





# EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

51 Wilburn Place, Asheville, NC 28806  
Church: (828) 252-1795; School: 281-8182  
www.emmanuel.lutheran.info

**WELCOME and MERRY CHRISTMAS!** Please take a few moments to look over the notes below.

**Nursery Note:** Due to the staff being out of town, the nursery will be closed today for the Christmas Day service.

We will have a **NEW YEAR'S EVE** service on Saturday, December 31 at 7:00 pm.

The **Red Christmas Poinsettias** are memorials given to the Glory of God in honor or memory of a loved one. Please see enclosed insert for a list of names; thank you.



**Help the DeBerry's Ring in 2012!** On the Saturday of New Year's Eve, please bring your favorite chili or dessert. We will have home-brew and other goodies. Also bring a gift (gag or not) for a fun White Elephant gift exchange. Sign-up at church or RSVP at [ashevilledeb@gmail.com](mailto:ashevilledeb@gmail.com). Come when you can. We will open the door at 6:30!

There **WILL** be a **Noon service on Wednesday, December 28**, so ignore what the December newsletter calendar shows!

### Youth News:

**Friday, December 30:** Emmanuel Jr/Sr Youth will be heading to Asheville's FUN DEPOT for 3 hours of all you can play video games, wall climbing, bumper cars, go karts, laser tag, batting cages, mini-bowling and inflatables! Afterwards, we'll return to Emmanuel for Pizza and fellowship. Cost is \$10. We'll meet at the FUN DEPOT at 7 Roberts Road at 4:00 pm. We should finish up around 8:30 pm at Emmanuel. Contact Pastor Mark at 252-1795, ext. 112 for more info.

**Saturday, December 31:** Emmanuel Jr/Sr Youth can cheer in the New Year with a bonfire, fellowship, hot chocolate, sparkling cider, s'mores and more at Pastor Mark's new home. We'll meet at church at 8:00 pm (after the New Year's Eve service) to carpool over to Pastor Mark's place.

**Note From the Financial Secretary:** We will close out the Church Year and print contribution statements the day after Christmas. Any contributions you want credited in 2011 should be turned in by TODAY.

**2012 Offering Envelopes:** Due to crowded conditions resulting from construction, please pick up your envelopes as soon as possible. They are located in the narthex hallway by the sign-up bulletin board. Please pick them up even if you use Direct Deposit instead of envelopes. Thank you for saving the church the cost of postage!

**Closing Notice:** The Church and School offices will be closed on Monday, December 26, Friday, December 30 and Monday, January 2. If there is a Pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor McFarland on his cell phone at 828-423-6517, thank you.

**The Adult Bible Study Class on Visionary Parenting** taught by Christi Lorenz will start back in February. During the month of January class members are being asked to attend classes on stewardship.

**Acolyte Training:** There will be training for 5th and 6th graders, who would like to serve as acolytes at the 8:30 and 11:00 liturgical services, on Sunday, January 15. Training will be held in the sanctuary after the 11:00 services. If you are in 7th-12th grades and missed training, but would like to serve, you are also welcome. Questions? Please see Elaine Schallhorn or email [eschallhorn@elcsmail.org](mailto:eschallhorn@elcsmail.org). Thank you.

**LWML: Start your NEW YEAR off in a wonderful way.** The Emmanuel LWML is the best kept secret at our church! Christian fellowship, food and projects to support ministry both within and outside of the church proper are available to you. All you have to do is join us on the first Tuesday of each month in the Media Center of the CEC at 5:30 pm. The first meeting of 2012 will be Tuesday, January 3rd.

**The Monday Night Bible Study** on Revelation that meets in room 104 will resume on January 9 at 7:00 pm.

### This Week's Calendar

#### **Monday, December 26**

ALL CHURCH/SCHOOL OFFICES/PROGRAMS CLOSED

#### **Wednesday, December 28**

12:00 pm: Church Service

#### **Friday, December 30**

ALL CHURCH/SCHOOL OFFICES/PROGRAMS CLOSED

4:00 pm: Youth at Fun Depot

#### **Saturday, December 31**

6:30 pm: DeBerry New Year's Eve Gathering at their home

7:00 pm: New Year's Eve Service (*Sanctuary*)

8:00 pm: Youth meet at church to go to Bon Fire Event at Pastor Seaman's new home.

#### **Sunday, January 1—NEW YEAR'S DAY**

8:30 am: Church Service

9:45 am: Sunday School

11:00 am: Church Services

#### **Monday, January 2**

ALL CHURCH/SCHOOL OFFICES/PROGRAMS CLOSED

### Last Week's Attendance

Sunday: 8:30—149      11:00—214      Wed Noon 12/21—14  
Wed 7pm 12/21—42      **Total: 419**

### Last Week's Offerings

**General Offering needed:** \$11,658.00/week  
Last week we received \$10,691.50  
**Building Funds needed:** \$ 1,476.00/week  
Last week we received \$ 1,805.00

**Birthdays:** 12/26 Dylan Buckner; 12/27 Susan Brock; 12/28 Helen Walsh; 12/29 Richard Clough; 12/30 Brianna Freeman, Hans Meuhlenburg; 12/31 Daniel Berliner, Pat Gant and Gary Richardson.

