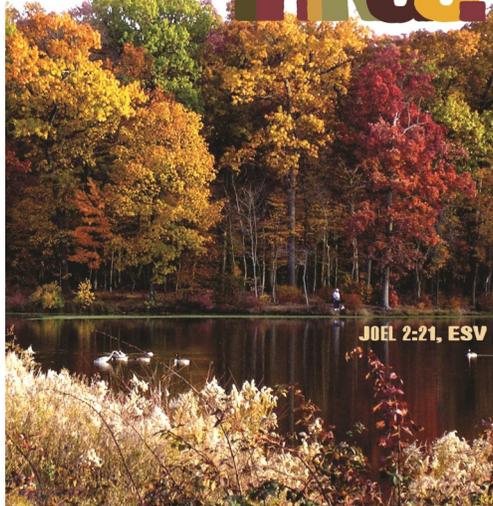


The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION NOVEMBER 2018 VOLUME 24 NUMBER 11

FEAR NOT, O LAND;
BE GLAD AND REJOICE,
FOR THE LORD HAS DONE

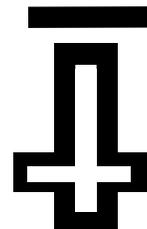
GREAT THINGS!



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Emanuel 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.
10:00 a.m.
PASTOR:
Catherine E. Luehr
VICAR:
Maria Markman
PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:
Jonine Sadders

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

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

DATED MATERIAL

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Post It Notes from Pastor Luehr



November will bring in Thanksgiving and will officially start the season known as “The Holidays.” That will likely either bring feelings of good cheer and merriment or feelings of dread on all the things we need to get done. Another common feeling during “The Holidays” is sadness and loss over those who are no longer with us on this earth. I think it is even more appropriate that November starts with All Saints Sunday. On Sunday, November 4, we celebrate All Saint’s Sunday when we remember all the saints from our congregation who have died in the past year. We read their names and ring a bell for their memory recognizing that they are now living in the company of the angels and in the full sainthood of being in God’s presence.

I am especially thinking about it now as we have said goodbye to a number of longtime members this year. The recent deaths in our congregation were remembered in a celebration of life that included music, memories, scripture and stories of those who are now living with the Lord. In some cases, the one who’s life we were celebrating had told their family and loved ones what they would like at their funeral.

This made me realize that it is time again to look at end-of-life planning. We had a seminar a number of years ago where we talked very openly about death and dying and gave people a chance to think about how they would like to be remembered at the end of their life. I know for many people this can be a difficult thing to think about, however as one who has helped many families plan funerals, I have seen what a comfort it can be to know what their loved one would like at their memorial service.

We are having an End-of-Life Planning Seminar on Sunday, November 4 (All Saint’s Sunday) from 3:00-4:00 PM in the Moerer Hall Fireside Room just before the Annual Congregational Meeting. This is something that people of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend. Thinking about and planning for the end of your earthly life does not mean it is imminent nor does it have to be a morose or taboo topic. I pray that if nothing else, this meeting would open you up to talking about and normalizing the part in our journey from this Earthly Kingdom into our Heavenly Kingdom.

Pastor Cate Luehr

♪ Celebrate good times, c'mon! ♪



I will not try to shy away from it, November is my birthday month. And since I am already keyed into celebrations, I thought we could look through November and note November's other monumental events. Looking through the lens of the Reformation that birthed our faith tradition, realizing that as important as reforming our church was 501 years ago, it still is today. We recognize God is still at work in our midst.

- The first day of November and the first Sunday is celebrated as All Saints Day, a day when we remember all those saints who have gone before us. It can also be a reminder of all the other deaths in our lives: a failed test, losing independence, job loss, difficulties in marriage, or a betrayal of a friend. We believe in death AND resurrection. Allow this All Saints Day to help you experience only God's transformation that is possible through death and resurrection.
- Early November 1970, the governing bodies which preceded the now ELCA voted to ordain women into the ministry of Word and Sacrament! This made my call to ordained ministry possible and made it possible for many others like me. One thing I have heard while on internship and that is extremely exciting to hear is something to the effect of "Wow, it is so powerful to see two women clergy in front on Sunday morning." But as I reflect on women's ordination, I cannot forget the lay women and men who made it possible. You made it possible 48 years ago and are still making it possible today in your support of women and girls around the globe to follow God's call for them.
- November 13, 1956, Racial Segregation on buses was voted unconstitutional. At Luther Seminary we have a student group called DR:BC (Dismantling Racism: Living into Beloved Community). The group invites conversation regarding the ongoing reality of racism in the church, in this country, and globally. This is a reminder of Jesus' call to each of us, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is like this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." (Mk 12:30-31)
- 229 years ago, on November 26, 1789 President George Washington declared the first American Holiday: Thanksgiving. Join me in giving thanks to God for everything, down to our most recent breath. Everyday, each moment is a gift from the maker of all. Praise be to God.
- November 25th marks Christ the King Sunday, a day that asks of us, "In whom do you place the full measure of your trust?" In his explanation of the 1st commandment in the Large Catechism Martin Luther suggests, "A 'god' is a term for that to which we are to look for all good and in which we are to find refuge in all need. Therefore to have a god is nothing else than to trust and believe in that one with your whole heart... Anything on which your heart relies and depends, I say, that is really your God."

