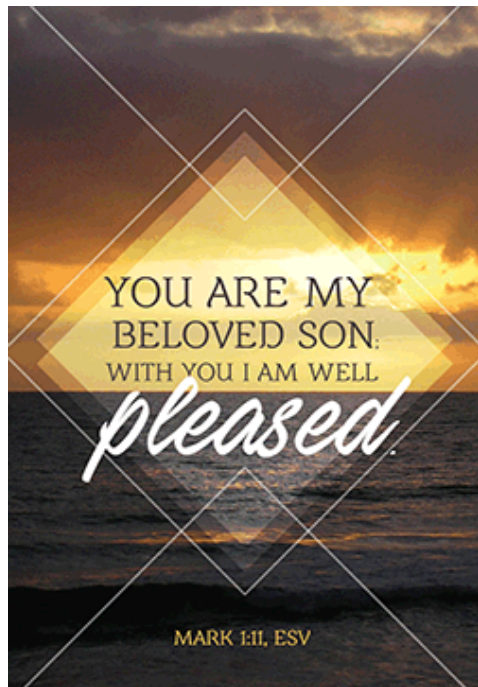


The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION JANUARY 2018 VOLUME 24 NUMBER 01



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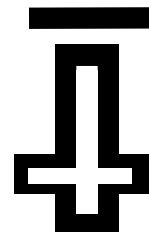
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
 150 North Palm Street, La Habra, California 90631 (562) 691-0656
 Preschool: (562) 694-5316

Traditional Worship Service
 Praise Service
 Children’s Sunday School:
 PASTOR:
 PASTOR:
 PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:
 Website: www.elch.org
 E-mail: churchinfo@elch.org

9:00 a.m.
 10:45 a.m.
 10:00 a.m.
 Catherine E. Luehr
 Dennis M. Loherty
 JoIne Sodders
Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.

DATED MATERIAL
 Please Deliver by 2nd or
 3rd of the month.

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Post It Notes from Pastor Luehr

NEW YEAR, NEW LIFE

As we enter this new year of 2018, I imagine many things may be going through your minds. From some of our older members I have heard, “I can’t believe it is 2018 already! I remember when that year sounded like such a futuristic date.” To our students who are graduating from High School this year, 2018 has been the year to look towards since they were young. And to many of us (myself included), I keep thinking, “How can it be a new year already? I finally got used to writing 2017!”

But new can be so much fun. A new home can offer a place to make new memories. New gifts can give new forms of entertainment. A new job can offer a place to enjoy one’s work. New clothes can make you feel confident and stylish. New books give us new worlds to escape into. New can be so wonderful!

Of course newness is not always welcomed or even good. For those who like their life and home and work and church just as it is, “new” can be a scary thought. And for those who have lost a loved one this past year, celebrating holidays and birthdays will take on a new form and a new tone this year, not necessarily a pleasant one.

As Christians, it is so fitting that we start our new year with a new life. One week before we ring in the New Year, we ring in the new life of Jesus on Christmas. Though we celebrate it every year and we know that Christ’s death on the cross is just around the corner, it is hard not to think of this as a time of newness, good newness. New life in Christ is always good news. I pray that this year, no matter what newness may come your way, that the life of Jesus Christ would bless you and keep you in His grace. New Year, New Life.

Pastor Cate Luehr



From the Board of Parish Education

Sunday School Class Schedule: Sunday School classes are held weekly. Join us on Sunday mornings for classes for all age groups starting at age three. Visitors are always welcome!

Classes for Preschool to 5th grade meet at 10:00 AM in Moerer Hall. We will be learning about the Bible story “The Four Friends” (Luke 5:17-26). This story reminds us that Jesus looks for strong faith and forgives us.

Middle School / Sr. High: This class meets in the Youth Room at 10:00 AM with Janine Ward and Denise Whitcher. Come and discover how God works in our lives. Don’t miss out.

A fun MOVIE NIGHT is planned for the Middle School Sunday School class. Save the date: January 4, 2018 at 5:30 PM in the Youth Room. This will be a dinner and movie night! Let Mrs. Ward know if you are coming by calling her at 562-696-6573 (home) or at 562-556-0200 (cell).



Offerings: Gifts were purchased for an 11-year-old boy and a 5-year-old girl who’s names were on the Angel Tree. Our weekly offerings helped to buy these gifts.

Seekers: Seekers will return on Thursday, January 11.

We thank all our students who participated in our musical play, “SPECIAL DELIVER...Wrapped in the Father’s Love.” They did a great job and we learned all about our Savior’s birth. We also want to thank Denyelle Villicano and Francis Cuyno for helping with our play rehearsals and for Adriana Ward and Ellie Taylor who were our Assistant Directors for the play. Many thanks to Lee Reitzel and Ana Zelaya who helped create our costumes.

Please continue to pray for the spiritual growth of the youth and adults.

Board of Parish Education



Heart And Hands Outreach Sharing the Good News!

