

Garden Hoses Needed!



Saturday June 20th

The property committee is looking for volunteers to help clean head stones in Emanuel's cemetery on Saturday June 20th.

This will be a daylong event, unless we have lots of volunteers. We will apply a cleaner to the stones then use a soft brush to rub in then a light power wash. Many of the stones are presently unreadable.

We have permission from a neighbor to hook up to their water spigot. We will need to borrow as many hoses as we can get. We are looking for 1,000 feet of hose. A signup sheet will be posted in the narthex. Signup and put a checkmark next to your name if you can bring a hose. Thank you!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

My first encounter with prison ministry was when I did Clinical Pastoral Education during seminary. Alongside my work at Cooper Hospital in Camden, New Jersey I worked with one of the hospital chaplains in an aftercare program for individuals who were released from prison. During my senior year of seminary, the interest in prison ministry became stronger. I did an independent study in Pastoral Care in Prison ministry. I spent a year going to Graterford Maximum Security Prison in PA.

I did not have many opportunities to continue working in prison ministry as a calling or a volunteer until three years ago. I was in between calls and I saw a position for a Protestant Chaplain in the Connecticut prison system. Alongside my part time call at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Newington, CT, I am a Protestant Chaplain at Cybulski Correctional Institution.

My calling to prison ministry has grown out of the same Gospel that calls the church to go where Christ is already present among people who feel forgotten, wounded or pushed aside. I have come to see this work not as something on the edges of ministry, but as ministry at the very heart of who Jesus is. Again and again in Scripture, we meet a God who steps into places of pain, shame, isolation and fear. That is what prison ministry is for me: showing up in one of those places with the presence of Christ, the promises of God and the deep belief that no human being is beyond grace.

In prison, I meet men carrying grief, regret, anger, confusion and deep spiritual hunger. Some are trying to make sense of the choices that brought them there. Some are carrying wounds that began long before they entered a correctional facility. Some are searching for hope in a place not designed to nurture it. My role is not simply to lead worship services, Bible studies or hand out religious materials, though those things matter greatly. My calling is to listen, to pray, to teach, to walk beside and to remind people that they are still seen by God. In a place where so many identities are reduced to numbers, rules and records, the Gospel speaks a better word: child of God, worthy of dignity, not abandoned, not alone.

This ministry has taught me that the church's witness is strongest when it is rooted in compassion and presence. At Cybulski, that means leading Protestant worship, offering Bible studies, making space for honest conversation and being available in moments of crisis, loss, and spiritual searching. It means sitting with men in their hardest moments and trusting that God can still do holy work there. I have seen men pray with tears in their eyes, wrestle honestly with Scripture, ask hard questions about forgiveness and begin to imagine that their lives may still hold purpose. As a chaplain in a prison, I believe I am called to preach a word that tells each and every inmate that they matter in the eyes of God and that redemption is still possible.

I share this work because I believe that prison ministry is not mine alone. It belongs to the whole church. When your congregation prays for, encourages and remembers those who are incarcerated, you take part in Christ's ministry of reconciliation and hope. The men I serve are searching for a living witness of a church that believes God has not given up on them. I am grateful to serve in this calling, and I am grateful for the wider church that makes this ministry possible through its support, generosity and faithfulness. Together, we bear witness to the truth that even in the hardest places, God is still at work bringing healing, dignity and new life.

The Rev. Joseph McGarry

Women's Retreat 2026



This past Tuesday a group of women from Emanuel headed out to Camp Calumet in New Hampshire for fun, fellowship and to participate in a two day women's retreat.



Please RSVP to
Marcia Melanson at
401-742-8417

Olson Funeral Homes

Peace of Mind & Pizza

Please join us for pizza and an advance funeral planning seminar hosted at Emanuel Lutheran Church. We will be discussing the steps involved in getting a funeral plan in place, how that plan will affect your loved ones, and answering your questions on funeral service.

