

The Emmanuel Envoy

August 2017

CATS!

On September 15, 1999, Hurricane Floyd passed by Jacksonville, Florida, where I was doing my internship at Shepherd of the Woods Lutheran Church. Hurricane Floyd was originally forecasted to make landfall in Jacksonville (it didn't), so many people in the city had evacuated and most of the businesses were closed. The night before the storm, after I had gone home, the pastor of the church, decided that he needed to cut down a tree branch that could fall on the church if a big storm hit. He got his ladder, his saw and his other equipment and he headed up the tree. When he got into the tree he discovered a kitten sitting in its branches. He coaxed the kitten down before he cut the offending branch and he put her on the covered porch of the church. Then he went home for the night.

The next day, we all made our way to the church through the deserted city and through the wind and the rain of the passing storm. When we got there we found the kitten, still on the porch, meowing pitifully. The church sexton and I brought her into the church, got her dry, and tried to give her some milk to drink. She was obviously a stray. She was flea ridden, skinny, and bedraggled. After a couple of hours of kitten sitting at the church I called Britton and asked him to come and see the kitten. He came walking to the church through the rain (we lived in a condo complex next to the church) with lunch for me and a can of tuna for the kitten. Britton, the kitten, and I shared lunch and when Britton went home again, he had the still unnamed kitten tucked under his raincoat. When I got home that night we decided to name her Jax, which is the official abbreviation for the city of Jacksonville. Her middle name was Floyd, named for the storm in which we found her.

Two years ago, almost to the day, Jax died, at sixteen and a half years old, after a long and happy life. For about a year now, we have been talking about bringing a new cat into our home. We would like a kitten or a young cat so that the kids can have the experience of seeing a pet grow up. But we have discovered that it is not that easy to get a kitten. Most places want you to take two kittens instead of just one, to prevent kitten loneliness or boredom; as if anyone could get lonely in our house with two adults, four kids, and constant activity. They also screen you thoroughly (some might say aggressively) to make sure that you're a safe owner for a pet. I have kind of wished something like the Jax scenario would happen again, that a cat needing a home would just turn up on our doorstep. But it seems that we're going to have to put a little bit more effort into it.

So, in the next few months the search for the Warner family cat will be on. We'll be filling out applications and probably being interviewed so that someone can determine that we *are* acceptable pet owners, so that we can, once again, begin to share our lives and our home with a cat.

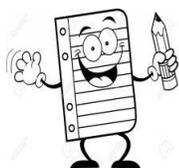
You may be wondering I'm telling you about all of this in an Envoy article. Well, there is a reason, aside from hoping for your prayers for us as we embark on our kitten search. While my family is looking for a cat, our congregation is gearing up to take the CAT. CAT is an acronym for the "Congregational Assessment Tool" which is a survey that we are going to ask everyone in the congregation to take during the month of October. It is a primarily an on-line survey, that you can take from the comfort of your own home, although there will be options for people to take it on paper or on a computer at church. It will help us get a sense of the energy, focus, and needs of our congregation, so that we can start planning for the future at Emmanuel. During 2018 there will be a team of people, identified by the church council, who will be participating in a program called the Forward Leadership Community which is offered by the New England Synod. The results of our CAT will help the Forward Leadership Team focus its energy and attention on the areas of most vital need and vital interest in our congregation and community.

You will be hearing a lot more about the CAT and about Forward Leadership in the months ahead. I'll also be keeping you posted about our search for a cat. Keep your eyes open for news about the Warner's cat and Emmanuel's CAT! I look forward to being on this journey with you! In Christ, *Pastor Amanda*

Prayer Concerns List

Daniel Carow	Jack Gradijan
Rhoda Moyo	Betty Dickson
Helen Hultman	Hans & Ursula Dimpel
Kyle Shonak	Jan
Pr. Rick Schlak	Chelsea & Isabella
Nick	Jimmy Geraghty
Chris Buzzell	Robert James Buzzell

Service Ministry - School Kits



We're still collecting items for School Kits for Lutheran World Relief

- 70-page spiral bound notebooks approx. 8" x 10 1/2" (historically, Walmart has a sale on notebooks sometime during the summer for 17 cents each)
- 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- pencil sharpeners
- pairs of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- boxes of **16 or 24** crayons (no 36)

The Dollar Tree on Rte. 1A in Walpole is a good source for these items and Walmart may have some good sales.

If you would prefer to make a monetary donation towards the cost of the drawstring backpack-style cloth bags, please make out a check to Emmanuel with a note indicating that it be applied to that portion of the kit cost.

Children who receive these kits would not be able to attend school without them. So thank you in advance for your contributions.

I'll be putting containers in the hall for your donations. If you have any questions, please call me. Thank you.

