



Emanuel Lutheran Church

March 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***

Al-Anon

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

God has blessed us with many things, and one of them is the building where we gather each Sunday to worship. Back in 1895 the family who owned the Centreville Mill, a mill that employed much of Emanuel at the time, donated a plot of land on top of a hill overlooking Crompton West Warwick, so that those Swedish mill workers would have a place to worship. The members of that small congregation then went to work building the structure that we still worship in today.

With blessings, however, come responsibilities. I heard a Buddhist monk once say that when a person buys a car, they don't own the car – the car owns them. Cars need their oil changed; they need gas in their tanks, insurance is required, parking spaces need to be found (and shoveled in the winter). When God blesses us with something, then we need to either use and care for it or soon that blessing will fall into disrepair and will be gone.

One of the things I'm proud of at Emanuel (*even though pride is one of the deadly sins*) is how we care for and make use of the building. Just about every day there is something going on at Emanuel: worship on Sunday, food pantry, Ellie's Circle and the Christmas Bazaar workshop on Tuesdays, the Joyful Noise pre-school operates Monday through Friday, there are confirmation classes and committee meetings, and youth group events. Throughout the week various ministries make use of the building and in different ways proclaim God's love and grace.

One of these ministries is a weekly Al-Anon meeting. Al-Anon is a group that helps family members of alcoholics by providing support, sharing their stories and practicing a version of the 12 steps.

In this edition:

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

Deadline for the April newsletter is March 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

Al-Anon got its start in the 1950's when two women, one who was the wife of Bill W. the founder of Alcoholics Anonymous, recognized that alcoholism is not just a disease that affects the alcoholic, but is one that affects that whole family.

The Al-Anon group at Emanuel has been meeting for at least 7 years. It pre-dates my arrival. If you know of someone who lives with an alcoholic, let them know about this life giving ministry at Emanuel. It is one of many blessings God has given us to share.

This confidential group meets in Jacobs' Hall each Monday evening at 7PM.

Pastor Todd Stange

The standard 12 steps:

1. Admit that we are powerless over our addiction and that our lives have become unmanageable.
2. Come to believe that a power greater than ourselves, God, can restore us to sanity.
3. Make a decision to turn our live over to the care of God.
4. Make a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admit to God, ourselves and another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Be entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly ask God to remove our shortcomings.
8. Make a list of all the people we have harmed, and become willing to make amends to them all.
9. Make direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continue to take a personal inventory and when we are wrong promptly admit it.
11. Search through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understand **God, praying for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out.**
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we try to carry this message to other addicts, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

The logo for the Holiday Bazaar features the word "Holiday" in a blue serif font and "Bazaar" in a green serif font. There are several stylized stars in blue, green, and red scattered around the text.

Christmas Bazaar Workshops
Tuesdays at 6pm
(weather permitting).
Anyone is Welcome!

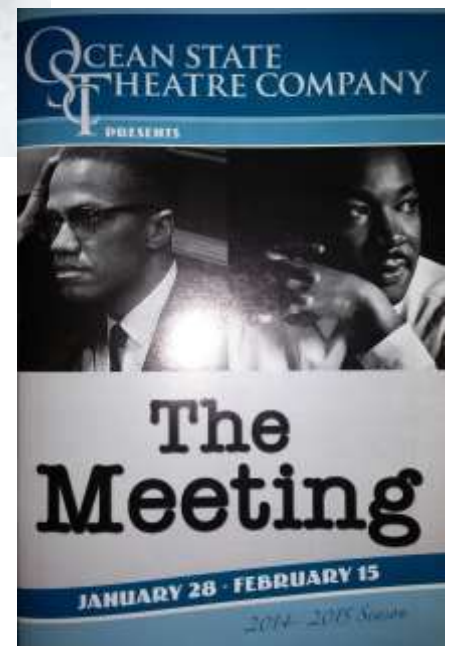
YOE UPDATE

A group from Emanuel went snow tubing at Yawgoo Valley over the February winter break!



The confirmands went to the Ocean State Theatre on February 7th to see "The Meeting". An imaginary account of a meeting between Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Thank you to Ida Zecco for arranging this fun and informative night!



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!



