

This Sunday February 8th



Valentine's Potluck Coffee Hour

This Sunday 2/8 we are having a themed potluck coffee hour. The theme is Valentine's (love, chocolate, red, however you interpret this).

As always, all are welcome for good food & fellowship – even if you're not able to bring a dish.

Frozen Pipe Bursts at Emanuel



On Monday afternoon February 2nd a frozen pipe burst and flooded part of Joyful Noise with an inch or more of water.

The fire department was called and the boilers were shut down until plumbers could arrive. The children were escorted out of the building.

On Tuesday Joyful Noise was closed and a cleanup crew was on site.

Adult Forum on Grief all there is

with Anderson Cooper



(Pastor Dan & Faith Calson, Pastor John Carlson, Adelaide Johnson, Judi Carlson, Nancy & Pastor Alan Grant)

Wednesday February 4th 11th at 7PM

Anderson Cooper explores the topic of grief in his series "All There Is". Cooper lost his father when he was 10 years old and his brother to suicide when he was 21. We will watch a couple of episodes in this series and discuss grief. What is it? How does it affect us? Where is God in it?

Wednesdays at 7PM in Jacobs Hall

February's Monthly Lunch



The next lunch will be held:

Thursday, February 19th 12:30PM

at **Bill's Place**

707 Main St. West Warwick, RI 02893

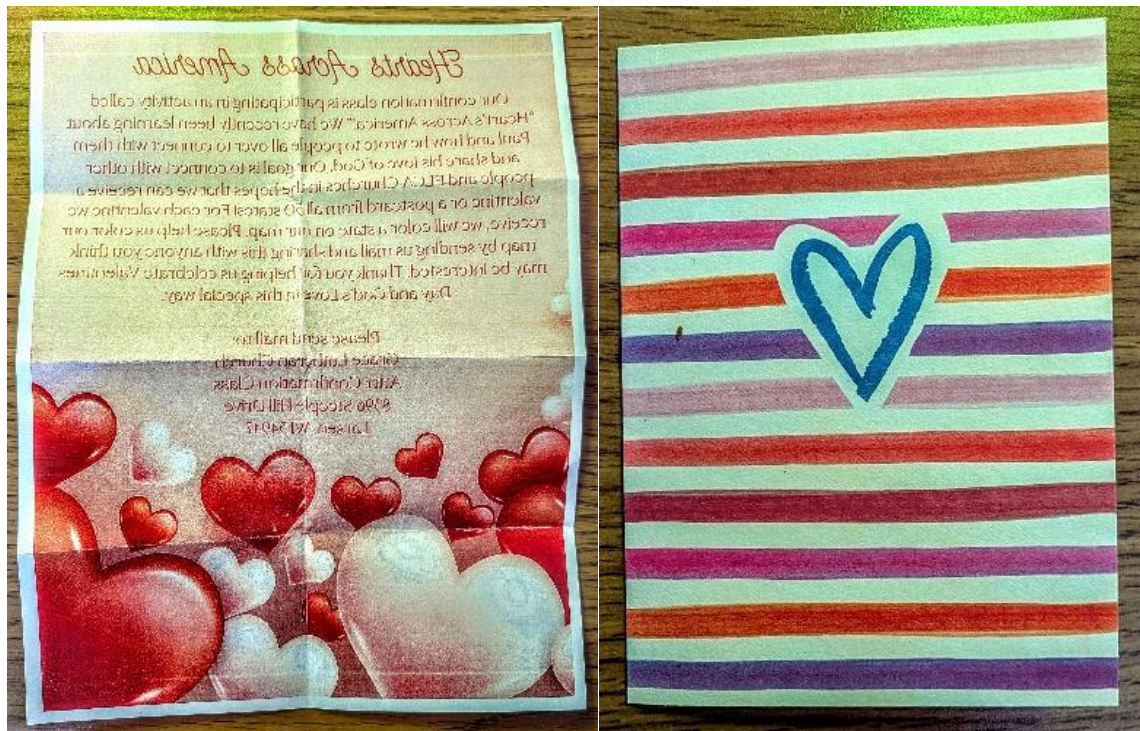
If you would like to go, please email or call Marcia Melanson at

Phone: 401-742-8417

Email: mmelan4@outlook.com

Friends welcome!

