

Emanuel's Christmas Giving Tree

4 unclaimed ornaments



Thank you to everyone who picked children off the Giving Tree this year. There are 17 unclaimed ornaments. If you would like to take one, click on this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45ABAD2FA5FBC52-46265221-emanuel>

If you haven't already, please drop off your gifts to the church **by Friday December 15th 1:00pm**. Gifts should be wrapped, if possible, with a note indicating the # of the child.

Gifts can be dropped off at the church on:

Sundays 8AM to 12PM

Tuesdays 9AM to 2PM

Fridays 9AM to 1PM

If one of these times doesn't work, please call to arrange a different time. Thank you.

Movie Night at Emanuel
Saturday December 16th 6PM to 8PM
in the fellowship hall



Movie "The Star"

The Christmas story from the point of view of the animals. Children welcome.

Order Your Christmas Poinsettia



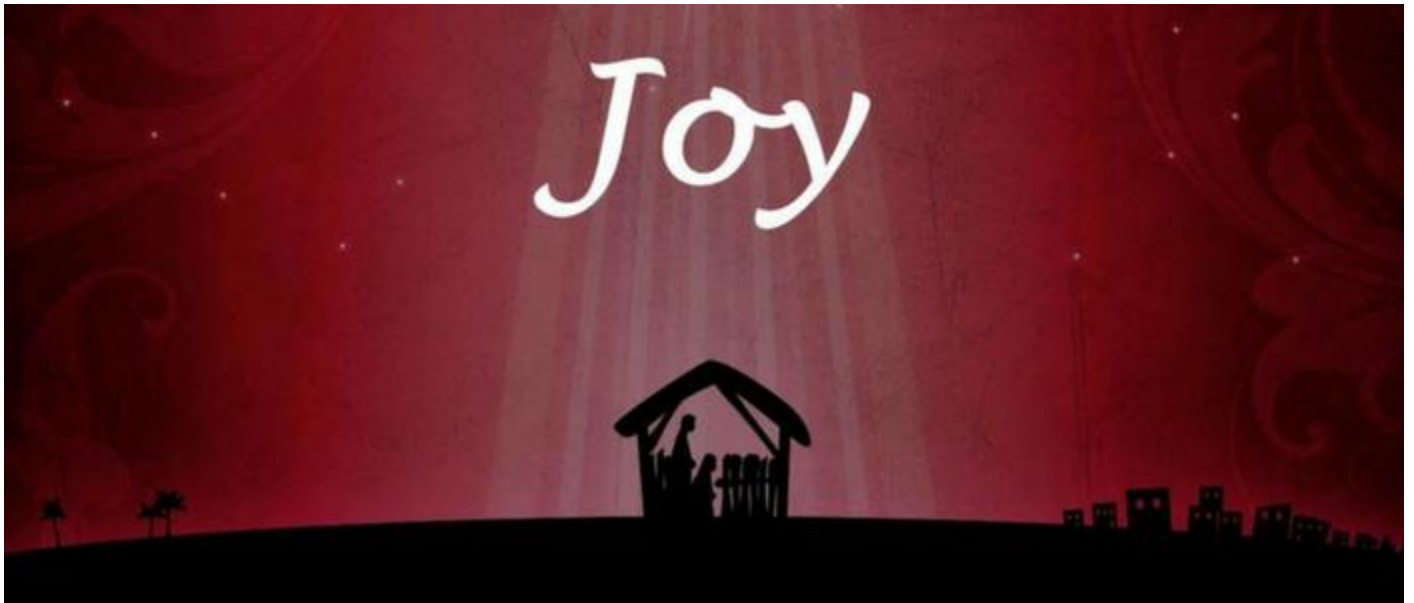
Only **Red** poinsettia this year
Cost = \$10 single or \$20 double

To purchase a poinsettia for Christmas Eve, please complete a poinsettia form (Given for... Given by...) and place it in the offering plate or email/text/call Sue Wieboldt at

(401) 743-3843 susieq3380@gmail.com

Deadline for ordering is Sunday December 17th

Gaudete Sunday



the Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday (/ɡaʊˈdɛtɛ/ gow-DET-eh) is the third Sunday of Advent.

