

The Good News

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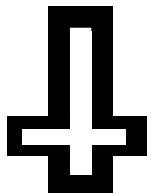
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DATED MATERIAL
Please Deliver by 2nd or
3rd of the month.

INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICE
10:00 AM
Sandy Bentz
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:
Jonine Sodders
Spanish Worship is offered at 1:00 pm by House of Faith.
E-mail: churchinfo@elclh.org
Website: www.elclh.org



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FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR



Dear Friends in Christ,

In Isaiah 43:19 God says,

“I am about to do a new thing, now it springs forth. Do you not perceive it?”

With the farewell for Pastor Cate and her husband Clayton and, before that, for Vicar Matt and his family, God is clearly about to do a new thing here at Emanuel. And God has given us the gift of this time of transition – an Intentional Interim time – to give thanks for God’s faithfulness and to notice, reflect on and begin to experience and explore what some new God-dreamed and Holy Spirit possibilities might be.

I genuinely look forward to June 15 and the start of my getting to partner with you in ministry over the next 12 months. Along with doing the usual things pastors do to support the mission and ministry of the church (preach, teach, lead worship, provide pastoral care, etc.), my special focus as an Intentional Interim Pastor will be to work with a Transition Team. Together with them we will seek to involve as many people as possible in answering three questions that will help guide the congregation’s search for Emanuel’s new pastor:

1. Who are we?
2. Who is our neighbor?
3. What/Where is God calling us to do/be?

As we explore those questions, we will hopefully get to see God, ourselves, our community and our mission with new eyes and new perspective.

Change can feel unsettling, but this transition time can provide exciting opportunities to try some new things as well as to understand and appreciate what is already working well. Trusting that God’s Holy Spirit is ALWAYS with us, may we lean into the future with a sense of adventure and fun, confident that God is going ahead of us and God will, as Isaiah 43:19 says, “make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.”

I can’t wait for us to meet and to get to know each other!

Together with you, in God’s Gracious Grip,

Pastor Sandy Bentz

A little about Emanuel's new Intentional Interim Pastor

My official "start" day at Emanuel is Tuesday, June 15. In the days and weeks that follow, I look forward to getting to know as many of you as possible. Until then, here's a little about me . . .

Your prayers would be much appreciated . . . I'm pretty busy these days packing up my house in Temecula to move to a 2-bedroom apartment I've rented for the year near Craig Park in Fullerton. Imagine getting ready to live in less than half of your current living space! While I'm hating the sorting, storage and moving tasks, I'm trusting it will be worth it to have a 12-14 minute commute to Emanuel instead of the possibility of two-hours!

I'm a life-long Lutheran and second career pastor ordained for 20+ years. For the last 8-1/2 years I was the senior pastor at Hope Lutheran Church in Temecula, CA. Prior to that, I led congregations in Central Valley California, Northwest Illinois and suburban Chicago. I am a trained Intentional Interim through NALIP (National Association of Interim Pastors) 10 years ago and through IMN (Interim Ministry Network) in 2021. I have been a Senior Pastor, Solo Pastor, Associate Pastor and pastor of a two-point parish.

It is truly a gift to be able to say that my adult kids are my favorite people with whom to spend time. I am a proud mom of twin daughters and their amazing husbands, Kristin (Christopher aka "Toph") and Kari (Jay), and Grandma to James (6), Julia (2-1/2) and Kaitlyn (2-1/2). No; they're not twins. In fact, Kaitlyn will be a big sister when her baby brother is born in Washington (state) early this November. I can't wait!

I love ministry and have to be very intentional about trying to keep a healthy work/life balance. I'm single, having been divorced 12 years ago after 28 years of marriage. For the last year I've been swimming and walking almost daily. I love to read, watch movies, listen to podcasts, attend the theater, spend time with friends, and travel, especially if it involves the ocean or Grand Canyon or enjoying the outdoors.

As I get to know Emanuel and the community around us, I will ask LOTS of questions. Please know that the questions are out of genuine curiosity, not criticism or from some hidden agenda. I will be trying to understand how things are done at Emanuel and why. As we seek God's leading and direction for the future, my hope is that we will ALL be asking lots of questions about why we do what we do!