Hearts Across America from Grace Lutheran Church in Larsen, Wisconsin

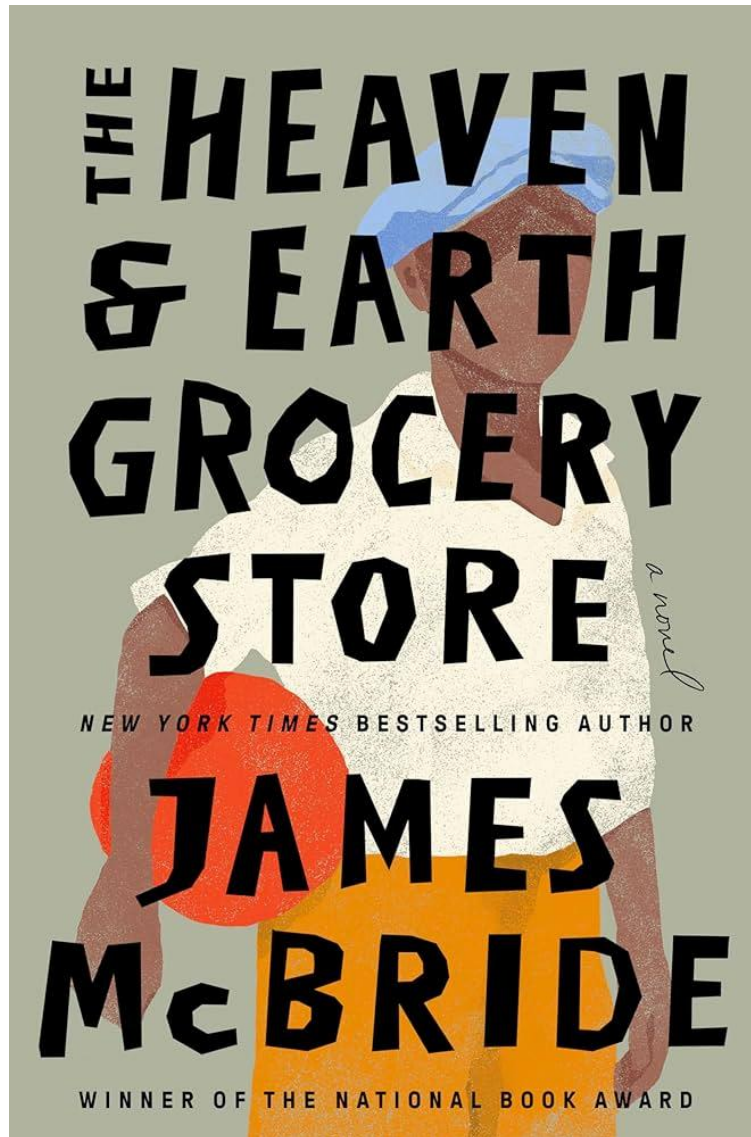


We're thankful to be part
of God's family with you.

-Grace Lutheran church.

We received a letter this week from a confirmation class at Grace Lutheran Church in Larsen, Wisconsin. It's part of an activity they call "Hearts Across America". They are learning about how Paul wrote letters to different churches. Some of those letters ended up in the Bible, e.g. Romans, 1st Corinthians, Galatians, etc. Following Paul's lead they are writing to letters to congregations across the United States. They hope to hear back from churches in all 50 states. With help from Emanuel's confirmands will be responding to them from Rhode Island.

Readers of Emanuel



Emanuel's book club is reading
“The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store”
by James McBride

The book has been nominated for and won a variety of awards including the Kirkus Prize.

We will meet on **Sunday February 22nd** at ~12PM in Jacobs Hall to enjoy fellowship, food and discuss the book.
Everyone is welcome!

Highlights from last Sunday's Annual Congregational Meeting



- 3 new people join Emanuel's Council: Jenn Hadden, Jake Johnson and Margaret Teehan! They join continuing council members: Song Edwards, Myron Gadoury, Bruce Johnson, Mark Melanson, Marcia Melanson, Ray Nunez, Kathy Plante, Pastor Todd Stange, Ken Wieboldt, Sue Wieboldt.
- Myron and Diane Gadoury will be joining Pastor Todd in going to this year's New England Synod Assembly June 4 - 6 in Worcester, MA. They will represent Emanuel at the assembly.
- Pat Winiarski will be joining the Endowment Committee for a three year term. She is taking Hannah Haas' spot on the committee. Hannah served two 3 year terms and needed to step down. The committee determines how the endowment funds will be disbursed. This year \$15,273 will be given out to do God's work.
- A budget of \$192,161.95 for 2026 was approved by the congregation unanimously. It is anticipated that this will be a stretch.

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!

