

The Good News

MONTHLY PUBLICATION JANUARY 2025 VOLUME 59 NUMBER 1

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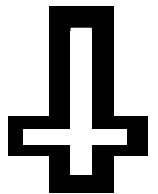
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DATED MATERIAL
 Please Deliver by 2nd or
 3rd of the month.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
 10:00 AM
 11:00 AM
PASTOR:
 Dennis Laherty
PRE-SCHOOL DIRECTOR:
 Jonine Sodders
Spanish Worship is offered at 2:30 pm by House of Faith.
E-mail: churchinfo@elch.org
Website: www.elch.org



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
 Church: (562)691-0656 Preschool: (562) 694-5316
 150 North Palm Street, La Habra, California 90631
Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church

A NOTE FROM THE

PASTOR



Let's consider newness.

A new friend. A new house. A new roof. A new stove, microwave or refrigerator. A new recipe. A new television or cable or fiberoptic company. A new job. A new car. A new article of clothing. New shoes. A new child in the family. A new knee, hip or shoulder. A new primary care physician. A new heating system. A new air conditioning unit. A new store or restaurant. A new praise song. A new idea for an old problem.

So, what do all these new things have in common? (STOP) Don't read on until you've answered the question. What do all these things have in common?

When there is something new happening in our lives we expect a change. As we consider a change we expect it to be at least the same or usually better qualitatively than that which it is replacing.

The answer to the question really speaks to our outlook. We may not even look forward to change. Yet, if there is change, we hope it is an improvement for our life, our wellbeing and the life and wellbeing of others. As I look at it, something new is a positive occurrence. It might not even start that way but in due time it can and will usually end as a positive.

For those who follow the Lord, we have a guide to make positive things happen. We simply need to believe that the Lord lives with us in that way. We might not always deal positively with new things in our lives, but with the Lord's guidance, assistance and love we believe it will work out.

Therefore, Happy New Year.

Pastor Dennis Laherty

The Emanuel Staff wishes to thank the congregation for the generous Christmas gift. You are all a blessing in our lives! Happy New Year.





HAHO UPDATE

HEART AND HANDS OUTREACH SHARING THE GOOD NEWS!

“Feed My Sheep” – John 21

HAHO Opportunities for January

Happy New Year from your HAHO Team. We can't thank you enough for the generous support shown for each outreach project in 2024! So many were blessed through your generosity.

We will start off 2025 with a meeting following our weekly prayer group at 10:00 AM on Saturday, January 18. This is the perfect opportunity to come with your ideas for ways to help in our community in 2025. We are always in need of those who have ideas for outreach. In the meantime, we encourage you all to keep bringing food for Caring Ministries and **good used clothing** for St. Jude's Closet. These are ongoing and always in need!

This is the perfect time to join those who dedicate their time and hearts to praying for all requests that come our way. Often the number of prayer requests is overwhelming and we find ourselves suffering from “compassion fatigue”. This issue came up in a Bible Study just this week. But it is an honor to be asked to share in the suffering of others and bring it to our Lord. You are all encouraged and welcomed to join in prayer each Saturday morning at 8:30 AM in the Youth Room.

We seek your prayers for God's direction as we embark on the mission to be God's heart and hands to those in need in 2025!





BLOOD DRIVE
Emanuel Lutheran Church

Location: Moerer Hall
150 N. Palm Street
La Habra, CA 90631

Monday Jan. 6, 2025
Noon to 6pm

PICTURE ID REQUIRED AT REGISTRATION AND DURING HEALTH EXAM.

Please schedule an appointment online by visiting www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: **EMANUELLC** or call 1-800-RED-CROSS.



1-800-RED-CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

Help with
“Unhanging of the Greens”

3:30 pm Tuesday, January 7.



Burrito Ministry

Saturday January 18, 2025

At 10 am please join us preparing or delivering burritos to those who are hungry.





Thank you for all those who contributed to the Annual Report, Congregational Annual Meeting, and Potluck on December 8. The meeting and the lunch was great. It took everyone to make it happen. Also, thank you to Lilly Hernandez and her husband Oscar for attending and helping with check-in.

Thank you to Jonine Soddors, Tanya Expose, and Bradie Noblet for the planning and leading the Pre-School Christmas program. It was loved by the students, the parents, and the visitors. What a delight!

Thanks to everyone who donated Poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary and to those who decorated on December 14...John Ospital, Robyn Ospital, Jeff Ospital, Kerry Ospital, Celeste Templeton, Ricki Fehr, Phyllis Laherty, Luke Ospital, Jack Ospital, MaryAnn Carlson, Jeanette Parr, and Pepper and Chaz. Couldn't have done it without you!