After I arrive, PLEASE introduce yourself to me (maybe several times to help me remember names and faces?!) Tell me about yourself. Tell me about why Emanuel is important to you. Tell me about your hopes and dreams for Emanuel and the next pastoral leader you and God will call here. No one knows this church or community as well as you and your stories are important to a healthy transition.

Please prayerfully consider how God might be calling YOU to be part of Emanuel's ministry today and in the future. Now may be a great time to try something new! If you have a question, a concern, a praise, PLEASE share it with me! Starting June 15, you can email me at pastor@elclh.org. Call me. Send me a note. Set up a meeting. Invite me for a cup of coffee or a quick bite. I genuinely want your feedback. We will be sharing ministry together for a brief 12 months. Let's do everything we can to make the best use of that time so Emanuel is well positioned to call and partner in ministry with a new settled pastor when the time is right.

Back to the boxes! I'll see you soon.

Pastor Sandy Bentz



HEART AND HANDS OUTREACH SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

“Feed My Sheep” – John 21

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

Many of us have truly missed our community in-person outreach during the pandemic. Even so, we have provided food to Storehouse Ministries/LRCC and provided gift cards to HIS House, WINGS, and Mama Hill’s House to provide food and necessities. On Saturday, May 15, WE MET IN PERSON! WHAT AN EXCITING DAY!

The COVID-19 pandemic has allowed us to think and pray about our outreach ministries. Several will continue, and a few may be changed or added. One of the areas discussed was to increase our outreach from the local area to our brothers and sisters farther away. In the past, Emanuel has supported the Kulpahar Cristian School in India. There is an opportunity there now to reach out. There is also an opportunity in another country to help provide water facilities via a well. We are looking at those possibilities. In the short term, we will be supporting VBS, Study Buddies, collecting used eyeglasses through the Lions, providing Bibles for the preschool children, putting together the Thanksgiving bags for Patriots and Paws, and of course, the Angel Tree at Christmas for WINGS and His House. Stay tuned for specific opportunities.

In addition to supporting our community ministries, let’s consider how else we can be good friends and neighbors. Hearts reach out too! Here are some thoughts on how to become a friend and nurture a good friendship.

BE KIND. This most basic behavior emphasized during childhood remains the core of successful adult relationships. Think of friendship as an emotional bank account. Every act of kindness and every expression of gratitude are deposits into this account, while criticism and negativity draw down the account.

- **Listen up.** Ask what’s going on in your friends’ lives. Let the other person know you are paying close attention through eye contact, body language, and occasional brief comments such as, “That sounds fun.” When friends share details of hard times or difficult experiences, be empathetic, but don’t give advice unless your friends ask for it.
- **Open up.** Build intimacy with your friends by opening up about yourself. Being willing to disclose personal experiences and concerns shows that your friend holds a special place in your life and deepens your connection.
- **Show that you can be trusted.** Being responsible, reliable and dependable is key to forming strong friendships. Keep your engagements and arrive on time. Follow through on commitments you’ve made to your friends. When your friends share confidential information, keep it private.
- **Make yourself available.** Building a close friendship takes time—together. Make an effort to see new friends regularly and to check in with them in between meet-ups. You may feel awkward the first few times you talk on the phone or get together, but this feeling is likely to pass as you get more comfortable with each other.

God bless all of you for your generous Hearts and Hands reaching out to others.

Jeanette Parr
Facilitator

FROM THE BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION



Greetings to all Emanuel Youth and Parents!

Thank you for having your kids join us for our online Sunday School lessons each week. This past month we have learned so much about Jesus and the Bible.

