



# Emmanuel Lutheran Church

[www.naplesemmanuel.org](http://www.naplesemmanuel.org)

## December 2018 Newsletter



### Mooring Line Drive Campus

777 Mooring Line Dr.  
Naples, FL 34102  
239-261-0894

#### ***Sunday Services with Holy Communion***

7:45, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

#### **Alive Contemporary Service**

at 10:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center

✠Email: [elc@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:elc@naplesemmanuel.org) ✠



### Pebblebrooke Campus

15205 Collier Blvd., Suite 201 & 202  
Naples, FL 34119  
239-213-0535

#### ***Sunday Bilingual Service with Holy Communion***

11:00 a.m.

✠Email: [frine@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:frine@naplesemmanuel.org) ✠

### Church Office Hours: (Mooring Line Campus)

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



#### **Our Mission:**

*A Christ-centered community where God's Spirit guides our lives as we worship, learn, love, share and serve.*

## Staff and Church Council

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### Our Staff:

**Rev. Steven E Wigdahl**, Senior Pastor - [pastorsteve@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:pastorsteve@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Rev. Dr. Rick Bliese**, Associate Pastor - [pastorrick@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:pastorrick@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Rev. José Lebrón**, Associate Pastor for Mission Development - [pastorjose@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:pastorjose@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Jim Cooper**, ELCA Deacon, Youth & Family - [jim@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:jim@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Will Kittinger**, Resident Pastor - [will@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:will@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Ian McMichael**, Resident Pastor - [ian@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:ian@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Joyce Finlay**, ELCA Deacon, Music & Worship; organist - [joyce@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:joyce@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Carol Hartman**, Parish Nurse - [carol@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:carol@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Dee Schleutker**, ELCA Deacon, Service & Outreach - [dee@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:dee@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Vivian Shea**, Business Administrator - [vivian@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:vivian@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Gina Fidler**, Executive Assistant - [gina@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:gina@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Jennifer Ziegelmaier**, Publication Coordinator - [jennifer@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:jennifer@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Deborah Vacca**, Financial Secretary - [deborah@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:deborah@naplesemmanuel.org)  
**Alex Tovar**, Maintenance Manager - [JABCleaning3@aol.com](mailto:JABCleaning3@aol.com)  
**Frine Donadelli**, Administrative Assistant at Pebblebrooke - [frine@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:frine@naplesemmanuel.org)

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### Church Council:

The Church Council is made up of nine dedicated people who act on behalf of the church membership. According to Emmanuel Lutheran's Constitution, "The Congregation Council shall have general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation, and in particular its worship life, to the end that everything be done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America."

Please do not hesitate to contact a council member if you have any questions or concerns. They are here to involve all members of the congregation in worship, learning, witness, service, and support. If you would like to communicate with the members of the Emmanuel Church Council, you will find their names and e-mail addresses below:

#### Here is your Council for 2018-2019:

#### Executive Board:

Peter Wasmer (President) - [pwasmer139@gmail.com](mailto:pwasmer139@gmail.com)  
Michael Puchalla (Vice-President/ Secretary) - [michael@collierhousing.com](mailto:michael@collierhousing.com)  
Ann Jones (Treasurer) - [annjonesinfl@aol.com](mailto:annjonesinfl@aol.com)

#### The other members are:

Nancy Dick - [nancyjdd@aol.com](mailto:nancyjdd@aol.com)  
Steve Esala - [stevesala@bellsouth.net](mailto:stevesala@bellsouth.net)  
Mark Fiebrink - [mfiebrink@gmail.com](mailto:mfiebrink@gmail.com)  
Nelson Gonzalez - [nelhandyman@outlook.com](mailto:nelhandyman@outlook.com)  
Zetty Rivera - [zettyrivera@gmail.com](mailto:zettyrivera@gmail.com)

#### HIGHLIGHTS OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19:

1. There is going to be an Emmanuel work day at Emmanuel Park on January 5<sup>th</sup>.
2. Emmanuel Academies has a goal of recruiting eight new students by Sept. EA is hosting a Latino Summit at Emmanuel from Nov. 29 – Dec. 1.
3. The canopy in the playground has been replaced.
4. The Stewardship Theme for next year is GIFT 2019 – Growing in Faith Together 2019.

#### NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

Next meeting will be on December 17, 2018.

## Upcoming Events

### OUR WEDNESDAY ADVENT SERVICES:

Please join us for our Wednesday Evening Advent Services:

Wednesday, December 5, December 12, December 19

6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

We will be singing one of the congregation's favorites, *Holden Evening Prayer*. Each week we will have two speakers from Emmanuel, who will talk about own journey dealing with their faith and their vocation, past and/or present. (12/5 - *Deirdre Lapp, Tom Jackson*; 12/12 - *Sylvia Boynton, Peter Wasmer*; 12/19 - *Julie Kerr, Ann Marie Gomez*) Please come and join us!

### OUR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SUNDAY SCHEDULE:

Please join us as Emmanuel celebrates the seasons of Advent and Christmas. This year's Advent Sunday services at our Moor-  
ing Line Drive site are **December 2, 9, 16, and 23, at 7:45 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary; 10:00 a.m.—  
Contemporary, in the Family Life Center.**

Our Pebblebrooke location holds its Sunday bilingual worship services at 11:00 a.m.

### CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES:

On **Monday, December 24**, help us welcome the birth of the Christ Child:

- ◆ **5:00 p.m.** – Our family-friendly “**Paper Bag Pageant**” returns, followed by a service of Holy Communion and candle lighting.
- ◆ **7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m.**— Our **traditional worship service** with special music, choir selections, Holy Communion and candle lighting will be offered. (Special Christmas music will begin 30 minutes before the service).

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#### Christmas Giving Program: “Angel Tree”



Thank you to all who have selected an angel from our annual “Angel Tree”. (We have a few left that need to be picked up.) The angels on the tree will include Collier County children /families in need this Christmas. **Please return all wrapped gifts, with the angel attached, no later than Sunday, December 9th.** For any additional questions, please contact Dee Schleitker, ELCA Deacon. Thank You!

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#### BIBLE STUDY INFORMATION:

There will be **NO BIBLE STUDY** on **Thursday, December 27**. Bible Study **will resume** on **Thursday, January 3**.

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If you would like to give a Poinsettia to beautify our Altar on Christmas Eve, please fill out the form below and return to the church office by December 16. Poinsettias will be \$30.

#### Christmas Poinsettias

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_  In Honor of **OR**  In Memory of

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Upcoming Events

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### VOICES OF NAPLES

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Concert

#### "Home for the Holidays"



Tuesday December 4, 2018, 7:00 pm  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church  
777 Mooring Line Drive, Naples, Florida  
No ticket necessary  
Free-Will Offering

There are several of Emmanuel's own Choir Members singing in **Voices of Naples**. Please come!

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### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Want to help decorate the Sanctuary for the holidays?** *If you are interested, please contact Karen Palmer at: [tkaper2002@yahoo.com](mailto:tkaper2002@yahoo.com) THANK YOU!*

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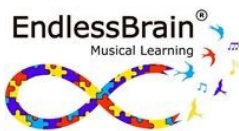
### Yoga Classes

We invite you to try out our yoga class held at ECC Pebblebrooke. Our next class will be held **Tuesday, December 11th at 6:15 pm.**

The cost is \$10.00/ class. Bring a mat or towel. This is a great way to unwind after a long day.

For more information, please contact Dee Schleitker at 239-213-0535.

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Endless Brain is a cognitive-musical-behavioral approach to understanding autism and explore endless abilities. There is Music, there is Hope and there are EndLess possibilities. They are looking for volunteers to spend 3 hrs on a Friday night playing with children with special needs while their parents get a respite night. Often these families get no respite time, and this is a way to show our love and compassion to them. We also want to help children have a great time with music, movies and activities in the Family Life Center. The respite nights are the 2nd Friday of each month from 5:30-8:30 pm. Please email [info@endlessbrian.org](mailto:info@endlessbrian.org) to start the volunteering process.

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## Music and Worship

### MUSICAL NOTES:

The Emmanuel Choir will be singing for the 7:00 and 9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Services.

The Choir will NOT rehearse on Wednesday, December 26, but will resume practice on Wednesday, January 2.





**Emmanuel's New Adult Fellowship Initiative**

Dinner for 6 or 8

**It begins January 2019. Sign up now!**

## The what & the why?

Dinner for 6 or 8 is an opportunity to gather with a small group of adults from Emmanuel and share a meal while getting to know one another. Our goal, is that this same group would meet for dinner one time in January, one time in February, one time in March and one time in April.

Normally, we can only meet in fellowship on Sundays. Dinner for 6 or 8 is a program offering a break to this cycle by intentionally placing members together, who may not know each other well, in fellowship over a meal, centered on a brief prayer, scripture, and blessing. Getting to know our sisters and brothers in Christ at Emmanuel is essential for us in our growth in faith together. Dinner for 6 or 8 seeks to live out the congregational model of Acts 2, where “day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.” Won’t you please spend some time in prayer, and consider joining us for Dinner for 6 or 8.

## What's involved?

Dinner for 6 or 8 will officially begin in January 2019. So the only thing to do during the months of November and December is to pray and sign up. If you’re up north until January, no problem, just sign up by calling the church or sending an email. On Thursday, January 3, everyone who signed up will receive an email telling them who is in their group (either 6 or 8). In the email, you will be given the simple instructions to organize a group email and make a few simple decisions as a group. **Decision #1:** What date will the group have its first dinner together in January? **Decision #2:** Who from the group will host the dinner in January? **Decision #3:** What’s for dinner? **Decision #4:** What should each person\couple bring for the first dinner? **Decision #5:** Who will be the “group facilitator” for the first dinner?

## How to sign up?

There are three easy ways you can sign up.

1. You can call the church **239-261-0894** and ask for Gina.
2. You can email the church. **Gina@naplesEmmanuel.org**. Please include your name and phone number.
3. You can sign up on Sunday morning in the breezeway at the **Information Table**, or at the **Alive service**.

