

The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION SEPTEMBER 2021 VOLUME 27 NUMBER 9

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FALL KICKOFF
SUNDAY SEPT 12

2 WORSHIP SERVICES & SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTING

9 am—Traditional Worship

10 am—Sunday School 3 yrs thru 6th grade in Moerer Hall

10:45 am—Praise Worship

address label here

DATED MATERIAL

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

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM

PRAISE WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45 AM

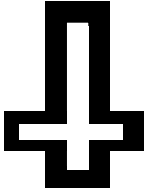
INTERIM PASTOR: Sandy Bentz

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR: Jonine Sadders

Spanish Worship is offered at 1:30 pm by House of Faith.

E-mail: churchinfo@elclh.org

Website: www.elclh.org



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

A NOTE FROM THE



INTERIM PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

These last few weeks I have found myself spending more time in prayer – spoken and silent – than ever before. Maybe you have, too? There are so many needs. How can we not lift up our neighbors in Afghanistan and Haiti as they continue to experience crisis, conflict and disaster? I can only imagine the exhaustion of the firefighters still battling wildfires and the frustration of health care workers struggling to remain compassionate toward the unvaccinated. It's been agonizing to watch kids and educators anxiously and cautiously return to in-person learning at the same time covid cases are increasing and affecting much younger people.

If you are struggling to find words, please know that it is more than ok to simply sit in silent communion with God, trusting God to hear the silent prayers of your heart. If you're seeking words, this prayer from our partners at Lutheran Disaster Response might help:

We pray to you almighty God, in this time of anxiety. You are our refuge and our strength, a very present help in time of trouble. Do not let us fail in the face of these events. Uphold us with your love, and give us the strength we need. Help us in our confusion, and guide our actions. Heal the hurt, console the bereaved and afflicted, protect the innocent and helpless, and deliver any who are still in peril; for the sake of your great mercy in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In addition to prayer, consider giving to ELCA Disaster Response

-- help with emergency relief for congregations and members in California and Nevada

here: <https://tinyurl.com/SPSfiresupport>

-- support relief efforts in Haiti here: <https://tinyurl.com/giveelcahaiti>

You can also write a check to Emanuel and note "Haiti" or "Wildfires" on the memo line.

Learn about ways to support our neighbors from Afghanistan here:

<https://tinyurl.com/ELCAafghanistan>

Together with you, in God's Gracious Grip,

Pastor Sandy Bentz

Transition News

Pastor Sandy is continuing to meet with and get to know our congregation and ways of being Christ's Church! Watch for a letter later this month sharing more details AND asking everyone to prayerfully consider nominating yourself or someone you know at Emanuel to be part of our Transition Team.

Pastor Sandy will coach our Transition Team – a group of 6-7 members of Emanuel – as they seek to involve everyone in learning about and understanding our ministry through five key focus areas:

Heritage:	Creatively looking back at Emanuel's history.
Mission:	What is Emanuel's mission and purpose for existing?
Leadership:	How are we organizing and leading ministry? Leadership needs the next 3-5 years?
Connections:	What are current or potential partnerships to establish or deepen?
Future:	Taking all the work of the congregation and synthesizing it into the Mission Site Profile to guide the Call Team that will prayerfully seek the pastor God would call here.

Team Member Qualities:

- Trusted
- Respected
- Prayerful
- Open to change
- Regular attender/contributor
- Able to listen/hear all perspectives
- Representative of multiple groups (not a representative)
- Will make time available to do the work/commit to meeting 2-3 times per month for 8-9 months, communicating with/to the congregation

HEART AND HANDS OUTREACH SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!



“Feed My Sheep” – John 21

Food! Ricki Fehr assists with food distribution every week in our community at Our Lady of Guadalupe. We continue to collect food every Sunday at Emanuel. Please bring a nonperishable item to share with our neighbors and put it in the food cart.

GLASSES FOR THE LIONS’ VISION OUTREACH! It’s been two years since our last collection and many of us may have glasses or cases we no longer use. A box will be in the narthex in October to collect and give to the Lions for their work in this valuable outreach. Thanks to Cindy Reyes for coordinating.

PATRIOTS & PAWS THANKSGIVING BAGS FOR VETERANS

As in past years, we will provide Thanksgiving bags of food for our current and retired military families through Patriots and Paws. In 2019, we were able to provide food to 103 families through this ministry. For some of our veterans, it has meant that even though poor or homeless, they could have the joy of sharing with others.

