



# Emanuel Lutheran Church

February 2017

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

Pastor Todd Stange

Celebrating Our 131st 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*

## A Day Worth Living

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What would a "day worth living" look like to you? What would you have to do – to make a day worth living? What time would you have to get up? What food would you want to eat? What friends would you have to speak with and fun with?

Lately I've been starting the day by asking myself the question:

***What do I need to do today, so that when I go to sleep tonight,  
I'll look back on the day and feel good about it?***

Usually the answer involves starting the day with some type of exercise, eating good food and doing something I've been procrastinating.

Asking this question each morning is something new for me, but in the past I've done something similar, when I've had big decisions to make.

### In this edition:

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

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

In the early 2000's I was living a different life than I am today. We lived in Massachusetts. I had a job working with computers. On a part time basis, I was taking seminary classes in the evenings. Usually one class a semester, which at that rate was going to take me 12 years to graduate. So, I began to ponder if maybe, I should go to seminary full-time. This would involve quitting my job. It also meant moving to Philadelphia, because back then the church required one year of study at a Lutheran seminary. The closest, of which, is in Philadelphia. So, going would mean selling our home and moving to Philly.

It felt like a big decision – one that was going to have lasting consequences, not just me, but others as well. While discerning what to do, what God actually wanted for us, it was helpful to take a step back and get some perspective. I did this by remembering something my mother used to ask, "100 years from now what difference will this make?" So, I pictured myself at the end of my life on my death bed and pondered, which decision would I feel better about – continue on doing what I was doing, or go to seminary. The way forward became clear, and in the summer of 2005 we moved to Philadelphia.

Doing this each day – making decisions based on how I will see things at the end of the day – I’ve begun to notice some things. First, is that it’s easier to make good choices in the morning. As the day goes on there seems to be less choices. Often the unexpected happens, and I find myself just reacting to events, with little time to ponder a choice, let alone ponder how I will feel about it at the end of the day. As Woody Allen once said, “If you want to make God laugh, tell him about your plans.” Or as the Bible puts it – “Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.” Proverbs 19:21.

Even when there is time to ponder a choice, as the day progresses, I often find myself choosing the wrong thing. A doughnut break is what I want in the afternoon. I don’t care how I’m going to feel about it at the end of the day. Myriads of procrastination opportunities present themselves and it’s tough not to indulge in some of them. As the Apostle Paul wrote, “...all have sinned and fall short...” Romans 3:23. We are all sinners, and as the day goes on, despite our best intentions, we usually mess up. At the end of the day, when I’m about to go to sleep, I often look back and think – today didn’t go so well. I did not accomplish everything that I had hoped. And that’s when I ask God to help me do better tomorrow.

Even though many days end this way – I still think they are days “worth living.” For in them I experience the grace of God. The good news that Jesus revealed is that God loves us despite our failings, despite our selfishness and procrastination and fear – God still loves us and claims us as God’s beloved children. This is good to remember when we reflect upon our days and our lives. And it is why Martin Luther recommended that we remember our baptisms daily, so that we can start each morning fresh and new, without guilt, ready to once again ask the question:

***What do I need to do today, so that when I go to sleep tonight, I’ll look back on the day and feel good about it?***

However your day goes, remember God’s grace and love for you. For this is what makes a day worth living.

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

**Calling all  
Youth of Emanuel  
Fun & Food –  
Friday February 24<sup>th</sup>  
7pm to 9pm in  
Jacob’ Hall  
*Confirmation age & Up***



# Ash Wednesday



**Ash Wednesday  
Service**

**March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**7:00 PM**

*You are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.*

**GENESIS 3:19**

## **Wednesday Mid-Week Lenten Services**

### **Evening Prayer Service 7pm**

Wednesdays during Lent –  
evening prayer at Emanuel

**Wednesday at 7PM at Emanuel**

**March 1 - Dispensation of Ashes**  
**March 8 – Holden Evening Prayer**  
**March 15 – Taizé Worship**  
**March 22 – Vespers Prayer**  
**March 29 –**  
**Service of Healing**  
**April 5 –**  
**Holden Evening Prayer**



## Three Magi on Epiphany



**Traversing afar and bringing  
gold, frankincense and myrrh**

## Emanuel's Newest Deacon



**At the year's  
congregational  
meeting, Bruce  
Johnson was called to  
serve as deacon.**

**Thank you Bruce!**

## January Be The Change Dinner

Many hungry people were fed  
on January 15<sup>th</sup> at the West  
Warwick Senior Center as  
Emanuel made and served the  
**Be The Change Dinner.**

If you would like to help with  
February's Dinner, either making  
food or serving, please let Myron  
Gadoury know. Thank you.

[Mig-ABB@atlanticbb.net](mailto:Mig-ABB@atlanticbb.net)  
860-465-7347







## **INTRODUCTION TO GENEALOGY**

**Saturday February 18, 2017**

**10am to 2pm**

**9 New London Ave W. Warwick, RI**

Come learn how to find who your ancestors are. Find out where they came from, what they did for a living, their interests, and their family traits. Find out what makes you the way you are.

I will teach the basics and all the little ways you will need to get this information.

This course is **Free of Charge** but if so inclined donations to Emanuel's Food Cupboard are appreciated.

You do not need a computer to do this but it is helpful as your information grows.

