

## Greetings Saints of Emmanuel:

*The Advent of our King is at hand.*

As the light of day continues to wane until the winter solstice, as darkness reaches its zenith, we tread through the Advent season, remembering that Christ *will come* again and that we *will need* to be ready.

One of the most terrifying passages in all of Scripture is the parable of the ten virgins with oil lamps; five have plenty of oil, five have run out. (See Matthew 25:1-13). The five, knowing they have run out, leave to go fill their lamps. But when they return, it is already too late. They will not be let into the feast.

Keeping the faith is serious business. Christ will come again. Yes, perhaps, even today, for we may have missed the signs of his coming.

Let it not be so with us. We are to be ready, having stockpiled faith, that it may be always full to the brim and running over, that we may not be caught *faithless* at our Lord's return.

Precious treasure and oil are in a wise man's dwelling,  
but a foolish man devours it. ~ *Proverbs 21:20*

We do not live in an inert, meaningless world. As I wrote in our *Daniel Study*:

Worship of God is not inert. That is, it matters if you do it, and it matters if you don't do it. There are blessings for obedience; there are curses for disobedience.

The Parable of the Sower reminds us that there are those who hear the Word, rejoice, and nevertheless still fall away. That is, they believe that Jesus has been raised from the dead, they believe in the forgiveness of sins, and then, they either stop caring or simply find other things to be more worthy of their time and their lives.

There are many such things that are at first, but a distraction to our faith -- our work, our family, bills, this "small" sin here, this worry there, and so on. We convince ourselves that we are doing our best, or that such things really don't matter in the end, and so forth.

Advent reminds us not to play a dangerous game with our faith. When darkness is bleakest, we do not squander the oil we have for our lamps; we measure it and allot it such that we will have enough through the dark days.

With measured preparation then, let us therefore allocate the gifts which God has given us, for the time which he has given us, for the purposes for which he has given us.

In Christ our Lord,  
+ Pastor Justin Baker

### Today, Wednesday, December 3rd

#### 11:00 AM Family Prayer

*On the first Wednesday of the month, we gather to pray for all families around us. Please join us in the sanctuary!*

#### 6:00 PM ELCW Advent Social

*This event is open to all, not just the women! We will begin the evening with refreshments in Heritage Hall.*

#### 7:00 PM Advent Midweek Service

*Following refreshments, we will meet in the sanctuary to pray a Compline service. We will do this every Wednesday in Advent.*

**See the bulletin for tonight's service [here](#).**

## Newsworthy

---

### **Poinsettia Orders | Due by Dec. 7th**

It's time to place orders for poinsettias! The deadline to submit your order form is Sunday, December 7th. No orders will be accepted after this time. Please fill out [this form](#) (or pick up a copy at church) and return it to the office to place your order!

### **Christmas Gifts for Brookdale Residents | Due Before Dec. 19th**

*We Will Plan to Deliver Dec. 19 as part of the Caroling Worship Service*

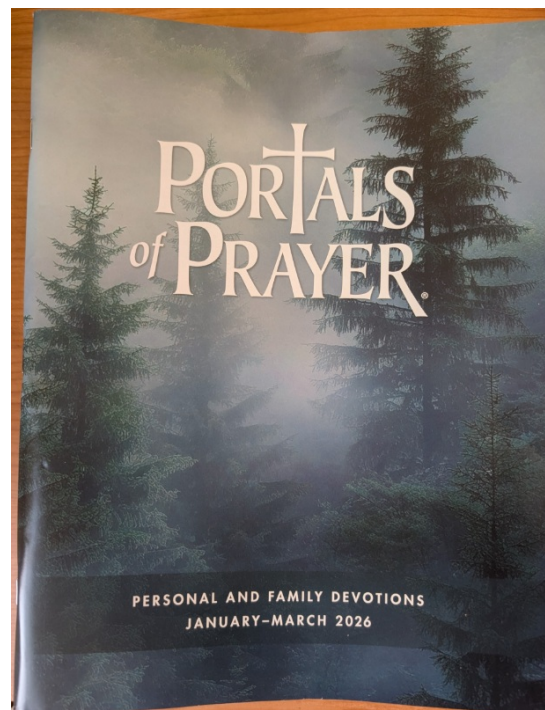
We are collecting Christmas gifts to take to Brookdale residents this season. The table in the Narthex has a list of names and suggested gifts for them. All residents can accept shampoo, body wash, and lotion as well. Please take a name (or names!) and bring in gifts wrapped and clearly labelled with the resident's name (no later than Monday, Dec. 15th) to put under the table. Please contact Debbie Weigold with any questions!

