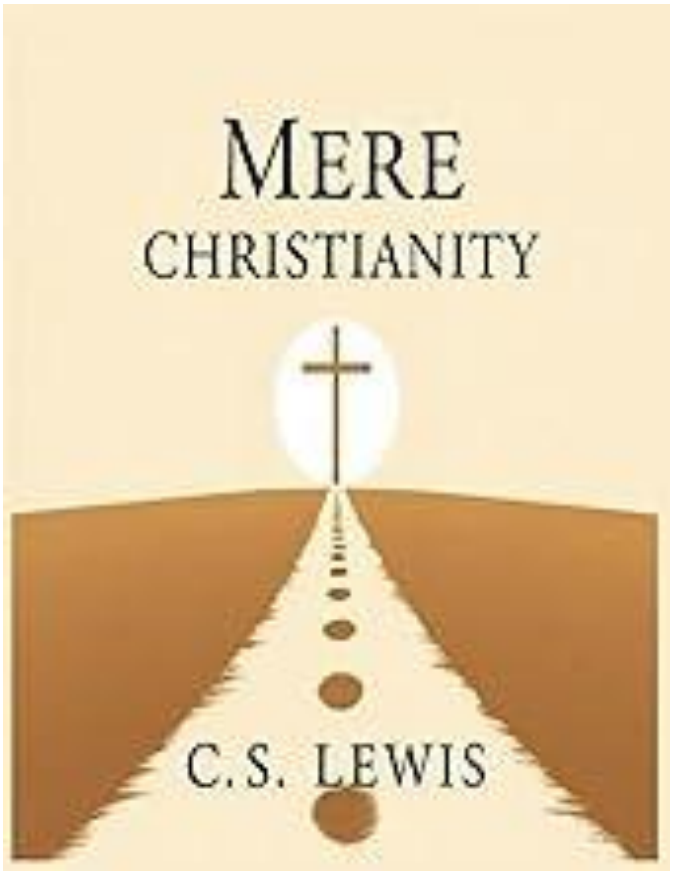
CHANGE OF BOOK -> Readers of Emanuel



Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis

This month the Readers of Emanuel book club is reading "Mere Christianity" by C.S. Lewis.

"One of the most popular introductions to Christian faith ever written, Mere Christianity has sold millions of copies worldwide. The book brings together C. S. Lewis's legendary broadcast talks of the war years, talks in which he set out simply to "explain and defend the belief that has been common to nearly all Christians at all times." Rejecting the boundaries that divide Christianity's many de-nominations, Lewis provides an unequaled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear a powerful, rational case for the Christian faith. It is a collection of scintillating brilliance that remains strikingly fresh for the modern reader and at the same time confirms C. S. Lewis's reputation as one of the leading writers and thinkers of our age."

