



# Emanuel Lutheran Church

May 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***

## **Are You an Evangelical?**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I heard an interview with Russell Moore recently. He's a leader in the Southern Baptist Convention and for years gave interviews giving the news media the "evangelical" perspective on a wide variety of issues. What caught my attention in this most recent interview was that Moore said he no longer refers to himself as an "evangelical". The term has become "confused," he said. More and more people today are identifying themselves as evangelicals regardless of their beliefs about Jesus or the Bible.

During the last century the term "evangelical" came to be associated with Christians who emphasized the infallibility of the Bible, a personal conversion experience, and the end-times – including belief in the rapture\*. But in more recent times, the term "evangelical" has come to mean simply – any conservative Christian. This obscuring of the definition has Moore distancing himself from the term, but the word "evangelical" has an even longer history and originally was associated with a different meaning.

The word "evangelical" comes from the biblical Greek word εὐαγγέλιον, which means roughly "messenger of good news". The word "angel" also comes from this same root. So, an evangelical is a messenger of good news. Does this describe you – a messenger of good news?

Traditionally for Christians this good news has center around what was revealed about God in Jesus. Namely that God loves us, claims us as God's children and is willing to go to extreme lengths so we might know this love forever. This is the good news revealed in the New Testament. Individually, however, we may experience the good news of God in many different ways: in a glimmer of hope in the midst of depression, in a helping hand when we need it the most, in knowing that we are not alone while sitting with a loved one that's dying. When we share these moments of hope, grace and love with others, we are being evangelical.

## **In this edition:**

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

**Deadline for the June newsletter is May 20th .**

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

Lutherans have a long history of being evangelical. In fact, before Martin Luther and his followers got stuck with the label "Lutherans" they referred to themselves as the "Evangelicals". They saw themselves as messengers of the good news Luther had rediscovered in the Bible – that we are saved *not* by appeasing an angry God by doing more and more good works, but we are saved by God's grace – simply because God loves us and chooses to forgive our sins. In this we are set free to love one another and to share this great news.

In many ways we are called to be evangelicals. The national church we belong to is the ***Evangelical*** Lutheran Church of America. Emanuel's official name, as listed in our constitution, is Emanuel ***Evangelical*** Lutheran Church. And Jesus even calls us to be evangelical.

Jesus gave his disciples, including us, what is referred to as the great commission. He told them to go out and baptize every nation in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). He told them to go out and share the good news. People often think the purpose of this evangelism is to expand God's kingdom, but equally important, I believe, is the benefit sharing the gospel has on the messenger. When we share a story of God's grace, love and forgiveness – we get to relive that experience – and get to experience God's grace, love and forgiveness all over again.

So, let us reclaim this word "evangelical". Let us share with others our experience of the good news – in theological terms, in the stories we tell, and most importantly in the lives we live.

Pastor Todd Stange  
[pastor@emanuelww.org](mailto:pastor@emanuelww.org)

\*The rapture refers to the idea that Jesus will come again and whisk believers up to heaven before the great tribulation and years before he comes finally at the end of time. The idea of the rapture is a relatively new concept. John Nelson Darby first proposed it in the 1830's as part of his dispensationalism theology, which was a departure from the traditional belief that Jesus will come again just once at the end of time "to judge the quick and the dead." The rapture and dispensationalism have been popularized in recent times in The Left Behind book series.



**Emanuel's 2016 Council**

**Margaret Teehan, Beth Groleau, Donna Sennett, Bruce Johnson,  
Gwen Anderson, Myron Gadoury, Pamela Beck, Walter Phaneuf,  
Sharon Brown, Pastor Todd Stange**

**Missing: Carolyn Duprey, Lee Jacobs, Glenn Johnson, Disa Johnson,  
Helen Maine, Lois May, Kathy Plante, Ken Wieboldt**

## **Wear Your **RED** on Pentecost**



**Pentecost Sunday May 15, 2016**



### **Emanuel Camperships**

If you know a child 8 years old to 16 years old, we'd like to help send them for a week of camp. The Wallace Anderson & John Carlson Campership funds are being given away now for Camp Calumet.

Camp Calumet is in West Ossipee, New Hampshire and sits on beautiful Lake Ossipee. For over 50 years people have been making friends, getting closer to God, and having fun at Calumet.

[www.calumet.org](http://www.calumet.org)

For more information speak with Pastor Todd  
[pastor@emanuelww.org](mailto:pastor@emanuelww.org) (401) 821-8888





# Emanuel's Annual Smörgåsbord

**Many thanks to all who baked, cooked, worked, donated, or came to the Smorgasbord on April 30th.**

The final count from the dinner and raffle was **\$1242.00!**

This year a grant from Thrivent Financial made it possible to invite guests from our food pantry ministry and the surrounding neighborhood to come and have a complimentary Smorgasbord dinner.

**Thank you one and all!**



## 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](mailto: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](mailto:EmanuelWWNews@gmail.com) or call 860-208-0762.

## 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.

Emanuel's Food Cupboard has been supporting about 16 persons and their family's. Today we had 8 new persons join in.



