



Emanuel Lutheran Church

April 2016

9 New London Avenue
West Warwick, RI 02893
401-821-8888

Pastor Todd Stange

Celebrating Our 130th Year

Our Purpose Statement: Emanuel – Boldly joining God in sharing our gifts and love.

***Listening for God
through prayer,
scripture and discussion***

***Following Christ's
example***

***Generously sharing
God's grace***

***Passion – having it,
using it!***

Being organized

***Following through –
walking the walk***

What are You Reading?

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last month marked the end of "The Lutheran" magazine. It didn't go out of business, but the editor of many years retired and the magazine has been reimagined and is now called "Living Lutheran". The inaugural issue looks different, but seems to have the same basic content, which for this long time reader is just fine.

This magazine change, and the ongoing presidential primaries, got me thinking about a question news person Katie Couric posed to vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin back in 2007. "...when it comes to establishing your world view... what newspapers and magazines [do] you regularly read?" Palin famously hemmed and hawed, but never named any specific publications, even after being asked repeatedly. It was never clear whether she was intentionally side-stepping the question, or if she just didn't read any magazines or newspapers. The media ended up having a field day with the exchange, Saturday Night Live did a skit on it, and some say it was the beginning of the end of the McCain/Palin ticket.

In this edition:

- Message from Pastor Stange
- April Calendar
- Upcoming Events
- And much more!

Deadline for the May newsletter is Apr. 20th .

Notices can be left in the office, emailed to: emanuelwnews@gmail.com or leave a message at: (860)-208-0762
Thank you! -Mike Gadoury

This incident made me think about what I was reading, what things were shaping my world view. At the time it was Newsweek, which I had been receiving since I was in kindergarten. My father subscribed to the magazine in my name, so we could get the student rate. He's a frugal man. The other publication I read back in 2007 was The Lutheran. Now, eight years later – Newsweek magazine is no more and The Lutheran is gone too. Time does not stand still.

Now a days I'm reading Living Lutheran, the New York Times web site, and more and more often items people post on Facebook. I also read the occasional book. Currently I'm reading "Americanah" by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. These are the things (along with a steady diet of Public Radio and various television programs) that shape my world view.

For the most part my information diet tends to be liberal-left-leaning to middle-of-the-road. To get a different perspective I really should listen to Rush Limbaugh or Fox News once in a while. This would give me a little more balance. It might challenge some of my biases and prod me to think deeper about what's going on in the world. All of which are good things.

One source of information that I regularly read that challenges my biases and continually provokes me to think deeper – is the Bible. It may have been written a long time ago, but it's still a challenging book. "Go sell everything you have and give it to the poor..." Jesus says. Along with "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." These are challenging words in any generation.

What makes the Bible a great publication is that in addition to challenging us, it also affirms us. Martin Luther called this Law & Gospel. The "Law" is what God commands us to do. "Go sell everything you have and give it to the poor..." "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." The "Law" can be challenging. However, God doesn't give us these commands to punish us. Like a loving parent, who tells their children to look both ways before crossing the road and to study hard, God tells us to do these things to protect us and guide us into a fulfilling, abundant life.

"Gospel" is a Greek word that means "good news". The "Law" is what we are supposed to do. The "Gospel", on the other hand, is what God does for us. In the Bible the gospel is often woven right together with the law. It may be hard for us to sell everything we have and give it to the poor. It may be hard for us to love our enemies. But the good news (the Gospel) is that even when we fail at the "Law", God still loves us. In fact, it's while we were still sinners that God came into the world, dwelt among us, and gave his life – so we would know that God's love for us is bigger and stronger than even death.

The Bible challenges us and also affirms us. It affirms that we are children of God, loved and valued, and with God invited to change this world.

What are you reading? What's shaping your view of the world?

Pastor Todd Stange
pastor@emanuelww.org



This Easter, we were invited to place flowers on the cross in the front of the sanctuary, transforming it!

Children enjoying each other's company and some quiet time between the Easter services.





Early in March, the God Squad gathered to help clear brush and fallen tree limbs in the back yard of Nancy Johnson (Disa & Eric Johnson's mom). Thank you to all who helped out with this otherwise overwhelming task!

Do you or someone you know drink Ensure?

We have a bunch of Ensure and we are looking for a good home for it.