Once you’ve signed up, we will contact you by email to acquire more of your personal preferences such as: group size, couples, single, parents with children and other adults you might want in your group.

### Christmas Caroling

We invite you to join us on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am to bring some Christmas Cheer to the residents at Solaris Senior Living North. This has become an annual event for the ECC children's ministry. Last year nearly 20 children and adults sang Christmas carols to the residents.

For more information please contact Deacon Dee-Anne Schleutker at [dee@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:dee@naplesemmanuel.org).

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### Emmanuel Kids: Monday Connection



This past week the children made Advent wreaths.

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### Serving Others Ministry

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### VOLUNTEERS -THE HEART AND SOUL OF ST. MATTHEW'S HOUSE

St. Matthew's House relies on the volunteers and the thousands of hours they give every year to make our mission a success. We couldn't do what we do in support of our programs without these amazing people. Our volunteers unselfishly come together for a great cause to support those we serve in a spiritual, Christian, faith-based environment. If you would like to make an impact through your volunteerism, please contact Ronnie Sopena, Volunteer Coordinator, at [rsopena@stmatthewshouse.org](mailto:rsopena@stmatthewshouse.org), or Michelle Mendoza, Volunteer Coordinator, at [mmendoza@stmatthewshouse.org](mailto:mmendoza@stmatthewshouse.org).

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### Volunteer Opportunities For Christmas Events



Grace Place for Children and Families always welcomes volunteers! Opportunities are available for those who would like to volunteer once or twice a week, on a monthly basis, several times per year, or occasionally for special events. Our educational programs can use your talents!

Christmas is quickly approaching and we are in need of volunteers to support our special events in December. Our Bright Beginnings program will host two Christmas parties on December 17th and 18th. This is a fun day filled with lots of activities, cookies, a visit with Santa and even snow. Our Christmas Shop will be held on Dec 19th. At this event we invite our parents to 'shop' for an age appropriate gift for their children (K- 8), we gift wrap their selection and send them home with it hidden. On Christmas day the children will be delighted as they open their presents. All gift items are made available to our parents at no cost.

For more information, please call Tracey Lelchuk, Volunteer Experience Manager, at 239.234.2467 or email [tracey@graceplacenaples.org](mailto:tracey@graceplacenaples.org).

## California Wildfire Response



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Wildfires are raging across California, destroying thousands of homes. Multiple deaths have been confirmed and large-scale, mandatory evacuations are in place for many communities across the state's impacted areas as first responders work to gain control of the fires.

Lutheran Disaster Response is working with Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, Lutheran Social Services of Northern California and the California synods to respond to this fire.

What you can do:

**Pray** for the people who have been impacted by this event . May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

**Give** to Lutheran Disaster Response. You can do this on line at the ELCA website, [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org). If you prefer to write a check, you can make it payable to Emmanuel Lutheran Church and write U.S.Wildfire Response in the memo line. Or, you can mail a check directly to the ELCA, payable to U.S. Wildfire Response - United States and send it to Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009



## Beading for Haiti Project Paper bead Jewelry

YOU can make a big difference in the lives of the Haitian children at the Village of Hope! Come to Emmanuel, every Wednesday, from 1 to 3 pm and learn to make colorful paper beads and assemble them into gorgeous necklaces, bracelets, and earrings.

Get a peek at these jewelry creations and try cutting paper and rolling beads! You'll be amazed at what you can accomplish in just a few short hours. All proceeds from the Project support the work at the Village of Hope.

For more information, contact Call Carol Duncan at 239-777-3213 or Jeanette O'Connor at 239-594-8179.



Please join us for a **GRAND CELEBRATION of Emmanuel's 50<sup>th</sup> Habitat home** at all services on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. That's right - - *over the years members of Emmanuel have donated sufficient funds to build 50 Habitat homes* - - the most in Collier County! The Rev. Lisa Lefkow, CEO of Habitat Collier, will join us to bring a message of thanks.

But this year our donations have been somewhat light. Thus far we have only received funds sufficient to build one Habitat home. Materials to build a Habitat home cost \$50,000. Can you help out with a donation, large or small?

As the end of the year approaches, it's our last chance to make 2018 tax-deductible donations. And don't forget, IRA owners 70-1/2 and older can donate as much as \$100,000 of account assets directly to charity this year without it counting as income!

You can mail in your check or use the envelope in your pew. **Please make your check payable to Emmanuel, and indicate Habitat.** Or you can donate directly to Habitat by check or credit card.... and be sure to mention Emmanuel! Contact Habitat at 239-775-0036.



## Food for the Needy

Unlike many cities and counties in other parts of the country, **Collier County has no welfare department.** Thus, many of the hungry and homeless among us have nowhere to turn except to local charities. Nearly 1,000 children in the Collier County School District are currently confirmed to be homeless, and officials believe the actual number is much higher.

Please continue to give. During the summer months, the food pantry shelves are almost empty. **Your donations make a difference! So far this year we have collected and distributed \$5, 460 to local food banks.** Please make checks payable to *Emmanuel* and designate *Food for the Needy*.

## Births

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Congratulations to Resident Pastor Ian McMichael and Corrin upon the birth of their son, Hans.