Thanks to our Chancel Choir, Praise Band, Bell Choir and special guest singers who made beautiful music at Lessons and Carols on December 15, along with our lesson readers Geoff Roberts and Jeanette Parr.

Thanks for all those who help with check-in, Communion service, ushers, greeting, reading, sound booth, and all other needs at our worship services.

Thanks to the Banner Bees Sharon Frazier, Candy Keller and her 9 year old granddaughter Ava Lopez, Linda Santoro, Jill Drummond, MaryAnn Carlson and all who helped get the beautiful Nativity banner ready for Christmas.

Thanks to those who brought so much food for the Thanksgiving food drive at the Caring Hands Ministry and the gift cards for Patriots and Paws Veterans needs, along with those who brought coats and clothing for the St. Jude Closet for under our Christmas tree.



Thanks to everyone who faithfully attend worship and who give their time, talent, and financial gifts to God through Emanuel.



St Jude Medical Center has a community closet that supplies clothes to patients and homeless in need. Emanuel, through HAHO, has decided to take on the task of helping to keep that closet stocked. Here's where you can help. Check your closets for the following items you aren't using and bring them to church – **gently used**, please. A collection box will be available in the narthex.

They are in HIGH need of the following:

Men's pants sizes 28-34 and 44-48. Men's shirts sizes M, XXL

Men's jackets sizes L, XL, XXL, XXXL

Women's pants sizes 20+

Women's sneakers sizes 8 and above / Tube socks

Men's sneakers sizes 10 and above / Tube socks

They have an ongoing need for the following:

Men's and Women's casual clothing (gently used, no stains or holes)

Men's & Women's jackets/coats (Men's are in high demand)

Undergarments (new only)

Belts/Scarves/mittens/beanies/backpacks/totes/ponchos (no wallets or purses please)

Shoes (Men's are in high demand)

Also, if you have crutches, walkers, canes, or manual wheel chairs you no longer need, they will be glad to take them. A tax donation letter is available upon request.

This project is being coordinated through HAHO. If you have questions, please call Sharon or Jeanette.



St Jude Closet

This is a picture of our latest contribution to the closet (not including coats) and we want to thank everyone that contributed. A list of requested clothing will be on the narthex table so pick one up on your way in or out from church if you need a new one. We do ask that you stay within the list as we've received some items that we weren't able to take such as dresses, women's shorts/skirts, and children's clothes. Any questions about items on the list, please call Sharon Frazier

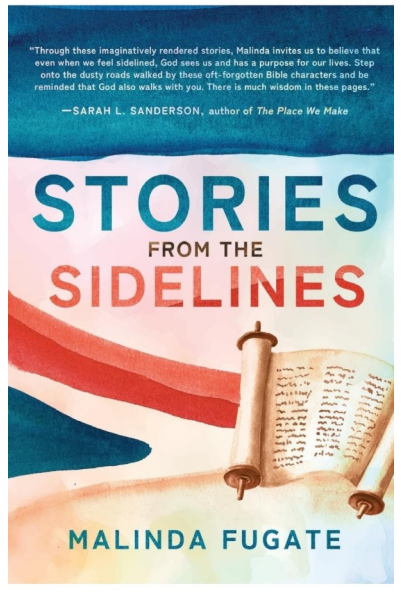


Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Saturday, Jan. 4, 2025
at 8:00 am
Arthur's Coffee Shop



What's 4LunchLadies?
 Marie Callender
 1560 Albatross Rd
 City of Industry
 Friday, January 17
 11:30 A.M.

Continuing in the Library,
 Thursdays at 1pm



The pages of the Bible are full of ordinary people placed in extraordinary circumstances that we often overlook or forget.

Stories From the Sidelines offers a refreshing exploration of biblical narratives focusing on characters who played supporting roles rather than the heroes we know and love.

Through imaginative retellings, this book explores the lives of various Old and New Testament characters, such as Noah's sons, Job's wife, Apollous, and the women of the early church. Each story is followed by an application, highlighting the relevance of these ancient accounts in today's world. Readers will encounter characters who may be new to them, like Huldah or the sons of Hassenaah. What was it like to be the younger brother of Joseph or the oldest brother of King David? Two scouts went ahead of Israel into the Promised Land. Joshua became their leader, but the other scout's faithfulness to God is worth remembering.

Stories From the Sidelines challenges readers to appreciate the depth and complexity of biblical figures often relegated to the margins. It provides insights into human nature and moral choices, encouraging readers to reflect on their own lives and the often-omitted influences around them and is a compelling invitation to rediscover the richness of biblical stories through the eyes of those who stood on the sidelines but whose lives still offer valuable lessons today.