Bishop's Bulletin – February 20206



(Bp Piphho speaks at the recognition of outgoing Bp Sani Ibrahim Azar; Pr Tim Keyl, Pr. Gabi Aelabouni and Bp. Piphho)

Bearing Christian Witness

“For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.” 2 Timothy 1:7

The executions of Renee Good and Alex Pretti by ICE in Minneapolis are chilling ...

The ramped-up efforts by ICE in New England, including in Maine where the activity is sickeningly called “Catch of the Day,” are depressing ...

The divisions among members in our own congregations who look at the same news stories and come to different conclusions, are disheartening ...

In this moment in 2026 American life, how are we as the New England Synod called to provide public witness to Jesus at this time? Empowered by God who has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but a spirit of power, love and self-discipline, here are several proposals I have about bearing Christian witness in this moment.

1. Join my online study on the “Faith & Civic Life” Social Statement on Thursdays in Lent beginning February 19 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Faith & Civic Life teaches how our Lutheran witness to Jesus Christ can be lived out publicly in the world. This teaching document of the ELCA was recently approved at the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Phoenix and repudiates Christian Nationalism. I look forward to introducing the social statement to the New England Synod in five sessions during Lent. [Click here for more information or to register.](#) I look forward to you joining the study!

2. Be grounded in scripture – I remain convinced that Matthew 25:31-46 is one of the most powerful texts we can stand on in this moment. *“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”* (Matthew 25:40). In this passage, Jesus teaches that the faithful will be judged on how they treat those most in need in their communities. And more powerfully, Jesus made the claim that he is found in those most in need! Therefore, how we treat those around us is how we treat Jesus Christ himself! How we treat each person we meet, whether that person is living in fear of ICE or that person is an ICE agent themselves, is how we treat Christ!

3. Be renewed in our Lutheran understanding of vocation – We please and honor God, and we participate in God's work bringing blessing to society, as we live out our daily vocations for the good of our neighbors. Imagine the power of 17,000 Lutherans in New England actively living out vocations as family members, employees, employers, neighbors, and citizens. While it seems like so much is being torn down around us, in the ways we serve our neighbors in the vocations of our daily lives, we become the Holy Spirit's work repairing, restoring and healing. It is not necessary to go somewhere else and do something mighty in order to please God. You please God, and resist and reject evil, right where you are as you love and serve your neighbors as spouses, friends, parents, grandparents, children, employers, employees, family members, neighbors and citizens. The old saying is as important as ever: "think globally but act locally."

4. Nurture relationships, connections, networks – nurturing relationships is one of my priorities as bishop and I believe it's as important as ever. ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry has called the church to focus on connections we have with one another. We need relationships, connections and networks for self-care, survival and to advocate and witness effectively. This is no time for lone rangers or lone wolves. Connect with colleagues, connect with fellow parishioners, connect with other congregations, connect with interfaith partners, connect with social service organizations, connect with advocacy groups, and perhaps most importantly of all – connect with those you disagree with. Nurture relationships, build connections, and sustain networks across differences. This work is the work of the risen Christ bringing healing and restoration to the world.

5. "Be wise as serpents, gentle as doves" Matthew 10:16 – it's easy to fall into the "fight, flight, freeze" reptilian brain in response to crisis. As disciples of Jesus, I believe we are called to move out of that response and into our thinking brains. This moment is summoning the best thinking, creativity, and ingenuity of each of us. We need thoughtful analysis about power and how to organize people and money to affect change. We need to listen carefully to understand our neighbors. We need to create pathways where people can come to new understandings and new positions without others cheering as if they've won. We need to think about new alliances and working with those with whom we disagree. This is not the time to hide behind ideological purity tests. This is a time for bold, strategic and creative thinking about how to be the hands and feet of God in this moment.

6. Take Sabbath rest – Even as there is much work to do, it is important to enter places of sabbath rest where we turn off the news, stop doom scrolling and set aside the work. We are invited to rest in sabbath places not because the work is done, nor to be excused from the work we are called to do, but because we cannot work effectively and well from places of exhaustion and depletion. The gift of community is that none of us is called to do everything, but that in community everything gets done by someone. Remember what you are told when you fly: in the event of an emergency put on your own oxygen mask before helping others. If you pass out from lack of oxygen on an airplane, or exhaustion and despair in life and ministry, then you can't help anyone else. Cultivate sabbath places of rest as the oxygen from God filling your lungs and bodies with energy. In sabbath rest, receive God filling your lives with grace, mercy and love so that you can go forth into the world as the grace, mercy and love of God. Sabbath rest fills us with love in the work we are called to do, for as taught in 1 Corinthians 13:1, *"for if I do not have love, I am a noisy gong or clanging cymbal."*