## Deaths

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David Spackman passed away on November 3, 2018. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

## Emmanuel Communities - Emmanuel Park - Emmanuel Academies

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To get the latest news about what is going on at Oil Well Road, go to <https://conta.cc/2Nnv8q1>.







Carol Calling: What a beautiful time of the year when we anticipate the celebration of the birth of Baby Jesus. I love this season. I hope it is a good month for you and a joyous holiday season.

Consider these bits and pieces from me as we wrap up the newsletters for 2018:

We are into the heart of the flu season, and I have read articles about tossing away your toothbrush after you have had a bout of sickness. The American Dental Association states that though our mouths are always full of a wide variety of germs, there is no research showing that these bugs transferred to your brush will actually make you sick. The chances of reinfection after an illness are extremely low. But, you should always rinse your brush in warm water and let it air dry after each use. Never share your toothbrush, and replace the brush (including the powered brush heads) every three to four months.

According to the European Respiratory Journal, July 11, 2018, smart diet choices may help lower the symptoms of asthma. People who eat plenty of produce, whole grains, nuts, beans, fish and olive oil and kept the consumption of meat, salt and sugar to a minimum had lower odds of experiencing asthma symptoms. Does this sound familiar to you? Researchers say that healthy eating may promote a proper balance of "good" bacteria in the intestines which may curb airway inflammation. Interesting research to consider. A healthy diet was also associated with lower odds of poorly controlled asthma. The research considered how often rescue medication was needed and how much the asthma interfered with daily life.

And while we are on the subject of food, let's talk about the many benefits of eating beans. Beans really might be the most deserving of being called superfoods. In addition to being inexpensive, they are full of nutrients including copper, folate, iron, magnesium, potassium and zinc with the added benefit of being a high fiber food full of protein. Beans are actually vegetable and protein. Try a variety of them as each of the beans contains different nutrients. Read your labels and check it out when you go shopping. And remember that while dried beans require soaking before cooking, canned beans are convenient and supply the same nutrients. They do contain added salt, so be aware of that if you are on a low sodium diet.

And one more fun fact....a review of numerous studies shows that people low in vitamin D had a 31 percent higher risk of colon cancer compared with those at recommended levels. And, supplements have not proved to help according to the Journal of National Cancer Institute, June 2018. Dietary Guidelines suggest focusing on food sources such as fortified dairy, salmon, tuna and eggs to name a few. And because our skin makes vitamin D when exposed to sunshine, try getting even 5 minutes twice a week in the sun to help promote this.

Blessings on you this Christmas month as we celebrate Advent and all the beautiful holiday events planned for this December. See you back here in January 2019.



If you are in Physicians Regional Hospital, please give the church office a call to let us know. We would be happy to visit with you.

If you would like to have a prayer added to the prayer chain, please contact Joyce O'Neill. You may contact Joyce at 239-566-3373 or email her at [KSONaples@comcast.net](mailto:KSONaples@comcast.net)



**Cancer Awareness for the month of November is Pancreatic Cancer, Lung Cancer, Stomach Cancer and Carcinoid Cancer.**

### Stephen Ministers: The After People

People often ask, "What exactly is a Stephen Minister?" One way to put it is that Stephen Ministers are the *After People*.



#### Stephen Ministers are there:

- ...*after* the phone call you hoped you'd never get.
- ...*after* the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.
- ...*after* the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.
- ...*after* the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do."
- ...*after* the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, "Welcome to your new home."
- ...*after* the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away - and the house suddenly seems empty.
- ...*after* the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.
- ...*after* the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.
- ...*after* you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.
- ...*after* your family and friends have heard your story a one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are the After People. They are ready to come alongside you - or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives - and provide comfort and support for as long *after* as needed.

## Youth and Family Ministry



Join us for Sunday School classes to learn more about our Christian Faith. **We will have classes upstairs for youth and children from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm.** Any questions, please contact Jim Cooper at [jim@naples Emmanuel.org](mailto:jim@naples Emmanuel.org).

*Also, we are in need of volunteers and parents to help with these programs.*



January is a wonderful time to renew your commitment to a daily devotional. Please consider exploring and downloading "d365". It is relevant to today's young people and easy to use. Also, consider passing along this information to family and friends.



The d365 daily devotional site is produced by [Passport, Inc.](http://Passport, Inc.) Passport launched its first devotional site in 2001 in response to the attacks of September 11. Our primary goal then, and since, has been to provide inspirational and relevant reflections on scripture for young people. Passport is a student ministry organization focused on creating meaningful experiences and resources for students. From youth and children's camps, to international awareness and youth leader resources, Passport, Inc. gives students a chance to see and experience their world in new ways.

The devotional experience is written especially for students and seeks to provide reflections on themes that impact our faith journey. We hope that d365 will create a quiet space in your life for meditation and prayer.

Although devotions are available every day of the year, we highlight our common liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent through the special series *Following the Star and Journey to the Cross*. A third series, Back2School, recognizes the significant transition between summer and fall in the lives of students and offers encouragement and wisdom from scripture.

