



Emanuel's Lutheran Church  
206 North Travis 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  
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[info@emanuels-seguin.org](mailto:info@emanuels-seguin.org)

**Catch us on the Web!**  
[www.emanuels-seguin.org](http://www.emanuels-seguin.org)

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

**Congregational Leadership**

Staff

Pastor	The Rev. Paul J. Zwarich
Hospital Visitation Pastor in San Antonio	The Rev. Darwin Huartson
Pastoral Assistant	Willie Spreen
Director of Music & Worship	Thomas Engler
Administrative Assistant	Jeannie Hall
Director of Youth & Family Ministries	Ariel Williams
Receptionist/Office Secretary	Bonnie Cheatham
Day School Director	Burlene LeClair
Nursery Coordinator	Heidi Koepsel
Wedding Coordinator	Dee Dee Burns
Congregation Council	
Deborah Almquist	Natalie Alexander (Vice-President)
John Baumann (Treasurer)	Evelyn Dittmar (Secretary)
Lee Jahns	Toni Ludzenski
Roland Naumann	Ronald Naumann (President)
Christa Nichols	Jeanne Palmer
Donna Raetzsch	Aaron Seidenberger

**Worship Services & Events**

December 4, 2011 8:00 & 10:30 am Second Sunday in Advent/  
Gifts for the King/Holy Communion/  
Hunger Sunday  
9:15 am Sunday School/Confirmation Class  
11:30 am Annual Church Meeting

December 11, 2011 8:00 & 10:30 am Third Sunday in Advent/  
Holy Communion  
9:15 am Sunday School/Confirmation Class  
2:00 pm Singles Food, Fun and Fellowship

December 15 2011 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!

December 18, 2011 8:00 & 10:30 am Fourth Sunday in Advent/  
Holy Communion  
9:15 am Sunday School/Confirmation Class  
11:30 am Decking the Halls  
3:00 pm Caroling

December 24, 2011 2:30 pm Worship Service/Holy Communion  
7:00 pm Family Christmas Program and  
Candlelighting  
11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service of Holy  
Communion with Candlelighting

December 25, 2011 9:30 am Christmas Day/Holy Communion

## From the Pastor

Every year it seems Christmas lights go up a little bit earlier and Christmas merchandize in the stores is available to be purchased earlier and earlier. I often find myself asking "Can't we just get through Thanksgiving first?" I have heard people lament at how commercialized and materialistic the Christmas Season has become. People have communicated to me how disappointed they are that "Black Friday" has become more important than "Good Friday" and that hitting the stores at the right time has become more important than being in Church at the right time. At times it does seem that Christ's birth is no longer the reason that we celebrate Christmas anymore.

So what should we do?

The Advent and Christmas Season is such a rich and wonderful season. There are many traditions and activities that you can observe in your home that will help you and your family experience the full meaning of the season. You could display an advent wreath and light the candles each evening during Advent as a daily reminder of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the light of the world. You could put up an Advent calendar and open a window each day to reveal a verse or a picture that helps explain the significance of Advent and prepares us to celebrate Christ's birth.

One easy way to remember Advent in your home is to remember and teach the significance of our Christmas traditions. Why do we put up a Christmas tree? Why do we decorate our trees and our homes with lights? Why do we buy all these gifts at Christmas? You can use each tradition to prepare yourself for Jesus Christ whose coming we celebrate and wait for during Advent.

Another way to bring back Advent and Christmas is to take time daily for devotions at home. Spend some time each day to read the Bible, sing a favorite Advent or Christmas hymn, and to pray. Without a doubt, you will find that your hearts will be reminded, comforted and encouraged by the peace and hope of Jesus Christ.

As we celebrate Advent and the Christmas Season together this year at Emanuel's Lutheran Church, remember to bring the Advent celebrations to your homes as well. Rejoice in Christ's coming as a baby in Bethlehem, in His coming now in Word and Sacrament, and in His coming again in glory on the last day. It is my prayer that you will have a Merry and Blessed Advent and Christmas Season this Year.

*Pastor Paul*



Emanuel's Lutheran Church  
**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
is set for  
**Sunday, December 4, 2011**  
at 11:30 a.m.

Dear Members of the Congregation,  
On behalf of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church,  
thank you for your generous gift of \$1850.00.