7. Learn from the Palestinian Lutheran Church – In early January, I joined the ELCA Bishops Accompaniment trip to our companion synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL). While there, I attended the consecration of Bishop Dr. Imad Haddad in Jerusalem as bishop of the ELCJHL. At the reception following his consecration, Bishop Haddad said the day was a day of both joy and “humiliation, anger, and frustration” (his words). Traveling to Jerusalem for the consecration, Bishop Haddad was delayed four hours at a checkpoint out of the West Bank and into Jerusalem. Even worse, on the day of her son's consecration as bishop, Bishop Haddad's mother was denied entry to Jerusalem at a checkpoint and forced from her car at gunpoint. This detention delayed the start of the consecration festivities. Many other members of the ELCJHL were denied entry to Jerusalem for their bishop's consecration.

While acknowledging the humiliation, anger and frustration of his consecration day experienced by himself, his family and members of the ELCJHL, Bishop Haddad shared that he chose joy in response. He acknowledged choosing joy was difficult and that it was not his first reaction, but he chose not to let the forces of evil rob him of the joy that was rightfully his. At the reception in Bethlehem later that night the church danced. After undergoing the indignity of the checkpoints, Bishop Haddad was granted the dignity that is rightfully his as a baptized child of God and bishop in Christ's church, as he was centered in a dancing circle of members of the ELCJHL and lifted on the shoulders of his friends and family. His mother, earlier detained, joined him there in the circle. The Palestinian Lutheran Church chose joy, they chose to dance in the promise of God's love upon them.

In response to state-based terrorism against the Palestinian people, the Palestinian Lutheran Church is loving and serving their neighbors. It is widely recognized that the ELCJHL, with Christians just 1% of the total population of Palestine and decreasing, plays an outsized influence in Palestinian society in the ways the Church loves and serve their neighbors. Most of the people served by the ELCJHL in their schools, social justice and environmental ministries are Muslims. Their love is not conditional but is contextual and inter-religious ministry. This love also extends to Jews. Nowhere, among any of our Palestinian siblings, did we hear cries for violence, revenge, or retribution against Jews, Israelis, or the government of Israel. Despite the daily indignities intended to dehumanize and destabilize Palestinians, we heard, instead, the pleas for justice and that international law be honored and observed. Even as Bishop Haddad called us to tell the story of the Palestinian Church, he told us not to take sides. Instead, he called on us to be advocates for justice for all people.

And the Palestinian Church lives in hope. Pastor Munther Isaac pointed out this hope is not the hope that the situation will just somehow fix itself. Rather, this hope is in the living Christ who moves the global church to advocate for justice. Hope is found in Christ who lives and in Christians who live in Christ as people of justice. Hope is found in our choice to stand with Bishop Haddad and the people of the ELCJHL by amplifying their voices and telling their stories. Hope is found in Christ in our choice to stand with immigrants and those living in fear in this country by dignifying and honoring those othered would target and dehumanize. We are people of hope when we insist in Christ that all humans are created in the image of God deserving justice, dignity, and respect.

Indeed, let us learn from the Palestinian Church how to be people of joy, love, and hope. Let us choose to honor the humanity and dignity of each person. Let us love each of our neighbors in need. Let us advocate boldly and openly in behalf of any who are oppressed,

mistreated, and dehumanized. Let us insist that all people be treated as beloved children of God.

Those are a few thoughts I have about how we can bear Christian witness in this moment in time. As you consider how to bear witness, whether in these ways or others, remember that God who defeated death in the resurrection of Jesus Christ has not given us a spirit of cowardice. Instead, God has given us Holy Spirit power, love, and self-discipline. Alive in Christ who lives in us, let us be God's healing in the world in our worship and prayer, in our service and advocacy, in our study and reflections, and in all the ways we live out our vocations in the world for the sake of our neighbors.

Yours in Christ,
Bishop Piphon



(ELCA representatives attending the festivities in the ELCJHL)

Emanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes Thursday December 11, 2025

Attendees: Song Edwards, Myron Gadoury, Bruce Johnson, Mark Melanson, Marcia Melanson, Ray Nunez, Kathy Plante, Pastor Todd Stange, Ken Wieboldt

Absent: Sue Wieboldt

Opening Devotions

- Pastor Todd opened with a devotion centered around Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan. He shared a personal story of moving into another lane to avoid a person begging. During this season of Christmas, let us remember that everyone is a child of God, and we are called to love all people.

