

'E'-Mail
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
First Sunday after Christmas

December 28, 2025

Serving the Community since September 1945

*"Welcoming all people, Emmanuel Lutheran Church and schools
love, teach, and serve through Christ."*

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December 2025

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SYNOD



Getting Through the Holiday Season

The holidays can feel especially complicated after disaster and loss. Traditions may not feel the same, and everyday reminders can stir up grief, worry, or exhaustion. This season, remember that there is no “right” way to get through it, only the way that works best for you

Ways to care for yourself this season:

- Set boundaries. It's okay to say yes to what feels supportive and no to what feels overwhelming.
- Focus on what matters. Traditions can be reshaped, skipped, or reinvented to fit your current needs.
- Allow a full range of emotions. Laughter, sadness, relief, and frustration can all exist side by side.
- Stay connected. Reach out to trusted friends, family, or support groups who understand what you've been through
- Make room for rest. Quiet time, mediation, prayer, or simply pausing can restore energy.
- Ask for help. Lean on community resources, neighbors, or professionals. You don't have to carry this alone.

However the season unfolds, give yourself grace. Healing doesn't follow a calendar, and taking small steps forward is more than enough.

You are not alone. Support is here:

- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: 24/7, call or text
- Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services: (424) 362-2935
- California Youth Crisis Line: 24/7, call or text (800) 843-5200
- Línea de Texto de Crisis: Envía un mensaje de texto con la palabra AYUDA al: 741741. También puedes utilizar WhatsApp enviando un mensaje al: 442-AYUDAME



POINSETTIAS

Remember, if you purchased poinsettias for the altar, you may pick-up yours after the 5:00 P.M. Christmas Eve service. Merry Christmas.



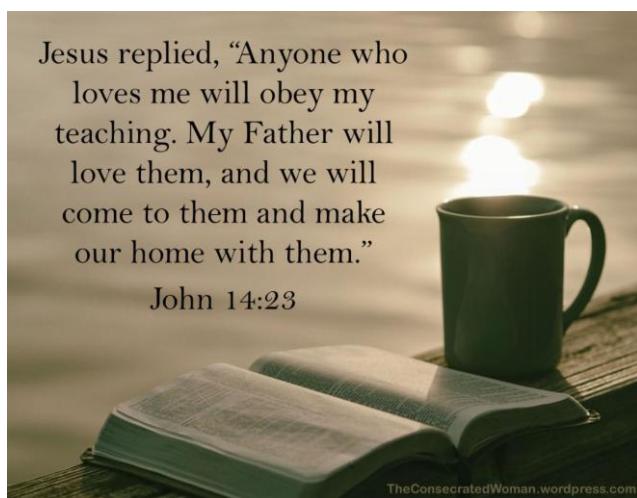
Download the [Prayer Ventures here](#) for December 2025. These petitions are offered as guides to prayer each day of the month for global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world.



Jesus' 12 Disciples—A New Adult Bible

Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them."

John 14:23



The Adult Bible Study Class is studying Jesus' disciple John. We look forward to learning more about the beloved Sunday mornings at 9 AM.

Thank you, Liz

Message
Pastor Rick Hall
Minister of Music
Mark Longfield
Organist
Andy Gladbach
Greeter
Catherine Menton
Communion Assistants
George Watson
Debby Semel
Diana Howison
George Watson
Darlene Michener
Lector
Liz Rickertsen
Usher
Terri Lau
Tom Reilly
Morgan Loy

Gaffer
Marshall Bowen
Sound
Ted Akin
Live Stream
Bob Akin

Sunday School classes for the new year will resume January 11, 2026.



Birthdays

- 25) Frank Gonzales
- 27) George Watson
- 28) Barbara Hitchcock
Alexander Hahle
Maxamus Hahle
- 29) Charlotte Purcell-McCain



Envelopes for 2026 are ready to be picked up in the Narthex. Please begin using them no earlier than January 2026 because your box of 2026 envelopes may be a different number than your box of 2025 envelopes. Also, please do not use 2025 envelopes after December 31, 2025. If you do not see your name and would like envelopes, please contact Diana Howison at diana.Howison@sbcglobal.net

As the 2025 calendar year comes to a close, please remember that all 2025 contributions need to be in the offering plate by Sunday, December 28, made through the online portal no later than December 31,

post-marked no later than December 31 for correct recording. Thank you for your faithful stewardship; this is how our ministry continues.



Prayer List ...

Nesbitt Blaisdell,
Bob Boehman
Mike Cosenza
Ruthanne Henderson
The Hodge Family
Rick Holt
Dick Krussow
Kimberly Laux
Samuel Lee
Lillie Lim
Leo Lujan
Jim & Karen Ohrt
Lumina Padron-Sanchez
Donna Stenberg
& family
Pam Sullivan
Denise Vanzago
Muriel Waugh

We pray for those newly added to the Prayer List....

