



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

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

Office Hours: Monday 9-1, Wednesday 11-3, Thursday 9-1

February 14, 2024

This is a two-week mailing. There will be no mailing next week.

Lenten Study at Emmanuel

The Historical Jesus: The Challenge of a Mediterranean Jewish Peasant

The first session is Sunday, February 25, after worship.

Pastor Linda will be on vacation from February 15-23. Pastor Dorothy Worth will preach and preside on Sunday, February 18. If you need pastoral care during that time, contact Marsha Kennedy (412-824-4966) or Pastor Bob Schaefer (724-640-8691).

Special Congregational Meeting March 3

There will be a special congregation meeting after service on Sunday, March 3, to approve constitutional changes allowing electronic meetings for council and congregation meetings. This will be a very short meeting. Probably five minutes.

Stewardship Reflection by Pastor Dennis Orsen

In his book *Giving to God*, Mark Allan Powell shares his experience of visiting members of a congregation who had become inactive. He was taken back by the number of people who told him, "I stopped coming to worship because I was not getting anything out of it." He found this to be a strange response, because his mother emphasized for the family, "We go to church to worship God."

I also would like to add that when we go to church to worship God, our presence strengthens the faith of those who surround us in worship. Conversely, those who surround us in worship also strengthen our faith. Former Presiding Bishop H. George Anderson shared that after his first wife died, there was a period of time when he went to church, his grief prevented him from singing the hymns or participation in the liturgy. He said, the rest of the congregation worshipped for me.

Being a good steward includes managing our time that allows us to worship God and to serve our neighbor as we worship.



SOUPER BOWL!!

The Souper Bowl donations total \$185 as of February 14.

This year the Emmanuel Souper Bowl collection is designated for the **Crossroads Food Bank in Monroeville**. Pastor Lindsey White of Crossroads says the need is greater than ever.

The Super Bowl is over, but our generosity continues.

The Cross and the Lynching Tree

The Thursday discussions of *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* continue. The discussions are held on Thursdays at 11 am in person and on zoom. Contact Pastor Dennis to learn more. 412-804-1673.

For zoom use the Emmanuel Class meeting ID 897 6086 7900, or use the following link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89760867900>

The theologian James H. Cone explores these emotionally charged symbols. This unique book opens up the legacy of slavery and racism and helps Christians of all colors embrace one another as brothers and sisters in Christ today.



In the last weeks, we have been sharing information about Lutherlyn and the capital campaign to build new cabins and improve the amphitheater.

In the next mailing there will be information about how you can make a gift.

Emmanuel encourages youth and adults to go to the outdoor ministries of our synod. Both Lutherlyn and Agape have been life-changing, faith-affirming experiences for members and friends of Emmanuel. Thank you for considering a gift to this important ministry in our synod.

You are invited to the Stewardship Study based on the book "**Giving to God**" by Mark A. Powell. These sessions are held on the first Monday of the month. The next session is Monday, March 4, at 2:00 p.m. at Bob Evans in Irwin. Call Pastor Dennis at 412-804-1673 if you're interested in joining.

Order altar flowers for 2024 and Lilies for Easter.

Lilies for Easter are \$11. The last day to order is Sunday, March 3.

To order **altar flowers** for our weekly worship services, contact Judy Mayhood (412-760-0986), call the church office, or sign up on the Flower Chart in the entry way. The cost is \$50, or \$25 per vase. You can pay for flowers online or by check.



DOROTHY'S CANDIES FUNDRAISER FOR MEALS FOR FRIENDS

Support Meals for Friends and satisfy your sweet tooth with a treat from Dorothy's Candies! Foil-wrapped chocolate eggs, chocolate-covered Oreos, chocolate bunnies, and more. Brochures and order forms are available at Emmanuel; a copy is attached to the email version of this newsletter. Orders are due March 1; candy will be delivered mid-March and can be picked up at Emmanuel.



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 or 415 Kingston Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS GIVING.

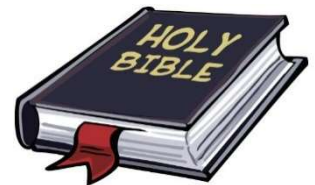
You may give in person, send a contribution in the mail or donate online.

New this year: there is a link on our website to make giving even easier. Go to <https://www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org/> and you'll see the link.

Or use the QR code for easy connection on your smart phone.

Thank you for giving your offerings regularly!! Many of you have been very generous and faithful. We are grateful for every contribution that comes in the mail, and through our online and mobile giving app.

Bible Book of the Month: The books for February are the Old Testament prophets of **Joel, Nahum, and Obadiah**. You can find a link to the introduction on the home page of our website, www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org.



Worship and pray every Sunday at 10 a.m.

In person in the sanctuary OR

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

By computer or smartphone: Go to www.zoom.us. Enter Meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

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



PANDEMIC + RELIGION =

The Monroeville Interfaith Ministerium is co-sponsoring an event at the Monroeville Library on Thursday, February 29, at 7 p.m. Pastor Linda is a member of the panel discussing how our spiritual practices have changed since the pandemic. Attendees will hear from local leaders across the religious spectrum and are welcomed to share their own questions and experiences. If you cannot attend in person, you can attend via zoom

using this link: www.tinyurl.com/mimdisc

Friday, March 1, 11 am - Parish Life
Sunday, March 3, 11:15 am – Special and very short
Congregational Meeting in sanctuary
Tuesday, March 5, 1 pm – Congregation Council
Meeting
Thursday, March 28, 7 pm - Maundy Thursday
worship
Friday, March 29, 7 pm - Good Friday worship
Saturday, March 30, 2 pm - Easter Egg Hunt



Camp Agape News

Save the date for Camp Agape's 2024 Maple Syrup Festival – Saturday, March 16th from 10 am – 3pm. Details to come! But first, Camp Agape needs volunteers to help with maple sap collection. Because the production of maple syrup is so weather dependent, we cannot schedule what days we will be collecting sap or processing the sap into syrup at the Sap Shack. We are encouraging you and your

friends to come and help; you'll get to experience the entire process of maple syrup production. If you're interested in helping with sap collection, notify the camp office. Please provide your email address and telephone number so we can notify you of dates and times of sap collection, evaporation of the sap, etc. The Camp office phone is 724-356-2308; the email is Marketing@campagape.org

Sisters Celebrating Diversity & Moving in Unity

The mission of Sisters Celebrating Diversity & Moving in Unity is to promote healing and unity in the body of Christ by providing training, education, and opportunities for fellowship as we embrace and celebrate racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity. Monthly meetings are held to discuss various topics. The next meeting is Thursday, February 29, from 6:30-8:30 pm at Bethel AME Church. If you're interested, please contact Pastor Linda for more information.

Monthly Grief Gatherings at Monroeville Public Library

Join death doula Diana McDade on Wed., February 28, 7-8:30 pm, in Yolanda's Room at the Monroeville Library, 4000 Gateway Campus Blvd., Monroeville. This is a safe and supportive space where we come together to share and explore our experiences with grief. All are welcome. For more information, contact Cory Little at 412-373-0500 ext. 122 or littlec2@einetwork.net.

