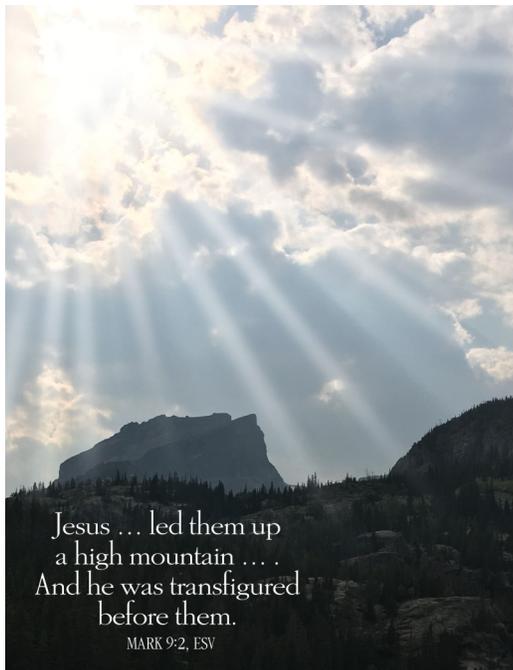


The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION FEBRUARY 2018 VOLUME 24 NUMBER 02



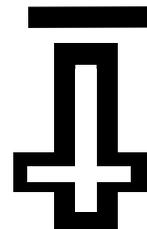
Jesus ... led them up
a high mountain ...
And he was transfigured
before them.

MARK 9:2, ESV

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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:
 9:00 a.m.
 10:45 a.m.
 1:00 a.m.
 PASTOR:
 PASTOR:
 PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:
 Joanne Sadders
 Dennis M. Laherty
 Catherine E. Luehr

Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.

E-mail: churchinfo@elch.org
Website: www.elch.org

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

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It seems natural at this time, as my ministry at Emanuel comes to a close, that there is considerable focus on the pastor and the years of service with the congregation. After 13 years, it's certainly understandable.

These days I find myself focusing on the congregation.

When I look back over the years, here are a few parts of life at Emanuel that are striking:

- Emanuel is the most genuinely loving congregation I've ever known.
- You have a very strong biblical and sacramental orientation and desire.
- Outreach has been essential to people through serving others.
- "Love God and love your neighbor" is alive and felt every day.
- Humor has a key part in God's kingdom.
- A willingness to change is prevalent in the congregation.
- Worship life and form is an essential part of congregational life.
- Prayer life is an incredibly strong occurrence in many people's lives.
- Forgiveness of one's shortcomings and sin is a given.
- An attitude of flexibility has kept the congregation open to working together.
- Mutual respect of each other creates an atmosphere of accepting differing ideas.

This is a simple and partial list off the top of my head. These bullet points exemplify the life that I know at Emanuel.

As I look back over the years I have served Emanuel, I can say I am pleased with how life and ministry have gone. But I also need to say, if it wasn't for the faith, love and commitment of the members of Emanuel, my years would have been indescribable and unproductive.

To the people of Emanuel I can say with no reservation, thank you for being you, accepting me, and serving together as the Church of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Dennis Laherty

FAREWELL & GOOD WISHES	<p align="center">~ Laherty Farewell ~</p> <p align="center">Sunday, February 11, 2018 5:00 p.m. in Moerer Hall</p> <p align="center"><i>Join us as we bid farewell to Pastor and Phyllis Laherty and thank them for their years of service at Emanuel. Dinner to be served.</i></p>	<p align="center">Please see Keith Kruse for your free ticket, OR call the office at (562) 691-0656 by February 5th to RSVP.</p>
 <p align="center">To our Pastor</p>		



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 adventures of Daniel (Daniel 1-2). Daniel's life shows us how he was true in doing what was right and he did not give in to pressures of the world.

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. We are studying the stories of Genesis. Don't miss out.

