

# EmmanuelLife

Newsletter of Emmanuel United Church of Christ



Rev. Kenneth D. Peterkin, Pastor

January 2024

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## Calendar Highlights

**Sundays, January 7, 14, 21, 28**

*8:30 am—Adult Learning Hour*

*10 am—Worship in person and  
livestreamed on YouTube*

**Mondays, January 8, 15, 22, 29**

*1-4 pm—Compassionate Crafters*

**Thursdays, January 4 & 18**

*1-4 pm—Afternoon of Games  
in King Auditorium*

**Thursdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25**

*Weekly music rehearsals:*

*6 pm—Hand bells • 7 pm—Choir*

## Congregational Meeting

A Congregational Meeting will be held in the sanctuary immediately after worship on Sunday, January 28, to approve the annual reports for all EUCC organizations and minutes of the Congregational Meetings in 2023. Details will be sent electronically, or by mail to members without email. Your attendance is encouraged.



COMPLETE CALENDAR, PAGE 7

From the desk of Rev. Ken . . .

**I**n so many ways the dawn of a new year is merely an arbitrary point in time. And yet, vast energies are poured into the demarcation or the observance of the passage of time. Calendars, printed materials of all kinds, digital realms are all affected. Remember Y2K? So much was worried to happen to computers by the mere passage of time.

We acknowledge each year’s passing by many ways – a traditional meal on January 1; the falling of “the ball” in Times Square; a party to celebrate one year’s passage to the next; the list goes on and on. And yet, life continues on in nearly the same manner one day as it did the last.

I will use this new year to change my schedule at church. My office hours will be different and my presence in the church building will differ from the past, beginning mid-month. I have yet to determine how I will differentiate my schedule other than to say that my change will make seeing you in your settings more frequent. Change is a good thing when looking to become more efficient and more mobile.

On my arrival in Hanover just a little over 2 years ago, I set my schedule in office Tuesday through Friday, 6:30 am to 4 pm, with phone calls to every household and a personal letter to the same. I also made visits to both shut-ins and mobile persons. Now, a focus will be to make even more visits or “calls” to your locale on a more regular schedule. I want each of you to know your value to me as a community leader and your value to the God we worship. God is with us – Emmanuel. God shall be shared in the times we meet. Jesus said, “whenever two or three are gathered in my name, I am there.” And so, I pray that my presence with you will be a time when we can share like feelings and thoughts and as well, discuss those things we may disagree about. All this done of course in a kind and expedient way.

Please look for announcements about my changes upcoming, and most of all, I pray that more of us return to in-person worship. We have steadily increased our average attendance on Sundays by 15 or more over the past year.

**See Rev. Ken, Page 3**

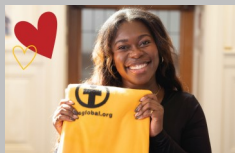
# A Big Thank You ... and an Invitation

A Big Thank You goes out to the congregation of Emmanuel – you not only support our church, but you reach out with generosity to our neighbors near and far. Through a generous budget for Missions and your own additional generosity, we have been able to help victims of war and disasters, help to care for the earth, support productive farming, improve health care, enhance education, and the list goes on. Through additional collections, we are supporting families of hospitalized vets, strengthening UCC churches and indigenous people, providing financial support to retired UCC pastors, and again, the list goes on.

You have helped us build strong connections with our community, not only through financial donations, but through volunteering, including PAL lunch and Meals on Wheels, ringing bells for the Salvation Army, and packaging meals for Hanover Against Hunger. Your skills, through our Crafters group, provide warmth and comfort to many.

There are many more reasons to thank you for your generosity. See the Annual Report, to be published in a few weeks.

Here is the Invitation: You are invited to continue stepping deeper into the waters of your faith in 2024 – through financial donations of your choice, and the giving of your time and talents. The Missions Committee welcomes your suggestions of where and how we can help our neighbors, wherever they live in our world. We would like to explore new possibilities of how we can better care for our earth. Please give us input on all of these. We want to hear from you! ~Your Missions Committee



A LOOK AHEAD  
Watch for the CWS Blanket offering in February

## Inclement Weather Policy

For your safety and to facilitate the clearing of our sidewalks and parking lot... If the Borough of Hanover declares a Snow Emergency, church services, meetings and any other activities will be cancelled or rescheduled. Check for updates at [emmanuelucc.org](http://emmanuelucc.org).