Location:

Emanuel Lutheran Church
20 Leaf St
West Warwick, RI 02893

Date and Time:

Thursday, April 23rd at 12:30 PM

Advance Funeral Planner:
Jamie Jackson



Topics Discussed

- Advance funeral planning
- Types of services
- Death away from home
- Planning financially for services
- After the funeral service

Solar Power Update



In March Emanuel's solar power provided a profit of \$744.

Spring Bazaar Craft Nights



(tooth pick dolls)

**Tuesday evenings at Emanuel
6:30PM to 8PM in the Fellowship Hall**

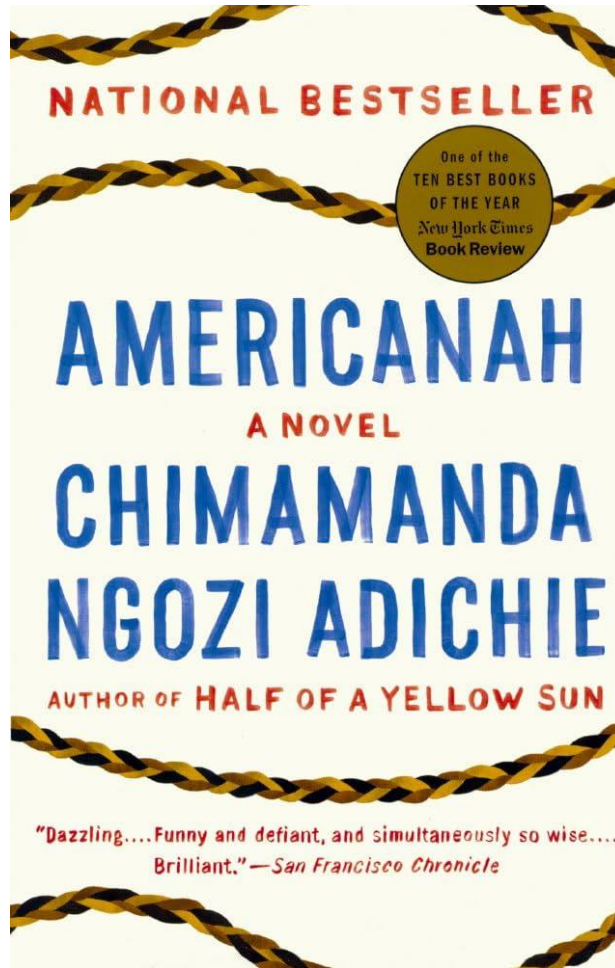
April 21 & 28

May 5, 12, 19 & 26

June 2

**No experience necessary.
Everyone is welcome!**

Readers of Emanuel



Emanuel's book club is reading
“Americanah” by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

One of the New York Times's 100 Best Books of the 21st Century • One of The Atlantic's Great American Novels of the Past 100 Years • A Kirkus Reviews Best Fiction Book of the Century.

Ifemelu and Obinze are young and in love when they depart military-ruled Nigeria for the West. Beautiful, self-assured Ifemelu heads for America, where despite her academic success, she is forced to grapple with what it means to be Black for the first time. Quiet, thoughtful Obinze had hoped to join her, but with post-9/11 America closed to him, he instead plunges into a dangerous, undocumented life in London.

We will meet **Sunday May 3rd** at ~12PM in Jacobs Hall to enjoy fellowship, food and discuss the book. Everyone is welcome!

Air Conditioners Not Working



Over the last couple of years all 3 of the air conditioners in the sanctuary have stopped working. We are looking at ways to raise funds to replace them before the summer heat arrives.

If you are able and feel moved to make a donation towards new ac in the sanctuary, you mail a check to Emanuel, put a donation in the offering plate, or give online by clicking here:

[**DONATE**](#)

Please write "AC" on the check or envelope.

If you have any questions, ask Pastor Todd or anyone on the council. Thank you.

YOU DON'T NEED TO
AUDITION TO GET A PART!

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH PROUDLY PRESENTS...

DRAMA CAMP

A WEEK LONG DAY CAMP LEARNING
SONGS. PRACTICING STAGING.
PAINTING SETS. & CREATING COSTUMES
FOR AGES 7 - 14 YEARS OLD!

