

Francel Newsletter March 2024

Readin

Happenings at Emanuel!

Saturday, March 02—Craft Inn

Sunday, March 10—Confirmation & Joyful Noise Offering, Daylight Savings Time Begins

Tuesday, March 12—ROMEO's (and Friends) Meet

Sunday, March 17—Blood Pressure Checks with Crystal, Church Council Meeting

Monday, March 18—Newsletter Articles Due

Sunday, March 24—Palm Sunday

Monday, March 25—Ale & the Almighty

Thursday, March 28—Maundy Thursday, First Communion & Youth Lock-In

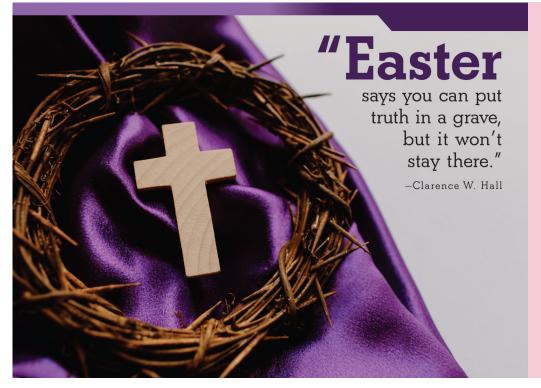
Friday, March 29—Good Friday

Sunday, March 31—Easter Sunday

Monday, April 1—Tuesday April 2—Office Closed

Tai Chi each **Monday** and **Thursday** morning at 10 a.m. in the upstairs Youth Center. Bible Study each **Thursday** at 9:30 a.m. in the upstairs conference room. Mission Statement: Forgiven by Grace, Serving by Faith

Vision Statement: To Grow in Faith, Love, and Spirit



In This Issue
A Post from the Pastor2
Ale & The Almighty2
Archiving Angels3
Meals at Sequels3
Family Easter Event3
Find Your Niche4
Worship Assistants5
Birthdays & Anniversaries 6
Event Calendar7
Council Notes8
Lutheran Services in Iowa9
Hats & Mittens9
Online Giving9
Bethany General Store10
Thoughts & Prayers11
Kitchen Courtesy11
Attendance & Offerings11
Finance Team Update11



A Post from the Pastor

By the time you read this we will have observed Ash Wednesday and begun our Lenten observance. I've had some new folks among us ask just what exactly Lent is. In Scripture immediately after Jesus' baptism the Holy Spirit drives Jesus out into the wilderness



where he fasts for forty days after which Satan appears and challenges him. In the Middle Ages if someone committed a serious enough sin to grievously upset the community that person's penetance—the opportunity to show they were sincerely sorry and had truly repented--they would dress in sackcloth and ashes and stand outside on the stoop

of the church for all to see as they entered for worship. After forty days the person was given a ceremonial bath and given a clean white gown to wear. As time went on people would fast and pray for an extended period of time for spiritual reasons and over time became the Lenten observance we practice today. The ashes typically were made from last year's blessed palm branches from Palm Sunday, Some churches still practice this. However the palms don't burn evenly and need to be sifted before use on Ash Wednesday so most churches purchase their ashes. A little goes a long way!

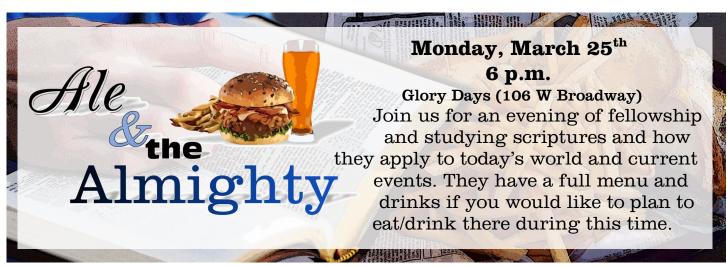
During Ash Wednesday as each person receives their ashes the pastor will say the words, "remember you are dust and to dust you shall return". Maybe it's because Lent begins with Valentines Day but this year my imagination is taken back to our beginnings in Genesis. God bends over and fashions the first person from the dust of the earth. If we are dust, then God has been with us from even before our beginning and took active part in molding and shaping us in God's image. That intimacy is absolutely lovely and touching to me. It reminds me that I have value, that we all have value, blessed, loved, redeemed, and made holy. And when we return to the dust from which we were created, God will remain with us still. One of my favorite hymns is Borning Cry and I love especially the last verse: When the evening closes in/and you shut your weary eyes/I'll be there as I have always been/with just one more surprise.