**FOOD PANTRY**

Each person gets about \$15.00 worth of food each week. Our donations have not been meeting the demand and we might have to lessen our distribution days if we cannot correct this shortly.

We are looking to get some consistency in our donations so we can plan and distribute food each week as we have been. If everyone could just bring one or two items **each** Sunday it would allow us to keep up with demand.

A box in the coat closet (Pennies for Pantry) has a slot on top for any monetary donations you wish to make or you can also ear mark any monetary donation in your Church envelope labeled Food Pantry and place in offering plate.

If anyone could write a Thrivent Grant at this time it would be very much appreciated to help us get through the upcoming summer months which are the leanest.

Thank you for all your support in the past and in the future. The food cupboard provides about \$10,000.00 a year in food to the needy which everyone at Emanuel should be proud of.

Myron Gadoury  
Sandra Malouin

# 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.**

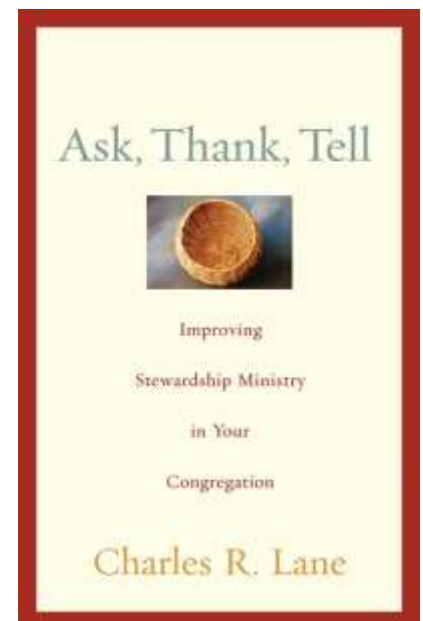
**Thank you.**

## **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.**





# Readers of Emanuel

## Readers of Emanuel

*We are planning something different this time.*



Book Club Book:

Date May 15, 2016 – book discussion & lunch

Book Title: **Miracles From Heaven** By:  
Christy Wilson Beam  
Place: Jacobs Hall

All are welcome

## Senior Live Laugh & Learn

Each month the Live, Laugh & Learn group enjoys lunch together.  
In April the group met at Olive Garden.



Here is Mabel Lewis  
and Ruth Jarrell  
enjoying dessert  
together.





## TEEN CHALLENGE OF RHODE ISLAND

Once again Teen Challenge Rhode Island Chapter will be coming to my house to plant a 12,000 sq ft garden to provide vegetables for their table. All seeds , Plants, and implements are provided by my family and a Thrivent Action Grant.

We will be tilling the ground and making raised beds for planting on Wednesday May 18<sup>th</sup>. We will work all day until dusk at which time we will have a hot dog roast around the campfire. Teen Challenge will come once a week or as needed through out the growing season and learn to garden, preserve, and prepare the foods they grow. All are welcome to come and help work with these young women, witness to their stories of hardship and create some fun fellowship in their lives. Many of these girls from all over have never cooked a hotdog over an open fire. The deilight in their faces and the many questions they have about vegetable gardening shows their interst. I know most are working but feel free to come after work and join us at least for the Hot Dog roast.

As Rhode Islanders let me assure you where I live is not on the other side of the planet. I am on the Coventry line about 30 minutes from Church. LOL

Myron and Diane Gadoury  
53 Gibson Lane  
Sterling CT  
860-465-7347



# Emanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Agenda and Minutes April 14, 2016

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

Absent: Carolyn Duprey (surgery), Lee Jacobs (away), Margaret Teehan (sick)

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

## I. Opening Devotions based on book discussion

Todd

### a. Positive signs

- i. New Bathroom decorations
- ii. Confirmation pictures in fellowship hall
- iii. Food Pantry
- iv. Mural in sanctuary
- v. Mission Statement
- vi. Music --- variety and quality
- vii. Joyful Noise --- and the signs that direct people to the entrance
- viii. Stained glass window at front behind the altar (When lit, it can be seen from the streets below the church.)
- ix. The walk way up from New London Avenue is inviting (Also see iii. Under "negative signs" below.)
- x. Sharing the peace
- xi. Positive announcements with celebrations
- xii. Music

### b. Negative signs

- i. Floors in Jacobs Hall and in the fellowship hall
- ii. Music – There is no postlude.
- iii. Gates near parking lot and at entrance on New London Avenue look broken and uninviting
- iv. Parking lot; looks bad and is hard to negotiate in the dark
- v. When lights are out or too dim... (we also know that Property Committee works on that all the time)
- vi. Lack of children in church
- vii. Furniture in Jacobs Hall is uncomfortable and some broken; is not attractive
- viii. Front landscape on New London Avenue
- ix. Shortcomings in communication --- This affects many programs and procedures at Emanuel and causes misunderstandings, confusion, and negative reactions to changes. Clear communications before changes are made will probably reduce resistance to some changes and will help people to welcome other

new proposals and plans.

