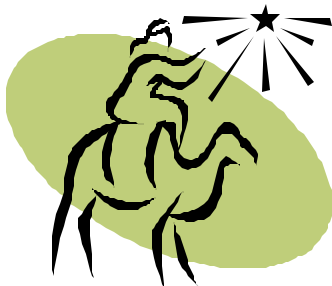




EMMANUEL MESSENGER

Volume 19, Number 12 December 2009



Christmas Eve Services

5:00 – Family Candlelight Service

7:00 – Candlelight Carol Service with Holy Communion

11:00 – Candlelight Carol Service with Holy Communion

Women’s Christmas Party- Mark your calendars for the evening of **Monday, December 7 from 6-9pm**. It will be a fun evening to visit with friends. This is also the time to draw new secret pals for 2010! Our entertainment will be “Men of Grace” from Grace Centers of Hope! Sign up on the board if you are interested in attending. And don’t forget your Secret Pal gift, or a \$15 gift to exchange.

“Men of Grace” Concert- Monday, December 7 at 7pm. All are welcome to join us for an enjoyable holiday concert on Dec. 7 at 7pm featuring Men of Grace! Men of Grace is a musical ministry of Grace Gospel Fellowship. They were formed in 1999. Membership consists of men that are currently living in, or have completed the one-year rehabilitation program at Grace Centers of Hope. They are performing for the entertainment portion of the Women’s Christmas Party that evening, but all are invited to come for the concert at 7pm.

Babysitting Services- The youth will be offering babysitting service on **Friday, December 11 from 6pm-10pm at Emmanuel**. We will have games,

activities, crafts, and movies for the kids. Feel free to drop them off anytime during the evening. This would be a perfect opportunity to do some holiday shopping, have a “date night” with your spouse, or just enjoy some personal time for yourself! This money will go towards activities and camp for the youth.



NEW BUILDING POLICY.....

After checking out the rental policies of other churches in the area, our Church Council approved a new policy for Emmanuel. Beginning January 2010, anyone using our building will be requested to pay a \$25.00 Holding Fee - members as well as outside groups. This Fee will be returned if the area being used is left clean and set up as it was found. If the group is on-going, the Fee can be rolled over to the next meeting provided the space is left clean, etc.

If you are interested in using a room in the building, you need to call the church office during business hours (Mon-Fri, 10-5), then the space can be reserved on the office calendar. Once it's on the calendar, there will need to be a form filled out along with the \$25.00 check (made out to Emmanuel) and turned in to the church office before your event. Also, being on the calendar assures that you will have heat (or AC). You are also responsible for your own set up since our custodian only works part-time. If you need a special set up you can contract with him directly.

NEW CHURCH COUNCIL

We welcome our new church council members: Jo Perian, Shirley Hay, Bruce Nieman, and Brad Vande Kieft. They will be serving with our continuing church council members Patty Graff, Kimm King, Jim Messineo and Bob Kotrba. We would like to thank Jeff Enderlen and Al Miller for their service to church council. Reminder of Congregational meeting on December 5th and 6th to vote on our 2010 annual budget.



NEW FLOWER CHART

The 2010 altar flower chart is posted on the hallway bulletin board. More than one person/family can sign up for each Sunday and an arrangement will be ordered for each person signed up. Arrangements are \$17.00 each. When families sign up, it helps defray the cost to the church.

ANNUAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GIVERS.

We are approaching the end of 2009 and would appreciate that your contribution be into us by no later than 12/26/09. This will allow us get it deposited and into your 2009 giving statement. Thanks for your continuing support. God bless from the Continuing Capital Campaign Committee.