WHEN?

AUDITIONS:
June 14th @ 12pm

CAMP:

June 29th - July 3rd
8:30AM - 12:30PM

Family Friendly Pricing:

1 Child - \$20

2 Children - \$30

3 or more - \$35

Emanuel Lutheran Church
20 Leaf Street, West Warwick, RI

For more information please contact Kat Brown
at kath7026@gmail.com or
Pastor Todd Stange at pastor@emanuelww.org
(401) 821-8888

For more information on
Emanuel Lutheran's Drama Camp,
check out our digital brochure!



Emanuel circa 1965 - 1970



Left to right: Lief Anderson, Debbie Anderson, Pastor Dan Carlson, Dale Anderson and Robert White.

3 Sessions

Observer Training & Legislative Advocacy

April 19

April 27

May 17



April 9, 2026, 2026

[View as Webpage](#)

www.councilofchurchesri.org

Latest Newsletter: [April 2, 2026](#)

Join the growing movement of community members & people of faith - working together to support our immigrant communities. This training is for anyone who is concerned about the inhuman & illegal treatment of our immigrant communities - and are asking: "what can I do?" The training is a concrete way to answer that question by receiving education & legal training - and taking specific action through legislative lobbying.

If you have attended previous legal training, you might want to refresh your knowledge and learn new ways to support the immigrant community through legislation - as the training has been updated following the experience in Minnesota.

Our work together is grounded in our two core values: everyone is a beloved child of God and a commitment to non-violence.

This training will provide guidance on how stay within the law when you:

- are protesting
- are a friend or bystander during ICE and CBP actions and arrests
- are documenting ICE and CBP actions and arrests
- are protecting your home, school, place of worship, or business from ICE and CBP

Legislative advocacy training will include:

- updates and information on state legislation to protect our immigrant communities
- legislative process 101 (how it happens and who your reps are)
- tips on effective advocacy

April 19 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm Temple Sinai (Cranston) [Registration](#)

April 27 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm Unitarian Universalist Congregation of South County (South Kingstown) [Registration](#)

May 17 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm St. Luke's Episcopal Church (East Greenwich) [Registration](#)

Bible Study on the book of Acts



Next session Wednesday April 22nd

The book of Acts (or Acts of the Apostles) traces the early days of the church - its struggles and how it grew. What can the church today learn from the early church?

We will meet on Wednesdays at 7PM in Jacobs Hall. We will go through the book chapter by chapter. Come and explore the early days of the church.

Emanuel Lutheran Church
20 Leaf Street
West Warwick, RI 02893
(401) 821-8888
www.emanuelww.org

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 April 19, 2026

First Reading

2nd Corinthians 4:6-11

God's light is in us, but our bodies are fragile. Over time we break down. Cracks in our physical bodies and even in our personalities often develop. And yet, God still works in us and through us.

⁶For it is God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness', who has made his light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ.

⁷But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. ⁸We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹we are persecuted, but not abandoned; we are struck down, but not destroyed. ¹⁰We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

¹¹For we who are alive are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that his life may be revealed in our mortal body. ¹²So then, death is at work in us, but life is also at work.

Second Reading

Acts 9:1-19a

Each of us has a story of meeting God's grace. Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation, beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

¹⁹ Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he

is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.”

¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

How do the Bible readings speak to you?



Emanuel's Choir



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

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

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.

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

Sermon Topics



Narrative Lectionary September 7 – May 24

4/19 Paul's Conversions

4/26 Paul and Silas

5/3 Paul's Sermon at Athens

5/10 Partnership in the Gospel (Mother's Day)

5/17 The Christ Hymn

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

For Healing & Comfort: Stephen Wilson (Diane Gadoury's brother)

Giving Thanks: for Clark James Gill born April 8th to Cara Nunez and Thomas Gill.

