



EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Building faith in the city

NEWS FROM EMMANUEL: DECEMBER 3, 2022

December 3, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Worship this Weekend

This weekend, Holy Communion will be offered in Worship on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

Each Sunday from 9:15-10:15 a.m., we offer a full education program with Sunday School for children from birth to grade 5, Confirmation classes for grades 6, 7, and 8, and High School Youth and Adult Bible classes.

Please note the following classroom changes:

Sixth Grade Confirmation: Room 103 (Mrs. Labahn's classroom)

Seventh Grade Confirmation: Room 101 (Mrs. Staub's classroom)

New Sunday Morning Bible Classes

•Facing the End of Life Faithfully

Facing the End of Life Faithfully explores the issues related to the legal, medical, Biblical, and theological aspects of faithful decision making at the end of life. Topics will include a survey of the trends today, the God-given value of life, advance directives, hospice and palliative care, withdrawing or refusing treatments, and devotional resources to assist us as we prepare for our own deaths. The class will be led by Pastor McFadden and meet through **Sunday, November 27-December 18**, 9:15-10:15 a.m., in the sanctuary.

•Sunday School for Grown-ups

This class will study the same Bible stories featured in our Sunday School program. *Sunday School for Grown-ups* is a great way for participants to learn the foundational stories of the Bible and for parents seeking ways to connect with their children through Scripture. The class is led by Pastor Mark Sheaffer and meets in Room 102, which is located in the middle level of the school.



Emmanuel Middle School Youth Christmas Party



Tomorrow, Sunday, December 4, 6-8th grade youth are invited to a Christmas party at Emmanuel! The event is in the Emmanuel gym from 5:30-7:30 p.m. We'll have food, games, and a silly gift exchange. We'll also be gathering items to support the Emmanuel food pantry. We'll be collecting the items listed below:

- Christmas cookies
- Cereal
- Oatmeal
- Pancake mix
- Syrup
- Peanut butter

So, bring an item for the pantry, a white elephant gift (silly, not expensive, can be something from your house), and come prepared for some Christmas fun. If you're unable to bring a gift or a food item, please still join us. We'll have some extra gifts just in case. Email Tommy Moll at tmollicus@gmail.com if you have any questions. We hope to see you there!

Washington School Santa Shop

There are many ways the members of Emmanuel can help make Christmas a little brighter for Washington School Students:

- Gift wrappers are needed on **Friday, December 16, then Monday-Wednesday (December 19–21)** noon to 3:00 p.m. each day. Please call or text Diane Witzeman at 260.249.1307 to volunteer to wrap gifts.
- This year Washington school is asking for donations of gifts for the children to buy for their families at their Santa Shop. These are \$1-\$5 gifts for men, women, boys, and girls. Gifts can be bought at The Dollar Tree, Dollar General, Darlington Holiday Warehouse, to name a few.
- Wrapping paper, tissue, gift tags, and bows are always needed.
- **Please bring your item(s) to the church no later than Monday, December 12.** There will be bins that are labeled "Washington School Santa Shop" in the Welcome Center and Ebenezer for your donations.

Emmanuel **has always** been a great support for this event for Washington's children. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Lutheran Witness

If you would like to subscribe to the *Lutheran Witness*, please call Becki at the church office at 260.423.1369, or email her at becki@emmanuelutheran.org. The cost is \$19. You can pay that through your contribution envelopes on the "other line" or you can drop your payment off at the church office. **Deadline for ordering is Monday, December 5.**

Advent at Emmanuel

We have begun a new Church Year with the penitential season of Advent. As we anticipate the celebration of God's greatest gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, our church family will prepare in many unique ways.



•Advent Devotionals

This year we will be using an Advent devotional from Lutheran Hour Ministries entitled, *A Son Is Given* to which you can subscribe [here](#).

•Family Advent Devotions

New this year, Ms. Liz, Director of Children's Ministry, will be posting weekly *Family Advent Devotions*. These weekly videos may be viewed at any point during each week of Advent. Families may gather together around an Advent wreath, watch the weekly video together, discuss the questions, and do an activity. Weekly videos will be posted [here](#) and on the Emmanuel app.

If you have any questions, feel free to email Ms. Liz at Lbejot@emmanuelutheran.org.

•Advent Morning Prayer

We will also be offering an opportunity for spiritual preparation by holding a morning prayer service Mondays through Fridays at 7:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. This brief service of the Word will provide us with time in God's Word and feature hymns, Scripture readings, and a time of spoken and silent prayer. Morning Prayer at Emmanuel will conclude around 7:45 a.m.

•Midweek Worship

Our next midweek Advent service is on **Wednesday, December 7**, at 7:00 p.m.

The **Emmanuel—St. Michael School Christmas Service** will be held, on **Wednesday, December 14**, at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., at Emmanuel.

Wednesday Playgroup

Meet up with Emmanuel parents, toddlers, babies, and preschoolers at local playgrounds on Wednesday mornings from 9:00-11:00 a.m. We will play, make friends, and encourage one another as Christian parents. Bring friends! We will meet **Wednesday, December 7 and 14**, in the church nursery. Text Laurie Stellwagen at 812.219.8423 to join the text group or ask questions.

Communion Services on Wednesdays

We offer a special service of Holy Communion on Wednesday mornings at 11:30 a.m. If you are unable to attend one of these special Communion services, and desire to receive the Sacrament, please contact the church office, 260.423.1369, to schedule a communion visit.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no 11:30 a.m. service on **Wednesday, December 14**, due to the Emmanuel—St. Michael School Christmas Service.

