



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

June 11, 2025

This Sunday is Holy Trinity Sunday. We adore the mystery of the God who is One and Three, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, undivided in essence, always working and creating together in unity, who draws us into the eternal dance of love.

During worship, we will confess our faith with the Athanasian Creed. Of the three Creeds that Lutherans affirm as accurate summaries of our faith, the Athanasian Creed focuses on the Holy Trinity.

.... there is one Father, not three fathers;
one Son, not three sons;
one Holy Spirit, not three spirits.

And in this Trinity, no one is before or after, greater or less than the other;
but all three persons are in themselves, coeternal and coequal;
and so we worship the Trinity in unity and the one God in three persons.

Emanuel Nine, martyrs, died 2015

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

On June 17, 2015, Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia Marie Graham Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lee Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel Lee Simmons, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, and Myra Thompson were murdered by a self-professed white supremacist while they were gathered for Bible study and prayer at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (often referred to as Mother Emanuel) in Charleston, South Carolina. Pastors Pinckney and Simmons were both graduates of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.

A resolution to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance for the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America on August 8, 2019. Their deaths remind us to renew our commitment to repent of the sins of racism and white supremacy which continue to plague this church, to venerate the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, and to mark this day of penitence with study and prayer.

Thursday, June 12 – Saturday, June 14

La Roche University

Gracious God, you bless your people with a variety of gifts. Guide with your wisdom those voting members who will elect a bishop of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the ELCA, that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The assembly offering is designated for Levi Fund, a dedicated synod fund, to underwrite the salaries of critical synod staff positions so that the next bishop is able to have the necessary support to fulfill the duties of the office.

BLESSING FOR FATHER'S DAY

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator of heaven and earth.

We give thanks to you for all the men of faith who have done your will throughout the ages.

We thank you for Abraham, the father of Israel, Moses the deliverer, Samuel the judge, David the king, Isaiah the prophet, Simeon the Black and Lucius of Cyrene, prophets in Antioch, and for Joseph, husband of Mary and guardian of our Lord.

God of our ancestors in faith, we ask your blessing upon the faithful men of this congregation, our brothers and friends, our spouses and sons, our grandfathers and fathers.

Bless them and all men who place their trust in you.

Empower them to hold fast their faith and reject all that is evil.

May they not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of their minds, so that they may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Evelyn Rae Dodson died on Monday, June 9. Her memorial service is at Emmanuel on Saturday, June 14, at 2:30 pm. Evelyn was an active member of Emmanuel in the 1960s – mid 80's. She returned to Emmanuel as a shut-in during the last two years. *Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Evelyn. Acknowledge, we humbly ask, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.*

Honoring and praying for graduates

On Sunday, June 8, we remembered beloved family and friends who have graduated from high school, college and completed other educational milestones. The printed list omitted Sarah Plank, Nancy Sipe's granddaughter.

Gracious God, you bless your servants with many achievements. We give thanks especially for the milestones that Sarah Plank, Danielle Neal, Caleb Mayhood, Samantha Kuroso, Braelin O'Leary, Lana Daini, and Arantza Ortega Blanco have attained.

Sunday, July13

BISHOP KUSSEROW VISITS EMMANUEL

We are planning a festival worship and a picnic at Emmanuel

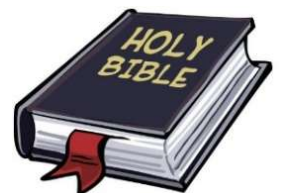
BIBLE BOOK OF THE MONTH ENDS WITH PSALMS 73-106 IN JUNE

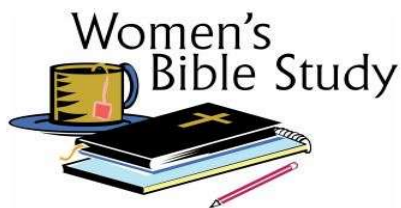
We conclude the Bible Book of the Month this month with Psalms 73-106.

The introduction to Psalms 73-106 was included with last week's letter.

We began the Bible Book of the Month in January of 2021. Usually, the featured book was included in the Sunday worship for the month. The introductions to all the Bible Books of the Month will continue to be available on our website,

www.emmanuelutheraneastmont.org.





