



## Emmanuel Lutheran Church

1229 Jefferson Heights Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

[eastmontelc@hotmail.com](mailto:eastmontelc@hotmail.com)

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

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

September 30, 2026

### Healing Service Sunday, October 11 at 10 a.m.

Jesus said: Come to me, all you who are heavy laden  
and I will give you rest.

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### Donations for Free Store

Your gently used items plus new hygiene items are needed every month. This month's pick up is Wednesday, October 6. Find out more in the God's Work, Our Hands article.

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### Spaghetti Dinner October 4, 2026

Proceeds benefit Emmanuel and Meals for Friends.

**3 to 6 p.m. Take-out only**

\$13 for adults, \$3 for children ages 3 to 10

Tickets available at the door or presale.

#### Sign up sheet in entryway

Set up and prep on Saturday, October 3  
Serve, direct traffic and clean up on October 4

#### Remember to invite friends neighbors and acquaintances

Emmanuel is blessed to host the Meals for Friends organization in our building. This is a Meals on Wheels program with several unique aspects. As a separately incorporated local 501c3, with local volunteer leadership, Meals for Friends delivers locally cooked meals to homebound residents of all ages. They are our partners for the Spaghetti Dinner.

The proceeds will be divided equally between Meals for Friends and Emmanuel. The profits equip Meals for Friends to offer quality meals to low-income seniors. Emmanuel uses its half to pay utility and snowplowing bills associated with hosting this important program.

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### Worship and Pray

Come in person or on zoom 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](https://www.zoom.us/j/92338150341). Enter Meeting ID 923 3815 0341.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92338150341>

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

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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.



PLEASE PRAY. AND IF YOU CAN, PLEASE INCREASE YOUR GIVING.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS RESPONDED TO THIS REQUEST.**

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## Stewardship Reflections by Pastor Dennis Orsen

In 1985, I had the opportunity to take a trip to the Holy Land. During the trip I was struck by the power of King Herod, known as Herod the Great, who ruled over Roman Palestine from 37 to 34 B.C.E.

Herod was a client king which meant that he had to please the Roman Emperor and the Jewish people. He was a great builder. Ruins of his monuments are visible to see: The city of Caesarea with an aqueduct built to provide water to it; Masada, a fortress against the Romans and a palace for himself; and a renovation and expansion of the Jewish temple that was rebuilt following the Jewish return from the Babylon Exile. It has been noted that he may have paid for a portion of it with his own wealth. He also built temples in "honor of Romans" emperors and gods.

In short, Herod built these "monuments" to his glory. Also, he was paranoid. The Bible contains the story of his being so threatened by the birth of Jesus that he ordered all the children in Bethlehem under the age of two to be murdered; and history notes that he murdered Mariame I (one of his wives), two of her sons, (Alexander & Aristobulus) and his eldest son Antipater: because they were a threat to his power. In summary, Herod the Great was a brutal King.

Approximately one month from now, November 3, will be election day in the United States. Living in a democracy we have an opportunity to prevent such brutal kings rising to power by not voting for them. This means we must keep informed and advocate for good public education so others can be informed. This means voting and working to protect the right for all citizens to vote. Also, a former Bread for the World President and CEO, and an ELCA pastor, The Reverend David Beekman has challenged Christians to financially support candidates for public office whose lives reflect high morality and promote policies for the common good.

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Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa)

Invites us to

Join our Pennsylvania Election Support Network!

1. Pray for poll workers and county election counters
2. Volunteer as a poll worker, observer, driver and overall supporter.
3. Inquire with LAMPa about other ways to support election workers and sites.

[LAMPa@LutheranAdvocacyPA.org](mailto:LAMPa@LutheranAdvocacyPA.org).

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### Bad Girls of the Bible.

Rebellious, resilient, responsible, reprehensible

**Sunday, October 18**

**1:00 p.m.**

Optional lunch at 12 noon

The next series of Bible Studies taught by Pastor Ken Ofslager begins on October 20. Throughout the year we will learn the stories of familiar and unfamiliar women in the Bible.

**The regular time is the third Sunday of the month at 1 p.m.**

The class is held in the Fellowship Hall.

**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



**TO ORDER ALTAR FLOWERS or to MAKE A PRAYER REQUEST**

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE 412-824-4525  
Or Marsha Kennedy at 412-824-4966 (phone or text)  
**Altar flowers cost \$50.**





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|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Sunday, October 4          | Spaghetti Dinner                        |
| Sunday, October 11         | Healing Sunday                          |
| Sunday, October 18, 1 p.m. | Bible Study: Bad Girls of the Bible     |
| Tuesday, October 20, 1 pm  | Congregation Council                    |
| Sunday, October 25         | Reformation Sunday - Meal after worship |

**Fall Foliage drive through and bake sale October 10, 10 am to 2 pm**

**Roof repairs are underway!!**

**Prayer Request:** The Agape Board of Directors requests our prayers as they figure out next steps and begin the process of selecting a camp director.



### **Prayer request from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Jordan and the Holyland**

Many of you have been following the case of Natalie Abudayyeh, the ELCJHL youth and Birzeit University student who was abducted and detained by Israeli forces in June. Natalie appeared in court on September 23, but unfortunately the decision regarding her release was once again postponed to the 20th of October. We are incredibly frustrated and distressed that Natalie will spend another month in prison, and we pray without ceasing for her safety and freedom.