Worship Assistants

| | <i>April 19</i> | <i>April 26</i> |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Counter | Linda Mensinger Nunez | Mike Ricci |
| | | |
| | 8:00AM | 8:00AM |
| Lector | Kathy Marco | Kathy Garriott |
| Lay Minister | - | Tim Hart |
| | | |
| | 10:30AM | 10:30AM |
| Lay Minister | Sue Wieboldt | Langdon Clough |
| Acolyte | | Sam Hadden |
| Ushers | Joanne Powers & Amanda Grudzinski | Pauline LaVallee & Brandee Muncey |
| Lector | Diane Gadoury | Lynne Wolff |
| Coffee Hour | Joanne Powers & Jan Hyink | Alex Lucier & Ken & Sue Wieboldt |

April's Memorial Candle



The Memorial Candle for April is given by Susan Auger
In loving memory of **Douglas Auger**

This Week at Emanuel

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|--|
| Monday, April 13 | 10:00am | Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM) |
| | 7:00pm | Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall) |
| ----- | | |
| Tuesday, April 14 | 9:00am | Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH) |
| | 10:00am | Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM |
| | | Pastor's Office Hours 10AM to 2PM |
| ----- | | |
| Wednesday, April 15 | 10:00am | Ellie's Circle (JH) |
| | 7:00pm | Bible Study on the book of Acts (JH) |
| ----- | | |
| Thursday, April 16 | | |
| ----- | | |
| Friday, April 17 | 9:00am | Sue in the office |
| ----- | | |
| Saturday, April 18 | | |
| ----- | | |
| Sunday, April 19 | 8:00am | Worship in Person |
| 3 rd Sunday of Easter | 9:00am | Choir |
| | 9:15am | Sunday School (FH) |
| | 10:30am | Worship in Person & Online |
| | 11:30am | Coffee Hour |



Next Week at Emanuel

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|--|
| Monday, April 20 | 10:00am | Deliveries to food pantry (10AM – 1PM) |
| | 7:00pm | Al-Anon (Jacobs Hall) |
| ----- | | |
| Tuesday, April 21 | 9:00am | Tuesday Morning Bible Study (JH) |
| | 10:00am | Food Pantry 10AM - 12PM |
| | | Pastor's Office Hours 10AM to 2PM |
| | 6:30pm | Bazaar Craft Night (FH) |
| ----- | | |
| Wednesday, April 22 | 10:00am | Ellie's Circle (JH) |
| | 7:00pm | Bible Study on the book of Acts (JH) |
| ----- | | |
| Thursday, April 23 | 12:30pm | Peace of Mind Pizza Lunch at Emanuel |
| ----- | | |
| Friday, April 24 | 9:00am | Sue in the office |
| ----- | | |
| Saturday, April 25 | 12:00pm | Confirmands & Mentors at Church Beyond the Walls in Providence |
| ----- | | |
| Sunday, April 26 | 8:00am | Worship in Person |
| 4 th Sunday of Easter | 9:00am | Choir |
| | 9:15am | Sunday School (FH) |
| | 10:30am | Worship in Person & Online |
| | 11:30am | Coffee Hour |

Upcoming Commemorations

Olavus Petri, priest, died 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1573; renewers of the church

Sunday, April 19, 2026

These two brothers studied with Luther at the University of Wittenberg and then returned to their native Sweden to introduce the Lutheran reforms. Olavus published a catechism and hymnal; Laurentius was a professor who defended the office of bishop and later became one.

Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

This eleventh-century monk was one of the greatest theologians of the Middle Ages. He is remembered for emphasizing the maternal aspects of God, and for the theory that the Son of God became human in order to make the necessary payment for our sin.

El Día de la Creación (Day of the Creation) (LLC)

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be careful in our use of it.

Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, died 1960

Thursday, April 23, 2026

Born in Kobe, Japan, Kagawa was orphaned as a young child. Later, when he became Christian, he was disowned by the rest of his family. Wishing to bring Christian principles into society, he worked among poor people, established schools and hospitals, and worked for peace.

Mark, Evangelist

Saturday, April 25, 2026

He was not numbered among the twelve apostles, yet Mark was probably a member of the early church community. The gospel that bears his name is the shortest and most direct, and many scholars think it was the first to be written.

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

[Emanuel's Online Calendar](#)

The calendar is on Emanuel's web site.