Emmanuel's Informer

September 2026 Volume 58, Number 9

As I write this, I just put my own children on the bus for the first day of school. Calendars are filling up, and here at church, many of our fall ministries are beginning again too!

Sunday School begins September 13! We're excited to welcome our children back for another year of learning, growing, asking big questions, and discovering together what it means to follow Jesus.

Also on **September 13 at 11:15 a.m.**, we'll hold a **Confirmation Parents' Meeting**. Parents of our confirmation students are encouraged to attend as we look ahead to the coming year and talk about what to expect. Please bring your family calendars!!

And listen closely in our hallways, because **our choirs are resuming!** After the quieter rhythms of summer, we're looking forward to filling our worship with the voices of our choirs once again. Whether you're returning to choir or have been thinking about joining for the first time, this is a wonderful time to jump in.

Before all of that, we'll begin the month with **God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday on September 6**. This year, we are collecting **hygiene kits** as a tangible way to care for our neighbors. These simple, practical gifts are one small way we can put our faith into action and remind someone they are seen, valued, and loved.

Third graders, keep an eye on your mailboxes - we will gift you your Third Grade Bibles in worship on **September 27**! (Parents and caregivers, if that date is a "no go," just touch base with the pastor. We want to get God's Word in the hands of your child, regardless of the date.)

Come be a part of it. There's a place for you here.

Live streamed services are available on Emmanuel's Facebook page - see emmanuels.org or the weekly eNews for the link.

Call 610-477-0100 to listen to our services. (Please call during worship times to access the most recent service.)

Bulletins/announcements for all services can be found on our website: emmanuels.org

Sundays at 10:00am
Old Fellowship Hall

We are excited to offer Sunday School for children ages 3 to 8th grade! It is a time for our children to learn about God's love and many other lessons from his work, our Bible.

There is also an Adult class that meets at 10am in the Parlor under the leadership of Kurt Geiger.

Sunday School resumes on September 13.

Confirmation Planning Meeting

A planning meeting for all first year confirmation students – and their parents – will be held on **Sunday, September 13, at 11:15am** (after the Celebration worship service) – in the Old Fellowship Hall. At that time, requirements for Emmanuel's Confirmation program will be reviewed and dates for activities will be planned for the year, so remember to bring your home and school calendars. Please call Pastor Rachel or the church office if you have questions.

Choir Practice will resume on **Wednesday, September 9.** We will meet in the Choir Room from 6:30 - 7:30pm.

New voices are welcome!

Bell Choir rehearsals resume on **Sunday, September 13** at 11:15am, and will continue weekly.

Everyone who is interested in joining the bell choir is welcome. No experience is needed!

Third Grade Bible Class

Following a long-standing tradition, the people of Emmanuel's Church are ready to present 3rd graders with a Bible of their own.

We would like to invite all 3rd graders and their parents to a very important and special time of learning. On **Sunday, September 20 at 11am**, we are offering "An Introduction to the Bible for Third Graders". This is a wonderful opportunity to learn about the most important book you will ever own and read. Pastor Rachel will be teaching the class.

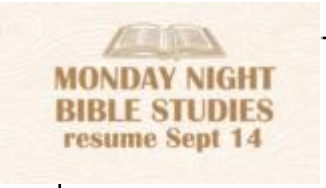
Bibles will be handed out on **September 27** at the beginning of the 10:00am Celebration Service in the Fellowship Hall.

This year for GWOH, we will be helping two organizations. First, we will provide 50 women's hygiene kits for our neighbors in need through Lutheran Disaster Relief. Next, we'd like to give back to an organization that helped one of our own when they were in need. The Kindness Project is a fully donation based, volunteer driven, nonprofit organization that provides support to foster families in the Lehigh Valley. Rachel and Mike Lebron were provided with much needed items free of charge from the Kindness Project when they unexpectedly learned they were receiving a newborn foster infant. We'll be collecting items for them to donate 30 teen boy hygiene kits and 30 generic children hygiene kits. If you would like to help by providing items, please sign up via sign up genius (scan the QR code). Paper sign-up sheets will also be available in the Gathering Area and Fellowship Hall. If you need help signing up, please call Janelle in the office and she will be happy to help. Bins will be located in the Gathering Area and Fellowship Hall.

