

Emmanuel's Voice

The Newsletter of Emmanuel Lutheran Church

December 2014 / January 2015 ~ Volume 26 • Number 6

WHO WE ARE

Ministers of Emmanuel Lutheran Church ... All members and friends of Emmanuel

Pastor ... Rev. Jacqueline Rau

Music Director ... Valerie Felder

Office Staff ... Christina Wardell

Custodian ... Paul Zetye

Council Members:

Comique People,
President
Jambres Maximore,
Treasurer
Holly Wendt, Secretary
Ed Kotajarvi
Barb Laho
Jerry Hall

From Our Pastor:

It was about this time of year last year that Chloe would wake up every morning and ask “Did Santa come last night?” Now Chloe thinks she is a bit of a comedian, so I am aware that was part of it, but part of it was she was ready to open some gifts!

I found myself thinking about the parable of the ten lepers over Thanksgiving. If you recall in Luke 17, Jesus tells a parable about healing ten lepers and telling them to go and tell the priests. Nine of them rush off to share their good fortune with others, but one comes back to say thanks. He not only says thanks, he falls at Jesus’ feet to worship him. Young kids, my kids’ ages, are so excited on Christmas morning, they are more like the nine lepers than the one. You don’t hear a lot of “thank yous” that’s for sure.

I’ve been thinking though about how we grow in our understanding of giving and receiving gifts. At some point we begin to see beyond the gift and see the giver, and you are much more likely to say “thank you” even on a day like Christmas. And then at some point, it might even be when you are an adult, you start to see the spirit behind the gift. You start to realize that there is something a little deeper there, that someone took time to find that jersey of your favorite team, or made a phone call or two to find out just what you wanted, or drove a little bit farther than normal to get you. And you realize that gift giving is born out of love and a desire to make someone experience joy.

This Christmas I hope we can all find time to remember Christ in the midst of our celebrations, but more so I hope that we can find time to reflect on the spirit behind the “reason for the season” - a God who loved us deeply and wanted all people to experience the joy of hope and deliverance. A God who gave the world a baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor

Jackie

Offering Envelopes for 2015

Anyone who would like envelopes, who doesn't already have them, please notify Jerry Hall or Harriet Demorest.

December 7 Deadline

Beautiful poinsettia plants are used to decorate the sanctuary on Christmas Eve. If you wish to order a Poinsettia in honor or memory of loved ones, please complete the form and place it in the offering plate, or send it to the church office with \$8.50 per plant.



Volunteers Needed

On December 21st we would like to present a skit as part of the sermon. If you would like to participate in this please let Pastor Jackie know. It is open to all ages -no memorization necessary!

Advent Services

This year, Emmanuel will have Advent services starting Wednesday, December 3, and then again on December 10th and 17th. This is a service only and will not include a meal. The service starts at 7:00 p.m. Make plans now to make this a part of your preparations for the holidays!



Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be on December 24 at 10:30 p.m. with our special music program beginning at 10 p.m.



New Year's Eve Service

Please join us at 5 p.m. on December 31 for a special New Year's Eve Service.

Congregational Greeting Card

Instead of buying Christmas cards for everyone in the Congregation, please consider donating money to the Coalition for Temporary Shelter (COTS) and be part of the Congregational Greeting Card distributed at the Christmas Eve Service.



Contact Christina Wardell at 248-357-1848, if you would like to participate. Make your check payable to "Emmanuel Lutheran Church" and designate "COTS" on the memo line. The deadline is Sunday, December 14.



Help Decorate Our Church

Please gather upstairs after the Coffee and Tea Fellowship on Sunday, December 7. Let us all come together to decorate our church. We will be decorating the Christmas tree and setting up the manger.



Ring-A-Long and Sing-A-Long

On Sunday, December 21st, we will host a "Ring-A-Long and Sing-A-Long" at 2:00 p.m. at Maple Village at 6257 Telegraph Road in Bloomfield Hills and then go caroling. Maple Village is one of LSSM's senior facilities. We will play the Kristal Bell's, carol, share cookies, and have some fun as we share some Christmas cheer. Make plans to join us for this event - it is open to all! Carpooling from the church will be available at 1:30 p.m.