The day takes its name from the Latin word *Gaudete*, which means "Rejoice". The season of Advent originated as a fast of 40 days in preparation for Christmas. In the ninth century, the duration of Advent was reduced to four weeks, but still preserved most of the characteristics of a penitential season, which made it a kind of counterpart to Lent.

Gaudete Sunday offers a break about midway through this season of fasting and preparing, and signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming.

The pink candle on the Advent wreath is lit on the third Sunday of Advent. Pink/rose is the color for joy. We are reminded on this Sunday that even in the midst of waiting and fasting, joy may still be found. In early centuries the pope used to give a pink rose to a citizen at the midpoint of Lent another season of penitence and fasting. This tradition carried over to the midpoint of Advent in the form of a pink candle.

Desserts Direct by Jenna Larson



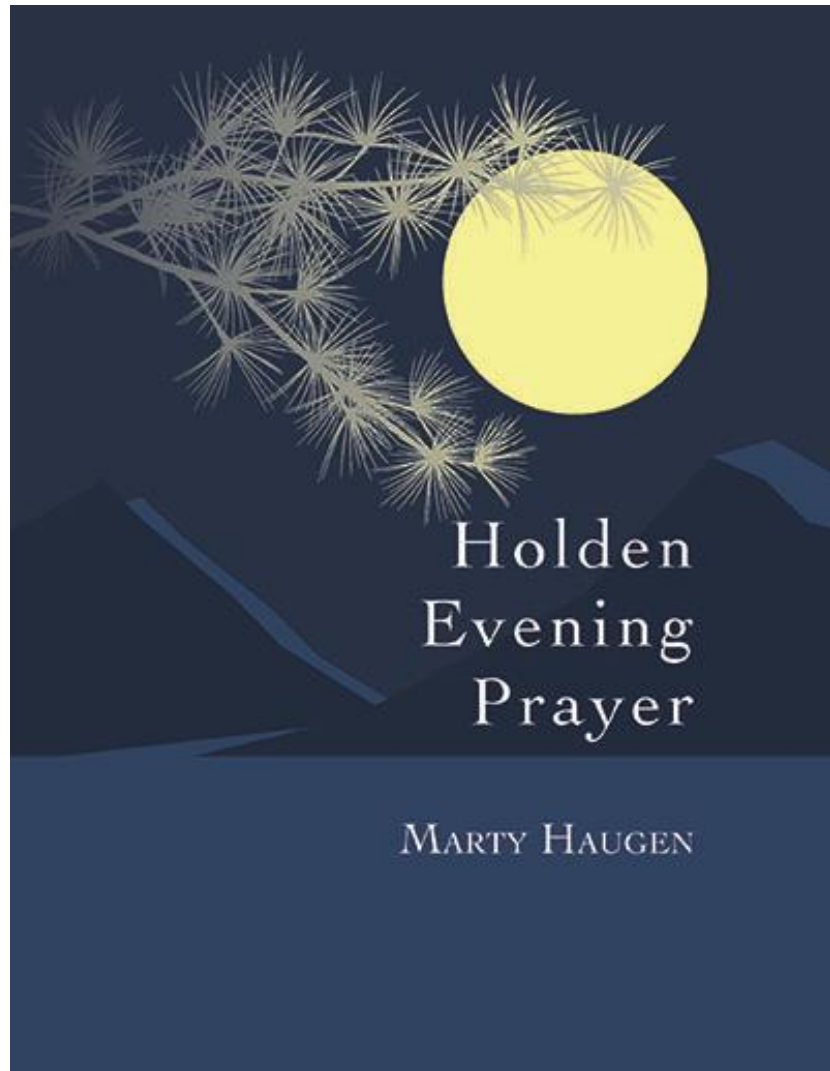
Accepting Holiday Orders

larjen46499@gmail.com or text 401-644-5372

ITEM	PRICE PER UNIT	PRICE PER DOZEN
Brownies	\$2.00	\$24.00
Cheesecake (minis)	\$3.50	\$42.00
Cheesecake (whole)	\$35.00	X
Cinnamon Rolls	X	\$30.00
Cookies	\$2.00	\$24.00
Cupcakes	\$3.00	\$36.00
Dessert Dips	\$15.00	X
Dessert Shots	\$3.00	\$36.00
Donuts	\$2.00	\$24.00
Meringues (minis)	\$2.00	\$24.00
Muffins	\$2.00	\$24.00
Pies	\$30.00	X
Tarts (minis)	\$3.50	\$42.00
Three-Layer Cake	\$55.00	X
Two-Layer Cake	\$30.00	X

Gluten and dairy free is able to be accommodated.

