

The Parish Helper
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
540-546 West Walnut Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

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“Return Services Requested”

The Rev. Kurt S. Strause, Pastor
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Valerie Lefever Hughes, Director of Music

The Parish Helper

Emmanuel Lutheran Church



September 2017

From the Pastor's Desk

“It's Hard to be Humble When You're As Great As I Am”

Many years ago my mother presented me with a framed quotation she lovingly embroidered. Proud of her son, full of self-confidence as he was setting out to change the world, I believe she thought it captured my attitude in my early 20's. Now it hangs in my basement, on an out-of-the way wall. It's not that I don't appreciate my mother's gift, but it no longer expresses what I hope is a more gentle and circumspect outlook on my place in the world and my relationships with others.

It's kind of how I feel about being a Lutheran. I think there was a time when Lutherans were full of self-confidence and maybe even more than a little pride in being the church that first emerged during the time of the Reformation. We were the church that “got it right.” We reformed all of the major abuses of the Roman Catholic Church of the day; restored the Bible to the laity, emphasized worship in the language of the people, got rid of the “cult of the saints,” and, most importantly, freed the church from the pope's rule. At least this is how Lutherans for centuries regarded the triumph of the Reformation. We were proud to stand at the forefront of those churches known as “protestant. But, like my feelings about my mother's slogan, a time of more circumspection has emerged.

Most Lutheran churches throughout the world do not see themselves primarily as the keepers of a glorious heritage. Nor do they understand themselves as the exclusive holders of the truths that Luther and the others reformers emphasized in the 16th century. We also see the unintended fruits of that time; the fracturing of the church with its diminished united witness of Christ in the world, as well as centuries of war in Europe, much of it along religious lines, that embroiled the world in conflict. Now, we look to our ecumenical partners for common ground in church teaching and practice, and no longer understand ourselves as the most important church in the world.

Lutherans are calling the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation a “commemoration” rather than a “celebration.” I think the language of commemoration is more in keeping with our current understanding of our place within the whole church of Christ. Lutherans surely made important, and even vital, contributions to the spiritual life of the church and individual Christians. Our forefathers and mothers in the faith are worth upholding and remembering. This 500th anniversary year can serve as a catalyst for Lutherans to discover and re-discover the source of our faith, which is always rooted in Christ. Only then will we discover that true humility is never found in believing in how great one is, but rather how great Christ is.

In grace, faith, and hope,
Pastor Kurt Strause

ASSISTING ON SUNDAYS

September 3

Acolyte
Lector
Deacons
Ushers
Greeters
Spark

Lauren Nissly
Tom Santosusso
Lois Strause, Pastor Roger Burkins
Mary Kay Mulcahy, Suzanne Burkholder
Tom Santosusso, Bill Hannegan
Margaret Thomsen

September 10

Acolyte
Lector
Deacons
Ushers
Greeters
Spark

Ivan Strom
Keith Frey
Tom Mills, Bob Miller
Mary Royer, JoAnn Alexander
Marcus and Margaret Thomson
Gini Horn

September 17

Acolyte
Lector
Deacons
Ushers
Greeters
Spark

Tommy Hockenberry
Bill Hennegan
Tim and BA Smith
Don Styer, Gini Horn
Jo Kuhn, Bonnie Allman
BA Smith

September 24

Acolyte
Lector
Deacons
Ushers
Greeters
Spark

Lauren Nissly
Diane Ehemann
Mary Kay Mulchay, Suzanne Burkholder
Diane Ehemann, Marcus Thomsen
Andy Geist, Phyllis Stritmatter
Lisa Nissly

Usher captain - Marilyn Soutner

September 2017																																																																																																							
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Beginning Sunday September 10
Classes every Sunday from 9 A.M. - 10 A.M.
•Primary •Youth •Adult

Primary and Youth classes meet in the education wing.
Adult classes meet in the Fireside Room.

