

The Bell Tower

Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
April 2019

Worship Schedule

April 7

Fifth Sunday of Lent
Adult Forum at 9:00 a.m.
Worship at 10:00 a.m.

April 10

Mid-week Lenten Service
Soup at 6:00 p.m.
Bible Reflection at 6:30 p.m.
Worship at 7:00 p.m.

April 14

Palm Sunday
Worship at 10:00 a.m.
Rejoicing Spirits at 4:00 p.m.

April 18

Maundy Thursday
Worship @ Zwingli at 7:00 p.m.

April 19

Good Friday
Worship @ Zwingli at 7:00 p.m.

April 21

Easter Sunday
Worship at 10:00 a.m.

April 28

First Sunday after Easter
Adult Forum at 9:00 a.m.
Worship at 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

The Congregations of Emmanuel, Trinity UCC and Zwingli UCC will come together to observe Maundy Thursday on April 18 and Good Friday on April 19 at Zwingli. Both worship services will be at 7:00 pm. Please come join us at Zwingli for the most solemn time on the Christian calendar.



Pastor John's Installation Ceremony

Save the Date

Pastor John's Installation Ceremony will be held on **Saturday, June 8th at 3:00 PM.** A reception will follow the Ceremony. Please come and join us in *officially* welcoming Pastor John to Emmanuel as our new Pastor!

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Pastor's Letter

Dear friends in Christ,

After what always seems like a long winter, it's good to see those first signs of Spring. Part of the experience of Lent, is realizing that even though our surroundings are grey and barren, we know there are beautiful blooms and lush foliage just waiting to burst from their winter slumber.

⁶ So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness. (Col 2:6-7)

As daylight increases and lengthens our days, and as sunlight warms the ground, what has seemed dead for months begins to move, emerging from the life-giving roots that sustain life even when the soil is frozen. Without roots, the plants would not be able to survive the cold, harsh, dark cruelty of the winter season.

Lent gives us time to remember Jesus is the root of our faith. As we begin to see the first flowers springing up from the ground, we remember that our connection to Jesus is what sustains us through times when we don't feel so alive – when we feel frozen in place – when we are burdened by the sadness that darkens our days.

No plant cut off from its root can live very long, let alone survive a long, cold winter. None of us who have been given the gift of faith can remain faithful without staying rooted and built up in Jesus Christ. Lent is a call to remember – to return – to remain connected to the source of all that is good in our lives. As you continue to observe this Holy Lent, I invite you to return to the root of your faith through prayer, worship, scripture and fellowship. You will be strengthened by this and your bloom and blossom will be a life lived richly and in full thanksgiving to the one who sustains you. The one died and rose again, because he remained rooted in God during his life, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Spring will also bring with it the joy and wonder of Easter. As we move forward to that glorious morning, I want to remind you to take part in the worship and activities here at Emmanuel. On Wednesdays during Lent, we continue to host weekly soup suppers and worship with our friend from Zwingli and Trinity UCC. Please join us at 6PM and stay rooted in Jesus as we move toward Easter.

Holy Week services will be held at Zwingli this year, with Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services beginning at 7PM. Walk with your sisters and brothers as we travel the road to the cross.

On another note, I've had the privilege to be your Pastor for less than two months as I write. I have begun the process of making connections with many of you, and I'm grateful for that – and for the patience you've afforded me as I get to know the church and the community it serves. I would like to begin to make this process a bit more formal, and will begin to coordinate a series of individual, family and small group visits over the next three months. Aside from getting to know all of you a little better, these visits will give me a chance to hear from you about our experiences with church life, what your hopes and dreams are for this ministry we share together, and a bit about your concerns and disappointments. Establishing these deeper connections will give us all an opportunity to stay rooted in our life together as brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Stay tuned for information about sign-up sheets and invitations related to the visit program.

May God grant you a Blessed Lent, a Glorious Easter and many chances to remain rooted in faith.