Sunday Morning Holden Prayer

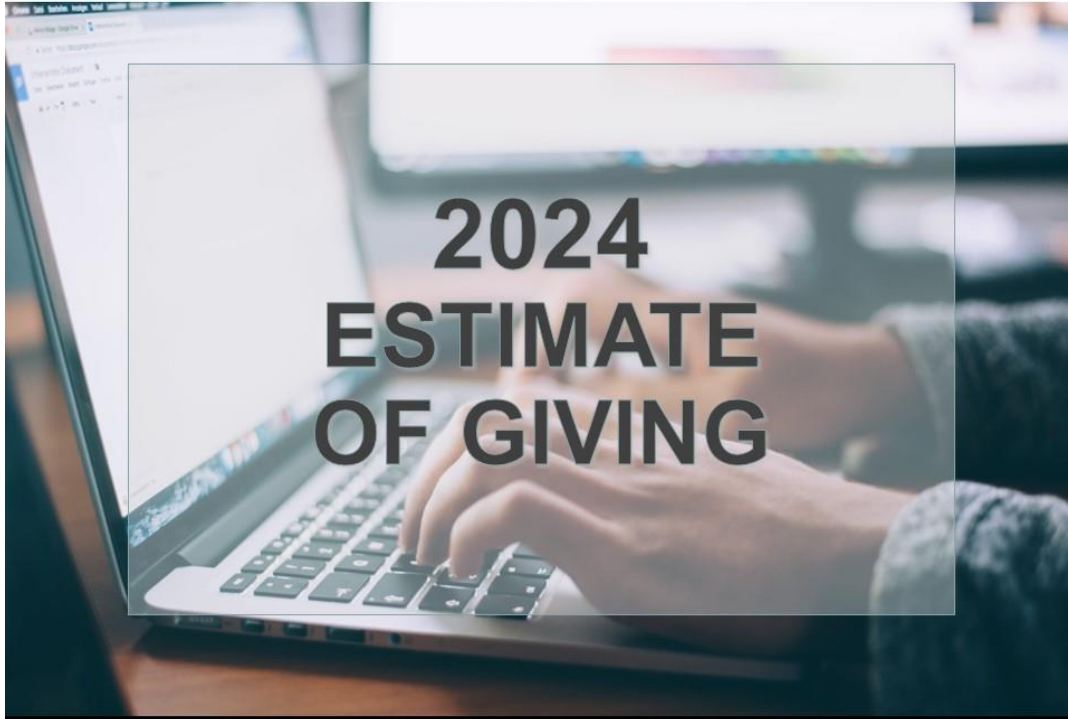


Sunday December 17th @ 10:30am

On this Sunday close to the darkest day of the year we will be worshipping using the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy.

**"The Light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:5**

Requesting 2024 Estimates of Giving



Thank you for your support this past year.

As this year comes to a close we have begun to look forward to 2024 and have begun putting together a budget for the new year. Please help us with this process by taking a moment to send in your estimate of giving for 2024. You can do this be either filling out the form on Emanuel's website:

www.emanuelww.org

(Under the "DONATE" menu item click on "2024 GIVING FORM")

Or you can mail a paper copy of the estimate of giving form to the church office. In case you need form, a copy is **attached** to this email. If possible, please submit your 2024 estimate of giving by **Sunday December 17th**.

Thank you in advance for your input. If you have any questions, please call or email me. Thank you.