Your commitment to helping the victims of the  
Bastrop Fires, Labor Day week, 2011, in our  
community is sincerely appreciated.

Thanks again for your generous support of our  
efforts to provide relief and assistance to the  
people of Bastrop County.

Your Brother in Christ,

The Rev. Charles R. Holm-Roeseler  
Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran church

Dear Friends in Christ,

Your sisters and brothers in faith gratefully  
acknowledge your generous financial gift to the  
Bastrop Fire Fund of Good Shepherd Lutheran  
Church, Bastrop, TX. As you may know, six families  
of Good Shepherd lost their homes and  
possessions in the fires of September 2011.  
Several other GSLC families were forced to  
evacuate and their return home has been varied  
and sometimes difficult at best. These two groups  
of people will benefit from these funds.

Your Brother in Christ,

The Rev. Charles R. Holm-Roeseler  
Pastor, Good Shepherd Lutheran church

Emanuel's family and friends,  
A big thank you goes out to all who diligently gave  
their time, services and donated items for the  
bazaar. It was a success!  
Thanks to all the hard work that everyone did, we  
couldn't have done this without you. All efforts are  
appreciated.

Velma Huebner  
Ladies Aid President

Thank you for your recent gift of \$405.00 to ELCA Disaster Response.  
Your gift means the church can continue to respond efficiently and  
effectively to disasters that have already occurred and can stand ready  
for those that may come in the future.

The Rev. Daniel Rift  
Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

Salvation Army – Seguin Unit  
We express our gratitude for your  
generous gift each month to assist  
those in need.

## Thank You!!



I want to thank all of you, and many more for whom I have no address!, for your participation in and support of the Polka Service, the Social Concerns Committee and the Christian Cupboard last night. The service was its usual craziness, food delicious, entertainment fun and the crowd appreciative. A lot of hard work went into that event from many different directions to make it such a success. Tom, please thank all of the musicians who played in the service; Ariel, the students who helped take down and put away decorations, Pastor Paul and your office staff for the bulletins, bookkeeping and service; to Ron, Natalie and Wayne and a host of others who helped clean up, and most of all, to Gary, Maxine, Debbie, Pat, Elaine, Frank, Lee, Beth, Elroy, Mike, Randy, the "dessert makers", and Gene (especially for dancing with me!), for putting on that terrific meal - as you do so faithfully every year. You're a great crew to work with. I had some "unchurched" neighbors and their two children visit for the first time last night and they said that was the most fun they had ever had at a church event. That warm "Welcome to Emanuel's" is due to each and every one of you and the time you gave in serving a very important ministry in our community.

Thanks again to all of you.

May the Peace of the Lord be with you all,  
Deb

P.S. I am sure that even more people than mentioned above played a part in the success of our service and supper last night. If I left your name off the list, I apologize profusely.....I couldn't keep up with all of the great helpers we had!

## Music and Worship

By Tom Engler, Director of Music and Worship

I am about to enter my 33<sup>rd</sup> Christmas Season with you at Emanuel's. Simultaneously, I am about to enter my 50<sup>th</sup> Christmas Season as a church musician if you count other posts I have held since age nine. As usual, the wonderful and magical feelings are beginning to percolate inside my soul as those of us in the music ministry prepare to serve up to you the many musical compositions that we have selected for the season. It's like magic. Let me take this opportunity to invite you to the many worship events here at Emanuel's during the next month or so.

There are four Sundays of Advent, the season which precedes Christmas. There is a lot of green and blue on display. The green reminds us of the everlasting faithfulness of God for his people. We sing "O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree..." The color blue reminds us of hope -- hope in God's promise of salvation even as we walk in the darkness of this sinful world. Come to the fellowship hall during the Sunday School hour on November 27 and make an Advent wreath, then take it to the front of the nave during the 10.30 service so that it, and all the other greens, can receive a blessing. The large wreaths on the front door, the walls and the Advent Wreath in the chancel area are dressed in blue. Some may choose purple, the color of royalty. On the fourth Sunday of Advent, stay briefly after the 10.30 service and help convert the nave and the chancel area to Christmas color motifs -- the red, reminiscent of Christ's blood shed for us on the cross, white symbolizing Christ's purity of heart and, of course, faithful green. The scene is set for our joyful outburst of "Glory to God in the highest, and peace to all on Earth."