1. Our lesson “Did Jesus get into trouble when he was a kid?” reminded our students that Jesus was a kid just like them when he was growing up. Isaiah 53:9 says, “He had done nothing wrong, and he had never lied.” Even though Jesus never sinned, he came down from heaven to take our sins to the cross.
2. We discovered the answer to the question “What’s the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament?” The Old Testament part of the Bible makes promises about Jesus coming to earth. The New Testament part of the Bible was written more than 400 years later. It tells how the promises about Jesus that were made in the Old Testament have come true or will come true.
3. “How did God get all the stars in the right places?” God is truly awesome! He created the stars, gave them names, and put them in the right places because God doesn’t make mistakes! We give God thanks for the beautiful stars.
4. Finally, in the lesson “Who is the oldest man mentioned in the Bible?” we discovered that Moses lived 120 years, Abraham lived 175 years, and Noah lived 950 years. However, the oldest man mentioned in the Bible was Noah’s grandfather Methuselah who lived 969 years! Job 12:12 tells us “Older people are wise, and long life brings understanding.” As we get older we gain wisdom and great experiences that we can share with others.

A special thank you goes to Ricki Fehr as she is editing our weekly Sunday School lessons and getting them ready for online viewing.

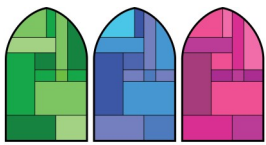
It’s been a busy month for us. We said goodbye to Ben, Ruby and Molly Polsdofer and also Vicar Matt and Jenni. We will miss them and wish the whole family a safe trip back to Iowa. God Bless!

Thank you for encouraging your child on our virtual journey together.

Please pray for our youth and parents as the schools schedules may have changed and there is anticipation of the coming of summer.

Prayers are lifted for the spiritual growth of our youth and adults.

Blessings from all your Sunday School Teachers.



Welcome to Worship

INDOOR WORSHIP HAS RESUMED ONE SERVICE ON SUNDAYS AT 10:00 AM

On May 23 (Day of Pentecost) we returned to the sanctuary for our weekly 10:00 AM Sunday Worship Service. The church council has worked very hard to put together a plan that allows us to now worship indoors safely. Here are a few items of note:

- Face Masks are required and social distancing will be implemented
- Waivers and contact information will be collected for contact tracing
- The congregation will be asked to refrain from singing indoors at this time
- Communion will be celebrated in pews through individual prepackaged elements

Please remember to arrive early enough to check-in and be seated. We will continue to offer online worship on all of our regular platforms for those who wish to worship in this manner.

PASTORAL CARE

For the two week period before Pastor Sandy Bentz begins her ministry with Emanuel (June 1 through June 14), any pastoral care concerns can be directed to Stephen Ministry. If you would like to contact them, please call Sharon Frazier directly at (714) 264-6476) or notify the church office.



CHRIST IN OUR HOME

Christ in Our Home is a quarterly devotional resource that encourages us to live out our faith daily. Each reflective reading is accompanied by a daily scripture reference and prayer for the day that follows the Revised Common Lectionary.

We have received our supply of *Christ in Our Home* devotional booklets for **April-May-June 2021**. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please email us at churchinfo@elclh.org.



DIGITAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Join us each week as we post a new children's Sunday School class lead by Mary Ann Carlson. We will continue through the stories of Jesus and hear them retold in our SPARK Bible. Look for the Sunday School Class on all the platforms you find worship (elclh.org, Facebook, and YouTube).

SCHOPPA SCHOLARSHIPS



The Elroy Schoppa Scholarship Fund is provided by Emanuel Lutheran Church for members of Emanuel who are, or will be, attending an accredited college or vocational school in the next academic year. Students must attend 50% of Sunday Worship services and scheduled Youth meetings for at least 2 years within 4 years of applying. They must also maintain a 2.5 minimum GPA. Current recipients are Jessica Mora (fourth year) and Amanda Zambrano (second year). Contact Warren Parr or Wolfgang Hessel for more information.



Photo taken at the Patriots & Paws 6th Annual Charity Golf Tournament held May 10, 2021 at the beautiful Tustin Ranch Golf Club. Pictured left to right: Carol Tracy, Marsha Maynard, Dian Rousello, and Dianna Holtzendorff. Funds are used to help our veterans as they return from deployment by providing basic home furnishings and necessities at no cost.