Even though for some of us we hear our whole lives that we are created in God and when we draw our last breath and as we exhale we return to God, it's been my experience that is still something of a shock for folks. They question and they wonder if they've been good enough. Family, if even only nominally religious, will wonder about their loved one's future after they're no longer among them. And it's the one time that people will still seek out the church some part of them seeking what the church can offer in their deepest grief.

And what is God's surprise after we've closed our weary eyes? We become reborn, recreated, not from dust, but of something everlasting, enduring, durable, permanent, and we remain with the one that loves us best for all eternity. What a beautiful promise to live into day by day.

I wish for all of you a blessed and Holy Lent. Remember you are loved. From the dust from which we came, God is there, and to the dust we return to, God is there.

See you in church, Pastor Cara



Archiving Angels

Submitted by Jan Husmann

There are many photos in an upstairs room, Pastor Cara's former office.

There are a table and materials to use.

Barb Burns and I plan on working on these.

We could meet to discuss the project.

Let me know if you have even a small interest. Generations to come will be thankful.



Feeling Generous?
Submitted by
Fan Husmann

Sequels by Ace Hardware could use fifteen to twenty Grab and Go lunches each Monday through Friday.

I have been taking food on Wednesdays.



Let me know if vou'd like to help with preparation or donations of money or food.

I have it down to a system.



What does an acolyte do?

Our acolytes help throughout the entire worship service. For many years, this has been a job that our confirmation students and some of our older elementary age students take on.

If you look closely, the tie on the acolytes robes correspond to what church season we are in. Right now, since we are in the season of Lent, the color is purple.

Acolytes light the candles at the start of each worship service. Mike Loos makes sure that candles have oil and the candle lighter has long enough wicks in them.

Those who acolyte need to pay attention to the service order, as they pass the offering plates to the ushers and then return them to their places after the offering.

The last few years we have also had acolytes help with distributing communion. In the past they have held the basket for the used cups, but we have had some younger helpers and adults who do this from time to time.

At the end of the service, acolytes put out the candles and walk out with the pastor.

Those of any age are encouraged to help with this task (we will not give the toddlers fire though).

What does a lector do?

Lectors help bring another voice to the service. They deliver the First and Second reading from the lectern on Sundays during the service.

Our readings are laid out well in advance, so we know what they will be up to a year ahead of time. Michaela prints out a copy in a larger print because sometimes the one in the book can be hard to read. She also emails the readings to the lector earlier in the week so the reader has time to review them and check if there are any Biblical names or terms that might be hard to pronounce.

What does a livestream tech do?

Most Sundays you will find Michaela running the livestream from Cindy's office. Amari Johnson, Kathy Schneckloth and Mike Hipnar have filled in as well. There is a detailed instruction book with pictures for anyone who is running it for the first time.

Michaela normally has it scheduled and programed, so that the person running it on Sunday mornings just needs to open the browser on the computer to open StreamYard.

We have three cameras in the sanctuary, we can switch to, and am extra monitor by the computer allows us to adjust the angle before switching to a particular camera.

Every line that appears at the bottom of the screen on our broadcasts are ones she programs in earlier in the week. Each

of these lines appears when the livestream tech clicks on it, so they need to pay close attention to the service.

The sound tech controls the sound that comes across on the livestream. Due to some limitations, sometimes you can't hear the congregation as well, but we would need extra mics, which could also pick up personal conversations, which we don't want as well.



