



Emanuel Lutheran Church

August 2015

9 New London Avenue
West Warwick, RI 02893
401-821-8888

Pastor Todd Stange

Celebrating Our 128th Year

Our Purpose Statement: Emanuel – Boldly joining God in sharing our gifts and love.

***Listening for God
through prayer,
scripture and discussion***

***Following Christ's
example***

***Generously sharing
God's grace***

***Passion – having it,
using it!***

Being organized

***Following through –
walking the walk***

Church is More Important than You

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This statement might seem unkind or even unchristian. And to many it might even sound just plain wrong.

If you're like me you grew up hearing Mr. Rogers tell you that "You are special" and Burger King imploring you to "Have it your way!" You might have even heard Frank Sinatra sing "I did it my way." All of this has created a culture in which we as individuals are at the center of the universe; where our needs and our desires, our goals and dreams are the most important things; where, indeed, we are the most important thing in our own individual universes.

And if this is true, then church may be important, but not *as* important as us. In today's individualistic culture, the church is there to serve you. If it's boring, skip it. If you don't like the music, switch to a different style church. If you'd rather go golfing, then go. In a world where you are at the center, what possibly could be more important than your fulfillment, your satisfaction, your happiness?

But the truth is God's church and its mission are bigger than us, more long lasting, and ultimately more important than us.

As individuals we each make up a small part of the church. We each bring our unique talents and personalities to the church's mission. And that mission is to make the love of God known in this broken world, to bring about God's kingdom, and to invite people into that kingdom. As God's children we are to shed light on the fact that we are all connected. Not just Christians or people who belong to the church, but all the people of the world are connected. We are brothers and sisters, all created by one God, and all connected through the life force of God.

In this edition:

- Message from Pastor Stange
- August Calendar
- Birthdays
- Upcoming Events
- And much more!

Deadline for the September newsletter is August 20th .

Notices can be left in the office, emailed to: emanuelwwnews@gmail.com or leave a message at: (860)-208-0762
Thank you! -Mike Gadoury

And this fact should shape the way we live. Because we are all connected, it means that our wellbeing affects others, and that the wellbeing of others affects us. And thus, we should care for one another, care for our neighbors, care for strangers, care for the homeless, even care for our enemies. We are all connected and thus, we should all love one another. This is the mission of the church and is Jesus' commandment to us – "Love one another... by this everyone will know you are my disciples." It's in doing this that we become God's hands and assist in bringing about hope and beauty in the world.

With this understanding, church on Sundays becomes less about how entertained we are, or how friendly people are to us, and becomes more about getting nourished, about healing our brokenness so we can go out into the world for another week. And also about helping others get nourished and healed so they can go out and be God's hands in the world for the week.

With this perspective, the excitement level of church is less important than whether people are being nourished, healed and strengthened for the week ahead. If you're bored, do something about it. Find someone who needs support, listen to them, pray with them. In this you'll find God. In this there is no boredom.

If you're hurting and need help, tell someone: tell God, tell me, write your name in the prayer book. There are people who care for you and want to help. There are people who want to nourish you with God's grace.

This is our mission as the church, and it's important. It's why Jesus didn't run away or fight when they came and arrested him and sentenced him to crucifixion. It's why he stood up to the violence and fear of the Romans and Jewish leaders. It's why he showed us that God's love is more powerful than death – because the church and its mission are important. More important than Jesus, more important than even you.

BUT – we are the reason God came into the world, and the reason Jesus gave his life. We are the focus of God's love. We are the focus of God's church and its mission, and at the same time God invites us to be active participants in it well. As Jesus taught, God invites us to find life – in giving our lives away, and to find our importance – in placing others before us.

Pastor Todd Stange

Children's church volunteers needed

Please let Pastor Todd know if you're interested (pastor@emanuelww.org) or sign up on the bulletin board.
Thank you.



Emanuel Food Pantry
Thrivent Action Team

Emanuel's ***Live Generously*** food drive on July 18th collected well over \$1,000 worth of groceries for the food pantry. The drive was sponsored by Thrivent Financial.



Summer Concert
at
Church of The Apostles
Friday, August 7th
5:30 p.m.
featuring an evening of
Praise and Worship
with
Ray and friends

Weather permitting, the concert will be outdoors. Hotdogs, Hamburgers, Salads and Desserts will be available.