LUTHER SEMINARY®

VICAR MATT IS GRADUATING FROM SEMINARY! All are invited to join in the celebration during this year's virtual baccalaureate and commencement ceremonies which will be streamed via the Luther Seminary Facebook page. You do not need a Facebook account to view the services.

VIRTUAL BACCALAUREATE

Saturday, June 5 at 12:00 PM Pacific Time

Preacher: Craig Koester, Professor and Asher O. and Carrie Nasby Chair of the New Testament

Presider: Rolf Jacobson, Professor of Old Testament and Alvin N. Rogness Chair of Scripture, Theology, and Ministry

VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT

Sunday, June 6, at 1:00 PM Pacific Time

Faculty Speaker: Carla Dahl, Professor of Congregational and Community Care, Leadership and George C. Weinman Chair of Pastoral Theology and Ministry

Student Speaker: Timothy Jackson, Master of Divinity Candidate

For more details on how to join the virtual ceremonies visit luthersem.edu/commencement. Both ceremonies will also be posted there for later viewing.

MovieTime

MOVIE NIGHT WITH HOUSE OF FAITH SATURDAY, JUNE 5 AT 5:00 PM

House of Faith has graciously invited Emanuel to join them in the upper parking lot for a movie night on Saturday, June 5 at 5:00 PM. The movie is ***Breakthrough*** and everyone is asked to bring their own chairs or blankets to sit on. Save the date!



LUTHERAN RETREATS, CAMPS AND CONFERENCES

HAHO is reaching out to assist the LRCC in its ministry. Many of our young people have strengthened their faith at camp over the years and we encourage you to help support the camps as they recover from COVID-19.

Below is a resolution from the Pacifica Synod Assembly:

That the Pacifica Synod, in assembly, calls on the congregations to fully support the ministry of Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences with special focus over the next few years as it recovers from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic by supporting the H.E.L.P. CAMP-aign, and thus pledging to:

- 1. Help children, youth and adults from Pacifica congregations to attend our Lutheran Bible camps by promoting the character building programs of LRCC, and by offering campership money to prospective campers; and,*
- 2. Encourage youth and young adults from Pacifica congregations to serve as Bible camp counselors and camp volunteers; and,*
- 3. Lean in to support the financial recovery of our local Lutheran Bible camps, in such ways as: initiate a fund raising event; support LRCC through the congregation's annual budget; host a Camp Sunday and/or, encourage your congregational members to support LRCC; and,*
- 4. Pray for God's blessing on the partnership of the Pacifica Synod congregations and Lutheran Retreats, Camps and Conferences.*

If you would like to make a donation, look for the giraffe in the narthex, or you can indicate "LRCC" on your offering. Thank you for your help in supporting their recovery plan.



Kid's Korner



Make a sunflower, which turns its head to follow the sun.

What you need:

- Paper plate
- Yellow marker
- Scissors
- Yarn (black and brown)



What you do:

1. Color the entire plate yellow.
2. Around the edge, cut out an odd number of triangles. Evenly space the cuts to form flower petals.
3. Poke a hole in the plate's center. String black yarn through the hole and over one triangle cut. Tie a knot at the back of the plate.
4. Continue looping yarn through the hole and over the remaining cuts. Secure the end. The flower should look like a wagon wheel with black spokes.
5. Tie the brown yarn to a black "spoke." Weave the brown yarn over and under the spokes in a circle. Continue until the sunflower has a large center. Then tie the end.
6. Display your craft as a reminder to follow the Son, Jesus!



Conundrums of creation

God's creation is filled with amazing and sometimes puzzling works.

Directions: Use the bank of picture clues to answer the riddles.



You can hold but not touch this. _____

Before using this, you must break it. ____

This falls without getting hurt. _____

This gets bigger the more you take away. _____

This has an eye but cannot see. _____

"In the heavens God has pitched a tent for the ____.

It is like ... a champion rejoicing to run his course.

It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth."

PSALM 19:4-6, NIV

Answer: breath, egg, rain, hole, hurricane, sun

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