**Daylight Saving's Time begins this Sunday
March 8th**

The Smorgasbord has been postponed until April 25th. We look forward to seeing you, invite your friends!



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.

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

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!

Do you need someone to talk with, to listen, to pray with?

Please call Pastor Todd or one of Emanuel's deacons:

Pastor Todd Stange (401) 450-2836 cell

Deacon Diane Gadoury (860) 564-1000 home, (860)465-7987 cell

Deacon Beth Groleau (401) 822-1448 home, (401) 862-6559 cell

Deacon Lee Jacobs (401) 885-4196 home, (401)623-9043 cell

Deacon Donna Sennett (401) 284-1232 home, (401) 523-8786 cell

Deacon Ida Zecco (401) 781-5231 home, (401)787-4476 cell

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Bruce Johnson 3/16

Alexandra McGuirk

3/19

Kimberly Gauthier 3/23

Gayle Vincent

Emily Chabot

Glenn Johnson

Jean Savage

Robert Ross

Evan Morgan

Lucas Maguire

Bernie LeBeau

Sean Grandy

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Sue Wieboldt

Kevin Prest & Patricia

Reynolds



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.

Do You Recognize this Clown?



The Greenwich Bay Women's club will be putting on the Spectacular **CLOWNTOWN** Carnival Saturday March 14th at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in East Greenwich.

They are looking for donations to make raffle baskets and food donations (hotdogs, soda).

If you'd like to make a donation, you can give it to Linda Sami, Linda Nunez or Lynne Wolff.

Proceeds from ClownTown will go to support three charities: the Blessing Way, Best Buddies and a local family with a child that has cancer.

Last year the Greenwich Bay Women's club donated \$2,000 to help purchase a new refrigerator for **Joyful Noise**.

Senior Live Laugh & Learn

The next luncheon will be held:

Wednesday, March 11, 2015

11:45 AM to 2:00 PM

at

Eleven Forty Nine

1149 Division Street

Warwick, RI 02818

Estimated cost \$10 - \$20 (for lunch only)

For those interested - followed by
"The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel"
At the Showcase Cinema (cost unknown)



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

Regular & Faithful Giving is the goal for each Emanuel household for 2015.



The severe winter this year has put a real strain on Emanuel's finances.

Extra large snow plowing bills, heat & electricity expenses that are much higher than planned, plus lower attendance at Sunday worship services due to the weather have combined to challenge our church. The snow plowing bills for the church parking lot (so far in 2015) total over \$4,800!

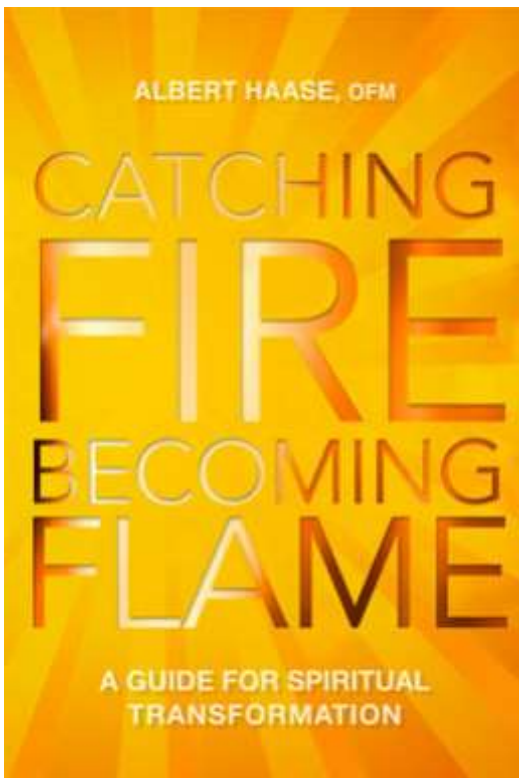
If you have not been able to put your offering into the collection plate as often as you intended, please consider using this season of Lent as a opportunity to sacrifice and make up for the Sundays when you may have missed church.

By giving your financial support regularly and faithfully - not just when you come to church - your offering helps Emanuel serve our members, our community & the New England Synod.

If you want to help even more, please join the other Emanuel households already signed up for the *Simply Giving Program* or the new credit card giving plan.