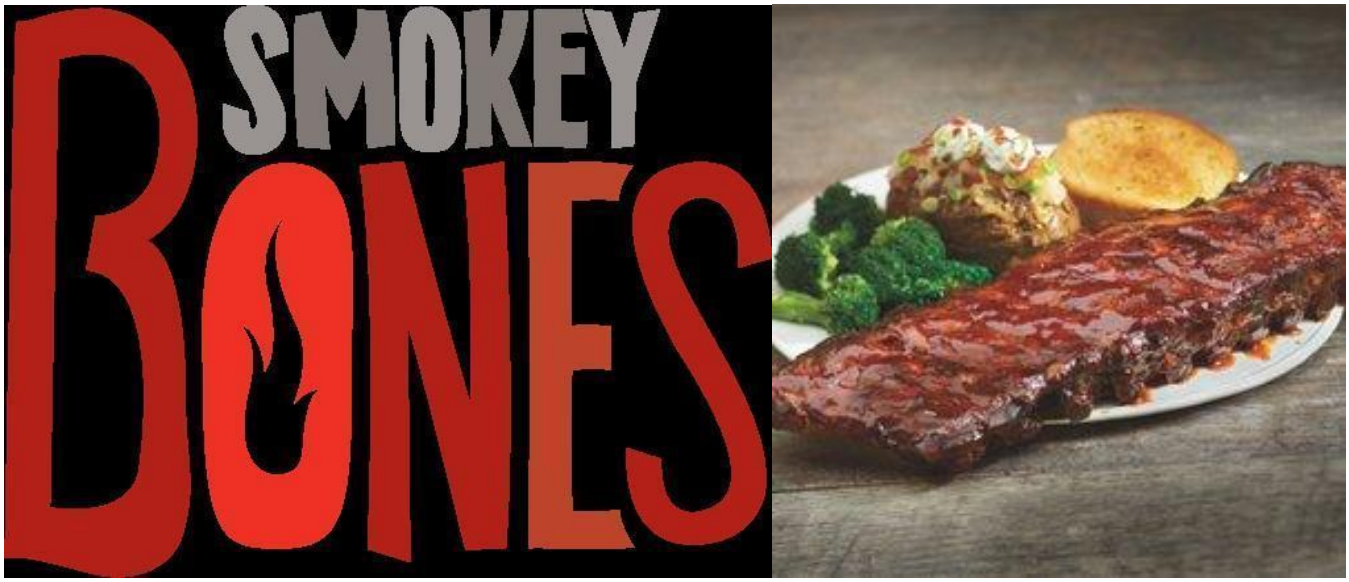
We will meet on Sunday March 30th at 12PM in Jacobs Hall to enjoy fellowship, food and discuss the book.
Everyone is welcome to come!

Lights on the Altar this Lent

Lent is a time of repentance, a time of coming out of darkness into the light. This year's altar display is a message of hope for all God's people. There are 40 smaller lights representing the 40 days of Lent and each of us making our way up the mountain to the 3 larger lights – representing the Holy Trinity. Thank you to Sue Wieboldt for creating this year's Lenten altar.

"I am the light of the world." Jesus says, "Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Live Laugh & Learn Lunch



The next lunch will be held:

Thursday, March 27th 12:30PM to 2PM

Smokey Bones BBQ

31B Universal Blvd, Warwick, RI 02886

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!

Thrivent Choice Dollars - DEADLINE

THRIVENT FINANCIAL®

Connecting faith & finances for good.®

HOW TO DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®

You have until March 31, 2025 to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars, else they will be lost.

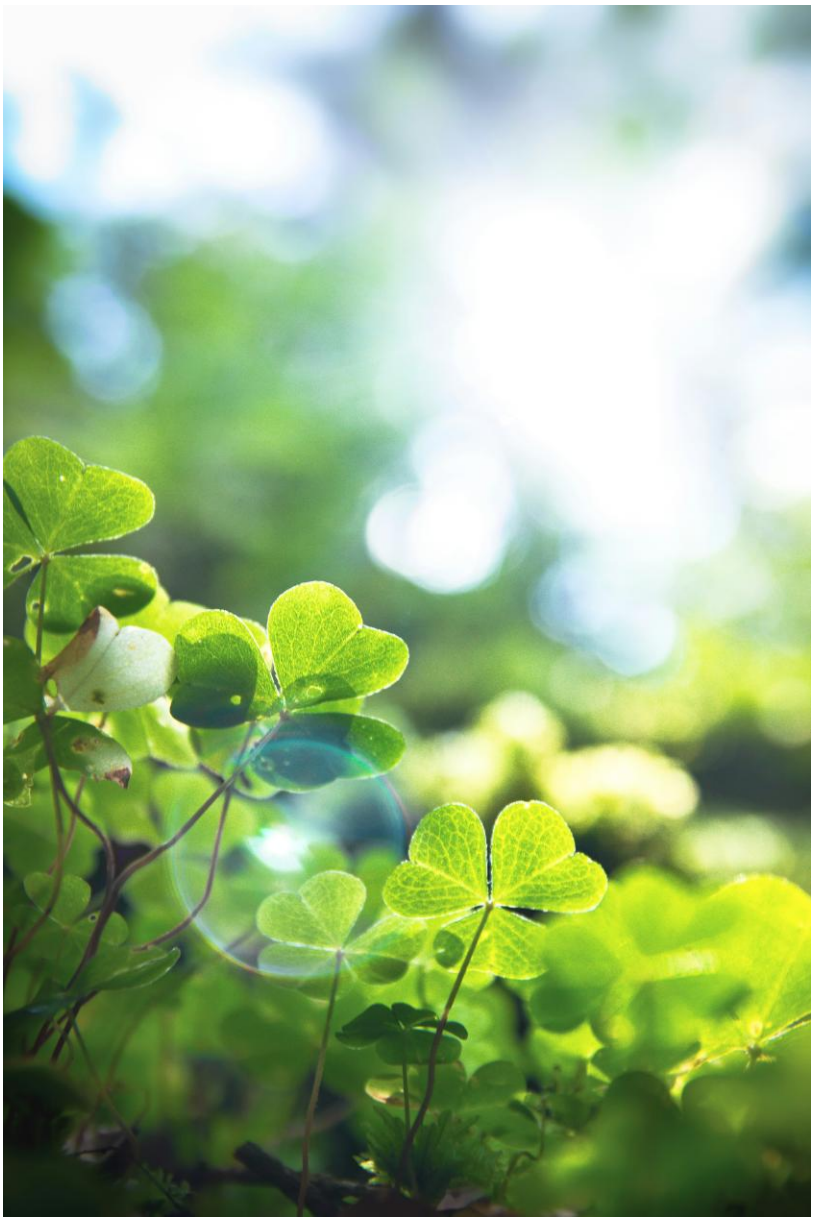
If you have a Thrivent Financial relationship, you may have Thrivent Choice Dollars.