Pastor John

† Confirmation Class †

Please note the upcoming dates:

April 7th:

11:30 AM: Lunch
12:00-1:00 PM: Class

April 13th:

8:30 AM: Community Breakfast –
ALL Confirmands Serve

April 14th:

Palm Sunday –
No Confirmation Class

April 21st:

Easter Sunday –
No Confirmation Class

April 28th:

11:30 AM: Lunch
12:00-1:00 PM: Class

**Please check the Worship Assistant Schedule each week to see who is the: Crucifer († after the Confirmands name), Plates (P after each Confirmands name), Candles (C after each Confirmands name) and which family is responsible for pizza for each Sunday*



Spring 2019 Choir Rehearsal Schedule

Chancel Choir

Post high school age and older
Rehearsal: Sunday mornings 11:30 to 12:30

Handbell Choir

High school age and older
Rehearsal: Wednesday evenings 6:30 to 7:30
(Dates/times subject to change due to Lenten Services)



North Penn and Friends Auxiliary

It is Emmanuel's turn to host North Penn and Friends Auxiliary on **April 2nd at 12 Noon** in Room A! They will be collecting baked goods for Silver Springs Martin Luther School's "**Pie Day**". If you can help make the children's day by donating a nut free baked item (cake, cookies, brownies and of course, pie) **please have your item to Emmanuel's Gathering Space by 10:30 AM on April 2nd!** Any questions please contact Cindy Crouthall: 215-721-1953



**Meet with Pastor John!
Sign Up in the Gathering Space
Convenient Dates & Times
in April and May**

Family Visits In Your Home	Small Groups at Emmanuel
Wednesday Mornings	Saturday Breakfast at 9 AM
Thursday Evenings	Sunday Brunch at 1PM



From the Church Office

Newsletter Deadline:

The deadline for all articles, Worship Assistant Schedules, etc. is **Friday, April 12th.** Nothing will be accepted after this date. Thank you for your help keeping the congregation informed!



In observance of Easter; the Church Office will be closed on Monday, April 22, 2019.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt on **April 20th at 10:00 AM.** **Bring your cameras to take pictures with the Easter Bunny.** Please help us by donating prefilled Easter Eggs for the children.



There is an Easter egg basket in the Gathering Space. Don't forget to mark your calendars! Also, the next Outreach Committee meeting will be on **April 14th** after church in the Church Parlor. Hope to see you there!

Annual Ladies Tea Luncheon

Save the Date



Our Annual Ladies Tea Luncheon will be held on **May 19th at 12:00 Noon!** We are making plans and getting more details so **Stay Tuned!** As the date gets closer and details are finalized, there will be information posted in the weekly Bulletin and the Bulletin Board in the Gathering Space!



Our Mission Statement...



...is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, nurture, service and outreach

Rejoicing Spirits

Please join us on **April 14th at 4:00 P.M.** at our joyful, inclusive worship as we lift the name of Jesus together. Rejoicing Spirits serves those with intellectual disabilities. We start at 3:30 p.m. with Sunday School and craft time. Worship starts at 4:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and refreshments are served immediately after the service. If you need transportation, please contact the church office at 215-723-7514. Come Rejoice With Us!



Prayer Shawl

Prayer Shawl meets on the first Sunday of each month at 1:00 PM in the Church Parlor to knit Prayer Shawls for those who are sick, depressed or just need to be wrapped in prayers and love. If you don't know how to knit- NO PROBLEM! We are always happy to teach and give help to those who want a few tips! All are welcome! Our next meeting is **April 7th.**



Sunday Morning Adult Class

Please join us each Sunday Morning in the Church Parlor at 9:00 AM for an Adult Bible Reflection. This class is led by Pastor John and class members.

Mid-Week Bible Study

Wednesday evening bible study is taking a break and will resume after Easter. Stay tuned for more information to come!

Men in Mission-Community Breakfast

Join us for our "Free Community Breakfast" every second Saturday of each month from 8:30 AM -10:00 AM. This month's Free Breakfast will be held on **April 13th.** Everyone is welcome!