## Wanted: Bingo prizes for Homewood

The Homewood at Plum Creek Auxiliary is reaching out to member churches asking for help in collecting items suitable for Bingo Prizes. The residents play bingo twice a week, every week. Bingo is without doubt one of the most popular activities enjoyed by our Skilled Care and Personal Care residents, of which there are several members of Emmanuel represented.

Suggestions for **new** non-perishable prizes include:

- Word search puzzle books (circle a word)
- Costume jewelry
- Over the head beaded necklaces and bracelets
- Dove soap bars
- Small hand sanitizers
- Small hand lotions
- Decorative scarves
- Small soft stuffed animals (size like a Beanie Baby)
- Window clings
- Small holiday trinkets for all seasons
- Variety of greeting cards to send to family

A basket labeled “**Homewood Auxiliary Bingo Prizes**” can be found in the King Auditorium, near the Opportunity Table for any items donated for this effort.

Please see Peg Moulton for more information.

## **The Auxiliary thanks you!**

The Homewood at Plum Creek Auxiliary wishes to thank Members and friends of Emmanuel UCC for your continued support in renewing or joining during the 2024 Membership Drive. Funds raised during the Annual Membership Drive and special events such as the Annual Tea are used to purchase wish list items to enhance the lives of Nursing and Care residents.

# EUCC Community Concert Series

Emmanuel has welcomed the community to enjoy music in our beautiful sanctuary for decades. Join us this 25th anniversary season for three more Sunday concerts featuring diverse programs from world-class musicians and regional performers. Stay after each concert for a dessert reception to meet the performing artists. The schedule includes:



**Susquehanna Slide Express Trombone Quintet** March 10  
This ensemble of four horns and percussion has an extensive repertoire. *Sponsored by Sandy Rebert*

**L'abri Trio Saxophone | Cello | Piano** April 7  
Enjoy a varied program from this world-class trio. *Sponsored by Sam S. Lee*

**Grace EunHye Oh Organist** May 12  
Oh will perform on our magnificent 1930 E.F. Skinner organ.



## Giving envelopes for 2024

Offering envelopes for the new year are now available for pickup up in the Narthex. If you have not had envelopes in the past and would like a set, please contact the church office.



## LAUNDRY LINE OF WARMTH

The Compassionate Crafters are stocking a laundry line with hats, gloves, scarves and more – most handcrafted – for anyone to take, enjoy and keep warm.

## Rev. Ken, continued from Page 1

I hope this is because I have fostered loving messages that encourage and welcome all. If you're a shut-in I hope you observe us online live. But if you have means to travel, know that your showing up at church will result in a kind and joyous acknowledgment of your presence. And by the way, you have GOT to

experience our new music director Amy – her musical skills and her leadership of the choirs has been AWESOME!

Changing for the best,  
Rev. Ken

Reach Rev. Ken at  
860-581-0869 or  
pastor@eucchanover.org

## Events & Activities

### Coffee ER

9:15 am Friday & Saturday

Join Rev. Ken for an informal gathering every Friday and Saturday from 9:15-10:30 am at The



Reader's Café, 125 Broadway. Grab coffee, tea or breakfast. Coffee ER's name pays homage to Emmanuel's Evangelical and Reformed roots.

### Afternoon of Games

1:30-4pm, January 4 & 18

The group meets for Scrabble, cards and more games and snacks first and third Thursdays in King Auditorium. For info, call Carol Giesey at 717-632-2665.

### Monthly Mindfulness

6 pm, First Sundays

Join Karen Jones January 7 and every first Sunday for a 45-minute Monthly Mindfulness Drop-In session in Bowers Chapel. The stress-reduction practices are open to everyone. Use the courtyard door. For a Zoom link or questions, email Karen at [kjones@mindfulnessandmotion.com](mailto:kjones@mindfulnessandmotion.com).

## CONSISTORY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### **Consistory Minutes — November**

*November minutes were approved December 18.*

- The 2024 EUCC proposed budget was presented by Brian Frederick. Discussion concluded with Alec Sivel to take the proposed budget to the EUCC Congregational meeting on Sunday, December 10, 2023, for congregational vote. Ann Kress second. Vote taken. All were in favor.
  - Monthly Announcers: Discussion on having Rev. Ken make announcements. Consistory will revisit at beginning of 2024.
- New Business
- Church Growth suggested Consistory take over giving of the gifts when new members join the church. Alec to send details. Consistory approved.
  - Property and Safety Committee: Lectern discussion concluded to continue research for an adjustable lectern for safety purposes that would fit with the architecture of our church.
  - Consistory Membership: Completion of terms in December 2023: Cheryl Fritz, Laura Kemp and Ann Kress. Continuing additional terms in 2024: Charlotte Pinette and Megan Alcott. New Consistory members for 2024: Sean Moore and Sandy Topper. Slate of nominees to be taken to congregational meeting.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Church Growth Committee — December 12**

Updates:

- Bulletin Board: Discussion on how to change it and keep it updated.
- Free ads: Merchandiser and Gettysburg Times. Afternoon of Games ad has been updated. Carol Sing is in the Gettysburg Times Church Briefs section, which we will continue using for events.
- Social Media: Abe will continue to post and look at ways to make our YouTube page more engaging and informative. Abe has requested any and all photos.

