


DECEMBER

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Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School-9:45 am

Worship-11:00 am

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

DECEMBER 28, 2008

11:00 A.M.

The doors of this Church are open wide.

We welcome every man, woman, youth and child who is disturbed by a sense of need, who hungers for a nobler life, who seeks a better world and who aspires to faithfully follow Jesus.

We summon you:

To the beauty of the worship of God-

To the service of bewildered humanity-

To a friendly fellowship with others who seek the best-

To the dangerous adventure of building a new world.



Emmanuel United Church
Rev. Jerrie Shepard Matney, Interim Pastor
Ben McCormack, Organist
Mary Beth Fusco, Choir Director
December 28, 2008
First Sunday After Christmas

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Ring of the Bell
Gathering Song #185, "Emmanuel"
Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

"Praise the Lord!
Praise, O servants of the Lord,
Praise the name of the Lord!

**Blessed be the name of the Lord
From this time forth and forevermore.**

*ALL: From the rising of the sun to its setting,
The name of the Lord is to be praised!"*

*Hymn 2, "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Call to Confession
Prayer of Confession

SHARING OUR GIFTS AND TALENTS

Offering and Offertory Music
*Doxology (No. 623) and Prayer of Dedication
Anthem
Time with Our Children

PRAYING AND GIVING THANKS TO GOD

Sharing of Joys, Concerns and Celebrations
Silent Prayer
Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen

*Hymn 315, "My Hope is Built"

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Reading from the Word: Luke 2:21-40
Message, "Two Hopeful Watchers"
Prayer of Commitment
*Hymn "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem", (insert)
*Benediction
*Postlude

*You are invited to stand

Please remember to keep your cell phones and iPods turned off
during worship. Thank you

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome each of you to worship today, and hope you receive a blessing from the service. If you are visiting with us today, please sign our guest book located in the back and pick up a church brochure.



Thought for the week:

**When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
Then the work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoners,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among people,
To make music in the heart.**

Howard Thurman



What's Happening at Emmanuel United Church

Today: 11:00-Worship, no Sunday School
Wednesday:
Thursday **Have a Happy and Safe New Year!**
Next Sunday: 11:00-Worship, Communion, No Sunday School

Pastor Jerrie will be in the office Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings this week. Abby Bee will be here Tuesday, and Friday, from 10-1pm.

Thank-you to everyone who assisted with the Christmas pageant last Sunday, especially Laurie, Carol, and Becky, and all the cast, and everyone who helped with coffee hour. Thank-you also to Jack Gartner for sharing his musical talent with us.

From Pastor Jerrie: I want to thank the congregation for your very generous Christmas gift. You know all my favorite places – bookstores, and the noodle place. I will enjoy both of them very much! Thank-you for your thoughtfulness.

A word of thanks to all the EUC family from your church secretary too! I can't wait to "Do Lunch" with the very nice gift certificate. Thank you for all the love and support! Abby Bee

Reports from the various boards and committees are due now to be ready for the parish Annual report. The annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for **January. 25th.**

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

There is no Sunday School this week or next, January 4th. Enjoy the vacation!

YOUTH MINISTRY

The combined Adult and Youth Group movie and discussion is set for January 11. Bring \$3 for pizza. We will meet in the Round Room. See Vera for more information.

ONGOING MINISTRIES

Greeters are needed for Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Thank You! This is a very important expression of hospitality from the church.

Altar flowers are a wonderful way to celebrate and honor a loved one. You may donate flowers by signing up on the flower chart on the back table. The cost is \$10 for both vases and you may send money to the church office or drop it in the collection plate.

The Mechanicville Community Services Center

reached the goal of raising \$1200 for food, bringing the total, with the matching donation, to **\$2400!** Many thanks go out to all the people of the city of Mechanicville for helping at this time of year. As members of EUC, please remember to continue to donate food items each month. **Our monthly goal of 100 items per month** has helped countless people who come looking for needed help. Thank you!

