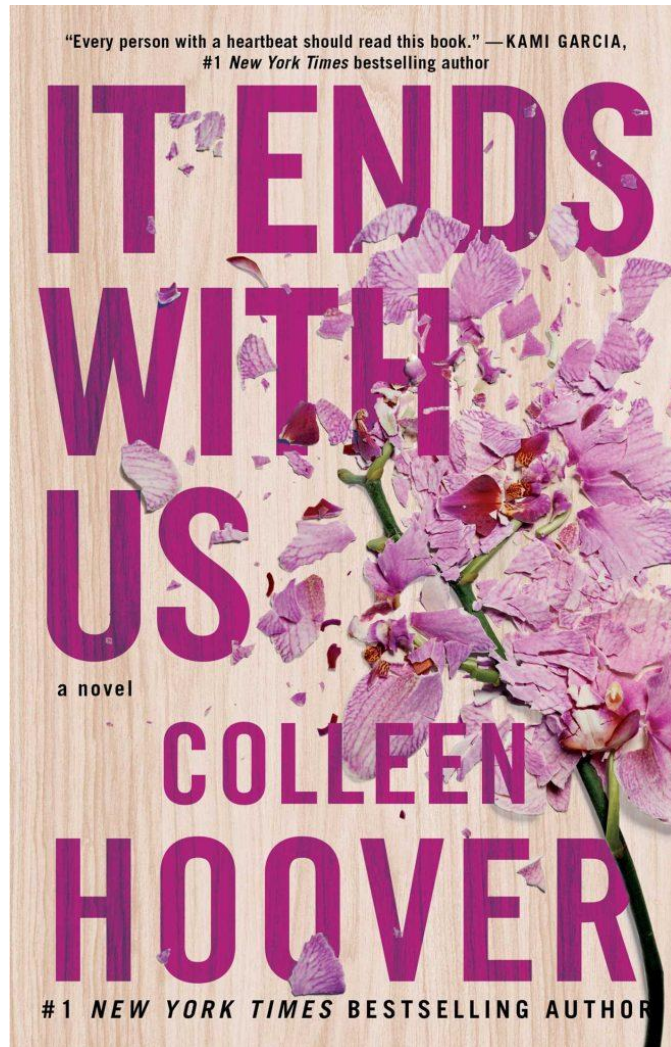


Readers of Emanuel



Next Meeting Sunday February 18th

The Readers of Emanuel book club is reading "It Ends with Us" by Colleen Hoover – #1 NYT best seller and winner of the 2016 Goodreads Choice Award.

This book is based on the relationship between Hoover's mother and father, Hoover described it as "the hardest book I've ever written."

We will meet after worship ~**11:45am** in **Jacobs Hall** on **Sunday February 18th**

Everyone is invited for good fellowship and food.

Making Ashes



Burning the palms from last year's Palm Sunday to make ashes for this year's Ash Wednesday.

Are you a Thrivent Member?

There's still time to direct your

2023 THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

to **Emanuel Lutheran Church.**

March 31, 2024 is the deadline.

You can direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars by going:

- Online at www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice.
- OR
- Phone: [800-847-4836](tel:800-847-4836) and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt. The Member Connection Center is open until 6 p.m. Central time, Monday – Friday.

Live Laugh & Learn Lunch



The next lunch will be held:

