoenen Nancy Karc	8:45 Terry DeGroot 10:00 Bonnie H.	8:45 Jessie Hnatow 10:00 -----
Traditional Jan 30 Celebration	8:45 Karl & Sue Monroe 10:00 Bonnie H	8:45 Win Miller 10:00 Jane Loupos	8:45 Win Miller Lynne Ambrose 10:00 Wendy Whiteash Jane Loupos	8:45 Bob Splittgerber 10:00 Amy Hower	8:45 Sue Monroe 10:00 -----

Thank You Note Received....



✉ Dear Members of Emmanuel's,

Thank you for all of the cards and well wishes; your kind words were much appreciated. We treasure our memories with Joanne & Kevin,

God Bless you,
Alfred, Edward & Rochelle

JOIN US THIS SUMMER AT BEAR CREEK CAMP!

Registration for Summer 2022 Opens on January 3rd!

"THAT YOU MAY BE FILLED BY ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD." EPHESIANS 3:19



SESSION 1 June 19 – 24*
SESSION 2 June 26 – July 1*
SESSION 3 July 3 – 8*
SESSION 4 July 10 – 15*
SESSION 5 July 17 – 22
SESSION 6 July 24 – 29
SESSION 7 July 31 – August 5
SESSION 8 August 7 – 12

*Try Camp is available Sunday-Wednesday
*Family Camp and Artist's Retreat
Every week of camp is
a Sunday-Friday session.

Bear Creek Camp and Conference Center in Bear Creek Township, PA – the outdoor ministry site of the Northeastern and Southeastern Pennsylvania Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – is conveniently located just off the PA Turnpike and Interstate 81 near Wilkes-Barre.

Situated on nearly 3,000 acres of forest, streams and fields, campers spend their days filled with activities designed to help them grow in their understanding of God, self, creation and community.

*A ministry of the Northeastern PA and Southeastern PA
Synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
Accredited by the American Camp Association*



/BearCreekCampOfficialPage



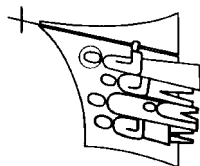
@BearCreekCamp

Register online at:

BEARCREEKCAMP.ORG

Emmanuel's will once again be providing \$200 sponsorships for each camper from our congregation - be sure to use sponsorship code **ELMB22** to claim this benefit. Please contact the church office if you will be attending camp this summer.

If your child wishes to attend camp and you are having financial difficulties, please contact the church office for some ways we may be able to help.



Emmanuel....
God With Us
Emmanuel's Lutheran Church
3175 Valley View Drive Bath, PA 18014-9465

Emmanuel's Directory 610-837-1741

The People of Emmanuel's Church

The Rev. Paulette Obrecht, Interim Pastor

Bobby Siegfried, Director of Music

Lynne Ambrose, Secretary

Gloria Wallery, Sexton

Ministers

610-393-9713

610-751-0908

610-837-1741

610-597-8003

484-282-0178

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday

9 AM – 3 PM

E-mail Address Emmanuelchurch@gmail.com

Website www.emmanuel.org

Fax 610-837-8267