Thrivent Choice Dollars can be given to many organizations including Emanuel. Last year Emanuel received over $2,000 in Thrivent Choice Dollars. These funds helped Emanuel's ministries. Thank you!

To see if you have Thrivent Choice dollars and to direct them, go to:

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

Wednesday Bible Study of Genesis



Next session Wednesday March 19th at 7PM

We meet in person in Jacobs Hall at Emanuel.

On March 19th we will be reading the story of joseph and his amazing technicolor dreamcoat.

No previous knowledge of the Bible necessary.

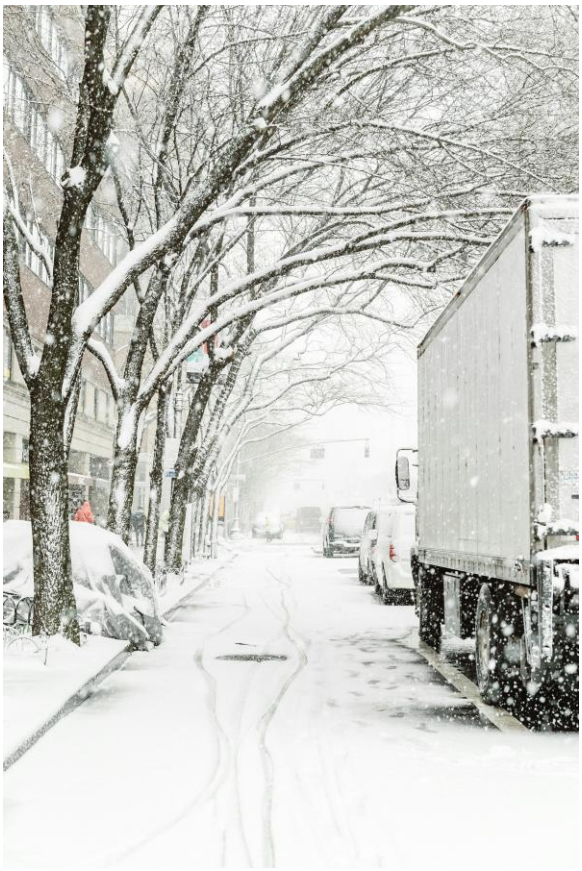
Did You Know?

In February we served 392 people from 217 families. We were visited 326 times and had 18 new families. We distributed 14,472 pounds of food

Thank you for all who support this outreach

Emanuel's food pantry is open every Tuesday from 10AM to 12PM.