NEW MEMBERS

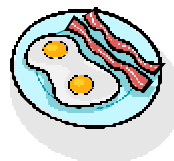
Meet our newest partners in ministry and mission at Emmanuel: **Vicky & Kevin Tornberg** – Kevin and Vicky have been married for 7 years and currently reside in Livonia. Vicky is a project engineer for Kirco Manix Construction while Kevin is a service sales rep for Cintas. Vicky enjoys yoga & exercise, reading and music. Kevin enjoys mountain biking and playing bass guitar. They found out about Emmanuel from living in the area and they decide to make this their church home because they liked the worship service and felt very welcome. They also really liked Pastor Scott. **Ann Walker** – Ann currently resides in Livonia and was married for 53 years to Bob Walker. Ann has two adult children who also reside in Livonia – Robert G. Walker II and Holly Ann McCoy. Ann did computer work for a living before retiring. She loves dancing, gardening, and of course- COOKING! She heard about Emmanuel Lutheran Church from a friend and has decided to make this her church home. **Tina Banach** – Tina and her husband David have been married for 2 years and live in Plymouth, MI. Tina is a Data Analyst-Researcher at a community college and likes to ride bikes, travel, visit family and friends and enjoys music. She found out about Emmanuel by noticing the church when driving by one day and then checked us out online. She has decided to make this her church home because they felt very welcomed and get so much out of the sermon and music each week.

Celebrate our 75th see John Tesh in concert



Lutheran Social Services' 75th anniversary celebration will continue into 2010, with a gala Diamond Celebration concert featuring Christian pop musician John Tesh January 29 at 8 p.m. The concert will take place at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road (near Haggerty) in Livonia. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$35 each. VIP tickets, which include a

reception from 6 to 8 p.m., a silent auction and preferred seating, are \$75. [To purchase tickets, visit our secure Web site](#) or call Anita Jones at (313) 823-7983.



MEN'S BREAKFAST Saturday, December 5 - 7:30 AM

The next Men's Breakfast will begin a discussion and study entitled "**A Man and his World**". The study will be led by Dan Putman. It will focus on topics such as work, children, marriage, money and others. This will continue for several months and should prove to be an interesting topic. The meeting runs from 7:30 to 9:00 AM.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

EMPHASIS OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER

This year the Social Concerns Committee is asking for your help in purchasing gifts for some of the Angels' Place residents who do not have family [We are also including some gift ideas for our 9:30 attendees from Holy Family.] Check out the display in the narthex for cards with the person's name and gift ideas. Two or three families could even go together to make purchases. Wrapped gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 6; please include the person's name on the package.

"Whose Birthday Is It, Anyway?"

As you are trying to find 'just the right gift,' please be reminded of the many alternative ways to give a gift. Check out the websites for Lutheran Social Services of Michigan; The ELCA World Hunger Appeal

(www.elca.org/hunger); ELCA Domestic Disaster Response; Bread for the World (www.bread.org) ; Global Mission Support; Heifer Project International (www.heifer.org/peace). The list is endless of ways to give a gift that truly can make a difference in people's lives. And, don't forget the Noah's Ark notecards featuring the mural on the wall of the preschool room. The money from the sale of these cards will be used to help with the meals at Wayne County Family Center. See the display in the narthex.

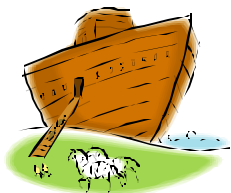
ANGEL TREE – SHARE THE GIFT

Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree program has created a new virtual tool called *Share the Gift*. This new tool allows you to go online and send a gift to a child along with the Gospel message and a personal message from their incarcerated parent. This is particularly helpful for serving children who live in areas unmatched with a local church. You can sponsor a single child or a family. We still have over 1800 kids to serve in Michigan . See the following link to use this exciting new tool

[:https://www.angeltree.org/sharethegift](https://www.angeltree.org/sharethegift)

HOLIDAY CARDS TO BENEFIT SEEDLINGS BRAILLE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

Holiday cards can be purchased at the Seedlings office, 14151 Farmington Road, Mon-Fri, 9-5; 10 cards for \$10.