Worship Assistant Schedule
(if unable to serve as scheduled, please arrange a substitute and notify the church office of the change)

Sunday, March 3	9:30 a.m. Service	Thursday, March 28	7 p.m. Service
Ushers	Greg & Linda Steensland	Ushers	
Acolyte	Garett & Grant Ashcraft	Acolyte	
Lector		Lector	
Altar Guild		Altar Guild	
Communion Assistants	Garett & Grant Ashcraft	Communion Assistants	
Visual Tech	Darlene Jeppesen	Visual Tech	Darlene Jeppesen
Sound Tech		Sound Tech	
LiveStream Tech		LiveStream Tech	
Coffee Hour	Rick & Jan Stone	Coffee Hour	
Sunday, March 10	9:30 a.m. Service	Friday, March 29	7 p.m. Service
Ushers	Greg & Linda Steensland	Ushers	
Acolyte	Tayah Nixt	Acolyte	
Lector		Lector	
Altar Guild		Altar Guild	
Communion Assistants	Tayah Nixt	Communion Assistants	
Visual Tech	Darlene Jeppesen	Visual Tech	
Sound Tech		Sound Tech	
LiveStream Tech		LiveStream Tech	
Coffee Hour		Coffee Hour	
Sunday, March 17	9:30 a.m. Service	Sunday, March 31	7 a.m. Service
Ushers	Greg & Linda Steensland	Ushers	
Acolyte	Garett & Grant Ashcraft	Acolyte	Garret & Grant Ashcraft
Lector		Lector	
Altar Guild		Altar Guild	
Communion Assistants	Garett & Grant Ashcraft	Communion Assistants	Garret & Grant Ashcraft
Visual Tech	Darlene Jeppesen	Visual Tech	
Sound Tech		Sound Tech	
LiveStream Tech		LiveStream Tech	
Coffee Hour		Coffee Hour	
Sunday, March 24	9:30 a.m. Service	Sunday, March 31	9:30 a.m. Service
Ushers	Greg & Linda Steensland	Ushers	Greg & Linda Steensland
Acolyte		Acolyte	Tayah Nixt
Lector		Lector	
Altar Guild		Altar Guild	
Communion Assistants		Communion Assistants	Tayah Nixt
Visual Tech	Darlene Jeppesen	Visual Tech	
Sound Tech		Sound Tech	
LiveStream Tech		LiveStream Tech	
Coffee Hour		Coffee Hour	