Kimberly Laux
Mary Ann Manore

.Shut-ins:

Karen Bolleson;
Gloria Blackman;
Jim & Marie Crawford
Bill Hoffman;
Ernine Larson;
Bernadine Poulsen;
Mavien Ready;
Thorsen Family

...Mission Concerns:

ELC sponsored
missionaries around
the world;
California Lutheran University;
ELCA World Relief

... in Military

Service: Bryce Anderson;
Joshua Camarena
Aaron Carpenter;
Marc Gonsalves;
Curtis Haines;
Daniel Lukavsky;
David Lukavsky;
Tyler Stefansen
Austin Swanson;
Jeremy Stephens;
Keaton Wriedt

Prayer of the Day: O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FOOD ASKS OF THE SEASON



north
hollywood
interfaith
food
pantry

We need helping hands to pack more bags! We are asking people for an hour or two of their time to pack bags at Temple Beth Hillel. Check out some of the ways you can volunteer below. Then visit our website, NHIFP.org, go to the tab "Sign Up Genius" to help out!

Transportation Team transports the loaded grocery bags from the packing site at Temple Beth Hillel to the food distribution site at First Christian Church. Sign up to help out here: [North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Transport bags from Temple to new pantry and/or unload truck \(signupgenius.com\)](http://North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Transport bags from Temple to new pantry and/or unload truck (signupgenius.com))

Packing Team fills the bags and sorts them in the basement of Temple Beth Hillel. Sign up to help out here: [North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Pack Bags at the Temple OR at Distribution - CHECK LOCATION ADDRESS! \(signupgenius.com\)](http://North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Pack Bags at the Temple OR at Distribution - CHECK LOCATION ADDRESS! (signupgenius.com))

Sack Lunches Team makes sack lunches at home and delivers them to the First Christian Church. Sign up to help out here: [North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Provide sack lunches - make at home and deliver \(signupgenius.com\)](http://North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry: Provide sack lunches - make at home and deliver (signupgenius.com))

Please place your groceries in the food collection box in the narthex and they will be delivered to Temple Beth Hillel.

Got extra grocery bags? If you've got gently used paper or plastic bags taking up space in your pantry, we'd love to give them a second life! Drop off whatever you can spare at our distribution site—we'll put them to good use.

Other ways you can help us is by shopping from our Amazon Wish List



We always need cat and dog food (wet or dry).

Please donate cans of hearty soups and chili.



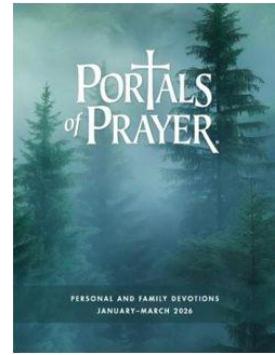
Drop off food donations at:

Our Distribution Site
- Mondays and Fridays
between 7:30AM-11:00
(11634 Moorpark St. -1/2
block east of Colfax)

Temple Beth Hillel (enter
off
Laurelgrove) Mondays-
Fridays, 4:00-5:00PM
please
donate cans of hearty
soups and chili.

Next Quarter Devotionals Available

Devotional booklets are available in the literature rack in the church narthex, **Portals of Prayer** and **Christ in our Home** each covering one quarter of 2026. **Spark** is available in limited number. In this magazine style devotional book **Spark**, there are activities and stories to lead everyone in the family through the season. Finally, **The Word in Season** is also available. Pick up any of these in the narthex today! Pick these up at no charge. They are our gift to help you.



[Give Now](#)



The link takes you directly to our giving page. If you have questions about any giving options, you may benefit from watching this tutorial on safely donating online: [Online Giving](#)

Please feel free to call the business office:
(818) 763-5434.

[SoCalSynod](#)

Visit the synod website to check out upcoming events.
Sign up to receive newsletters from the synod office.

[LSS](#)



See how [Lutheran Social Services](#) works and how you can make a donation. Your donations are essential. See a complete list of urgent local needs in this time of covid [here](#).

[Gather Bible Study](#)

for
Women of the ELCA at Emmanuel Lutheran

[Church Website](#)

For the Kids

+ [Download Children's pages](#) with stories, puzzles and quizzes based on the lessons for the week.
[Gospel page for 7+](#)
[Gospel pages 3-7](#)



YOUR COUNCIL
President: Tom Reilly
Vice President: Sue Clauss
Secretary: Liz Rickertsen
Treasurer: Robert Akin
Financial
Secretary: Diana Howison

Members at Large:

Marshall Bowen;
Aaron Kraft;
Michael Madolora
Angela Wiegand

There are several links in these online newsletters. Please let me know if any of them don't work for you. THANK YOU for your positive comments. I always welcome your input.

Sincerely,

Marty McCambridge

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
6020 Radford Avenue, North Hollywood, CA 91606
818-761-6124