Offerings: For the next two months our offerings will go to Emanuel's Good Samaritan Fund where it serves the people of La Habra. Our youth have made a list of the hopes and prayers that we here at Sunday School and Seekers feel we will reach out to weekly. One of those hopes was that everyone learn more about God and trust Him. Next month we will share one of our prayers that the youth have chosen to pray about. Look for these prayers on our Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Seekers: Seekers youth meet each Thursday from 6:00-7:00 PM. Come join the fun as we meet each week.

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

Board of Parish Education



I want to share an article I received from the Stephen Ministry office. It really sums up what we do as Stephen Ministers.

People often ask, "What exactly is a Stephen Minister?" One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the "After People." Stephen Ministers are there:

- ... after the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- ... after the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ... after the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ... after the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."
- ... after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- ... after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away -- and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ... after the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ... after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ... after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed. Please consider letting a Stephen Minister walk with you in your time of need. Contact one of the Pastors or call me.

See you in Church,

Sharon Frazier



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. Eighty-nine gifts for eleven families were delivered the week of December 18.

LA HABRA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CARE CENTER & DANIEL ALVAREZ RECOVER CENTER: Receptacles are in the Narthex at all times for these ministries. Thanks to Marge Dalby and Andy Zambrano who faithfully deliver these gifts every month.

In addition, through our Good Samaritan Fund we assist the LHCRCC with emergency housing vouchers as the need arises within our community.

MATTHEW 25 GRANT:

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. Our grant was specifically to participate in CityNet, La Habra, which works with our local first responders and other community agencies to prevent and address homelessness.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES:

On the following page you will find the HAHO Opportunity Calendar for 2018. We encourage you to support only the ministry which is important to YOU. We share our love with others because God has shared His love with us.

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, March 3, 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



HAHO OPPORTUNITY CALENDAR

HAPPY 2018! In reviewing 2017, it is amazing what the wonderful people of Emanuel have done to support God's work with our Hearts and Hands. Sometimes we get tired and sometimes we wonder if it really matters. The answer is a resounding YES.

Jesus tells us in Matthew 25:40:

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Thank you for the love and care you show all of the time on behalf of our Lord.

If you'd like to plan ahead for those ministries which are dearest to your heart, a 2018 calendar of scheduled opportunities is below. (You could post it on your refrigerator.)

- February:** **LHCRCC – Dollars for Food and/or Housing**
Note: Contributions to Good Samaritan Fund are used for emergency housing on a regular basis.
- March:** **Diapers & Wipes for FRISTERS**
- April:** **Specific Household Items for Patriots & Paws**
(replaces Free-For-All) – we can collect here and arrange for pickup.
- May:** **It's a Pajama Party for WINGS**
Note: We will not be collecting gently used purses and hygiene items this year.
- June:** **Daniel Alvarez Center – Household Cleaning and Maintenance Items**
- July/August:** **Support VBS Outreach Project and Parish Ed**
- September:** **FRISTERS/KIDSTERS Books**
- October:** **Bibles for Preschool & Third Graders**
- November:** **Veteran's Outreach**
- December:** **Angel Tree(s)**

All opportunities will be highlighted with more information in the "Good News" and the weekly bulletin.

*****Subject To Adjustment*****

OUR PROPERTY TEAM ROCKS!

Thanks to John Ospital who purchased and installed new shelving in a closet space outside of Moerer Hall. This new shelving and storage will enable us to purchase in quantity and store our janitorial supplies in a clean, roomy environment. It will also enable our custodial staff to have easier access to supplies as needed.

Additionally, our property team has recently replaced the hinge on the front door of the sanctuary so it will open and close properly, addressed a variety of leaks around the campus, worked on the sound and screen systems in the sanctuary, and are looking at ways to improve the lighting.

Ideas and skills to care for our Church Home are always welcome!



ONLINE AND TEXT-TO-GIVE OFFERING OPTIONS



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.

SOCIAL MEDIA



Are you on Instagram or Facebook? Here is an easy way to promote the ministry we do at Emanuel — “Like,” “Love,” and “Share.” Jill Drummond, who oversees our social media accounts, adds new content each week. The more you respond to posts and pictures, the wider our net is cast. It’s an easy way to tell your friends and neighbors to “Come and See” what God is up to in this place!