### **Christian Education — December 18**

- We have 1-5 children attending Sunday School each week. Lessons feature follow up discussions of Rev. Ken's Children's Message and a look at the Gospel lectionary reading for the week.
- Adult Learning Hour concluded study of "Wake Up to Wonder: 22 Invitations to Amazement in the Everyday."
- Amy worked with the children after Sunday School to teach them some piano basics. They played a piece at worship December 17.

**Continued on next page**

### **2024 CONSISTORY OFFICERS**

**President** Chuck Siegel 717-969-5550  
brassnblast@yahoo.com

**Vice President** Alec Sivel 717-451-3450  
alecsivel@hotmail.com

**Secretary** TBD

### **CONSISTORY MEMBERS**

Megan Alcott, Chuck Bauer, Sean Moore,  
Judy Morris, Charlotte Pinette, Sandy Topper,  
Bill Wertzberger

### **Ex officio**

**Treasurer** Brian Frederick 717-451-3977  
brianfrederick44@gmail.com

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Altar Guild** Mary Bair 717-870-5597

**Caring** Judy Morris 717-968-6998

**Christian Education**  
Cheryl Fritz 717-698-1153

**Church Growth**  
Charlotte Pinette 717-227-0262  
Alec Sivel 717-451-3450

**Fellowship** Mary Bair 717-870-5597  
Elaine Weaver 717-637-9015

**Investment** Brian Frederick 717-451-3977

**Missions** Carol Giesey 717-632-2665  
Estelle King 717-487-1906  
Consistory Rep: Bill Wertzberger

**Pastor-Parish Relations**  
Estelle King 717-487-1906

**Personnel** Megan Alcott 717-451-5401

**Property and Safety**  
Sean Moore 443-618-7481

**Stewardship** Judy Morris 717-968-6998

**Worship and Music**  
Chuck Siegel 717-969-5550



## Committee Highlights, continued from Page 4

- We are continuing to work on making sure that all our volunteers are up to date on the Safe Church requirements. Because our number of volunteers has decreased we have decided not to schedule nursery volunteers at this time.

### **Missions Committee — December 6**

- God's Meal Barrel: 250 families were served this year, with 130 dinners served for Thanksgiving. Sleepers are still being collected for the children. A drop-off box for nonperishables is now available behind the building at 240 Frederick St.
- PAL Lunch at HACC: Our next lunch will be Jan. 30. A minimum of 6 volunteers works best. Contact Estelle King.
- HACC: We delivered 20 gift cards at \$10 each to JJ's Toy Shop. The Changing Lives Shelter is currently at full capacity.
- Hoffman Homes for Youth: We delivered 12 Christmas gifts to the children.
- The basket Emmanuel donated was sold at the Gala. Proceeds from the Gala totaled \$46,000.
- New Hope Ministries: In addition to a donation of Missions funds of \$1,000, several Emmanuel members phoned in pledges to the Feed-A-Friend Marathon. The total collection for the 2-day marathon, Dec. 7 and 8, was 128,907 cans.
- Homewood Auxiliary: Peg reports that 25 Emmanuel members have renewed or signed up as members of the auxiliary, with donations totaling \$119. She will deliver over 140 Christmas cards from Emmanuel to Personal care and Nursing residents. The Auxiliary requested prizes for Bingo and provided a list of suggested items. A collection basket will be provided in the King Auditorium.
- Communion Gifts: The December collection totaled 46.6 pounds of food, plus 212 cleaning and personal care items and 10 pairs of socks for the Changing Lives Shelter.
- We will consider supporting two outdoor and environmental efforts in 2024: Lutheran Camps, partnered with UCC Outdoor Ministries, and the Susquehanna River Keepers.
- The Crafters delivered 31 twiddlers for Memory Care residents at Homewood, plus lap robes and prayer shawls to other Homewood residents.
- We will make the following end-of-year donations: God's Meal Barrel, \$500; New Hope Ministries (personal care and cleaning supplies), \$300; Hanover YWCA, \$500; and Homewood Auxiliary, \$200.
- Remaining funds will be used to purchase environment, healthcare and educational gifts through Church World Service – 12 beehives, 10

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### **Are you called to serve?**

There are multiple ways to help out at Emmanuel, even if you only have a little time to give. Are you called to contribute to the ministries of the church? Opportunities include:

- Altar Guild: Prepare communion once or twice per year.
- Fellowship Hour: Easy as coffee and cookies.
- Scripture Readers: Jump in the rotation!
- Greeters: Welcome members, friends and visitors.

