



Good News

A Publication of Emanuel Lutheran Church
Volume XXXXIII No. 11
December 2018

**Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Emanuel's mission is to witness
to the good news of salvation through Christ to individuals, the community
and the world through discipleship and service.**

December Worship Schedule

- * **December 2** Worship at 9:00 a.m. (communion)
- * **December 9** Worship at 9:00 a.m. (communion)
- * **December 16** Worship at 9:00 a.m. Children's Program
- * **December 23** Worship at 9:00 a.m. Cantata
- * **December 24** Worship at 5:00 p.m. (communion)
 Worship at 10:30 p.m. (communion)
- * **December 25** Worship at 9:00 a.m. (communion)
- * **December 30** Worship at 9:00 a.m.



Caring Corner for December

Project: We Care “Angel Tree”



Once again for Christmas, we are “adopting” 50 kids from Project: We Care. Our “Angel Tree” will be located in the overflow area of the sanctuary. Decorated with paper angel “ornaments” which will be numbered to help with the sorting of gifts, each “angel” will list a boy or girl with the age or a family with the number of family members and a gift suggestion, taken from the family’s application form.

Please choose a gift that you are willing to buy, wrap, and “label” with that paper angel, and return it underneath the tree **no later than Wednesday, December 12**. Each child in the family will receive the same number of presents, and each family will receive a Chief gift card for a holiday meal.

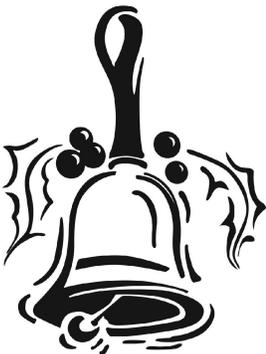
Please wrap your gift and “label” it by LIGHTLY attaching the angel. Any gift cards do not need to be wrapped; simply enclose in an envelope and “label” it with the angel. Please give these to Sue Schink, Julie Callaway, or to Maxine at the church office.

All “Angel Tree” gifts need to be brought to the church **by Wednesday, December 12**. Deliveries to the families will take place on Monday, December 17 (with Tuesday, December 18 as a back-up date!), and we will, of course, invite them to worship with us here at Emanuel at Christmas and always. If you would like to help with the deliveries (the really FUN part!), all such “Christmas Elves” are welcome – please see Sue, Julie or Maxine.

AND to further decorate our “Angel Tree”, we would like to invite everyone in our Emanuel Church family to donate socks or gloves to be distributed to those in need. You needn’t be a shopper; simply be a donor of socks or gloves for our “Angel Tree”.

Bless you for sharing the joy of CHRISTmas in this way!

Salvation Army Bell-Ringing



Please remember that the Salvation Army needs ringers for their red kettles at WalMart. Emanuel has volunteered for Thursday, November 29, with two-hour shifts from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board by the church office. This is a great opportunity for high school students that need community service. This campaign in Napoleon funds 83% of their assistance in Napoleon, Ridgeville, Hamler, Holgate, Malinta, and Florida, and more and more people are needing help. Start your Advent Season by preparing your heart for Christ in the world by helping with this effort.

Harvest Home de-decorating

"Thank you to those who helped provide decorations and helped decorate the chancel for fall. It looked beautiful! Please find your items in the chapel after the service on Sunday, November 25 or the following week as the church will be decorated for Christmas next."

-Phyllis Kloos

Thank You!

◆ Thank you so much to our Emanuel church family for all the cards, visits and expressions of sympathy at the time of Mom's death, along with memorials given in her honor. Also Thanks to Pastor for his help with the service, Angela for playing some of Mom's many favorite hymns, and the women who prepared and served the fellowship meal. Special thanks to Jack for tolling the bell 95 times. That is such an awesome tradition! A big part of Mom's legacy is her strong faith that grew over all her years spent at Emanuel, and that she shared with so many here by example and service. We were so blessed to have her, and we continue to be blessed to have this strong, caring church that is ALL OF YOU!

-Sincerely, the Family of Denelda Rohrs

◆ Thank you for allowing us to come to the community meal. Also thank you for letting us use the kitchen.

Teen Café

◆ People of God at Emanuel,

Thanking God for you and your thoughtfulness. Thank you for your wonderful hospitality and being such great hosts for the Fall Gathering in October. It was a joy and pleasure to work with you all.