Lunch Bunch



Those around 60 or over are encouraged to join us for our annual Christmas communion service on **Tuesday, December 13**, at 11:00 a.m. The Early Childhood Children will be singing for us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Bev Williams will also be joining us to provide our musical accompaniment. Following the service, we will be served a special Christmas meal prepared for us by our favorite cook Tammy at a cost of \$9.00. This is payable the day of the lunch in the Lower Level of Ebenezer Hall. Our new Principal, Ben Stellwagen, will be our speaker.

Please call the church office at 260.423.1369 or stop by the Connections Counter in Ebenezer Hall **by Friday, December 9** to sign up for this event. You won't want to miss this special way to begin the Christmas season!

Christmas Sing-along

On **Sunday, December 18**, our organist Myra Schmidt and a few other Emmanuel musicians, will lead us in a preservice sing-along. The carols will begin 20 minutes before each service. Come early and sing loudly!

“Stars and Promises” Christmas Concert at Emmanuel

On **Thursday, December 22**, at 7:00 p.m., Emmanuel will welcome recording artist Peter Mayer and his band to our very own sanctuary for a special Christmas concert of traditional Christmas carols and original Christmas songs entitled, “Stars and Promises.” Watch the promotional video for “Stars and Promises” [here](#). Tickets for this unique performance may be purchased [here](#) through Eventbrite.



Mayer (the son of Lutheran missionaries) is a guitarist, vocalist, songwriter, touring musician, and recording artist. With his unique writing style, distinctive voice, and virtuoso musicianship, Mayer creates compelling and soulful music for an electrifying live performance. Mayer has released 25 albums to date and tours year-round with the Peter Mayer Group. He is also the lead guitarist in Jimmy Buffett's band. Learn more about him [here](#).

Emmanuel Member Ruth Nicolet Turns 100!

On **January 4**, our sister in Christ, Ruth Nicolet turns 100 years old. Please consider sending Ruth a card or note of blessing as part of an Emmanuel card shower for Ruth. If you'd like to participate, you can mail your well wishes to:

Ruth Nicolet 313-C
1601 S. Anthony Blvd.
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

Join the Meal Train!



As a part of our caregiving ministry, Emmanuel is using an online program to coordinate the giving of meals around significant life events like births, illnesses, or surgeries. A meal train takes the task of fixing dinner off the recipient's plate and demonstrates the support of the church community during hectic or challenging times.

Once a need is identified, a meal train will be established and an email will be sent to all participants. Specific dates, meal preferences, food allergies, and the best time and place to deliver a meal will be communicated. You simply select a date and specify the meal you would like to provide. You will even get an email reminding you that you have signed up to provide a meal. One of the benefits of using Meal Train is that you only respond when you are available to bring a meal.

Don't really like to cook or feel like you don't have the time? Meal Train also offers options like GrubHub, Door Dash, or gift certificates. Having pizza delivered is also a favorite for many families. Please click [here](#) to join Emmanuel's Meal Train!

Sermon Report Forms

In case your Confirmation or Concordia High School student forgets to bring a sermon report form to church, we have extras at the Connections Counter.

News from Emmanuel—St. Michael (ESM) School

Preschool:

- After reading the story *The Kindness Quilt*, preschoolers at the Union Campus met with their 8th grade buddies to create their own "Kindness Quilt" on which students were able to draw and list ways they can show kindness to others. Be sure to check it out in the lower level at the Union Campus.

- Preschoolers at the Getz Campus have been enjoying some outdoor learning experiences in the new outdoor learning space. Using medicine droppers with colored water is a wonderful way to create a masterpiece in the snow! Be sure to check out that space next time you are at St. Michael.

- December brings with it the themes of Gingerbread and Jesus' Birthday.

Exciting things happen every day in ESM preschool classrooms. If you would like to learn more, please contact Jennifer Ackmann at 260.422.6712 or at jackmann@esmeagles.com. Enrollment season will begin soon and we are expecting full preschool classes for the upcoming school year, so don't delay!



Preschool Enrollment

As a parent, we understand that no one knows your child's unique needs better than you. Finding a school that will reinforce the values you are instilling at home is crucial. Children at Emmanuel—St. Michael Lutheran Preschool play, learn, and actively explore God's world under the guidance of caring, dedicated staff. With TWO campuses and flexible program options, you'll be sure to find the right fit.

We invite you to join us on **Thursday, February 2, 2023, or Thursday, February 9, 2023, for our Preschool Information & Enrollment** sessions to get a clear picture of what ESM is all about. Learn more and register at www.esmeagles.com/earlychildhood/enrollment/early-childhood-open-house.

Kindergarten Enrollment

With so many schools in the area to choose from, making the decision about where your child will begin their education is easier said than done. We invite you to join us on **Wednesday, January 18, 2023, or Wednesday, February 15, 2023, for our Kindergarten Information & Enrollment Session** to get a clear picture of what ESM is all about.

With a long history of academic achievement, Emmanuel–St. Michael Lutheran School exceeds the standard for excellence of education in northeast Indiana. However, at ESM we hope to provide even more. At ESM, our deep commitment to investing in the whole family while also providing excellent academics ensures that your child will be prepared for their future calling, confident in who they are in Christ, and have a sense of community as they grow.

Learn more and register at www.esmeagles.com/enrollment/kindergarten-open-house.

News from CLHS

•Christmas at the Embassy



Join us for our annual Christmas at the Embassy concert at 4:00 p.m. on **Sunday, December 11**, at the Historic Embassy Theatre. Kick off the Christmas season with sounds from our bands, choirs, and orchestra students. It's a tradition that you won't want to miss! Tickets are \$12 for students/seniors and \$18 for general admission. Tickets are now on sale at Ticketmaster or the Embassy Box Office.

- Click [here](#) to view the annual report from CLHS.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Eggold and Pastor Sheaffer