There will be four midweek worship events this year. These will be held on Tuesdays during the noon hour. Each short service is followed by a soup and sandwich lunch in the fellowship hall. Come. Relax and have lunch with us following a short service of singing, meditations on Advent themes and season music.

On Christmas Eve there will be three worship events. Holy Communion will be celebrated at 2.30 and at 11PM. The Sunday School will present its program at the 7PM service. Both of the evening services will feature candle lighting. Christmas Day in Sunday this year and there will be only one service on that day at 9.30 AM. Holy Communion will be celebrated at that service.

There is something here at Emanuel's for all who desire something of quality and beauty. Avail yourselves of the serenity and the quiet glow of joyful expectation.

JOY TO THE WORLD! THE LORD IS COME! LET EARTH RECEIVE ITS KING.  
LET EVERY HEART PREPARE HIM ROOM AND HEAVEN AND NATURE SING.

Best wishes for this most beautiful of liturgical seasons.

### Lectionary Readings for December 2011

Date	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
December 4	Isaiah 40:1-11	Psalm 85:1-2,8-13	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Mark 1:1-8
December 11	Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11	Psalm 126	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	John 1:6-8,19-28
December 18	2 Samuel 7:1-11,16	Psalm 89:1-4,19-26	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38
December 24	Isaiah 9:2-7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11-14	Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]
December 25	Isaiah 62:6-12	Psalm 97	Titus 3:4-7	Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

## From the Desk of Pastor Craig

To the family of Emanuel's – Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

In this season of thanksgiving and preparation, please accept my thanks for your warmth and welcome extended to both Pam and me in this transitional time in our lives. And I know that God is also using this time to prepare us for the next step in our faith journey, wherever that may be.

I cannot replace Willie, but I am having fun doing my 'casual' impersonation of him – at least in being present at some of the ministry opportunities that he is doing in your name around the Seguin community. It is a powerful statement of love and grace that you as a congregation make in offering monthly devotional and worship services in seven care facilities in Seguin.

In the Gospels, Jesus talks often of the "L" people – including among others the *lost, last, lonely, least, lame and lepers* – too often outcast and forgotten. Sadly in our culture, there are residents in these care facilities that are "L" people. Because of that, I am delighted that I can partner with you during Willie's recovery to make these visits to share the Good News of Christ.

May you always be willing partners with God in the awesome kingdom work that you are invited to do. It truly is "God's work. Our hands."

Blessings to you now, and always!

Your brother in Christ,

† Pr. Craig Sagebiel

## Ladies Aid Report

By Velma Huebner, President

Twenty one members and Pastor Paul were present for the November 2, 2011 Ladies Aid meeting. The ladies made 53 visits to the home-bound and shut-ins during the month of November.

The meeting was opened with a welcome and prayer by Velma Huebner. Pastor Paul presented the bible study on Mark 4:1-9 "Mystery is the balance in Christian Faith"

Vice President, Ann Erxleben gave the birthdays for November, and the group sang "A Glad and Happy Birthday". Sectary Beulah Reiley read the minutes of the October meeting, which were approved as read.

Maxine Hollub is still taking reservations for those who want to attend the Christmas Luncheon on December 7. Treasurer, Judy Campbell gave her report. Coffee cakes are selling well. All loose ends were readied for the bazaar on November 8, 2011.

Bingo Parties were held at Nesbit with Nola Kleinschmidt, Lorene Schraub and Dorothy Donsbach, also at Windsor with Mary Margaret Bobo, Dorothy Schievelbein and Judy Campbell.

Beulah Reiley, Myrtle Huebinger and Mary Margaret hosted a bingo at Hacienda Oaks and on December 1, 2011 Myrtle Huebinger, Mary Margaret and Evelyn Neumann will be at Remarkable to host their bingo.

Standing committee reports were heard. Hostesses for November were Maxine Hollub and Kathleen Boeder. Ladies Aid officers are the hostesses for the Christmas luncheon.

Thanks go to the Property Stewards, Pastor Paul, Frances and the hostesses for today.

Reminders for the November 8 bazaar and Festival of Thanksgiving on Tuesday, November 22 at Emanuel's with 12 local churches participating.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and singing "God Be with You 'Tell We Meet Again".



