



## The Emmanuel Lutheran Church

1229 Jefferson Heights Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

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

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

February 18, 2026

Remember that you are dust  
and to dust you shall return.

Hubris - this is the Greek word for a kind of human pride that ends in trouble and destruction. It is a delusion. It is believing you can do or be something which you are not and cannot be. It is different from the kind of pride which is satisfaction at a job well done or talents developed with time, practice and good teaching. On Ash Wednesday we begin six weeks of Lent by remembering that we are NOT GOD. These human bodies will die. We acknowledge our need for God, who is the only one who can hold all things together.

*Pastor Linda*

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### **Bishop Allende Visits this Sunday, February 22**

Bishop Abraham Allende is our guest preacher on the first Sunday of Lent.

**After worship, we have the opportunity to talk with him about Latine Ministry in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.**

Potluck meal featuring Venezuela chicken will be served. RSVPs requested but not required.

Bishop Allende is the bishop emeritus of the Northeastern Ohio Synod. He grew up in Puerto Rico. He is a baseball fan and has a special fondness for Roberto Clemente.

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### **LENTEN MIDWEEK HOLY COMMUNION - EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 1 PM**

#### **HOLY WEEK**

#### **Maundy Thursday – April 2**

7 pm - Holy Communion – we remember Jesus' Last Supper

#### **Good Friday – April 3**

12 to 3 pm - Come for prayer and meditation in the sanctuary

7 pm - The Good News of the Cross

**Easter Saturday – April 4 - Community Easter Egg Hunt**

**EASTER LILIES - \$12 - DEADLINE TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, MARCH 1.**

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### **Worship and pray**

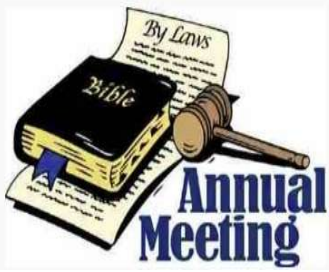
Come in person at 10 am every Sunday

**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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## The annual meeting was held on Sunday, February 8.

Sandy Loughery, Len Hill, and Marsha Kenedy were re-elected to serve on the congregation council.

The budget was passed as presented.  
Projected expenses require additional income.

***We reviewed changes to the congregation constitution based on the ELCA 2025 Churchwide Assembly revisions. On Sunday, March 8, we will have the official vote to approve these changes. This will take five minutes following the benediction.***

Written reports are available. We encourage you to read the Annual Report.

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At the annual congregation meeting, the decision was made to join The Pennsylvania Immigration Coalition (PIC). The joint Lutheran advocacy network for Pennsylvania (LAMPa) has been a member of PIC for many years. Pastor Linda has been an individual member participant also.



**PENNSYLVANIA  
IMMIGRATION COALITION**

*The Pennsylvania Immigration Coalition (PIC) is a diverse coalition of over 60 member organizations across the state working directly with immigrant communities. PIC leads and supports campaigns, that have been decided by the member organizations, to advance immigrant rights at the local, state, and federal levels.*

*PIC supports grassroots community-led organizations through coalition coordination, training and capacity building, alongside aiding members in increasing immigration services. PIC also builds immigrant electoral power through nonpartisan voter registration and education of new citizens, and directly assists registrants in accessing immigration, know your rights and social services.*

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**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. The prices remain the same in 2026 as 2025. You can pay for flowers online or by check.



**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.

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**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.





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## Stewardship Reflection by Pastor Dennis Orsen

*This article is the third in a series sharing quotes from Dr. Mark Allan Powell from an document he wrote for retired bishops and has shared with me also. His document is called Citizenship in Heaven: The Bible and Borders—New Testament*

• The metaphor of “Christianity as a diaspora” became one of the most compelling and defining images for the church—people who are “in the world” but not “of it” (John 17:15–16). The same thought informs the notion of Christians as “pilgrims” or “sojourners” in the world—traveling through a place that is not ultimately their home. “Diaspora and its entailments are part of the church’s DNA.”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Carroll R., M. Daniel, *The Bible and Borders: Hearing God’s Word on Immigration* (Grand Rapids: Brazos, 2020), p. 101

• Nevertheless, in modern countries where Christianity has been a dominant culture, believers find it difficult to think of themselves as “strangers in a strange land” (compare Exodus 2:22)—that is, many modern Christians find it difficult to think of themselves in the manner that the biblical writers assumed they would.

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**Sunday, February 22** – Bishop Allende visits Emmanuel

**Monday, February 23, 10 am** - The Welcoming Table Steering Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, February 25, 1pm** – Midweek Holy Communion

**Sunday, March 8** - Special congregational meeting at end of worship

**Sunday, March 15, 1 pm** – Pastor Ken’s Class

**Monday, March 23, 10 am** - Parish Life Committee Meeting

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**GATHER BIBLE STUDY** - Join other women in the eastern suburbs for a monthly Bible study on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. We meet at Zion Lutheran Church in Penn Hills.

**1:00-2:30 pm – Tuesday, March 24, 2026**

Zion Lutheran Church,  
11609 Frankstown Road

In March, our Bible Study is “*Embodied Prayer: Part 2*” by the Rev. Liv Larson Andrews. Part 2 focuses on praying with and for the earth.

In April, we’ll begin a three-part study on “*I AM: God’s holy name and promise,*” by the Rev. Hannah Hawkinson. Each session is self-contained, so if you miss one, feel free to come to the next one.

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## KITCHEN RENOVATIONS BEGIN THIS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23

The Emmanuel kitchen will soon have a new food prep sink and a grease trap. The plumber will start with the grease trap on Monday, February 23. That equipment will be installed below the kitchen in the furnace room. Meals for Friends will be able to prepare meals on Monday. The work will continue on Tuesday, February 24, to install the food prep sink.

Before the plumber begins, the cabinet along the wall under the window facing Northern Pike will need to be removed. If it is sturdy enough, it will be placed in the fellowship hall along the wall facing Northern Pike. Once we know if that cabinet can be used in that location, we can determine what we need to do for storage cabinets for Emmanuel and Meals for Friends.

The estimate to install this equipment and to rearrange/replace cabinets is over \$10,000. (We also anticipate expensive updates to the fire suppression system in 2027; any money left from the current work will go towards those updates.)

This kitchen is essential for Meals for Friends and a valuable asset for ministry in our local community.  
**THANK YOU for your donations!!!**

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**MEALS FOR FRIENDS** is once again selling Betsy Ann Chocolates for Easter. Order forms are available at Emmanuel. Orders are due March 9, and pickup will be March 20 or 23 at Emmanuel during Meals for Friends hours.



### Emmanuel's Mission Statement:

*Gathered by the Holy Spirit, Emmanuel is called by God to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with a Lutheran emphasis on God's grace and forgiveness. As people who have received God's mercy, we support each other in faithful living. Emmanuel's purpose is to welcome ALL people into its fellowship, to share the Good News with ALL people, to strive for peace and justice in ALL the world, and to serve ALL people following Christ's example.*

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### Riding into Jerusalem

Pastor Ken Ofslager is teaching every third Sunday afternoon through May. Each month we will dig into the Biblical texts for the festivals in those months.

**Next class is Sunday, March 15, 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm**

There is lunch at 12 noon.

**You can participate in person or via zoom.**

To join via zoom, use the Emmanuel class link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89760867900>

Meeting ID: 897 6086 7900

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