The kits will be assembled on Sunday, September 6, at 9:30 in the Old Fellowship Hall.

If you are interested in donating to The Kindness Project monetarily, send a check to "The Kindness Project" 4752 Mill Road, Emmaus, PA 18049 or donate online by visiting www.mykindnessproject.org/donatemoney

Our annual blessing for pets will be **Sunday, October 4 at 4pm in the pavilion**. We ask that you leash your pet(s) or bring them in a cage or crate. Please invite neighbors and friends. This is a community activity that is open to any who would like to have their pets blessed.



There are two opportunities to study God's Word on Monday Evenings at 7pm.

All adults - all levels of biblical knowledge - are welcome to join us in the parlor for Bible study under the leadership of Kurt Geiger.

There is also a women's Bible study group which meets in the old fellowship hall under the leadership of Drinda Zimmerman.

The Ladies Morning Bible Study meets online via Zoom. Gloria Wallery has organized the group and is the host for this platform. They meet on Thursday mornings at 10:30am. Contact Gloria Wallery at gjwallery@gmail.com if you would like to join.

Grow in faith and friendship this fall! Whether you've studied the Bible for years or are opening it for the first time, you are welcome.

Have you felt the need for more support, more hope and/or more prayer in your life? Please consider joining our Prayer Partners group. We will be meeting the **2nd and 4th Sunday of the Month at 11:15am** in the Parlor. Please join us!

Chair Yoga

Yoga classes take place in the Fellowship Hall on Monday evenings at 5:30pm. Cost is $5 per class (pay as you go). Please bring a yoga mat or towel and wear comfortable clothes. All are welcome!

A GriefShare Group will be meeting on Thursday mornings, starting on **September 17**, at 10am in the Upstairs Gathering Area. Please contact Drinda Zimmerman at if you would like more information.

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NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Connections That Go Beyond Camp

Submitted by Stacey Burke, NEPA Synod Director of Communications and Bear Creek Camp Board Member

For generations, Bear Creek Camp has been a place where young people experience faith through community, creation, worship, play, and relationships. As a ministry supported by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod through Mission Support, the connection between Bear Creek Camp and the synod extends far beyond financial gifts.

Each summer, pastors and deacons from across the Northeastern & Southeastern Pennsylvania Synods are among those who become part of the camp community by serving as volunteer chaplains. This summer, the Rev. Liz Koerner from St. John Lutheran Church in Stroudsburg, PA and Bishop-Elect the Rev. Jennifer Dee each spent a week at Bear Creek Camp, offering support to campers and staff while experiencing the ministry of camp firsthand.

For Pastor Koerner, who has served as a Bear Creek chaplain three times, camp has long held a special place in her heart. "Through my years as a chaperone for Confirmation Camp at Calumet in New Hampshire, to working at a United Methodist camp during my summers in college, I have seen how an immersive experience in God's creation with loving counselors and inclusive environments can change the mind and heart of a child," she shared.

The role of a chaplain can look different each week. Chaplains may lead Bible studies, accompany campers on activities, provide pastoral care, support counselors, or simply offer another trusted presence within the camp community.

Bear Creek Camp Executive Director Collin Grooms sees that flexibility as one of the strengths of the program. "Every chaplain brings themselves to the role, which, like our summer staff and campers, is different for everyone," Collin said. "Each person adds to the overall tapestry of our camp community for the week by sharing their unique gifts, interests, and passions."

For Bishop-Elect Dee, serving as a chaplain offered the opportunity to return to a ministry that has been part of her own faith journey. She grew up attending camp and later served on summer staff at Camp Calumet in New England. "A chaplain spends a week at camp getting to know campers and staff and being a support to them both," she

explained. "They are an additional trusted adult to listen, laugh, learn, and connect."

Sometimes those connections happen in unexpected places. Bishop-Elect Dee recalled leading a Bible study from hammocks with a group of younger campers. As they ended their time together in prayer, voices began popping up from different hammocks as campers shared the things for which they were thankful.

Pastor Koerner experienced a similar moment during Family Camp while talking with a parent and their sons about trusting God, trusting themselves, and leaning on community during difficult times.

Camp ministry also has an impact on the clergy who serve. Pastor Koerner described a sense of God's presence at camp. "The Spirit is always moving, and God is always at work in ways we can't always know right away," she said. "But at camp it feels all encompassing and that at any moment joy and love and growth in faith can happen."