## 'TIS THE SEASON AT EMANUEL'S



### *Sunday Services*

Sunday, November 27, 2011

*The First Sunday of Advent  
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

*Worship Services with Holy Communion  
Blessing the Greens*

*9:15 a.m. Make an Advent Wreath for your home!*

Sunday, December 4, 2011

*The Second Sunday of Advent  
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

*Worship Services with Holy Communion  
Gifts for the King Sunday*

Sunday, December 11, 2011

*The Third Sunday of Advent  
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

*Worship Services with Holy Communion*

Sunday, December 18, 2011

*The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

*Worship Services with Holy Communion  
After Service: Decking the Halls Fellowship  
3:00 p.m. Caroling and Refreshments*

Sunday, January 1, 2012

*The First Sunday after Christmas  
Nine Readings & Carols  
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.*

*Worship Service with Holy Communion*

### *Midweek Advent Services*

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

*12:05-12:35 p.m. Advent Service followed by lunch*

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

*12:05-12:35 p.m. Advent Service followed by lunch*

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

*12:05 - 12:35 p.m. Advent Service followed by lunch*

Tuesday, December 20, 2011

*12:05 - 12:35 p.m. Advent Service followed by lunch*



### *Christmas Services*

Saturday, December 24, 2011

*2:30 p.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion*

*Light refreshments to follow*

*7:00 p.m. Family Christmas Service  
Children's Christmas Program  
and Candlelighting*

*11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service of  
Holy Communion with Candlelighting*

Sunday, December 25, 2011

*9:30 a.m. Christmas Day Service with  
Holy Communion*



**HELP SPREAD THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS** Saturday, December 3, 2011, members of Emanuel's Lutheran Church will deliver delicious hot turkey dinners to our members and friends who would appreciate a hot meal. If you know of anyone please call the Church office at 379-5046 to let them know their name and address by Tuesday, November 22. Drivers are also needed for the dinner deliveries and youth to run the dinners to the door. If you would like to help please call the church office 379-5046.

## Emanuel's Women of the ELCA (WELCA)

By Cathy Anderson, President

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> is "Gifts for the King" Sunday. We will be collecting items for the Family Protective Services Rainbow Room. When they have to remove a child from a home in an emergency and have a family member, often a grandparent, take care of the child, that family caregiver often needs supplies to help with the care. Suggested donations are baby items, wipes, shampoo, body wash, socks and underwear for boys and girls of all sizes and ages, school supplies. Gift cards from HEB and Wal-Mart in \$25 increments are appreciated. Drop off your gift at the church office or at the worship service on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Bible study this month: Faith Circle will meet on Tuesday, Dec, 13<sup>th</sup> in the Women's Ministry Room (WMR). Note the starting time of 6pm for a light supper. Barbara Effenberger, hostess and Cathy Anderson, study leader. Joy Circle will meet on Thursday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at the home of Elaine Giesber, 726 Cedar Parkway, Seguin.

Ladies Aid Christmas Luncheon is Wed. Dec 7<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

Boxed Christmas cards are available for \$6/box in the WMR bookcase. Leave your money in the church office. This is a project of the Altar Guild.

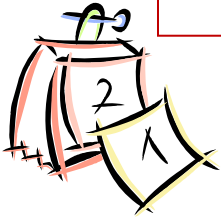
December 4 will be "Gifts for the King" Sunday. This annual event is held to collect items to be given to those in need. Family Protective Services can use items in serving the children who come into their care, many of whom are living with grandparents on limited income. Suggested donations are baby items: wipes, shampoo, body wash, powder, and onesies in all sizes for boys and girls. Socks and underwear for boys and girls all sizes including teen. Walmart and HEB gift cards in \$25.00 increments. When something that they don't have on hand is needed for a child, they use the gift card to purchase what is needed, such as clothes, school supplies, etc. You may bring donations to services on that Sunday or leave them at the church office earlier. Contact Beulah Reiley for more information (830)379-6739.



### Emanuel's Ladies Aid Quilt Raffle Tickets \$1 each or 6 for \$5

The quilters of the Emanuel's Ladies Aid will raffle a queen-sized, hand-quilted, quilt for their annual bazaar. The drawing for the winner will take place at their annual Christmas luncheon on Wednesday, December 7. Tickets are available from any of the quilting ladies or the church office.