GATHER BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS

Join women from other congregations in our area on the 4th Tuesday of June, July, and August (June 24, July 22, and August 26) for a Bible study from GATHER Magazine on the topic "*Where Two or More are Gathered: Flourishing in Relationships*." The conveners are Helen Williams and Rev. Linda Theophilus. We will meet from 1:00-2:30 pm

in an air-conditioned room at Zion Lutheran Church, 11609 Frankstown Road.

June 12-14, 12:30 pm – Synod Assembly at LaRoche University

Sunday, June 15 – Holy Trinity Sunday

Tuesday, June 17 – Commemoration of the Emanuel Nine

Tuesday, June 17, 1 pm – Church Council meeting

Sunday, June 22, 10 am & 2 pm – Juneteenth Worship Bethel AME

Tuesday, June 24 – Nativity of St. John the Baptist

Sunday, July 13, 10 am – Bishop Kusserow visits Emmanuel

July 14-18, 9:30 am-noon – Vacation Bible School



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.

Lutheran worship in Spanish (The Welcoming Table)

Summer hours – 10 am at Emmanuel

When school begins we will return to an evening 6 pm service

at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (1516 Beechview Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 14-18, 2025

Monday-Friday, July 14-18, from 9:30 am to noon
JESUS: BABY, SAVIOR, GOD

Join us for worship, music, games, crafts and snacks each day, organized around one Bible story that reveals who Jesus is. Ages 3 through completed grade 6 (adult companion needed for 3-year-olds);

teen helpers eagerly welcomed. Call the church office at 412-824-4525 to register; registration deadline is July 6, and the registration fee is only \$5.00 per family.

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.



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.

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 Dennis Orsen

The Evangelist John utilizes a lot of symbolism. One of my favorite scripture readings is the story of the disciples fishing after Jesus' resurrection. It says that they caught 153 fish. In my wildest imagination, I cannot imagine a group of fishermen taking time to count the number of fish caught in the net. At that time there were 153 known species of fish. A detail, "...and though there were so many, the net was not torn." (John 21:11).

The point: Last Sunday we celebrated the festival of Pentecost, frequently referred as the Birthday of the Church. The church is a diverse makeup of people from every nation, multiple races, cultures and ethnic backgrounds. It is the Holy Spirit that keeps us from being torn apart and holds the fellowship in Christ together. As we "include" in the church, we are, by our witness, calling our society, our nation and our world to "include," not "exclude."

Carpool from Emmanuel

After morning worship

For lunch

And 2 pm worship

At Bethel AME

JUNETEENTH WORSHIP SAVE THE DATE

2025

JUNE 22ND

Bethel AME Church
2720 Webster Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Rev. Dr. Dale B. Snyder, Sr., Pastor

Morning Worship: 11:00am

Afternoon Worship: 2:00pm

Guest preacher:
Bishop Kurt Kusserow
Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

Guest preacher:
Bishop Stafford J.N. Wicker
3rd Episcopal District, AME Church

Together in Welcome –

Wednesday, July 2 from 6-7:30pm at the City-County Building on Grant Street

On June 6th, 1939, the MS St. Louis was turned away from the United States with 937 Jewish refugees on board. 254 of them – over a quarter – were turned away and ultimately sent to concentration camps. Today, we honor the memory of those individuals. As we recognize the anniversary of the MS St. Louis, we also bear witness as the United States deploys law and bureaucracy to cause harm to immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees under the pretext of enhancing legal order. We have not only actively shut our doors to nearly all forms of refuge, but we have begun removing our neighbors to dangerous circumstances, including rendering individuals to a notoriously dangerous foreign prison with no due process. Law should be a tool of justice, not a cudgel of cruelty.

Locally and across our nation, from June 6 through July, there are interfaith vigils. The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) are national sponsors. Jewish Family and Community Service, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry PA and engaged congregations across faiths are organizing a vigil to commemorate lives lost to harmful anti-refugee policies, both in our past and currently enforced. We gather to give meaning to the words "Never Again." As People of Faith and as Americans, we refuse to remain silent at the co-opting of our nation's statutes and express alarm about the path down which it leads. We will gather in prayer, remembrance, advocacy and hope for a renewed commitment to welcome. We are inviting you to join us on **Wednesday, July 2 from 6-7:30pm at the City-County Building on Grant Street.**

The evening will include hearing stories from immigrants and refugees, people of faith, and elected officials
