

### **Greetings Saints of Emmanuel:**

Our church, united together, did an incredible job clearing the Sanctuary, nursery, and narthex after the service. It could not have gone better. From removing books to unhooking chairs to vacuuming to moving the chairs (and more!), it was great to see the church coming together to serve. Thank you!

And now, to ask even more of you. Here are three more opportunities to serve:

- (1) putting everything back, today (Wednesday, Oct. 9), 2-4PM
- (2) voting for our proposed budget and NALC amendments, this Sunday (Oct. 12th), following the service
- (3) helping with our Mission District Convocation on Saturday, Oct 18th (greeters, snack-bringers, disaster response kit-makers, grillers, cleanup)

*Scroll to the Stewardship section for more details.*

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

In Christ our Lord,  
+ Pastor Justin Baker

### **Today, Wednesday, October 8th**

10:00 AM, Library

Prayer Group

11:00 AM, Dee Jay's Lounge

ELCW Lunch and Service Opportunity

2:00 PM-4:00 PM

Help us move chairs back into the sanctuary after carpet cleaning!

### **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.

*More information about our mission workers here: The Rev. Dr. Thomas Thorstad and his wife "Moon" of Laos (follow [this link](#) to learn more about the ministry of the Thorstads); and Dure Negassa, representing the ministry and work of the Rev. Dagaga Gemachu of Kenya (follow [this link](#) to learn more about the ministry of Dure Negassa and the Rev. Gemachu). Follow [this link](#) for more information about the Omars.*

*Prayers for those in need of Intercession:*

*Bob Jordan, Steve Cehovin, Jim Troxell, David Weihe, Linda Casper, Vince Berardinelli, George & Donna Campagna, Gary Kral, Mary Lou McDonald, Gayle Wertz, June Ugen, Debbie Pritts, Dick & Sandy Lester, Alyssa, Jerry, Ryker, Lori, Aurelia, Rachael, Aria, Ray, Jeff, Cathy, Leila, Grace, Darin, Alice, Keith, Victoria,*

Zachary, Kevin, Mervin, Shawn, Lynn, Ginny, Roger, Betty, Zac, Les, Kenny, Gary, Linda, Michael, Missy, Jim, Bonnie, Tony, Sarah, Denise, Harry, Millicent, Stephanie, and Ruthie

#### *Prayers of Bereavement*

Most Blessed and Holy God, we implore you to remember *the family of Rob Greenleaf, the family of Don, the family of Pastor Brian Shirey, and the family of David*. 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.

### **Newsworthy**

#### **Secretary Out of Office | Oct 16th - 27th**

Caroline will be out of the office beginning next Thursday, October 16th. She will return Tuesday, October 28th, at which point regular hours will resume. If you need anything from the office during that time, please contact Pastor Justin.

#### **Three Year Plan for a Vicar**

In three years, we (Pastor Justin together with Council) plan to bring a vicar to Emmanuel. It would be unwise to bring a vicar before my fifth year of pastoral ministry.

A vicar serves for one year (or for two years part-time) as a pastoral apprentice in his (or her) last year of seminary and candidacy. Candidacy is the name of the process for approval for ordained ministry. It is the final year of discernment for whether a candidate is a good and appropriate fit for pastoral ministry, and for discerning the gifts of ministry of the candidate. As such, a vicarage committee from this congregation would be formed to support and help form the candidate. A vicarage committee provides two evaluations (mid-year and final) to candidacy, and so does the pastor.

An advantage for having a vicar is first and foremost participating in training and preparing candidates for ministry, as a service to the wider church. A vicar serves and receives training in all the aspects of pastoral ministry (leading the service, preaching, pastoral visits, leading meetings, teaching). I (pastor) would love the opportunity to mentor and train a vicar. The congregation would also benefit from the gifts of ministry of such a vicar. Because this congregation has removed a pastor from ministry, we are gifted towards discernment of the pastoral office, and exercising that discernment-- either in favor or against-- would be a help to the denomination and would strengthen the faith of this congregation.

The monetary cost to this congregation would be approximately \$75,000, which divided over three years (at \$25,000 raised per year), is reasonably

sustainable. Forty families giving about \$62 more per month achieves this. Included in the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget is a vicar line-item with a \$1000 starting fund as a nod to this plan.

Going forward, we will have a special fund for which you will be able to designate support of a vicar. I encourage you to give towards a vicar.

## Worship

### From Sunday's sermon

"Like the disciples, we may cry out for more faith: Increase our faith! We may be presented with some suffering or some task that we find simply too difficult. We may think that there is no way we can remain faithful or obey Jesus without more faith. But as we have heard this morning, the tiniest amount of faith is plenty."