Below are items which may be packed in the blue Emanuel bags (available in Moerer Hall) and collected here no later than Sunday, November 7.



ITEMS TO BE IN THE HOLIDAY DINNER BAGS

- \$20 Grocery gift card for the Turkey
- 2 cans Chicken Broth
- 1 box/bag Instant Mashed Potatoes
- 1 can Cranberry Sauce
- 1 pie or other dessert (optional)
- 2 packets Dry Gravy or 2 cans Turkey Gravy
- 2 cans Green Beans
- 1 box/container Stuffing Mix
- 1 large can Yams

THE ANGEL TREE IS COMING! Gift tags for children and families at HIS HOUSE and WINGS will be available the first part of December. All of us love to give — the tags go fast!

**NOTE: HAHO WILL MEET IN PERSON ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18,
AT 10 A.M. IN THE YOUTH ROOM EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US.**

Jeanette Parr
Facilitator

Thank you, Emanuel from the Federal Chaplaincy Fund for Leaders

for your generous gift of \$8,000 this past year. Because of Emanuel’s and others’ financial support, 1 seminary candidate has just completed their studies and 5 more are in various stages of completing their seminary work to become federal chaplains.

Emanuel’s gift was a combination of special offerings and some bequest money. Lutheran chaplains are especially needed because they are willing to minister to all people, regardless of background and/or sexual orientation, versus others who may be restricted by their denominations. No doubt this made a difference.



FROM THE BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION

Greetings to all Emanuel Youth and Parents! Look for our “Fall Kickoff” on September 12 when Sunday School will be starting at 10 AM for children aged 3 years through 6th grade. Come join us in Moerer Hall!

We hope you were able to view these Sunday School lessons last month. As we continue to prepare digital Sunday School lessons, we thank Jack Ospital, Olivia Reyes, Liana Miller, Luke Ospital, Maggie Diaz, Sadie Diaz, and Ari Hermann who eagerly presented a lesson. They are our “You Tubers.”

- **“The Wheat and the Weeds”** Ari Hermann helped tell the story of the “Parable of the Weeds” by retelling it in a “rap” format. We learned that the weeds were the unbelievers and the wheat stood for the believers. The farmer (God) allows the weeds and the wheat to live side by side in this world. If the farmer pulled up the weeds, he might accidentally pull up the wheat. As they grow together, our faith grows and maybe the weeds will come to faith in Jesus.
- **“How do you get up to Heaven?”** We can’t climb the ladder to heaven by ourselves, so Jesus came down the ladder as a baby in Bethlehem to be with us. All our good deeds help others, but to get to heaven we need to believe. John 3:16 says, “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
- **“Special People”** We learned that God has given each of us special gifts. Some of us are good at sports, singing, or even drawing. Let us share our special gifts with others. What makes all of us special is that Jesus loves us. People who love and trust God are special.
- **“Travel Light”** Our special guest was Olivia Reyes who helped pack her backpack for a backpacking trip. Her backpack became so heavy with stuff that she really didn’t need. Olivia said it was too heavy for her to hike the mountain trail. When Jesus called his disciples to follow him, he told them to travel light and not take more than they needed. God will take care of us.

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

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

Blessings from all your Sunday School Teachers.

Confirmation Class



- **Are you 7th grade or older?**
 - **Do you have questions about faith?**
- **Want to help your teen get to know the Bible and learn about Jesus?**

**We want to offer
7th grade+ CONFIRMATION CLASSES
this fall and need YOUR input!**

Call or email Pastor Sandy at the church office (562-691-0656/pastor@elclh.org) to let her know you’re interested. She wants to find a day, time and format that will work best and allow everyone interested to participate!

~ SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS ~

September 5

Isaiah 35:4-7
Psalm 146
James 2:1-10, 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

September 12

Isaiah 50:4-9
Psalm 116:1-9
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

September 19

Jeremiah 11:18-20
Psalm 54
James 3:13—4:3, 7-8
Mark 9:30-37

September 28

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50



Pr. Sandy Bentz; Ashley, Julia & Rocky Ramirez



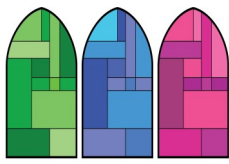
Thank you to our Sunday School and Parish Ed Team for the Back-to-School gift bags given to students in worship August 15 and dropped off at homes. What a great reminder, as they return to school, that Jesus is ALWAYS with us and our Emanuel students and educators are in our continued prayers!