Adult Sunday school topics

- September 10 - Reformation Timeline: World Context
- September 17 - The Reformation in Art and Music: The Catechism and Music
- September 24 - The Reformation in Art and Music: Lutherans as Musicians
- October 1 - The Reformation in Art and Music: Art Reflects the Time
- October 8 - Luther and The 95 Theses
- October 15 - Luther and The 95 Theses
- October 22 - Luther and The 95 Theses
- October 29: Reformation - Lutherland – A Travelogue

The Regular Worship Service Schedule resumes on
Sunday, September 10, at 10:15 A.M.

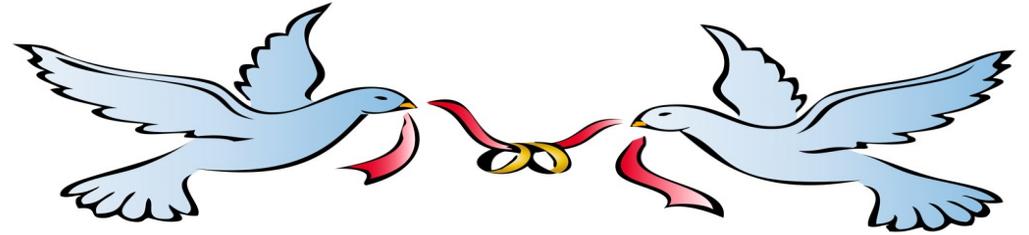
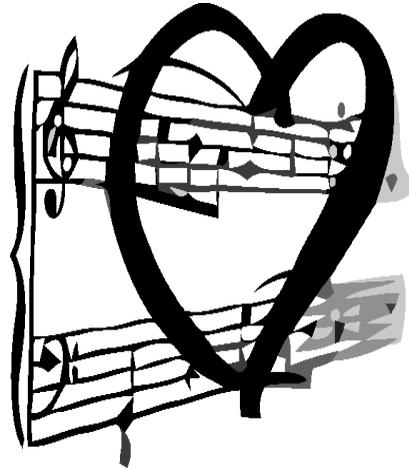


Emmanuel Bids Pam Drenner Farewell and Godspeed

Pam Drenner, Emmanuel's Director of Music, is leaving at the end of August. She has accepted the appointment at Director of Traditional Music at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Lititz.

Since February of 2016 Pam has ably led the congregation in their musical worship of God. Her talent, faithful commitment, and joy have been well-received by the choir and congregation alike.

The congregation will bid Pam and her husband Don farewell and Godspeed on her last Sunday, August 27. A reception following the worship service will be held for them both.



Save the Date – November 11, 2017

Renata Strause and John Gardosik will celebrate their marriage and everyone at Emmanuel is invited!

On Sunday morning, during the worship service, they will receive the Blessing of a Civil Marriage. A catered reception will be held in Sieger Chapel following the worship service. Invitations with an RSVP for the reception will be sent later.

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Save the Date

Reformation Dinner -Sunday October 29

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Words of Thanks

Dear members and friends at Emmanuel,

Thank you for all the prayers and cards sent to me for my operation and healing.

I miss being in the office and talking to some of you. I know the Lord lead me to work for Emmanuel.

You guys are beautiful people, and loving. God Bless all of you.

Yours in Christ,
Shirley Gilbert



Valerie Lefever Hughes Begins as Emmanuel's New Director of Music

Valerie Hughes will assume the responsibility of Director of Music starting September 1. Her first Sunday leading worship will be Sunday, September 3.

Valerie had previously served as the Director of Traditional Music at St. Paul Lutheran Lititz. Previously, she served as Cantor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and Campus Ministry at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

She is a graduate of Valparaiso University in Indiana, where she received her Bachelor of Music in Church Music. She also is a graduate of the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia where she received her Master of Arts in Religion degree specializing in Church Music and Liturgy.

Valerie is married to Adam Hughes who serves as the Director of Music at St. Peter Lutheran Church in Neffsville. They are the parents of two sons, Nicholas and Samuel. They reside in Willow Street.

