
A Message from our Presiding Bishop

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

*"So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them."
Genesis 1:27*

We are killing ourselves. We believe that all people are created in God's image. All of humanity bears a family resemblance. Those murdered in Orlando were not abstract "others," they are us. But somehow, in the mind of a deeply disturbed gunman, the LGBTQ community was severed from our common humanity. This separation led to the death of 49 and the wounding of 54 of **us**.

We live in an increasingly divided and polarized society. Too often we sort ourselves into like-minded groups and sort others out. It is a short distance from division to demonization. Yesterday, we witnessed the tragic consequences of this.

There is another way. In Christ God has reconciled the world to God's self. Jesus lived among us sharing our humanity. Jesus died for us to restore our humanity. God invites us into this reconciling work. This must be our witness as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The perpetrator of this hate crime did not come out of nowhere. He was shaped by our culture of division, which itself has been misshapen by the manipulation of our fears. That is not who we are. St. Paul wrote, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new. All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ" (II Corinthians 5:17-20).

Our work begins now. We need to examine ourselves, individually and as a church, to acknowledge the ways we have divided and have been divided. We must stand with people who have been "othered". We must speak peace and reconciliation into the cacophony of hatred and division. We must live the truth that all people are created in God's image.

This morning your churchwide staff came together to mourn and to pray. We prayed for those killed in Orlando and remembered the Charleston Nine killed only a year ago. We prayed for the family of the shooter, for our LGBTQ brothers and sisters and for our Muslim brothers and sisters who now face the threat of retaliation. And we prayed that the Prince of Peace will bring us to the day when we stop killing ourselves.

Your sister in Christ,

Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Prayer Concerns List

Renee Adamson	MJ Ekstrand
Bill & Ellen Gruhn	Hans & Ursula Dimpel
Jack Kramer	John Foster
Patty Holbrook	Marci Sharp
Stephen Galberg	

Service Ministry Opportunity

I would like to know how many members might be interested in hosting in a baby shower for expectant mothers receiving services from Ruth House.

I have been in touch with staff there and have been told that we could help out by donating baby clothes and other necessary items (e.g., diapers, baby wipes, etc.).

I do not have details at this point; however, I thought it best to investigate the interest level to determine who/how many people would be interested in working with me to coordinate such an activity.

I am looking at October for hosting this event. One challenge would be arranging transportation of the expectant mothers to Emmanuel on the day of the shower (and back again). I would also need to find out how many young women are involved and exactly what is needed.

If this project speaks to you, please just send me an e-mail (lawsue51@verizon.net) and then I will contact you in late summer/early fall with details. Thanks! Susan Lawson

P.S I am not sure who will be coordinating the **LWR school kit project** this year, but remember to start picking up items as soon as those “Back to School” sales and coupons begin appearing in the newspaper. I know it may seem ridiculous to mention this now, but the stores begin their sales ridiculously early, so we want to take advantage of those ridiculously great prices early in the summer! –
Susan Lawson

**June 26th after
worship in Kask Hall –
please plan to attend.**



June's Small Group of the Month



The Knotty Knitters (formerly known as Don't Drop a Stitch) meet from September until May on the fourth Wednesday of each month. We work on prayer shawls, lap robes, hats and scarves for the needy and other personal projects. All who knit or crochet are welcome to join us as we work and enjoy Christian fellowship. If you would like more information please contact Helene Bier hbier@verizon.net

Confirmation Sunday

The Rite of Confirmation was celebrated on Holy Trinity Sunday, May 22nd. The following members of our confirmation class affirmed their baptism and take on their adult role in Church:

Samantha Frerichs	Ava Gundal
Audrey Lassen	Edward Ott
Annika Ruda	

Thank You all...

Hi Everyone, I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for your kind words and cards of condolences for my brother John Martin. I am so thankful to have the support of my Emmanuel family at this very difficult time.

It was unfortunate that after spending 18 years in Australia by brother came back to the USA so ill. At 55 years old his battle with cancer was courageous and I so admire his positive attitude. I was fortunate to be there with him those few weeks before and during his passing.

He leaves his 16 year old son, Tim, in good care with my sister, her husband and their 2 sons in New Mexico. Tim will be with my family for 3 weeks this summer to spend some time at Cape Cod with his cousins and families, and to attend tennis camp @ the Adirondack Club.

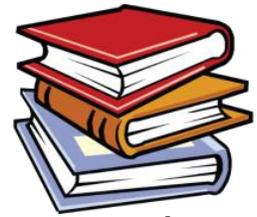
Thanks for all your support,

Joanne Balduf

"When you're grieving, you don't want to be around people who will see through you. You want to be around people who will see you through."

Summer Reading

All are welcome to attend meetings of Emmanuel's Book Group on the 3rd Friday of each month at 7:30 pm.