Thursday, February 29th 12:30PM to 2PM

at **Olive Garden**

31 Universal Blvd, Warwick, RI

Estimated cost \$12 to \$25

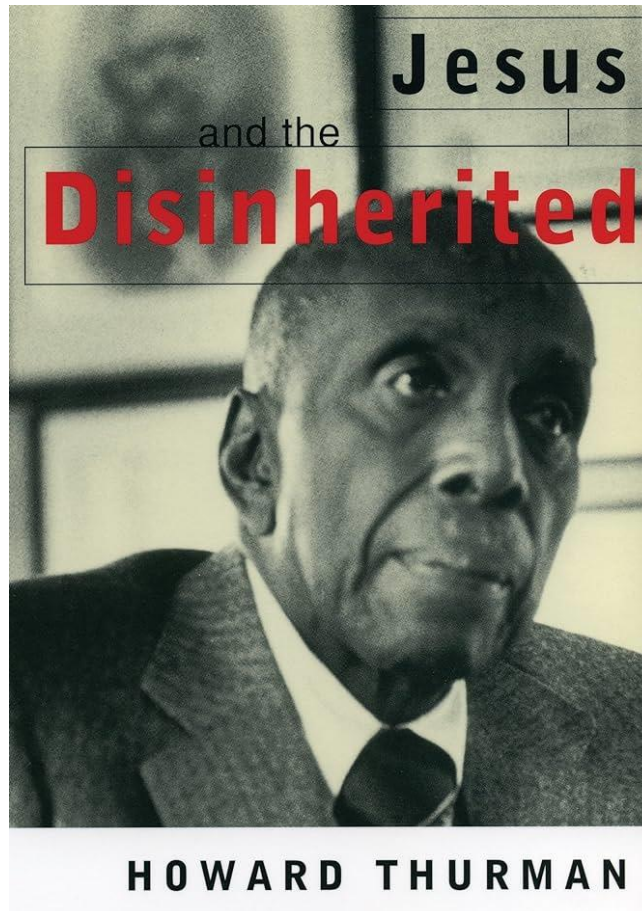
If you would like to go, please email, text or call
Michael Groleau at

Cell: 401-465-5021

Email: MichaelKGroleau@gmail.com

Friends welcome!

Adult Forum – Wednesdays in Lent
“Jesus and the Disinherited”



This Lent we will discover who Howard Thurman was and listen to and discuss his small, but powerful book “Jesus and the Disinherited”. This book is still read and taught in seminaries. Martin Luther King Jr. often carried a copy of it with him.

Wednesday Evenings at 7PM

February 21, 28, March 6, 13 & 20 – Jesus and the Disinherited.

We will meet in person in Jacobs Hall and over Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89402743938?pwd=TnVlaGk3dmZWTTliITkyU0FqMVhWQT09>

Meeting ID: **894 0274 3938** Passcode: **258717**

A FREE online copy of the book can be found here:

<https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.260684>

Looking for help/contributions



for this year's Easter Egg Hunt *the Saturday before Palm Sunday* **Saturday March 23rd at Emanuel**

Jen Hadden and Margaret Teehan are looking for helpers for the Easter Egg Hunt, which will be on Saturday March 23rd (the Saturday before Palm Sunday).

They are also looking for contributions of candy or anything else that would be helpful at an Easter Egg Hunt. Thank you.

You can nominate someone to be our next bishop

Bishop Election 2024



Pre-Identification Form now available

The pre-identification form is now available for those individuals interested in offering the name of a rostered minister of Word and Sacrament (a pastor) in the ELCA for consideration for call to be elected Bishop of the New England Synod. Any pastor in good standing on the ELCA roster in the United States is eligible to be named.

The form will be available from February 1-29, 2024. Individuals whose names are provided will be contacted to determine if they'd like to discern a call to bishop, and if so, will provide biographical information that will be made available on the synod website in April.

At the start of Synod Assembly on June 6, 2024, the names of these pre-identified persons will be included on the first ballot for the bishop election, along with the opportunity for an alternative candidate's name to be written in. The remainder of the election process will follow the guidelines outlined in our synod constitution, which may be found on the synod website [here](https://www.nelutherans.org/bishopelection).

Go to

<https://www.nelutherans.org/bishopelection>

**to nominate someone for bishop of the New England Synod or
to find out more information.**

Emanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes January 11, 2024

Attendees: Ken Wieboldt, Sue Wieboldt, Myron Gadoury, Jack Gibbs, Donna Sennett, Todd Stange, Jen Rathbun, Bruce Johnson, Ray Nunez

Absent: Marcia Melanson, Mark Melanson

Opening Devotions Pastor Todd Stange: "The little things that can bear fruit"

Pastor reviewed the last year's highlights

Jen from Joyful Noise came to discuss two issues pertaining to the day care:

\$5,000 donation to JN from the church was cut in this year's budget because of lowered donations (offerings). The money partially went toward two scholarships which benefit parents who are facing financial hardship. Jen would like Emanuel to still offer at least a partial amount to allow JN to prepare and fundraise the difference and buy time to build up funds for these scholarships for ensuing years. Pastor indicated that the decision to cut the funding is not yet final until the budget is approved. Our budget will be discussed following Jen's presentation during the Council meeting. Discussion continued. The amount used for hardship this year was approximately \$2,500. Council will make recommendation to our endowment fund committee to cover a portion of this.

