

The Emmanuel Envoy

March 2019

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God (Philippians 4:6 NRSV)

Prayers of the People

In our bulletin they are called the “Prayers of Intercession”, but growing up, I knew them as the “Prayers of the People”. In the old red hymnal, (The Service Book and Hymnal “SBH” which was published in 1958), they are called the Prayer of the Church. I’m talking about the prayer that the Assisting Minister prays during our worship services, ending each petition with something like “Lord, in your mercy” or “Hear us, O God” to which we respond with something like “Hear our prayer” or “Your mercy is great.” Those prayers which are lifted up for the church, the world, those in need, and all of God’s creation are intended to be an expression of our communal desire, for peace, for healing, for justice, for faith, for vital ministry, and for the well-being of all people and for the well-being of the creation itself.

We pray these prayers, that are intended to express our deep needs for God’s intercession in our lives and in the world, but the words that we use, though often beautiful and always faithful, are not our words. They are my words, or the words of our larger church. There is nothing wrong with using the words of others to express our own desires in prayer. After all, the Psalms are the hymns and prayers of other people. Many of our hymns that we sing in times of joy and sorrow are the prayers of other people. Many of the saints who have gone before us, have left us a legacy of their prayers that can give shape to our needs at times when our own words fail us. The words of others to express our prayers can at times be sufficient and at other times soaring expressions of our own faith.

But this year, during the season of Lent, at our 11:15 a.m. service, we are going to try using our own words to express our prayer for the church, the world, those in need, and the creation. We are going to experience praying the “prayers of the people” using the words of the people.

Here’s how this will work: There will be slips of paper in the pews for the 11:15 service. Either before the service begins or at any time before the Hymn of the Day you can write what you would like to pray for on those slips of paper. You don’t have to write a fully formed “prayer” or petition, just a concern that you have for or about the world, the church, or someone you know who is struggling. You can also lift up those things for which you are thankful, ways that you have seen God at work in the world or in your life, or ways that you have been blessed. The prayer slips will be collected during the hymn of the day, and when it comes time for the “Prayers of the People” the Assisting Minister and Pastor will lift up your words, as an expression of all of our prayers.

At the 8:45 service, we will continue to intercede for the church, the world, those in need, and God’s creation using my words and the words of others. Between the two worship services, our prayers, prayed in different ways and with different words, will ascend before God and we will be strengthened by our worship and by the meal that we receive to go in peace, and be an answer to other people’s prayers in our daily lives.

I look forward to praying with you this Lenten season.

In Christ,

Pastor Amanda

Prayer Concerns List

Christine Howard	Lyndsay Boysen
Daniel Carow	Jack Gradijan
Jeff Pitman	Bernie Byrnes
Jovanni Sanchez-Colon	The Hayes Family
Warren Spencer	Hilary Shaw Family
Susan Tomasello	Paul Dullea
Helen Hultman	Jody Spillane
Lorraine Earle	Dennis Ohlson
Heather Crisafulli	Ruth McHugh
Rebecca Hendrickson	Kathleen Fabio
Lorraine Lee	Helen Hahlen
Rich Dunn	

Remembering Our Shut-ins

Eleanor Bjornson and Richard Spencer

Thank You Notes

The "Robert Thomas Morse" family wishes to thank the Church family for their prayers, love, support and words of comfort given to me and my family during the passing of my husband, Bob, Dad and "Pop".



And thank yous to Pastor Amanda for the beautiful tribute to Bob, to Gabby for her God-given musical talent playing so beautifully, and to all who donated food and helped in the preparation of the lovely luncheon after the Memorial Service.

Love,
Linda, sons Jeffrey, Thomas, Kenneth and grandson Declan

Quilting continues!



The "Piecemakers" are now meeting every Saturday morning from 9 to noon. Fabric will be available in Kask Hall for those looking for material to work

with. Anyone with questions can e-mail me at lawsue51@verizon.net or call me at 508-660-7459. All are welcome!

Quilt Raffle

There will be a raffle on Palm Sunday after all the quilts are blessed. The winner can take home one of the quilts that were made this year. Tickets will be \$5 each.

In addition, Linnea Keyes is offering to raffle a baby quilt that she made.