It isn't in birthdays or other celebrations or commemorations in which we put our trust, but in God alone. Join me this November in recognizing how God is working in our lives. Even in the ordinary days let us give thanks and praise!

Love,
Maria



Heart And Hands Outreach Sharing the Good News!

"Feed My Sheep" – John 21



The HAHO Ministry Team is THANKFUL for YOU every day and month throughout the year!

COMMUNITY SHARING AND CARING OUTREACH:

EYEGLASSES & CASES:

Many pairs of glasses and cases were donated to this ministry. They were taken to the Lion's Club where they will be assessed and repaired to provide the gift of sight to people around the world. Thanks to Cindy Reyes for leading this ministry.

PATRIOTS & PAWS:

Thanksgiving is coming and that means we have the opportunity to provide bags/baskets to our veterans through Patriots & Paws. Last year we provided 47 complete dinner bags, the second largest donation to them from a group. We have been challenged to exceed that number in 2018. These bags enables over 300 of our veterans and their families to prepare and have a Thanksgiving meal which they might not otherwise be able to afford. It is a wonderful way for us to be able to thank them for their service on our behalf.



HOLIDAY DINNER BAG

Each bag will need to be filled with the list of items noted below. We have more of our blue shopping bags available to use and they will be in Moerer Hall.

The filled bags need to be returned to EMANUEL no later than Sunday, November 4.

Holiday Dinner List

- *One Grocery gift card to any major grocery store (minimum of \$20.00)*
- *One Box/Container of Stuffing Mix*
- *Two Packets of Dry Gravy or Two Cans of Turkey Gravy*
- *One Box/Bag of Instant Mashed Potatoes*
- *Two Cans Green Beans*
- *One Large Can of Yams*
- *Two Cans of Chicken Broth*
- *One Can of Cranberry Sauce*

You can also add additional items if you wish.

Please provide a card with a note from you for the family that will receive your bag.

MATTHEW 25 GRANT: We are collaborating with the La Habra Family Resource Center in making the best use of this grant to PREVENT older women from becoming homeless. Often someone may be managing from month-to-month, but an unexpected expense, such as a car repair or a medical bill, can make them unable to pay their housing costs. This will allow emergency grants for them to retain their home and not fall into the loss spiral. A total of \$965.84 was sent to the center and will be used specifically to prevent older women from becoming homeless. As the grant is dispensed, we will be notified how the money was used and how it has been leveraged.

³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸ And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹ And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰ And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.' (Matthew 25:35-40)

FRISTERS: Now that school is back in session, FRISTERS will begin meeting weekly. FRISTERS is a Christian-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty and abuse within the teen parent population by providing education, access to resources, role models and support to teen mothers and their children. Fristers currently serves 700 mothers and children annually through six chapter locations throughout Orange County. Emanuel has supported this ministry for several years through the donation of children's books, diapers and wipes, and gifts for the children at Christmas. The current book title will be announced soon. At this time, due to very generous donations this past year, we have a large balance toward the costs of these books. If you would like to make a donation for books, that is wonderful. Otherwise, if you would like to share your gift with another ministry at this time, that would be also be much-appreciated.

ANGEL TREE: Christmas is right around the corner and with that our opportunity to provide special gifts for those who may not have a celebration without us. In recent years, we have provided gifts for family members through WINGS and for the children of Fristers. Watch for information in the bulletin very soon!

EVANGELISM:

Did you know that we have business cards with a picture of our stained glass window, our service times, and Pastor Cate's name on it? They are quite beautiful. Take a couple and keep them in your wallet. You never know when you might have the opportunity to share the GOOD NEWS which we proclaim at Emanuel.

"Take It To The Lord In Prayer" — prayers for our church, our pastor, our world, and any special needs, in the Chapel or wherever you are at 8:30 on Saturday mornings. We now have eight 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 the Pastor or Vicar know and it will be lifted up. We have met and prayed weekly for nearly six years and we continue to see miracles.