Arlene Cegelis 781-762-0360

Thank You



Dear Emmanuel,

Thank you so much for the Educational Grant. It means a lot to be kept in your thoughts while away at school. Thank you for the support you have given me during my college years, it is much appreciated.

All the Best,
Bethany Nikolassy

Dear Friends of Emmanuel,

Thank you so much for your cards, warm thoughts and loving support given myself and my family after the passing of my mother, Olga. Your kindness has been greatly appreciated.

With thanks and blessings to all,
Leslie Daskam

Dear Susan Lawson & Emmanuel Lutheran Church,

My name is Jules, and I am a partner at *More Than Words* and would like to thank you and show our appreciation for hosting a book drive for us. By collecting 1300 books, you helped our business continue growing which lets us serve more youth! We hope you can keep in touch in the future and feel free to stop by our store to see your impact.

With Gratitude,
Jules and the Youth Team

P.S. Be sure to visit our social media to see our post about our drive.

Dear Emmanuel,

Thank you so very much for the education grant to UNC Greensboro. I am very excited to start this new chapter of my life and can't wait to see what it will bring me and what I will learn. My entire life I have been so blessed to be loved and supported by such a strong church community as Emmanuel, and I will forever be thankful.

Thanks again,
Sara Adamson

MORE Thank Yous !

Women of Emmanuel,

Thank you very very much for my Calumet campership. This was my second year at Calumet and just like last year, I had a blast. I went week 2, and the theme of the week was space week the sequel, so lots of things were space themed like the wide games. I was in yellows, so my favorite moment was the girls yellows campfire.

Thanks again, I can't wait for next summer!

From,
Grace Lassen

Our Emmanuel family,

Thank you for everyone that participated in and/or helped with Worship in the Park on July 23. It was a beautiful day with a great worship service, fantastic food, fun games, and wonderful fellowship that all of you helped make possible.

Love In Christ,
The Worship Ministry Team



Blessing for the New School Year



On Sunday, **September 3rd**, during the 9:30 a.m. service, we will hold a service of blessing for students, teachers, administrators, and all those who work schools. Students of any age are invited to bring their

backpacks or something else that represents the beginning of school to them. Teachers, aides, principals, administrators, office staff, cooks and cafeteria servers, librarians, janitors, and bus drivers, crossing guards, and anyone else whose work supports the education of our communities' young people are also invited to come and receive a blessing and affirmation of your vocation as you serve children and families in your daily work!

The Blessing for the New School year will take place during the children's sermon.

Norwood Day

Norwood Day is **September 9th**, 9:00am - 3:00pm! Come and help at the Emmanuel booth. We will be handing out information about Emmanuel and have the Steeple Toss game (throwing rings over a cone painted like a steeple) for people to enjoy. There is a sign up sheet on the table in the hallway or contact Ann Frerichs (afrerichs@ymail.com, 617-306-1098). Any time you can spare to help at the booth is appreciated!

Fall Worship Services and Sunday Church School Rally Day

Sunday, September 10th will be a big day at Emmanuel.

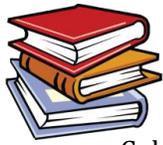
- We will be returning to our two service worship schedule with services at 8:45 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.
- Sunday School Teachers and Council Members will be installed.
- Sunday School for children will begin again.
- Rebecca Sol will be blessed and dedicated for her participation in the New England Synod's School of Lay Ministry.

Please attend these important events in the life of our congregation!

Sunday School News

Sunday School Rally Day kicks off on **September 10th** at 10:00 a.m. Children 3 years old (as of Sept 1st) through Grade 6 are welcome and encouraged to come. Children, teachers and Pastor Amanda will gather on the front steps of Emmanuel for a welcome and blessing.

Book Group



The Book will kick off a new season on **September 15th**, at 7:30 in the Founders' Room.

They'll discuss - "Brooklyn" by Colm Toibin and "One Amazing Thing"

by Chitra Divakaruni which were nominated for summer reading. If you enjoy reading and would like to join the group, please do.

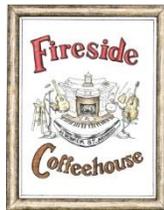
Helen Rezendes is the new group leader, and is accepting book suggestions for the group to decide on in the fall. You can contact her at:

Hlrwwd@aol.com.

Fireside Coffeehouse

The Fireside Coffeehouse will hold an open mike for musical duos and trios on **Sunday, September 10, at 2 pm** in Kask Hall. Come and listen, or come and play! A \$5.00 donation at the door goes to a church music fund.

If your duo or trio would like to perform as part of the afternoon lineup, email firesidecoffeehouse@gmail.com in advance. For more info: <https://sites.google.com/site/firesidecoffeehouse/>



Youth Event - Jailbreak!