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June 17th *Love Anthony* by Lisa Genova

In an insightful, deeply human story reminiscent of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in Night-time*, *Daniel Isn't Talking*, and *The Reason I Jump*, *New York Times* bestselling author and neuroscientist Lisa Genova offers a unique perspective in fiction—the extraordinary voice of Anthony, a nonverbal boy with autism. Anthony reveals a neurologically plausible peek inside the mind of autism, why he hates pronouns, why he loves swinging and the number three, how he experiences routine, joy, and love. And it is the voice of this voiceless boy that guides two women in this powerfully unforgettable story to discover the universal truths that connect us all.

July 15th *The Pioneer Woman: Black Heels to Tractor Wheels—a Love Story* by Ree Drummond ***New York Times* Bestseller**

Wildly popular award-winning blogger, accidental ranch wife, and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Pioneer Woman Cooks*, Ree Drummond (aka The Pioneer Woman) tells the true story of her storybook romance that led her from the Los Angeles glitter to a cattle ranch in rural Oklahoma, and into the arms of her real-life Marlboro Man.

August 19th *All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriott **The classic multimillion copy bestseller**

Delve into the magical, unforgettable world of James Herriot, the world's most beloved veterinarian, and his menagerie of heartwarming, funny, and tragic animal patients.

In *All Creatures Great and Small*, we meet the young Herriot as he takes up his calling and discovers that the realities of veterinary practice in rural Yorkshire are very different from the sterile setting of veterinary school. Herriot discovers the wondrous variety and never-ending challenges of veterinary practice as his humor, compassion, and love of the animal world shine forth.

James Herriot's memoirs have sold 80 million copies worldwide, and continue to delight and entertain readers of all ages.

Thank You



In March, Emmanuel joined with Ascentria Care Alliance (formerly Lutheran Social Services) to celebrate "50 Days of Easter." During that period, we asked for book donations to give to children in intensive foster care and for parenting books for teenage mothers. Thanks to your wonderful generosity, we collected 19 boxes of books that were taken to Brockton to be distributed to their clients. There was a total of 817 (plus or minus a few) books delivered: 25 board books, 363 picture books, 60 easy readers, 273 chapter books, 20 children's poetry books, 54 informational (non-fiction) books, and 22 parenting/ESL/GED books. There were also 33 bookmarks made by our SCS children. Besides the donations many of you made, there were those who had no books to donate, but wanted to support the effort by giving us gift cards and checks with which to purchase books that were needed, but not donated. You have made the world a better place. Thank you all! Helen Rezendes

Graduates 2016

A big Emmanuel "congratulations" goes to the following young men who have graduated from area high schools this year. May God watch over you and guide you in the choices you make throughout the rest of your lives.



- **Alex Crisafulli** graduated on June 7th from Blue Hills Regional High School. He plans to major in math and science at UMASS Boston.
- **Johnathan Stahl** graduated on June 3rd from Norwood High School and will be attending Mass Bay Community College.
- **Thomas Peter** graduated from Foxborough High School. He plans to major in mechanical engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Congratulations are also in order for Emmanuel's young men and women who have recently graduated from various colleges and universities.



- **Vimbai Moyo** received a BA in Hospitality and Tourism Management from UMASS Amherst. Starting in July, she will be employed at the Hilton Conrad Hotel in New York City.
- **Heather Baeta** graduated from the University of Florida with a BA in Physiology and Kinesiology. As of June 7th, she began a doctoral program for physical therapy at Emory University.
- **Tyler Sweeney** received a BS on May 16th from Wake Forest University's Business School. He majored in Finance.
- **Julius Moyo** received a MA in Higher Education from Columbia this spring.

Members of the Class of 2016, all of Emmanuel is proud of you. We wish you nothing but the best in all of your future endeavors. May God bless you all.

Bible Study Continues This Summer – Thoughts and an Invitation

When I first started attending Bible Study on Wednesday nights I didn't know what to expect and I was a little nervous that my ignorance would show through and that I'd be scoffed at because I didn't know if Philemon was in the New Testament or the Old Testament. These fears were quickly eased as I attended that first week and we started to talk about the Word of God in a comfortable and sharing environment.



What do we do at Bible Study you might ask? Well, we talk about the Epistle reading (Second Lesson) for the upcoming Sunday; we talk about what it means, visit other biblical references to the verse, and we discuss it. Sometimes there will be an open question for us to ponder. Sometimes one of us will share some insight or meaning that others of us hadn't thought of. Sometimes we'll refer to pop culture in order to apply a verse to the present day, and sometimes we'll just listen. Regardless of what we do, we always learn and think and are challenged in new and different ways.

For me, I've found that Bible Study has been a strong foundation for my spiritual growth this past year. The mid-week discussions provide me with a spiritual recharge, a stronger sense of my church community, and also makes Sunday worship all the more meaningful as I relate to the scriptures in new ways. I eagerly look forward to each Wednesday and I sincerely hope that you'll also give Bible Study a try. Your sister in Christ, *Rebecca Sol*

Bible Study will be held during the summer:

Wednesday evenings 7:30-9:00 p.m.: June 8, 15, 22 Thursday mornings 10:00-11:30 a.m.: June 16, 23
July 13, 20, 27 August 3, 31
July 7, 14, 21, 28 No Thursday a.m. Bible Study in August