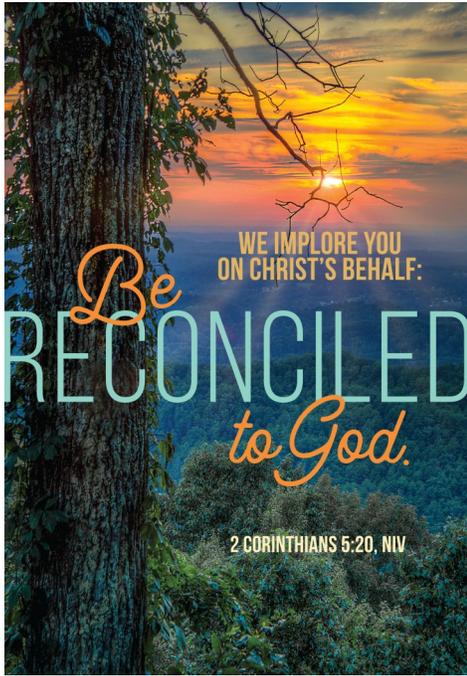


# The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION MARCH 2019 VOLUME 25 NUMBER 3



## IN THIS ISSUE

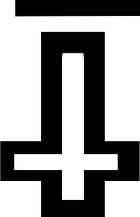
From Pastor Luehr ..... Pg. 2  
 Maria's Musings ..... Pg. 3  
 Heart And Hands Outreach..... Pg. 4  
 Parish Education..... Pg. 6  
 Property Care..... Pg. 7  
 Palms Branches Needed ..... Pg. 7  
 Preschool Invited ..... Pg. 8  
 Joy Circle ..... Pg. 8  
 Lay Bible Study ..... Pg. 8  
 Ash Wednesday/Lenten Midweek Services ... Pg. 9  
 Women's Interfaith Celebration..... Pg. 9  
 Children's Activities Page..... Pg. 10

address label here

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

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

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



Traditional Worship Service  
 Praise Service  
 Children's Sunday School:  
 PASTOR:  
 VICAR:  
 PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:  
 Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.  
 E-mail: [churchinfo@elch.org](mailto:churchinfo@elch.org)  
 Website: [www.elch.org](http://www.elch.org)

9:00 a.m.  
 10:45 a.m.  
 10:00 a.m.  
 Catherine E. Luehr  
 Maria Markman  
 Joine Sadders

## Post It Notes from Pastor Luehr



- *Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.*
- *Jesus Christ loves you and keeps you now and always.*
- *Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.*

All three of these sayings are common in our church. Each take place at very different times in our lives, however they all have something in common. When each one is said, they are accompanied by the sign of the cross made on a person's forehead.

The first one takes place once in our lifetime, at the moment of baptism. For some of us that is very early in life, perhaps even before we remember. The water is poured over our head in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Then anointing oil, to remember that we belong to Christ the King, is used to mark the sign of the cross and claim we are God's beloved child.

The second phrase is one that may vary from time to time and can happen many times throughout a person's life. It is one that is given to some who come to the communion rail seeking to be part of the community gathered around the Table of God. We welcome all people to the table of Jesus Christ. But to those who are not yet baptized, for children too young to participate, or for those who choose not to eat and drink of the Body of Christ, a mark is made on their forehead reminding them that they are blessed to be at the table of Jesus Christ.

The third phrase comes once a year, on Ash Wednesday. We gather together to begin the 40-day journey into Lent and ashes are placed on our foreheads in the mark of the cross as the words are said "remember you are dust and to dust you shall return." In the Old Testament the practice of putting ashes on oneself had a few main uses, one was to mark a person in mourning, similar to wearing black clothes in today's culture. The other main use was to show a sign of remorse and repentance. It is this use that we remember on Ash Wednesday.

To those who have never seen it, this may seem like quite a somber thing to "celebrate." But as people who are living in the light of the resurrection, we are lifted up this day to remember our sinfulness, not because we feel the need to belittle and berate ourselves. We do so **BECAUSE WE ARE FORGIVEN BY A LORD WHO WASHES OUR SINS AWAY THROUGH HIS DEATH AND RESURRECTION.** Okay, bold, all caps and underlining might have been a little overkill, but I want to stress the real purpose of spending introspective time during this Lenten season is not to wallow in our failures but to remember through everything, Jesus Christ is the Lamb who takes away the sins of the world. That, my friends, is very Good News.