"Feed My Sheep" – John 21

COMMUNITY SHARING AND CARING OUTREACH:

ANGEL TREE: The Angel Tree is one of our most fun and exciting ministries. The tags just fly off the tree and the gifts offered by Emanuel are wonderful. Gifts were delivered the week of December 18.

FRISTERS: A huge box of dolls, trucks, learning toys, and games was delivered to **Fristers** on December 14. We were thrilled to meet Ali Woodard, the President and Founder of Fristers, and the person responsible for all of the chapters in Orange County. They continue to be very grateful and excited for the Emanuel support. They meet each Thursday during the school year at Crossroads Church in La Habra along with a number of adult volunteers.

The FRISTERS mission is: "Our passion is to embrace, encourage, and empower the youngest and most vulnerable families in our community. Teen moms and dads face monumental challenges, typically with no support system. In addition, these young adults are often burdened with rejection, criticism, and shame from their communities. We exist to replace these messages with ones of hope, and to provide these young parents with the education and support they need to better their lives and raise their children. Every family deserves a fighting chance."

Emanuel supports the FRISTERS with diapers and wipes, Christmas gifts for the children, and purchasing books, so each child may have one. The donations you made in October were used to purchase the book **CORDUROY** for distribution in January.



EXCITING NEWS!!

Emanuel wrote and submitted a grant application to the Pacifica Synod to support CityNet in La Habra. We have just learned that we have been awarded a grant of \$650.00. Watch for updates!

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES:

During 2018 we will be afforded many ways to show God's love through helping our neighbors. Watch for the plan in the February "Good News."

LET US KNOW: We'd love to hear from you regarding those ministries which really touch your heart and why. What ideas do you have about them and how they are carried out? Are there other areas you'd like to reach? Thanks so much!

EVANGELISM: "Take It To The Lord In Prayer" — prayers for our church, our pastors, our world, and any special needs, in the Chapel or wherever you are at 8:30 on Saturday mornings. We now have seven people praying every week. Join us. We are hoping to run out of space in the Chapel and move to a larger prayer space. If you have a prayer request, please let one of the Pastors know and it will be lifted up. We have met and prayed weekly for nearly five years and we have seen miracles.

The next HAHO meeting is Saturday, January 6, at 10:00 AM. We encourage you to join us or let us know your thoughts about this ministry.

Thank you for your generous Hearts and Hands!

Jeanette Parr
Facilitator



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ELFFF'S CHRISTMAS PARTY ON DECEMBER 9



ELFFF's (Emanuel Lutheran Food, Fun, Fellowship) meets a few times during the year. At our annual Christmas party, we had a variety of yummy hors d'oeuvres and desserts, along with games and an exchange of "priceless" white elephants. This year we also had exceptionally perfect elf nicknames, such as "Candycane Jinglebells."

Team 1, composed of Marsha Maynard, Phyllis Laherty, Kim Beard, Sonia Fay, Warren Parr, and Clayton Mark, won the *Reworded Christmas Carol* game, successfully getting the correct titles of 19 of the 20 scrambled tunes. Clayton is holding the "bragging rights" certificate.

After a lot of trading, Ruth Wolfarth won the much sought-after Cowboy Boot Bird House, bearing an Alaska license plate. Another hot item was the Redneck Door Bell, handmade by Ricki Fehr and won by Warren Parr.

ELFFF's is a great time to spend a couple of hours just having fun with your Emanuel family. Please consider joining us in the new year. You'll be glad you did.

Thanks to Ruth Fehr, Ricki Fehr, Robyn Ospital, and Jeanette Parr for planning and set-up, and to everyone who participated in making it such a fun evening.



2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES



Your 2018 offering envelopes are now available for pick up in Moerer Hall.

In addition to our traditional offering envelopes, **Emanuel now offers online and text-to-give options for your offering.** Online can be done through our website www.elch.org. For text-to-give, text the amount you would like to give to 562-210-0007.

Thank you for your offering to Emanuel Lutheran Church and its ministries.



ADULT LAY-LED BIBLE STUDY

1st and 3rd Thursdays at 4:30 PM
Hope Center Library

At Emanuel, we have an Adult Lay Bible Study led by a member of the congregation. They meet the first and third Thursdays of each month at 4:30 PM in the Hope Center Library. In January, they will meet **on Thursday, January 4, and Thursday, January 18.**

They are now studying the book of Hebrews and enjoy learning together about the Word of the Lord. They use reliable resources in their study and hope you will feel led to join them. Both men and women are welcome! For more information, contact Mischelle Uhlman.

JOY CIRCLE



The Joy Circle Bible Study will meet on **Monday, January 15, from 9:30-11:00**

AM. The Joy Circle is a women's group that gathers on the third Monday of each month in the Hope Center Library for fellowship and treats and to participate together in a Bible study taken from *Gather Magazine*, the magazine published by Women of the ELCA. This year the Bible study will consist of several short term Bible studies, all focusing on a different topic. If you have never participated in the Joy Circle before, consider trying one or more of the 3 or 4 month sessions.

