



Emanuel Lutheran Church

June 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***

Designer Babies

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In April Chinese scientist successfully manipulated the genes of 28 human embryos. In these embryos they fixed a gene known as HBB which causes a blood disease called beta thalassemi. People with beta thalassemi have low hemoglobin counts, which is the part of the blood which carries oxygen. Weakness, dizziness, cold hands and feet are symptoms.

I should note that 15 of the embryos the scientists attempted to change died. Another 43 were either left unchanged or had unintended genetic changes. Only in 28 cases did the genetic change work successfully. The scientists still have some bugs to work out in their process for manipulating genes and they stated as much in their report.

Despite this, many scientists, and ethicists, and people in general were alarmed that they had even attempted this experiment. There has long been agreement in the scientific community that experiment like this should not be done. Altering the genes of human embryos has the potential to create new diseases that could be passed down to future generations.

But despite this danger, the allure of tinkering with embryonic genes appears to be too great to resist. Many believe it is just a matter of time before scientists will master this process and parents will begin manipulating the genes of their unborn embryos. When this happens we will have entered the world of designer babies.

Hearing this news got me thinking about what type of babies people would design and more specifically what characteristics people would be willing to pay for.

In this edition:

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

Deadline for the July newsletter is June 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

The cost of a designer baby, certainly at first, would be ridiculous expensive, perhaps \$100,000 or \$200,000, maybe more. Only the rich, I suspect, would be willing to pay for things like eye or hair color. But what if you could pick the gender of your child or their height? These traits might be a little more enticing – even for average parents.

Or what if scientists could tweak a few genes to make your child smarter? In the long run it might be cheaper to pay \$200K for a smarter baby – less money spent on tutors, potential scholarship money, better job prospects in the future. It might be worth it.

What if you could spend \$200K to make sure your child wasn't pre-disposed to alcoholism? Would this be a trait worth paying for?

Or how about religious faith? I heard a news story once that stated some people are genetically pre-disposed to religious faith. If this is the case, if there are some genes that could be tweaked to **pre-dispose your child to go to church and have religious faith, is this a trait you'd be willing to pay \$200,000 to endow them with?**

It's hard to make a financial argument for faith. I read somewhere that church goers are better off financially compared to other cohorts of the population, but being part of church usually costs people money. Being part of church usually means giving an offering and volunteering time. So, would anyone pay to design their children to have faith in God?

And what exactly is faith in God? If genes could be tweaked to help bring about faith, what specific **traits would scientists be enhancing? Atheists might argue that it's the trait of being gullible, but I** think a healthy faith comes out of the traits of empathy, optimism, humility and the ability to see our intimate connection with others and the wider universe.

A lack of these traits can lead to the "self made man (or woman)" delusion. The belief that we start with nothing and make our own way in the world, and that fulfillment is found in what we build or accumulate in our lives: money, power, homes, boats, cars, fame, physical beauty, etc. The truth is all these worldly things will cease to exist at some point. No lasting fulfillment can be found in them. Even fulfillment in good things like family and friends will be fleeting unless we see their connection **to what the theologian Paul Tillich called "the ground of all being".**

God is ultimately the only thing that will last, and being able to see our connection to God and our connection to all things through God– is what makes true satisfaction, joy and the abundant life possible. Is this worth \$200,000?

If you have a child who is bullied, having them know they are intimately connected to the ground of all being, and even connected to those who are bullying them, and that ultimately love will win – then it just might be worth it.

Or what if your child develops anorexia, or becomes a heroin addict, or drives drunk and gets in an accident where others are hurt? Having them know that they are a child of God, forgiven and loved regardless – might be worth even more than \$200,000.

The truth is all of us have our struggles in life, and all of our children will have struggles too. The specifics may be different, but each of us will have times when knowing the truth about who we are and our connection to God and others will save us great anguish and possibly even save our lives.

I'm not sure if science will ever get to the point that parents will be able to purchase faith for their children, but even now there are a few things we can do to encourage faith: baptizing them, bringing them to church and Sunday school, reading the Bible with them, and praying with them.

These things may not work as fast as tweaking an embryo's genes, but they do have a long history of being effective, and they provide a gift that is ultimately priceless.

Pastor Todd Stange

**Safe Church Training -
Sunday June 14th at 12pm
Sunday June 28th at 10:30am**

People who volunteer with children at Emanuel (and anyone else who is interested) please come to this short safety training class. All people working with children at Emanuel are required by our insurance to review our safety procedures yearly. The training on both Sundays will be in Jacobs' Hall. Thank you.



**Come Welcome Our
New Neighbors
St. Therese Old Catholic
Church**

On Saturday June 27th will be having a joint service, cook out and for those up for it we'll be helping St. Therese paint the front of their building. St. Therese's is located at 1500 Main Street in West Warwick (down the hill from

Emanuel about 200 yards away). The service, cookout and painting will be held at St. Therese's. Come out and meet our new neighbors.



**Summer Worship Schedule begins June 21st.
One service at 9:15am**

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



School of Lay Ministry

Interested in learning more about the teachings and life of the Lutheran Church? Want to gain new skills for serving your congregation? Consider enrolling in the New England Synod's new School of Lay Ministry. The School of Lay Ministry is designed to educate and equip lay people for enhanced participation in congregational and synodical life through personal spiritual development, biblical enhancement, and life-long learning.

The School is a two year program, beginning each fall. There are two retreat weekends.

For more information ask Pastor Todd or visit the synod's web site:

<http://www.nesynod.org/resources/education>

Emanuel's Bible study will be held every other week after the 10:30 service.

Grab a coffee & snack and head over to Anderson Lounge

Please consider coming, all are welcome!



Christmas Bazaar Workshops
Tuesdays at 6pm
Anyone is Welcome!