The relationship between Bear Creek Camp and the synod reaches beyond the camp property as well. During session five this summer, three Bear Creek Camp staff members traveled to Reading to serve alongside ministries including Café Esperanza, Refresh Berks, and Adventure Day Camp at Zion Spies Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Collin spent time at Café Esperanza, where he connected with the Rev. Rashon "Woody" Santiago and learned more about how another ministry supported by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod navigates that relationship. Bear Creek staff also brought camp into the community in a tangible way, taking archery equipment to Adventure Day Camp so its campers and staff could experience an activity normally associated with a week at Bear Creek.

These connections demonstrate how Mission Support can bring ministries together, allowing them to share resources, learn from one another, and discover new opportunities to serve. The chaplain program creates another bridge between Bear Creek Camp and congregations throughout the region. "Having chaplains from different churches across our two synods is impactful because they can provide a direct perspective of our shared ministry back to their community and congregation," Collin shared.

For families, seeing a familiar pastor or deacon at camp can provide an additional sense of connection and trust. The chaplain program also helps connect congregations more closely with the ministry they support. "It's an opportunity for first-hand connection with ministry realities and a chance to connect to where congregational donations are supporting ongoing ministry through gifts that support facilities projects and year-round operational needs," Collin said.

Through Mission Support, volunteer chaplains, shared resources, and relationships across ministries, Bear Creek Camp and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod continue to strengthen one another. What happens during a week at camp does not stay at camp. It travels home through campers, clergy, staff, families, and congregations, creating connections that continue long after summer ends.

Help Make Ministry Possible

Mission Support strengthens congregations, supports leaders, and helps new ministries take root across our synod and the wider church. Thank you for being part of this shared ministry. Learn more about Mission Support and how your congregation can support at godslove.org/missionsupport.

Bath Area Food Bank

During the month of **September,** Emmanuel's will help the Bath Area Food Bank by collecting:

Tomato Soup
Canned Vegetables
Dried Pasta (not spaghetti)
Applesauce (15oz can)

The Bath Area Food Bank is always in need of monetary donations which stretch farther than any amount of food that we can give.

Emmanuel's Meals from the Heart

We are looking for volunteers to make and deliver meals to Emmanuel's members in times of need. The more help we have, the less frequently our volunteers will need to provide meals.

Please contact Michele Geiger if you would like to be a part of this ministry.

Contact the church office or Michele Geiger if you are in need of meals.

Options for Giving

Thank you for your faithful giving. Our members continue to support our church and other ministries, both monetarily and with other donations. There are many options for giving:

1. **Bring** your offering to church with you on Sunday mornings.
2. **Sign up for electronic giving** through Vanco (formerly Simply Giving) - see Bob Bennett for information and/or forms.
3. **Mail** in your weekly/monthly contributions.
4. Use **Text+Give** (text the $ amount to 610-463-0435)
5. **Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement App**. Download the App and follow the prompts.
6. **Donate directly from our website** (www.emmanuels.org). Click on the DONATE page and follow the prompts.

If you have any issues or problems with any of these giving choices please contact the church office.

Thank you for your generosity!

Vanco (Simply Giving)

VANCO FAITH

It is encouraging to see both new and familiar faces at our worship services. Many of you already support the congregation with your time, talents and financial contributions … but greater participation is always welcome. We encourage you to look into our electronic giving program (Vanco). It's convenient for you and provides much-needed donation consistency for the church. Please contact Bob Bennett or call the church office (610-837-1741) for details.