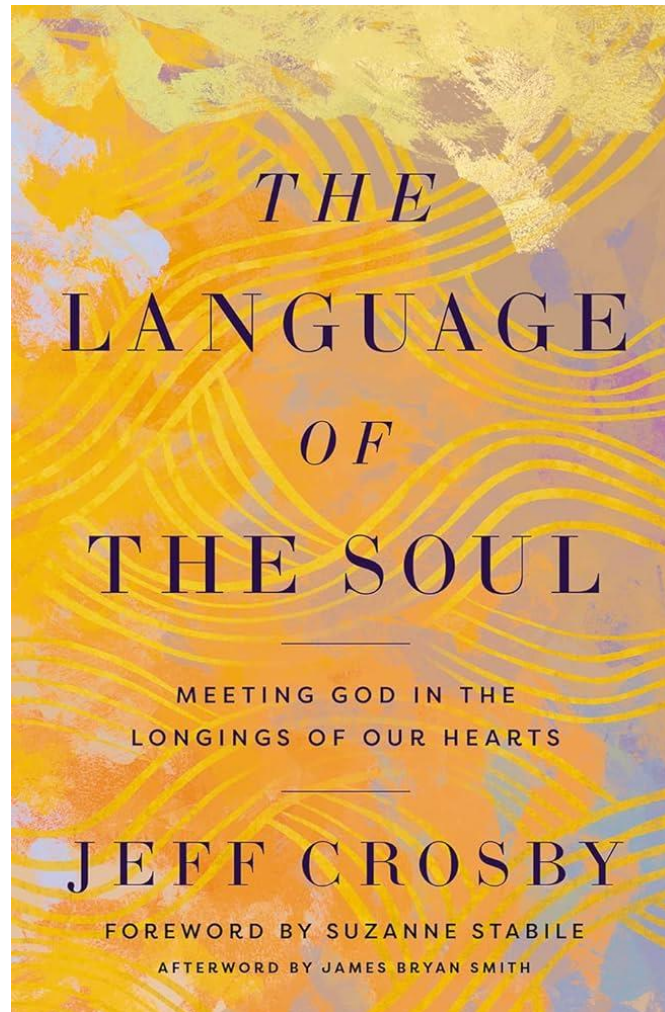
Bed Looking for a New Home



Brenda Morgan has a twin bed in good condition with drawers underneath. Please contact Brenda or Pastor Todd, if you or someone you know could make use of it. Thank you.

pastor@emanuelww.org

Readers of Emanuel



Next gathering Sunday January 14th

The Readers of Emanuel book club is reading
“The Language of the Soul” by Jeff Crosby.

We will meet after worship ~**11:45am** in **Jacobs Hall** on
Sunday January 14th

Everyone is invited for good fellowship and food.

An interview with Jeff Crosby on The Unhurried Living podcast:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=BEbP4aMcywY>