Bring a friend and a lawn chair!
All are Welcome!
Offerings will benefit the Galatians 6:10 Project.

Fall Worship Schedule begins
September 13th.

Two services at 8:00 & 10:30am



Sunday school and 1st year confirmation will begin on Sunday September 13th at 9:15am. 2nd year confirmation will begin on Tuesday September 15th at 7pm.

Church of The Apostles
170 Fairview Avenue, Coventry, Rhode Island
401-821-7609 • www.apostlesri.org

Save the Dates!

September 10-11, 2016

Emanuel Lutheran Church 130th Anniversary Celebration 1886—2016



Dinner on Saturday evening at West Valley Inn
and a special worship and coffee hour on Sunday

We are looking for contact information for all current and past members. If you have any contact information for past or inactive members, please let us know at 130@emanuelww.org or see any member of the committee.

In order to provide money to pay for the deposit and cover other expenses, we are asking that anyone who is willing, pre-purchase tickets for \$30 each. You can leave a check in Sunday's offering made payable to Emanuel Lutheran Church.

Please write "ELC 130" in the memo line.

We are still in the planning stages. If you have any questions, or would like to help out with the planning of this event, please contact us at 130@emanuelww.org or feel free to contact any member of the committee.

More information will be coming in the coming months!

Thank You!

-130th Anniversary Committee

Gwen Andersen, Diane Gadoury, Mike Gadoury, Beth Groleau, Disa Johnson



The 2015 Drama Camp put on the play The Rock Slinger and His

Greatest Hit - the story of David & Goliath



Emanuel's Bible study will be held every other week after the service.

Grab a coffee & snack and head over to Anderson Lounge. Next study is Aug.16th. Please consider coming, all are welcome!



**Christmas Bazaar Workshops
Tuesdays at 6pm
Anyone is Welcome!**

Mustard Seed Meeting Thursday
August 20th 6:30pm Please join us
in Jacobs' Hall to discuss how we
could be using our lives.

All are welcome.



Having a function at Emanuel?

Please remember to fill out a function form.

Function forms can be found in the church office.

Winery Tour

There will be a winery tour at Greenvale Winery in Portsmouth on Saturday September 12th. The tour will be at 12:00 followed by a concert by our own Ida Zecco from 1:00-4:00. Space is limited.

If you are interested, please contact: Gwen Andersen at 401-828-0976 or the church office (401-821-8888 / churchoffice@emanuelww.org)



The address is:
Greenvale Winery
582 Wapping Road
Portsmouth, RI 02871
www.greenvale.com

During worship in the sanctuary, please remember to be kind to those around you:

- Turn off cell phones (or switch them to vibrate).
- Wait until after worship to discuss church business or catch up with family and friends.

Thank you!

POSTING AN ANNOUNCEMENT

For the weekly reminder (Emanuel Herald) sent out on Mon. or Tue. All submissions must be received in the church office (preferably by e-mail) no later than Sunday morning. Postings for the printed weekly announcement sheet must be received by the previous Sunday.

Churchoffice@EmanuelWW.org

For the newsletter: Please send items to Mike Gadoury no later than the 20th of each month.

Email to: EmanuelWWNews@gmail.com

or call 860-208-0762.

Cornhole Championship Games!



At Emanuel's
CHURCH PICNIC
Sunday, August 30th
Time: 12:00pm

Buttonwoods Masonic Park
116 Long Street
Warwick, RI 02886

Everyone's welcome to come, play, watch, eat



We will be having a potluck dinner
followed by a
Family friendly outdoor movie night

August 8, 2015

Dinner: 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall

Movie: around 8:00pm in the parking lot

*In case of poor weather, the movie will
be shown in the Fellowship Hall*

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Aaron Stange 4
Mike Gadoury 4
Lee Jacobs 5
Mike Grandy 14
Mike Ricci 16
Bill McGuirk 17
Pastor Todd 18
Joanne Powers 20
Judy Jacobs 24
Gwen Andersen 27
Fred Andersen 29
Michelle Ricci 29
Sharon Brown
Stephanie Chabot
Chris Gauthier
Noah Mendes



& ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Beth Groleau 5
Bob & Barbara O'Connor 7
Stephen & Maren Miller 29
Sean & Elizabeth Colahan
Ray & Ivy Gauvin 2
Michael & Carlene Silva



*Contact Kym in the Church
office if we missed your
birthday or anniversary, or
give us the exact date.
We would love to have our
records up to date!*

We are looking for a few vol-
unteers who are willing to
work in the church office
when our office administrator
is on vacation or sick.

