

Christmas Eve Services at Emanuel



Wednesday December 24th

4PM – Service with Christmas Pageant

Zoom Link for 4PM service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89092838685?pwd=zYeqTUV0wHRogbFKdwbbL8mZI01qcA.1>

Meeting ID: 890 9283 8685 Password: 032566

10PM – Late night candlelight service

Zoom Link for 11PM service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87001031824?pwd=jsoOKe58vwPNypMcvXQaLaBwHnxVTj.1>

Meeting ID: 870 0103 1824 Password: 372439

Emanuel's Christmas Giving Tree is Up!



Thank you to everyone who has signed up to take a child. There are still some unclaimed ornaments, if you would like to buy a gift for a child in need. Just click on this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D45ABAD2FA5FBC52-60726862-emanuel>

We are asking that gifts be dropped off to the church by tomorrow **Friday December 19th** at **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:

Fridays 9AM to 1PM
Sundays 8AM to 12PM

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

January's Monthly Lunch



Serving Rhode Island for Over 15 years

The next lunch will be held:

Thursday, January 22nd 12:30PM

at **Asia Grille**

140 Hillside Rd, Cranston, RI 02920 (Garden City)

If you would like to go, please email or call Marcia Melanson at

Phone: 401-742-8417

Email: mmelan4@outlook.com

Friends welcome!

Help us plan for 2026 at Emanuel



Please put your **2026 Estimate of Giving** forms in the offering plate on Sunday or mail them to the church or you can fill out the form on Emanuel's website:

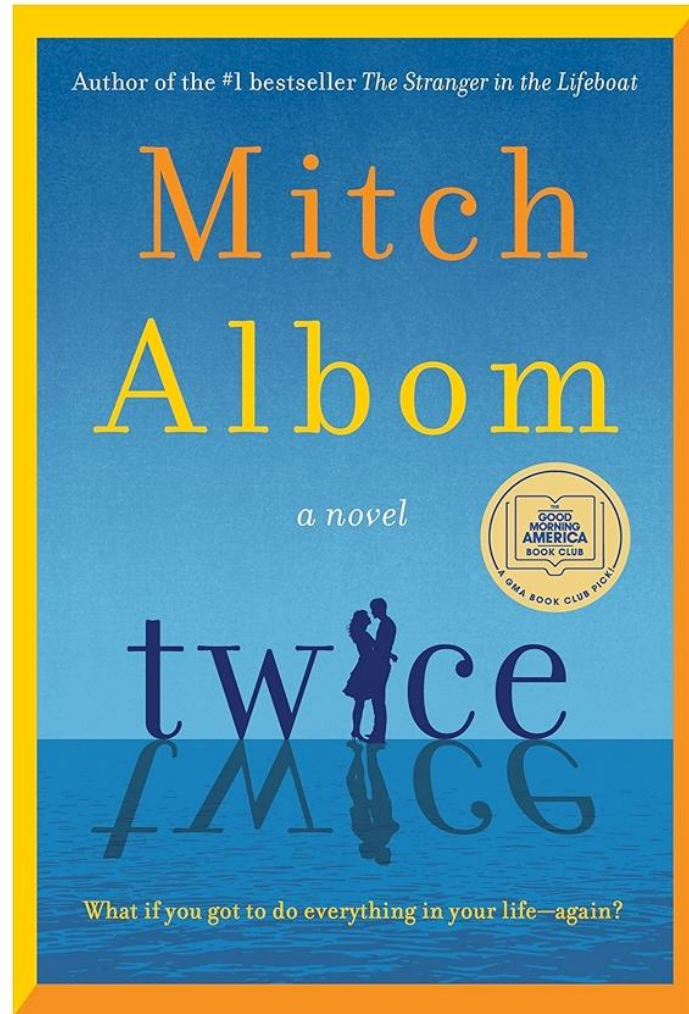
www.emanuelww.org

(Under the "DONATE" menu item click on "2026 GIVING FORM")

If possible, please submit your 2026 estimate of giving
by **Sunday December 28th**

Your input will help us in our planning and budgeting
for next year. Thank you!

Readers of Emanuel



Emanuel's book club is reading:

“Twice” by Mitch Albom

What if you got to do everything in your life—twice? Mitch Albom's newest novel is a stunning love story that dares to explore how our unchecked desires might mean losing what we've had all along.

We will meet on **Sunday January 11th** at ~12PM in Jacobs Hall to enjoy fellowship, food and discuss the book.

Everyone is welcome!

Women's Retreat April 14th – 16th



at Camp Calumet

If you are interested in attending the midweek women's retreat at Camp Calumet – Tuesday 4/14 to Thursday 4/16, please let Sue Wieboldt know.

susieq3380@gmail.com

Thank you!

Emanuel's Choir



**The choir meets on
Sundays at 9AM
in the sanctuary.**

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

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.

Bible Readings for Sunday December 21st

First Reading

Genesis 1:1-5

Out of chaos, God speaks and brings order. Out of the primeval darkness, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for any person living in the chaos and darkness of despair. God created and continues to create new life.