**Please contact Pastor Todd if you know of someone who could put this Ensure to good use.
Thank you.**





GENERATING GENEROUS GIVING

April 23 – Pilgrim Lutheran Church, Warwick, R.I. – register by Friday, April 15

What is 3G? : Wherever you are on the journey of generating generous giving in your congregation, these workshops will help you take the next steps forward. We're hoping this event will encourage small groups from multiple congregations to spend the day talking and thinking together about generosity.

The event includes:

Giving 101: The First Steps: Ask, Thank, Tell - Bishop James Hazelwood;
Giving 201: The Road Less Traveled: Steps That Make All the Difference - Rev. Renée LiaBraaten, Associate to the Bishop for Generosity

"Creating Generations of Generosity": Exploring the unique sensitivities and behavioral trends of the various generations sitting in our pews (or not!), and some opportunities that the Internet and technology provide for inspiring generosity from generation to generation.

"Traveling Tips for the Journey": A time for sharing some "Best Practices" or "Things that have worked for us!"

We are asking for a nominal contribution of \$5 per person to defray the cost of the lunch that will be served; payment by cash or check may be made the day of the event. Please RSVP with the names of your group members to **Martha Whyte** at mwhyte@nesynod.org, no later than one week prior to the event you plan to attend, so we have an accurate head count for food service and materials.

Are you interested in going to the 3G even?

If so, let Pastor Todd know by April 14th – we want to get a preliminary registration in early. Thank you.



Emanuel's Annual Smörgåsbord

**Saturday April 30th
5 to 7pm**

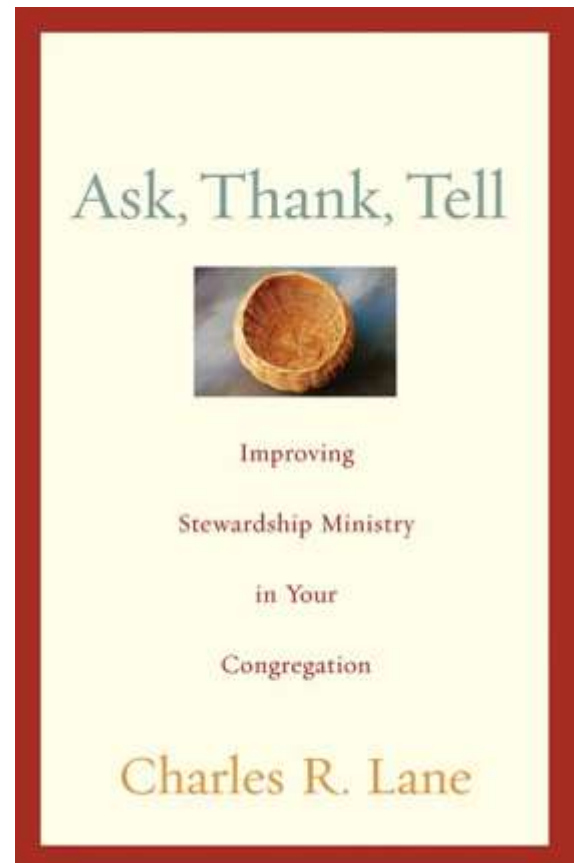
Continuous Serving

Mustard Seed Team 2016

**Next Meeting
June 16th
6:30 pm in Jacobs' Hall**

**If you are interested in reading the
"Ask, Thank, Tell" book with the
group (or by yourself), please let
Glenn Johnson or Pr. Todd know.**

Thank you.



POSTING AN ANNOUNCEMENT

For the weekly reminder (Emanuel Herald) sent out on Mon. or Tue. All submissions must be received in the church office (preferably by e-mail) no later than Sunday morning. Postings for the printed weekly announcement sheet must be received by the previous Sunday. Churchoffice@EmanuelWW.org

For the newsletter: Please send items to Mike Gadoury no later than the 20th of each month. Email to: EmanuelWWNews@gmail.com or call 860-208-0762.

Ping Pong Tournament at Emanuel



18 players competed this past weekend for the title of ping pong champion. \$325 was raised to support Emanuel's food pantry and fun was had by all.

Thank you to Thrivent Financial for financially supporting the tournament. Thank you to Lehoulliers, Trudells and Wolffs for the use of their ping pong tables. Thank you to Myron for hosting the snack shack. Thank you to Ken and many others for helping to transform the fellowship hall into a ping pong paradise.



3rd Prize = Ryan Silverman
2nd Prize – Jeff Lehoullier
1st Prize – Pastor Todd

Help Wanted with Coffee Hour

We're looking for people who would be willing to help setup and host coffee hour.



No experience needed.
There are people who will show you where things are and how to make coffee.