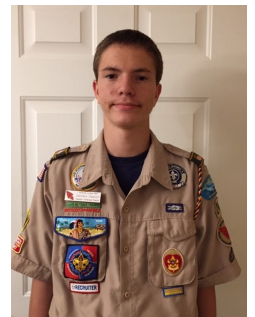


**BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA**

Contact information:

E-mail: [zdawson0612@gmail.com](mailto:zdawson0612@gmail.com)

Phone: (239) 601-0424



To my Emmanuel Lutheran Church Family,

I began my scouting adventure at age 6 with the Cub Scouts, and at 10 moved up to Boy Scouts. I am now a Life Scout having completed 65 merit badges, held several positions of responsibilities, and been very active with the growth of my troop and its activities. My long journey is now at the point where I am working toward earning the highest and most honored rank in Scouting, that of Eagle Scout.

To earn the Eagle rank I must plan, develop, and provide leadership to others in a service project helpful to the community. For my Eagle Scout Project, I have chosen to build four, 8-foot picnic tables for our church. We need picnic tables as areas to sit and eat that will be located by a family friendly soccer field that is being built in Golden Gate Estates.

It is a big project that will require many hours of labor and approximately \$1500 in materials. As part of my project, it is recommended that I request donations to fund materials necessary for construction of this project. Any financial assistance you can offer to help me achieve my goal of completing this project will be greatly appreciated. This is a tax deductible. No amount is too small, and in the unlikely event any funds remain after the project is finished, they will go directly back to our church.

My address is; 341 Leawood Circle, Naples 34104. Checks need to be made out to Troop 243, and please memo Zachary Dawson's Eagle Project. I thank you in advance for anything that you can contribute to this worthy cause.

Yours in Scouting,  
Zachary Dawson  
Troop 243  
Naples, FL

# 11th Annual Family Retreat Weekend February 22 - 24, 2019

*Join us for a wonderful time of getting away and reenergizing your faith.*

Cedarkirk Camp & Conference Center, Lithia, FL ([www.CedarKirk.org](http://www.CedarKirk.org))



This wonderful weekend is open to the entire Emmanuel Family... families, couples, singles, seniors and single parents.

Everyone's invited.

Cedarkirk is a year-round camping conference center owned by the Presbyterians of Tampa Bay and Peace River. It is located on the Alafia River within 170 acres of woodlands, wetlands, and uplands. Cedarkirk is dedicated to providing a place for individuals and groups to have the opportunity for spiritual renewal and growth in a natural environment. More information is available at their website: [www.CedarKirk.org](http://www.CedarKirk.org).

### Our Schedule:

Friday Evening – Settle into your room and gather around at the Pavilion for campfire singing and s'mores.

Saturday – A day of "faith-filled-fun" activities with plenty of free time.

Sunday – We conclude our time together with a delicious breakfast and wonderful outdoor worship service.

### Registration:

The cost is \$50 for a single person and \$100 for a family. This includes lodging, four meals and all program activities.

You can register on the church website. [www.NaplesEmmanuel.org](http://www.NaplesEmmanuel.org), or directly to Jim Cooper with your name and number of family members attending. [Jim@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:Jim@naplesemmanuel.org).

Please register by January 15, 2019

One church - two communities - getting away to a beautiful outdoor setting.



## Mooring Line & Pebblebrooke

We hope the Spirit leads you to join us!

### The theme this year: The CENTERED Life

Once registered, detailed information will be emailed to you.



This lodge provides a variety of housing including four family-style rooms for 6 people each and 13 dormitory-style rooms upstairs. This building also features upper and lower porches, kitchen facilities, meeting room, and a fireplace.



This central lodge at Cedarkirk is the location of the main offices, 2 dining rooms/meeting rooms, upper and lower back porches, and a library. In addition, there are three wings of housing accommodations including both family-style and dormitory-style rooms.



**Cedarkirk** *A place apart to build up the body of Christ in love.*  
**CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER**

Driving Directions for Cedarkirk Camp and Conference Center  
1920 Streetman Drive • Lithia, FL 33547 • (813) 685-4224 • [www.cedarkirk.org](http://www.cedarkirk.org)

## A Note from Joyce Finlay, ELCA Deacon

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(This is the devotional I gave at a recent Staff meeting. I was relating an experience I had on my time away. I am so appreciative of the Congregation for giving me this time).

Romans 12: 1-2; 11-13

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

### *Eugenia*

This September when I was on Sabbatical, Doug and I took a trip out west and one of our stops was the Grand Canyon, North Rim. We had reservations at the lodge there, which was not only convenient to hiking, but also I had an experience that will always be with me.

Being the coffee fiend that I am, I was glad to see that our room had a coffee maker and of course, coffee. But, “Oh no, what am I going to do?” I said to Doug: They have only 2 packages of regular and 2 of decaf. (What’s the point of decaf?). Doug said he gladly would drink the Decaf—but of course, that was not acceptable to me...

So I went outside and saw the service worker (who I used to call the “maid”). I walked towards her, waving my two packets of decaf, said Hello, and asked if she would SWAP my two decafs with the more “REAL” coffee.