Youth Night

All school-aged children are invited to our monthly youth nights at 6:30 p.m. on the second Friday of each month. In November we made pumpkin pies and pumpkin cookies



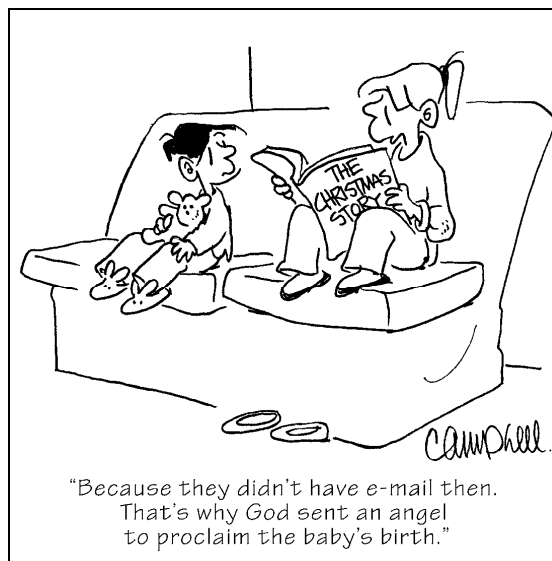
from scratch using pie pumpkins. On December 12, we will bake and decorate Swedish gingerbread cookies.



Christmas Cookie Sunday, December 14

A long-time tradition at Emmanuel is Christmas Cookie Sunday. Everyone is invited to bring Christmas cookies on December 14. They will be shared during the Coffee and Tea Fellowship and distributed to our homebound members.

Cartoon Corner



"Because they didn't have e-mail then. That's why God sent an angel to proclaim the baby's birth."



December Birthdays

Have a very happy birthday! Birthday Sunday will be on December 28th. Please bring a snack to share on that day.

January Birthdays

Have a very happy birthday! Birthday Sunday will be on January 25. Please bring a snack to share on that day.



Memorial Fund

The Memorial Fund Committee graciously wishes to acknowledge gifts received in memory of CARL LINDSTROM, from The Wardells, Kenneth Wern, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Kotajarvi, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Demorest, Mr. and Mrs. Rafael Saviniemi, and Mildred Harju.

In memory of MARGARET SMITH, resident of the Fountains, the following items have been gifted to the church: keyboard, stand, and service contract; color-coded Krystal Bells and music; and carpet in the sanctuary. We sincerely appreciate the Baird Family Fund's generosity.

Sincerely,

Jill Bergstrom

Memorial Fund Committee



“The Power of Prayer” Circle

“The prayer of a good person has a powerful effect.”

James 5:16

How many, especially of our newer members, are aware that Emmanuel has a Prayer Circle? Knowing that God hears our prayers and answers them in His time and according to His will, there is a group of people who have made a commitment to pray for another's specific needs.

The group was established in 1983 by Ray Halonen, a charter member, and operates using a traditional ‘phone tree’ method. Prayer requests are made by calling the church secretary who then activates the phone tree. When contacted you have only to call the next person on the list to pass on the prayer request, and then pray daily for the person/need.

We are in the process of updating the phone chain since some of our ‘prayer warriors’ have moved or are no longer able to participate. If you are interested in taking part in this important and rewarding ministry, or would like more information, see Gerry Henze or Christina Wardell.



On Sunday, January 11th, Angels for Life will join us to encourage each of us to sign up on the Michigan Organ Donation Registry. Emmanuel Lutheran believes that saving a life is the ultimate act of love and compassion. Show your support by signing up if you haven't already registered yourself!

Southfield MLK Peace Walk Celebration set for Monday, January 19

The city of Southfield and the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Task Force will host the 30th annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Peace Walk Celebration on Monday, January 19 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Hope United Methodist Church, 26275 Northwestern Highway.

The peace walk will depart from Hope United at 10:15 a.m., followed by an 11 a.m. program at the Southfield Pavilion, located in the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen Road.

Kroger Community Rewards

Thank you to those who signed up for the Kroger Community Rewards. Thanks to our supporters (10 households) who shopped at Kroger between 08/01/2014 and 10/31/2014 we have recently received \$35.82 total donation. If you have not yet signed up, please visit Kroger's website at <http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com>.

An Evening with LSSM

Thursday, December 11

6 pm / Reception

6:30 p.m. / Dinner & Program

Seating is Limited

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

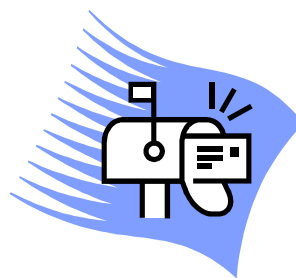
5631 North Adams Road

Bloomfield Hills, MI

Hear testimonials about how Lutheran Social Service of Michigan (LSSM) fulfills each person's desire to remain at home and connected with the community. Learn about how the dedicated staff of LSSM Home Care lives the mission --- serving people as an expression of the love of Christ --- as they provide service excellence with a focus on dignity and personal independence.

RSVP to Delilah Miller by December 5, 2014

313.308.8820 or dmill1@lssm.org



Mail from Stamps for the Wounded (A Service Activity of the Lions Club)

Dear Members of Emmanuel Lutheran Church:

We gratefully acknowledge your kind support of our program. Your contribution of stamps will help cheer a hospitalized or out-patient veteran. We thank you on behalf of those who will benefit from your generosity.