Will you help Emanuel, so that we can continue to serve our members and serve God?
Have some questions on Simply Giving, or credit card giving?

Please leave your contact information in the Offering at church, or send an e mail to Emanuel's Treasurer, Carol Johnson at CMJohnson1220@gmail.com



This Lent Come on a Spiritual Journey

This Lenten season join me in reading and discussing Albert Haase's "Catching Fire Becoming Flame". In it he will guide us through the steps of spiritual transformation.

Lent is a time for reflecting on our lives: how we are living, our relationships with each other and God. This is a perfect time for a spiritual journey and transformation.

You do NOT need to have read the book to get something out of one or more the Wednesday night sessions.

We will be meeting on Wednesdays 7:00 to 8:30pm in Jacobs' Hall

March 11th - Prayer
March 18th - Discernment
March 25th - Commitments

Please come and join us!
Thank you.

The Triduum

Part I Maundy Thursday 4/2 – 7:00pm

Service of Holy Communion with washing of feet.

Part II Good Friday 4/3 - 7:00pm

Good Friday Liturgy with Veneration of the Cross.

Part III Holy Saturday 4/4 - 7:00pm

Easter Vigil with Affirmation of Baptism and Service of Holy Communion

Easter Sunday April 5th – 8am & 10:30am

Learn to make Swedish Rye Bread



The first two bread-baking workshops will be held on

March 7 and 14

in the parish hall, beginning at 9 a.m. We will make Swedish Rye Bread and Cardamom braids.

Please bring something to drink if you want anything besides coffee or water, and bring your lunch. We will try to be finished in the early afternoon.

Please let me know which day you plan to come.

My e-mail is BethGroleau78@gmail.com.

Phone numbers are in the church directory.

Thanks, Beth

Blood Drive at Emanuel

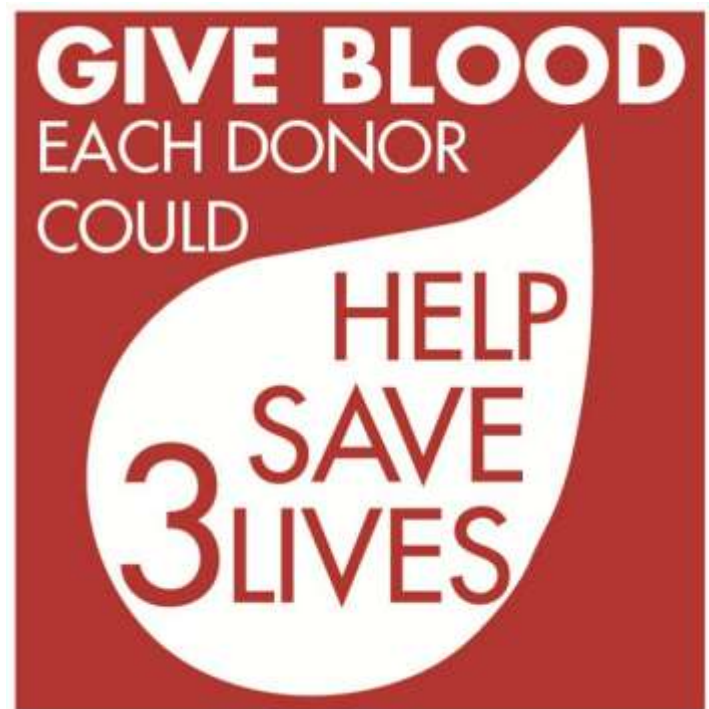
Sunday March 8th

&

Sunday May 10th

9:30am – 12:30pm

CPR saves lives!



If you are interested in learning CPR and/or First Aid, please let Bruce Johnson know. bru316@cox.net

**Emanuel Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2015**

Present: Pastor Todd, Gwen Andersen, Pam Beck, Myron Gadoury, Beth Groleau, Bruce Johnson, Disa Johnson, Glenn Johnson, Linda Sami, Jim Schabek, Donna Sennett, and Ken Wieboldt.

Absent: Helen Maine, Lee Jacobs

Guest: Carol Johnson, Church Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

Announcements:

- Disa announced that Eric Johnson received the RI Shriner of the Year award.
- Myron announced that the Teen Challenge girls have taken him up on his offer to plant a garden and grow vegetables with them on his land. He will investigate applying for a Thrivent Action Team to buy seeds and tools.

