

## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

1229 Jefferson Heights Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

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[www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org](http://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org)

412-824-4525 (office); 412-401-5742 (Pastor's cell)

Office Hours: Wednesday 10-3, Thursday 9-1

April 9, 2025

On Palm Sunday, we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each event of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." In Holy Week, accompany Jesus to the cross with grief and thanksgiving, trusting in God's redeeming love.

<sup>5</sup> *Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,*  
<sup>6</sup> *who, though he was in the form of God,*  
*did not regard equality with God*  
*as something to be exploited,<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,*  
*taking the form of a slave,*  
*being born in human likeness.*  
*And being found in human form, he humbled himself*  
*and became obedient to the point of death—*  
*even death on a cross.*

**Philippians 2:5-8**, an early Christian hymn.

### **Holy Week worship is too important to miss.**

If you truly cannot get to Emmanuel in person or via Zoom for worship on Maundy Thursday and/or Good Friday evenings at 7 pm, please attend another congregation or set aside time for Prayer and Worship where you are.

### **THIS MAILING INCLUDES**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY LITURGIES**

**Appropriate for at home via zoom or quietly on your own.**

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### **Easter Sunday Bilingual Festival Worship and Meal**

The Festival of the Resurrection is one spectacular bilingual worship on Sunday, April 20, at 10 a.m. There will be no evening Spanish worship. We will rejoice with many rhythms, Latino, German, and American.

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After worship, there is an **Easter Fiesta meal** prepared by the best Venezuelan cooks in our congregation. Please RSVP 412-401-5742 or [eastmontelc@hotmail.com](mailto:eastmontelc@hotmail.com). We expect to eat close to 11:30 a.m. **NO ONE SHOULD EAT ALONE ON EASTER.**

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### **COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT – Saturday, April 19, from 2-3 pm.**

Invite family, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to the annual Community Easter Egg Hunt. Helpers (adult and teen) needed at 1 p.m.

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## **Worship and pray**

Come in person at 10 am every Sunday

**By phone:** Call 312-626-6799. When prompted, enter the meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

**By computer or smartphone:** Go to [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us). Enter Meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

**At home without technology:** Read the bulletin. Read the Scripture. Pray. Meditate.

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## **Holy Week & Easter at Emmanuel**

**Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7 pm** – Holy Communion

**Good Friday, April 18, noon-3pm** – Meditation and Music; **7 pm** -- Worship

**Saturday, April 19, 2-3 pm** – Easter Egg Hunt

**Sunday, April 20, 10 am** – Easter Sunday Bilingual Festival Worship, Fiesta Meal afterward

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## **LENTEN OFFERING FOR BETHEL AME**

Our synod has walked alongside Bethel AME Church in recent years as they fought for restorative justice since being displaced in the 1950's. Since receiving the guarantee of returned land, they are pursuing the goal of building new housing. Bethel and its sister congregation, Trinity A.M.E., have come together and formed the Bethel-Trinity CDC. They are not waiting for a new building to directly confront the systemic racial inequities in the Hill District neighborhood and beyond. The existing Trinity building is under transformation as a community center with a food bank, afterschool learning programs, health fairs, and more.

Your Lenten gift for Bethel AME may be placed in the enclosed Lenten envelope or your regular offering envelope. Please designate clearly on your envelope or check.!!! Any undesignated envelopes or checks will go in the general fund.

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## **Blessing of the seeds – Sunday, April 27**

We pray for all gardeners and farmers, for a productive growing season and plentiful harvest, for the care of creation and that all may be fed. Bring your seeds, seedlings or implements for blessing.

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## **SAVE THE DATE – WELCA CLUSTERS #3 AND #4 SPRING MEETING – MAY 3, 2025**

Here's a chance to learn about gardening, have fellowship with your sisters in Christ, share outreach ideas of what your WELCA clusters are planning this year, and share lunch. The meeting will be held at St. Paul's Highfield Lutheran Church in Vandergrift; the fee to cover the luncheon is only \$10.