### Upcoming

Bishop Dan Selbo will be preaching October 19.

## Discipleship

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### Bible Study in Acts | Mondays, 1PM & 6:30PM

#### What We Heard

Our culture is vehemently opposed to suffering, to pain, and to inconvenience. If we can avoid suffering, pain, or inconvenience, we *should* (or so the thinking goes). There are exceptions of course — drivenness in business, discipline in exercise. But these are exceptions, rather than the rule, and the rule of culture is certainly the avoidance of anything uncomfortable or painful. Reflect for a moment on the ease, convenience, and suffering-avoidance so common in our culture (let some examples come to mind!).

The fact that we are so accustomed to convenience and ease is directly at odds with our Christian faith. Our culture presses us towards avoiding suffering. But that is not the way of the cross. Our Lord Jesus, as Luke's Gospel makes clear, places real and severe demands on us. We are to lay our money, our possessions, our family, and our own lives at the foot of the cross. Nothing is ours by right. We are to take up our cross and follow Jesus. His was no path of convenience or avoidance of pain. As Christians following Christ, we wade *against* the tide of our culture, being made wise to the dangers of convenience and a pain-free life.

#### What We Reflected On

What can we do, as Christians, to counteract culture's pressure upon us to nearly always avoid pain, inconvenience, and suffering? Why is it important to go against this pressure as disciples?

## Sunday School, 9AM Study on Philemon & Study on Worship

### About the Philemon Class

We will complete our study of *Philemon*, a one-chapter letter from Paul to Philemon, this Sunday. We will, at last, get to the question of slavery in Paul's letter.

### About the Worship Class | Beginning October 12

We will begin our focus on worship.

### Live Not By Lies | A Four-Part Class Beginning November 2

*Sign-up in the Narthex* (Count will determine where we meet)

A Four Part-Docuseries based on Rod Dreher's [book](#), which itself was based on Alexander Solzhenitsyn's [essay](#), all of the same title.

This will be a four-week class meeting every Sunday in November. [Watch the Trailer Here](#).

### Fellowship Hour | Last Sunday in October

*Stay Tuned for More Details Here*

## Fellowship & Evangelism

### Oktoberfeast

Thank you to everyone who came out to help and celebrate Oktoberfeast with us on Saturday! The event was a huge success.

Thank you to all who gave to our mission workers!

## Stewardship

### Three Opportunities to Serve

(1) We need help moving everything out of Heritage Hall and back into the Sanctuary.

Carpet cleaning in the upstairs was completed on Tuesday, and we will need help this afternoon (Wednesday) from 2-4 p.m. moving all the furniture back to its proper locations, as well as making sure books are dusted. Help will also be needed downstairs, in Luther Hall, to move back the chairs and tables.

(2) We need your approval for the proposed budget

## **Congregational Budget Meeting This Sunday**

October 12th, Immediately Following the Service

We will meet after service on October 12th (this Sunday) to vote on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2026. We will also vote on the proposed amendments to the *NALC's* constitution, below.

[Click here to read the proposed budget.](#) The budget has a modest 4% increase year-over-year and includes 10% dedicated to benevolence. (We also gave 10% in Fiscal Year 2025 thanks to the generosity of this congregation, though we were only budgeted to give 5%.)

Some notes and highlights about this **budget**:

**Overall** +3.87% budget increase over last fiscal year

### **Benevolence**

- In terms of real dollars, we are budgeting \$3500 over this past year's fiscal giving. We plan to begin offering a seminarian scholarship each spring/fall semester.

### **Worship**

- All licensing is moving to the category of Administration

### **Ministry**

- Vicar, \$1,000 -- to start our vicar fund. (See above for the three-year vicar proposal.)
- Supply Pastor, \$2,000 -- allows us to bring in mission workers, pastors, and seminarians

### **Stewardship**

- This entry is just envelopes

### **Maintenance**

- We are doubling our cleaning budget, going from one floor per week, to both floors per week. (From \$80 per week to \$160 per week.)
- Tech. A dedicated team has been making tech improvements which will benefit our entire property. This gives us a line item for those improvements.
- All Landscaping will be charged to the Lawn Maintenance line item.

### **Maintenance Reserve**

- This additional funding is accounted for in the General Maintenance line item. We will continue to raise funds for Capital Maintenance as members feel led.

### **Administration**

- Secretary. This budgets room for additional hours and wages. Caroline has demonstrated the ability to make very effective use of her time.
- Software leases. As stated before, this will include all administration and worship licensing.
- Miscellaneous – eliminating the miscellaneous category.

Also at our congregational budget meeting, we will be voting on three

proposed amendments to the NALC's constitution. Some notes about the NALC Amendments:

The NALC has voted on three constitutional amendments to the NALC's constitution that must be ratified by at least 50% of her congregations within six months of Lutheran Week. Click [this link](#) to read a summary of each of the three amendments.