### **New Members Class | Beginning February**

For all those who are ready to become members of Emmanuel, there will be a new member's class beginning in February. If you would like to signup, please let Pastor or the Office know.

### **Portals of Prayer**

The new Portals of Prayer devotions (January-March) will be available in the Narthex starting this week. Be sure to grab yours!



### **Funeral for Debbie Pritts**

Thank you to all who came to Debbie's funeral yesterday to support Irv and his family and honor Debbie's life. If you missed the service or would like to continue to reflect on it, you can read the sermon [here](#) and read the bulletin [here](#).

### **United Together, We Pray**

#### *Prayers for Mission Workers*

For the Omars and their ministry among Muslims in the Atlanta region; for the Thorstads in their work in Laos & Thailand; and for Dure Negassa and the Rev. Gemachu in their ministry in Kenya among the Oromos.

#### *Prayers for those in need of Intercession:*

Linda Casper, Suzanne & Ernesto Carns & family, May Hill, Jim Troxell, David Weihe, Vince Berardinelli, Gayle Wertz, June Ugen, Addison, Sandra, Zachary, Kevin, David, Kathy, Asa, Jerry, Jack, Al & family, Beth, Colleen, Rachael, Leila, Darin, Les & Cathy, Tony, Sarah, and Harry

#### *Prayers of Bereavement*

Most Blessed and Holy God, we implore you to remember *the family of Debbie Pritts, the family of Cathy, the family of Rosalee, the family of Roger, the family of Victoria, the family of Ray, the family of Maggie, and the family of Tom*. Fill all families who mourn with the strength to grieve, the comfort of your presence, and faith unto life everlasting.

#### *Prayer for this Church*

*We pray that you will fill this congregation with the faith that endures unto life eternal. We pray that you make us one people united in prayer. We pray that you will send families, children, widows & widowers, the elderly, and any others into our midst, that they may also be filled with faith, encourage this congregation, and bring honor and glory and praise to your name.*

## **Worship**

---

### **Wednesday Advent Services, 7PM | Beginning Today**

During Advent, we will hold light refreshments and a worship service every Wednesday night.

---

### **From Sunday's Sermon**

We are confident, convinced, certain that Christ will come again, because he has promised to do so, and he is unable to not fulfill this promise to us. We are certain that Christ will raise the dead, because he has promised to do so, and he is unable to not fulfill this promise to us.

Watch this past Sunday's sermon [here](#) or read it [here](#).

---

## Discipleship

---

### Sunday School, 9AM

#### Sunday School Class

We will continue our study of *Live Not By Lies* through December.

---



**Bible Study on the Book of Daniel | Mondays, 1PM & 6:30PM**

#### New Bible Study Topic

We have just begun our study of Daniel, and it's not too late to join us! We will continue for the next two weeks before breaking for the holidays.

#### From Daniel

God always fulfills his promises, and always uses his people — whether in their faithfulness or unfaithfulness — to be a light to the nations. Here, Judah's very rejection of God is what sets the stage for Babylon to receive God. And then, Babylon's subsequent rejection of God is what sets the stage for Judah to return to faithfulness to God.

[View Last Week's Lesson Here](#)

## Fellowship & Evangelism

---

### Upcoming Christmas Luncheon

The Fellowship/Evangelism Team has decided to have the annual Emmanuel Christmas party as a lunch this year. Here are the specifics:

**What:** Emmanuel Lutheran Church Annual Christmas Party

**Who:** All Emmanuel members are invited

**When:** Saturday, December 13 at 12:00 noon

**Where:** The Lamplighter (6566 Route 22, Delmont, PA)

**Menu:** Stuffed chicken breast, lettuce salad, mashed potatoes with gravy on the side, green beans, fruit cup, and assorted desserts. Cash bar available.

**Deadline:** We must have a final count for the restaurant by Sunday, December 7, so please be sure your name is on the sign-up sheet by then.

**Payment:** Get your Check (made out to Julie Schamber) or cash, \$22.00 per person, to Julie Schamber.

If you need help with transportation to the luncheon, please reach out to Julie or the office! We will help you coordinate a carpool.