Emanuel Needs Your Help



The February snow storms have put a big strain on our church budget. We have over **$2,000 in snow plowing bills** to pay so far this month.

In addition, the cancellation of in-person worship services for two weeks in a row has meant a dramatic decrease in Sunday giving.

Many members give their offering using the ***Simply Giving*** program, or the ***Givelify*** app, while others use their Offering Envelopes to give to our church.

We now have a severe crunch in paying our regular church bills, plus the big plowing bills over the past few weeks. We are asking you to consider making a special contribution, if possible, to help make up for the shortfall.

Emanuel's Finance Committee and the Church Council thank everyone who is able to help out with this financial challenge.

Please mail your check to Emanuel, or bring it to church next Sunday.

This will help to get through these difficulties and put us back on track. Thank you for your help.

Ways to Support Ascentria Care Alliance

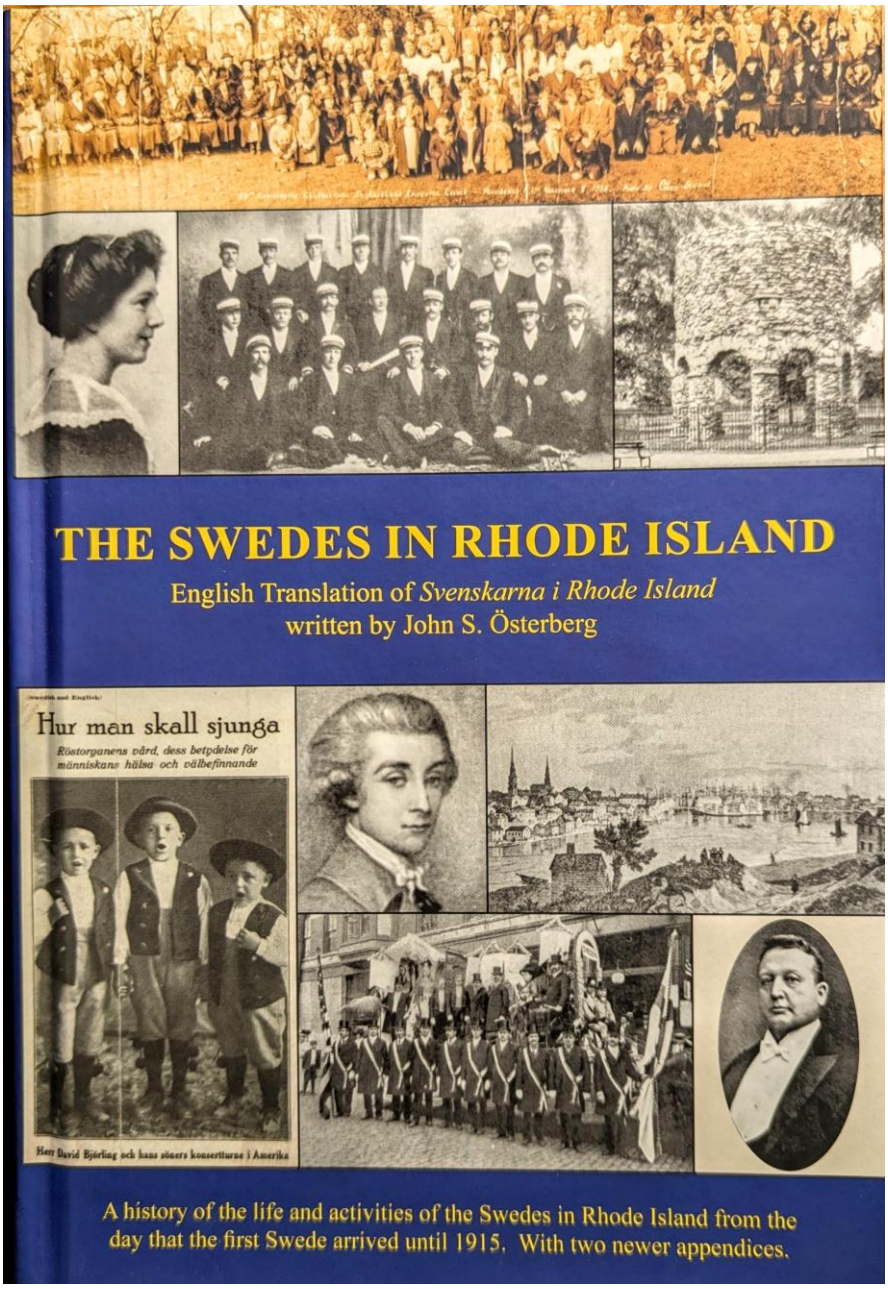
formerly Lutheran Social Services of New England

