



'E'-Mail
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

Serving the Community since September 1945

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

Bishop Bos Speaks on Advent



"Advent is the most honest season in the church year." This was said at a recent retreat with ELCA bishops and Vice Presidents of Region 2 (the southwest region of the ELCA). Your leaders spent a lot of time reflecting on the waiting, the impatience, the hope, the acknowledgment of our unsettled needs. Advent is the season where the church names its longings. Most of us agreed it is a powerful and authentic time.

The news of the past few weeks has been exceedingly painful, with stories of violence in wealthy families, at a Hanukkah celebration on an

Australian beach, in military and civilian casualties. We feel the strain of survival, self-protection, fear. How can we be people faithfully greeting the Savior when it is difficult to live with courage and hope? ([Read the rest of the article here.](#))

City of Angels Community Choir Sunday, December 21, 5pm

A festive poster for the City of Angels Community Choir's holiday concert. The background features a snowy night scene with houses and trees. The text is as follows:

CITY OF ANGELS COMMUNITY CHOIRS
...discovering the inner artist

'Tis the SEASON

Featuring:
City of Angels Master Chorale
City of Angels Children's Chorus
Sunday, December 21st 5pm

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
6020 Radford Ave.,
North Hollywood

FREE TO
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN PARISHIONERS!!!!
Mention ELC at the ticket table
(Donations Appreciated)
www.coacc.net/holiday-concert
818-437-5854 coaccmusic@aol.com

If you are looking for a family Christmas Concert with seasonal singing and familiar carols, then look no further, the City of Angels Community Choirs is the perfect concert for you and your family. Sunday, December 21 at 5pm, the Adult Master Chorale and Children's Chorus will be filling our Emmanuel sanctuary with beautiful Christmas music. The concert costs \$25 for Adults and \$10 for Children, but for Emmanuel Lutheran parishioners it is **FREE!** Just mention Emmanuel at the ticket table to get in.

POINSETTIAS

A limited number of poinsettias have been purchased to beautify the Sanctuary for Christmas. Please contact Karen Ohrt at 818-618-9825 to purchase a plant, the cost is \$17.00 each. Donations are also welcome to help cover the cost of the Poinsettias.

You may pick-up your purchased poinsettia after the Christmas Eve service which is at 5:00 pm. Merry Christmas.



Celebrate Christmas with neighbors and friends at Emmanuel. Wednesday, December 24, 5:00 – 6:00 P.M

Christmas Eve Family Celebration includes: A Living Nativity, Carols, Candles, and our adult and children's choir.

Following service, we will have fellowship with coffee, hot chocolate, carols, and Christmas cookies on the patio. Wednesday, December 24, 5:00 – 6:00 P.M. All are welcome, come as you are, invite a friend!

Christmas Craft



Click on the picture above to download coloring pages. Once you color all the pages, you can cut them up and you will have an advent puzzle of the Christmas story.

Church
OFFICE CLOSED

December 22 – January 2

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



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

The last Sunday School for the year will take place December 21. Classes will resume January 11, 2026..



Message

Pastor Rick Hall

Minister of Music

Mark Longfield

Organist

Andy Gladbach

Greeter

Darlene Michener

Communion

Assistants

Mark Longfield

Tom Reilly

George Watson

CaroleJean Willis

Diana Howison

Lector

Kimberly Laux

Usher

Jeannie Wilson

Barbara Piecka

Gaffer

Barbara Ericson

Sound

Stephen Howison

Live Stream

Jessie Tobey

Sound

Stephen Howison

Live Stream

Jessie Tobey

Birthdays

20) Karis Loy

21) Judy Marsh

22) William Schilling

Heather Thorsen

Denise Vanzago

23) Mary Tuizer

Each of you should give
what you have decided
in your heart to give,
not reluctantly
or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7

DailyVerses.net



Sharing Our Abundant Blessings

At this time of year, we are counting our blessings, and at the top of that list is you - the people of Emmanuel Lutheran Church and Schools. Without you and your generous financial support, we simply couldn't make a significant impact on the lives of those we serve. Thank you!