<u>March 01</u> Deloris Christensen

> March 02 Nick Haats Roux Smith

March 03 Judy Pleas Alexander VanSickle

March 05 Gayle Grap Debbie Steensland

March 06
Joel Hauschild
Croix Smith

March 08 Dee Swanger

March 09 Owen Hansen Macy Kephart Ruth Nelson

March 10 Derek Knutson

March 12 Shelby Johnson

March 13 Kinsley Cahalan Caeli McDowell Killion McDowell

March 16 Michael Garreans Jill Gress

<u>March 17</u> Judith Borwick Ron Stairs

March 20 Jacquie Moats March 21 Angelina Maxwell

<u>March 22</u> Dean Loos Anina Madsen

> March 25 Mike Burns

March 26 Stephen Lewis

March 29
Ciara Hite
Chuck Madsen
Jim Nelson
John Smith II

<u>March 31</u> Emma Richards Max Richards



March 7 Chuck & Peg Madsen

March 9
Joel & Christi Hauschild

March 14
Jerome & Wanda Thielen

March 24
Tyler & Jamie Hansen

March 31 Todd & April Eyberg



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:30 am—10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion& Sunday School 10:30 am Annual Meeting 2 pm SCA meet upstairs	26 10 am Tai Chi	27 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer	9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Confer- ence Room 10 am Tai Chi	1	2 10 am Craft Inn
3 9:30 am-10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion&Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour/ Photos Meeting 2 pm SCA meet upstairs	4 10 am Tai Chi	5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	6 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer	7 9:30 am Adult Bible Study at Village Inn East (first Thursday of the month) 10 am Tai Chi	8	9
10 Joyful Noise Offering 9:30 am-10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 11 am Confirmation 2 pm SCA meet upstairs Spring Jorward	11 10 am Tai Chi	12 8:30 am ROMEO's (& Friends) meet @ Village Inn <u>East</u>) 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	13 8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer	9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Confer- ence Room 10 am Tai Chi	15	16
9:30 am-10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion & Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour & Blood Pressure Checks with Crystal 11 am Church Council Meeting 2 pm SCA meet upstairs	18 10 am Tai Chi SUBMIT VOUR ARTICLES	19 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room 7 pm Church Council Meeting	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room 6 pm Lenten Dinner 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer	21 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Confer- ence Room 10 am Tai Chi	22	23
24 Palm Sunday 9:30 am-10:30 am Worship with Holy Communion& Sunday School 10:30 am Coffee Hour 2 pm SCA meet upstairs	25 10 am Tai Chi 6 pm Ale & the Almighty at Glory Days	26 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room	9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Confer- ence Room 10 am Tai Chi 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service	7 pm Good Friday Service	30 10 am Easter Craft Workshop & Easter Egg Hunt
31 Easter Sunday 7 am Sunrise Service 8:45 am –9:15 am Easter Breakfast 9:30 am Easter Worship Plappy Easter 1	1 10 am Tai Chi	2 5:30 pm Girl Scouts in Community Room	8:30 am Mission Action Quilters Upstairs 9:30 am-3 pm Bobbin Chasers (Community Sewing Group) in community room	4 9:30 am Adult Bible Study in Confer- ence Room 10 am Tai Chi	5	6 10 am Craft Inn

Council Minutes for February 18, 2024

Recorded by Michelle Rowe

<u>Members Present</u>: Pastor Cara Knutson, Greg • Steensland, Mike Hipnar, Richard Reed, Connie Edson, and Michelle Rowe

Members Absent: Ron Reiff, Lori Lynn Ahrends and Brittney Smith

The meeting was called to order at 10:51 a.m. by President Greg Steensland.

Devotions: Greg Steensland

"God to provide us guidance for this year and years to come."

Council Agenda:

- Bathroom renovation update by Alan Ellis:
 - ⇒ Floor drain
 - ⇒ Handicap handles
 - ⇒ Both restrooms are nearing completion!
- Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Mike Hipner to approve January meeting minutes. Approved.
- Motion by Mike Hipner, seconded by Connie Edson to approve the Treasurer's report. Approved.
- Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Connie Edson to approve the Consolidated Funds Activity report.
- Discussion held. Approved
- Motion by Mike Hipnar, seconded by Connie Edson to approve the Capital and Building Accounts Fund report.
- Discussion held. Approved.
- Motion by Connie Edson, seconded by Mike Hipnar to approve the Memorial Fund report. Discussion held. Approved
- Committee liaisons were assigned as follows:
 - ⇒ Stewardship & Finance: Richard Reed
 - ⇒ Children & Youth: Brittney Smith
 - ⇒ Mutual Ministry: Mike Hipnar
 - ⇒ Worship & Music: Mike Hipnar and Lori Lynn Ahrends
 - ⇒ Evangelism: Greg Steensland
 - ⇒ Property: Michelle Rowe
 - ⇒ Wider Ministries: Connie Edson