Approve November council meeting minutes

- The name of a person being helped with the Food Pantry pasta dinner proceeds was removed from the minutes to protect their privacy.
- Minutes edited to clarify that the recycle contract is with Joyful Noise and the company that collects the recyclable material.
- Minutes were approved with these edits.

Treasurer's Report

- Carol Johnson provides an update on the church's financial status, mentioning overspending on electricity and insurance.
- We underspent our budget in 2025. So far, by about -\$3,500. This is what we usually do, however, we underspent it less this year than in the past. It's good we underspend, because our income was also less than needed to support the budget. So far this year we've had to transfer ~\$6,400 from our savings to cover bills.
- The Endowment account is up about \$20K for the year.
- We made ~\$8,000 from the Bazaar this year. These funds may be needed in 2026 to help pay bills.
- The food pantry has ~\$22K. In addition to the spaghetti dinner fundraiser, we also received a bunch of donations for the food pantry in November.

Electricity / Solar Panels

- Emanuel did not receive an electrical bill for November (We also didn't receive one for October either). We expected to receive a bill in November, because we imported more electricity than we exported. We are not sure why we didn't receive a bill for November. We will wait and see what December looks like.
- Joyful Noise was charged for 70% of the electrical usage per our agreement with them that was signed this past summer. It was for about \$270. Joyful in the past has paid 70% of the electrical bill. We will continue to have them do this based on the amount of electricity the building uses for at least a year. After a year we should have a better understanding of how much electricity the solar panels produce and any charges from RI Energy. We will also need to have a savings fund for any ongoing maintenance for the solar panels and incase they get damaged.
- Carol is keeping a spreadsheet of the amount of electricity the solar panels generate each month and how much the building is using.

- We will be applying for the federal tax credit for the solar panels. Carol will do this this month December or in January.
- We received the state tax credit for the solar panels ~\$28K. We need to send this to Sol Power (the company that installed the solar panels) per our agreement with them.

Calumet Campership Fund & the Women's April Retreat at Camp Calumet

- The women of Emanuel are planning a retreat to Camp Calumet Tuesday 4/14 to Thursday 4/16.
- Last year \$100 per person attending (total of \$1000) was given from the Endowment Fund to help lower the cost of the retreat.
- The Calumet campership fund as ~\$33K in it.
- A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously allowing funds from the Calumet Campership fund to be used to pay for \$100 per woman attending the retreat this coming April.

Emanuel Donate Online QR Code

- There was a discussion about Emanuel should have a QR Code to allow people to donate online easily.
- We already have one. It is in the Sunday bulletin. This QR Code takes you to Emanuel's Givelify page:



Proposed Budget for 2026

- Carol Johnson presents the first draft of the 2026 budget, highlighting changes and increases in certain expenses.
- The budget proposed for 2026 is \$193,077 compared to 2025's \$188,906. Changes to budget from 2025:
 - Pastor Discretionary fund raised to \$1,000 (from \$500). In the past pastor had received donations to be used as discretionary. Those funds are now gone.
 - The Minister of Music's salary has increased by \$2,000. This was approved last September. 2026 will be the first year we are paying the salary increase for the whole year.
 - Telephone budget line item is up \$400 to \$3500 total. We may want to look into changing from Cox to Verizon – to see if we can get a better deal. Verizon FIOS is now in the neighborhood.
 - Insurance is up ~\$1,600 compared to last year. In October we switched insurance companies. If we hadn't, this increase would have been much more.
 - Technology and trash/recycle are also up. Emanuel decided to pay for recycling.
- This proposed 2026 budget has us paying \$1,000 for electricity. This is very conservative. In all likelihood, we will actually make money from Joyful Noise paying for electrical use.
- We should also receive money from the federal solar panel tax credit. We have also been told to expect to receive a bequest from Michael Groleau's estate. Carol

Johnson mentioned the possibility of investing the IRS tax credit and the bequest to generate ongoing income for the church.

- The proposed budget for 2026 is pretty bare bones. There is not much we can cut. At the same time we know that we have lost some givers to the congregation from death and leaving. It will likely be difficult to fund this bare bones budget. We may need to rely on funds generated from the solar panels and the bazaar.

Christian Education Committee

- Ken or Todd didn't receive the December Christian Ed. committee report. Marge sent an email, but the report isn't attached.
- Pastor Todd gave an update from the December meeting. The Sunday school children with help from a few confirmands are working on getting ready for the Christmas pageant. The adult forum on the ELCA Social Statements wrapped up in the middle of November. The new confirmands all now have mentors. In January mentors and confirmands will be getting together to make dinner and play games. On Sunday February 8th the Sunday school children will be helping out with Sunday worship.