Sincerely,
Bruce Unkel
Acting Secretary

CHANGE OF ADDRESS



Richard and Jill Bergstrom have moved to:
4920 Lagoons Circle, West Bloomfield,
MI 48323.



Bible Study

During the weeks of Advent (weeks of Dec 1st, 8th and 15th) we will explore a couple of "big picture" topics. The first is "Does the ELCA see the bible as inerrant?" Many Christians today say the bible is free from discrepancies or inconsistencies. What does the ELCA have to say about that? We will then discuss the ELCA's understanding of Baptism and communion. Both are divisive issue between denominations. Join our discussion as to see where we stand.

In January we will turn our attention to a study of a book of the bible, which we will decide in December.

Stewardship News

We thank all of those who have turned in their pledge cards for 2015. If you haven't yet turned yours in, please prayerfully consider what you can do in the coming year. So far in 2014 we are on budget. General Operating receipts and disbursements are as follows:

Receipts	\$100,650
Disbursements	<u>114,067</u>
Shortfall	<u>\$ 13,417</u>

We do have some savings that we are able to use to make up the shortfall.

God continues to provide for us as we strive to do ministry here in this place.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

(248) 357-1848

December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 30 1 Advent Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Healing, Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. YAC Rehearsal 12 noon Confirmation 6 pm Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.	1 Bible Study 7 p.m.	2	3 Bible Study 10 a.m. Advent Service 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.	4 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	5	6 Men's Breakfast at Stackerz Deli 8:30 a.m. Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m. Documentary Film 6 p.m.
7 2 Advent Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. Hanging of the Greens 12:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.	8 Bible Study 7 p.m.	9	10 Bible Study 10 a.m. Advent Service 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.	11 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	12 Youth Night 6:30 p.m.	13 Church Council Meeting 10 a.m. Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.
14 3 Advent Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship / Christmas Cookies 11:45 a.m. YAC Rehearsal 12 noon Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.	15 Bible Study 7 p.m.	16	17 Bible Study 10 a.m. Advent Service 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.	18 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.	19	20 Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.
21 4 Advent Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. YAC Rehearsal 12 noon Ring-A-Long/Sing-A-Long 2:00 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Office Closed Choral Music 10 p.m. Holy Communion & Candlelight Service 10:30 p.m.	25 Christmas Day  Office Closed	26	27 Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.
28 1 Christmas Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. YAC Rehearsal 12 noon Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Office Closed 5 p.m. Worship Service	January 1 New Year's Day Office Closed	Jan. 2	January 3 Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.

Sunday Servants • December 2014

	December 7	December 14	December 21	December 24	December 28
Day	2 Advent	3 Advent	4 Advent	Christmas Eve	1 Christmas
Color	Blue	Blue	Blue	White	White
Readings	Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8	Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 Luke 1:46b-55 (Alternate) Thessalonians 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28	2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Luke 1:46b-55 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 (Alternate) Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:2-38	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]	Isaiah 61:10—62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40
Presiding	Pastor Jackie Rau				
Assisting and Lector Christina Wardell	Margaret Vore	Eddie People	Breanna Cross	Darin Page	Pat Ochodnicki
Music Director	Valerie Felder				
Cantors	YAC	Donna Page	Richard Chavanak	N/A	Marie Cook
Ushers Roger Demorest	Dean Lemponen Ed Gilbert Paul Zetye Jack Klein	Barb Laho Pat Ochodnicki Beryl Muckleroy LaDonn People	Jerry Hall Bruce Ricketts Michael Wright Tristin Cross	Jerry Hall Bruce Ricketts Michael Wright Tristin Cross	Maria Wardell Brittnay Jones Morgan Jones Lisa Jones
Greeters Barb Laho	Eddie and LaDonn People	Gerry Henze	Ed Gilbert and Jack Klein	N/A	Janet and Ed Kotajarvi
Acolytes Christina Wardell	Rhionna Nichols Tristin Cross	Jamie Maximore Mya Maximore	Brittnay Jones Chloe Rau	Lisa Jones Morgan Jones	Rhionna Nichols Tristin Cross
Altar Care Donna Page	Maria Wardell Lisa Jones	Donna and Darin Page	Comique People Ann Dixon	Altar Guild	Volunteers Needed
Tellers Harriet Demorest	Richard Chavanak Jerry Hall	Doris Gaston Dean Lemponen Ed Kotajarvi	Darin Page Donna Page	Darin Page Donna Page	Sharon Ricketts Bruce Ricketts Roger Demorest
Fellowship Hour Janet Kotajarvi	Volunteers Needed	Christmas Cookie Day	Women of the ELCA	N/A	December Birthdays
Audio Recording	Ed Wardell				
Sunday School	Richard Chavanak	Pastor Jackie Rau	Ann Dixon Christina Wardell	N/A	Cindy Anderson
Worship Folder and Bulletin	Christina Wardell				