Bless you! Bishop Daniel and Staff



Remember our members in nursing homes and assisted living facilities in your prayers and with cards, letters, and visits:

Lutheran Home (1036 S. Perry St., Napoleon)

Ed Peper

Kathlean Ward

Alpine Village (1032 S. Perry St., Napoleon)

Glenn Park Assisted Living (2429 William Diehl Ct, Defiance, OH 43512)

Miles Joseph -Rm 104

Laurels of Defiance (1701 S. Jefferson Ave. Defiance, OH 43512)

Van Crest Health Center (600 E Joe E Brown Ave, Holgate, OH 43527)

Alice Langenhop

Orchards of Northcrest (240 Northcrest Drive Napoleon, OH 43545)



Worship participants in December

Acolytes

9:00 Preston Speaks & Ashton Delaney
December 24 - 5:00 p.m.
Rudi Dachenhaus & Adara Hildebrandt
December 24 - 10:30 p.m.
Cale Perdew & Cameron Burken
December 25 - 9:00 a.m.
Preston Speaks & Ashton Delaney

Altar Guild

Maxine Eickhoff & Phyllis Kloos

Lay Assistant

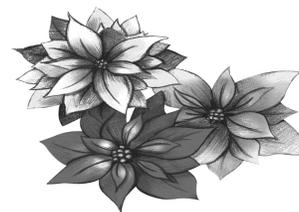
2, 9 Jack Robbins
16 Jamie Bostelman
23
30 Jamie Bostelman

Sound Board

9:00 ** NEEDED**

Please consider volunteering as lay assistants, sound board operators, and ushers for our worship services. The sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the narthex or call the church office. **WE NEED YOU!!!**

Altar Flowers



December 2 - Phyllis Wenner

December 9 - Ben & Judy Michaelis in memory of Leon Pauley

December 16 - Judy Demmel in memory of Neil Demmel

December 23 - Mary, Gretchen & Sam Wesche in memory of Greg Wesche & Orville Daman

December 30 - Steve & Phyllis in honor of their 45th wedding anniversary

Shirlee Mires-Fejes in memory of Phil, Nelson & Lisa

→ OPEN DATES IN JANUARY: January 6, 13, 20 ←

To reserve altar flowers... Sign up on the flower chart in the narthex or call the church office.

Be careful when you sign up for flowers so that it is clear which date you are reserving.

Our flowers are done by Ivy League Floral & Design Studio on West Washington Street. The cost is \$20. Make checks payable to Emanuel Lutheran Church. If you have *special* orders for your flowers (certain colors, a larger arrangement, etc.), please contact Cori Ratliff at Ivy League. If your order is beyond the \$20, please pay the shop directly.

Please put the used plastic containers in which the altar flowers come in Angela's office to be recycled.

(Flower vases.....please do not remove the white ceramic vases from the altar.)

Just a reminder....

When you have flowers on the altar, please don't forget to take them home after the worship service. If you have not picked them up they will be removed on Wednesday.

Notes from Angela

- Angela Tonjes

Choir

You all did an amazing job on All Saints' Sunday last month, and the Cantata was outstanding! Thank you for all your hard work.

The three Advent songs for Sunday, December 2 will be "Prepare Ye," "Listen Here, Listen Here," and "Christmas Grace." The Advent candle lighting song will be "God With Us, Emmanuel." Due to scheduling changes, the choir will not be singing on Sunday December 9.

We will be busy rehearsing on two Wednesdays, December 5 and 12, polishing the holiday music. Also, we will rehearse the two songs for Epiphany Sunday in January. NO practice on Wednesday, December 26.

All choir members are invited to the annual Christmas party on Wednesday, December 19 at 6:30 p.m. Tom and Beth Jenny have once again graciously offered to host this year. Please bring a potluck dish and your spouse/friend/children. We will sing at this evening gathering.

Christmas Cantata

The musicians of Emanuel will present their annual Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 23 at the 9:00 a.m. service. Entitled "Lead Us Back to Bethlehem," this cantata tells that Christmas story with music and spoken word. This is our Christmas worship to God, and a gift to our Emanuel family. We invite you to join us and bring a friend. Refreshments made by the choir will be served after worship.

Living Spirit

Thank you for providing the special music for the anniversary service in November, it was appropriate for the occasion and well performed!

There will be only one rehearsal for the month on Wednesday, December 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Living Spirit will be leading worship on Sunday, December 9 at the 9:00 a.m. service. All the liturgy and familiar Christmas hymns will be accompanied by various musical instruments for a mellow worship experience. The special song for December is the Pentatonix version of "O Come, All Ye Faithful." Emanuel, you don't want to miss this!

Emanubells

Thank you for the two beautiful numbers in November!