This tall, thin, young lady had a huge smile on her face, a sparkle in her eye, and she treated me as if I were the ONLY person in the world. She said, “Of course you can have two more—do you want any more than that? You can have as many as you want!” smiling all the time. I was blown away by all of this, and I just said No, that’s fine, this is perfect. Thank you!

Then she proceeded to ask me where we were from, and where we were going on our first day. I told her the name of the trail we were taking, and she told me to have a beautiful day. WOW. I went back with my coffee, and told Doug about her.

Later that afternoon, when we returned, we were sitting outside with our iced tea, when she asked Doug and me about our day. Again, she treated us like we were the **only two people** in the world – and being it was Labor Day weekend, the place was packed.

I then asked her name—Eugenia—originally from a small town around Las Vegas—she was about 25, an African American, and married to another worker there, who by the way, was Lebanese, and had recently attained full citizenship. They stayed in housing with all the other service workers, so they were part of a community that works in our National Park system.

Our brief conversations went on for the 3 days we were there. I said to Eugenia on the last day, “I don’t usually say this, but I have to tell you that you do your job with such passion and with such joy. Thank you for making us (and everyone you meet) feel so welcome.

We hugged each other, and we both said “God Bless You” at the same time.

Needless to say, Eugenia received glowing comments when we filled out our survey at the end of our stay. (And we left a larger than usual tip, which was a no-brainer).

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No, I didn’t get an email or any type of an address, but Eugenia and her husband will remain in my heart and in my prayers. I am convinced that Eugenia did not consider hers a boring, mundane job---she brightened up the days of every person she met.

Although I doubt she considered herself a “living sacrifice,” I certainly did—with the love she gave away so freely to others. When I think of the beauty of the Grand Canyon, Eugenia will always come to my mind.

PRAYER: Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to reach out to one another and to work together as the Body of Christ. Help each and every one of us to know how we can become a living sacrifice and how we can discern your good, acceptable, and perfect will in our lives.

Amen.

## Finance

### FINANCIAL UPDATE (as of October 31, 2018)

TOTAL INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES	Budget Year to Date \$1,449,204	Actual Year to Date \$1,330,601
TOTAL OVERALL EXPENSES	Budget Year to Date \$1,499,199	Actual Year to Date \$1,361,353
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	October 2017 342	October 2018 389

(A more detailed Treasurer's Report can be found in our weekly eBlast.)



AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you are prompted to select a charitable organization. Emmanuel Lutheran Evangelical Church is one of those organizations. **So, if you shop with Amazon, remember to go through AmazonSmile and select Emmanuel Lutheran Evangelical Church.** (Tell your family and friends to do the same.)

Last year we had \$300 in donations through AmazonSmile. **We hope with more participation from the congregation that this number will increase in 2018.** So far this year **we have received \$125** through the AmazonSmile program. Thank you to those who purchase their Amazon products through AmazonSmile.

Emmanuel wants to remind you that we offer **electronic giving** as a way to **automate your regular weekly offering**. It's a convenient way of giving that will bring order and consistency to the way you give. You simply designate the amount, the frequency and the payment method. We also invite you to **consider using electronic giving for one-time gifts** including seasonal giving, year-end giving and donations to our special funds. **Getting started is easy.** Visit online at [www.naplesemmanuel.org](http://www.naplesemmanuel.org), click on the Share tab/ online giving and click on Create Your Profile and Establish on-line giving. The first time you give, you will select a password that will enable you to log in at any time and make changes to your giving or view your complete online giving history. Of course, if it's easier, complete a paper authorization form and return it to the church office.

Thank You  
FOR  
**GIVING**  
...  
GENEROUSLY

## Upcoming Events / Clubs

### Lit and Latte Book Club - December 10th

Everyone in the community is invited to join our group. Please feel free to bring houseguests and friends, as all are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Bonnie Kischer at [bkischer@yahoo.com](mailto:bkischer@yahoo.com). We meet in the WELCA room (above the church offices) monthly from 2:00-3:30 PM. The book club is meeting December 10th. December's book is *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate presented by Bonnie Kischer. (Inspired by a true story, two families, generations apart, are forever changed by a heartbreaking injustice.)



**There is a full booklist for the upcoming 2018-2019 season in the newsletter.**

### WOMEN WITH WOMEN

All women who wish to explore the possibilities of new friendships together.

***There will be a planning meeting on December 5th at 11:00 a.m.. Please come join us.***

If you have questions call Jeanette O'Connor at 239-594-8179 or Carol Duncan at 239-777-3213.



**Mah Jongg** is still alive at Emmanuel - join us on Fridays at 1:00 in the Chapel. If you have any questions, please call Carol Duncan at 239-777-3213.

### Beading for Haiti Project Paperbead Jewelry

**YOU** can make a tremendous difference in the lives of the Haitian children at the Village of Hope! Come to Emmanuel, every **Wednesday** from **1 pm to 3 pm** and learn to make colorful and stylish paper beads and to assemble them into gorgeous designer necklaces, bracelets, and earrings.

We would like to extend an invitation to all to come and express their creativity designing jewelry and learning to roll paper into beads. New ideas are always welcome.