Pastor Cate Luehr



Lately, I have been thinking a lot about God's revealing Godself to us. Part of it is that the season in between Christmas and Lent, a season called Epiphany is planned just for that. Epiphany is a season where our lessons in worship are preparing us for our journey through Lent. God's ultimate revealing of who God is when Jesus goes to the cross for us, endures suffering for us, dies, is buried, and after three days he rises from the dead for us, so that we too might be resurrected into the newness of life.

Today it is sometimes easy to lose sight of what is really important. And it is hard to take the time, not only to listen to God, but also to others. Voices that might be different than our own. In undergrad, while singing in the Concordia Choir, we sang a song called, "The Rune of Hospitality." The text is an old Irish poem. The text invites the hearer to imagine Christ in the disguise of the stranger and begs to ask the question how will you serve him, this Christ in the stranger's guise? It makes us all think about how we listen to the needs of those who are different than us, those we disagree with, and those with whom we find it difficult to love. However, that is what we are called to do in Christ.

This Lenten season we are offering midweek Lent services titled "The Voices of Lent." Pastor Cate and I have invited pastors and leaders of congregations in our area to come offer their interpretation on the Lenten journey (see schedule below). We figure you hear enough of our voices, why not include voices different from our own. Also during our Lenten worship we invite you all to lift up your voices in song as we will be singing Holden Evening Prayer.

Join us for midweek services starting Wednesday, March 6 (Ash Wednesday) and throughout the Lenten season on Wednesdays at 10:15 AM, or Thursdays at 6:45 PM. Come, listen, and add your voice to "The Voices of Lent."

Peace,

Vicar Maria

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## LENTEN MIDWEEK PREACHER SCHEDULE

**Each week we will be filming the Thursday night preacher to show their sermon during the following week's Wednesday morning service.**

<i>Thursday March 14 &amp; Wednesday March 20:</i>	Pr. George Lopez, House of Faith Apostolic Church
<i>Thursday March 21 and Wednesday March 27:</i>	Camp Staff from Lutheran Retreats Camps and Conferences
<i>Thursday March 28 and Wednesday April 3:</i>	Pr. Murray Finck, Bishop Emeritus of the Pacifica Synod
<i>Thursday April 4 and Wednesday April 10:</i>	Pr. Moses Barrios, Newly ordained Pastor of Crave Life Church and Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran
<i>Thursday April 11:</i>	Deacon Barbara Martyn, Interim Deacon serving throughout Pacifica Synod



## Heart And Hands Outreach Sharing the Good News!

*"Feed My Sheep" – John 21*

### **COMMUNITY SHARING AND CARING OUTREACH:**

**LA HABRA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CARE CENTER:** During February, HAHO encouraged donations of canned goods and money for the LHCRCC. More than \$100 plus \$250 in our operational budget every month help provide housing vouchers and other help for emergency needs.

**FRISTERS:** We purchased and delivered 40 copies of *Miss Bindergarten Goes to Kindergarten* for the Kidsters so each child will have a book of his/her own and they will be able to read together and learn about their exciting future time in school.

In the month of March, we will support these young mothers and children with diapers and wipes. Every week when the mothers meet for Fristers, the children receive care including diaper changes at the beginning and end of the session. For the last three years, we have chosen to support this ministry in our community. Our 2017 delivery is pictured to the right. **Please bring your diapers and wipes to the narthex by Sunday, March 24.**  
THANK YOU!!

**STUDY BUDDIES:** Study Buddies provides snacks and rewards for the students. HAHO contributions help to support this process to encourage these young learners from our community.



### **EVANGELISM:**

Did you know we have business cards with a picture of our stained glass window, our church information, and Pastor Cate's name on them? 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.

We are working on developing and making new yard signs for Easter and Christmas. The new signs will include our street address.

**"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.

Our next HAHO meeting will be on March 2, 2019 at 10:00 AM in the Library. Please join us.

Thank you for your generous Hearts and Hands!