## Dates to Remember



If you need to reach the church on Sunday mornings during the 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.



### "Working Wednesdays"

December 14, 2011 6:15 pm Congregational Council  
Christmas Dinner at Blake's in McQueeney  
December 21, 2011 6:30 pm All Committee Night

### Joy Circle

Thursday, December 8, 9:30 am  
At Elaine Giesber's home at  
726 Cedar Parkway  
Hostess: Pat Hoppe, Rhoda Oestreich  
Bible Study Leader: Pat Hoppe

### Faith Circle

Women's Ministry Room  
Tuesday, December 13, 6:00 pm  
Light Supper  
Hostess: Barbara Effenberger  
Bible Study Leader:  
Cathy Anderson

### Altar Guild

December 11, 2011  
9:15 am in the  
Hospitality Room

### Ladies Aid Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday, December 7, at 12:00pm  
In the Fellowship Hall  
Officers are Hostesses

## Life After Loss

This six week grief support and educational series is designed to help people understand the process of grief, assess where they are in that process, and plan for how they will continue to heal.

Week 1: Overview of Loss  
Week 2: Stages of Grief  
Week 3: Healing Memories  
Week 4: Self-care Methods  
Week 5: Holidays  
Week 6: Moving Forward



And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it, when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left.

Isaiah 30:21

Sundays, January 15, 2012—February 19, 2012  
Facilitated by: Pastor Darwin Huartson, M. DIV. BBC  
Emanuel's Lutheran Church Family Life Center on the third floor.  
For more information call Emanuel's Lutheran Church 830-379-5046

# Emanuel's Lutheran Day School

By Burlene LeClair Day School Director



## Halloween with the Mayor



### Snow White & the 7 Dwarfs

Sleepy (Cathy Schoenvogel)

Bashful (Mindy Gothard)

Doc (Angie Periera)

Sneezy (Lanette Janz)

Snow White (Burlene LeClair)

Grumpy (Rachel Scott)

Dopey (Sarah Fox)

Happy (Vanna Garcia)

# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Potluck



# DESSERTS



**PRAY FOR OTHER CONGREGATIONS!**

Each congregation in our San Antonio Conference is being asked to remember other congregations in prayer through the year, and all have been sent a schedule of weeks in which to pray for a specific congregation. We will remember these congregations in our prayers each Sunday, and you are asked to keep them in prayer throughout the week.

Those for whom we pray in December:

- December 4 First, Floresville
- December 11 Christ, San Antonio
- December 18 Bethlehem, Quihi
- December 25 Gethsemane, San Antonio

If you enjoy the fellowship time and refreshments being served after service on Sunday mornings under the big oak tree, ask yourself “What can I do to help this fellowship time continue?” You and your family can sponsor the refreshment cart for a Sunday. Sign up for your special day. Contact Jeannie or Ariel in the church office and get the information you need to continue this fellowship time with other members of Emanuel’s.



**Note:**

Please let the church office know when you or a loved one is sick or hospitalized. Also let the office know when you or your friend/relative can be taken off the prayer list. Thanks!

Anyone wishing to serve on the 2012 Congregational Council please contact one of the following council members:

- Ronald Naumann
- Roland Naumann
- Evelyn Dittmar
- Jeanne Palmer

**Emanuel’s Day School is collecting the**



**As you collect the box tops you may bring them to the church office.**

**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.

**DEADLINES**

Information must be in the office by 8:00 am Tuesday mornings for bulletins. Newsletter Information must be in the office by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.



**Sunday Offerings for the Month of October**

Sunday Offering	2010
1st Sunday	7,970.12
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	4,457.50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4,626.50
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	3,421.00
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5,827.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,302.12</b>

Sunday Offering	2011
1st Sunday	6,819.10
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3,571.70
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	6,060.00
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	3,088.00
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	4,593.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,131.80</b>

### Social Concerns

Once again this year the Social Concerns Committee will offer the option of honoring or remembering a loved one by supporting the Lutheran World Relief Critters-Cow Project and/or by purchasing a poinsettia to decorate the altar at Christmas. Below you will find a form to specify your preferences this Christmas. Please fill out the form, enclose it in an envelope, and drop it in the offering plate along with payment or send it to:

Emanuel's Lutheran Church  
206 North Travis Street  
Seguin, Texas 78155

Cost of Poinsettias is \$10.00. You may donate any amount you wish to the Critters-Cow Project. Deadline to ensure poinsettias for Christmas is Thursday, December 8, 2011.