Thank you for your generous Hearts and Hands!

Jeanette Parr
Facilitator

OPPORTUNITY CALENDAR FOR BALANCE OF 2018



November: Veteran's Outreach
December: Angel Tree(s)



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 are studying about John the Baptist and how he told people that Jesus was coming and helped them get ready to believe what Jesus would teach them. We are learning through games, art and science connections.
- **Middle School / Sr. High:** This class meets in the Youth Room at 10:00 AM with Janine Ward and Denise Witcher. We have been learning about the life of Joseph and will continue through the month of November. It's never too late to join the class because we are moving all around the Bible this year. Our discussions lead to more questions as we learn about God's Word.

Offerings: During November and December, offerings will be used to purchase gifts for children from the Wings Shelter. A boy and a girl will be chosen from the Angel Tree. The students can see how their offering can help others in this special way .

Seekers: Seekers meet each Thursday from 6:00-7:00 PM. All youth from kindergarten through 6th grade are welcome. We have begun the year with enthusiasm, energy, and a spirit of fellowship. In November, we will begin practicing for our Christmas play. All are welcome to join us

Trunk-or-Treat: Many thanks to all who contributed items, prepared food, decorated trunks, and led games for this festive event. We also thank Kirsten Garcia for making the trophies for the trunk decorating event. Special thanks to Janine Ward, Rose Ward, and Jessica Pisetsky for cooking, and to our Youth and their families for decorating and running games.



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

Board of Parish Education

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, **November 4**, at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Be sure and pick up your copy of the Annual Report. They are available in the Narthex or you can pick one up in the Church Office.

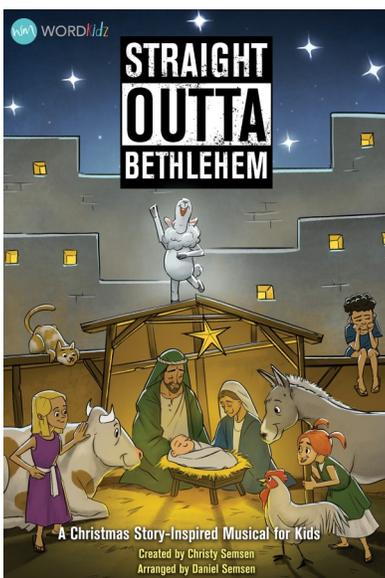
Please plan to attend!



END OF LIFE PREPARATION SEMINAR NOVEMBER 4

We are people of death and new life. While we often like to talk about the New and Eternal Life we have in Christ, many times we are hesitant to talk about death. It is something that everyone will go through and we would like to help you and your family to feel better prepared.

On **Sunday, November 4th (All Saint's Sunday) at 3:00 PM**, we will be holding an End-of-Life preparation Seminar in the Moerer Hall Fireside Room. Pastor Cate will be discussing funeral planning at Emanuel along with the *Five Wishes* resource. We will also have a funeral director give a presentation on what pre-arrangements you can make with funeral homes to ease the stress for your family at the time of death. This seminar will last until 4:00 PM when the Annual congregational meeting begins. We hope you are able to join us.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL DECEMBER 16, 2018

We invite all children to be a part of our holiday musical "Straight Outta Bethlehem" published by Word Music. Practices will be on Thursdays beginning November 8 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM.

The musical will be presented at the 10:45 Praise Service followed by a potluck luncheon in Moerer Hall immediately after the service. The play takes place in Bethlehem the night Jesus was born with a group of orphans who live and serve at the inn. They discover that none of us are alone because God adopts us into His family. If you have any questions please contact Mary Ann Carlson at (562) 619-0532.

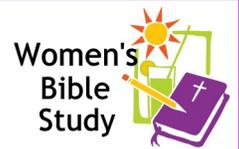


ADULT LAY-LED BIBLE STUDY

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

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 Classroom. Their next meeting will be on **Thursday, November 1**, where they will continue their study of Hebrews using Shepherd's Notes. They enjoy learning together about the Word of the Lord 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, November 19, 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.

We will continue our study focusing on repentance and turning to God. If you have never participated in the Joy Circle before, consider trying one or more of the 3 or 4 month sessions. Extra copies of this Bible study will be available that morning.



Sunday, November 11, 2018 ♦ 5:00 PM

Emanuel Lutheran's Annual

"Thanksgiving Dinner Potluck"

Tickets are \$1.00 per person and will cover decorations and drinks. They can be purchased in the office or on the patio between Sunday morning Worship Services on October 28, November 4, and November 11.