Jeanette Parr  
Facilitator

## OPPORTUNITY CALENDAR



If you'd like to plan ahead for those ministries which are dearest to your heart, a 2019 calendar of scheduled opportunities is below. (You could post it on your refrigerator!)

***THESE MINISTRIES ARE OFFERED AS OPTIONS FOR YOU. PLEASE DO NOT FEEL OBLIGATED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL OF THESE MINISTRIES. DO ONLY WHAT GOD CALLS YOU TO DO.***

<i>March:</i>	Diapers & Wipes for FRISTERS
<i>April:</i>	Specific household items for Patriots & Paws (replaces Free-For-All). We can collect here and arrange for pickup.
<i>May:</i>	WINGS and Mama Hill's House support for moms (TBD)
<i>June:</i>	Daniel Alvarez Center – household cleaning & maintenance items
<i>June/July/August:</i>	Support VBS and Parish Ed
<i>August/September:</i>	School supplies for Study Buddies and Mama's Hill House
<i>October:</i>	Bibles for Preschool & third graders as needed
<i>November:</i>	Veteran's Outreach – holiday bags
<i>December:</i>	Angel Tree(s) & Fristers/Kidsters Toys

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

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



# **SAVE THE DATE!**



## **Black Bear Diner**

**Monday, April 29 from 4PM to 8PM**  
**Fundraising Dinner at Black Bear Diner**  
**More Information To Follow**



## 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 Bible stories through art, games and science. Our focus will be the Fruit of the Spirit for the next few months. We will see how each Fruit of the Spirit is vital in the life of a Christian. Come and join us.
- **Middle School / Sr. High:** Bring your questions as we learn more about the Bible. This class meets in the Youth Room at 10:00 AM with Janine Ward and Denise Witcher. We offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the new young adults who have joined the class. All are welcome as we discover how God works in our lives. Don't miss out.

**Offerings:** Our students will be giving a gift to our church by purchasing a special Lenten banner that will be hung in the Narthex during the season of Lent. They have chosen the Cross as the banner they would like to donate. We are encouraging them to take pride in their church, Emanuel Lutheran.

**Seekers:** Seekers youth meet each Thursday from 6:00-7:00 PM. Come join the fun as we have stories, games and snacks.

**Preschool Appreciation Sunday:** HAHO and Parish Ed will be sponsoring this event. Save the date for Sunday, April 7, at 10:45 AM during the Praise Service. The students will sing songs and have a luncheon after the service. Don't miss our special preschooler's performing and worshipping with us!

**Study Buddies:** Our Study Buddies program is going strong with approximately 14 students enrolled and 7-8 kids attending per session. They meet every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 to 5:30 PM.

**First Communion** was on Sunday, February 24.

**High School Youth:** Seven high school youth attended a winter retreat at Luther Glen Camp and Farm outside of Oak Glen on February 22-24. The theme was "Messy Faith."

**Easter Egg Hunt:** The Easter Egg Hunt will be on Sunday, April 21, at 10:20 AM after the first service.

**Spring Play:** We will be preparing for the Spring Musical and learning songs on Sunday mornings and at Seekers on Thursdays starting in March.

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

Board of Parish Education

## PROPERTY CARE TEAM

Very recently, we found that our alarm system needed a new battery. When we called our vendor, they were willing to come, but the minimum charge was \$500 plus parts (the batteries). John Ospital, a member of the Property Care Team, was able to determine the necessary batteries and purchase them for less than \$50. John gave of his time and expertise to be a good steward of our gifts, saving more than \$500, which is now available for our primary ministry of sharing the Good News. Thank you, John!

In addition, our very talented team of Keith Kruse, Wolfgang Hessel, and Jack Ward took on the project of refinishing the table in the narthex, which had not been well maintained.

They spent many hours sanding, polishing, and refinishing, as well as trying to dodge the wet weather since the table required some outside sunshine to cure. The outcome is breathtaking. Be sure to look in person.

It has been 6 months since we last met to focus on repairs and maintenance for our beautiful church home. Since that time, much has been accomplished; however, a little sprucing up prior to Easter would be great. The following items have been posted to our "HONEY-DO" list in Moerer Hall. Can YOU help?