Opening Devotions Since this is the last meeting, we were asked to think of things the Council and committees have done this year.

- The Mustard Seed emphasis
- Dealing with budget issues; including the removal of asbestos
- Christian Ed got 4 teachers for each class
- The Church calendar worked better at not having conflicts and overlaps with events
- Helping people think about opportunities and invitation, not obligations

Approve December Minutes: approved

Budget

- Review December and end of year budget
- Review and approve 2015 budget proposal
 - Carol Johnson explained the process Finance uses to try to figure out the proposed budget and then reviewed the proposal.
 - Because we didn't purchase Pastor's Health Care through Healthcare RI, we will not get the \$2000 tax rebate this year. We will reconsider this next year.
 - Myron replaced toilets, and we no longer have a tenant, so our water usage and cost is down.
 - The Finance Committee will look into changing our deductible on Property insurance as well as our carrier.
 - There is a factor in the budget that counts on some fundraising efforts to be made this year.
 - Salaries are held at 2014 levels; Sunday School needs more than we budgeted last year. They need materials, even when we didn't include money in the budget for them last year.

- Pam raised the issue of buying large print hymnals. Do we need to add to the budget to cover the cost? (The Groleaus have offered to buy two copies.) **Refer the issue of addressing the needs of visually impaired and hearing impaired people to the Worship Committee.**
 - **Michael Gadoury** will try to print large print copies of the service for people who need them and see how that works.
- Myron made the motion to accept the proposed budget and Bruce seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.
- Having someone from each committee meet with them to help figure out the budget was invaluable. We encourage that to happen in November next time. We also would like the whole process to begin earlier next year.

New Council members

- We have 11 members returning. Margaret Teehan and Walter Phaneuf said they were willing to join. Others we asked said no. **We still need one more person.**
- Declined: Ray and Linda Nunez, Maren Nelson, Marge LeBeau and Don Schabek

Endowment Committee members

- Five people have agreed: Beth Groleau, Carol Johnson, Linda Nunez, Barbara Carlson, and Bob Maine. Eric Johnson was asked, but he did not respond.

Updates:

- Recording past church records is in progress; Myron is still looking for a proper fire-proof safe; it needs to be fire-proofed to a level so that paper documents will survive a fire; perhaps there could be special bags and then a fire proof gun safe.
- Constitution Job Description Update: e-mailed to the Council this afternoon; **discuss at the February meeting after we and Bob Maine have more time to review them.**
 - When Pastor Todd put descriptions in the constitution, he didn't have them for Property, Finance, and Worship and Music. **Members will check to see if they have electronic copies and send them to Pastor Todd.**
- Membership Roster
 - Myron reported:
 - Emanuel presently has 315 Baptized members
 - Of the 315 members 267 are Confirmed
 - Of the 315 Members 200 are Voting Members (must commune once a year and make a contribution of record --- could be

monetary or by contributing time, such as helping with coffee hour)

- Bob Maine edited it for us; this can be updated very easily
 - People who wish to join Emanuel have already been approved by the council; we need to explain to the congregation about what the requirements are to become members and that the special service is a celebration to welcome that they have joined
- Time and Talents sign up – worked well, but a lot of people were absent; do it again the day of the annual meeting, and announce it at church next Sunday. Suggestion made that after the sign-up, church mail out time and talents sheet to people who were not in church but attend, at least occasionally.

Offering Envelopes

- We would like everyone to get envelopes as an opportunity to give faithfully.
- We will give confirmands envelopes when they are confirmed.
- We also discussed ways to save money on the cost for envelopes, such as using some without dates on them.

