



Emanuel's Lutheran Church
308 North First Street
Seguin, Texas 78155

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Emanuel's Mission Statement

To proclaim God's grace through Word and Sacrament, and to bear witness to God's Kingdom in our daily lives.

Get in touch with us!

Phone:
(830) 379-5046

Fax:
(830) 379-7518

E-mail:
info@emanuels-seguin.org

Catch us on the Web!
www.emanuels-seguin.org



Worship Services
8:00 a.m.
&
10:30 a.m.

Congregational Leadership

Worship Services & Events

Staff

Pastor	The Rev. Paul J. Zwarich
Hospital Visitation Pastor in San Antonio	The Rev. Darwin Huartson
Director of Music & Worship	Thomas Engler
Congregation Life & Mission Coordinator	Jim Johnson
Administrative Assistant	Jeannie Hall
Desktop Publisher/Secretary	Bonnie Cheatham
Day School Director	Burlene LeClair
Nursery Coordinator	Heidi Koepsel
Wedding Coordinator	Dee Dee Burns

Congregation Council

Natalie Alexander	Evelyn Dittmar
Deb Haug	Pat Hoppe
Denise Hufnagl	Brian Jones
Roland Naumann	Ronald Naumann
Christa Nichols	Jeanne Palmer
Dennis Sagebiel	Keith Vinyard

January 4, 2009	8:00 and 10:30 am Worship Service/ Hunger Sunday/ Holy Communion/ 9:15 am Adult Sunday School/ Confirmation Class 10:30 am Council Members Installed
January 6, 2009	7:00 pm Epiphany of Our Lord/ Followed by forkless potluck
January 11, 2009	8:00 and 10:30 am Worship Service /Holy Communion 9:15 am Sunday School/ Confirmation Class 10:30 am WELCA Installed
January 18, 2009	8:00 and 10:30 am Worship Service/Holy Communion 9:15 am Sunday School/ Confirmation Class 12:15 pm Singles Food, Fun & Fellowship
January 25, 2009	8:00 and 10:30 am Worship Service/ Holy Communion 9:15 am Sunday School/ Confirmation Class

From the Desk of Pastor Paul

As the world around us enters into a New Year, the church finds itself entering into the season of Epiphany. While Epiphany does not have the excitement of Christmas or Easter, the somber appeal of Lent, or even a significant impact on our economy such as special shopping days, it is an important time for the church. The word "epiphany" comes from the Greek and means, "to manifest," or "to reveal". The season itself focuses on the revealing or manifesting of God's glory in creation through Jesus Christ.

On January 6 Christians celebrate the Festival of Epiphany in commemoration of God's revelation to the Magi, by the Epiphany Star, that Jesus was the Son of God who had come in the flesh. Jesus Christ revealed the love of God for sinful humanity through His incarnation, life, death, resurrection, and ascension. He conquered sin, death, and hell and provided salvation for all who believe.

The clear focus of this season is one of mission. God's mission is evident in the sending of the Son of God in human flesh to conquer and overcome sin for all people. This mission is revealed to us throughout Epiphany. And this mission of God in Jesus Christ is our mission. We are called to reveal Jesus Christ to a fallen, sinful world. How do we at Emanuel's reveal or manifest the love of God in Christ Jesus to the people of Seguin? Are there ways that we might do this more faithfully? We must ask ourselves these questions and focus our attention on this mission during the upcoming year.

One important theme from the Long Range Planning Committee that I took note of was the underlying message that Emanuel's must work on being a "mission outpost" and reach out to our community rather than spending the bulk of our time and energy on ourselves. It is my prayer that we might understand ourselves as a "mission outpost", reaching out to people outside of our congregation.

I do not doubt that God has placed us here in this time and place for the sole purpose of revealing His love in Christ. We are called to manifest Christ's love to our community through word and deed and invite them into our community where Christ's grace and forgiveness is made known in Word and Sacrament. Let us pray this Epiphany that the Holy Spirit would graciously lead us to better manifest the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ in our lives and worship for the sake of other people.