Treasurer's Report as of July 2026

Total General Fund Income $177,620
Total General Fund Expenses $172,512

Income Over Expenses $5,108

Financial Secretary Report for June 2026

Account	Period Activity	YTD Balance
Giving Accounts		
100 - Regular Offering	17,996.78	129,752.36
Total Regular Offering	**$17,996.78**	**$129,752.36**
110 - Plate Offering	372.00	2,957.00
Total Regular & Plate Offering	**$18,368.78**	**$132,709.36**
121 - Christmas Offering	0.00	50.00
122 - Easter Offering	0.00	4,164.83
123 - Holy Thursday Offering	0.00	345.00
124 - Initial Offering	0.00	390.28
125 - Lent Offering	0.00	2,841.57
126 - Palm Sunday Offering	0.00	830.20
Total Special	**$0.00**	**$8,621.88**
130 - Miscellaneous Income	85.00	85.00
131 - Flowers	210.00	735.00
132 - Bulletins	0.00	12.00
133 - Easter Flowers	0.00	447.00
136 - Church house	1,175.00	7,050.00
Total Misc. Offerings	**$1,470.00**	**$8,329.00**
Total Reg. Misc. & Spec	**$19,838.78**	**$149,660.24**
200 - Building Offering	3,348.52	20,829.46
220 - Improvement Offering	350.00	1,820.00
Total Build & Imp Offerings	**$4,198.52**	**$22,649.46**
138 - Use of Church Facilities	300.00	750.00
140 - Snow Removal	0.00	552.76
410 - Social Ministry Offering	160.00	760.00
412 - Bath Area Food Bank	185.00	746.00
420 - World Hunger Offering	80.00	605.00
450 - Souper Sunday	0.00	271.76
510 - Sunday School Offering	0.00	39.46
530 - Bible School	0.00	100.00
540 - Youth Conference	0.00	206.46
600 - Cemetery - Grave Service	500.00	3,000.00
610 - Cemetery - Sale of Lots	0.00	4,550.00
644 - Memo - William G Kasper, Jr	0.00	50.00
649 - Memo - Kenneth Zinkand	0.00	150.00
650 - Memo - Harriet Meckes	0.00	880.00
651 - Memo - Robert Fehnel	0.00	100.00
652 - Memo - Barbara Fehnel	0.00	75.00
653 - Memo - Leonard Miltenberger	0.00	25.00
654 - Memo - Sandra Long	600.69	775.69
710 - Hershey Park	0.00	2,110.65
Total Giving Accounts	**$25,862.99**	**$188,057.48**

Financial Secretary Report for July 2026

Account	Period Activity	YTD Balance
Giving Accounts		
100 - Regular Offering	18,198.34	147,950.70
Total Regular Offering	**$18,198.34**	**$147,950.70**
110 - Plate Offering	202.00	3,159.00
Total Regular & Plate Offering	**$18,400.34**	**$151,109.70**
121 - Christmas Offering	0.00	50.00
122 - Easter Offering	0.00	4,164.83
123 - Holy Thursday Offering	0.00	345.00
124 - Initial Offering	0.00	390.28
125 - Lent Offering	0.00	2,841.57
126 - Palm Sunday Offering	0.00	830.20
Total Special	**$0.00**	**$8,621.88**
130 - Miscellaneous Income	0.00	85.00
131 - Flowers	70.00	805.00
132 - Bulletins	42.00	54.00
133 - Easter Flowers	0.00	447.00
136 - Church house	1,200.00	8,250.00
Total Misc. Offerings	**$1,312.00**	**$9,641.00**
Total Reg. Misc. & Spec	**$19,712.34**	**$169,372.58**
200 - Building Offering	3,296.14	24,125.60
220 - Improvement Offering	50.00	1,870.00
Total Build & Imp Offerings	**$3,346.14**	**$25,995.60**
138 - Use of Church Facilities	0.00	750.00
140 - Snow Removal	0.00	552.76
410 - Social Ministry Offering	80.00	840.00
412 - Bath Area Food Bank	90.00	836.00
420 - World Hunger Offering	30.00	635.00
450 - Souper Sunday	0.00	271.76
510 - Sunday School Offering	0.00	39.46
530 - Bible School	0.00	100.00
540 - Youth Conference	53.07	259.53
600 - Cemetery - Grave Service	0.00	3,000.00
610 - Cemetery - Sale of Lots	0.00	4,550.00
644 - Memo - William G Kasper, Jr	0.00	50.00
649 - Memo - Kenneth Zinkand	0.00	150.00
650 - Memo - Harriet Meckes	0.00	880.00
651 - Memo - Robert Fehnel	0.00	100.00
652 - Memo - Barbara Fehnel	0.00	75.00
653 - Memo - Leonard Miltenberger	0.00	25.00
654 - Memo - Sandra Long	0.00	775.69
710 - Hershey Park	0.00	2,110.65
Total Giving Accounts	**$23,311.55**	**$211,369.03**