Please keep Natalie, her family, and the church in your prayers, and please continue to raise your voices to your church networks and elected officials to advocate for Natalie's immediate release. We will share more updates as we have them.

Please use our ELCA Advocacy Action Alert here to advocate for her release.

<https://act.elca.org/page/100411/action/1?chain>



On June 2, 2026, Natalie Abudayyeh, a 21-year-old Lutheran young adult of the Church of the Reformation congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL), was abducted from her university housing at gunpoint by Israeli forces alongside three of her classmates. An "Update from Bishop Dr. Imad Haddad on Natlie Abudayyeh: 6 July" can be read from the [ELCJHL Facebook page](#). To date, Abudayyeh has not been charged with any offenses. It is not known why Abudayyeh was abducted or continues to be held in Israeli detention, and no information has been shared with her lawyer, her family or her church. Abudayyeh's family and pastor have all been denied access to see her, and her lawyer has only been able to speak to her through a video chat.

The ELCA has named the priority to "defend the human rights of groups most susceptible to violations, especially all minorities, women, and children" in the social statement [For Peace in God's World](#) (p. 14). In 1 Corinthians 12:26, we are reminded: "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." Our voice as Americans and as Christians matters in proclaiming that Abudayyeh, her classmates, and the thousands of other Palestinians being held without charge have human rights and must be treated with the dignity, respect and humanity they deserve.

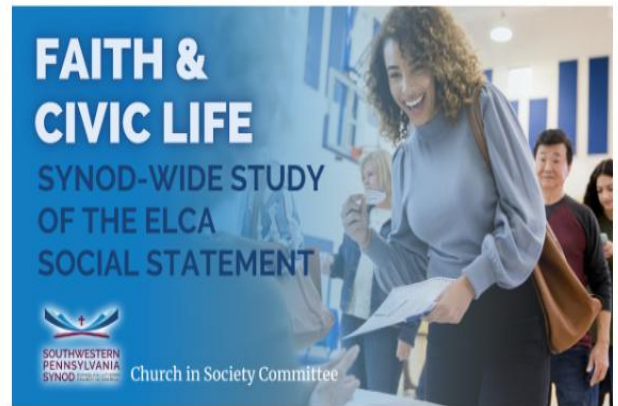
**First Holy Communion** Jordana Santaella is preparing for First Holy Communion. We will announce a date as soon as her mother can arrange a day off from work. Your prayers are requested for Jordana and her family.

**Faith & Civic Life Study Group**

## Thursdays, September 17-October 22 7 PM on Zoom

Our Church encourages Lutherans to be civically engaged as people of faith. The upcoming midterm elections give us an opportunity to explore what it means to be both a Christian and a citizen through the study of the ELCA social statement [\*\*Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All\*\*](#) with the help of our synod's Church in Society Committee. Together, we will create a space to think out loud about the intersection of our government and our faith in supportive, challenging, and uniquely Lutheran ways.

**To register for the zoom link go to [swpasynod.org/calendar/civicstudy](https://swpasynod.org/calendar/civicstudy)**



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If you are a woman reading this, This Bible study is for you.

### Multi-congregation women's Bible Study



Location: Zion Lutheran Church,  
11609 Frankstown Rd, Penn Hills 15235

This is a monthly gathering.

We usually meet on the last Thursday of the month at 1:00 p.m.

### [\*\*Fall 2026: "Bold faith on an unexpected journey," by the Rev. Tiffany Chaney\*\*](#)

Faith often leads us down paths we didn't expect—into wilderness places, across unfamiliar lands, and through seasons of grief and hope. This three-session study takes us on a journey with Hagar, Ruth and Mary Magdalene, women whose bold faith transformed their futures.



## God's Work, Our Hands

The day of service was just the beginning.  
Keep sending donations.

Our focus this year is collecting for a "Free Store." A social worker friend of Pastor Linda, Kat Carrick, does a monthly pop-up free store in Duquesne Heights. *Kat invites us to accompany her to run the monthly free store.* The pop-up free stores are often held on Saturdays. Pastor Linda will connect you with Kat Carrick.

Residents include Afghan refugees, many the families of those who assisted American military. She also reports that there are five Syrian families with children and toddlers who recently moved in, so diapers and items for small children are needed.

**Can you bring any of the following? Some items may be lightly used.**

**Great need for** Handi wipes, Sanitary pads, Socks,  
underwear of all sizes, especially for girls & young ladies

**Always need:** Diapers for babies and toddlers, Cleaning supplies  
Basic household and kitchen supplies, Toiletries

**Special need:** size 14 wide leg jeans for teenage girls

**General need** for basic household items for kitchen, bedrooms and bathrooms.

Or give an offering for "God's Work, Our Hands" and someone else will do the shopping.

Or accompany Kat Carrick on a shopping trip to Costco.

Thrivent Action Grant which will give us \$250 dollars towards supplies.

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## Earthquake Relief/ Fire and Flood Relief

If you are willing to give a donation that can be given directly to individuals or families in Venezuela whom our families recommend, please include the words **"Venezuela families"** with your gift.

**Emmanuel is also sending your contribution for earthquake, flood and fire relief** through Lutheran Disaster Response to the Lutherans and their partners doing local disaster Response in the US and around the world. If there is a specific location that you want to help, please write that clearly with your contribution. **Aid is going to Nepal, Colombia, Venezuela and many places in the United States.**

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