

Greetings Saints of Emmanuel:

The Advent of our King is at hand. With the beginning of the church year, we renew our focus to hoping that Christ will return in *this* church year year.

Ever since I came to know that our legal name is Emmanuel *Evangelical* Lutheran Church, I have wondered if it's not worth reviving our full name. Names mean something, and ours is quite robust, directional, and missional.

The first name, *Emmanuel*, as we are reminded especially during Advent, means *God with us*. This is God's promise to his people, first fulfilled in the coming of Jesus as a baby. He also promised never to leave nor forsake us. And so, *Emmanuel* reminds us who God is and what he is promised. He is and will be with us.

It is also worth noting that it's good that this name comes *first*, as who God is and what he has promised -- over against what we may desire or think -- is of first importance. Think back to the first commandment: "I am the Lord your God." We are to love, worship, and put God above all things.

The second name, *Evangelical*, has come to have many meanings, but from the very beginning meant *having to do with the good news*. Evangelical is from the same root word from which we get *gospel*. And so, you may be beginning to see why this second name may be worthy of reviving. We want to be God's people and about *his* good news.

Isn't it so easy to be a people about *other* news (good and bad) in this culture? Isn't it almost difficult to *not* be bearers of bad or unworthy news? And yet, we are the heralds of the best news that ever could have come to have been.

And the beginning of this good news (beyond the very good news that He has made the whole creation) is that God has come to us -- and as an infant in the womb of Mary!

In Christ our Lord,
+ Pastor Justin Baker

Today, Wednesday, November 26th

11:00 AM Prayer Group, Zoom

Prayer group will meet on Zoom as regularly scheduled.

Newsworthy

Prayer List Reset This Sunday

On the first Sunday of Advent (this Sunday), in accordance with the beginning of the church year, we will reset prayer requests.

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. There will be a Christmas tree in the Narthex with ornaments that feature residents' names and suggested gifts for them. All residents can accept shampoo, body wash, and lotion as well. Please take a name (or names!) off the tree and bring in gifts wrapped and clearly labelled with the resident's name (no later than Monday, Dec. 15th) to put under the tree. 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 sign up, please let Pastor or the Office know.

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:

Suzanne & Ernesto Carns & family, May Hill, Jim Troxell, David Weihe, Vince Berardinelli, Gayle Wertz, June Ugen, Debbie Pritts, 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 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

From Sunday's Sermon

How much is an innocent life worth? How much is the life of the innocent Son of God worth? What power does his sacrifice have? As innocent, as Man, as the Son of God, his sacrifice can never be tapped, for it is uncountably infinite, immeasurable, overflowing — pouring out into the hearts and minds and bodies of those whom he saves.

The Crucifixion reveals that God deeply, powerfully desires to be with his people. And this Sacrifice of Jesus also reveals something fundamental to God's very being, to who God is — his sacrifice is not an exception, it's the rule. Who God is is to be

sacrificial, is to give of Himself. Indeed, is this not what He has done from the very beginning, from Creation itself? Wasn't Him creating the cosmos itself sacrificial? Didn't He pour himself out in the very making of the world and of us? And yet, when God pours Himself out, that does not make him less God, or less than He was before — for this is his very nature. Because who He is is to pour Himself out for the sake of those whom He loves.

Read this past Sunday's sermon [here](#).

Advent Setup | This Saturday, Nov. 29, 10AM

We need about **six people** to help take down Thanksgiving decorations, put up the first of our advent adornments, and install the nativity by the road. Please sign up in the narthex if you are able to help.

Confirmation Service for Faith Palmer | Nov. 30, The First Sunday in Advent

Faith Palmer will be confirmed on November 30th, the First Sunday in Advent. A brief reception will be held after the service to celebrate Faith and her new step in her Christian walk. Please plan to join us then!

And because it's the first Sunday in Advent, we'll begin our sanctuary adornment after the service!

Returning to Setting 1

Beginning with the first Sunday of Advent, we return to Setting 1 from the Lutheran Book of Worship. This is a familiar setting for us. Below is the Kyrie, to re-familiarize ourselves with it.

[The Kyrie](#) (the first part)

Midweek Advent Services | Beginning Dec. 3

During Advent, we will hold a light dinner and a worship service every Wednesday night. The first of these will coincide with the ELCW's Advent Event, which is open to all (not just the women). And so, we will begin with hors d'oeuvres that evening at 6pm.

Discipleship

Sunday School, 9AM

Fellowship Hour | This Sunday in Sunday School

We'll have an Advent activity for this Sunday School's Fellowship Hour. Come join!



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

Bible Study Changing from Acts to Daniel

We just concluded our Acts Bible Study (for now) on Monday. This coming Monday, December 1st, we will jump into the study of Daniel! Please join us then.

Mark your calendars!

12/1: Daniel Bible Study, 1pm and 6:30pm

12/8: Daniel Bible Study, 1pm and 6:30pm

12/15: Daniel Bible Study, 1pm and 6:30pm

Beginning 12/22: Holiday Break

From Acts 8:1-8

Almighty God is not reliant on the faithfulness of his people to accomplish his will. Here, precisely the opposite takes place — the faithlessness of the priests, the rulers, of the crowd, and of Saul results in the gospel spreading exactly to where it was always going to go next — to Judea and Samaria.

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

Fellowship & Evangelism

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.

Free Tickets to the Christmas Pilgrimage

We have been generously offered free tickets. For more information about the pilgrimage, visit the website [here](#). If you would like tickets, please let Danette Hunter know.

The 2025 Delmont Christmas Pilgrimage is scheduled for Saturday, December 6th & Sunday, December 7th, 2025.

Join us for our child-friendly Pilgrimage Junior event the afternoon of Sunday, December 7.



Looking Ahead: Christmas Luncheon

The Fellowship/Evangelism Team has decided to have the annual 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.

Stewardship

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

More This Week

Wednesday, November 26

Pastor Out of Office/Office Closed

7:00 - 8:00pm: Steps and Stories

Thursday, November 27

Thanksgiving Day: Office Closed

Friday, November 28

Black Friday: Office Closed

Sunday, November 30

9:00 - 10:00am: Fellowship Hour

10:15 - 11:15am: Worship Service

Following Service: Confirmation reception and Advent decoration begins!

Monday, December 1

1:00 - 2:00pm: Daniel Bible Study
2:00-3:30: Quilting with the ELCW
6:30 - 7:30pm: Start the Week
6:30 - 7:30pm: Daniel Bible Study

Tuesday, December 2

9:00 - 10:00am: Bell Choir Rehearsal
10:00 - 11:00am: Staff Meeting
6:00 - 8:00pm: Champion Cheerleading

Wednesday, December 3

11:00am-12:00pm: Family Prayer
6:00pm: ELCW Advent Social
7:00pm: Advent Worship Service
6:00 - 7:30pm: Troop 53155
7:00 - 8:00pm: Steps and Stories

[Click to View More](#)

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

11/26 Dave Whipkey
11/30 Kaleb Wee
12/1 Arlene Woodward
12/3 Michele Hiener
12/5 Stan Casper
12/6 Jim Kuczek
12/9 Danelle Jaszcar
12/13 David Weihe

Anniversaries:

11/26 Rev. Greg and Angela Held (48 yrs)

New Photo Gallery on Our Website!

We've added a photo gallery to our website to make pictures easier to access and view (and to make the newsletter clearer). Contact the office to add pictures of events to the gallery! (We will feature fewer photos in the newsletters so that we can include more on the website.) View the website photos [here](#).

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](#)



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