See You In Church

Pastor Paul

Financial News

Comparative Financial Report – November 30, 2008

Assets & Liabilities At November 30

Assets:	2007	2008
Money Market Funds	238,093	235,287
Less: Borrowings Against Money Market Funds to Support Operating Shortfalls	(95,565)	(79,984)
Net Remaining Money Market Funds *	142,527	155,303
Endowment Funds	370,051	369,988
Total Assets	512,578	525,291
Liabilities:		
Current Cash Deficit	5,282	5,171
Loan at Mission Plus for A/C & Heating Unit	-	-
Loan at Mission Plus for Alexander Property	45,823	-
Total Liabilities	51,105	5,171
Net Assets	\$ 461,473	\$ 520,120
Increase/Decrease in Net Assets		\$ 58,646

Income Statement Through November 30

	2007	2008
Operating Income	413,596	421,943
Operating Expenses	434,894	433,279
Net Operating Loss	\$ (21,298)	\$ (11,336)

** Note - For clearer disclosure Money Market Funds used to finance church operations due to shortfalls in giving are shown netted against the original amount of Money Market Funds. Thus "Net Remaining Money Market Funds" are the actual amount of funds remaining on deposit with the bank as of that respective date.*

Lectionary Readings for January 2009

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
January 4	Jer 31:7-14	Psalm 147:12-20	Eph 1:3-14	John 1:[1-9] 10-18
January 6	Isa 60:1-6	Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14	Eph 3:1-12	Matt 2:1-12
January 11	Gen 1:1-5	Psalm 29	Acts 19:1-7	Mark 1:4-11
January 18	1 Sam 3:1-10[11-20]	Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18	1 Cor 6:12-20	John 1:43-51
January 25	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Psalm 62:5-12	1 Cor 7:29-31	Mark 1:14-20

Sunday School

Adult Sunday School

Everyone is most welcome to join one of the three and sometimes four adult classes being held during the Sunday School hour each week. The Men's and Women's Bible study classes will continue studying the winter topic in the Augsburg Bible Series "Human Commitment". Evelyn Streng will lead the women's group and Dennis Sagebiel, the men's. On January 4 the Covenant Class will preview "The Book of Faith" using an article in the "Lutheran Women Today" magazine. On Jan 11, 18, and 25 Tom Engler will lead the class in a study of liturgical themes.

Winter Class at night-

A suggestion has been made to begin another study class at night as we did last year. One suggestion I've received is a study of Bonhoeffer. Please contact me to share your interests in a topic of the Bible, topic of daily life, a study of a book of the Bible, etc.

Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. Pastor Paul leads a Bible study each week concentrating on a particular book of the Bible.

Epiphany Celebration on Jan. 6 This is an opportunity to participate in an interactive program to learn more about Epiphany.

Women's Circles each month three Circles offer an opportunity for a Bible study.

Book of Faith

This is a study on Lutheran Insights for Bible Study recommended by our Synod for every congregation. When materials have been completed you will hear more about implementing this at Emanuel's. This will probably be in the summer or fall.

Seniorfest 2009 on Feb. 7

This is a one day opportunity to hear an outstanding speaker Dr. Maier on the topic of the early church and today's world. Toll road 130 is now a comfortable drive from Lockhart all the way to Georgetown with little traffic. Put this date on your calendar.

Educational opportunities abound at Emanuel's.

Virginia Balter

NOTICE

There will not be Sunday School classes for children age 2 – 6th grade on December 28 and January 4. After this little Winter Break, we look forward to seeing everyone on January 11.

Confirmation classes will continue to meet every Sunday morning.



Emanuel's beehive on its way out!

Workers from Biz-zz-Bee Farms removed approximately 40 pounds of honey comb from our organ loft wall on Monday, December 15. Mr. Gary, Biz-zz-Bee Farms owner, said he was able to reach 90 percent of the comb. The rest will be carried away by robber bees. Structural repairs will be completed in January. Now hopefully, Tom will not have to swat bees while playing the organ.



Day School



Ringling in the New Year isn't half as fun at the Day School as ringing out the old year. Although the teachers made sure that academics were not put entirely on hold, the students were busy decorating their classrooms, making gifts for loved ones, and practicing for the annual Christmas Program. As I reflect upon the season, I realize what a wonderful learning experience it was for the children. By decorating and making gifts, they not only developed creativity and dexterity in drawing and cutting, but they also experienced the joy of giving and pride in their own accomplishments. This was the second year that we not only sang Christmas songs for the Christmas Program; we also put on a play. It was a play entitled, Why We Celebrate Christmas, which ended up being a reading by me as the children acted out the story saying only a few lines. (They are only 3 - 5 years old) Ms. Janz and Ms. Hope were the 'guiding angels' of the play, getting the children where they needed to be. We were pleasantly surprised at how well the children acted out the first Christmas after rather doubtful practices. I realized the significance of doing the play when my grandson, in his own words, told me all about the first Christmas, using the Nativity Scene in his classroom. Of course he did dwell upon the donkey in the scene since that was his character in the play. ☺ I'm positive that every child in that presentation knows why we celebrate Christmas. Therefore, after a year's rest, Ms. Janz and I will probably do it again.