Property Committee Updates

- Joyful Noise asked if they could put in a clothing bin collection in the parking lot. They are looking for ways to raise money. Given that Emanuel already has a Big Sisters Big Brothers clothing collection bin in the parking lot, the council thought putting another bin would be a bad idea.
- Proposal to put a speed bump down the center of the parking lot – from Leaf Street down towards the garbage dumpsters. This would stop cars from cutting across the parking lot and hopefully make the parking lot safer. The bump would be about 3 feet wide and 6 inches high. There were concerns over making sure the bump was visible, so people didn't wreck their cars. Also, concerns about how this would affect snow plowing. The cost of the bump would be \$5,650. Given our tight budget the council decided not move forward with the speed bump.
- Joyful Noise had a water backflow test done on the buildings sewage system at a cost of \$295. They are required to do this. Myron believes Emanuel, as owners of the building, should be having this test done and seeing the results.
- Also, Joyful Noise had clogged sewage pipes again and had to have a plumber clean out the system. Baby wipes are clogging the pipes. This is an ongoing issue. Joyful pays for the plumber.
- None of the mini split air conditioners in the sanctuary are working. It would cost approx.. \$12,000 a piece to replace them. We would need at least two mini splits to cool the sanctuary (~\$24K). Instead of buying new mini splits, the Property Committee recommends purchasing 2 or 3 window units, which would cost much less (about \$750 a piece). However, to do this we would need to have electrical outlets put near the window that could handle the electrical load. The electrical work would cost about \$1,000. There was concern the window units are louder than the mini splits and blocks the window. The council decided to table this issue until our next meeting.
- Discussion about the need for a legal rental agreement with the daycare and the inclusion of all relevant terms. Joyful Noise has requested an agreement. The Finance Committee is working on the rental agreement for Joyful Noise. The council will get to review it before it gets signed by all parties.

Worship and Music Committee

- We will be using the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy on Sunday 12/14.
- Preparing for Christmas Eve services 4pm Christmas Pageant and 10pm candlelight service.
- On January 6th we are planning an Epiphany service. We are inviting other congregations to join us.
- Normally we would have the January Worship & Music Committee meeting on Tuesday January 6th, but because of Epiphany we are moving it to January 13th. We should also move the January council meeting to the following week – Thursday January 15th (the first Thursday of January is 1/1).
- Pastor Todd mentions the need for a trained security and medical person for the warming shelter.
- Discussion about the need to get congregation feedback and support for the warming shelter.

Annual Congregational Meeting

- The annual congregational meeting will be on Sunday January 25th. Snow date will be the following Sunday February 1st.

Investigate having a Warming Shelter at Emanuel

- Since last council meeting we met with the Emergency Coordinator for West Warwick, which is also the fire chief. He recommended that if we were going to have a warming shelter at Emanuel that we should have a security person trained in de-escalation, as well as trained medical person.
- Additionally, people raised concerns that five or so years ago the congregation discussed having a warming shelter at Emanuel and it was voted down. There are some big differences between what was voted down five years ago and what we have been discussing recently. The proposal now is just to have the warming shelter one weekend month, as opposed to all the time.
- Before moving ahead with a warming shelter at Emanuel, Pastor Todd recommends involving the congregation, see what concerns they have and get their feedback. We need to make sure we have the support of the congregation before moving ahead.
- Other concerns raised about having a warming shelter at Emanuel – just having one bathroom, who cleans up if someone gets sick and a mess is made, who would be volunteering to stay from Friday night to Sunday morning ~40 hours. People bringing drugs into the church.
- Could the Red Cross provide a trained medical person?
- Perhaps we could get someone from the Red Cross and/or the West Warwick fire chief to come and answer questions we have.
- Pastor Todd will inform the congregation we are looking into the possibility of having a warming shelter at Emanuel and ask for their feedback, questions, concerns.

Next Meeting – Thursday January 15

Closing Prayer

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 February 8th

First Reading

John 4:46-54

A father whose son is sick comes to Jesus and begs him to come and heal his son. Jesus does not go to the boy but tells the father his son will live. The father believes and goes home to find his son healed.

⁴⁶ Then he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had changed the water into wine. Now there was a royal official whose son lay ill in Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death.

⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to him, "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe."

⁴⁹ The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my little boy dies."

⁵⁰ Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started on his way.