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:45am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 10:00am Celebration Worship - FH	31 5:30pm Yoga	1 6:00pm Boy Scouts	2 5:00pm Girl Scouts	3 10:30am Ladies Bible Study-Zoom 6:30pm Worship Comm Mtg - Zoom	4	5
6 **GWOH** 8:45am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 9:30am Hygiene Kit Assembly 10:00am Celebration Worship - FH	7 Labor Day - office closed	8 6:00pm Boy Scouts	9 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	10 10:30am Ladies Bible Study-Zoom 7:00pm Church Council - old FH	11	12
13 8:45am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 10:00am Celebration Worship - FH 10:00am Sunday School 11:15am Bell Choir Rehearsal 11:15am Confirmation Program Meeting 11:15am Prayer Partners	14 5:30pm Yoga 7:00pm Bible Study-Parlor 7:00pm Women's Bible Study - OFH	15 6:00pm Boy Scouts	16 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	17 10:00am GriefShare Group Meeting 10:30am Ladies Bible Study-Zoom	18	19
20 8:45am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 10:00am Celebration Worship - FH 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am 3rd Grade Bible Class 11:15am Bell Choir Rehearsal	21 5:30pm Yoga 7:00pm Bible Study-Parlor 7:00pm Women's Bible Study - OFH	22 6:00pm Boy Scouts	23 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	24 10:00am GriefShare Group Meeting 10:30am Ladies Bible Study-Zoom	25	26 6:00pm Game Night
27 8:45am Traditional Worship - Sanctuary 10:00am Celebration Worship - FH 10:00am Sunday School 11:15am Bell Choir Rehearsal 11:15am Prayer Partners	28 5:30pm Yoga 7:00pm Bible Study-Parlor 7:00pm Women's Bible Study - OFH	29 6:00pm Boy Scouts	30 5:00pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	1 10:00am GriefShare Group Meeting 10:30am Ladies Bible Study-Zoom 6:30pm Worship Comm Mtg - Zoom	2	3

2026 Council Members

Bennett, Bob (Financial Sec.)

Cascario, Kelly

DeGroot, Terry (President)

Geiger, Alyssa (Secretary)

Henninger, Dan

Hentz, Matthew

Himmelwright, Bonnie

Hower, Jim (Vice President)

Kasper, Mercedes

Merker, Jason

Milander, Kathy

Roberts, Andrea

Siegfried, Bob (Treasurer)

Wolf, Al

To help communication work more effectively, the church would greatly appreciate it if you would notify us of any address, phone number, or email changes.

Are You in the Hospital?

When you are admitted to the hospital it is important for you or a family member to call the church office at 610-837-1741 and let us know - so the pastor can make sure to visit you before you are discharged. You can also tell them at the hospital that your "church code" is 222 or that you are a member of Emmanuel's Lutheran Church in Bath.

Emmanuel's Lutheran Church Council Meeting
Thursday, 11 Jun 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Attendees		
Bob Bennett, Financial Secretary	Matt Hentz	Kathy Milander*
Kelly Cascario	Bonnie Himmelwright	Andrea Roberts*
Terry DeGroot, President*	Jim Hower, Vice President	Bob Siegfried, Treasurer
Alyssa Geiger, Secretary	Mercedes Kasper*	Al Wolf
Dan Henninger	Jason Merker	Pr. Rachel Ziese Hacker
**Not in attendance*		

Topic	**Responsible Party**
Meeting Opened	Jim Hower
Devotions & Opening Prayer	Jim Hower
Review of May 2026 Minutes Motion to accept minutes by Jason Merker, seconded by Matt Hentz, motion passes.	Jim Hower
Financial Secretary Report Regular/plate offering for May '26 was $22,022.26. Total overall giving for May was $30,477.06.	Bob Bennett
Treasurer's Report May was a good month with income more than expenses by $2,131. This May also had five Sundays compared to four last May. Year to date, income is now more than expenses by $9,385. Compared to last year, our year to date offering is up, but likely due to an additional Sunday. Year to date expenses are up by 2.5%. Building fund contributions year to date are down compared to last year but still good. Our mortgage balance now stands at $25,717.	Bob Siegfried