Lunch Bunch

The Lunch Bunch will go to **O'Grady's on Wednesday, April 17th** and this time it better not snow! We'll meet at **12:00 noon** to enjoy lunch of your choice. As usual, we'll have a lot of conversation and fellowship with our friends and catch up on all the news. Join us for a midweek break from routine. You will be called to get the count and any transportation needs. New members always welcome. Questions? Call Gloria Heckler: 215-799-2264



Ladies Book Club

The Ladies Book Club selections are:

April: *The Last Mrs. Parish* by Liv Constantine



May: *Gentleman in Moscow* by Amer Towels. The Ladies Book Club meets the 3rd Monday of each month in the Church Parlor at

7:00 PM. All are welcome! Contact Mary Anne Morral at morral@verizon.net with any questions!

History of Easter

Easter, which celebrates the resurrection from the dead of Jesus Christ, is a holiday actually based on an ancient Pagan ritual. Unlike most holidays, Easter does not fall on the same set date each year. Instead, Christians in the West celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the full moon of the vernal equinox on March 21. Therefore, Easter is celebrated each year between March 22 and April 25. The exact origins of Easter are unknown, but some sources believe that the word “Easter” is taken from the Teutonic goddess of fertility and spring – Eostre. Easter has also been traced to the Latin words *Hebdomada Alba* – meaning white week – referencing Easter week in which white clothing is worn by people who get baptized.

The Pagan ritual of the Spring Equinox is a celebration of renewed life and the change that comes with spring. This solar festival is celebrated when the length of the day and the length of the night are equal, which occurs twice a year at the spring and fall Equinox. Throughout history, this turn in the seasons has been celebrated by various cultures that had held festivals in honor of their gods and goddesses at these times of the year. Today, Pagans continue to celebrate spring and attribute the change of the seasons to the powers of their god and goddess – also portrayed as The Green Man and Mother Earth.

For Christians, Easter is associated with the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ approximately 2,000 years ago. Jesus Christ, the true Messiah, was crucified and resurrected at the time of the Jewish Passover. Lent, a 40-day period that leads up to Easter Sunday, is a time of reflection that represents the 40 days that Jesus Christ had spent alone in the wilderness before beginning his ministry. At this time, Christians believe that he had survived many

temptations by the devil. The day before Lent starts, known as Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras, is a final celebration of fun and food before the fasting begins. The week before Easter is known as the Holy Week. It includes several important days, including Maundy Thursday, which commemorates the last supper, Good Friday, which honors the crucifixion day, and Holy Saturday, which is associated with the transition time between the crucifixion and resurrection.

People celebrate Easter according to their religious denominations and beliefs. On Easter Sunday, many children wake to find that the Easter Bunny has left them a basket of goodies, and that he has hidden eggs decorated earlier in the week. Children hunt for the decorated Easter eggs around their home, and many organizations hold Easter egg hunts for children in the neighborhood. The Easter Bunny, or “Easter Hare”, is a symbol of fertility, as rabbits have often multiple births. Roman beliefs state that all life comes from eggs. In Christian societies, eggs are considered to be a seed of life and are symbolic to Jesus Christ’s resurrection.

Easter remains one of the most popular religious celebrations in the world. In addition to the holiday’s religious significance, Easter also has a commercial side. This is evident in the mounds of marshmallow chicks and jelly beans that appear in stores at the start of every spring. Over the centuries, pagan traditions and folk customs from all over the world, including the Easter Bunny, candy, baskets, and Easter eggs, have become a standard part of this holy holiday.



HAPPY EASTER!

Easter Flower Order Form

The information you provide will be included in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.
Please return to the church office by Sunday, April 14. Thank you.

Number of plants: _____ @ \$7.00 per each = \$_____ total enclosed

Please check 1 or more:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by: _____

Following the 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday service, I will:

take it home leave it in the chancel to be donated to a homebound member

----- cut here -----

World Hunger Donation Form

The information you provide will be included in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.
Please return to the church office by Sunday, April 14. Thank you.