⁵¹ As he was going down, his slaves met him and told him that his child was alive. ⁵² So he asked them the hour when he began to recover, and they said to him, "Yesterday at one in the afternoon the fever left him."

⁵³ The father realized that this was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." So he himself believed, along with his whole household.

⁵⁴ Now this was the second sign that Jesus did after coming from Judea to Galilee.

Second Reading

John 5:1-18

Jesus sees and speaks to a man who has been ill for 38 years. He heals him on the sabbath. In doing so he both reveals divine creative power and teaches a richer, deeper meaning for the sabbath as a healing and creative time.

¹ After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. ³ In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. ⁵ One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

⁷ The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me."

⁸ Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." ⁹ At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath. ¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who had been cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat."

¹¹ But he answered them, “The man who made me well said to me, ‘Take up your mat and walk.’ ”

¹² They asked him, “Who is the man who said to you, ‘Take it up and walk’?”

¹³ Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there.

¹⁴ Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you.” ¹⁵ The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

¹⁶ Therefore the Jews started persecuting Jesus, because he was doing such things on the Sabbath. ¹⁷ But Jesus answered them, “My Father is still working, and I also am working.” ¹⁸ For this reason the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because he was not only breaking the Sabbath but was also calling God his own Father, thereby making himself equal to God.

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.



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.®

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.

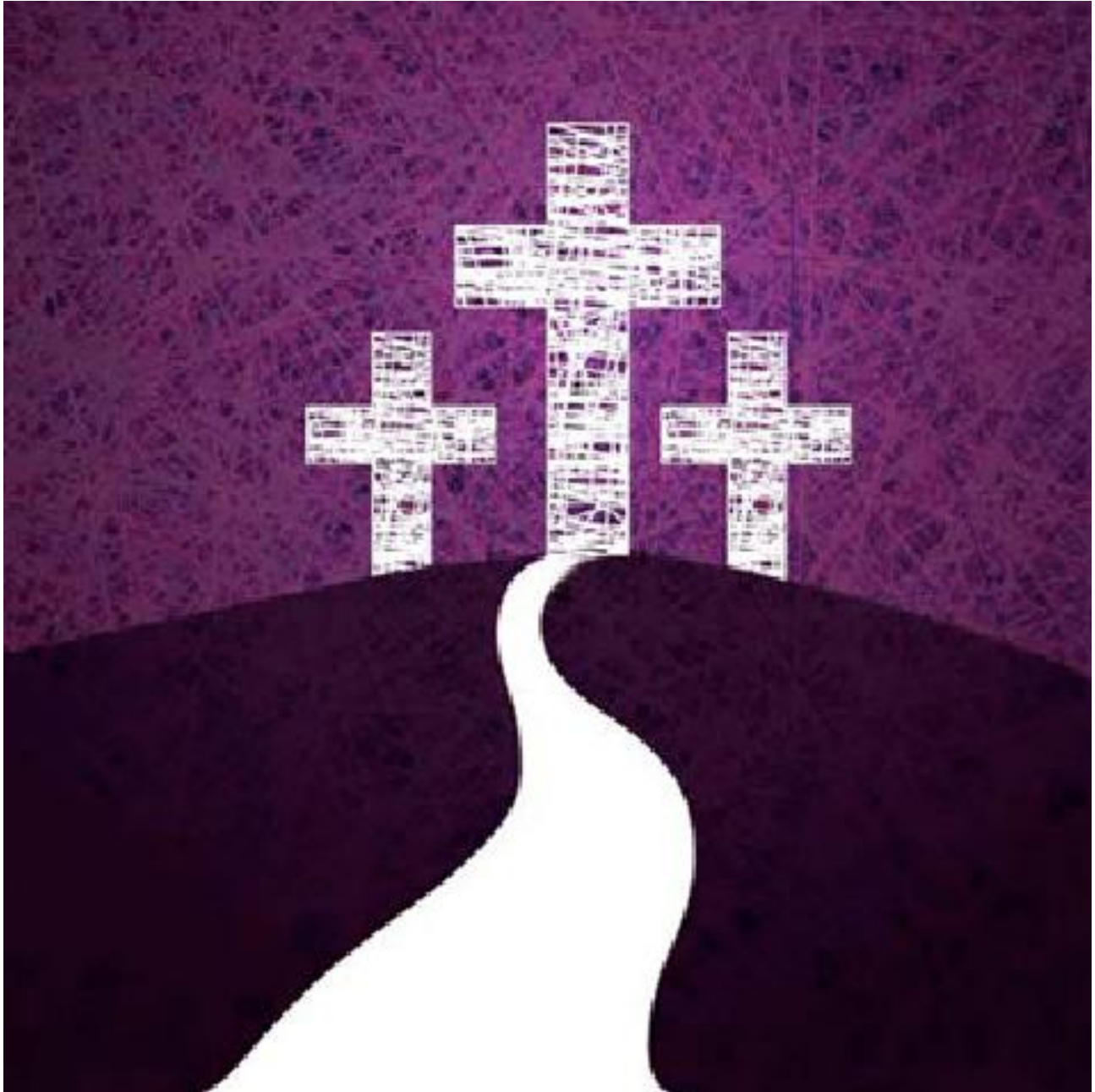
There are thousands of dollars available each year. But you need to direct them to Emanuel, so they will benefit our church!