Or, read each document in full below:

[Click here to read Amendment 1.](#)

[Click here for Amendment 2.](#)

[And here for Amendment 3!](#)

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(3) We need your help at the Mission District Convocation.

**Mission District Convocation**

Saturday, October 18 at Emmanuel,

8AM, Stuff the Truck

9AM, Opening Worship Service

Overall, 9AM-3PM

Mission District Convocation is a little over a week away, and we still need lots of help to make it happen!

How can I serve for the mission district convocation?

1. Attend. Just like local politics have big outcomes, so, too, do local, regional church events. We will have a new *regional* dean election, and then smaller local dean elections. (Our district will officially become a mission region at this convocation.) Though these dean positions are, on paper, purely administrative positions, they are closer, in practice, to functioning as local bishops. Just as this congregation saw during the removal of Pr. Hybl, a good dean matters greatly. (Another way to think about these sorts of things: they don't seem to matter *until they do*.) Lastly, Bishop Dan will be presenting at the convocation, and we will likely hear a state of the denomination talk.

2. Bring snacks! (savory and sweet). These will be for anyone to enjoy, especially during session breaks, in Heritage Hall. Let Caroline know or write your name on the snack signup sheet this Sunday.

3. Be a greeter or meal server. 8AM. 11:30AM - 1PM. Welcome folks as they show up. Help direct them around. Help serve as needed during meals. We expect around ~100 people. It may prove expedient to have a few "platers," to help plate food and speed up the line.

4. Setup or cleanup. 8AM or 3PM. We will need tables and chairs set up accordingly in Heritage Hall (breaks) and Luther Hall (lunch). We will also have a few tables set up in the narthex and Heritage Hall for displays/registration. We will need help with trash, cleanup, and re-arranging after the convocation.

5. Grill. 10AM-Noon. We will grill brats, burgers, and hot dogs. We will also need a food-runner, to bring hot food into Luther Hall.



6. Participate in the Stuff the Truck. Bring items, help pack, and/or come at 8AM to help load the truck. Details below.

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### **More This Week**

#### **Wednesday, October 8**

10:00 - 11:00am: Prayer Group  
11:00am - 2:30pm: ELCW Field Trip  
6:00 - 7:30pm: Troop 53155  
7:00 - 8:00pm: Steps and Stories

#### **Thursday, October 9**

7:00 - 9:00pm: Troop 208  
7:30 - 9:00pm: Al-Anon

#### **Friday, October 10**

5:30 - 9:00pm: Troop 16380  
6:00 - 8:00pm: Troop 19013

#### **Sunday, October 12**

9:00 - 10:00am: Sunday School  
10:15 - 11:15am: Worship Service  
11:15: Congregational Budget Meeting

#### **Monday, October 13**

9:00am - 5:00pm: Office Open  
11:00am - 12:00pm: Fellowship/Evangelism Committee Meeting  
1:00 - 2:00pm: Acts Bible Study  
6:30 - 7:30pm: Start the Week  
6:30 - 7:30pm: Acts Bible Study

#### **Tuesday, October 14**

9:00am - 5:00pm: Office Open  
9:00 - 10:00am: Bell Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 - 11:30am: Bell Choir Subset  
1:00 - 2:00pm: Stewardship Committee Meeting  
6:00 - 8:00pm: Champion Cheerleading  
7:00 - 8:00pm: Worship Meeting

#### **Wednesday, October 15**

8:00am - 12:00pm: Office Open  
11:30am - 1:30pm: Council Meeting  
6:00 - 7:30pm: Troop 53155  
7:00 - 8:00pm: Steps and Stories

[Click to View More](#)

### **Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries**

#### **Birthdays:**

10/9 Dan Hunter  
10/10 Linda Casper  
10/11 Chi Wee  
10/14 Gary Kral  
10/21 Homer Adams  
10/22 Keenan Seidling  
10/23 Ed Zinkan  
10/27 Bill Lavallee

#### **Anniversaries:**

10/10 Dana & Diana Hillman (55 Years)  
10/17 James & Lisa Pepka (33 Years)  
10/21 Dave & Mary Whipkey (58 Years)  
10/26 Ed & Susan Zinkan (51 years)

### **ELCW October Events**

See below for information on the ELCW's lunch and service project, happening today!