If you might be able to help in
the office, please let Pastor
Todd know –
(401) 821-8888 or
pastor@emanuelww.org.

Thank you.

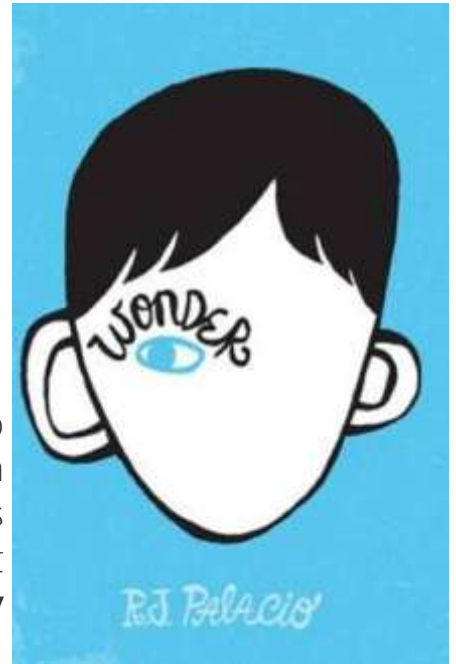
Readers of Emanuel

There will be no book club
in August!

September's book is Wonder
by R.J. Palacio

Next book club date September 13, 2015
After the 2nd service ~ 12pm

August Pullman was born with a facial difference that, up until now, has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting 5th grade at Beecher Prep, he wants nothing more than to be treated as an ordinary kid—but his new classmates can't get past Auggie's extraordinary face.



WONDER, now a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and included on the Texas Bluebonnet Award master list, begins from Auggie's point of view, but soon switches to include his classmates, his sister, her boyfriend, and others. These perspectives converge in a portrait of one community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.

Senior Live Laugh & Learn

The next luncheon will be held:
Wednesday, August 12, 2015

11:45 AM to 2:00 PM
at

Pal's Restaurant
43 Division St
East Greenwich, RI

Estimated cost \$10 - \$20



Please sign
the sign-up
sheet in the

narthex if you plan to attend.

I need to give the restaurant a count.
For last minute decision, call Helen Maine
at

Home: 401-397-3566

Cell: 401-464-1011

Email: helenmaine@gmail.com

Emanuel Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
June 11, 2015

Agenda and Minutes

Present: Pastor Todd, Gwen Andersen, Pam Beck, Carolyn Duprey, Beth Groleau, Lee Jacobs, Bruce Johnson, Disa Johnson, Glenn Johnson, Helen Maine, Kathy Plante, Linda Sami, Donna Sennett, Margaret Teehan, and Ken Wieboldt.

Absent: Myron Gadoury (vacation) Kris Knapp, Walter Phaneuf, and Jim Schabek.

The meeting was called to order at 7:06.

1. Opening Devotions (Pastor)
 - a. Film: Willow Creek Leadership Summit talk by Harvey Carey based on Ephesians 4:11 (2009) --- leading out into the community
 - b. Discussion: What we already do in the community, as groups and individuals
 - c. Maybe we can make teams and get the "God's Work, Our Hands" t-shirts and go out in the community to help others. (The ELCA is celebrating such a day on September 13th, 2015.)
2. Mustard Seed Update
 - a. Instrument ("questionnaire") a self-reflection piece to help people discover some of the things that they can do to be involved in the congregation and share their talents with our community. June 28th **Pastor Todd** will do a special sermon, and **Donna Sennett** will have a sign up for people to sign up to get involved in things at Emanuel.
 - b. **Council** is asked to fill out the document and bring it back to Pastor Todd and Lee on Sunday, June 14, and send feedback by e-mail to Todd or Lee.
3. Joint event with St. Therese's, information June 27--- 10 AM service, painting the front of their church, sharing a meal. Will do a joint service again later. **Kathy** will get information to the local papers. (Rain Date is July 11.)
4. Approve May Minutes Approved
 - a. Drain repairs need to be done, and we need a plan for how to pay for it.
 - Maybe a bulletin board to inform people and just ask people to contribute; put up a thermometer to show progress; make a form to fill out, like a pledge, so that it is private. **Wait until Todd can speak with Myron about the details.** (Myron said the repair does not have to be done soon.)