Emanubells will play two songs on Sunday, December 9 at the 9:00 a.m. service. One will be with harp, and the bells will enhance the mellow worship experience that day.

After School Club

The children, along with the Sunday School, did a wonderful job ringing and leading the pledge at the Veterans' Day service in November!

We are planning to go Christmas caroling and bell ringing in downtown Napoleon in December. Please make sure your child has warm clothes each Wednesday. No ASC on Wednesday, December 26 or Wednesday, January 2, as these fall within Napoleon Schools' Christmas break.

Community Band Concert

Mark your calendars for the Napoleon Community Band Concert on Monday, December 3rd, at 7:00 p.m. This event is held at Emanuel in the sanctuary, and the beautiful music will fill you with holiday cheer. Several musicians in the band are Emanuel members!

Advent

The season of Advent is the first season of the church year and in 2018 begins on Sunday, December 2. Advent consists of the four Sundays before Christmas. The word "advent" comes from a Latin word meaning "coming." During this special season, we prepare our hearts, minds, and spirits for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas.

Emanuel members will be lighting the blue Advent candles of hope, peace, love, and joy. The greenery of the wreath is an image of everlasting life, the crown of Jesus, and a victory wreath. Lighting candles in the winter season of growing darkness reminds us to let the light of Jesus shine through us for all to see.

Look for special liturgy parts and favorite songs of the season during worship.

Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to all who had a part in the Veterans' Day Cantata in November. To those who sang, played an instrument, rang bells, read lessons, gave a children's sermon, made cookies, participated in worship, wore patriotic colors, and attended church, I thank you. We have a musical congregation and a patriotic congregation, and we worship God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and voices.

I would also like to thank all the singers and ringers who provided music for the community Thanksgiving service held at Emanuel this year. We are grateful to you for taking the extra time and making the extra effort to share in the spirit of the holiday with other area churches.

The Tonjes family is blessed to be a part of this congregation. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and look forward to more music and praising God in 2019.

Let us have music for Christmas, sound the trumpet of joy and rebirth. Let each of us try, with a song in our hearts, to bring peace to men on earth.

-Mildred L. Jarrell

EMANUEL GOOD NEWS, a monthly publication of the Emanuel Lutheran Church
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Women of the ELCA President - Joan Collier
Prayer Chain Co-ordinator - Phyllis Kloos (419-260-6582 or phyllis_kloos@yahoo.com)
Worship & Music Coordinator/Organist - Angela Tonjes
Bell Choir Director - Bill Panning
Living Spirit Director - Holly Mohring, Angela Tonjes
Parish Secretary - Maxine Eickhoff
Sunday School Superintendent -
Altar Guild Chairman - Barbara Hoffman
Custodian - Janitor Jack

WELCA News

"Open Our Hearts to Friendships That Share Faith"

● ***You Are Invited!***

The WELCA December meeting will feature a presentation by Ellie Cichocki and her participation in "Bugles Across America" honoring our military veterans. The meeting will take place Tuesday, December 4, 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited: ladies and gentlemen as well as children that may have an interest. More information will follow in the Sunday bulletins.

● ***November Thankoffering Service***

The WELCA annual thankoffering service will be held at the Sunday, November 25th, worship service. Thankoffering envelopes will be available at both entrances.

The WELCA officers for 2019 will also be installed at this service.

● ***Mission Action***

In October, thirty-five school kits/book bags and eleven personal care kits were delivered to Lutheran World Relief. This project was coordinated by Betty Mowery. A big thank you to Betty and to all who contributed to the kits.

● ***December Bible Study at Our Circle Meetings***

This year's Advent devotional, "Fear Not", by Rev. Katie Hines-Shah, pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Hinsdale, IL, will focus on how this often repeated phrase in the Bible provides comfort to those who hear it. Rev. Hines-Shah helps us begin to see that the Christmas story is also the story of life in faith.

● ***Thought for the Month***

Romans 12:12

Be joyful in hope,
 patient in affliction,
 faithful in prayer.

2018 Church Council

President - Ron Wiechers

President-Elect - Ed Biederstedt

Secretary - Lorelee Jones

Treasurer - Julie Kohout

Doctrine & Worship Board - Betty Mowery & Ronnie Rohrs

Congregational Life Board - Sue Schink & Julie Callaway

Board of Education - Julie Mt.Castle & Amanda Dilbone

Properties Board - Marv Mt.Castle & Carey Plummer

Finance Board - Maxine Eickhoff & Kelli Burkhardt