On **Saturday, September 16**, 6:00-9:00 p.m. we will have a fellowship night for youth in 7th-12th grades.



There will be pizza and ice cream and then an *epic* game of Jailbreak. Don't know what Jailbreak is? You should come and find out! Youth are welcome to bring phones and flashlights if they have them. Friends are welcome! You can sign up at church or via a sign up genius at: [jailbreak - 9/16/17.com](http://jailbreak-9/16/17.com)

Confirmation Starts

Confirmation Classes begin on **September 20th** with an Orientation for 7th and 8th graders and their parents. To learn more about Emmanuel's Confirmation program, please contact Pastor

Amanda or follow this link: <http://wip.emmanuelnorwood.org/education/confirmation-class/>, where there is information about our Confirmation program as well as a link to an on-line registration from.

Property Work Party

Our next Property Work Party is Saturday **September 23rd**. We'll be working on the outdoor areas - Move info to come. Please come and help if you can - we're on a roll to getting the place in good shape!

Blessing of the Animals

On Sunday, **October 1st, at 4:00 p.m.** we will be



holding a Blessing of the Animals on the lawn at Emmanuel. Blessing of the Animals services are opportunities for us to give thanks to God for the

animals that are a part of our lives and to affirm God's care for all of God's creation and our stewardship of animals and the rest of the earth. Pets of any kind are welcome at this service as long as they are properly contained and cleaned up after. If your pet does not enjoy meeting other animals or new people, then then or she would probably not enjoy this event. If that is the case, please feel free to bring a picture and have your pet blessed in absentia! - *Pastor Amanda*

Rummage Sale



Emmanuel's Fall Rummage Sale will be **October 27 - 28**. Be sure to set 'good stuff' aside as you do your 'fall cleaning'. We would love to have your extra clothing, linens, jewelry, knick-knacks, small furniture, sporting goods, toys, and books.

The rummage sale proceeds help provide camperships for our youth and the purchase of some items not covered by the church budget.

For anyone who's attended at least ONE of Emmanuel's rummage sales, you know it takes a small army. More information on how you can help will be coming in next month's ENVOY.

Digital Ministry Corner



Did you know that we've added interactive forms to the website? These forms allow you to submit information directly to Pastor Amanda, the church office, or other groups/teams directly.

Forms that are currently available on the website are:

Prayer Request – this form is located under the contact us section of the website. It will send your prayer request directly to Pastor Amanda and you can advise if you would like her to contact you and/or if you would like to add an individual to Emmanuel's Prayer list.

<http://wip.emmanuelnorwood.org/contact-us/prayer-request/>

Confirmation Class Registration – this form allows 7th and 8th grader parents to register their students for confirmation class. It is located in the confirmation section of the website under education

<http://wip.emmanuelnorwood.org/education/confirmation-class/confirmation-class-registration-form/>

Bible Study Response – this form allows you to read the Epistle (New Testament) reading for the coming week and respond to a few questions that are asked during Bible Study. It is located in the education section under Bible Study

<http://wip.emmanuelnorwood.org/bible-study/reading-for-next-week/>

Mission Fund Grant – this form allows you to apply for a grant from the mission fund, the form is sent to the Mission Fund team who review and respond to the request. It is located under Get Involved in the Community and World Outreach section.

<http://wip.emmanuelnorwood.org/ministries/mission-endowment/grant-request-form/>

Next Step Ministry Registration – this form allows young adults in our congregation to register as a participant in the Next Step Ministry Program. The page and form is located under Get Involved in the Community and World Outreach section of the website.

<http://wip.emmanuelnorwood.org/ministries/community-world-outreach/next-steps-ministry/>

Forms that are coming soon:

T-Shirt Design Voting – vote each week for the t-shirt that will advance to the next state

Sunday School Registration – register for Emmanuel's Sunday School Class

And more...

In addition to these forms we have also started to utilize **Sign-Up Genius**, an on-line program that allows you to register for events and to let us know you are attending. These sign-ups are often duplicated with hardcopy forms in the church hallway, but you only need to sign up once – whether you do it online or in the church we'll see it.

We are always looking to expand and enhance the digital ministry experience so please let us know of any ideas that you may have. Send your thoughts to the office or email them to Rebecca Sol directly beck.bear@verizon.net

Next Steps Ministry



If you are a young adult or are the parent of a young adult who is in college or getting started in the work force, please make sure that you are (or your child is) signed up for our Next Steps Ministry, which is a ways for Emmanuel to keep in touch with the young adults in our congregation as they take the next steps in their lives. They will be assigned a contact person who will keep in touch with them and pray for them throughout the year. They will also receive care packages from the church twice a year.