GOD'S BLESSINGS RAMIREZ FAMILY AND WELCOME TO OUR EMANUEL FAMILY!!

On Sunday, August 1, we shared in the baptism of Rocky and Julia Ramirez and welcomed them and mom Ashley as Emanuel members!!



Back: Maggie, Leyla, and Sadie Diaz
Front: Anna Diaz



Welcome to Worship

UPDATED WORSHIP NEWS

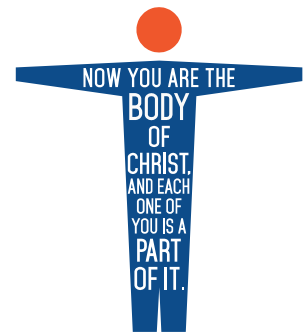
Emanuel's Church Council continues to prayerfully balance congregational safety with a desire to make worship as accessible and enjoyable as possible for everyone.

- ◆ **Starting Sunday, September 12, the Council's goal is to return to two Sunday in-person worship services (9 AM Traditional and 10:45 AM Praise)!!** We will continue to live-stream and record worship.
- ◆ **Also beginning September 12, Sunday School will meet in the hall at 10 AM (between services) for children 3 years through 6th grade.**
- ◆ **The following guidelines are in place for INDOOR worship** (subject to change if county or CDC guidelines indicate otherwise):
 - While Orange County has not mandated it, the CDC strongly encourages mask wearing indoors regardless of vaccine status.
 - For the safety of our neighbors, the congregation is encouraged to wear a mask while singing and to practice social distancing.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING CHRIST THROUGH EMANUEL!

Scripture says that we ARE Christ's body in the world, God's hands and feet. God has given ALL of us gifts for ministry and when we use those gifts together, God is glorified!

Each month we want to lift up a few people in our congregation that have gone "the extra mile" in helping us be Christ's Church. Please call or email the church office (churchinfo@elclh.org) to suggest others who might be thanked in future newsletters!



1 CORINTHIANS 12:27. NIV

THANK YOU TO . . .

- **Jeanette Parr** for countless hours leading outreach efforts, prayer group, property maintenance, and serving Christ and Emanuel in ways too numerous to list!
- **Ricki Fehr** for creating and improving the entrance sign into Emanuel's parking lot with the help of **Jeff Ospital**, **John Ospital**, and **Chip Whitcher**.
- **John Ospital** for "pest spraying" Emanuel's campus.
- **Kerry Ospital**, **Geoffrey Roberts** and **Ricki Fehr** for livestreaming our Sunday worship.
- **Jack Ward** for running sound for worship and starting the process to get the new camera up and running.
- **Mary Ann Carlson** and the **Parish Ed Team** for the back-to-school gift bags presented and delivered to Emanuel kids.
- All who helped July 31 to clear out the youth room and lower classrooms. See page 8 pictures.

Women's
Bible
Study



JOY CIRCLE MONDAY, SEPT 20 9:30 AM

The Joy Circle is a women's group that meets the 3rd Monday of each month from 9:30-11:00 AM for discussion and fellowship. In order to avoid stairs, we will meet in Moerer Hall on Monday, September 20. Until further notice, we ask that everyone bring their own food and wear masks. For those who prefer to participate virtually, let the church office know and we will forward the Zoom link.

Through November, our study will be on "*The Gift of the Spirit*" from the Gather Magazine, the official magazine of Women of the ELCA. All women are invited — we hope you will join us.

STUDY BUDDIES TUTORING STARTS SEPT 21, 3-4:30 PM

Study Buddies, our free tutoring program for grades 1-6, takes place here at Emanuel on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4:30 PM in the Hope Center Library. It is with much preparation and trepidation that we say **Study Buddies is ready to begin on Sept 21!!** Thank you to our tutors who are ready and willing to return, and we are SO grateful for the support from YOU, our church family, for being so willing to donate whatever we need. We feel your love and support as we tentatively wait and see how this school year will unfold. Keep us in your prayers as well as all students and teachers, that the year goes smoothly and that illness lessens.

Questions?
Call Jill Drummond
at (714) 403-0956.