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**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Call Pastor Theophilus for yourself or others to be included in prayer. Contact Marsha Kennedy also; she sends cards to let people know that we are praying for them. You can reach Marsha at 412-824-4966 or [Marsha\\_Kennedy@verizon.net](mailto:Marsha_Kennedy@verizon.net) or 415 Kingston Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.



## Stewardship Reflection by Dennis Orsen

Again, being a good steward involves being grounded in truth. In this world, there is a lot of misinformation that needs to be countered by truth. Some examples are:



**I believe that the Holocaust in Europe really happened.** When General Eisenhower entered one of the concentration camps at the end of World War II, he told reporters, "Let the cameras roll, because some day, someone will say this never happened." Still to this day, there are those in our world who deny this truth. When Linda and I traveled in Germany and Poland in 2018, I was impressed by non-Jewish people committed to keeping the story of the Holocaust alive in an effort to prevent it from happening again.

**I believe that in the 2020 election, Biden won and Trump lost.** Still to this day, there are those that claim Trump won and that the election was stolen.

**I believe Russia invaded Ukraine, not the other way around,** as some are now claiming. I know that I was not watching a Hollywood movie as I watched on television the parade of tanks heading toward Kiev.

**I believe January 6 was a violent insurrection,** not a love festival with hugs and kisses. Also, while the scenes of attacking/damaging Tesla cars on our screens could pass for the violence in some Hollywood movies, they were/are acts of real violence, in real time, in this world.

**Living on the side of truth** involves remembering the dark side of our history and seeing the dark side of the history we are making.



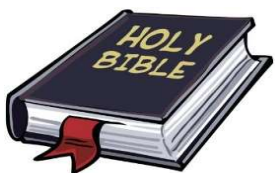
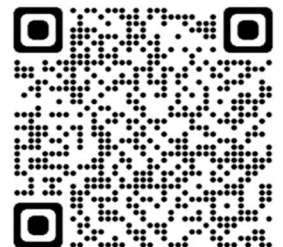
### The Welcoming Table Sunday evening Lutheran worship in Spanish

Worship begins at 6 pm.

Pastor Linda leads worship services at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 1516 Beechview Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216. Emmanuel is the only Lutheran congregation in our synod with Spanish-speaking participants, so we started worship in the area where they live.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING. You may give in person, send a contribution in the mail or donate online.**

Go to <https://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org/> and you'll see the link. Or use the QR code for easy connection on your smart phone.



### BIBLE BOOKS OF THE MONTH: PHILIPPIANS and I AND II PETER

There are only 12 chapters in the three short books for the April Bible Books of the Month. You can find the introductions to all the Bible Books of the Month on the home page of our website, [www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org](https://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org/)

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## Lutheran Day at the Capitol

Join Lutherans from across Pennsylvania on Tuesday, May 13, to learn and to advocate for our neighbors, especially to address hunger and poverty in our state.

Carpool with Pastor Linda, leaving on Monday afternoon, May 12; return on Tuesday evening.

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## We Believe: Anniversary of the Council Nicaea

**Sunday, April 27: 2:30 PM**

**Sacred Heart Church: 310 Shady Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 1520**

The faithful of different denominations of Christianity will unite to celebrate their 2025 shared date of Easter and share the 1,700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. Join an ecumenical celebration on the 1,700th anniversary of the Council Nicaea with a liturgy of the Word and reflections by Bishop Kusserow; Metropolitan Savas, Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh; and Bishop David Zubik, Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh.

A large, vertical poster with a blue-to-yellow gradient background. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold sans-serif and elegant script fonts. The title "We Believe:" is in a large, bold, orange font. Below it, "An Ecumenical Celebration of the 1,700th Anniversary of the Council Nicaea" is in a smaller, white sans-serif font. A horizontal orange line separates this from the date and time: "Sunday, April 27 at 2:30 PM at Sacred Heart Church" and "310 Shady Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206". Another horizontal orange line follows. The next section, "Liturgy of the Word with Reflections by:", is in a bold, orange font. Below this, the names and titles of the speakers are listed in a white sans-serif font: "Bishop David A. Zubik, Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh", "Metropolitan Savas, Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh", and "Bishop Kurt F. Kusserow, Southwestern PA Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America". At the bottom, there are two logos: the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh logo on the left and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America logo on the right.