1. BATHROOM LIGHT SWITCHES (Auto off): Install remaining switches which are already on site.
2. SPINNING CASTERS ON CHOIR MUSIC CART: Purchase and install.
3. REPLACE DOOR STOPS ON UPSTAIRS SANCTUARY RESTROOM AND HOPE CENTER WORKROOM: Purchase and install.
4. REMOVE/REPAINT WATER SPOTS ON SANCTUARY BRICKS: Determine cleaning and/or required painting.
5. PATCH AND TOUCH-UP PAINT IN NARTHEX.
6. SANCTUARY DOWNSTAIRS RESTROOM LIGHTING: Determine better/brighter lighting for safety.
7. REPAIR LOCK ON THE EAST ENTRY DOOR INTO THE SANCTUARY. Lock has been difficult to operate.
8. REPLACE DAMAGED CEILING TILES IN MOERER HALL.

We will meet on **Saturday, March 30 at 8:30 AM** in Moerer Hall. Refreshments will be served. Bring your expertise, your willing hands, and maybe a tool along. Members of House of Faith will be joining us in the focus.



## PALM BRANCHES NEEDED

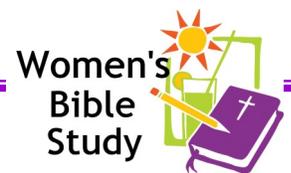
PALM SUNDAY IS APRIL 14. Our tradition always includes decorating the sanctuary with palms in honor of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of Holy Week.

If you are planning to trim your palm trees during the week prior to Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week, or know someone who is, please contact the church office. Last year, we had smaller palm branches given, which were truly lovely, but more difficult to manage. We are grateful for that gift. Thank you very much!



## PRESCHOOL INVITED TO CHURCH!

A special invitation has been extended to Emanuel Lutheran Preschool to join us for worship on **Sunday, April 7, at the 10:45 AM** worship service. We want to thank the Preschool families for sharing their children with us and we want to take this time to share the love of Jesus with our preschoolers. The students will be invited to come and sing a few songs during worship and then join us for lunch and games to follow. A very excited group of members is coordinating a meal and a bunch of fun activities for the students and their families. We would also like to invite **all of our children** from Emanuel to this special service. If you would like to help out on this day or would like to join us for lunch please contact the church office.



## JOY CIRCLE

The Joy Circle Bible Study will meet on **Monday, March 18, from 9:30-11:00 AM.** 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.

In January we began a new four-month Bible study looking at the Gospel of John. This month we will continue learning how throughout John's Gospel, Jesus engages people in honest and sometimes difficult conversations that lead to faith, renewal and transformation. Over the course of this four-session study by Rev. Julie A. Kanarr, we will meet Jesus through his interactions with various characters within the gospel. Their conversations beckon us to explore and grow in faith. We hope you will consider joining us!

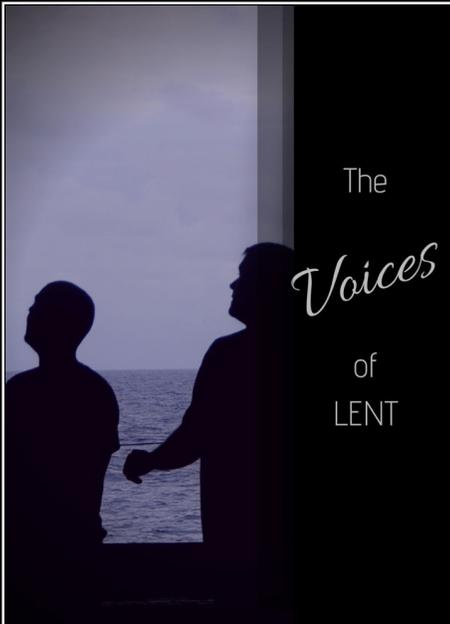


## ADULT LAY-LED BIBLE STUDY

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

Members of Emanuel, we have just completed our study of the book of Hebrews. We were reminded to never lose our faith in God, and to strive to set an example for others with the goal of leading them to know Christ.