Christmas Bazaar Committee would like to remind everyone of the notice on the bulletin board of a few things we are in need of:

CANNING JARS / JEWELRY / CEILING FAN BLADES / ICE SKATES / PRINGLE CANS

SAVE THE DATE: Girl's Night Out June 19th 5pm



If you know a child 8 years old to 16 years old, we'd like to help send them for a week of camp. Campership funds are being given away now for Camp Calumet.

Camp Calumet is in West Ossipee, New Hampshire and sits on beautiful Lake Ossipee. For over 50 years people have been making friends, getting closer to God, and having fun at Calumet. www.calumet.org

Hello!



Earlier this year one of my best friends, Elana, was diagnosed with Stage 4 Melanoma. Anyone who has a loved one with Cancer you know that there is not much that you can do besides support them and be there for them during this trying time. Well for me, that is just not good enough. On October 3rd, I along with 6 teammates (all of whom I have met @ ilovekickboxing in Coventry), will be participating

in Mudderella, which is a 5-7 mile long muddy obstacle course that is about empowering woman (& men too) to take pride in their strength. We are competing in the race to honor our family and friends who had or are still battling cancer- to help them own their strength and remind them that whatever adversity they face, they can overcome. This disease has made an impact on all of our lives and we want to utilize our ability to run, climb and crawl to honor those that cant. Not only will I be running for her, but for all my family members and friends who have been affected by this disease. 100% of our donations will be made in honor of our (& yours) loved ones to the American Cancer Society. Please help us demolish our goal of \$1000 and help kick cancers butt! Thank you for taking time out of your day to read this and for your consideration to our cause!

If you would like to join our team, follow the link below!

Team name: Mind Over Mudder Password: Get muddy.



mudderella

To Donate Please Go To:

<https://www.crowdrise.com/mindovermudderkickscancer/fundraiser/melissagadou>





**Congratulations confirmands of 2015 -
confirmed May 31, 2015!**

Having a function at Emanuel?

Please remember to fill out a
function form.

Function forms can be found in
the church office.

Function forms help us ensure
that rooms are not
double-booked and that we have
custodial support when it is
needed.

Thank you.

During worship in the
sanctuary, please re-
member 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.

Drama & Music Camp is coming!

June 29th – July 3rd
8:30am to 12:30pm

Ages 8 to 14

**Call for more info
(401) 821-8888**

Auditions for lead parts
Sunday June 14th at
12pm



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Carlson
Keagan Gribbin
Disa Johnson
Ann LaMountain
Gayle Mello
Birgit Neumann
Stephen Miller
Maria Nunez
Fran Phaneuf
Jill Stange

& ANNIVERSARIES

Ray & Linda Nunez 6/19
Emily Rochon and
Bram Claeys 6/20
Bruce & Debra Johnson
6/26
Bob & Kathy Marco 6/29
Tom & Deb Kolling 6/30
Tom & Julie Carroccia



*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 volunteers who
are willing to work in the church office
when our office administrator is on
vacation or sick.

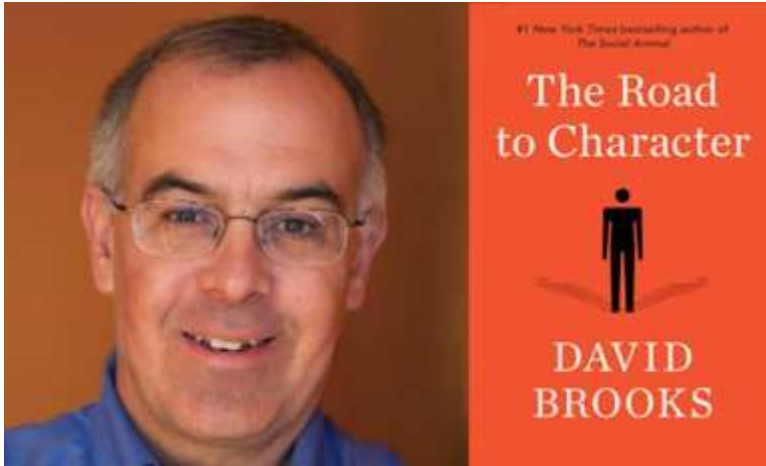
If you might be able to help in the office,
please let Pastor Todd know –

(401) 821-8888 or

pastor@emanuelww.org.

Thank you.

Readers of Emanuel



Date : June 14th

Time: After 2nd

Church Service

Location: Jacobs' Hall

Book: The Road To Character by: David Brooks

Come and see. All are welcome!

Senior Live Laugh & Learn

The next luncheon will be held:

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

11:45 AM to 2:00 PM

at

Finn's Harborside

38 Water Street

East Greenwich, RI

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

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



June 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7pm ALNON	2 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm BAZAAR Mtg	3	4 Committee Night 7pm	5 New England Synod Assembly	6
7 12pm Bible Study (JH)	8 7pm ALNON	9 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm BAZAAR Mtg	10 Mustard Seed group meeting 6:30pm	11 7pm Council Meeting	12  Confirmants/Mentor Night	13
14 Last Day of Sunday School Safe Church training 12pm Father's Day	15 7pm ALNON	16 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm BAZAAR Mtg	17	18	19 5pm 	20
21 9:15am Summer Worship starts	22 7pm ALNON	23 10am Ellie's Circle Food Pantry 10-12 6pm BAZAAR Mtg	24	25	26	27 St Therese Welcome service/cookout/ painting party 10am
28 Safe Church training 10:30am	29 DRAMA CAMP 8:30-12:30	30 DRAMA CAMP 8:30-12:30	Sunday A.M. Schedule: June 1, 8 & 15 8:00 Service of Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School, Choir 10:30 Service of Holy Communion June 22 & 29 9:15 Service of Holy Communion			