- Glenn and Beth explained about Thrivent Action Teams and how they work; he explained about joining as an Associate member if you are not a member
 - Maybe we can write for Ellie's Circle
5. The link to become an Associate Member or apply for a Thrivent Action Team is Thrivent.com. Go to Make a difference to learn about Thrivent Action Teams. **Beth Groleau will send more information with the minutes.**
 6. Review and approve April and May Treasurer Reports **Tabled to the July Meeting because of questions.**
 - a. **Questions for Carol Johnson:**
 - Line 412 How did the payments for the Council retreat get
 - Other earmarked at bottom of sheet --- what is that?
 7. Office Administrator Proposal finalized **Table until July to clarify some procedures so that they are clear to us.**
 - a. One suggestion is to work toward increasing Kym's hourly wage for next year.
 8. Retreat Goals review
 - a. **Kathy Plante** has created a list of press contacts and got a picture of the quilts Ellie's Circle has made in the Kent County Times.
 - b. **Margaret Teehan** has facilitated a meeting with St. Therese's Church, resulting in a joint worship service on June 27, helping to paint the outside of their church, and sharing a meal together.
 - c. **Pastor Todd** reported on making a new ELC Website: Michael Gadoury is willing to help revamp Emanuel's website, but may be limited because of time and knowledge of how to develop web sites. I spoke with folks in the New England Synod's office about synod resources for revamping our website and they point me toward Pastor Mark Huber and his wife. They do this stuff on the side and have a website devoted to this work: <http://makegoodchoices.org/> I spoke with Mark and he said, "A typical church project we do generally runs between \$500-\$750 depending on the complexity of the site. After that there's usually around \$125 of yearly costs associated with hosting, maintenance, etc." I also spoke with another Pastor Joe McGarry. He also does some web stuff and would be willing for a small fee to help. One option would be to pay to have someone get our website up and running and then have Michael get trained to maintain the website ongoing. The first step, however, is to figure out what we want our website to look like, what information should be out there and how it should be organized. Here are a couple of church web sites that we might be able to glean ideas from: St. Andrews in Charlestown <http://www.standrewri.org/> and Sanctuary in Marshfield, MA <http://www.sanctuarymarshfield.org/> (this is Pastor Mark Huber's congregation). I'd like to form a team to work on this.
 - d. **Jim Duprey** got information about ordinances for church signs and sent it to the Council.

- e. **Gwen Andersen** reported that Joyful has been invited to Drama Camp, but it probably won't work out because of transportation issues for the kids from the Christ the King site because they are the appropriate age. The kids at Emanuel are the younger kids. **Margaret Teehan** has given information to her staff to invite kids from the community to attend.
- 9. Park Bench: **Kathy Plante** will check into writing for a Thrivent Action Team to buy one for the people who walk several miles to our food bank to have a place to rest while they wait for the food bank to open.
- 10. Other Items
 - a. Pray for Carolyn Duprey who is having surgery tomorrow morning; Sue Wieboldt had foot surgery recently.
 - b. Mark Johnson has graduated from seminary and is awaiting a call as a pastor.
- 11. Closing
 - a. The meeting was closed with prayer at 9:10 p.m.

Next meeting is Thursday, **July 16, 2015 at 7 p.m.** so that Pastor Todd can be present. The meeting will probably be at Ken's house. Finance is meeting on Monday, July 6.

Agenda item: When we enter church, what things can we do to improve the appearance of the church?

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Groleau


P.S. I forgot to mention during the meeting that I have e-mailed information from the Endowment Committee to the Church Council earlier today to inform them of what we have done in the first quarter of the year.

Beth

AUGUST



2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Sunday A.M. Schedule: 9:15 Service of Holy Communion						1
2	3 7pm ALNON	4 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm BAZAAR Mtg	5	6 Committee Night 7pm	7	8 Potluck Dinner & Family Movie Night 6:30pm
9	10 7pm ALNON	11 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm BAZAAR Mtg	12	13 Council Meeting 7pm	14	15
16	17 7pm ALNON	18 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm BAZAAR Mtg	19	20 6:30pm Mustard Seed Meeting (JH)	21	22
23	24	25 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm BAZAAR Mtg	26	27	28	29
 30	31					