Ascentria recently received a "stop-work order" from the Federal government and a spending freeze stopped payment for Ascentria's work with 61 families involving 234 people. Ascentria, formerly Lutheran Social Services of New England, provides adoption services, care for the elder and people with disabilities and mental health challenges, refugee settlement, help for poor families with children, and runs the Good News Garage program.

For more information about Ascentria go to their website:
www.ascentria.org

If you would like to support them financially, there is a DONATE button on their website. Checks may also be sent directly to Ascentria Care Alliance, 11 Shattuck St, Worcester, MA 01605. Attention: Advancement. Thank you.

New Book Includes Emanuel



A new book has just been published titled "The Swedes in Rhode Island" by John Osterberg. Not surprisingly Emanuel is mentioned.

Astrid Drew, who was a longtime member of the Scandinavian Women's Chorus of RI, has generously donated a copy for Emanuel's library. Thank you!

If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please let Astrid or Pastor Todd know. Copies are $32.

Lakota Star Quilts

for sale

in support of the Oglala Sioux Tribe

Jack Silverman came and spoke at Emanuel last October about his experience living on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota with the Oglala Sioux Tribe. Jack is a friend of Pastor Todd's and grew up in Rhode Island. A grandmother he knows there makes traditional Lakota Star Quilts and is attempting to sell them.

The quilts are $300. This includes shipping and everything. Each quilt is unique and handmade. Traditionally, quilts are given as gifts in honor of a baby's birth, marriages, funerals, or other rites of passage.

If you are interested in purchasing one, please let Pastor Todd know or contact Jack directly at **jlsilverman2019@gmail.com**
Thank you.

Do You Like Coffee?

If so, consider hosting coffee hour one Sunday. If it's your first time (or 2nd or 3rd), people will help you and show you where everything is.

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board
in the entry way. Thank you.

What's Your Story?

Sharing Our Stories of God

We are inviting people to share stories of how God has shown up in their lives.

If you would be willing to share a story from your life, please let Pastor Todd know. Thank you.

Bible Readings for Sunday March 16th

First Reading Luke 13:1-9

Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.

1 At that very time there were some present who told him about the
Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2He asked
them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they
were worse sinners than all other Galileans? 3No, I tell you; but unless you
repent, you will all perish as they did. 4Or those eighteen who were killed
when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse
offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5No, I tell you; but unless
you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

6 Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard;
and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7So he said to the
gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this
fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the
soil?" 8He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and
put manure on it. 9If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you
can cut it down." '

Second Reading Luke 13:31-35

Neither Herod's plotting nor Jerusalem's resistance to maternal love will deter Jesus from his sacrificial mission.

31 At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from
here, for Herod wants to kill you.' 32He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox
for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and
tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. 33Yet today, tomorrow,
and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a
prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." 34Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the
city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often
have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her
brood under her wings, and you were not willing! 35See, your house is left
to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you
say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord." '

How do the Bible readings speak to you?

Choir at Emanuel

Sundays at 9AM
in the sanctuary.

All who like to make music
are welcome.