Contact the church office for info.

- solar lights, 10 bio-sand water filters, 10 period packs, 10 book sets for students, and 9 business training packs for women for a total of \$1,976.
- We want to express our gratitude to our generous members of Emmanuel and to Consistory for enabling the Missions Committee to use our funds to extend a helping hand to the Hanover community as well as to our neighbors in many parts of the world.

### **Stewardship Committee — December**

- The committee met via Zoom to discuss the campaign and when to start planning for next year.
- To date we have had 37 total pledges. Of those, 14 increased over last year, and three decreased slightly. There were six new pledgers! Compared to last year we are ahead in dollar amounts but behind in number of pledges by six. Rev Ken agreed to make some follow up phone calls.

### **Worship & Music Committee — December 5**

- The worship and event schedule for the month was reviewed. A Hymn Sing will be held during the morning worship on Dec. 31.
- Discussions included how best to advertise church events and the adjustments made in the sound system concerning the livestreaming. Work involved separating the sounds of choir and Clavinova.
- Announcements of church events during the service has been eliminated since they are listed in the weekly bulletin.
- Rev. Ken said efforts are made weekly to carefully select responsive readings after someone expressed concern over a recent liturgy.
- The choir will provide entertainment for annual Spaghetti Supper to be held March 2, 2024.

# Thank You

## From God's Meal Barrel

Thank you for your support. We could not provide without your help!

Tom Imler, Managing Director  
God's Meal Barrel

*In the fall, the Missions Committee contributed \$500 for Thanksgiving meals.*

## From New Hope Ministries

Dear Friends,

Your \$1,000 gift received on December 8 during the 38th Annual Hanover Area Feed-A-Friend Radio Marathon truly makes a difference for your neighbors in need. Thanks to you, we exceeded the 128,000 food item goal and raised the equivalent of over 130,000 items – what an amazing gift this Christmas season!!

Thank you for remembering people who are struggling to make ends meet. We are blessed by your generosity and kindness!

Christmas blessings,  
Eric Saunders, Executive Director

*The Missions Committee pledged \$1,000 during the two-day marathon.*

## From HACC

Dear Judy Dubs & Friends at Emmanuel UCC,  
Thank you for blessing us with your donation of \$200 in Target gift cards. Your donation has been applied to our 2023 JJ's Toy Shop efforts, which has benefitted over 190 children this year. Please accept our many thanks.

Mirna Wildasin, Executive Director

*The Missions Committee contributed \$200 to the annual toy drive.*

### ► **Thanks for The Christmas Fund giving**

Thank you for contributing \$380 to the UCC offering to support retired pastors and lay employees with pension supplements, emergency grants and Christmas thank you checks. The Missions Committee will match your donations with \$500 for a total offering of \$880.

## From The Salvation Army

Dear Emmanuel UCC Members,

I want to thank you for your generous donation of \$100 to the Salvation Army Hanover Service Unit. All monies donated to our Salvation Army help to aid those in need from our community.

The Salvation Army is here for vulnerable people who come to us for help in their time of need. But we can only be there for everyone who needs us with help from folks like you.

Thank you again for your generosity and support.

Kathi Thomas, Caseworker

*Ten percent of profits from the fall Bingo were donated to The Salvation Army.*

## From Fisher House Foundation

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our military men and women, veterans and their loved ones.

Families like those of August O'Neill, who was injured in Afghanistan and spent three years attempting to rehabilitate his leg before opting for an amputation. His family was able to support him through multiple surgeries by staying at a nearby Fisher House.

Some families stay at a Fisher House for a couple of days while others stay multiple times for months or even years due to the severity of their loved one's injury or illness. For many, the need continues long after they leave service. We count on donations like yours to support families like August's, who were able to make sure he always had someone there when he needed it most.

Thank you for your gift of \$696 to the Fisher House Foundation. We are grateful for your generosity.