If you cannot serve on your appointed day, please arrange for a substitute and call the church office at (248) 357-1848.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

(248) 357-1848

January 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>December 28 1 Christmas Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. YAC Rehearsal 12 noon Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>December 29</p>	<p>December 30</p>	<p>December 31 New Year's Eve Office Closed 5 p.m. Worship Service</p>	<p>1 New Year's Day Office Closed</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.</p>
<p>4 2 Christmas Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 Bible Study 10 a.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>8 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>9 Youth Night 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10 Church Council Meeting 10 a.m. Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.</p>
<p>11 Baptism of Our Lord Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. YAC Rehearsal 12 noon Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>12 Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 Bible Study 10 a.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>15 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.</p>
<p>18 2 Epiphany Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. YAC Rehearsal 12 noon Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>19 Martin Luther King Day Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Bible Study 10 a.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>22 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.</p>
<p>25 3 Epiphany Sunday School and Teen Forum 9:15 a.m. Service of Worship and Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Congregational Budget Meeting 11:30 Coffee/Tea Fellowship 11:45 a.m. YAC Rehearsal 12 noon Confirmation 6:30 p.m. Alcoholics Anonymous 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>26 Bible Study 7 p.m.</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Bible Study 10 a.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>29 Adult Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 p.m. Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Ministry at The Fountains 2 p.m.</p>

Sunday Servants • January 2015

	January 4	January 11	January 18	January 25
Day	2 Christmas	Baptism of Our Lord	2 Epiphany	3 Epiphany
Color	White	White	Green	Green
Readings	Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1: [1-9] 10-18	Genesis 1:1-15 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11	1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20] Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20
Presiding	Pastor Jackie Rau			
Assisting and Lector Christina Wardell	Pewu Bah-deh	Maria Wardell	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Music Director	Valerie Felder			
Cantors	YAC	Marie Cook	Richard Chavanak	Barbara Klimkowski
Ushers Roger Demorest	Christina Wardell Comique Dixon Ann Dixon Breanna Cross Kaiya Cross	Don Thompson Ed Kotajarvi Bill Leppala Roger Demorest	Dean Lemponen Ed Gilbert Paul Zetye Jack Klein	Barb Laho Doris Gaston Pat Ochodnicky Beryl Muckleroy LaDonn People
Greeters Barb Laho	Margaret Vore Pat Ochodnicky	Dolores Ward	Jerry and Sharon Hall	Dale Chameski Bill Gilbreth
Acolytes Christina Wardell	Lisa Jones Morgan Jones	Jamie Maximore Mya Maximore	Brittnay Jones Marcus Rau	Rhionna Nichols Tristin Cross
Altar Care Donna Page	TBD			
Tellers Harriet Demorest	Vicki and Rudy Perttunen Roger Demorest	Vicki and Rudy Perttunen Roger Demorest	Richard Chavanak Jerry Hall	Richard Chavanak Jerry Hall
Fellowship Hour Janet Kotajarvi	Volunteers Needed	Young at Heart	Women of the ELCA	January Birthdays
Sunday School	Richard Chavanak	Pastor Jackie Rau	Ann Dixon Christina Wardell	Cindy Anderson
Flowers Sharon Hall	Donations needed	Donations needed	Donations needed	Donations needed
Audio Recording	Ed Wardell			
Worship Folder and Bulletin	Christina Wardell			

If you cannot serve on your appointed day, please arrange for a substitute and call the church office at (248) 357-1848.



The Birth of Jesus Foretold

The prophet Isaiah foretold the birth of Jesus Christ. Isaiah knew that Jesus would be called a peacemaker, but that He would also be called by other names.

Use the code to find out what Isaiah said Jesus would be called.

CODE:

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	J	I	H	G	F	E	D	C	B	A

— Z — M — W — S — V — D — R — O — O — Y — V

— X — Z — O — V — W — D — L — M — W — V — I — U — F — O

— X — L — F — M — H — V — O — L — I — N — R — T — S — G — B

— T — L — W — V — E — V — I — O — Z — H — G — R — M — T

— U — Z — G — S — V — I — K — I — R — M — X — V

— L — U — K — V — Z — X — V

Isaiah 9:6, NIV

Answer: And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

23425 Lahser Road
Southfield, MI 48033

Address Service Requested

Sunday School / Teen Forum 9:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Coffee/Tea Fellowship 12 noon

Monday Evening Bible Study 7 p.m.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study 10 a.m.

Advent Services Wednesdays at 7 p.m.

Christmas Eve:

Choral Music 10 p.m.

Candlelight Service 10:30 p.m.

New Year's Eve Service 5 p.m.

Please call the church office at (248)357-1848 if you no longer wish to receive this monthly newsletter.