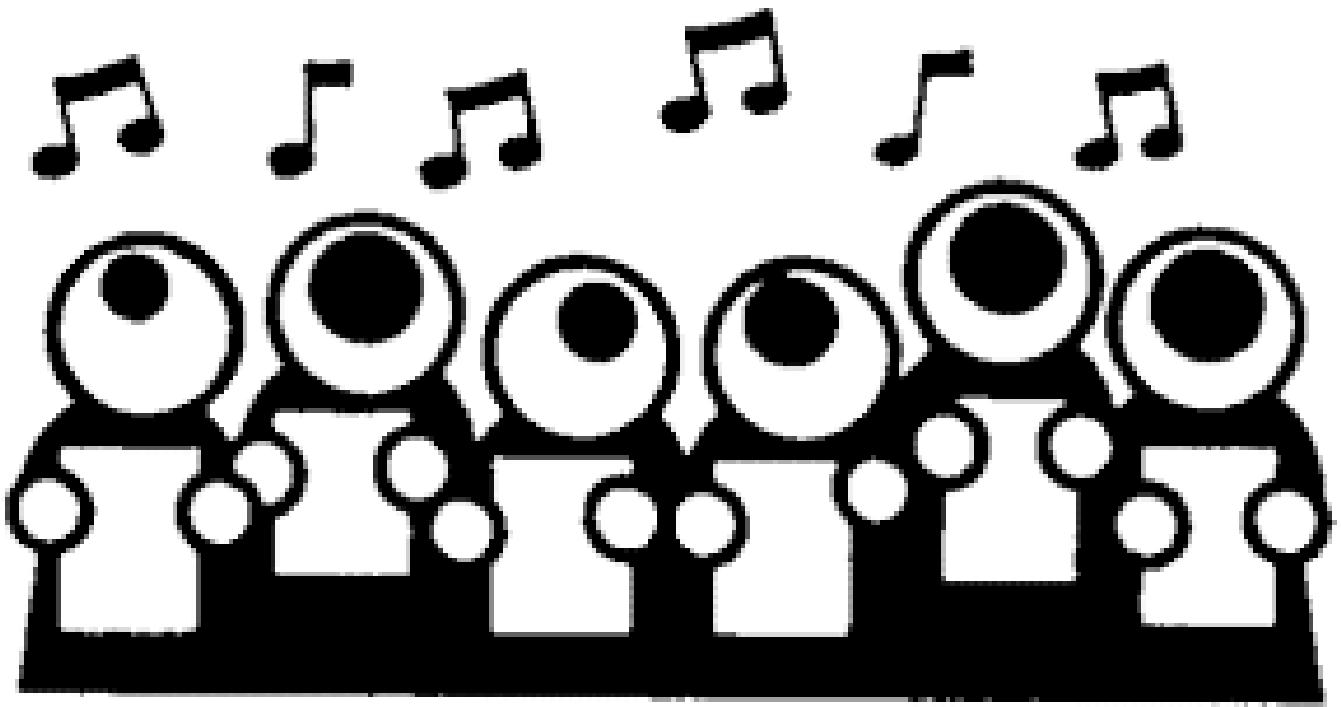
Stop & Shop "Bloomin'
for Good"
Program

Buy the "BLOOMIN" Bouquet in
January 2024

**ELC FOOD PANTRY
will benefit!**

COVENTRY STOP & SHOP

Choir at Emanuel



**Sundays at 9AM
in the sanctuary.**

**All who like to make
music are welcome.**

Bible Readings for Sunday December 17th

First Reading

Ezra 1:1-4

Under the leadership of King Cyrus the Persians conquered the Babylonians. Within the empire Cyrus allowed religious freedom. This included allowing Israelites to return to Judah and rebuild the temple in Jerusalem.

¹ In the first year of King Cyrus of Persia, in order that the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the Lord stirred up the spirit of King Cyrus of Persia so that he sent a herald throughout all his kingdom, and also in a written edict declared:

² 'Thus says King Cyrus of Persia: The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and he has charged me to build him a house at Jerusalem in Judah. ³Any of those among you who are of his people—may their God be with them!—are now permitted to go up to Jerusalem in Judah, and rebuild the house of the Lord, the God of Israel—he is the God who is in Jerusalem; ⁴and let all survivors, in whatever place they reside, be assisted by the people of their place with silver and gold, with goods and with animals, besides freewill-offerings for the house of God in Jerusalem.'

Second Reading

Ezra 3:1-4, 10-13

The Israelites were in exile in Babylon for 50 years. When they returned, they were not universally welcomed by their neighbors, but they set about the hard work of rebuilding the temple.

¹ When the seventh month came, and the Israelites were in the towns, the people gathered together in Jerusalem. ²Then Jeshua son of Jozadak, with his fellow priests, and Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel with his kin set out to build the altar of the God of Israel, to offer burnt-offerings on it, as prescribed in the law of Moses the man of God. ³They set up the altar on its foundation, because they were in dread of the neighboring peoples, and they offered burnt-offerings upon it to the Lord, morning and evening. ⁴And they kept the festival of booths, as prescribed, and offered the daily burnt-offerings by number according to the ordinance, as required for each day,

¹⁰ When the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, the priests in their vestments were stationed to praise the Lord with trumpets, and the Levites, the sons of Asaph, with cymbals, according to the directions of King David of Israel; ¹¹and they sang responsively, praising and giving thanks to the Lord,

'For he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever towards Israel.'

And all the people responded with a great shout when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. ¹²But many of the priests and Levites and heads of families, old people who had seen the first house on its foundations, wept with a loud voice when they saw this house, though many shouted aloud for joy, ¹³so that the people could not distinguish the sound of the joyful shout from the sound of the people's weeping, for the people shouted so loudly that the sound was heard far away.

How do these readings speak to you today?

On-line Worship at Emanuel Sundays at 10:30AM



What to Do - if You would Like to Come to On-line Worship

Just click on the Zoom link below on Sunday at 10:30AM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/93690864460?pwd=CHZ5RVNsdnFYcDhhNVdMKzA2VEN1QT09>

You can also join us by phone by calling (929) 205-6099 and entering
Meeting ID: 936 9086 4460 and Password: 933328

A video of the service will be posted on Emanuel's website and
Facebook group page later in the day.

Offerings to Emanuel



Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has been mailing in their offering or giving through Simply Giving and Givelify.