The Fellowship and Evangelism Committee will cover the cost for anyone who may find the lunch to be a financial burden. We wouldn't want anyone to be left out. Please reach out to the office for assistance.

---

### **GriefShare**

This is a video based, facilitator led program. Read more information and see an introductory video [here](#). We'll plan to meet with potential facilitators soon, and begin making a plan to roll this out from there.

## **Stewardship**

---

Let us know if you need any help around your home. A few members of the church would like to help!

### **The December Calendar**

#### **December 3rd**

11AM: Prayer for Families

6PM: ELC Women Advent Event

7PM: Advent Worship Service

#### **December 7th**

9AM: Live Not By Lies Sunday School

10:15AM: Worship on the Second Sunday of Advent

After Worship: Decorate trees

#### **December 8th**

1PM: Daniel Bible Study

2PM: Quilting with the ELCW

6:30PM: Daniel Bible Study

#### **December 9th**

9AM: Bell Choir

10AM: Staff Meeting

7PM: Worship Meeting

#### **December 10th**

11AM: Prayer Group

6PM: Midweek Refreshments

7PM: Advent Worship Service

#### **December 11th**

2PM: Stewardship Meeting

**December 13th**

12PM: Christmas Party at The Lamplighter

**December 14th**

9AM: Live Not By Lies

10:15AM: Worship on the Third Sunday of Advent

After Worship: Decorate the church

**December 15th**

11AM: Fellowship and Evangelism Meeting

1PM: Daniel Bible Study

2PM: Quilting with the ELCW

6:30PM: Daniel Bible Study

**December 16th**

9AM: Bell Choir

10AM: Bell Choir Subset

**December 17th**

Deadline for Brookdale Christmas Presents

10AM: Discipleship Meeting

11:30AM: Council Meeting

6PM: Midweek Refreshments

7PM: Advent Worship Service

**December 19th**

11AM: Brookdale Worship Service & Delivering Presents

**December 21st**

9AM: Live Not By Lies Sunday School

10:15AM: Worship on the Fourth Sunday of Advent

After Worship: Decorate (wreaths, banners, garlands)

**December 22nd**

2PM: Quilting with the ELCW

**December 24th**

Office Closed

9AM: Prepare Luminarias

6PM: Light Luminarias

7PM: Christmas Eve Service

**December 25th**

Office Closed

10:15AM: Christmas Day Service

**December 26th**

Office Closed

10AM: Remove luminaria and pack for storage

**December 28th**

9AM: Live Not By Lies Sunday School

10:15AM: Worship on the Feast of The Holy Innocents

**December 29th**

Office Closed

2PM: Quilting with the ELCW



## Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

### **Birthdays:**

12/1 Arlene Woodward  
12/3 Michele Hiener  
12/5 Stan Casper  
12/6 Jim Kuczek  
12/9 Danelle Jaszcar  
12/13 David Weihe  
12/16 Faith Palmer  
12/17 Donna Berardinelli  
12/17 Nancy Zimmerman  
12/28 Angela Held  
12/29 James Troxell  
12/30 Carol McDowell  
12/31 George Campagna

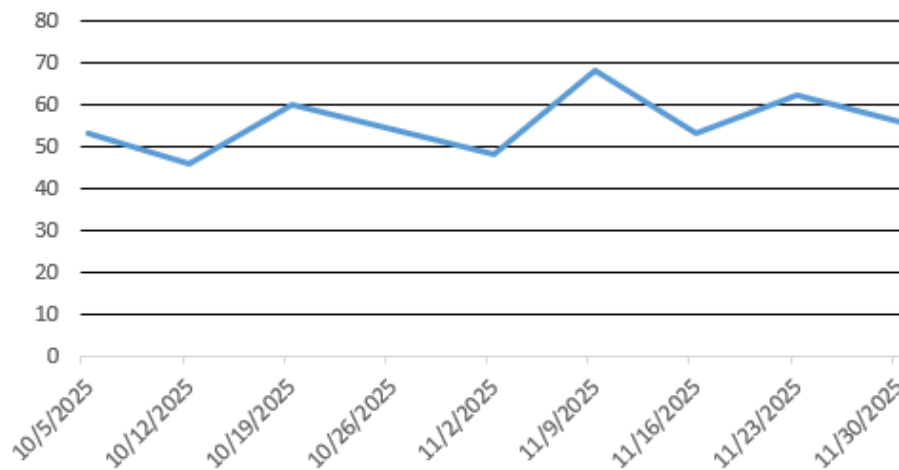
### **Anniversaries:**

There are currently no recorded anniversaries in December. Please contact the office if we've missed one!