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Gospel Reading

John 1:1-18

John begins his gospel with this prologue: a hymn to the Word through whom all things were created. This Word became flesh and brought light, grace and truth to the world.

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

How do the Bible readings speak to you?

What is 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.

Check your Thrivent Financial account.



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HOW TO DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®

There could be free money for Emanuel.

Please check your account now, to see if you have **free Thrivent Choice** dollars available. If you do, you can tell Thrivent to donate them to help Emanuel.

You can direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars by going online at **www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice** OR by calling **800-847-4836** and saying "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt.

There are thousands of dollars available each year. But you need to direct them to Emanuel, so they will benefit our church!

If you're not familiar with the **Thrivent Choice** program, just ask your Thrivent Representative. Or send an e mail to Pastor Todd, or Emanuel's Treasurer, Carol Johnson. They can assist you.

Thank you to everyone who has already designated their Thrivent Choice dollars to help Emanuel.

Please direct your Thrivent Choice dollars 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=cHZ5RVNsdnFYcDhhNVdMKzA2VENlQT09>

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

a prayer for these times

Give us courage for the facing of this hour.
Guide us by the bright vision of your Heavenly Realm
where no weapon is drawn but the sword of righteousness,
no strength known but the strength of love.



O Christ, show us your mercy
As we put our trust in you.

NH Episcopal Bishop Rob Hirschfeld

Sermon Topics



Narrative Lectionary September 7 – May 24

12/21 The Word Made Flesh

12/24 The birth of Jesus

12/28 Lessons & Carols

1/4 Jesus Says Come and See

1/11 Wedding at Cana

Epiphany Service at Emanuel



Tuesday January 6th

Come celebrate Epiphany on
Tuesday January 6th, 2025 at 7PM

We will celebrate with song,
light and wonder.

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

For Grieving: the family & friends of Pastor Nick Sollom (friend of Pastor Todd's)

<https://www.facebook.com/61563195791524/posts/it-is-with-profound-sadness-that-i-announce-the-death-of-pastor-nick-sollom-afte/122175303074439859/>

Worship Assistants

	<i>December 21</i>	<i>December 28</i>
Counter:	Ken Wieboldt	TBD
	8:00AM	8:00AM
Lector:	Sue Auger	Kathy Marco
Acolyte	Tim Hart	Tim Hart
	10:30AM	10:30AM
Lay Minister:	Lee Jacobs	Bruce Johnson
Acolyte	Brandee Muncey	-
Ushers	Ray & Linda Nunez	Joanne Powers & Amanda Grudzinski
Lector:	Song Edwards	Mary Schabek
Coffee Hour	Sharon Charlton Dias & Lucy Ogden	volunteer needed

December's Memorial Candle



The Memorial Candle for December is given by Susan Auger
In loving memory of **Doug Auger.**

This Week at Emanuel

Monday, December 15	10:00am	Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)
	7:00pm	Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)

Tuesday, December 16	9:00am	Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH)
	10:00am	Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM
		Pastor's Office Hours 10AM to 2PM

Wednesday, December 17		

Thursday, December 18	12:30pm	Monthly Lunch at Applebee's

Friday, December 19	9:00am	Sue in the office

Saturday, December 20		

Sunday, December 21	8:00am	Worship in Person
Fourth Sunday of Advent	9:00am	Choir
Winter Solstice	9:15am	Sunday School (FH)
	10:30am	Worship in Person & Online
	11:30am	Coffee Hour



Next Week at Emanuel

Monday, December 22	10:00am	Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM)
	7:00pm	Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)

Tuesday, December 23	9:00am	Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH)
	10:00am	Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM
		Pastor's Office Hours 10AM to 2PM

Wednesday, December 24	4:00pm	Christmas Eve service with Christmas Pageant
Christmas Eve	10:00pm	Late night candlelight Christmas Eve service

Thursday, December 25		Merry Christmas!
First Day of Christmas		

Friday, December 26	9:00am	Sue in the office
Second Day of Christmas		

Saturday, December 27		
Third Day of Christmas		

Sunday, December 28	8:00am	Worship in Person – Lessons & Carols
First Sunday of Christmas	9:00am	Choir
Fourth Day of Christmas		NO Sunday School
	10:30am	Worship in Person & Online – Lessons & Carols
	11:30am	Coffee Hour

Upcoming Commemorations

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

Saturday, December 20, 2025

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.

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr

Friday, December 26, 2025

Stephen was a deacon and the first martyr of the church. He was one of those seven upon whom the apostles laid hands after they had been chosen to serve widows and others in need. Later, Stephen's preaching angered the temple authorities, and they ordered him to be put to death by stoning.

John, Apostle and Evangelist

Saturday, December 27, 2025

The son of Zebedee and brother of James, John was one of the twelve disciples and witness to the transfiguration. Tradition has named him also the writer of the Gospel of John, the three New Testament letters bearing his name, as well as Revelation.

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

[Emanuel's Online Calendar](#)

The calendar is on Emanuel's web site.