Malinda Fugate serves full time as the Children's Education Director at a church in Southern California. She earned a communications degree with a theatre emphasis from Azusa Pacific University, then she worked behind the scenes for Christian radio stations in Los Angeles. Her writing includes *The Other Three Sixteens*, published by Ambassador International in May 2020, and the activity-filled devotional, *Bible Time for Active Kids*. Additionally, she has been a commercial copywriter and written various faith-based stage plays. She also co-produced "A Single Girls Guide To," a lifestyle blog and web series. Malinda lives by the beach with her pup, Yoshi, where she continues to enthusiastically study God's Word and live His abundant life.

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 EMBASSADOR INTERNATIONAL
 www.ambassadorintl.com
 Highlighting Jesus while promoting the greatest through the written word.

Altar Flowers Donation

We invite you to provide flowers for the altar on any Sunday Service! Sign up in the Narthex. On the Monday before flowers are expected, call Blooming Hills to order flowers. Cost will be \$65.00 paid to Blooming Hills Florist, (562) 690-3347. Please take the flowers home after the service on Sunday, or they will be taken to a shut in that week.



~ SUNDAY BIBLE READINGS ~

Second Sunday Of Christmas	Baptism of Our Lord	Second Sunday after Epiphany	Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 5 Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Eph. 1:3-14 John 1:[1-9] 10-18	January 12 Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22	January 19 Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:-5-10 1Cor 12:1-11 John 2:1-11	January 26 Neh 8:1-3,5-6,8-10 Psalm 19 1 Cor 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21



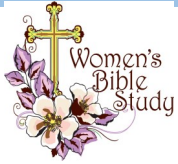
January, 2025-From the Board of Parish Education Sunday School meets each Sunday at 11:00 AM in Moerer Hall!

- **Sunday School January Schedule:** Sunday School will resume meeting at 11:00 beginning on January 5 after the New Year festivities. We will continue to learn about the Christmas story and the escape Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus made to Egypt. Visitors are always welcome!
- **"A Crazy Busy Christmas" Play:** We thank all our students who participated in our musical play. They did a great job, and we learned the true meaning of Christmas. We thank Susan Wright for writing the play and composing the two songs, "A Crazy Busy Christmas" and "A Little Bitty Baby." Thank you also goes to Cindy Reyes and Emily Beard for helping with our play rehearsals and working out details for this presentation. Kirsten Garcia helped with script ideas. We also thank Denise Whitcher's ideas for the artwork on the program cover and for Susan making the illustrations come to life. Ricki Fehr organized the potluck that was enjoyed by all after the play. We are so blessed to have dedicated volunteers.
- **Angel Tree:** Children gave generously as we collected donations for buying gifts for children at the Wings Shelter. We gave a gift to a nine-year-old girl and a three-year-old boy. Our students discovered that when we give offerings, it goes to help others, even kids their own ages.
- **Offerings:** During January, offerings will be used to reach out and help others in special ways. The kids will be choosing where they would like their offering to be used.
- **Study Buddies:** Study Buddies will resume on January 7 after the Christmas break. We are thankful to God for these great kids to work with each week. We meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-4:30 PM for children in grades 1-6. This program is open to all children in our surrounding neighborhood as well as our Emanuel Lutheran family. We would like to add two more tutors each day since we have eight eager students who would benefit from the extra help. Invite your friends! Talk to Mary Ann Carlson for details.

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

Board of Parish Education





January Joy Circle Monday, January 20, 2025 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Happy New Year all ladies of Emanuel! We continue to pray you will accept this invitation to try out this warm and welcoming group on the third Monday of each month. We will continue using the Bible studies offered in the Gather Magazine. We have found that they stimulate great discussions and no in depth prior Biblical knowledge is required. We take turns in supplying light refreshments, with no pressure to do so if you choose to decline.

We've never mentioned that an offering is taken and used to supply items needed to enhance worship here at Emanuel. Our offerings over the past year have been used to purchase the supplies for the three beautiful permanent floral arrangements that grace the altar when fresh flowers are not donated. One of our own Joy Circle members graciously created each one for us without charge. What a gift!

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

EASY WAYS TO SUPPORT EMANUEL FINANCIALLY

Thank you for your financial gifts to God through Emanuel Lutheran Church!!!

Below are 4 ways to give:

- Entryway offering plate
- Mail to the Church Office
- "Giving" link online at www.elclh.org
- Text dollar amount to 562-210-0007

Our bank has recently notified us how checks must be written in order to be accepted. We are asking for your assistance to avoid future checks being refused.