Worship and Music Bobby vacation (Dana to cover): 28Jun (tentative), 19Jul, 30Aug Dana vacation (Bobby to cover): 12Jul OTHER DATES: 29Jun - 02Jul - Janelle on vacation, she will monitor messages and emails remotely 09Sep - adult choir to resume 23Sep - cantata practice to start New Mac mini computer acquired for FH, will be set up in time for VBS start Handbells have been completed and were picked up on 05Jun. Total cost $6,894.50. Outdoor worship services 21Jun and 16Aug (Blessing of backpacks). Fellowship cups to be used for both services. There were 126 in attendance for the Community Concert with an additional 35 in the choir on Sunday, 07Jun. Discussion regarding GWOH and start of Sunday School. GWOH date to be moved to 06Sep (Labor Day weekend) with Sunday School/start of fall term to resume 13Sep. Both Dianna Schoenen (Outreach) and Michelle Schroettner (SS) made aware of these dates. Thank you to both Stephen McElroy and June Walker for joining the praise band. It has been a welcome addition. Thank you, as well, to Dana for coordinating special music over the summer months. Jim Hower is getting an estimate from a local cabinet maker for cost of a cabinet to house electronic equipment in the back of the FH. Bobby will speak to Karl Monroe from Property Committee regarding WiFi issue in downstairs parlor and need for new network cable and access point to ensure proper WiFi coverage. He is also working with ESG regarding cost of new sound system in sanctuary. Briefly discussed need for additional volunteers for media at traditional service. Also questioned if moving equipment downstairs might ever be a possibility to avoid need for steps. Will monitor for now and also see if we can add another volunteer or two.	Pr. Rachel Hacker

Pastor's Report Confirmation 24May Six funerals in April/May/June to date Synod assembly 04-06Jun at Split Rock Resort with new Bishop elect Rev. Jennifer Dee VBS upcoming 15-19Jun Vacation: 28Jun - Kelly covering, two services, no communion 05Jul - one combined service 9:30 am FH, Bobby to lead service, video sermon, no communion Pastor Kingsborough from Hope to cover PR.	Pr. Rachel Hacker
New Business Boy Scouts Trisha Shellhammer (Committee Chair), Adam Wetzel (Scout Master) - new to their roles and came to introduce themselves. Request to make repairs and paint the schoolhouse. Use the downstairs parlor when weather is colder as the schoolhouse heat is not turned on. Question if they can use the shed in the parking lot for some storage. Property will discuss the possibility of the scouts helping clean out the shed. Offer to help with cemetery clean up days and anything else the church needs. Interested in changing their group to a Family Scout group which includes girls. Will need to confirm the church's requirements (background checks, etc) align with the Scout organization, and insurance will be checked. Once this is checked, Emmanuel's will let Trisha and Adam know. Bath Community Choir concert request to use FH on 06Dec. Suggestion to pay someone our facility technology fee to run sound at these concerts. Motion to approve made by Matt Hentz, seconded by Al Wolf, motion approved.	Trisha Shellhammer Adam Wetzel Alyssa Geiger

Property Work day on 20Jun to finish pavilion gable Discussion about sealing brick coat. This was done previously for $11k and now needs to be done again, but it is only a temporary solution. Consider putting siding up over the brick-coat as a more permanent solution. With the mortgage expected to be paid off by next year, we could have funds for this solution.	Jim Hower
Outreach Suggestion for GWOH to prepare bags for Bath Food Bank. Bob Siegfried will get a list of what goes into children's bags (approx 75 each month).	Alyssa Geiger
Stewardship Discussion about continuing capital campaign once mortgage is paid off to help with building improvements.	Jim Hower
Website Working on updating content.	Alyssa Geiger
Close Meeting Motion made by Jason Merker, seconded by Matt Hentz, motion passes.	Jim Hower
Closing Prayer	All

Emmanuel's Lutheran Church Council Meeting
Thursday, 09 Jul 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Attendees		
Bob Bennett, Financial Secretary*	Matt Hentz	Kathy Milander*
Kelly Cascario*	Bonnie Himmelwright*	Andrea Roberts*
Terry DeGroot, President	Jim Hower, Vice President	Bob Siegfried, Treasurer
Alyssa Geiger, Secretary	Mercedes Kasper	Al Wolf*
Dan Henninger	Jason Merker	Pr. Rachel Ziese Hacker
**Not in attendance*		