**Anniversaries:** 12/27 Bob and Karen Balance, James and Barbara Roseman; 12/31 Martin and Vicky Jacobsen.

P: O Lord, in the Sacrament of Your body and blood You dwell with us and give us pardon from sin and peace everlasting. Make us ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of our sins that we may wholeheartedly give thanks to You. Jesus Christ—the one and only Light—has come into the world;

**C: Oh come, let us worship Him.**

P: Through the gracious works of our Prince of Peace, graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor, and worship, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

### Words of Institution

### Agnus Dei

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

### Celebration of Holy Communion

#### Communion Hymns:

*Let All Together Praise Our God.* . . . . . LSB #389

*Away in a Manger.* . . . . . LSB #365

*What Child Is This* . . . . . LSB #370

*Silent Night, Holy Night* . . . . . LSB #363

### Benediction

**Closing Hymn:** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* . . . . vs. 1, 3 . . . . . LSB #380

## Christmas Day Service

December 25, 2011

### A BLESSED CHRISTMAS MORNING TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU!

We welcome you to our Christmas Day Worship Service in the name of the Christ Child; who was born to set us free from sin and to open the gates of heaven for us eternally. We ask that you please fill out an attendance card which is located in the pew pocket and turn it in during the offering. May this service of worship and praise encourage you in your spiritual life and deepen your commitment to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord of your life.

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Opening Hymn:** *Oh Come, All Ye Faithful* . . . . vs. 1, 4 . . . . . LSB #379

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: We praise You, Jesus, at Your birth; clothed in flesh You came to earth. The virgin bears a sinless boy, and all the angels sing for joy. Alleluia!

**C: Now in the manger we may see God's Son from eternity, the gift from God's eternal throne here clothed in our poor flesh and bone. Alleluia!**

P: The virgin Mary's lullaby calms the infant Lord Most High. Upon her lap content is He who keeps the earth and sky and sea. Alleluia!

**C: The Light Eternal, breaking through, made the world to gleam a new; His beams have pierced the core of night, He makes us children of the light. Alleluia!**

P: The very Son of God sublime entered into earthly time, to lead us from this world of cares to heaven's courts as blessed heirs. Alleluia!

**C: In poverty He came to earth showing mercy by His birth; He make us rich in heav'nly ways as we, like angels, sing His praise. Alleluia!**

P: All this for us our God has done granting love through His own Son. Therefore, all Christendom, rejoice and sing His praise with endless voice. Alleluia!

P: On this blessed Christmas morning, let us turn our hearts heavenward and confess our sins unto Him.

**C: Dear Heavenly Father, we come before You this Christmas Day recognizing that sin is such a part of our lives. Even during this special time of year, our hearts have not truly always focused on You and Your will for our lives. We come seeking Your Divine forgiveness for the sake of the Christ Child born in Bethlehem.**

P: Christmas is a time of rejoicing! Truly, we have much to rejoice about this day. God did send His Son to redeem us from sin and for His sake we are forgiven. As God's servant among you this day, I announce unto you the precious forgiveness of your sins in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

### Sacred Scripture Lessons

#### Isaiah 52: 7-10

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted His people, He has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD will lay bare His holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

#### Reflection by Rev. Mark Seaman

Hymn: *Angels We Have Heard on High*. . . vs. 1, 3 . . . LSB #368

#### Galatians 4: 4-7

But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

#### Reflection by Rev. Art Gillespie

Hymn: *Joy to the World* . . . vs. 1, 2 . . . . . LSB #387

#### John 1:14-17

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John testifies concerning Him. He cries out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because He was before me.'" From the fullness of His grace we have all received one blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

#### Reflection by Rev. Michael McFarland

Nicene Creed: p. 158 in the front of the Lutheran Service Book

#### Returning of Our Offerings and Tithes to the Lord's Work

### Prayers of the Church

P: Almighty God, in the person of Your Son Jesus Christ, You reveal Your strength before the eyes of all nations. Grant that we may break forth in joyous song as we thank You for our redemption from sin, death, and the devil's power that has come down from heaven. Jesus Christ--the one and only Light--has come into the world;

C: Oh come, let us worship Him.

P: Eternal God, in the mystery of Your holy incarnation and blessed nativity You took upon our human flesh. It is in the very flesh of Jesus that we behold Your glory, receive bountiful grace and understand manifold truth. Increase our faith that we may be bold witnesses concerning the complete revelation of Your Word. Jesus Christ--the one and only Light--has come into the world;

C: Oh come, let us worship Him.

P: With the shepherds, O Lord, we marvel at the miracle of Your nativity. Magnify the power of the Gospel in the hearts of Your faithful people so that, without reservation, we would spread the good news of salvation revealed to us through the Word made flesh. Jesus Christ--the one and only Light--has come into the world;

C: Oh come, let us worship Him.

P: O Lord, in humility, You who were rich became poor to redeem us from sin's curse. Comfort those who face economic challenges granting them courage to endure hardship; send them persons who would support and encourage them to look in trust to You. Jesus Christ--the one and only Light--has come into the world;

C: Oh come, let us worship Him.

P: Heavenly Father, look in mercy upon those persecuted for proclaiming and living a bold Christian confession. As Christians suffer unjustly, keep us mindful of the affliction, persecution, and scorn that You endured on our behalf. Grant all Christians unwavering confidence in confessing, proclaiming, and witnessing about the true Light. Jesus Christ--the one and only Light--has come into the world;

C: Oh come, let us worship Him.

P: Almighty God, grant Your blessing to those in need. Banish their sadness, anxiety, and sorrow with the certainty of forgiveness and life everlasting. Cheer their weary spirits by Your gracious visitation. Keep us ever mindful that Your only begotten Son bears our burdens and grief. Jesus Christ--the one and only Light--has come into the world;

C: Oh come, let us worship Him.