I WOULD LIKE TO  
DECORATE THE ALTAR  
WITH POINSETTIAS



Given in MEMORY of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Or

Given in HONOR of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# of Poinsettias Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_



I WOULD LIKE TO  
SUPPORT THE  
Lutheran World Relief  
Critters-Cow Project

Given in MEMORY of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Or

Given in HONOR of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

## *Advent Word Search Puzzle*



See if you can find the Advent words in the puzzle below!

s	b	c	v	c	a	d	v	e	n	t	g
h	n	a	c	a	r	o	l	s	z	z	u
o	n	r	b	a	x	g	i	f	t	s	r
p	i	d	u	e	l	s	q	v	b	c	d
p	s	s	d	d	l	e	a	u	m	v	e
i	c	t	k	l	u	l	n	n	y	e	c
n	c	o	o	k	i	e	s	d	t	h	o
g	c	o	o	k	i	n	g	m	a	a	r
x	y	l	i	g	h	t	s	m	v	r	a
f	r	i	e	n	d	s	y	q	l	x	t
s	n	o	w	m	a	n	t	r	e	e	e
h	i	c	h	r	i	s	t	m	a	s	h

advent

christmas

gifts

calendar

decorate

cards

shopping

cooking

cookies

friends

snowman

santa

tree

lights

bells

carols

# A YOUTHFUL APPROACH

By: Ariel Williams – Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Beginning with Advent we will have a new insert inside of our bulletins each week. It is entitled “Taking Faith Home” and is produced by Vibrant Faith Ministries. Each insert includes daily bible readings, a scripture verse for the week, prayers, discussion points, devotions, and suggestions for including service and tradition into your week. These are designed to help families of all ages, shapes and sizes actively integrate their faith into their daily lives. One of my big pushes for 2012 will be Bringing Ministry Home. If we want Christian youth and children, we must first set the example as Christian adults. I am very excited at how these inserts will enable our congregation to better connect and express our faith with one another. Blessings and peace as we begin a new church year!!!

taking  JANUARY 8, 2012  
faith  
home



taking  JANUARY 8, 2012  
faith  
home



bible readings

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS:



These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Mark 1:4-11	Jesus is baptized
Monday	Mark 9:2-8	Jesus is transfigured
Tuesday	Acts 9:1-19a	Saul's conversion and baptism
Wednesday	Acts 22:2-16	Paul describes his baptism
Thursday	Job 26:7-14	Job speaks of creation
Friday	Job 38:1-18	The Lord speaks of creation
Saturday	Psalms 104	A psalm of creation
Sunday	John 1:43-51	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael

## SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.  
**Genesis 1:1 (CEV)**

## SAY, PRAY AND BLESS:

**A Prayer for the Week:**  
God of creation, make us new. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**  
For all you've created, and give us to share, we thank you, O God.  
How great is your care! Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**  
Child of God, may the Lord give you his Spirit and make you sure of his love. Amen. (Mark 1:10-11)

scripture

4 key faith practices

## CARING CONVERSATION:

Discuss in your household or small group:

- What do you know or remember about the day you were baptized?
- What happened when Jesus was baptized?
- What did God do for you when you were baptized?

## DEVOTIONS:

As part of your home devotional time this week, share a rite of baptismal remembrance.

Gather a jug of water, an empty bowl, a larger center candle, and a smaller candle for each person. Pour the water into the bowl and say these words (a leader says the words in italics, all say the words in bold).

*For your gift of water:* **We thank you, Lord.**

*For the water of baptism:* **We thank you, Lord.**

Now light the center candle.