Other Items

- Phones: Melissa Brown would like access to a phone when she has activities in case of emergencies or to call parents and teens. Disa made a motion to put a 911 phone downstairs and then put in a church line in the locked Christian Education room. Jim Schabek seconded, and the Council approved unanimously. The 911- only cell phone will be kept in the sacristy because anyone with a key to the entrance door can access that room.
- Beverly Locke and Kathy Plante would like to become members. They were approved unanimously.
- Mary Schabek and the Bazaar Committee gave the go-ahead to spend the money they raised to arrange air-conditioning for the parish hall. Myron has talked to the vendor about moving the center one from the sanctuary and moving it to the parish hall. There is \$2000 left in the line for this project.
- Gwen has an idea to have a church reunion near September 11, 2016, the anniversary of our founding. **Beth and Disa have volunteered to help with the committee.**
- **Ken will organize the luncheon for the Annual Meeting.**
- Myron reported that we have been having a lot of drug use around the church, so we have asked the West Warwick police to make more patrols of the property.
- Myron moved that the Auditor's Recommendations be referred to the Finance

Committee for action, with help that the Property Committee, seconded and approved.

- Myron is talking to an engineering company about putting solar energy panels on the church to try to save on electric bills. He will bring information to the council to explore.
- Is anyone interested in being a Synod Assembly delegate? Disa has volunteered to go if no one else steps forward. (Diane Gadoury is going for her second year. We try to send a female and a male delegate with Pastor Todd; if we can recruit someone age 30 or younger, we can send 3 lay delegates to Synod.)
- Ken started a discussion about a quote from Bishop Hazelwood that Ken had sent to Council Members earlier:

From the Lutheran January issue, Bishop James Hazelwood, as part of his report to the 2014 assembly challenged the New England Synod's 187 congregations to "try something new."

"If your church is internally focused, candidly, 'you're toast'. It's all over. Why? Because people are leaving internally focused churches. They are tired of silly debates about whether or not the color of the napkins should match for coffee hour. They don't want to fight about whether the prelude should come before or after the announcements, whether or not the pastor's children make too much noise. They are leaving silly budget fights. There is no future for churches like that. I'm sorry, but it's true."

"Experiment, experiment, experiment," said Hazelwood, wearing a lab coat that make him look not unlike a mad scientist. You now have synodical authorization to experiment."

We talked about how we can help to work through conflicts as we work together. Myron suggested that we all read Emanuel's Constitution regarding how conflicts should be handled. As Ken said in his e-mail to Council Members, "We will be challenged this following year to take our church from being internally focused to being externally focused."

Closing: The meeting closed with prayer at 9:55 p.m.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 12, 2015



March 2015

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------------------------|---|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | 2 <i>Al-Anon</i> 7pm | 3 10am <i>Ellie's Circle</i> Food Pantry 10-12 3rd yr conf 7pm Bazaar Wrkshp 6pm | 4 <i>Adult Forum</i> 7pm | 5 7pm Committee Mtgs | 6 | 7 <i>Swedish Bread</i> <i>Class 9am</i> |
| 8 | 9 <i>Al-Anon</i> 7pm | 10 10am <i>Ellie's Circle</i> Food Pantry 10-12 3rd yr conf 7pm Bazaar Wrkshp 6pm | 11 <i>Adult Forum</i> 7pm <i>Senior</i> <i>Luncheon</i> 11am | 12 7pm Council Meeting | 13 | 14 <i>Swedish Bread</i> <i>Class 9am</i> |
| 15 | 16 <i>Al-Anon</i> 7pm | 17 10am <i>Ellie's Circle</i> Food Pantry 10-12 3rd yr conf 7pm Bazaar Wrkshp 6pm St Patrick's Day | 18 <i>Adult Forum</i> 7pm | 19 | 20 Confirmation Lock-in <i>Friday 5pm -</i> <i>Saturday 1pm</i> | 21 |
| 22 | 23 <i>Al-Anon</i> 7pm | 24 10am <i>Ellie's Circle</i> Food Pantry 10-12 3rd yr conf 7pm Bazaar Wrkshp 6pm | 25 <i>Adult Forum</i> 7pm | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 <i>Palm</i> <i>Sunday</i> | 30 <i>Al-Anon</i> 7pm | 31 10am <i>Ellie's Circle</i> Food Pantry 10-12 3rd yr conf 7pm Bazaar Wrkshp 6pm | Sunday A.M. Schedule: 8:00 Service of Holy Communion 9:15 Sunday School, 1st year Confirmation, Choir 10:30 Service of Holy Communion 12:00 Bible Study (alternating weeks) | | | |