- Pastor Cara reported on Mardi Gras luncheon/ silent auction that raised \$734.
- Church council will provide the Lenten meal on Wednesday March 20th.
- Motion by Mike Hipnar, seconded by Connie Edson to create a line item "Events Fund" on the
- Consolidated Funds Activity report. Discussion held. Approved.
- Motion by Connie Edson, seconded by Richard Reed to approve Pastor's vacation days Monday March 4th to Wednesday March 6th. Pastor plans to be back for Lenten Midweek service but Sherri Stinson has agreed to lead Holden Evening Prayer as a precaution. Discussion held. Approved.
- Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Mike Hipnar to approve the use of funds from the Noran Davis estate towards the estimate from Alan Enterprises LTD INC to complete the women's restroom. Discussion held. Approved
- Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Connie Edson to approve the use of funds from the Noran
- Davis estate towards the final invoice on the men's restroom.
- Mike Hipnar to choose 3 people for collaborative brainstorming.
- Review guidelines, procedures, and the application form for use of space at Emanuel. All in an effort to promote using the church facilities to increase revenue.
- Discussion for ideas to grow the church. Deacon Eric Haitz from the ELCA Senate to be invited to the March council meeting to brainstorm about Emanuel's future.
- Connie Edson will do devotions for the March meeting.
- Next council meeting is Sunday March 17th at 10:45 a.m.
- Motion by Richard Reed, seconded by Mike Hipnar to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. Approved.

National Professional Social Work Month

Submitted by Joyce Williams



March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we are grateful for the many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving our communities across the state!

At LSI, we believe every lowan deserves the independence they need to thrive. LSI's Host Homes is an innovative way LSI is serving adults with disabilities. Through this program, an individual moves from Supported Community Living into a private family home with a carefully selected mentor. This program is built entirely around an individual's goals and interests, and LSI's extensive matching process ensures the mentor and mentee are a great fit.

Take a moment to read the following story from a Host Homes mentee:

"My journey with LSI's Host Homes started in early 2023. I've known my mentor for a few years while he provided hourly services to me. We learned about Host Homes and thought it would be a good fit for us. I moved into my mentor's home where he helps me maintain a daily routine with schoolwork, household

tasks, daily living skills, improving independence, and more

I attend a college nearby and go to classes a few days a week. I am able to navigate the local bus system to access my community to attend classes and visit friends. My mentor is always available to transport me into the community as needed.

This summer, I went on a trip across the country with one of my classes. While on this trip, I was able to maintain my independence with limited support, but I knew my mentor would be available by phone to assist me with my coping skills and problem solving. This trip was a big success for me knowing I had support only a phone call away.

I like LSI's Host Homes Program because my mentor supports me in the way I want to be supported, assists me with some daily tasks I struggle with, and understands me."

If you are interested in becoming a Host Homes mentor and helping a fellow lowan achieve independence, please visit LSIowa.org/HostHomes for more information.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the Iove of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Warming Hearts & Heads (and Hands & Feet)

Submitted by Angel McGee

Spring is approaching and we are able to put away our warm winter clothing but Wider Minis-

tries would like to thank everyone that donated hats, gloves, and mittens that decorated one of the Christmas tree in December. These were much appreciated with the deep freeze we experienced in January. Emmanuel helped provide hats, mittens, and gloves for the Rue elementary school hats, mittens, and gloves drive, donated to a local daycare, and distributed gloves for clients being served through the Southwest Iowa Region Mental Health and Disability services. If anyone ever knows someone that has an immediate need for these items during the cold weather do not hesitate to let us know as these items can be donated sooner. We do have some storage space if you see these outerwear items on clearance and want to donate for next winter. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.



Online Giving

Did you know that we have the option of online giving? You can download the Vanco Faith app on your mobile device through the Apple Store or Google Play, or you visit our website at https://www.emanuelcb.org/ There are customizable giving options, including giving to different funds with one donation and you also have the option of setting up reoccurring payments. You are also able to view your electronic giving history through the app.



Help stock the general store!

Below is a list of needs for the General Store at Bethany Lutheran Home. Please place them in the marked box in the Community Room. There is a particular need for personal care items.





















THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP SUPPLYING THESE ITEMS TO OUR RESIDENTS!