\$_____ total enclosed

Please check 1 or more:

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by: _____



Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
Contact Information

Pastor: Rev. John T. Heidgerd

Cell Phone914-275-3106
E-mail.....jheidgerd@gmail.com

Facilities Manager: Michael B. Geiger

Hours.....Monday through Friday: 6:00 a.m. – 12 noon;
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Office Phone.....215-723-7514
E-mail.....Mike@EmmanuelLutheranChurch.net

Parish Administrative Assistant: Richelle L. Jones

Office Hours-Monday through Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Office Phone.....215-723-7514
E-mail.....Emmanuel@EmmanuelLutheranChurch.net

Interim Director of Music: Deacon Ethel Geist

Office Phone.....215-723-7514
E-mail.....ethelgeist@comcast.net



Congregational Council

David Blaich.....	President
William Morral.....	Vice President
Cheryl Starke.....	Secretary
Carole Darragh	Chris Harubin
Evan Freed	Robert Renner
Julie Freed	Brian Pifer
Michelle Gilbert	Melinda Ferrara
Jane Vogel	

Committee Chairs

Altar Guild	Mary Ann Morral
Archivist.....	Gerry Blaich
Christian Education.....	Patricia Frankenfield
Men in Mission	Richard Landis
Personnel.....	Jennifer Casta
Property.....	John Wellington
Service Missions	Cheryl Starke
Worship and Music	Megan Campolei
Hospitality.....	Gerry Blaich and Jane Vogel
Outreach.....	Melinda Ferrara

April Birthdays:

- 2 Stephanie Moyer
Jeffery Powis
- 3 Megan Campolei
- 5 Emma Plinke
- 7 Samuel Slemmer
- 8 Dominick DeSalvo
Eric Stover
- 9 Pastor John Heidgerd
- 11 Dylan Drissel
Chryssie Miller
Nancy Wellington
- 12 Wesley Moyer
- 14 James Pifer
Joy Trumbore
- 16 Jaleel Cole
Dorothy Rodemer
Caitlin Steinly
- 18 Marlene Natali
- 20 Patricia Harpel
- 21 Doris Alderfer
Julea Foley
- 22 Janet Freed
Ashley Lewis
- 24 Jason Bealer
Robert Rounay
- 25 Stella Moyer
- 27 Jen Casta
April Nase
- 28 John Snyder
- 29 Madeline Stankus
Abigail Steinly



Emmanuel's Family

† Prayer List †

**In order to keep our Prayer List up to date, please inform the office of any changes*

Health and Healing

Members:

Doris Alderfer, Glo Buschmann, Joan Boyd, Jacqui Bond, Elaine Cash, Pat Conard, Bill Darragh, Norma Detwiler, Lorraine & Dominick DeSalvo, Kevin Dietz, Keira Drissel, Rita Fritz, Craig Freed, Louella Gehringer, Cindy Hichens, Tracy Irvin, John Kemmerer, Craig Kulp, Betty Jane Lederach,, Jane Niemczyk, Kermit Schnable, Anita & Joseph Sykes, Faye Wetzel, Ruth Yothers, Robert Ziegler

Friends of the Congregation:

Donna Clemens (Friend of Janel and Barry Gibson), Luca Condo (friend of Ruth Miller), Sabrina Haap (Ruth Miller's niece), Donald Heller (Shirley's brother-in-law), Dixie Kephart (Darlene's Mother), Ron Nace (Pifer family friend), Stewart & Steve Schrauger (brothers of Julie Freed), Michael Smith (friend of Cheryl Starke), Pam Valenti (Lou Gehringer's Sister), Debbie Schweizerhof (Friend of Bob & June Kulp), Kathryn Stover (Cindy Crouthamel's Mother) , Eric Sykes (Anita & Joe's Son), Alexander&Sylvia Wagwicz (Friends of DeSalvos) , Andrea Walther (Blythe Bealer's Aunt) , Suzanne Willauer (Ed Cash's Sister) , James (teenage son Of Jen Casta's friend), Pastor Ken & Amy Ensminger (Friends of the Buschmanns)