- II. Book Discussion continued:

  - Could we get someone (or more than one person) who has not been here before to come in and find their way and try to negotiate the worship service?
  - Talk about these things at the Council Retreat at Camp Canonicus in May.

III. Review, approve March minutes Accepted as presented.

IV. Review, approve March budget Accepted as presented

  - Beth will send out Carol's report in the future when she receives it from Carol.
  - Council members are asked to review it carefully before they come to the meeting.

V. Discuss heating system repair costs Glenn

  - We have spent about \$3600 on heating repairs when we have new boilers since 2012, almost as much as we pay for the gas. New boilers are high efficiency to lower carbon emissions to the atmosphere. We have a maintenance contract on them. Myron explained what the property committee has done. Big expense was that a blower blew. Since they are new, we cannot predict what will happen and require maintenance. A couple of times, Joyful called for service because they had no hot water, but it turned out that Joyful hadn't run the water long enough. Are there "instant hot water systems" that we could put in at each sink? That would cost a lot more.
  - We do need to be aware of the problem because it is affecting the budget.

VI. Offering Counter Instruction Sheet Glenn

Bob Maine updated the sheet. **We also need more counters. Let Glenn Johnson know if we can help.** Change name to "Counters Job Instructions." That way it is easier to update and doesn't need to be part of the Constitution or Bylaws.

VII. New church directory Myron

  - At no cost to the church, we can get free hard copies, and either a PDF or an app. Appointments for family photos are on September 15,16,17 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday).

VIII. 130<sup>th</sup> update Gwen

Have a new venue. Pam drafted a letter and sent it to Council to make us aware of the decision the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee will make tomorrow night about sending that letter to the West Valley Inn. We cancelled with the West Valley Inn because it is up for sale, and we were concerned that they will close by September, and Emanuel will be left without facilities for the Anniversary Banquet.

The new place is the Meadowbrook Inn.

The Committee will meet tomorrow night. Council is welcome to join.

IX. NES News

Beth

- a. Do all Council members receive this e-mail with news from the Synod about Synodical programs? (Beth, Disa, Pastor Todd, Pam and Glenn do.) Some of us get it because we are involved with the Synod in some way. Others can subscribe, by following directions that are in the letter. **Beth** will forward the current newsletter to the Council.

X. Council retreat

- a. Cost \$75: If you can't afford it, please let Pastor Todd or Ken know, and we can subsidize you.
- b. We are on our own for dinner, but breakfast and lunch on Saturday are included.
- c. Talk about what we want to get done. Make suggestions to Pastor and Ken as we have ideas.
- d. Focus on a few things.
- e. Bring games to play
- f. Plan is to use Friday night as the business meeting and Saturday for planning
- g. Council meeting should send Pastor and Ken ideas of one item we each want to be discussed.
  - i. Include spiritual focus
  - ii. Team-building
  - iii. Maybe do team-building to focus on solving one of the problems we want to solve.

XI. Others

- a. Worship
- b. People were complaining that announcements were too long after the service. Worship Committee discussed possible alternatives, including an insert in the bulletin. Some people wanted to be in the flow of the worship and leave the end of the service in a spiritual focus.
- c. Committee should continue the experiment and make the decision with input from the congregation and pay attention to improve the COMMUNICATION!

XII. Next meeting at council retreat

- a. *Who is able to attend?* Pastor Todd, Ken, Beth, Glenn, Walter, Bruce, Disa, Myron
- b. *Who is unable to attend?* Carolyn (recovering), Sharon and Pam will go for the day on Saturday.day.

XIII. Stewardship Workshop at Pilgrim

- a. Disa and Ken will go

XIV. Florence Hendricks (**Sissy**) wants to be a new member

Approved



- XV. Pastor's sabbatical will not be this year, but in 2018, if it happens. Planning and applying for the sabbatical was a LOT more work than anticipated.
- XVI. Thanks to Myron for all the work he does here. He is trying to make his schedule to work here on Tuesdays so he can help with the Food Pantry and to do the work that needs to be done here.
- XVII. Pastor Todd will be on vacation for the next two Sundays. Ray Mitchell will be our substitute pastor this Sunday, and Sarah Anderson will step in for the second Sunday.

Read Chapter 2 of *Real Good Church for the May meeting*.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Groleau  
Congregational Council Secretary



# May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm Bazaar Workshop	4	5 Committee Night 7pm	6 Council	7 Retreat
8 Mother's Day	9 7pm ALANON	10 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm Bazaar Workshop 7pm Confirmation	11 12:30pm Live, Laugh & Learn Lunch at Crows Nest	12	13	14  CEMETERY CLEANUP DAY
15 Pentecost	16 7pm ALANON	17 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm Bazaar Workshop	18	19	20	21
22	23 7pm ALANON	24 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm Bazaar Workshop 7pm Confirmation	25	26	27	28
29 No Sunday School	30 	31 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 Bazaar Workshop 6pm Conf. Mini-golf 6:30pm	<b>Sunday A.M. Schedule:</b> 8:00 Service of Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School, Choir 10:30 Service of Holy Communion			