Sincerely,  
David A. Coker, President

*The congregational offering was collected for Veterans Day in November.*

### Christian Sympathy and Heartfelt Prayers

Please extend sympathy and prayers to...

The family of Bryce Little, who died on  
December 2, 2023, at age 77.

# ★ HAPPY ★ BIRTHDAY!

The following members and friends of Emmanuel celebrate birthdays in **January**. We extend to each of you best wishes and many happy returns. May God bless you!

- 1—Michael Migatulski
- 2—Jeff Brady, Matt Frederick
- 3—Augusta McAlhany
- 11—Ann Kress, Samantha Rebert
- 12—Page Kress
- 13—John Lingg
- 18—James McLin
- 20—Nicole Hummel, Sally Migatulski
- 23—Anne Rost, David Auchey, Tim Kress, Susan Hoke
- 26—Linda Fauth, Matthew Trone
- 29—Eric Groft
- 30—Carole Baublitz
- 31—Jessie Chiliza

## Remembering ♦ Caring ♦ Reaching Out

**Terri Alcott (Care South)**  
**Julia Greth (Terrace E371)**  
**Arlene Marks (Terrace 370)**  
**Pat Sheaffer (Care South)**  
 Homewood, 425 Westminster Avenue,  
 Hanover PA 17331

**Audrey Fuhrman**  
 Forest Hill Heights Assisted Living  
 1 Cardinal Drive, Room 809, Forest Hill MD 21050

**Becci Little**  
 2990 Carlisle Pike, Room 4528, New Oxford PA 17350

**Doris Unger (Room 214A)**  
 Hanover Hall, 267 Frederick St., Hanover PA 17331

► **Have some news?** New email?  
 Change of address? Let us know!  
 office@eucchanover.org  
 124 Broadway, Hanover PA 17331



## January 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>2</b>  4 pm—Worship & Music Committee	<b>3</b> 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	<b>4</b> 1-4 pm— Afternoon of Games  6 pm—Hand bells 7 pm—Choir	<b>5</b> 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ The Reader's Cafe	<b>6</b> 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ Reader's Cafe
<b>7</b> 10 am—Worship w/ Holy Communion Children's SS  6 pm—Mindfulness in Bowers Chapel	<b>8</b> 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	<b>9</b> 12-Church Growth Zoom	<b>10</b> 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open  1 pm—Missions Committee	<b>11</b> 7 pm—Property Committee meeting  6 pm—Hand bells 7 pm—Choir	<b>12</b> 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ The Reader's Cafe	<b>13</b> 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ Reader's Cafe
<b>14</b> 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS 11:45—Lunch Bunch	<b>15</b> 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	<b>18</b> 1-4 pm— Afternoon of Games  6 pm—Hand bells 7 pm—Choir	<b>19</b> 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ The Reader's Cafe	<b>20</b> 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ Reader's Cafe
<b>21</b> 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS Congregational Meeting	<b>22</b> 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor  7—Consistory	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	<b>25</b>  6 pm—Hand bells 7 pm—Choir	<b>26</b> 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ The Reader's Cafe	<b>27</b> 9:15-10:30 am Coffee ER @ Reader's Cafe
<b>28</b> 8:30 am—Adult SS 10 am—Worship Children's SS	<b>29</b> 1-4 pm—Crafters in the Pastor's Parlor	<b>30</b> 9 am-1 pm— PAL Lunch at HACC	<b>31</b> 12-1 pm Bowers Chapel Open	<b>1 February</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

**Emmanuel United Church of Christ**  
124 Broadway  
Hanover, PA 17331  
(Return Service Requested)

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**January 2024**

**Emmanuel United Church of Christ, 124 Broadway, Hanover, PA 17331**



**Worship Services**  
10 am Sunday

**Rev. Ken Peterkin**  
860-581-0869  
pastor@eucchanover.org

**Church Office**  
9 am-1 pm, Mon-Fri  
717-632-8281  
office@eucchanover.org

**Visit Online**  
www.emmanuelucc.org

**F.Y.I.**

■ **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

A Congregational Meeting will be held January 28 after worship to approve the 2023 Annual Report. ~See page 1

■ **GIVING STATEMENTS**

Statements will be generated in mid-January for anyone who gave during 2023 and emailed to you or sent by mail to those without an email address. Thank you for your generosity!

■ **DIRECTORY UPDATE**

An updated directory is being prepared. Notify the church office to any changes to your address, phone or email at 717-632-8281 or office@eucchanover.org.

• Our church is an OPEN AND AFFIRMING congregation •