Topic	**Responsible Party**
Meeting Opened	Terry DeGroot
Devotions & Opening Prayer	Kathy Milander
Review of June 2026 Minutes Motion to accept minutes by Jim Hower, seconded by Jason Merker, motion passes.	Terry DeGroot
Financial Secretary Report Regular/plate offering for Jun '26 was $18,368.78. Total overall giving for June was $25,862.99.	Bob Bennett
Treasurer's Report June was not a good month. Income was down and expenses exceeded income by $1,475. Year to date, we are still positive with income more than expenses by $7,793. Compared to last year, our year to date offering is down about 1%. Building fund contributions year to date are down also compared to last year but still good. Our mortgage balance now stands at $21,915.	Bob Siegfried

Pastor's Report Pastoral & Seasonal acts in June included Synod Assembly, Vacation Bible School, and an outdoor service. Upcoming events: Outdoor service & blessing of backpacks, God's Work Our Hands, Sunday School resumes 13Sep	Pr. Rachel Hacker
Worship and Music No meeting in June/July Bobby gave a verbal update - ESG was out to review the upstairs sound system. They are working on a quote to replace the sound system.	Pr. Rachel Hacker
Property Continued discussion about brick coat and water issues. Reviewed some options from the property committee for replacing brick facing and replacing the roof on the narthex and old Sunday school area. Suggested to get options for siding on the sanctuary instead of replacing brick face, as this would be a long term solution instead of "quick" short-term fix.	Terry DeGroot
Outreach GWOH ideas needed.	Alyssa Geiger
New Business Boy Scouts Interested in changing their group to a Family Scout group which includes girls. Bob Siegfried will check with insurance. Once this is checked, Emmanuel's will let Trisha and Adam know. Ideas for weeding/gardening projects around the church.	Terry DeGroot
Close Meeting Motion made by Jim Hower, seconded by Mercedes Kasper, motion passes.	Terry DeGroot
Closing Prayer	All

Next Meeting 13Aug2026*

*Post meeting note: meeting in August added back to schedule as some topics came up that required a meeting.

Worship Attendance

Worship Attendance for June 2026

Date	Traditional 8:45 am	Celebration 10:00 am	Total
June 7	In-Person 47 Online 18	In-Person 44 Online 20	In-Person 91 Online 38
June 14	In-Person 47 Online 16	In-Person 91 Online 22	In-Person 138 Online 38
June 21	Outdoor Worship In-Person 126 Online 31		In-Person 126 Online 31
June 28	In-Person 46 Online 15	In-Person 65 Online 19	In-Person 111 Online 34

Average Weekly **In-Person** Attendance: 117
Average Weekly **Online** Attendance: 35

Worship Attendance for July 2026

Date	Traditional 8:45 am	Celebration 10:00 am	Total
July 5	Combined Worship In-Person 75 Online 35		In-Person 75 Online 35
July 12	In-Person 43 Online 18	In-Person 48 Online 22	In-Person 91 Online 40
July 19	In-Person 39 Online 15	In-Person 67 Online 19	In-Person 106 Online 34
July 26	In-Person 39 Online 15	In-Person 47 Online 21	In-Person 86 Online 36

Average Weekly **In-Person** Attendance: 90
Average Weekly **Online** Attendance: 36

September Flowers

($35.00 per vase)

September 6
Traditional - Open
Celebration - Open

September 13
Traditional - Open
Celebration - Open

September 20
Traditional - Open
Celebration - Open

September 27
Traditional - Open
Celebration - Open

September Bulletins

($6.00)

September 6
Traditional - Open
Celebration - Presented to the Glory of God by the Zulic Family.

September 13
Traditional - Open
Celebration - Presented to the Glory of God by the Zulic Family.

September 20
Traditional - Open
Celebration - Presented to the Glory of God by the Zulic Family.

September 27
Traditional - Open
Celebration - Presented to the Glory of God by the Zulic Family.

Sponsoring Altar Flowers / Bulletins

Emmanuel's utilizes Sign Up Genius for sponsoring flowers and bulletins. **If you don't have computer access or are uncomfortable using Sign Up Genius, please do not hesitate to call Janelle in the church office (610-837-1741) with your requests.** She will be more than happy to take your information and enter it into the online system. Altar flowers are $35 per vase and bulletins are $6.