- Checks must be made payable to **EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH** (full name written out)
- Checks are to be written using **blue or black ink only** (other colors not acceptable)
- Make sure the **number in the amount is the same as the amount written in words**

You Tube



TO WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE AND VIA LIVE STREAM, GO TO

- Emanuel's website: <http://elclh.org>
- YouTube: Emanuel Lutheran Church La Habra
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4Fu6qvPdYF2MM92JzoU9uA>
- Facebook: Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
<https://www.facebook.com/emanuel.lutheran.1>

**Closed captioning is available on both YouTube and Facebook.
Visit Emanuel's website or find us on Instagram**

A Crazy Busy Christmas



Happy Holidays from
Preschool



Emanuel Lutheran Preschool Now Enrolling

Emanuel Lutheran Preschool is
now Enrolling students!



- Our preschool is open all year-round.
- We are state licensed, non-profit organization dedicated to providing an atmosphere of love and acceptance in which all children are encouraged to develop to their fullest potential.
- Our teachers are dedicated to support and inspire your child's progress.
- Daily activities include motor development, social skills, and language skills to benefit your child at their appropriate level.

If you or someone you know is looking for child care reach out to preschool director Jonine Soddors (562)694-5316 or email EmanuelPreschoolLaHabra@hotmail.com



TO WORSHIP WITH US ONLINE AND VIA LIVE STREAM, GO TO

- Emanuel's website: <http://elclh.org>
- YouTube: Emanuel Lutheran Church La Habra
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4Fu6qvPdYF2MM92JzoU9uA>
- Facebook: Emanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
<https://www.facebook.com/emanuel.lutheran.1>



Closed captioning is available on both YouTube and Facebook.
Visit Emanuel's website or find us on Instagram ([emanuellahabra](https://www.instagram.com/emanuellahabra)) for upcoming events

FREE STUDY BUDDIES TUTORING TUESDAY & THURSDAY, 3-4:30 PM

Study Buddies, our FREE tutoring program for grades 1-6, meets at Emanuel on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3-4:30 PM in the Hope Center Library.

If you'd like to contribute to the fun, they are always in need of snacks for the kids. Lunch box size bags of chips and small water bottles are supplied to our students while they study.



Invite a friend or neighbor!
Flyers are available at
Sunday's Welcome Table.

~ 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 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.

*Want to be part of the Prayer
Team?*

Contact the church office.



PRAYER LIST

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER JANUARY 2025

*** Save this for reference throughout the month. ***

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, and faithful in prayer.” Romans 12:12

Special Prayer Focus for This Month

~ This month, join us in praying that the community may know Christ!

We believe that people’s greatest need is to hear and believe in the truth of the gospel. On our own, each one of us is totally depraved and hopelessly lost, and yet the free gift of salvation is available for all who repent of their sin and put their trust in Jesus Christ. He is the way, and the truth, and the life, and no one comes to the Father but through Him (John 14:6).

~ For all people dealing with natural disasters around the world. Those who have lost loved ones, homes, pets and everything they own.

Continuing Prayers

~If you have Prayer requests for the next 8 weeks, please contact the Church office to add names.

Assisted Living Centers/Homebound

- ~ Shirley Jordan – Park Vista
- ~ Margaret Roberts – Addie’s Cottage Anaheim
- ~ Jean Arata
- ~ Lee Reitzel – Emerald Court

Friends and Family to Remember

~ Lin Baesler, wife of Pastor Ron Baesler


Prayers of Thanksgiving

- ~ For all God’s blessings, those we see and so many big and small ways God provides for our needs, often before we even know our need.
- ~ Thank You, God, for those who are here to share these blessings this month, for the generosity of our hosts that make this possible. Bless those who are here and those who are in our hearts, and all those who are not as fortunate.

If you have prayer concerns to add to Emanuel’s list, please contact the church office at (562) 691-0656. Once a month, names will be removed from the list that have been in print at least eight consecutive weeks (except those who request extended prayer). You are welcome to re-submit any names removed from the list, or you may remove a name at any time by contacting the church office. Thank you.