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
20 Leaf Street
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

Sermon Topics

Narrative Lectionary September 8 – June 8

3/16 Lament Over Jerusalem

3/23 Lost Sheep, Coin & Son

3/30 The Rich Man & Lazarus

4/6 Zaccheus was a Wee Little Man

4/13 Palm Sunday

4/20 Easter, the Resurrection of Our Lord

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

For Healing & Comfort: Russ Powers (Joanne's husband)

Worship Assistants

	March 16	*March 23*
Counter:	**Ken Wieboldt**	**Kathy Marco**
	8:00AM	**8:00AM**
Lector:	**Sue Auger**	**Sue Auger**
Acolyte	**Tim Hart**	**Tim Hart**
	10:30AM	**10:30AM**
Lay Minister:	**Donna Sennett**	**Diane Gadoury**
Acolyte	**-**	**-**
Ushers	**Bruce Johnson**	**Alex Lucier & Ken Wieboldt**
Lector:	**Linda Mensinger Nunez**	**Cali LaMountain**
Coffee Hour	**Sue Wieboldt & Diane Plante**	**Cali LaMountain**

March's Memorial Candle

The Memorial Candle for March is given in celebration of **Ken & Sue Wieboldt's anniversary.**

This Week at Emanuel

Monday, March 10	**10:00am**	**Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)**
5th Day of Lent	**7:00pm**	**Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)**
Tuesday, March 11	**9:00am**	**Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH)**
6th Day of Lent	**10:00am**	**Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM**
		Pastor Office Hours 10AM to 2PM
	7:00pm	**Worship & Music Committee ONLINE**
Wednesday, March 12	**10:00am**	**Ellie's Circle (JH)**
7th Day of Lent	**7:00pm**	**Genesis Bible Study (JH)**
Thursday, March 13	**7:00pm**	**Council Meeting (JH)**
8th Day of Lent		
Friday, March 14	**9:00am**	**Sue's Office Hours (9AM – 1PM)**
9th Day of Lent		
Saturday, March 15		
10th Day of Lent		
Sunday, March 16	**8:00am**	**Worship in Person**
Second Sunday in Lent	**9:00am**	**Choir**
	9:15am	**Sunday School (FH)**
	10:30am	**Worship in Person & Online**
	11:30am	**Coffee Hour**

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Next Week at Emanuel

Monday, March 17	**10:00am**	**Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)**
11th Day of Lent	**7:00pm**	**Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)**
Saint Patrick's Day		
Tuesday, March 18	**9:00am**	**Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH)**
12th Day of Lent	**10:00am**	**Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM**
		Pastor Office Hours 10AM to 2PM
Wednesday, March 19	**10:00am**	**Ellie's Circle (JH)**
13th Day of Lent	**7:00pm**	**Genesis Bible Study (JH)**
Thursday, March 20		**Spring Equinox – 1st day of Spring**
14th Day of Lent		
Friday, March 21	**9:00am**	**Sue's Office Hours (9AM – 1PM)**
15th Day of Lent		
Saturday, March 22		
16th Day of Lent		
Sunday, March 23	**8:00am**	**Worship in Person**
Third Sunday in Lent	**9:00am**	**Choir**
	9:15am	**Sunday School (FH) & Confirmation (JH)**
	10:30am	**Worship in Person & Online**
	11:30am	**Coffee Hour**

Upcoming Commemorations

Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, died 461
Monday, March 17, 2025
A native of Britain, Patrick was kidnapped by pirates at age sixteen and sold into slavery in Ireland. After a few years, he escaped, returned home, and entered the ministry. Returning to Ireland, he successfully served as a bishop and missionary there.

Joseph, Guardian of Jesus
Wednesday, March 19, 2025
Though the Bible tells us little about the husband of Jesus' mother Mary, we know that he was a carpenter or builder by trade. He is also shown as being devoted both to God and to Mary and Jesus. It is assumed that he died before Jesus became an adult.

Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, died 1556
Friday, March 21, 2025
Cranmer's lasting achievement is contributing to and overseeing the creation of the Book of Common Prayer, which remains (in revised form) the worship book of the Anglican Communion. He was burned at the stake under Queen Mary for his support of the Protestant Reformation.

Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, died 1758
Saturday, March 22, 2025
A Puritan minister in Connecticut, Edwards is remembered as being a great preacher. Though his most famous sermon talks at length about hell, he was more concerned with God's love. He served both as missionary to the Housatonic people in Massachusetts, and as president of the future Princeton University.

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

Emanuel's Online Calendar

The calendar is on Emanuel's web site.