BASKETS of PROMISE
LWR Ingathering October 1, 2017



Each week from the end of August through October, Emmanuel will be collecting needed items for school kits. Our goal is to provide 100 school kits for LWR. Please feel free to purchase any single item or multiples for the school kits. Following are the collection dates for these needed items:

August 27:	(4) 70-sheet Spiral Notebooks
September 3:	(5) Ball Point Pens (5) Unsharpened #2 Pencils
September 10:	Blunt scissors
September 17:	Crayons (16 or 24 ct.)
September 24:	Pencil Sharpeners Erasers 30 Centimeter Rulers/cm and inches
October 1:	70-sheet Spiral Notebooks

Kit assembly is after church on October 1.

Money is also needed to cover the cost of shipping and the purchase of backpacks. Please see the display in the Narthex for details and a shopping list. For additional information please see Deb Barrett.

Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study
Starting September 6, All Are Invited
Morning Prayer

9:00 a.m.

The office of Morning Prayer from Evangelical Lutheran Worship is used. A quiet, simple spoken service centered on psalms, scripture, meditation and intercessory prayer. Held in the sanctuary.



Bible Study

9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

A conversational, informal approach to Bible study emphasizing both the context of the passage and the ways God is speaking to us through the scripture.



Make a Joyful Noise!

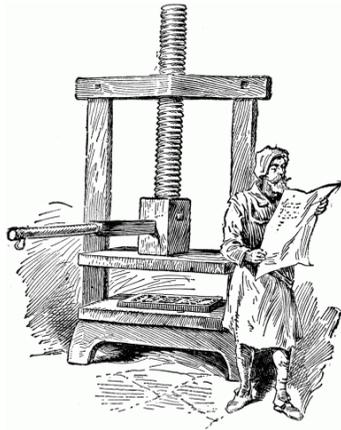
Choir Rehearsals Resume September 1

Do you have a good singing voice and have time to lead Sunday worship on a part-time or regular basis? There is room in the choir loft for you! You can:

- ◆ Be a part of the choir that rehearses for one hour immediately following Sunday worship and provides weekly musical leadership in the loft (September through May).
- ◆ Participate in duets, ensembles, and multi-generational groups that rehearse as needed and occasionally lead worship.
- ◆ Attend several Sunday morning rehearsals and participate in choir leadership for Advent and Christmas.

Interested? Talk to Valerie Lefever Hughes

	<p>First Sunday Coffee September 3 Following worship</p> <p>Goodies provided by the Learning Ministry for everyone's enjoyment!</p>
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Gutenberg Gabs

~ A book discussion group ~

Initial gab meeting is Tuesday, September 12
9:00 to 10:30 AM
in Emmanuel's Fireside room

(after the group has assembled we will set a day and time that works for the schedule of those interested)

Bring a book or two of interest (or their titles) – ones you have either already read or are interested in reading.

This group is not intended to be focused on books of specific religious content, but rather a wide variety of genres and topics which would inspire and challenge our discussions together.

If you are interested but unable to attend on the 12th, speak to Lois Strause.

HARVEST OF HOPE

Supports the
ELCA World Hunger Appeal

Each Sunday between May and September a table will be available in the back of the church for sharing garden produce. This may include, but is not limited to: vegetables, herbs, fruits, cut flowers and other homemade goodies. Help your self to the garden goodies available and support the ELCA WHA by leaving a free will offering.

Please see Deb Barrett with questions.



September

- 3 Shree Lynn Shrom
- 4 Daniel Barr
- 4 Evelyn Dunn
- 10 Jean Kienzle
- 10 Marilyn B. Soutner
- 11 Elizabeth Hannegan
- 13 Roger Strause
- 14 Rebecca Miller
- 16 Franklin Lynn
- 17 Sandra Cole Brubaker
- 18 William R. Deichert
- 21 Amy Walborn
- 22 Trista Brubaker
- 22 Emma Claire Strause
- 24 Steven Volker
- 26 Marcus Thomsen
- 29 Tara Carper
- 29 Janice Dunlevy
- 30 Mary Jane Smith



Financial Report



	July	YTD
General Fund Income	\$14,322	\$98,990
General Fund Expense	\$20,767	\$100,732
Difference	\$6,445	\$1,741

**Deadline for the October Parish Helper is
Wednesday, October 13.**

Please send all information to office@emmanuelancster.org