As we enter the giving season, we ask you to continue to give abundantly by making a year-end gift to continue our ELC and school communities. There are many ways to help support ELC, Laurel Hall School, and Laurel Hall Preschool -

- Attend one or all the upcoming services or seasonal events. Your offerings support our ministries.
- Gifts of cash can be placed in the offering plates or mailed to the church.
- Donations may be made online at elcnoho.org. When the page loads, click on the "Give to Emmanuel" button in the upper right corner of the page.
- Thrivent Choice Dollars can be directed to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Laurel Hall School, and Laurel Hall Preschool.
- Gifts of appreciated stock may be transferred at any time. Please call the Business Office for more details.
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD), sometimes called an IRA Charitable Rollover, enables a donor to give up to \$108,000 from a traditional IRA or a Roth IRA each year directly to ELC or the schools. The distribution counts toward the IRA owner's required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year and will not be included in the owner's adjusted gross income for the year. This is a great way for you to avoid paying taxes on your RMD, while supporting ministries you care about.

*Blessings,
Diana Howison
ELC Financial Secretary*

Give an ELCA Good Gift

Searching for the perfect Christmas gift? [Shop ELCA Good Gifts](#) and choose from more than 60 gift-giving options (piglets, anyone?), each with the ability to make real, lasting change in the life of someone in need.



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.

Confirmation Classes

This year we are partnering with other churches in the Twin Valley Conference to teach Confirmation classes. Classes are held on Sunday afternoons from 1:30-3:30pm at differing locations and churches throughout the Conference. Classes will only be once a month and will run until May.



If you are in the 6-8th grade and want to attend or if you are the parent of a middle schooler who wants their kiddo to attend, please contact Pastor Rick at: rhall@elcnoho.org; or call the church 818-761-6124; or catch him on Sunday. It should be an exciting year of learning as we will focus on: **What does it mean to be Lutheran?**



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

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

Kimberly Laux
Mary Ann Manore

.Shut-ins:

Karen Bollesen;
Gloria Blackman;
Jim & Marie Crawford
Bill Hoffman;
Ernine Larson;
Bernadine Poulsen;

...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;

Donna Stenberg
& family
Pam Sullivan
Denise Vanzago
Muriel Waugh

Mavien Ready;
Thorsen Family

David Lukavsky;
Tyler Stefansen
Austin Swanson;
Jeremy Stephens;
Keaton Wriedt

Prayer of the Day: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Christmas Gifts!

NEW SWAG FOR SALE

TODDLER T-SHIRTS \$20
TODDLER HOODIE- \$25
ADULT T-SHIRTS \$25
ADULT HOODIE- \$35
TOTES- \$15
PATCHES (SET OF 3) -\$10

LAST YEARS
INVENTORY
ON SALE!

ORDER NOW

LHPPTO.swagsales@gmail.com

**CASH/CHECK PAYMENTS
ACCEPTED AT CHRISTMAS SING**

VISIT OUR INSTAGRAM FOR MORE INFO @laurelhallpreschoolpto



FOOD ASKS OF THE MONTH



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://NorthHollywoodInterfaithFoodPantry:TransportbagsfromTempletonewpantryand/orunloadtruck(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://NorthHollywoodInterfaithFoodPantry:PackBagsattheTempleORatDistribution-CHECKLOCATIONADDRESS!(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://NorthHollywoodInterfaithFoodPantry:Providesacklunches-makeathomeanddeliver(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.



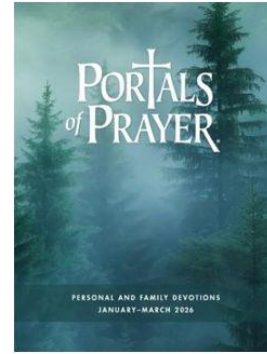
Drop off food donations at:

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 2025. ***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.



Southwest
California Synod
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA

[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](#).

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

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](#)

[Gather Bible Study](#)

for
Women of the ELCA at
Emmanuel Lutheran

[Church Website](#)

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