Jeanne Andrews

Al Martens Julie Powell Deloris Christensen

Norma Mass Melody Schott Owen Hansen
Jane Meyer

Paul Schott

Sharon Hansen

Patty Maxwell

Tommy Schott

Norma Heath

Ruth Sullivan

Jim ONeill

There is no "kitchen fairy" at Emanuel

Submitted by Jan Stone



Without a full-time custodian, it is up to all of us to make sure we leave things cleaner/better than how we found them. It can be hard with busy schedules, but please keep the following in mind if you use the kitchen so we can keep it looking good and keep pests away.

- If you use dishes, cups, glasses, pitchers, coffee pots etc. etc. in the kitchen, wash them.
- When you wash them, dry them. (Do not leave in the drainer.)
- We do have a dishwasher that can be used for larger loads of dishes, or there is dish soap by the sink
- When you dry them, put them away. Most cupboard are labeled with what belongs in them.
- Please do not leave "stuff" in the kitchen. If it is for an upcoming event, mark it for that event or put your name on it and its intended use.
- Do not leave leftover food on the counter after events and/or coffee hour and if you do, mark as to what it can be used for or donate it. Many times leftover donuts are left in the kitchen for a week and end up being thrown away. Ants are also attracted to any food left our or dirty dishes in the sink.
- If you put something in the refrigerator, put your name or intended use on it and date it.
- There is also a spray mop with a PH neutral cleaner in it, which makes it easy to clean up any spills. It is located in the furnace room near the offices.

Many of us have spent hours washing and drying dishes, putting away dishes, pots and pans etc. left in the drainer, cleaning counter tops and finding a home for "stuff" just left on the counters before we could get ready for a soup supper or a planned event.







Week of:	In-Person Attendance:	Online Views:	Total Attendance:	Offerings:
February 04	56	21	77	n/a
February 11	93	14	107	n/a
February 18	87	12	99	n/a
February 25	82+	42	124	n/a

Finance Team Update

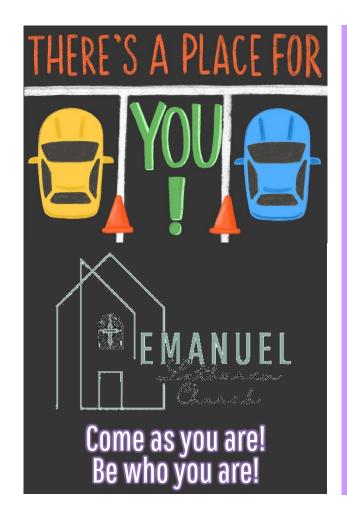
Income & Expenses Monthly and YTD

January Income:	\$27,553.12	YTD Income:	\$27,553.12
January Expense:	\$16,840.58	YTD Expense:	\$16,840.58
January Balance	\$10,712.54	YTD Balance	\$10,712.54
•		Plus Carryover	(\$576.26)
		General Budget Fund	\$10 136 28



Emanuel Lutheran Church 2444 North Broadway Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0499

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Mission Statement: Forgiven by Grace, Serving by Faith Vision Statement: To Grow in Faith, Love, and Spirit

Emanuel Lutheran Church 2444 N. Broadway
Council Bluffs, IA 51503-0499
(712) 323-9665 Emergencies: (712) 314-0085
Like us on facebook: facebook.com/emanuellutherancbia
Visit us on the web at: www.emanuelcb.org
Follow us on Twitter at: https://twitter.com/Lutheranla

Office Hours:

Monday 9 a.m.—1 p.m., Tuesday –Friday 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the worship center followed by coffee hour in the community room. Services are streamed live on YouTube, Facebook & Twitter

during the Sunday worship service (September—May)

Pastor Cara Knutson (pastor@emanuelcb.org)
Director of Music Ministries, Cindy Richards (music@emanuelcb.org)
Parish Assistant, Michaela Lewis (office@emanuelcb.org)
Children & Youth Programming, Stephen Lewis (youth@emanuelcb.org)
Financial Secretary, Darlene Reed
Treasurer, Connie Solon (finance@emanuelcb.org)