The staff and I wish you a Happy New Year!

Burlene LeClair, Director

Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid Christmas luncheon was held on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 in the Fellowship Hall with eighty eight members and guests present. After a welcome by the President, Velma Huebner, Pastor Paul had an opening prayer. The Emanuel's Day School entertained the group with Christmas Songs.

A delicious turkey dinner with all the trimmings was served. Velma introduced the head table. Mary Margaret Bobo, program chairperson, presented the program on the Birth of Jesus, The group sang several Christmas Carols accompanied by Tom Engler.

The office staff, custodial staff, property stewards, Seguin Gazette representatives and Seguin Daily, the poet were recognized. Monetary gifts were presented to Pastor Paul and the office staff, and custodians. Velma was also presented a token of appreciation.

The ladies who made all the coffee cakes were recognized along with the quilters. The quilt raffle was won by Velma Reininger.

Attendance prizes were won by Albert Lindemann, Lorene Schievelbein, Lorene Schraub, Kathy Haberle, Roy Hairr, Estelle Illhardt, Cliff Micheli, Tom Engler, Don Effenberger, Katherine Braulick, Francine Pidgeon, Dorothy Donsbach, Nelson Erxleben, Profirio De Leon, Tom Hall, Hughlene Michele, Evelyn Streng, Verlin Schubert, Barbara Effenberger, Barbara Moravietz, C. O. Meyer, Pastor Paul, Lenore Mielke.

The luncheon closed with a prayer by Pastor Paul.

Sincerely,
Velma Huebner
President

Meetings

Faith Circle

Thursday, January 8, 2009
Hostess: Marika Bordes
Bible Study Leader: Jeanne Palmer

Joy Circle

Thursday, January 8, 2009
Hostess: Esther Beck
Bible Study Leader: Rhoda Oestreich

Dorcas Circle

Thursday, January 8, 2009
Hostesses: Annie Boecker, Evelyn Friedeck
Bible Study Leader: Jane Forman

Altar Guild

No Meeting in January

Ladies Aid

Wednesday, January 7, 2009 2:00 PM
Hostesses are Estelle Illhardt and Nola Kleinschmidt

WELCA

Installation Service for Leaders in Emanuel's Lutheran Church Women

There will be an installation service for officers of Women of ELCA (including Circles), Ladies Aid, and Altar Guild at the 10:30 worship services on Sunday, January 11.

Emanuel's Lutheran Church Women Coordinating Council Meeting

Officers of Women of ELCA, Circle Chairman, Ladies Aid President, and Altar Guild Co-Presidents comprise the Coordinating Council. We will meet on Wednesday, January 14 at 5:30 in the Women's Ministry Room. The agenda includes a review of events scheduled for the first quarter of 2009 and any other business brought by the members. It is important that each organization has representation at this meeting.

Women of ELCA General Meeting

Women of ELCA will hold its biannual general meeting on Wednesday, January 28, at noon, in the Women's Ministry Room. Bring your favorite food—it's a potluck lunch. The business agenda includes adopting the budget, calendar and projects proposed by the Coordinating Council for 2009. We will also elect our delegate and alternate delegate to the Synodical Women's Convention in August. Check future Sunday bulletins for the program.

Thank You

A big thank you to all of those who participated in the "Gifts for the King" project. The gifts which included baby diapers and wipes, books, toys, toiletries, household cleaning supplies, etc. were delivered to the Department of Child Protective Services on December 9. The donated items are given to families served by the department on a need basis. We also want to thank Estelle Illhardt, Chairman of Mission Community, for heading up this project.

Synod Office

More volunteers are needed at the Lutheran Ministry Center Synod Office located on the TLU Campus. Volunteers serve as receptionist, with mailings, and similar office tasks when needed. Contact Barbara Effenberger (379-5290) She keeps a list of volunteers and calls on them approximately once a month as needed.

A Prayer Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that I receive; it is in pardoning that I am pardoned; and it is in dying that I am born to eternal life.

INFORMATION AND DATES

ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN OLDER ADULTS

SeniorFest 2009

Christ Lutheran Church
510 Luther Drive Georgetown, Tx 78628
February 7, 2009
9:00 am to 3:45 pm
Back to the Future

Dr. Paul L. Maier is the keynote speaker
Christianity: The First Three Centuries
Exploring the parallels between the early Christian
church and today's world.

Registration forms are in the church office.

Early registration is \$25 per person after
January 25, 2009 registration fee is \$30 per person



NOTICE

The Church Staff meets every Tuesday from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The phone will be set so that you can leave us a voice message, and we can respond when we are done.