Interested? Contact Carol Duncan at 239-777-3213

Check out our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/beadingforhaiti](https://www.facebook.com/beadingforhaiti)

Village of Hope Webpage [www.villageofhopehaiti.org](http://www.villageofhopehaiti.org)

**Come join us every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.**

**Dec. 9: The beading group will have a sale at all four services.**



### Stitchers



The **Tuesday Stitchers** now meet on **Monday**. Join us in the **Community Room** from **9:30 am - 1:30 pm**. No sewing experience is necessary. **Call Jane Hauck, 605-366-4338**, for more information.

*A big thanks to those of you who left donations for us over the summer.*

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January Newsletter deadline is December 20th.

Please e-mail Jennifer, [jennifer@naplesemmanuel.org](mailto:jennifer@naplesemmanuel.org), with any information by this date.

## Volunteers Needed

### WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS



Joyce is always looking for more **Worship Participants:** Greeters, Ushers, Assisting Ministers, Lectors, and Acolytes. If you are interested, we will train you—just email Joyce at [joyce@naplesmanuel.org](mailto:joyce@naplesmanuel.org).



### ALTAR GUILD

Would you like to help in one of the most important ministries of the church? **Join the Altar Guild!** Setting the Table for Holy Communion is a most rewarding experience—there is much more to it than meets the eye. If you would like to try it, contact Joyce or Diedre Milligan, head of the Altar Guild, at [nellefl@embarqmail.com](mailto:nellefl@embarqmail.com).



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - TUTORING CHILDREN

New Horizons of SWFL is looking for volunteer tutors for their afterschool program that meets at our Pebblebrooke location. The program meets from 3:15- 5:30 pm Monday - Thursday. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity please contact Dort Bear: [dort@newhorizonsofswfl.org](mailto:dort@newhorizonsofswfl.org) or 239-948-4146. Or you may contact Dee Schleitker, ELCA Deacon at [dee@naplesmanuel.org](mailto:dee@naplesmanuel.org)



### COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED:

We are looking for volunteers to serve on the following committees: **Endowment, Property, Maintenance, Welcome Ministry and Serving Others.**

If you are interested, please contact Gina at [gina@naplesmanuel.org](mailto:gina@naplesmanuel.org) or you can also call the office at 239-261-0894.

Emmanuel's Nursing Home Ministry Emmanuel's Nursing Home Ministry Team will lead worship services at both Heritage and Manor Care at Lakewood every Monday morning from November 12, 2018 through April 29, 2019. Our Ministry consists of a 30 minute service (hymns, message, prayer, and greeting). Usually we have about 20 participants at each location. We need leaders, pianists, and assistants!!!! If you would like to learn more about our Ministry or join the Ministry Team, please call David or Edie Cole (239-455-5820) or e-mail David at [dwc616@mac.com](mailto:dwc616@mac.com). If we have enough volunteers, each Team Member will only have to serve one Monday each month.



## Book Club List for 2018-2019

### Emmanuel Lutheran Church Book Club list 2018-2019

#### December 10, 2018

Bonnie Kischer presents *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate  
Inspired by a true story, two families, generations apart, are forever changed by a heartbreaking injustice.

#### January 14, 2019

Edie Cole presents *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus* by Nabeel Qureshi  
I have read this book and recommended it. Edie said she would like to present it. This is about a sincere Muslim that tried his best to seek Allah and eventually fell in love with Christ. It includes friendships and investigations into both these world religions.

#### February 11, 2019

Rosemarie Przybylski presents *The Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly  
The lives of three women stories cross continents as they strive to seek justice for those whom history has forgotten.

#### March 11, 2019

Linda Samuelson presents *The Girl with Seven Names: A North Korean Defector's Story* by David John and Lee Hyeon-seo  
NY Times best seller- The story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her family to freedom.

#### April 8, 2019

Barbara Linnerud presents *Miss Jane* by Brad Watson  
Inspire by the true story of his own great-aunt, this author explores life for a woman born with significant congenital defects in Mississippi during early twentieth century.

#### May 13, 2019

We are all to bring a book we would recommend for others to read over the summer. We will all spend a few minutes presenting our books and I will send a list to everyone after that meeting.