*For your gift of light, which warms and guides us:* **We thank you, Lord.**

*For the light of Christ:* **We thank you, Lord.**

*By being baptized, we were buried with Christ into his death. Christ has been raised from the dead by the Father's glory. And like Christ we also can live a new life.*

Each person now lights his or her candle from the center candle, as the leader says:

*In baptism we were joined to the life of Christ. Let us shine for him.*

Household members may dip their fingers into the bowl of water and make the sign of the cross on each other's foreheads, saying these words:

**You are a baptized child of God, who is well pleased with you.**

## SERVICE:

God calls us to help him in taking care of his creation. As an act of community service, take a few plastic bags and walk around your neighborhood picking up litter (remember to wear gloves).

## RITUALS AND TRADITIONS:

Go for a household nature walk. Take a digital camera or paper and pencils. When you return, make a poster using your pictures or drawings. Write the words of Genesis 1:1 in the center. Place the poster in a prominent place in your home.



## Emanuel's Saints Who Have Died November 2010 & November 2011



Frieda Lenz  
August 24, 1935 & November 4, 2010

Florence Lemke  
February 09, 1921 & December 11, 2010

Robert Schievelbein, Jr.  
March 1, 1944 & December 21, 2010

C. O. Meyer  
March 23, 1918 & December 25, 2010

Elsie Linzee  
February 19, 1923 & January 7, 2011

Chester Wittig  
December 23, 1917 & January 16, 2011

Clayton Bushman Jr.  
September 11, 1951 & January 31, 2011

Lena Schuenemann  
February 12, 1919 & January 31, 2011

Aubrey Johnson Sr.  
August 23, 1919 & February 7, 2011

James McGovern  
February 20, 2011

Benola Doran  
January 28, 1920 & February 23, 2011

Jane Foreman  
November 17, 1925 & March 7, 2011

Hilda Herbold  
November 14, 1939 & March 19, 2011

Elizabeth Templin  
April 24, 1916 & March 20, 2011

James Vordenbaum  
May 6, 1932 & March 27, 2011

William Rauch  
December 5, 1950 & May 1, 2011

Dorothy Roemisch  
December 10, 1923 & May 13, 2011

Ivie Klaeveman  
December 23, 1942 & May 24, 2011

Alvina Scheel Hilbert  
November 7, 1907 & June 14, 2011

Milton Adolph Lorenz  
February 9, 1923 & June 14, 2011

Hattie Buss  
July 30, 1921 & July 27, 2011

Lester Curtis Nelson  
October 18, 1923 & August 30, 2011

Thusnelda M. Friedeck  
August 16, 1923 & September 6, 2011

Monroe Henry Schubert  
April 1, 1928 & September 14, 2011

Larry Curtis Nelson  
January 23, 1959 & September 26, 2011

Dorothy Ander  
September 8, 1921 & October 16, 2011

Clifton E. Haas  
December 25, 1918 & October 21, 2011

William H. Koehler  
November 29, 1921 & October 25, 2011

## Our Congregation



### ...the families of

**Marian Strey**

**Sandra Edwards**

(Kristi Quiros' sister)

**Nelson Schneider**

**Helen Boatwright Engler**

**Marvin Friedeck**

**Michael Strackbein**

**Henry Flathmann**

**Patricia Sullivan**

## Prayers requested

### Members

Brenly Bierstedt, Roland Herbold, Freya Johnson,  
Helen Beicker, Laura Merz, Willie Spreen, Phyllis Zwarich

### Friends & Family

Jan Morris Linda Mosley, Doris Oertil, Clyde Hartman,  
Alvin Hewell, Liz Urban, Sheryll Tovar, David Van Houten,  
Dewitt Odom, Terry Strawn Andy Tomlin, Joe Poe,  
Marion Bates, Betty Wiederstein, Bridger Ethridge,  
Norman & Carolyn Jordan, Edna Bergfeld, Pam Hartman,  
Aline Lindemann

### Our Family and Friends in the Military



Jarett Carroll, Garrett Smith,  
Gordon Ehler, Landon Cheatham,  
Brent Stehling, Stephanie Tovar,  
Stephanie DeLie and Derek Schulz

### Emanuel's Prayer Chain

Ann Erxleben is the contact person.  
Please call Ann at 830-379-5259 with  
your prayer request.

### Singles Food, Fun & Fellowship Christmas Open House

Sunday, December 11, 2011

Come anytime between 2-4:30 pm

At the home of Donna Simmons

1609 Golden Sage Dr.

For more information contact Donna

Simmons at cell 830-556-3542 or

hm. 830-372-3688