Discussion of heating units: Mini (splits) The staff have been using the mini-splits to heat causing the electricity bill to increase. The splits were installed to be used for air conditioning only. Myron has now disconnected the electricity to avoid the higher heating bills. Myron's plans are to install smart thermostats for baseboard heaters to regulate the temperature in the rooms and make use of a timer or the electric baseboard heater to conserve electricity.

Minutes from last month: Pastor offered some changes and will send them to Donna for adjustments. Motion to accept with changes was made by Pastor. Seconded by Bruce Johnson.

Finance Committee: Was satisfied with the end of year totals Our YTD Earnings and Growth was very positive this year.

In 2023 estimated was \$165,273 (actual 162,318)

2024 estimated is \$10,000 more in giving (\$174,827)

Substitutes actual cost was \$200 last year. This year we are budgeted for \$600. Why are we tripling the amount for this year? Myron proposed we change next year's budgeted amount to \$300.00. We used lay ministers to cover Pastor Todd's vacation Sundays, which was part of the reason that the substitutes cost was lower than anticipated last year. We may need more substitutes this year, as Nancy only took one Sunday off last year.

Line 301: Fuel. Hopefully with the sensors, we can save money.

Line 307: Snow Removal: If we have a good year without a lot of snow, we could decrease the amount used

Line 410: Stewardship: We budgeted \$100, but last year we didn't spend anything. We budgeted \$100 this year.

Line 412 – We budgeted \$300 for both this year and last year. We only spent \$0.00 because flower funds were donated. Line 522 was donated for flowers. This is a Carol question for clarification.

Discussion: We have not budgeted for a donation to JN. We would need to cut line items in our own budget in order to facilitate a donation to JN, as we do not have the funds in our proposed budget to cover this donation. Pastor suggested we take the funds from the Endowment Fund. The Endowment Committee can accept ideas for disbursement to organizations.

Proposed budget: Motion to accept was made by Myron Gadoury Seconded by Bruce Johnson

Christian Ed

Christmas Pageant – People liked it at the 10:30 service for various reasons. Possibly moving it to the Sunday before Christmas. But then would we still have a 4:00 service? The committee will continue to discuss.

Kat Brown is being asked to direct Music Camp

Sunday school kids to do the services on February 4th

Property Report

JN continues to leave the heat on at the end of the day. The sensors should save a lot on the gas heat. There is going to be a timer for the electric heater. Myron would like to make a motion that JC pay the overage for December. And we keep the 70/30 split until June. In June it will go to 80/20 through September. Ray seconded the motion. Vote: 6 in favor, 2 opposed

We are going to send Jen Rathbun the Council Meeting notes and Property report monthly

Last year Myron went to Gloria Dei to do inspection reports, but they did not follow through on any of the recommendations. They would like to open a Day Care, and are asking Myron to do another inspection. He will do it for them. However, he is worried that if an inspector comes in because the building needs to be inspected prior to opening a day care there, the inspector will find a multitude of problems because the recommended improvements were not made.

Retaining wall – Myron got a price for pressure treated railroad ties (Marine grade). It was \$15,000. Another vendor who will provide a quote for a stone block retaining wall, and the other vendor both agree that the tree needs to be taken down. It will cost about \$2500 to take the tree down. Our budget will most likely not cover the stone block retaining wall option. Jack suggested a poured cement retaining wall. Myron will get a quote for that type of retaining wall.