STEP OUT IN FAITH! WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED !!

As we prepare to return to two worship services, many more worship leaders will be needed. PRAYERFULLY consider how God might use YOU!

Consider serving with your children, grandchildren, spouse or best friend!

Thank you to Susan Fallon for scheduling worship assistants. Call or email her (562-694-5557, rsfallon@aol.com) to get scheduled to be a

Reader – read the Bible lessons during worship

Greeter – be the first smiling face to welcome worshippers

Usher – share a worship bulletin, help worship go smoothly

Altar Guild – help prepare or put away communion for Sunday worship.

Help with video recording as well as running sound/PowerPoint is especially needed:

Sound – talk with Jack Ward (562-201-9168). Keep him "company" in the sound booth and see how it's done!

Video Recording – talk or sit with Kerry Ospital, Ricki Fehr or Geoffrey Roberts. You will learn how easy it is.

**Call or email the church office (562-691-0656, churchinfo@elclh.org).
You will be blessed by the experience!**



EMANUEL PROPERTY TEAM

On Saturday, July 31, a group of very hard-working and talented people cleaned out the Youth Room and Classroom 1 in preparation for fall classes. Furniture and household items were gladly received at Patriots and Paws. It was HOT!



The refrigerator had to be disassembled to get it out of the Youth Room, then reassembled and cleaned for donation. This took 7 sets of brains and hands. Many thanks to Jerry Schnakenberg and his grandsons Seth and Davin, John and Jeff Ospital, Todd and Sharon Frazier, Cindy Reyes, and Mary Ann Carlson. This was an awesome group.

In addition, Jack and Janine Ward cleaned and sorted many items from Classroom 1 and were able to salvage some garden and power tools for Emanuel and some items for our Sunday School.

Jeanette Parr
Property Care



~ PRAYER ~

GOD'S WORD TELLS US IT IS THE MOST POWERFUL FORCE GOD HAS ENTRUSTED TO US!

Have a prayer request for yourself or others?

Call or email the church office and we will share it with Pastor Sandy and the Prayer Team.

Want to make time to pray with others?

Consider joining the Prayer Group in person in the Youth Room or via Zoom 8:30-9:30 AM Saturday mornings.



BISHOP'S GATHERING WITH REJOICE CONFERENCE

1 PM SUNDAY, SEPT 19 VIA ZOOM



Pacifica Synod, ELCA

Office of the Bishop

Pacifica Synod Bishop Andy Taylor will meet via Zoom with the congregations of the Rejoice Conference (Emanuel and other ELCA churches in Orange County and just over the border in LA County). It is an opportunity for Bible study, learning and sharing ministry among the churches and to hear a synod update. It is expected that the pastor and at least 2 congregational leaders will be a part of that meeting, but others are also welcome to attend.

If you would like to be a part of the Bishop's Gathering Zoom meeting, please contact the church office so we can share the Zoom link with you!



Haiti Benefit Concert

3 PM SUNDAY, SEPT 26

**Live-Streamed from
St. Paul Lutheran, Fullerton**

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaul.lutheranchurch.14/>

Performers include:

- Chris Winn and the St. Paul house band
- Nicholas and Kathleen Preston
- Pastor Nate Allen
- Special guest to be announced!

*Proceeds will be shared between
Lutheran World Relief for Haiti and
The Lutheran Church of Haiti*



~ NEHEMIAH ~

**NEW BIBLE STUDY
WED 9-10 AM**

****No experience needed!****

We recently began our study of Nehemiah! All of us are beginners as we read and study this Old Testament book! It's never too late to join us— contact the church office for the Zoom link (churchinfo@elclh.org.)

**FALL KICKOFF
SUNDAY SEPT 12**

**2 WORSHIP SERVICES &
SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTING**

9 am—Traditional Worship

**10 am—Sunday School 3 yrs
thru 6th grade in Moerer Hall**

10:45 am—Praise Worship



Luther Glen Farm

A Visit and Workday Saturday October 2

Members of the Congregations of Rejoice Conference (*and others interested*) are invited to join us for a fine and fun day in the Mountains and at the Farm.