If you're willing to help, please let Pastor Todd or Carolyn Duprey know.
Thank you.



FOOD PANTRY

Did you know?

Anyone from Emanuel can get food from our food pantry –
on Sunday mornings or Tuesdays 10am to 12pm

Speak with Pr. Todd or Myron Gadoury
for assistance.

We are looking for a few volunteers who are willing to work in the church office when our office administrator is on vacation or sick.

If you might be able to help in the office, please let Pastor Todd know –
(401) 821-8888 or
pastor@emanuelww.org.
Thank you.

Help us Ask, Thank & Tell

3 Teams are being formed to help us use and celebrate the gifts God has given us.



Ask Team

Inviting (asking) people to use their time, talents and treasures in ways that make God's love known.

Thank Team

Thanking people for the different ways they use their time, talents and treasures to share God's love.

Tell Team

Telling the congregation and wider world about how God has blessed the people of Emanuel with time, talents and treasure and how they are putting them to good use.

Please consider helping out on one of these teams.

Sign-up sheet on Emanuel's bulletin board.

Thank you.



Senior Live Laugh & Learn

The next luncheon will be held:
Wednesday, April 13, 2016
12:15 PM to 2:00

**Olive Garden
31 Universal Blvd.
Warwick, RI**

Please sign the sign-up sheet in the narthex if you plan to attend.

Estimated cost \$10 - \$20

For last minute decision, call Helen Maine at
Home: 401-397-3566 Cell: 401-464-1011
Email: helenmaine@gmail.com

Readers of Emanuel



**Sunday April 10th at 12pm
in Jacobs' Hall**

April's book is *Do You Believe*
a novel by Travis Thrasher.

From the creators of the blockbuster film God's Not Dead comes a novel based on their follow-up film Do You Believe?—an inspiring, heart-stirring, and faith-affirming story about how God works in the lives of those who believe.

When Pastor Matthew Wesley encounters a homeless man on a city street in the middle of the night, he can't imagine the series of life-changing events that will result from that brief moment. But as the stories and desperate circumstances of several people—including a couple struggling to make ends meet, a soldier trying to rejoin society, a pregnant and home-

less teenager, and an elderly couple still grieving the loss of their only child—intertwine and come together during one climactic night, they all must work together to overcome their struggles before all is lost.

Evocative and moving, this sweeping narrative challenges you to confront the question: Do you really believe in the power of the cross, and if so, what are you going to do about it?

**Everyone is welcome whether you have read the book or not.
Come enjoy the food and fellowship.**

Joyful Noise Calendar Raffle

Joyful Noise is selling calendar raffle tickets to support the center.

Tickets are \$5

Every day in month of May there will be a
drawing for a different prize.



Please see Pastor Todd or Joyful Noise
to purchase tickets.
Thank you.

Emanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Agenda and Minutes February 11, 2016

Present: Pastor Todd, Gwen Andersen, Pam Beck, Sharon Brown, Carolyn Duprey, Myron Gadoury, Beth Groleau, Bruce Johnson, Disa Johnson, Glenn Johnson, Helen Maine, Lee Jacobs Lois May, Walter Phaneuf, Kathy Plante, Donna Sennett, Margaret Teehan, and Ken Wieboldt.

Absent: No one

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

This is the organizational meeting for the newly elected Congregational Council.

The meeting opened at 7:03 p.m.

1. Opening Devotions The calling of Abram
 - a. Each of us has heard and answered a call, at least to spend another year on the congregational council. We shared our reasons for coming this year with the person(s) sitting beside us.
 - b. Pastor talked about Abram's challenges (he and his wife getting new names, having a new son born in their old age, and then thinking that he would have to kill his son as a sacrifice to God, etc.
 - c. Pastor Todd said that as we learn to work together, learn to listen to each other and understand more about each other, that we will also face challenges.
 - d. Prayer
2. Elections of Council Officers.
 - a. President: Ken Wieboldt, nominated, seconded, and approved
 - b. Vice President: Kathy Plante declined the nomination; Margaret Teehan accepted and was elected.
 - c. Secretary: Beth Groleau was elected.
3. Progress on applying for Pastor Todd's sabbatical
 - a. Pastor has met with the team who offered to work with him, and they have decided to work through the application process and see whether they are ready to meet this year's deadline for applying or whether they need to apply next year. Pastor Todd needs to define what he wants to do on the sabbatical.
4. Minutes for January were accepted and approved as read.
5. Budget/Treasurer's Report: No unpaid bills and no outstanding obligations. Acceptance moved, seconded and approved
6. The book the Council will read this year has arrived: *Real Good Church* by Rev. Molly

Phinney Baskette; Pastor Todd introduced the book. He told us that it has lots of good ideas, but not every one of them is applicable to us at Emanuel.