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.

Ash Wednesday February 18th



"From dust you come, and to dust you shall return." Genesis 3:19

Dispensation of Ashes at 12PM to 1PM parking lot

Service & Dispensation of Ashes 7PM

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.

Tuesday Morning Bible Study



**Join us Tuesdays 9AM to 10AM at Emanuel
in Jacobs Hall for
Bible Study**

**Let's explore the Bible together.
Everyone welcome.**

**Emanuel Lutheran Church,
20 Leaf Street, West Warwick, RI 02893**

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 7 – May 24

2/8 Healing Stories (Children Lead Worship)

2/15 The Man Born Blind (Transfiguration Sunday)

2/18 Ash Wednesday (the Good Shepherd)

2/22 Jesus Raises Lazarus

3/1 Jesus Washes Feet

3/8 Peter's Denial

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

For Comfort & Healing: Maren Lawhern (friend of Pastor Todd), Stephen Johnson (Jake Johnson's uncle)

For Grieving: the friends and family of Cheryl Soucy

Worship Assistants

	<i>February 8</i>	<i>February 15 Transfiguration Sunday</i>
Counter:	Linda Messinger Nunez	Ken Wieboldt
	8:00AM	8:00AM
Lector:	Kathy Marco	Sue Auger
Acolyte	-	Tim Hart
	10:30AM	10:30AM
Lay Minister:	Diane Gadoury	TBD
Acolyte	Callie Suffoletto	Sam Hadden
Ushers	Joanne Powers & Amanda Grudzinski	Mary Schabek & Ken Wieboldt
Lector:	Mary Schabek	Sam Hadden
Coffee Hour	Valentine Themed Potluck	volunteer needed

February's Memorial Candle



The Memorial Candle for February is given by Mary Schabek
In loving memory of **George Thomas Fekete**

This Week at Emanuel

Monday, February 2 Groundhog Day	10:00am Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM) 7:00pm Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)

Tuesday, February 3	9:00am Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH) 10:00am Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM Pastor's Office Hours 10AM to 2PM 7:00pm Worship & Music Committee meeting ONLINE

Wednesday, February 4	10:00am Ellie's Circle (JH) 7:00pm Adult Forum on Grief (JH)

Thursday, February 5	4:00pm Christian Education Committee ONLINE 6:30pm Finance Committee ONLINE

Friday, February 6	9:00am Sue in the office

Saturday, February 7	

Sunday, February 8 5 th Sunday after Epiphany Sunday school children help lead worship	8:00am Worship in Person 9:00am Choir 9:15am Sunday School (FH) & Confirmation (JH) 10:30am Worship in Person & Online 11:30am Valentine's themed potluck Coffee Hour



Next Week at Emanuel

Monday, February 9	10:00am Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM) 7:00pm Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall)

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

Wednesday, February 11	10:00am Ellie's Circle (JH) 7:00pm Adult Forum on Grief (JH)

Thursday, February 12	12:00pm RI Conference Lutheran Clergy meeting (JH) 7:00pm Council Meeting (JH)

Friday, February 13	9:00am Sue in the office

Saturday, February 14	

Sunday, February 15 6 th Sunday after Epiphany Transfiguration Sunday	8:00am Worship in Person 9:00am Choir 9:15am Sunday School (FH) 10:30am Worship in Person & Online 11:30am Coffee Hour

Upcoming Commemorations

**Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885; missionaries to the Slavs
Saturday, February 14, 2026**

These two brothers from Thessalonika, Greece, were monks and were sent to bring Christianity to the Slavic people. In the course of their work they created a written language, inventing the Cyrillic alphabet for it, and translated the Bible and the liturgy.

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

[Emanuel's Online Calendar](#)

The calendar is on Emanuel's web site.