This raffle will allow the Piecemakers to raise funds for the LWR shipping fund

Invitation for women

The Jezebels meet on the second Friday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Founders' Room. The group chooses a spiritual-based book to read to discuss at the next meeting. Depending on the size of the book, we may read a few chapters each month for discussion. The group is open to all adult women.

For our **Friday, April 12th at 7:30 pm** gathering, we will be discussing Chapter 7 - Anna: "The Faithful Witness" from the book "Twelve Extraordinary Women" by John MacArthur.

If you are interested in attending our group, please feel free to drop in. You can also bring a friend. It is a great opportunity to connect with other women in or outside of the congregation. If you have any questions, please contact Janice McHugh email or phone: buster718@msn.com or 617-543-5406.


Midweek Lenten Soup Supper & Worship – 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Lenten Soup Suppers and Evening Prayer Services will be held on five Wednesdays during Lent.

Dinner will be from 6:00-6:45 and worship

will be held from 6:45-7:30. If you would like to bring soup or bread for the Soup Suppers, please sign up on the table in the hallway outside of the pastor's office.

Heifer Project

 "Each year during Lent, the Sunday School participates in the Heifer Project. Each child receives their ark banks and calendars. At the end of four weeks, the money they collect is sent to Heifer International.

Heifer International is a global non-profit organization working to eradicate poverty and hunger. Heifer distributes animals, along with agricultural and values-based training to families in need around the work as a means of providing self-sufficiency.

This year we asking the congregation to participate. The Heifer project will begin on Monday, March 11th and run through Sunday, April 7th. If you are interested, please pick up your ark bank and calendar located on the table in the hallway. On **April 7th**, please return your ark bank to the church office. If you have any questions, please email/call Janice McHugh at buster718@msn.com or at 617-543-5406. Thank you in advance for your participation in this worthwhile service project."

First Communion

First Communion classes continue for children in second grade and older who have not yet received communion instruction.

There will also be a First Communion Event, for the students, on **May 4th**, 4:00-6:00 p.m. The First Communion Event will include, skits, games, a tour of the sacristy, and baking bread for use at the First Communion worship services.

First Communion worship will be held on **Sunday, May 5th**. The children can receive their First Communion at the 8:45 or 11:15 worship services on that day.

Holy Week worship assistants

Holy Week may be a month away, but we're already looking for volunteers to help out with the numerous worship services that week. There is a chart outside pastor's office listing what help is needed. Please see where you can help and sign up - thanks!



Holy Week Eggs

On **Palm Sunday, April 14th** the Sunday School invites you to participate in a special activity. We will be creating "Holy Week Eggs", eggs that contain a special symbol and scripture readings for every day in Holy Week, to help focus your minds on the events of Holy Week throughout the week. People of all ages are invited to participate and create a set of Holy Week eggs for your household to enjoy. We will gather in Kask Hall between services (10 am to 11 am). To ensure enough supplies, we ask that you indicate your interest in attending on the sign-up sheets outside the church offices.

Easter Egg Hunt for Kids



On **Easter Sunday, April 21st**, children, toddlers through 8th grade are invited to participate in an Easter Egg hunt on the church grounds during the Easter Brunch. The children will gather in the courtyard at 10:15 a.m. to participate. Younger children (toddlers through 2nd grade) will get a head start, and

then the older children will be invited to participate as well.

If you would like to **donate a bag of candy** to help fill the eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt, you can drop them off in the hallway in the basket labeled Easter egg hunt. We need about 10 bags of candy. If we end up with extra, we will use it in the Next Steps Ministry Care Packages.

Easter Brunch



We've barely begun Lent, but we do need to let you all know that **Easter Brunch** will be between services again this year. There

WILL be a number of sign-up sheets outside Pastor's office.

We need folks to help set up – bring breakfast items – serve – and then clean up. There's something for everyone! The contact person regarding this joyous event, is Nancy Gorton: fingernails@comcast.net

The Spring Rummage Sale is Coming!

This is an event for all members of Emmanuel and friends.

Please start to bring in your good stuff for donation **after second** service on Sunday, April 21st (remember that is Easter Day and there are many activities be going on that day here). Once again, we must insist that you **do not** bring TV's, monitors, or computers as it costs us money to discard them if they don't sell. Thank you for understanding.