The Luther Glen Farm sits nearly a mile high on 40 sunny acres, in the heart of apple country in beautiful Oak Glen, California. The camp offers outdoor adventures such as archery, rock wall, swimming, & hiking, as well as programs on sustainable agriculture, with sheep, goats, chickens, horses, pigs & now alpacas! The Luther Glen Farm offers camping and retreat programs for all ages, and the ministry spans the southwestern United States and Hawaii— from the mountains to the oceans, the deserts to the beaches and the Mexico border region to the heart of the city. If you haven't visited Luther Glen Farm yet, - this is your opportunity!

PROGRAM OCTOBER 2, 2021

Arrival and welcome:	10:00 am – 10:30 am
Tour or Premises and Projects:	10:30 am –12:30 pm
Lunch (\$12 per person)	12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Afternoon Continued Projects:	1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Projects: Gardening/weeding, animal care, maintenance, cleaning, etc. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, bring water, and sunscreen. Departure from Danish Lutheran Church at 8:30 am, if you want to carpool; otherwise, we will meet at the Farm.

Note space is limited to 50 people max. Register asap at info@danishchurchsocal.com or call Dean of Rejoice Conference Pastor Anne-Grethe K. Nielsen at (714) 993 6362.

FEELING CALLED TO SERVE?

If you are already discerning to serve the church in a pastoral or deacon role, great! Let me know how I can assist you in your process. If you are not yet discerning but have the desire, I am here to journey with you. If others tell you that you would make a great pastor or deacon and you'd like to learn more, I am also here to journey with you. I know some of you would make great rostered leaders!



This is Pastor JP, and I am a new Assistant to the Bishop, caring for the candidacy process. The Lutheran church needs you. Please contact me at jsabbithi@pacificasynod.org or let me know how I can contact you. Thank you.

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday



Sept. 12
2021

While there will be no formal Emanuel service projects for this year’s ‘God’s work. Our hands.’ weekend, everyone is encouraged to find their own safe and comfortable way to serve Christ and our neighbor!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God’s work. Our hands.



The “2nd Mile” Giving Envelope
for the month of September is:

Lutheran World Relief



YouTube

Check out our website at elch.org, or look for us on social media:

- Facebook (Emanuel Lutheran Church)
- Instagram (emanuellahabra)
- YouTube (Emanuel Lutheran Church La Habra)

**Be informed and up-to-date.
Visit our website for all upcoming
events and information.**

Bible Quiz

How many times in the Old Testament do people cross a body of water on dry ground?

- A. once
- B. twice
- C. three times
- D. four times



Answer: C (See Exodus 14; Joshua 3; 2 Kings 2.)

Kid's Korner

FAITHFUL ; followers

Play these fun variations on Follow the Leader — and remember to follow Jesus wherever you go!

What you need:

- Bean bags
- Tables, chairs, pillows
- Painter's tape

What you do:

Players line up behind the Leader, who moves around in various ways. Followers must copy the Leader's movements faithfully. Try these variations:

1. Players must balance a bean bag on their head as they follow the Leader.
2. Set up an obstacle course, and follow the Leader by crawling under tables and chairs, hopping over pillows and so on.
3. With tape, make zigzags and curves on the floor. Then follow the Leader as if walking on a tightrope.
4. The Leader designates types of terrain to imagine, such as mud, snow, ice and a mountain.
5. Also try animal movements, mirrored movements and dancing movements.

PUZZLE

No kidding

Whatever our age, God calls us to model holy living for others.



Directions: Match the animal young with its parent. Then write the letter answers in order below to complete 1 Timothy 4:12, NIV.



- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------|--------------|
| 1. ___ bear | 9. ___ monkey | A. fry | I. hatchling |
| 2. ___ frog | 10. ___ platypus | B. fawn | K. foal |
| 3. ___ owl | 11. ___ alligator | C. gosling | L. owlet |
| 4. ___ horse | 12. ___ giraffe | D. cub | M. puggle |
| 5. ___ kangaroo | 13. ___ goose | E. kid | N. joey |
| 6. ___ deer | 14. ___ swan | F. cygnet | O. polliwog |
| 7. ___ goat | 15. ___ dog | G. infant | P. puppy |
| 8. ___ fish | | H. calf | |

"_on't let any_ne _oo_ down o_ you _ecaus_
 you _re youn_, but set an exa_ple for the bel_evers
 in spec_, in _onduct, in love, in _aith and in _urity."

1 TIMOTHY 4:12, NIV

Answer: D, O, L, K, N, B, E, A, G, M, I, H, C, F, P