Offerings can be mailed to:

Emanuel Lutheran Church
9 New London Avenue
West Warwick, RI 02893

OR you can use either the Simply Giving program, which allows you to automate the giving of an offering from a checking account, or Givelify, which is online app that allows giving through a debit or credit card.

If you would like to find out more about either of these, please let Emanuel's Treasurer, Carol Johnson, or Pastor Todd know. Thank you.

You can give to Emanuel through Givelify by clicking on the DONATE button on Emanuel's website OR by clicking here: [Donate](#)

www.emanuelww.org

Christmas Eve Services at Emanuel



Sunday December 24th

(This year Christmas Eve is on a Sunday)

10:30AM – Service with Christmas Pageant

11PM – Late night candlelight service

Note – there will be NO 8AM service on Sunday December 24th

**Please keep these children of God
in your prayers this week:**

For Comfort & Healing: David & Bonnie Vallee, Lisa Gibbs

For Grieving: the family & friends of Connor Johnson (friend of the food pantry),
the family & friends of Bob Houghtaling (friend of Pastor Todd)

Worship Assistants

	<i>Serving December 17</i>	<i>Christmas Eve Serving December 24</i>
Counter:	Linda Nunez	Glenn Johnson
	8:00AM	NO 8AM service
Lector	Kathy Marco	
	10:30AM	10:30AM
Deacon:	Sue Wieboldt	Diane Gadoury 10:30am Donna Sennett 11:00pm
Acolyte	Aubrie Suffoletto	Aubrie Suffoletto
Ushers	Bruce Johnson & Pauline LaVallee	Ken & Sue Wieboldt
Lector:	Danielle David	Sue Wieboldt
Coffee Hour	Pam Beck	Potluck Christmas Cookies

December's Memorial Candle



The Memorial Candle for December is given
in loving memory of **Doug Auger** from his family.

This Week at Emanuel

Sunday, December 10
2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00am **Worship In Person**
9:00am **Choir**
9:15am **Sunday School (FH)**
10:30am **Worship in Person & Online**
11:30am **Coffee Hour**

Monday, December 11

10:00am **Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)**
7:00pm **Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)**

Tuesday, December 12

10:00am **Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM**
 Pastor's Office Hours 10AM – 2PM

Wednesday, December 13

10:00am **Ellie's Circle 10AM - 12PM (JH)**

Thursday, December 14

6:00pm **Council Christmas Potluck Dinner**
7:00pm **Council Meeting (Wieboldt's House)**

Friday, December 15

Saturday, December 16

6:00pm **Movie Night "The Star" (FH)**

Sunday, December 17
3rd Sunday of Advent

8:00am **Worship In Person**
9:00am **Choir**
9:15am **Sunday School (FH) & Confirmation (JH)**
10:30am **Holden Evening Prayer in Person & Online**
11:30am **Coffee Hour**

Next Week at Emanuel

Monday, December 11	10:00am	Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)
	7:00pm	Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)

Monday, December 18	10:00am	Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)
	7:00pm	Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)

Tuesday, December 19	10:00am	Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM
		Pastor's Office Hours 10AM – 2PM

Wednesday, December 20

Thursday, December 21	Winter Solstice
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Friday, December 22

Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24	9:00am	Choir
4th Sunday of Advent	9:15am	Sunday School (FH)
Christmas Eve!	10:30am	Christmas Eve service with Christmas pageant in Person & Online
	11:30am	Coffee Hour
	11:00pm	Late night candlelight Christmas Eve service

Upcoming Commemorations

John of the Cross, renewer of the church, died 1591

Thursday, December 14, 2023

John was a member of the Carmelite monastic order, and worked to reform it. His writings reflect a deep interest in mystical thought and meditation.

Las Posadas (LLC)

Saturday, December 16, 2023

This celebration, long popular in Mexico, takes its name from the "posadas," or lodgings, sought by Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. Their search is reenacted in a neighborhood, unsuccessfully, until finally they are welcomed in, and a party commences.

Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, died 1552

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

Born to an impoverished nobleman, Katie eventually took vows as a nun, but around age twenty-four she and several other nuns who were influenced by the writings of Martin Luther left the convent. Six children were born to Katie and Martin.

Double click on link below to see Emanuel's online calendar:

[Emanuel's Online Calendar](#)

The calendar is on Emanuel's web site.