NOAH'S ARK

If you haven't seen the wonderful wall mural in the pre-school room, check it out and give a BIG thanks to Jonel Carswell. And, then give an additional thank you to Margaret Smith for coming up with the note-card idea to generate funds which will be used by the Social Concerns Committee for outreach to the needy. Please check out the display in the narthex; cards are 5 for \$5.00.



FAMILY CAMP

Emmanuel has over the years planned a family camp where participants can enjoy the relationships of fellow members and friends. As we look to the

summer of 2010 some decisions need to be made. There are two possibilities we familiar with: 1) **Cold Water County Park** – a group has gone there for 10 plus years located near Mt. Pleasant. It is a public park offering 4 cabins, sleeps 4-6, camp sites, beach, boat ramp showers and play ground. 2) **Stony Lake** – is a camp owned by our Synod 30 mile north of Muskegon. Participants would be church related. It offers 11 cabins, sleeps up to 10, the white house with room for 2-8 people, shower and rest room, beach with canoes, row boat and ramp, optional meals in dining hall other buildings available. Stony Lake is 3 miles from Lake Michigan, 12 miles from Silver Lake Sand Dunes. Dates available: **Cold Water** – First come first serve (People need to go on the day registration opens and reserve each cabin and camp site.) **Stony Lake** – Available July 4-9th and after August 6th. If you are interested in helping plan this years Family Camp please let some one in the office know.



CHRISTMAS GIFTS - This year the Social Concerns Committee is asking for your help in getting gifts for some of the Angels' Place residents who have been identified as not having family. Please check the display board in the narthex for gift suggestions for the various individuals. [We have also included the men who regularly attend our 9:30 service.] The gift ideas are only suggestions and 2 or 3 families could go together to make purchases. **Gifts need to be wrapped and identified with the person's name and returned to church by December 6.**



MOTORVATION DRIVE –

Donate your car or motorcycle, RV, Boat or any other motorized vehicle to Lutheran Social Services and help put someone in need on the road to self-reliance. Your tax-deductible donation could help a teen leaving foster care, a homeless parent, a refugee starting a new life in America or a woman coming out of prison and looking for a second chance. We'll pick up your qualified vehicle anywhere in the Lower Peninsula. Call 877-259-6369 or visit www.motorvationdrive.org and get things rolling!

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Scott Ranta
- 2 Paula Jackson, Corrine Shaker
- 3 Brittany Krist
- 4 David Saatio, Marge Guezen, Bridget Ranta, Lauren Phillips
- 6 Ursula Martin, Clay Benjamin
- 7 Gertha Sandell, Laurie Davis, Lynn Leach
- 9 Martin Rometsch
- 10 Dave Koskela, Caroline Waters, Shawn Krist
- 13 Janice Watkeys, Craig Leach, Sarah Finkenbine, Mary Anthouard
- 15 Nick Zhmendak
- 19 Lewis Rogers, Lois Scupholm
- 20 James Bederka, Andrea Prebenda
- 21 Jerry Bricker
- 22 Ann-Marie Messineo, Resi Richter
- 23 Erin Watkeys, John Blickle
- 24 Megan Bonde, Kim Mott
- 25 Dorothy VandeKieft, James Murphy
- 27 Mark Ranta
- 28 Danny Carpenter, Mia Lundgren
- 29 Kaden Johnson, Janet Johnson

PEOPLE IN OUR PRAYERS

Homebound: Blanche Berry, Edna Mansfield

CANCER CONCERNS:

Members: Barb Heien, Bud Luoto, Bill Norman,

Family Members: Norma Gerzac (aunt of Ed Caram); Nelly Erneta (mother of Pattie Schaefer); Trudy Schaefer (sister of Betty Orr); Jerry Neese (father of Judy Cook); John Chalfa (Craig & Lynn Leach sister-in-law's father); Karin Stachowski (sister of Cheryl Phillips); Kelly Hill (sister of Megan Waters); Kurt Andy Wilder (uncle of Jake Bietzel)