If you/your child would like to participate in Next Steps Ministry, please fill out the form below and return it to the church office in person, by mail, or by e-mail by **August 31st**. (This form is also available on our website at: <http://wip.emmanuelnorwood.org/ministries/community-world-outreach/next-steps-ministry/>)

Name:

Home Address:

Address for the School Year (if different from home address):

College (if applicable):

Year in College (if applicable):

E-mail Address:

Birthday:

Food Pantry Collection - Reminder

A reminder that **August** is Emmanuel's month to collect **nonperishable food items** for the Ecumenical Community Food Pantry of Norwood. Items needed...



Cans of:

- Soup, broth
- Fruit and vegetables
- Baked beans and chili
- Juice
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Pasta Sauce, tomatoes, tomato paste
- Tuna, meats, and stews, hash

SPECIAL NEED for cans of the following: chunky soup, tuna, beans, meat, and fruit.

Packaged Foods:

- Pasta, macaroni and cheese, packaged dinners
- Cake and brownie mixes, muffin, pie or bread mix
- Baby food
- Cold and hot cereals
- Jello or pudding
- Pasta Sauce, tomatoes, tomato paste

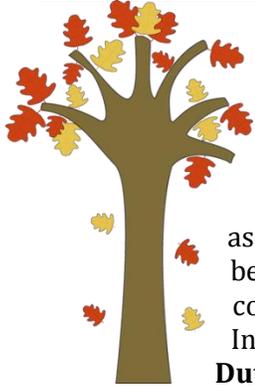
Miscellaneous Items:

- Spices, salad dressings
- Baking powder, baking soda
- Sauces
- Hygiene items – soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products
- Laundry items – detergent, softener, dryer sheets
- Diapers

Please make sure that all food donated has not been opened if it is not individually wrapped, and that the inner packaging is still intact. Please, no expired food.

To read more about the pantry and what to donate, visit <http://www.norwoodpantry.org> or speak to Wayne and Cindy Zafft.

Women's Fall Retreat



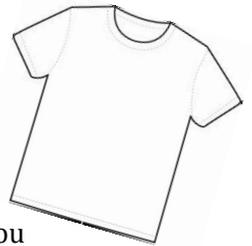
Calling all Women of Emmanuel – it's an Emmanuel tradition!! Please consider joining us for our **One-Day Fall Retreat**, to be held on **Saturday, September 30th**, from **10 AM to 3 PM** at the **Walpole Public Library** (located at 143 School Street).

Our theme this year will be based on a book called *"There's No Good Card for This"*.

This year's Gathering will include more sharing and more interaction than ever before as we discuss ways of better responding to others during difficult times, as well as how to better respond during times of celebration and achievement. Val will also share a coaching "Model" on how to respond when you really don't like what's being proposed! Interested in attending? Please sign up in the hallway by the Church Office or contact **Val Dutcher** via e-mail (val.dutcher@toyota.com).

T-Shirt Contest – It's time to Vote!

The Welcome Witness Team is sponsoring a t-Shirt design contest for an Emmanuel Lutheran t-shirt. Once the final design is selected there will be an opportunity for members and friends of Emmanuel to purchase the shirts. The design choices are in and now it is time to vote for your favorite!



There will be an opportunity to cast a vote for your favorite shirt design at church, but, if you prefer, you can also cast a vote through the website. <http://wip.emmanuelnorwood.org/t-shirt-contest/> Please look at the images and select your favorite. To submit your vote, please use the form at the bottom of the page. You will see an on-screen confirmation that your vote was submitted.

We'll be narrowing the options down over the next several weeks so make sure you come back to see which designs move forward to the next round and to vote in that round.

Lutherans & Roman Catholics—together!



On **Sunday, November 5, 2017** there will be an opportunity for Lutherans and Roman Catholics to celebrate the Reformation together, held at The Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption, in Fall River, MA. Watch for more details and for opportunities to car pool!

...E3 is coming

Stay tuned for more information or...

Ask a council member

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
24 Berwick Street
Norwood, MA 02062

Lorraine Lynch, *Visitation Ministry Leader*

Ministers of Emmanuel

The members of our congregation,
working and witnessing in the world.

Church Staff

Rev. Amanda Warner, *Pastor*
Gabrielle Heath, *Minister of Music*
Diane Bragg, *Parish Administrator*
Alice Wuschke, *Administrative Assistant*
Bryon Sol, *Church Council President*
Beth Donovan, *Treasurer*
Kendra Lassen, *Financial Secretary*
Janice McHugh, *Sunday School Coordinator*

Church Office

Tuesday-Friday
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
781-762-9457



emmanuel@norwoodlight.com

www.emmanuelnorwood.org



Fall Worship Schedule

8:45 - Traditional Worship

10:00 - Fellowship & Sunday School

11:15 - Contemporary Worship