- a. For March, read the preface.
- b. We can each pay for our copies, if we choose. Cost is \$18. Please make our checks out to Emanuel and put them in the offering plate, marked as "Council textbook reimbursement."

7. Annual Meeting discussion

- a. Council liked the way it went; thanked those who wrote Thrivent Action Teams to cover expenses for the lunch and the I-pad.
- b. Checked the Annual Meeting Minutes and accepted them as corrected by the addition of the names of the Council Members who were later. Members will let Beth know if they notice anything else that needs to be edited.

8. Welcome new members

9. Property

- a. Renovating the bathroom off the narthex. It will be open for use next Sunday, even though it will not be finished.
- b. Myron is looking to replace the light fixtures in the narthex with cost effective bulbs.
- c. Property Committee is looking into painting sanctuary walls this year.
- d. Walter and Myron will be visiting churches which had bell repairs like the one proposed for Emanuel to learn more about what we might be able to do.

10. 130th Anniversary Celebration

- a. Gwen reported progress.
- b. Donna noticed that the postcard did not mention a price for the tickets.
- c. Myron suggested that we print tickets. Not having tickets is the reason some people have not bought them. Glenn suggested that we get Thrivent Action Teams for the second mailing, and for other tasks that need to be done.
- d. 4 out of 5 or 6 members of the committee have been attending the meetings and working on the tasks. We need a lot more help.
- e. Suggest committee make a list of What Needs to Be Done to communicate to Council Members (send to Council and consider for wider distribution in the Herald or newsletter). **Please let Council and others know about meeting dates, times and locations.** *After the meeting Sharon Brown told Beth that she would try to help.*

11. Disa asked us to set a Council retreat date now.



- a. Time frame April –May at Camp Canonicus **What about May 6th and 7th? Council members, please let Beth know about your availability.**

12. Decorations for the Ash Wednesday service were beautiful and set the tone for the season! Thank you, Sue Wieboldt! Beth posted pictures on Facebook.

13. Roger LeBeau is home, but can't count in March as scheduled. Glenn has recruited people to fill in. **We need a lead counter for March 6 with Cheryl Ray.** On Easter Disa will work with Ken.
14. The Mustard Seed's leadership really made a difference in our Stewardship campaign this fall and helped to meet budget and other goals for participation at the Annual meeting.
 - a. The group's next meeting is on Tuesday, March 1 from 7-8:15 in Jacobs Hall. Council is invited.
15. Pastor announced a stewardship event from the New England Synod on April 23 at Pilgrim Lutheran Church. He needs to send in a list of people attending at least a week in an advance. We hope some people from Emanuel will attend. Here is a link for more information: <http://www.nesynod.org/events/3g-generating-generous-giving>
 - a. Look for the article on Generating Generous Giving.
 - b. Also read the other very interesting articles!
 - c. **They are asking participants for a contribution of \$5 to help defray the cost of the lunch that is provided.**
16. Myron raised the issue of moving to solar energy. The company will install solar energy and maintain and repair it for free, they would own it, but give us a break on our energy bills.
17. Myron asked us to think about storing our history documents at the Preservation Society in Crompton. Suggestion was made to give the anniversary committee the opportunity to go through them before that happens, and then do it after some things are documented for our archives.
18. Genealogy class on February 21 in Jacobs Hall. See the newsletter or the Herald for details.
19. Thanks to Myron for work around the church. He takes care of our property so well!
20. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:28.



April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday A.M. Schedule: 8:00 Service of Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School, Choir 10:30 Service of Holy Communion					1	2 PING PONG TOURNAMENT 9AM-4PM 
3	4 7pm ALANON	5 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm Bazaar Workshop	6	7 Committee Night 7pm	8	9
10	11 7pm ALANON	12 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm Bazaar Workshop 7pm Confirmation	13	14 7pm Council Meeting	15	16
17 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL Private Party (FH) 1pm	18 7pm ALANON	19 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm Bazaar Workshop	20	21	22	23 3G Stewardship workshop 9AM
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">SCHOOL VACATION WEEK</div>						
24	25 7pm ALANON	26 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm Bazaar Workshop 7pm Confirmation Mentor Night	27	28	29  Joyful Noise Fundraiser (FH)	30 