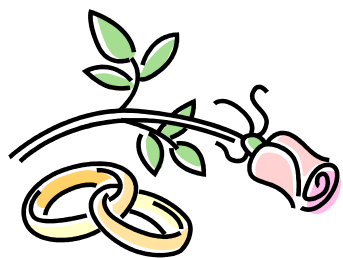


# Emmanuel Lutheran Church

## December Baptisms

<i>Member</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Luke Wigdahl</i>	<i>12/04</i>
<i>Jean Lee</i>	<i>12/06</i>
<i>Ethan Hilliard</i>	<i>12/09</i>
<i>Lila Mastro</i>	<i>12/11</i>
<i>Stephanie Mastro</i>	<i>12/12</i>
<i>Gary Bassett</i>	<i>12/16</i>
<i>Barbara Detrick</i>	<i>12/18</i>
<i>Dick Camden</i>	<i>12/21</i>
<i>Dick Casey</i>	<i>12/21</i>
<i>Shelby Schwartz</i>	<i>12/21</i>
<i>Justin Van Norstrand</i>	<i>12/23</i>
<i>Chas Frontz</i>	<i>12/24</i>
<i>Philip A. Hilliard</i>	<i>12/24</i>
<i>Julia Kerr</i>	<i>12/24</i>
<i>Rowland Lewis</i>	<i>12/24</i>
<i>Marcia Piipponen</i>	<i>12/24</i>
<i>Paula Eissfeldt</i>	<i>12/25</i>
<i>Marlene Heidemann</i>	<i>12/26</i>
<i>Trevor Moen Denny</i>	<i>12/26</i>
<i>Taylor Field</i>	<i>12/27</i>
<i>Mehkai Ancirel</i>	<i>12/28</i>
<i>Alexander Wack</i>	<i>12/31</i>
<i>Lydia Wasmer</i>	<i>12/31</i>





# Emmanuel Lutheran Church

## December Anniversaries

<i>Member</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Charles Holmes</i>	<i>12/03/1960</i>
<i>Zetty &amp; Eduardo Rivera</i>	<i>12/11/1998</i>
<i>Rev. &amp; Mrs. Frank Lee</i>	<i>12/12/1964</i>
<i>Tom &amp; Jan Gazdic</i>	<i>12/15/1984</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Jerral M. Costrud</i>	<i>12/16/1961</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph Calderon</i>	<i>12/19/1964</i>
<i>Dr. &amp; Mrs. George Dumouchel</i>	<i>12/20/1980</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Wade E. Mastro</i>	<i>12/20/1997</i>
<i>Mr. and Mrs. Frank Palulis</i>	<i>12/20/0000</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Robert W. Groth</i>	<i>12/21/1985</i>
<i>Dennis Reynolds / Jackie Rosaasen</i>	<i>12/23/1994</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Maurice Weibert</i>	<i>12/23/1961</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Joseph Mullin</i>	<i>12/25/1987</i>
<i>Mr &amp; Mrs Charles Olson</i>	<i>12/26/1959</i>
<i>Thomas &amp; Irma Leonard</i>	<i>12/27/1955</i>
<i>Theresa &amp; Mike Shaw</i>	<i>12/27/1981</i>
<i>Beverly Brenner</i>	<i>12/28/2006</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. John Frisvold</i>	<i>12/28/1994</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Donald E. Hannemann</i>	<i>12/29/0000</i>
<i>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Paul Guehler</i>	<i>12/30/1961</i>
<i>William and Shelley Weible</i>	<i>12/31/1975</i>



# Emmanuel Lutheran Church

## December Birthdays

<i>Member</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Date</i>
Ruth Bethem	12/01	Victoria Carrillo	12/15
Barbara Detrick	12/01	Kaye Gardner	12/15
Marlene Huff	12/01	Pat Goodyear	12/15
Karen Palmer	12/01	Carmen Horn	12/15
Dennis Reustle	12/01	Jackson Nieman	12/15
Donald Mackling	12/02	Vera Hynes	12/16
Dorothy Moler	12/03	Fred Adams	12/18
Merlin Neumeyer	12/03	Bruno Quiroga	12/18
Franky Gomez	12/04	Robert Goodrich	12/19
Nick Loudjjeff	12/04	Julian Hardy	12/19
Janice Parmelee	12/05	Kirsten Hilliard	12/19
Kinsley Manning	12/06	Dale Larsen	12/19
Evelyn Ulsh	12/06	Frank Lee	12/19
Sandra Fischer-Williams	12/07	Lindsey Manning	12/19
Steven Murphy	12/07	Marwin Case	12/20
Elinor Pearson	12/07	Julie Corbin	12/21
Natalee Barancik	12/08	Nancy Murray	12/21
Nicholas Castillo	12/08	Marianne Sander	12/21
Osmar Castillo	12/08	Melanie Chadwick	12/22
Dee Ann Fetterer	12/08	John Eichhorn	12/22
William Fisher	12/08	Edward Smith	12/22
Gloria Hudson	12/08	Martha Smith	12/22
Edward McCaffrey	12/08	Georgia Stock	12/22
Judy Mosner	12/08	Cliff Bransby	12/23
Ruben Teran	12/08	Wayne Abram	12/24
Debra Listoe	12/09	Janice Elsesser	12/25
Lisa LeFevre	12/09	Annie Swears	12/26
Lea Smith	12/09	Chelsey Spargo	12/28
Marie Bergman	12/11	Sylvia Boynton	12/29
Dan Greer	12/11	Andrew Nuzum	12/29
Sharon Hans	12/11	Abigail Reid	12/29
Zachary Seamon	12/11	Gordon Duwe	12/30
Kyunghee Brunellod	12/12	Nathan Elgin	12/30
Dennis Reynolds	12/12	Larry Coates	12/31
Harriet Vender	12/12	Dam Collado	12/31
Pat Doverspike	12/13	Bonnie Kischer	12/31
Dianne Fiebrink	12/13	Ana Lebron	12/31
Michele Newberry	12/13	Nancy Nodell	12/31
Philip Suhr	12/13	Shelley Weible	12/31
Michael Nieman	12/14		