STRENGTHENING FAITH THROUGH
FOOD, FUN & FELLOWSHIP OF SINGLES
Sunday, January 15th at 12:15 pm
Kettle Restaurant at 1546 N. Hwy 46 in Seguin
Contact Donna Simmons for more information
at 830-372-3688



DEADLINES

Information must be in the office by 8:00 am
Tuesday, mornings for bulletins.
Newsletter information must be in the office by the
15th of each month.

St John's Lutheran Church and Day School,
502 E Nueva St. in downtown San Antonio,
will host the Smart Discipline Program for
Parents on Thursday, January 22 in the
Memorial Hall. Cost is \$12.50 for materials
and the class runs from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. All
are invited.

"Working Wednesdays"

January 7, 2009	6:15 pm	Executive Council
January 14, 2009	6:15 pm	Congregation Council
January 21, 2009	6:30 pm	All Committee Night



If you need to reach the church Sunday mornings during
worship service, please call the church phone number
(830) 379-5046
and after the recording please dial extension 214. This phone
will ring in the usher's room in the Narthex.

THANK YOU!

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Texas Lutheran University, I want to thank you for the gift of \$280.00. Your continuing support of the Congregational Aid Program makes a difference – helping TLU prepare a new generation of leaders for service in the world.

Only through the generosity of donors like you can Texas Lutheran continue to provide this vital community of faith and learning – this wonderful place where students thrive, mature and go forth to serve the common good.

Thank you again for your contribution and your partnership with Texas Lutheran University. Together, we are making a difference in the world.

Sincerely,
Ann M. Svennungsen President

To Ladies Aid

I would like to thank you for the Christmas gift and meal on December 3, 2008. I would also like to thank the ladies for all your home visits during the year and the ministry that you do so well here at Emanuel's. May the Lord fill Ladies Aid with His Spirit in 2009.

Pastor Paul

Emanuel's Members and Friends

A special thank you to everyone who donated items to the Ladies Aid Bazaar. Also I want to thank everyone who worked and helped make the Bazaar a success. We appreciate all you do for us.

Ladies Aid
Velma

My parents/ caregivers and I would like to thank you for the holiday meals that were delivered to us last Saturday. They were delicious and so convenient. Thank you again for thinking of us. Have a wonderful holiday season.
Charlene Green

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS

MONTHLY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

This group will meet the third Sunday of every month from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. At Guadalupe Regional Medical Center Teaching Center Small Classroom next to Outpatient Lab.

Chaplains from GRMC Department of Pastoral Care and GRMC Hospice services will facilitate a grief support group that is open to anyone in the public that has suffered the loss of a loved one. It will be an open discussion format where those seeking grief support can come and find care and concern.

QUARTERLY BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM

Programs will be offered Quarterly in cooperation with GRMC Hospice Service, GRMC Department of Pastoral Care and the South Texas Blood and Tissue Center.

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE

Meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 pm each month in the Women's Ministry Room at Emanuel's. This is led by Lester Larson.

Our Congregation



The Families of

Dr. Ronald Caffey
(brother of Burlene LeClair)

Our Members in the Military



Jarett Carroll, Sean Ellis, Darrell McCall,
Michael Sullivan and Derek Schulz

Prayers requested Members

*Lenroe & Ann Beicker, Herbert Bierstedt,
Evelyn Doege, Evelyn Engelke,
Russell Franks, Violet Hart,
Ethel Huggins, Georgette Hawkins,
Denise Hufnagl, Alpha Heider,
Hilda Herbold, Elizabeth Johnson,
Walter Koepf, Beth Lange,
Laura Merz, Carrie Moseley,
Hildegard Oehler, Jo Emily Prochnow,
Erlene Sanders, Grace Saeger,
Bob & Sara Stillens,
Jeannine Schwartz,
Herman "Cowboy" Schulz
Marie Grace Schroeder,
and Jim Vordenbaum*

Friends & Family

*Joy Alexander, Mildred Blay,
Walter Bargfrede, David Beck,
Susie Castillo, Ralph Doran,
Donna Ethridge, David Eubanks,
Julius Guzman, La Donna Jones,
Robert Johnson, Kathy Johnson Klaehn,
Bonnie Long, Linda Mosley, Leroy Micheli,
Lettie Morgan, Jo Anne McAnally,
Terilyn Nash, Jan Rushlow,
Justin Rokohl, Robert Shannon,
Garrett Sellars, Seth Schonert,
Lillian Sadowski, Ashley Turbeville,
and Jim Van Rosendael*

WELCOME HOLY BAPTISM

Rebecca Schulz
and
Kasaundra Schulz

December 25, 2008