## **Emmanuel Lutheran Church Women**

**Wednesday Morning and Afternoon**

**October 8, 2025**

Field Trip

**11:00 AM Lunch at Dee Jay's Lounge**  
*(formerly The North Park Lounge)*

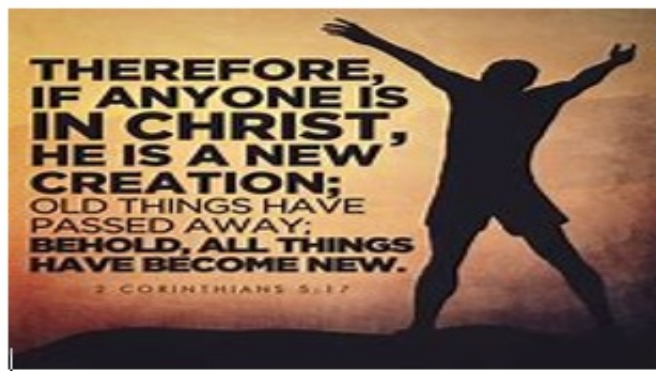
Blue Spruce Shoppes, Murrysville

**1:00 PM Service Project at the  
Rewind-Reuse Center  
and Workshop**

5853 Washington Ave Export, PA 15632

Please sign up on the Narthex bulletin board.

**Program Rep.: Danette Hunter**



**MID NORTHEAST MISSION DISTRICT CONVOCATION**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup>**

**At EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**5000 Old William Penn Highway, Export PA. 15632**

**8:15 REGISTRATION & STUFF THE TRUCK**

**9:00 Worship with Communion & Opening of the Convocation**

**The Event will go until 3:30 – Lunch will be included**

**Keynote Speaker will be Bishop Dan Selbo**

**Also please note we will be Electing a new Dean and will be setting up our new 6 Mission Districts in our Mission Region**

We will be collecting “**HEALTH KITS**” items to “Stuff the truck”

Please go to the NALC website ([thenalc.org](http://thenalc.org)) under the Disaster Response to download a list of the items for Health kits, **but all items are welcome**

Please register individually or by congregation with how many people plan to attend.

Cost will be \$10.00 per congregation (so bring anyone who is interested!)

Send your registration sign up sheet & payment to:

**Mission District Registration**

**C/O Connie Slope – 291 MacDonaldton Road –Berlin, PA 15530**

It is always a great day of sharing our blessings with each other, seeing old friends, making new friends and getting involved in your Mission District.

### **Stuff The Truck**

We will Stuff the Truck at our Mission District Convocation in just a few weeks. The big focus is "health care kits," but as always, we'll collect for buckets and bibles, too.

### **Cleaning Buckets**

- o 1 five-gallon bucket with lid
- o 1 jug bleach (1/2 gal. or smaller)
- o 2 large trash bags (Contractor 3 mil)
- o 1 roll paper towels
- o 2 rags
- o Comet or scouring cleanser
- o Pine Sol or liquid cleaner
- o scrub brush
- o gloves, 1 pair each, size L preferred
  - rubber (reusable, i.e. Platex, dishwashing type)
  - leather
  - cotton

## **Health Care Kit**

***(Pack in 2-gallon plastic storage bag or tote bag)***

- o 1 bath towel
- o 1 wash cloth (optional)
- o 1 shampoo (2 if travel size)
- o 1 bar of soap (2 if travel size)
- o 1 toothbrush (individually sealed)
- o 1 pack of floss (optional)
- o 1 toothpaste (2 if travel size)
- o 1 comb
- o 1 deodorant

## **Bibles**

***(We encourage you to write messages of hope in the front pages of donated Bibles)***

- o new or used (highlighted & underlined text is acceptable)
- o child, teen or adult
- o Bible stories for children
- o Spanish, or any language
- o large print
- o prayer books



# CAREGIVERS CAFE

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH.**

**RUMMEL CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

**3432 GRAHAM AVE. WINDBER, PA**

**1:00 PM | LIGHT LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS**

## **National Family Caregivers Month**

Caregivers give tirelessly - often putting others first while their own needs go unseen. This November 8<sup>th</sup>, we invite you to join us in an afternoon of recognition, gratitude and connection as we raise awareness to the unique challenges caregivers in our churches and community, face daily. Together, we can foster a stronger network of support to ensure our caregivers know they're not alone, and not forgotten.



- Extend a personal invitation and accompany them
- Offer to care for their loved one so they can attend
- Cover their \$10 registration fee

*Everyday, Caregivers give their time, energy & love to care for others - often at the expense of their own health & well-being. By sponsoring a caregiver, you're giving them a moment of rest, recognition and an opportunity to connect and share with others.*



Please register using the QR Code **OR** by contacting **Linda Goodwin** at **717-514-7825**

by **November 1<sup>st</sup>**

\$10/per person

**Payable to Rummel COB**

### Last Sunday's Service

[Click here to view the service.](#)

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### **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!

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Download the Bulletin



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