We will be setting up on Wednesday, April 24 and Thursday, April 25, starting around 9:00

until we're too tired to continue, usually sometime after lunch.

The rummage sale will be Friday, **April 26** and Saturday, **April 27**, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. We hope that you're available to help sometime during these hours. We can especially use some help on Wednesday morning to set up tables and Saturday afternoon to bring our leftovers to Savers and to clean up Kask Hall. *Any* time you can give is truly appreciated.

This past year we have used some of the proceeds to buy items not in the church budget, such as the new table rack in Kask Hall and to help pay for the new oil candles for the seven light candelabras. We also provide camperships to Calumet. This year, we plan on purchasing some new metal chairs to replace some of the worn ones.

This is a fun event with much laughter and food. We supply coffee, snacks and yummy lunches all four days. If you have any questions, please talk to Arlene Cegelis (781-762-0360), acegelis@norwoodlight.com. Thank you.



Care Packages for Next Steps Ministry...



We are collecting items for our Next Steps Ministry program for our congregation's young adults, who are 18-22 and/or in college. We currently have 7 young people participating in our Next Steps Ministry. The care packages will be packed sometime shortly **AFTER** Easter, so please bring your items to church **by** Easter

Sunday—April 21. Thanks!

Highlighters	Microwave popcorn	Hot Cocoa	Candy
Hot Drink Mugs	Packaged Snacks (<i>Note: chips don't travel well</i>)		
Small Notebooks	Gum	Pens	Pencils
Index Cards	Post-it Notes	Gloves	
Microwavable meals (<i>macaroni and cheese, soups, etc.</i>)		Single packs of coffee & tea	

Holy Week Schedule

April 14	Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion Worship 8:45 & 11:15 a.m. Reading of the Passion according to St. Luke
April 18	Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30 p.m.
April 19	Good Friday 3:00 p.m. Worship - Stations of the Cross 7:30 p.m. Worship - Tenebrae
April 20	Easter Vigil 7:00 p.m. Worship at Emmanuel
April 21	Easter Day Worship 8:45 & 11:15 a.m. Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt between services

The Holy Week Worship Responsibilities Chart is now posted outside Pastor's offices. There are many opportunities to serve at the various Holy Week Services. Please consider and sign up where you can serve.

LWR Personal Care Kits – Supplies Collection



Lutheran World Relief

During March and April, we are collecting items to make **Personal Care Kits**. These are the kits that LWR needs the most. We can **only** send the items requested by LWR – no deviations or additions. For more information:

<http://lwr.org/personalcarekits>.

Baskets are in the hallway outside the church offices for you to place items. Thank you once again for the generous support of this annual project!

You may wish to take this check list with you to the store.

- ___ **light or medium weight** bath towel approximately
52" x 27" (dark color recommended)
- ___ bath-size bars of soap (**2-3 per kit totaling 9 oz.** in its original wrapping)
- ___ adult-sized toothbrush (*in its original packaging*)
- ___ nail clippers

Low cost towels are available at Walmart or Ann and Hope (Millis). In addition, many of the other items can be found at Dollar Tree in Norwood.

NOTE: It costs about \$2.65 for LWR to send these kits overseas. Donations to cover the cost of postage are appreciated. (Checks for this project can be made out to Emmanuel Lutheran Church, with **"LWR postage" in the notation area of the check.**)

New England Synod Raised over ½ Million for World Hunger!

\$561,796 Wow! That's how much members of the New England Synod gave to the ELCA World Hunger campaign during 2018, according to recently received year-end reports. This figure represents more than a 16% increase over giving in 2017.



What a wonderful testament to the generosity of both individuals and congregations here in New England who understand the importance of this critical ministry. According to the United Nations, more than one in ten people globally do not have access to sufficient food. In the U.S. alone, there are more than 40 million people who are food insecure. ELCA World Hunger

works with partners around the world, providing immediate relief from hunger and connecting people with the resources they need to produce food and gain access to clean water, education, health care and sources of income. Through their efforts, long-term, sustainable change can be accomplished. Thank you for helping to make this possible! -- *NE Synod News* 3/14/19.

Members of Emmanuel – thank you to all who support this ministry with special offerings!