Worship and Music

No discussion outside of the notes provided

Annual Meeting - Pot Luck lunch will be served

Other items

Everyone will remain on Council for next year

Recording of events which involve non-members: How should we record non-member weddings and funerals? Pastor states he doesn't think we have an official policy regarding this. He made the motion that we should record events. Jack seconded. It was unanimously accepted.

Function form: Donna Lucier would like to use the Fellowship Hall on January 20th for four hours. We confirmed

Envelopes: Need to disseminate the remaining envelopes. The Wieboldts, Ray Nunez and Pastor will bring them to the members. Myron suggested that the Sunday School children should have envelopes. Myron made a motion. Jack seconded. There was a unanimous vote to accept.

Closing

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Donna Sennett, Secretary

Free Trip to Phoenix, Arizona!



Did you know that if you represent the New England Synod at the ELCA churchwide assembly July 28 - August 2, 2025, your flight and accommodations are paid for by the synod?

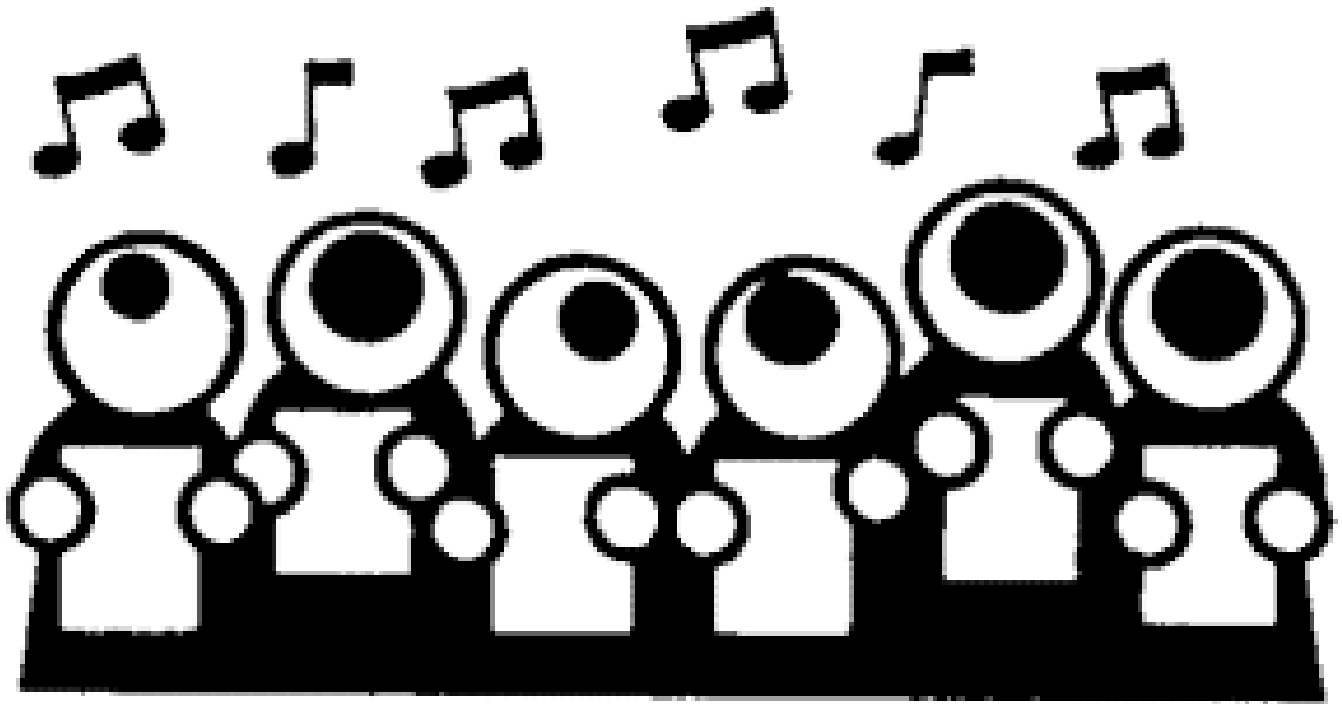
Representatives will be selected June 6-8, 2024 at the New England Synod Assembly. Nominations are being taken now for the Churchwide Assembly, the Synod Council, and the Synod Discipline Committee.