If you have never done this or are a semi pro

**All are Welcome and Lunch Provided**

Register [mig-ABB@atlanticbb.net](mailto:mig-ABB@atlanticbb.net)

We are the children of many sires  
And every drop of Blood in its turn  
Betrays its Ancestors  
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Thank you to all the children who  
helped lead worship  
on Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>



Proclaiming forgiveness,



handing out bulletins,



giving the blessing,



sending us out with the  
dismissal and in many  
other ways.

THANK  
YOU

# 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.

## Name Tags at Emanuel



Strengthen relationships, make friends.

Name tags are for everyone.

**If you don't have one, take an index card found in the pews, write your name on it and the names of others you'd like to** have a name tag, then place it in the offering plate. Your name tag(s) will be waiting for you the next week in church.

The name tags are made with magnets.  
They are fun to play with and leave no holes.

Once you have your name tag, please wear it.  
Notice the difference!

If you'd like to help with the \$3.00 per Tag cost, you can place a contribution marked "Name Tags" in the Offering plate.

Thank you!



## Senior Live Laugh & Learn

The next luncheon will be held:

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

12:30 PM to 2:00 PM

Filippou's Twisted Pizza & Rest.  
915 Tiogue Ave., Coventry, RI

Estimated cost \$10 to \$20



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

I need to give the restaurant a count.

For last minute decision, call Helen Maine at

Home: 401-397-3566

Cell: 401-464-1011

Email: [helenmaine@gmail.com](mailto:helenmaine@gmail.com)

Adult Forum

## Introducing the Old Testament

*Wednesdays at 7PM*

How well do you know the Old Testament?

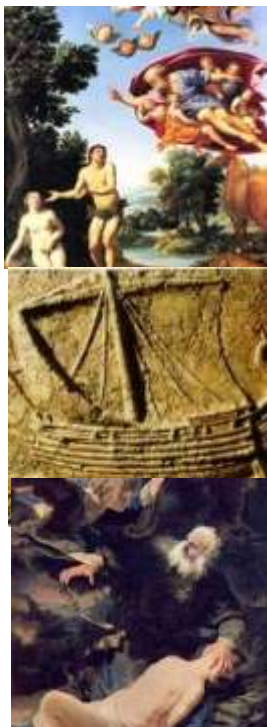
Wednesday evenings this winter we will explore the Bible's Old Testament in a course developed by the Massachusetts Bible Society.

Wednesdays 7 to 8:30pm

2/1, 2/8 and 2/15

in Jacobs' Hall

Whether you know nothing about the Bible or read it daily – you will get something out this forum.





## Do you have a credit card that earns Airline Miles?



Here's a great new way to earn Air Miles and help Emanuel, too!

Using a new app developed via the "Simply Giving Program," you can now make a special contribution to Emanuel Lutheran and earn air miles for your contribution.

With a new program that's been mentioned recently in Emanuel's

"Weekly Herald," you can now use your credit card to make a special, one-time contribution to help support a number of Emanuel's Programs.

You may choose the one you'd like to support.

For example, you can contribute to the Emanuel Lutheran Church Endowment Fund.

Or you can support Emanuel's:

- Food Pantry;
- Pastor's Discretionary Fund; or
- our Music Program, just to name a few.

You can even use it to help send kids to camp via Emanuel's Camp Calumet Scholarship Fund.

Do you want more information, or have a few questions on how it works??

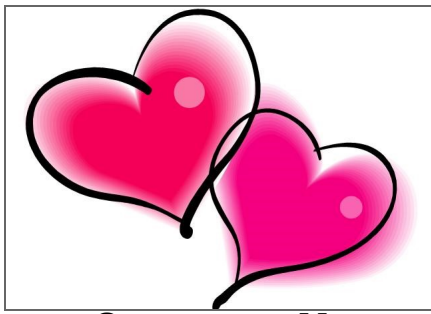
Send an e mail to:

Emanuel's Treasurer, Carol Johnson at:

[CMJohnson1220@gmail.com](mailto:CMJohnson1220@gmail.com)

Or call her at [\(401\)323-9542](tel:(401)323-9542).

You can help Emanuel start off on the right path in 2017!



# February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1  7pm Adult Forum Bible Study	2  Committee Mtgs 7pm	3	4
5	6  7pm ALNON	7 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10am-12 6pm BAZAAR 7pm Scandinavian Women's Choir	8 12:30PM Lunch — Twisted Pizza 7pm Adult Forum Bible Study	9 12PM RI Conference Clergy meeting 7pm Council Meeting	10	11
12	13  7pm ALNON	14 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10am-12 6pm BAZAAR 7pm Confirmation 7pm Scandinavian Women's Choir	15  7pm Adult Forum Bible Study	16	17	18 Introduction to Genealogy (10am-2pm)
19 NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	20  PRESIDENT'S DAY 7pm ALNON	21 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10am-12 6pm BAZAAR 7pm Scandinavian Women's Choir	SCHOOL VACATION WEEK			
					7PM Emanuel Youth Fun & Food	
26	27  7pm ALNON	28 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10am-12 6pm BAZAAR 7pm Confirmation 7pm Scandinavian	<b>Sunday A.M. Schedule:</b> 8:00 Service of Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School, Choir, 1st Year Confirmation 10:30 Service of Holy Communion			