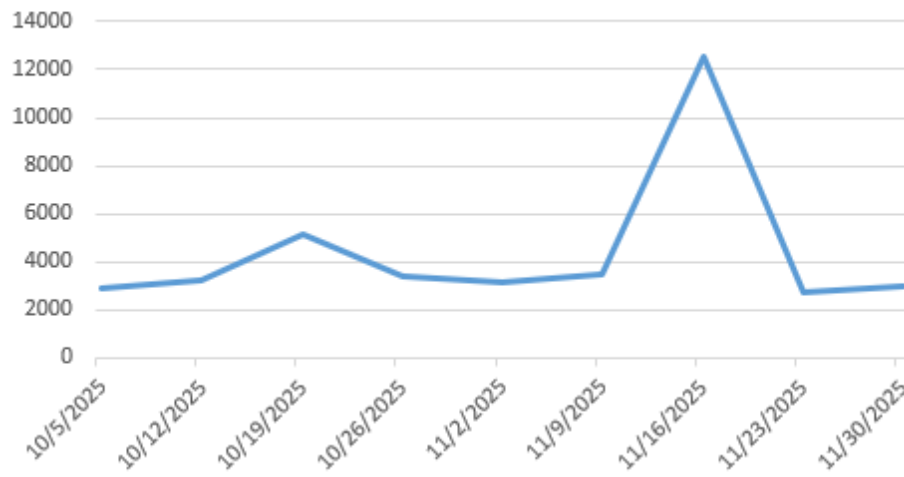
### Attendance and Offering: Last 8 Weeks

Thank you for your faithful attendance and giving over the last two months! If you know anyone who has been absent from church for a while, please check in on them this Advent season and invite them to join us for in-person worship again!

### October-November Attendance



## October-November Offering



### Worship Volunteers

Wonder when you're serving in worship next? See the chart below!

More information will be coming soon about volunteer scheduling in the New Year, so stay tuned for that. If you see an empty slot on the chart that you'd like to fill, please let the office know!



LITURGICAL DAY	The Second Sunday in Advent	The Third Sunday in Advent	The Fourth Sunday in Advent	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day	Feast of the Holy Innocents
DATE	12/7/2025 10:15AM	12/14/2025 10:15AM	12/21/2025 10:15AM	12/24/2025 7:00PM	12/25/2025 10:15AM	12/28/2025 10:15AM
ORGANIST	Homer Adams	Homer Adams	Homer Adams	Homer Adams	Homer Adams	Homer Adams
PASTOR	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker	Pastor Justin Baker
ASSISTING MINISTERS	Julie Schamber	Carol Seidling	Danette Hunter & Lou Heier	Holly Pelusi		Matthew, Lisa, Hannah, and Elizabeth Yothers
COUNTER TEAM	Kathy Gustafson &	MaryAnn Sinwell &	Bob Jordan & Donna	Danette Hunter & MaryAnn	Danette Hunter & Kathy	

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women

**Wednesday Evening  
December 3, 2025**

*All men and women and their family  
and friends are invited to attend.*

*Please bring your favorite appetizer to share.*

**6:00 PM Advent Social with Hors d'oeuvres**  
Heritage Hall  
&

**7:00 PM Advent Worship Service**  
the Sanctuary

**Devotions:** Nella Baker

**Set-up:** Carol McDowell, Julie Schamber,  
and Jeanne Yargar

**Clean-up:** All hands are welcome



**Gift Away** – Monetary gifts are requested to  
support the Loaves and Fishes food pantry.

Please make checks payable to *Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women*, noting "Gift Away" on the Memo Line.



---

**Have more pictures from any of our events?**  
Send them our way -- don't want to leave you out!

### Altar Flowers

If you've signed up to provide altar flowers, please email the office a few weeks in advance to let us know what or who you would like the flowers to be dedicated to and how you would like the dedication to read!

[Download the Bulletin](#)



Emmanuel Lutheran Church | 5000 Old William Penn Highway PO Box #396 | Export, PA  
15632 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!