Instagram: emanuellahabra
Facebook: Emanuel Lutheran Church

Midweek Lenten Worship
February 14, Ash Wednesday, thru March 21, 2018



Our Lenten Season will begin on **Wednesday, February 14**, Ash Wednesday. We will hold two worship services in the Sanctuary. Our morning service will be at 10:15 a.m. and our evening service will be at 7:00 p.m. Both services will have the imposition of ashes.

We will continue through the Lenten Season with our midweek services and soup and pie suppers in Moerer Hall. We will be holding a morning midweek service at 10:15 a.m. and also an evening service at 7:00 p.m. Both of these services will be held in the Fireside room in Moerer Hall.

Our *Soup and Pie Suppers* will begin at 6:00 p.m. (See below.)



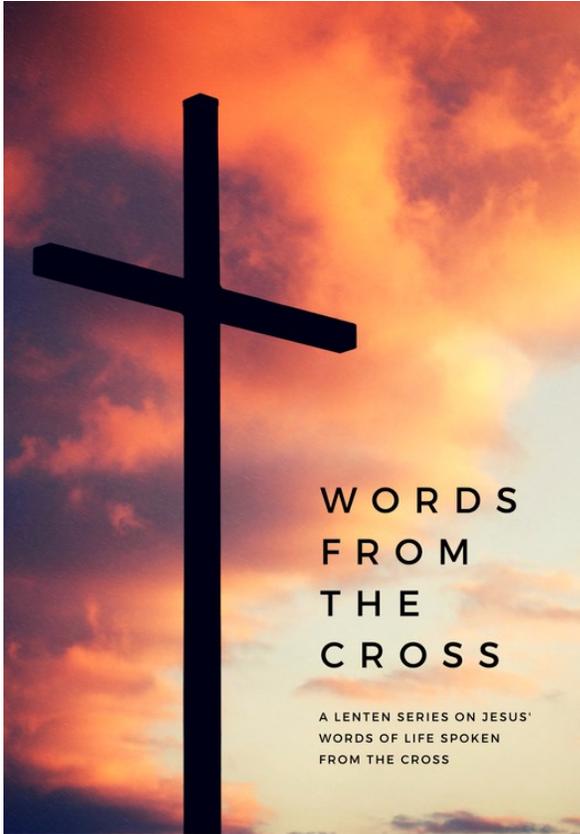
“Soup and Pie Suppers”
February 21 thru March 21, 2018
6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - Moerer Hall

February 21 will be our first Lenten Service and our first Soup and Pie Supper gathering. As is our tradition here at Emanuel, at 6:00 p.m. each Wednesday evening through Lent, we will enjoy soup, bread and pie together before our Lenten Service. There will be additional information on the sign-up board in the Narthex.

- Please sign up to bring soup, breads, or pie for the evening. Any variety of soup, pie or bread is fine, store-bought or homemade. Napkins, bowls, cups, drinks, butter and margarine will be provided by the church.
- For those who choose to prepare soups - any soup is fine. The greater the variety, the better. Please make a **LARGE** portion, since soup is the main part of the meal, and bring it to the church anytime between 5:45 and 6:00 p.m. If you bring your soup in crock pots, we have the facilities to keep them warm.
- The Wednesday night soup suppers are a “*come as you are able*” affair. The meal will open at 6:00 p.m. but all who come will be welcome between 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Services begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Hall. Together, we will serve each other and discover one of the joys of being in the Body of Christ. Your stewardship in preparing and helping during the evening will be greatly appreciated!

This has always been a great time of fellowship during Lent. Thank you Emanuel members for carrying on with this tradition. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Lorrie in the church office at 562-691-0656.