Redner's WAREHOUSE MARKETS
SAVE-A-TAPE PROGRAM

Please remember to turn in your Redner's receipts! Emmanuel's receives 1% of your total bill when you use your Redner's Reward Card and bring us your receipt. That really adds up!

When donating blood at Miller Keystone Blood Bank, please ask them to credit **Emmanuel's Bath.** The code is **0656**. This way we will receive credit for your donation.

Deaths

Randy Frey, 68, passed to his eternal rest on Saturday, August 8, 2026. In keeping with Randy's wishes, no funeral services were held.

September Worship Volunteers

Volunteers, please check to see if your name is listed below. **If you are unable to be present, please find a substitute and contact the secretary at 610-837-1741 with the changes by Wednesday**. As always, thank you for all your help in serving our Lord.

	Sept 6	Sept 13	Sept 20	Sept 27
Altar Care	**8:45** Barbara Bennett & Jessie Hnatow **10:00** Amy Hower & Rachel Lebron	**8:45** Barbara Bennett & Jessie Hnatow **10:00** Kathy Siegfried & Kim Kratzer	**8:45** Barbara Bennett & Jessie Hnatow **10:00** Amy Hower & Dianna Schoenen	**8:45** Barbara Bennett & Jessie Hnatow **10:00** Gloria Wallery & Marsha Kvacky
Reader	**8:45** Nancy Marsh **10:00** Kelly Cascario	**8:45** Sandy Turtzo **10:00** Alyssa Geiger	**8:45** Terry DeGroot **10:00** Wendy Whiteash	**8:45** Doreen Davidson **10:00** Bonnie Himmelwright
Ushers	**8:45** Dan & LeRea Henninger	**8:45** Denise Druckenmiller & Dean Chenski	**8:45** Sue & David Getz	**8:45** Cindy & Gary O'Brien
Greeter	**10:00** Heather Bennett-Knerr	**10:00** Jane Loupos	**10:00** Nancy Karc	**10:00** Jan Bourdelle
Comm. Asst	**8:45** Nancy Marsh **10:00** Heather Bennett-Knerr, Mercedes Kasper, & Rachel Lebron	**8:45** Bob Bennett **10:00** Jane Loupos, Jennifer Wandler, & Kim Kratzer	**8:45** Terry DeGroot **10:00** Dianna Schoenen, Kristin Butz, & Wendy Whiteash	**8:45** Denise Druckenmiller **10:00** Gloria Wallery, Sue Gerken, & Marsha Kvacky
Media	**8:45** Jessie Hnatow	**8:45** Win Miller	**8:45** Lynne Ambrose	**8:45** Win Miller

Our next Family Game Night will be on Saturday, September 26 at 6:00pm.

Bring your favorite board game and a snack to share.
All are Welcome!

Date_____ *Emmanuel's Lutheran Church*

Sunday School Information Sheet

Please return the completed form to the church office

Name: _____
First Middle Name Last

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____
Month / Date / Year

Date and Place of Baptism: _____
Month / Date / Year Church

Are you a member of Emmanuel's ☐ Yes ☐ No

Grade in Sept. _____ School: _____ Year you will graduate: _____

Student's Home Telephone Number: _____

Student's Cell Phone Number: _____

Student's email: _____

Parent/Guardian Information:

Mother/Guardian:

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Phone _____(Home)

_____ (Cell)

Email _____

Father/Guardian:

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Phone _____(Home)

_____ (Cell)

Email _____

Does your child have any allergies or other medical/social circumstances which we should be made aware of:

_____

Do you consent to having pictures of your child shared on Emmanuel's social media page? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Emmanuel....
God With Us
Emmanuel's Lutheran Church
3175 Valley View Drive Bath, PA 18014-9465

Emmanuel's Directory 610-837-1741

The People of Emmanuel's Church	*Ministers*
The Rev. Rachel Ziese Hacker, Pastor	*484-891-1115*
The Revs. Barry & Elizabeth Mitchell	*Pastors Emeriti*
Bobby Siegfried, Director of Music	*610-751-0908*
Dana Kacyon, Choir Director	*610-442-3603*
Janelle Borger, Secretary	*610-837-1741*
	484-834-9984
Nancy Karc, Sexton	*610-837-6924*

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday	*9 AM – 3 PM*
E-mail Address	*Emmanuelschurch@gmail.com*
Website	*www.emmanuels.org*
Fax	*610-837-8267*