Starting this month, we will begin a study of The Lost Books of the Bible. We would love to have others t Emanuel, we have an Adult Lay Bible Study led by a member of the congregation. They normally meet the first and third Thursdays of each month at 4:30 PM in the Hope Center



**LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES**  
**MARCH 6, ASH WEDNESDAY, THRU APRIL 11**  
**“The Voices of Lent”**

March 6, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of our Lenten journey to the cross. We will hold two worship services in the Sanctuary. Our morning service will be at 10:15 AM and our evening service will be at 7:00 PM. Both services will have the imposition of ashes.

Each week, we will gather for midweek services: Wednesday mornings (10:15 AM) in the sanctuary, and due to the higher attendance during Advent our evening services will be on Thursday evenings (6:45 PM) in the Moerer Hall Fireside Room. At each service we will sing Holden Evening Prayer and listen to different voices. Pastors, Deacons and Ministers from around our area have been invited to share their Lenten reflections. Come, listen, and add to the many different “Voices of Lent.”

**WEDNESDAYS AT 10:15 AM**

March 13  
 March 20  
 March 27  
 April 3  
 April 10

**THURSDAYS AT 6:45 PM**

March 14  
 March 21  
 March 28  
 April 4  
 April 11

You are cordially invited to join a  
*Celebration of Women of Faith*

**Saturday, March 30, 10:00am-Noon**  
**2351 E La Habra Bl, La Habra 90631**

Co-sponsored by the North Hills Ward of  
 The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
 and Emanuel Lutheran Church

Brunch & door prize opportunity  
 with presentation of this ticket.

Please contact Mischelle Uhlman if you would  
 like to attend or have questions.

*What could happen if women of  
 faith built each other up?  
 We are more powerful together  
 than divided.*



**THRIVENT FINANCIAL  
 FREE SHRED EVENT**

**April 27, 8:00 to 11:30 AM**

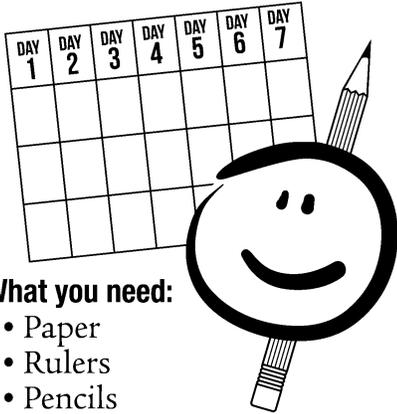
Rob Burns and Jay Huckabone of  
 Thrivent Financial will be sponsoring a  
**FREE SHRED EVENT on Saturday,**  
April 27 from 8:00 to 11:30 AM at Christ  
 Lutheran Church (820 W. Imperial Hwy.,  
 Brea). Please bring up to 10 boxes of old  
 documents to be shred, and drop-  
 off donations of non-perishable food items  
 to be donated to O.C. United, Pathways of  
 Hope, and Giving Children Hope. Please  
 call 714-525-4360 with any questions.



# Kid's Korner

## DAYS OF CREATION

Play this game to remember when God made each of his masterpieces.



### What you need:

- Paper
- Rulers
- Pencils
- Markers or crayons
- Dice
- Bibles (open to Genesis 1:1-2:3 for reference)

### What you do:

1. To make game boards, draw a grid with four rows and seven columns, totaling 28 squares.
2. Across the top row, write DAY 1 in the first square and continue through DAY 7.
3. Take turns rolling one die, or all players can roll at once. For the number rolled, draw something God created on that day (in the correct column).
4. When you fill an entire row, draw a smiley face in the DAY 7 square. The first player with two smileys wins.



## Decode The days

At this time of year, God's creation "springs" to life.

*Directions: After reading Genesis 1:1-2:3, write the correct Creation day number under each picture. Then add up each day's total and write it on the correct blank below.*


Day 1 (light) \_\_\_\_ Day 2 (waters) \_\_\_\_ Day 3 (land and plants) \_\_\_\_ Day 4 (heavenly bodies) \_\_\_\_

Day 5 (birds and water animals) \_\_\_\_ Day 6 (land animals and people) \_\_\_\_ Day 7 (God rested) \_\_\_\_

Answers: Day 1 = 3, Day 2 = 3, Day 3 = 10, Day 4 = 6, Day 5 = 10, Day 6 = 15, Day 7 = 2