Friends: Beth Flory (friend of the Graff Family); Torri Hoard (friend of Tony Amann); Joyce Rhinehart (friend of Bud & Diane Luoto); Paul Hooper (friend of Bud & Diane Luoto); Denise Grote (friend of Bud & Diane Luoto); Leslie (friend of Jim Messineo); Christine Salata (friend of Sue Dickinson); Joyce Powers (friend of Diane Plath) breast cancer; Judy (friend of Lois Scupholm); Pam (friend of Lois Scupholm); Dave Navarre (co-worker of Fran Gee); Gloria Lagrant (friend of Fran Gee); Lora (neighbor of Linnea & Robert Schulz); Maryann (friends of Linnea Schulz).

OTHER MEDICAL CONCERNS

Gertha Sandell leg pain; Dick Gallinat medical tests; Lorraine Renaud surgery; Kelly Kreager (friend of Barb Finkenbine) critical condition; Richard Clancy open heart surgery on Oct. 26th; Justin Nielson severe migraine and herniated disc in neck; Debra Gardner (sister of Cyndi Putman) surgery this week; Gloria Angove (friend of Kim

Love) in hospice; Debbie Rajala for good tests results on health; Andy Weaver (friend of Diane Owens) pancreatic cancer; Cara Graber (friend's daughter of Diane Plath) struggling with mental illness; Helen Desenberg (mother of Linda Bricker) experiencing fluid build up on her lungs and congestive heart failure; Joshua Dragston hospitalized with infection; Tony Cavaleri (friend of Tammy Shaker) pancreatic cancer; Robert & Emmett Pengram (students of Diane Plath) their mother is very ill with cancer; Bryce VandeKieft hospitalized with flu like symptoms; Kate VanLoke (Cyril & Katherine VanLoke's sister-in-law) complications from hip replacement; Eunice Phillips (Tim Phillips mother) recovering from bladder surgery; Mary McInerney (Cheryl Phillips mother) eye surgery this week; Jim Hill (neighbor of Debbie Rajala) had a seizure and hospitalized; Bob Ottenhoff (step dad of Sara Barth) heart surgery on Tuesday; Debra Knox (Lesley Courter's mother) medical tests; Fr. Joe Ferans (friends of Veikko & Gertha Sandell) hospice care; Michelle Weiss (granddaughter of Janice Thrasher) did not respond to Krohns treatment, discussing alternative treatments. Jim Hill (neighbor of Debbie Rajala) had a seizure and is home and doing better; Joey Dauer shunt surgery; Toni Patterson heart procedure.

Our Sympathy to:

The family of John Bak (father of Chris Bak) on his death; The family of Kelly Kreager (co-worker of Barb Finkenbine) on her death; The family of Janet Pabis (friend of Linnea & Robert Schulz) on her death. The family Gloria Angove (friend of Kim Love) on her death The family of Resi Richter on her death; The Mussat family (friend of Carole Edwards) on the death of their mother/grandmother; The family of Robert Green (friend of Kim Love) on his sudden death.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SOME OF THE CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESSES HAVE CHANGE:

Pastor Scott Sessler: PastorScott@emmanuel-livonia.org

Pastor Emeritus Walt Dickinson:

PastorWalt@emmanuel-livonia.org

Judy Cook: judy@emmanuel-livonia.org

Rebecca Couser: youth@emmanuel-livonia.org

Laurie Davis: laurie@emmanuel-livonia.org

Marilyn Kramer: marilyn@emmanuel-livonia.org

General Office: office@emmanuel-livonia.org

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NO FOOD ALLOWED – Please do not take food outside the Fellowship Hall without adult or staff supervision.