January 2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Happy New Year! Office/Preschool Closed 6:00-8:30p GSR (H) 7:30p Al-anon (C)	2 No Book Club (L) No Study Buddies (L) 6p District 18 (H) 7-9p HOF (4)	3 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF(CR 2, 4,YR) 8p AA(H)	4 7-9:30 BSF Leaders (H/F) 8a Men's Breakfast 8:30a Prayer Group (Y,Z)
5 9:30a-12:30p HOF (YR) 10a Worship Service (S) 11a Sunday School (H)	6 10a Stephen Ministry 12-6p Blood Drive 7-9p HOF (S) 7:30p AA (H)	7 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 3:30 Unhanging of the greens 6p BSF(All)	8 9a Bible Study (L/Z) 10a Bridge Club (H) 7:30p Al-anon (C)	9 1p Book Club (L) 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6:30 Bells and Choir (s) 7-9p HOF (4)	10 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF(CR 2, 4, Y) 8p AA (H)	11 7-9:30a BSF Leaders 8:30a Prayer Group (Y,Z) 6-9pm HOF (MH)
12 9:30a-12:30p HOF (YR) 10a Worship Service (S) 11a Sunday School (H) 12:30-7p HOF(ALL)	13 7-9p HOF (S) 7:30p AA (H)	14 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6p BSF (ALL)	15 Good News Deadline 9a Bible Study (L/Z) 10a Bridge Club (H) 7:30p Al-Anon (C)	16 1p Book Club (L) 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6:30 Bells and Choir (S) 7-9p HOF(4)	17 11:30a What's 4Lunch Ladies 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF (CR 2,4, Y) 8p AA (H)	18 7-9:30 a BSF Leaders 8:30a Prayer Group (Y,Z) 10a Burrito Ministry 10a HAHO
19 9:30a-12:30p HOF (YR) 10a Worship Service (S) 11a Sunday School (H) 12:30-7p HOF(ALL)	20 9:30a Joy Circle (H) 7-9p HOF (S) 7:30p AA (H)	21 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 5:30p Church Council (L,Z) 6p BSF (ALL)	22 9a Bible Study (L/Z) 10a Bridge Club (H) 7:30p Al-Anon (C)	23 1p Book Club (L) 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6:30p Bells and Choir (S) 7-9p HOF (4)	24 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF (CR 2,4, Y) 8p AA (H)	25 7-9:30a BSF Leaders 8:30a Prayer Group (Y,Z)
26 9:30a-12:30p HOF (YR) 10a Worship Service (S) 11a Sunday School (H) 12:30-7p HOF(ALL)	27 7-9p HOF (S) 7:30p AA (H)	28 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6p BSF (ALL)	29 9a Bible Study (L/Z) 10a Bridge Club (H) 7:30p Al-Anon (C)	30 1p Book Club (L) 3-4:30p Study Buddies (L) 6:30p Bells and Choir (S) 7-9p HOF (4)	31 6-10:30p HOF (S) 7:30-8:30p HOF (CR 2,4, Y) 8p AA (H)	



**2nd Mile” Giving for
January is:
*Church Campus
Beautification***

**BOOK OF LUKE
WED 9-10 AM IN THE LIBRARY
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED!!*



We are reading the book of Luke. Come join us in the Emanuel library 9 a.m. Wednesday. Call or email the church office at churchinfo@elclh.org to receive the Zoom link if you can not make it in person. All you need is a computer, tablet or smartphone.

**CHRIST IN OUR HOME
JAN/FEB/MAR NOW AVAILABLE**

This quarterly devotional resource 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. Booklets are available in the church entryway or office. Email churchinfo@elclh.org if you would like a copy mailed to you.



Bible Quiz

When 12-year-old Jesus stayed at the Jerusalem temple as Joseph and Mary started traveling home, after how many days did his parents find him?

- A. 1 day
- B. 2 days
- C. 3 days
- D. 7 days



ANSWER: C (Luke 2:46)

Kid's Korner

Puzzle!

Complete the maze to help people from all directions hear the good news. Then, starting at the N (north) and going clockwise, read John 3:16, NIV.



Puzzle!

Use the clues to fill in the blanks.
The only vowel used is the letter A.

- The mountain where Noah's ark rested (*Genesis 8:4*)

- Jacob's grandfather and Ishmael's father (*Genesis 18:1, NIV*)

- She sometimes laughed inappropriately. (*Genesis 18:12*)

- He had a talking donkey. (*Numbers 22:28*)

- This bird is both a color and a species. Did he come from the Islands?

- This can refer to a hat, canal, country or isthmus.

- The country with the largest area in the Western Hemisphere

- This animal is an early entry in the dictionary.

- A magician's exclamation

- A brand name for motorcycles and pianos

Answers: 1. Ararat, 2. Abraham, 3. Sarah, 4. Balaam, 5. Canary, 6. Panama, 7. Canada, 8. aardvark, 9. abracadabra, 10. Yamaha