Comfort for the Bereaved

The Family and Friends of Gismunt Sutkaitis
The Family and Friends of Evelyn Billger

Serving in the Armed Forces

Senior Airman Justin Lesko (Neal and Toni Quinn's grandson)

Homebound Members

Current addresses for our homebound are posted in the Gathering Space

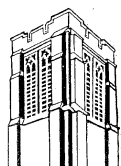
Doris Alderfer, William and Helen DeTurk, Norma Detweiler, Rita Fritz, Kitty Kramer, Martha Magargal, Bill and Mary Frank, Dorothy Wolgemuth



Emmanuel's Ministries

April 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
	1 5:30p Bushi Karate 8:00p AA Group	2 <i>12:00p North Penn Auxiliary ~Silver Springs Pie Day</i> 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:30p AA Step Group	3 5:30p Bushi Karate 6:00p Soup & Service	4 5:30p Bushi Karate	5	6 9:00a Bushi Karate		
7 Fifth Sunday of Easter 9:00a Adult Forum/Sunday School 10:00a Worship 11:00a Fellowship Hour 12:00p Confirmation Class 1:00p Prayer Shawl	8 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:00p Church Council 8:00p AA Group	9 Pastor John's Birthday 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:00p Worship & Music 7:30p AA Step Group	10 5:30p Bushi Karate 6:00p Soup & Service	11 5:30p Bushi Karate	12 Newsletter Deadline	13 8:30a Men in Mission Breakfast- *ALL CONFIRMANDS SERVE 9:00a Bushi Karate		
14 Palm Sunday 10:00a Worship 11:00a Fellowship Hour 11:15a Outreach Committee Meeting 4:00p Rejoicing Spirits NO CONFIRMATION CLASS Easter Flower orders due	15 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:00p Ladies Book Club 8:00p AA Group	16 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:30p AA Step Group	17 12:00p Lunch Bunch @ O'Grady's 5:30p Bushi Karate	18 Maundy Thursday 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:00p Service @ Zwingli	19 Good Friday 7:00p Service @ Zwingli	20 9:00a Bushi Karate 10:00a Easter Egg Hunt 		
21 Easter Sunday 10:00a Worship 11:00a Fellowship Hour NO CONFIRMATION CLASS	22 Office Closed 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:00p Property 8:00p AA Group	23 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:30p AA Step Group	24 5:30p Bushi Karate	25 5:30p Bushi Karate	26	27 9:00a Bushi Karate		
28 First Sunday of Easter 9:00a Adult Forum/Sunday School 10:00a Worship 11:00a Fellowship Hour 12:00p Confirmation Class	29 5:30p Bushi Karate 8:00p AA Group	30 5:30p Bushi Karate 7:30p AA Step Group						



Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
69 West Broad Street
Souderton, PA 18969

ADDRESS SERVICES REQUESTED

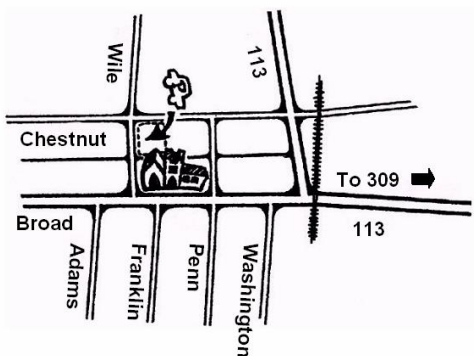


April 2019

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Faith Formation for all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
*The Sacrament of Holy Communion
is offered every Sunday.*
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour
Refreshments served

Wheelchair Accessible



Large Print Bulletins and
Hearing Devices Available

Pastor

Reverend John T. Heidgerd
Cell: 914-275-3106
Email: jheidgerd@gmail.com

Interim Music Director

Deacon Ethel Geist

Facilities Manager

Michael B. Geiger

Parish Administrative Assistant

Richelle L. Jones

Church Office

Phone: 215-723-7514

Hours: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday
8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Friday

E-Mail: emmanuel@emmanuelchurch.net

Web site: www.emmanuelchurch.net