Our custodian is only part time (ten hours a week), and needs ALL our help in maintaining our building. Not only do we want to preserve it for our own members, but we want to present a clean and inviting space for our visitors. Thanks for your help.
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CHRISTIAN ED NEWS – DECEMBER

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM –

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy an evening of fun and celebration as our Sunday school kids present “Twas the Night Before” on Sunday, Dec. 13th, at 6:00 p.m.. Fellowship and refreshments will follow the program.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHEARSAL –

Rehearsal times and dates for “Twas the Night Before” are as follows:

-Saturday, Dec. 5th – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon (Grades 1-6)

-Sunday, Dec. 6th – 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. (Grades 1-6)

-Saturday, Dec. 12th – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon (Preschool-6th Grade)

-Sunday, Dec. 13th – 9:30 – 10:45 a.m. (Preschool – 6th Grade)

In order to help us with casting, it would be VERY HELPFUL to know how many children will be participating in the program. Please call or e-mail our director, Katie Vote at 248-910-9205, votekat@gmail.com, or Judy Cook at 248-442-8822, judy@emmanuel-livonia.org.

COOKIES NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

– Cookies – homemade or store bought – are needed for fellowship time following the Sunday school Christmas program. If you can make a donation, please sign up on the bulletin board.

CHRISTMAS EVE NURSERY – Emmanuel is in need of two (2) people to serve in the nursery at each of our early Christmas Eve services at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Each person will be paid \$10.00. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you can lend a hand.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Dec. 6th Regular Sunday school for Preschool /Kindergarten, Rehearsal for Grades 1-6

Dec. 13th Christmas Program Rehearsal for all kids in Preschool – 6th Grade

Dec. 20th Regular Sunday school schedule

Dec. 27th Christmas/New Year’s Break – No Sunday school

Jan 3rd Return to regular Sunday school schedule

ADVENT FAMILY CELEBRATION & “Hanging of the Greens” – All are invited to join us on Saturday, Dec. 5th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. for an Advent worship

service and simple soup supper, followed by the “Hanging of the Greens” where we decorate the tree and “deck the halls” of Emmanuel. Activities and crafts will be available for the kids, too. Please be sure to sign up on the bulletin board if you and your family plan to attend. Volunteers are also needed to bring soup and other items, as well as helpers with the kids activities.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEER POSITION -

Sunday Morning Coordinator - Emmanuel is looking for those who might be willing to help us out on Sunday mornings. Since our Christian Ed Director may not always be on-site, one or more individuals are needed to help out with collecting offering and attendance sheets, monitoring classrooms, assisting teachers as needed with supplies and/or copies, ensuring staff presence, general managing, etc. If you can lend a hand, please see Judy Cook or sign up on the bulletin board.

NEW ADULT STUDY – “WHILE WE WAIT”, Advent Reflections, Sunday mornings at 11:00 beginning November 29th. Advent is all about the waiting. And how we wait affects our experience of God in our daily lives. But at this time of year – what are we most looking forward to? The pretty lights and decorations? The smell of sweets baking in the kitchen? The beautifully wrapped gifts? A visit from a jolly old elf? This 4-week devotional study invites us to direct our focus where it truly belongs – On the Christ Child – so that we can do as the hymn instructs us – “Let every heart prepare HIM room”! Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to join us. The cost of the book is \$7.00.

BIG BOXES WANTED – Will you soon be purchasing a large appliance, TV or other item that comes in a large box? If so, Emmanuel wants the box! We will be using them for next summer’s VBS decorations. You can bring them into church – or if you have the space, you can hold onto them until the spring. Just let us know what you’ve got. Many thanks!

“SING & RING” AN OPEN ARMS SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY EVENT – Friday, Dec. 4th at 6:30 p.m. This event is designed for adults with developmental disabilities, special needs, and their caretakers. Come and spend an evening of fun and fellowship with us. Get in the Christmas spirit as we sing carols, ring Kristal bells, hear the Christmas story and enjoy dessert and beverages. Help is needed, so sign up on the bulletin board if you can lend a hand.