Lenten Midweek Services February 21 – March 21

WORDS FROM THE CROSS

Wednesdays beginning February 21 through March 21, our midweek services will be a time of quiet contemplation, scripture reading, intentional prayer and Taizé style songs. Each week will center around one of the phrases Jesus said from the cross. Our morning service will be held at 10:15 AM and our evening service will start at 7:00 PM. Both services will take place in the Moerer Hall Fireside Room. Join us for this unique time of worship in the presence of the Lord.

- February 21: A Pardoning Word**
- February 28: A Promising Word**
- March 7: A Faithful Word**
- March 14: A Compassionate Word**
- March 21: A Suffering Word**



High School / Youth Retreat

The weekend of **February 17-19 (Presidents' weekend)**, we will be heading up to Luther Glen Camp and Farm for our winter retreat. Because schools are off on Monday, this is a Saturday–Monday retreat. Registration is due to Pr. Cate by February 1. We will be able to play with the farm animals, worship, join in great camp activities, learn with other confirmation students from around the area, and generally have a great time!

Through generous donations made to the youth program, the cost of this weekend will only be \$75 per student.

Luther Glen is part of the Lutheran Retreat, Camps & Conferences network and is located outside of Yucaipa. More information can be found on their website <http://www.lrcchome.com>.

A similar Confirmation retreat will be held March 9-11. Registration will be due February 18 for the Confirmation retreat.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES



We will be holding First Communion classes Sunday, February 18 and Sunday, February 25 from 12:00-12:45 in the Library in Hope Center. After these two classes, students are invited to participate in their first communion, where they will be recognized during worship on March 11 at which ever service they attend. This class is open to any and all who wish to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. If you already participate in the Lord's Supper but would like to know more, please feel free to attend these classes. We ask that all youth and children attending these classes have a parent attend as well. If you would like to attend this class, please contact Pastor Cate Luehr beforehand so she can have the resources ready for your child.

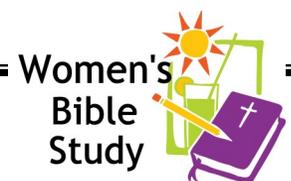


ADULT LAY-LED BIBLE STUDY

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 February, they will meet **on Thursday, February 1, and Thursday, February 15.**

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

Women's
Bible
Study

The Joy Circle Bible Study will meet on **Monday, February 26, from 9:30-11:00 AM. Note this is the fourth Monday due to the Sr. High Retreat 2/17-2/19.** The Joy Circle is a women's group that normally 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 continuing their 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.

Kid's Korner



heart sandwich

Show your love by making someone this heartfelt snack on Valentine's Day.

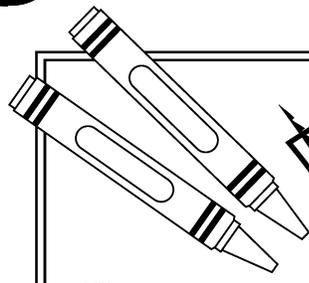


What you need:

- 2 slices of bread
- 2 heart-shaped cookie cutters (one large, one small)
- Lunchmeat and cheese (or peanut butter and jelly)

What you do:

1. Cut a large heart out of each slice of bread.
2. Cut a small heart from the middle of one big heart.
3. With the small cookie cutter, make several heart shapes out of the meat and cheese. Place between the bread slices.
4. If you're using peanut butter and jelly, spread both onto the large, solid heart. Then place the slice with the small heart cutout on top.



PUZZLE

A NEW COMMANDMENT

In John 13:34, Jesus offers important instructions for his followers.

Directions: Figure out the pattern in each vertical line of letters. Then add the next letter in the sequence to the blank underneath, completing John 13:14, NIV.

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCD...

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

" _____ . _____ "

E	X	M	B	C	L	M	B	U	V	F	R	P	L	V	F	R
F	Y	P	C	F	M	P	C	X	W	I	S	Q	M	W	I	S
G	Z	S	D	I	N	S	D	A	X	L	T	R	N	X	L	T

_____ , _____

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

_____ "

JOHN 13:34, NIV

Answer: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34, NIV