This year we are changing things up a little bit! Our Thanksgiving Dinner will be a POTLUCK! Bring any dish you would like to share (homemade or store-bought). We will share a festive meal together and sing.



Lessons & Carols

*Sunday, December 16
9:00 AM
Traditional Worship Service*

Come hear the Christmas Story

As told through scripture and song during Lessons & Carols.

Emanuel's Chancel Choir will lead a beautiful service marking the Season of Advent. Don't miss the chance to worship and sing your favorite Christmas Carols!



MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

We will be celebrating the time of preparation for the coming of our Lord at our Midweek Advent Services beginning **Wednesday, December 5, and continuing December 12 and 19.**

We will be holding **Wednesday morning worship service at 10:15 AM** in the Sanctuary for a time of reflection, prayers, scripture, and song.

We hope that you are able to join us at our midweek services in celebration of the expectant incarnation.



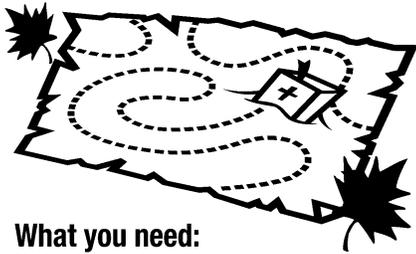
SAVE THE DATES

- ◆ Our **Emanuel Christmas Party** will be held on **Saturday, December 8, beginning at 5:30 PM** in Moerer Hall.
- ◆ **"Hanging of the Greens"** (decorating the church for Christmas) will be held on **Friday, December 14, starting at 5:00 PM** in the Sanctuary. Christmas music will be playing and treats served!

Kid's Korner

FALL SCAVENGER Hunt

Enjoy searching for seasonal aspects of God's creation!



What you need:

- Family members and friends, divided into groups if desired
- Maps of local areas
- Lists of fall-related items (one per person or group)
- Digital cameras or smartphones
- Prizes

What you do:

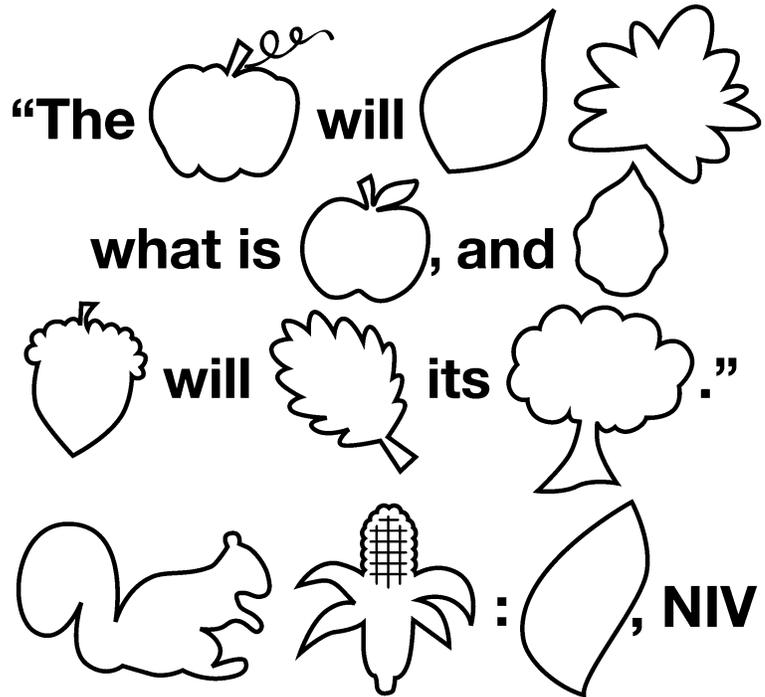
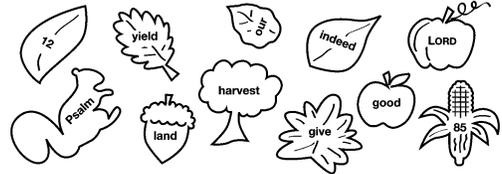
1. Hand out maps and lists of items (scarecrow, pumpkin, red leaf, squirrel, apple tree, pine cone, acorn, bug, bird, sunflower, etc.)
2. Instruct participants to walk through their assigned area, find and take photos of the items, and report back at a specific time.
3. When everyone returns, share your photos. Award prizes for the most items found, the most unusual item and so on.



HARVEST OF GOODNESS

God always provides, no matter the season.

Directions: Match the shapes in order to write the words in the correct places below.



Answer: "The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest." Psalm 85:12, NIV