“Coffee Break”

Women’s

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Our next study session begins on **Wednesday, January 13th** at 9:30 a.m. The group will be reading, studying, and discussing the book *“If You Want to Walk on Water, You’ve Got to Get Out of the Boat”* by John Ortberg. The book focuses on how deep within each of us lies the same faith and longing that sent Peter walking across the wind-swept Sea of Galilee toward Jesus. In what ways is the Lord telling you, as he did Peter, “Come”? John Ortberg invites us to consider the incredible potential that awaits us outside our comfort zones when we trust in him. Women of all ages and stages are invited to join us. Please sign up on the bulletin board so we know how many books to order. The cost of the combination Book & Participant Guide is \$24.00. (Book only is \$16.00, Participant guide is \$8.00). Participants may also purchase the books online from Amazon.

WARM CLOTHING DRIVE – Our friends at the Good Hope Food Pantry will once again be offering gently used warm clothing to the needy at Christmastime this year. Can Emmanuel help them out? We are now collecting warm coats, jackets, hats, mittens, blankets, and anything that would serve to provide warmth. **Items should be dropped off no later than Sunday, Dec. 6th.** There will be a box in the narthex to collect these items.

DECEMBER 2009

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1 ISU, 7pm (Hope) Cub Scouts, 6pm (FH)	2 LOLT(NA), 7pm (FH) Book of Faith, 9:30am & 7pm (Grace)	3 LSSM, 4pm (Sanctuary & FH) RFA, 6:30pm (Library)	4 LSSM Board Sing & Ring, 6pm(FH)	5 Men's Breakfast, 7:30am(FH) SS rehearsal, 10am Advent Celebration, 5pm Congregational Meeting following worship, 6pm
6 Catechism, 3:30pm SS rehearsal, 9:30am Ed Caram, 12-6:30pm (FH) Congregational Meeting following each worship service	7 Women's Christmas Party, 6	8 ISU, 7pm (Hope) Stephen's Ministry, 6:30pm (Grace)	9 LOLT (NA), 7pm (FH) Book of Faith, 7pm (Grace)	10 Bells, 6:15pm & Choir, 7:15pm (Sanctuary) RFA, 6:30pm (Library)	11 Youth Babysitting, 6pm	12 SS rehearsal, 10am Nancy Pickelhaupt, 10:30am (FH) Worship, 5pm
13 SS rehearsal, 9:30am SS Christmas Program, 6pm (Sanctuary)	14 Band, 6:30 (Sanct.) Open Arms, 7Pm (FH)	15	16 LOLT (NA). 7pm (FH)	17 Bells, 6:15pm & Choir, 7:15pm (Sanctuary) RFA, 6:30pm (Library) Church Council, 7:15pm (Grace)	18	19 Worship, 5pm
20	21 Band, 6:30 (Sanct).	22 Stephen's Ministry, 6:30pm (Grace)	23 LOLT (NA). 7pm (FH)	24 Christmas Eve Services, 5:00. 7:00 & 11:00	25	26 Worship, 5pm
27 ONE worship service, 10:00am	28 Band, 6:30 (Sanct).	29	30 LOLT (NA). 7pm (FH)	31		

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 34567 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, MI 48152
 Pastor Scott Sessler – 248-442-8822; Pastor Emeritus Walter Dickinson – 248-442-8822 & 734-464-6635 (h)
 Dorothy Trent, Music Director - 313-537-1394; Valorie McCune, Contemporary Worship Leader
 Laurie Davis, Secretary; Marilyn Kramer, Secretary – 248-442-8822
 Judy Cook, Parish Ed Director, 248-442-0307; Rebecca Couser, Youth & Family Ministry Director
 Travis Nixon, Treasurer; Nursery Attendant: Colleen Bonner, 9:00/9:30;
 Part-time Custodian, Bill Boone
 e-mail address: office@emmanuel-livonia.org ; Website: www.emmanuel-livonia.org
Worship schedule: Saturday, 5pm; Sunday, 8:00 9:30 and 11:00; Sunday school 9:30.