For more information, watch this video from Bishop Hazelwood:

<https://vimeo.com/909276818/01aca1b3a7?share=copy>

If you are interested in serving in any of these positions, please let Pastor Todd know. Thank you.

Choir at Emanuel



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

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

Bible Readings for Sunday February 18th

First Reading

Mark 10:17-22

Jesus has been teaching his disciples about what is most valued in God's eyes. Now, a conversation with a rich man brings his message home to the disciples in a way that is surprising and unforgettable.

¹⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' ¹⁸ Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honor your father and mother." ' ²⁰ He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' ²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' ²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Second Reading

Mark 10:23-31

Jesus makes it clear that salvation is not something we can achieve on our own.

²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' ²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' ²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.'

²⁸ Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' ²⁹ Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.'

How do the Bible readings speak to you?

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

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

For Comfort & Healing: Richard Danton, Madelyn, Karen DeStefano (Dina Andersen's mom)

For Grieving: Jenn Garcia as she grieves the loss of her mom (friend of Shannon Schabek), the family & friends of John Williams (friend of Shannon Schabek)

Worship Assistants

	<i>Serving February 18</i>	<i>Serving February 25</i>
Counter:	Linda Mensinger Nunez	Mike Ricci
	8:00AM	8:00AM
Lector	Kathy Garriott	Kathy Marco
	10:30AM	10:30AM
Lay Minister:	Ida Zecco	Donna Sennett
Acolyte	-	-
Ushers	Bruce Johnson & Mary Schabek	Sue & Ken Wieboldt
Lector:	Glenn Johnson	Diane Gadoury
Coffee Hour	Lynne Wolff	Alyssa Andersen

February's Memorial Candle



The Memorial Candle for February is given in loving memory
of **George Thomas Fekete** from Mary Schabek.

This Week at Emanuel

Monday, February 12	10:00am	Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)
	7:00pm	Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)
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Tuesday, February 13	10:00am	Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM
		Pastor's Office Hours
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Wednesday, February 14	10:00am	Ellie's Circle (JH)
Ash Wednesday 1st Day of Lent	12:00pm	Dispensation of Ashes 12PM to 1PM
Valentine's Day	7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service with dispensation of ashes
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Thursday, February 15		
2nd Day of Lent		
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Friday, February 16		
3rd Day of Lent		
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Saturday, February 17		
4th Day of Lent		
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Sunday, February 18	8:00am	Worship In Person
First Sunday in Lent	9:00am	Choir
	9:15am	NO Sunday school
	10:30am	Worship in Person & Online
	11:30am	Coffee Hour

Next Week at Emanuel

Monday, February 19	10:00am	Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)
5th Day of Lent	7:00pm	Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)
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Tuesday, February 20	10:00am	Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM
6th Day of Lent		NO Pastor's Office Hours (Pastor Todd away)
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Wednesday, February 21	10:00am	Ellie's Circle (JH)
7th Day of Lent	7:00pm	Adult Forum – Jesus and the Disinherited (JH & ONLINE)
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Thursday, February 22		
8th Day of Lent		
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Friday, February 23		
9th Day of Lent		
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Saturday, February 24		
10th Day of Lent		
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Sunday, February 25	8:00am	Worship In Person
Second Sunday in Lent	9:00am	Choir
	9:15am	Sunday school & Confirmation
	10:30am	Worship in Person & Online
	11:30am	Coffee Hour

Upcoming Commemorations

Martin Luther, renewer of the church, died 1546

Sunday, February 18, 2024

Though he began his adult church life as a simple Augustinian monk, Luther challenged the abuses he saw in the church, and his work eventually led to the Protestant Reformation. Luther's accomplishments included liturgical reform, translation of the Bible, and creation of the Small and Large Catechisms.

Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, died 156

Friday, February 23, 2024

Because he is said to have been known by John, the author of Revelation, as well as the important early church fathers Irenaeus and Ignatius, Polycarp serves as a vital link in church history. He was burned at the stake at age 86 for refusing to renounce his faith.

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

[Emanuel's Online Calendar](#)

The calendar is on Emanuel's web site.