This month, Joy Circle will be starting a new Bible study called *Multiple Meanings* by Dr. Mark Allan Powell. In this series of Bible studies, we are looking at "multiple meanings" and discovering reasons why the same Bible stories can mean different things to different people. Extra copies of this Bible study will be available that morning.



WILL YOU SHARE YOUR TALENTS FROM GOD WITH EMANUEL?

Are you willing to give an hour or two a week.... or a month?

- ◆ **If you have skills or knowledge in property maintenance, or want to help with simple repair jobs, contact Keith Kruse, Council President.**
- ◆ **If you have administrative skills or enjoy organizing, contact Lorrie Freeman, Church Secretary.**
- ◆ **If you wish to help with Sunday Service and want to know more about the needs during worship, talk with Pastor Cate Luehr.**
- ◆ **If you have a skill you'd like to share, but not sure where it fits, contact Jeanette Parr, Vice President.**

Emanuel is our home and needs ongoing care and attention. Members give hundreds of hours every year. Your talents matter.

Thank you.





You are invited to:

Lutheran Women’s Retreat
“FIERCE: Women of the Bible and Their Stories”

May 4-6, 2018

Murrieta Hot Springs Conference Center

Cost: \$200

Emanuel Lutheran Church is hosting a Women’s Retreat weekend at Murrieta Hot Springs Christian Conference Center Friday night, May 4, through Sunday morning, May 6. This year we will be combining with Trinity Lutheran Church of Hemet for our Lutheran Women’s Retreat!

Join us for a weekend of learning, laughing, worshipping, praying and playing together. This year we will look at Women of the Bible and the stories they tell.

There will be plenty of free time to enjoy the wonderful facility and the Hot Springs. All food for the weekend is included as well as lodging in two-person and six-person rooms (twin beds) with a bathroom inside each room. For more information about the Conference Center visit: <http://mhsretreats.com>.

Space is limited to 20 people, so please register early. To reserve a spot simply return the registration form below with a \$50 deposit to the church office. After your registration is received, an email will be sent with more detailed information.

*Please note that scholarships are available for women who would like to attend, but for whom the cost is a financial difficulty.

If you have any questions please contact Pr. Cate Luehr at pastorcate@elclh.org.

“She is clothed in strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future.”

-Proverbs 31:25

NAME: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Email address _____

How would you like to benefit from this retreat?: _____

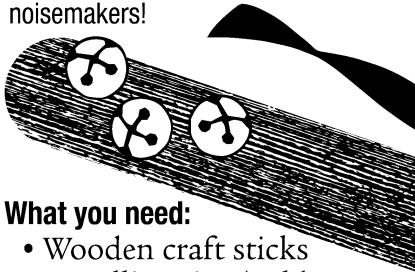
*****A \$50 deposit is due at the time of registration. Checks can be made payable to Emanuel Lutheran Church.***

Kid's Korner



NEW YEAR'S NOISE-MAKERS

Ring in the New Year with these fun noisemakers!

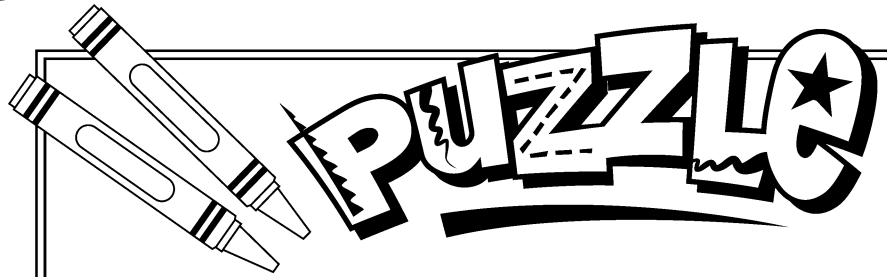


What you need:

- Wooden craft sticks
- Metallic paint (gold and silver)
- Paint brushes
- Jingle bells (gold and silver)
- Hot glue gun
- Metallic ribbon
- Scissors
- Adult help

What you do:

1. Paint half the sticks gold and half silver. Let dry.
2. Glue three bells to each stick.
3. Cut a six-inch piece of ribbon for each stick. Tie a bow and glue it to the noisemaker. Celebrate!



A NEW CREATION



The apostle Paul says everyone who believes in Jesus becomes brand new.



Directions: Cross out every third letter. Then write the remaining letters in the blanks to complete 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV.

T H I E R O E F Q O R X E I D F A M N Y A O N
 S E I L S I T N C V H R K I S D T T B H E W N E
 Q W C D R E Y A T M I O C N H F A S W C O R
 M E G T H W E O F L D X H A S S G Z O N L
 E T J H E W N E Q W I D S H R E R O E

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Answer: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV