



Emmanuel Lutheran Church

1229 Jefferson Heights Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

eastmontelc@hotmail.com

www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org

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

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

January 28, 2026

A prayer for this time.

Almighty and everlasting God, comfort of those who grieve and suffer, let the prayers of your children who are in any trouble rise to you. To everyone in distress grant mercy, grant justice, grant relief, grant truth, grant refreshment. Grant moral courage to those in national, state, and community leadership and for all those in leadership in your church and in government. We pray these things through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Due to the continuing frigid weather, the annual congregation meeting will be postponed and will be held immediately after worship on Sunday, February 8, 2026.

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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.

Bishop Allende Visits on 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. 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.

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. Enter Meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

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



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY IS FEBRUARY 8, 2026

This year our Souper Bowl offerings are designated for the Cross Roads Food Bank. Whether you are feasting at a Super Bowl party or not, this is a great time to remember those who need food.

Emmanuel has supported the Cross Roads Food Bank in Monroeville for 40 plus years. This is one of the older food banks in our area. It is a ministry of Cross Roads Presbyterian Church. It is located on Haymaker Road. They now serve approximately 150 households per month, which is double from one year ago. Cross Roads is now one of four food banks in Monroeville with regular distribution hours. There is also an emergency food pantry at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Between 1983 and 1985, Emmanuel was in cooperative relationship with Good Shepherd, Rosecrest, and St. Mark's Lutheran congregations. That strengthened the connection with the Cross Roads Food Pantry. Our location, at the boundaries of Penn Hills, Wilkins Township and Monroeville places us between many food banks. As food needs have increased over the years, more pantries have emerged. Emmanuel looks for ways to support food distribution in whatever direction you look from our location.



Food Assistance in Monroeville

Cross Roads Food Pantry

2310 Haymaker Rd
412-372-2311
Every Friday, food every 8 weeks
Emergency as needed

Garden City Food Pantry

500 Laurel Dr.
412-373-0391
2nd Thursday of the month
24 hr Outdoor Pantry

Reclamation Food Pantry

2456 Tillbrook Rd
412-376-9350
2nd and 4th Saturday

Gateway High School Distribution Site

3000 Gateway
Campus Blvd
412-457-0023
2nd Wednesday

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.

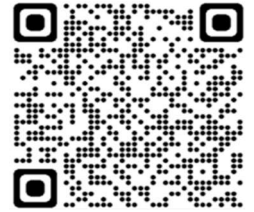


PRAYER REQUESTS: Call Pastor Theophilus for yourself or others to be included in prayer. Contact Marsha Kennedy also; she sends cards to let people know that we are praying for them. You can reach Marsha at 412-824-4966 **or** Marsha_Kennedy@verizon.net **or** 415 Kingston Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15235.

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.



Stewardship Reflection by Pastor Dennis Orsen

At a Congregation Council meeting in one of the congregations I served, the treasurer said, "We need to give until it hurts."

Immediately another member responded, "We are to give until it feels good."

JESUS' BAPTISM AND TRANSFIGURATION

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, February 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

"American Christian Nationalism, Christian Zionism, and Islamophobia: Examining our Cultural and Theological Frameworks"

Every Wednesday in Epiphany, ONLINE, 1-3pm EST

The sessions will start on Wednesday, January 14th and end on Wednesday, February 11th.

All sessions are 1-3 pm and will not be recorded.

This series is offered to us through United Lutheran Seminary. Instructor: Rev. Dr. David D. Grafton, Ph.D., Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations at Hartford International

Come to Emmanuel for the classes or request a zoom link from Pastor Linda.

It will also be presented at Zion Lutheran Church in Penn Hills.

- **4 February:** . *The Armageddon Factor: 1967 and the growth of Christian Zionism.*
 - **11 February:** *The Promised Land or the Land of Promise: Israel/Palestine and Middle Eastern Christian Perspectives (including a live conversation with Bishop Dr. Imad Haddad of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land).*
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Sunday, February 8 - Souper Bowl Offering

Annual congregational meeting after worship

Sunday, February 15 – Pastor Ken’s Class

Tuesday, February 17 – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Wednesday, February 18 – Ash Wednesday

Sunday, February 22 – Bishop Allende visits.



GATHER BIBLE STUDY

For all women

in the east suburban Lutheran congregations and our friends.

1:00-2:30 pm – Tuesday, February 17, 2026

Zion Lutheran Church,
11609 Frankstown Road



We meet the usual meeting time is the fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm. We are adjusting in February to the third Tuesday which is Tuesday, February 17, 2026. Our March meeting date is Tuesday, March 24.

In February and March, our Bible Study is *“Embodied Prayer”* by the Rev. Liv Larson Andrews.



Thanks to your generous donations and the grant that Meals for Friends received from the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, we now have enough to make the kitchen improvements! The contractor has been hired and will begin work soon. **THANK YOU!!!**

In November we learned that the Emmanuel kitchen must be equipped with a food prep sink and a grease trap. The estimate to install this equipment and to rearrange/replace cabinets is at least \$10,000. This kitchen is essential for Meals for Friends and a valuable asset for ministry in our local community. (We also anticipate expensive updates to the fire suppression system in 2027; any money left from the current work will go towards those updates.)

Congregation Council Training -

Saturday, February 21: 9:30 AM - 2:30 PM

St John’s Lutheran Church, North Versailles

Being a member of the congregation council is a significant commitment in the life of a disciple. This gathering for congregation leaders is intended to strengthen your skills and your faith. From stewardship and financial management to constitution and bylaws, there will be training for a variety of council interests and duties. Registration will begin in early January.

PS You don’t need to be on council to attend. Lots of good information and inspiration.
