



Church Office 518-664-5204/Manse 518-664-3946
Pastor's cell phone 331-0390
Pastor's e mail jsmat1@juno.com
Website: www.eucmech.org
Church Office e mail: eucmech@yahoo.com

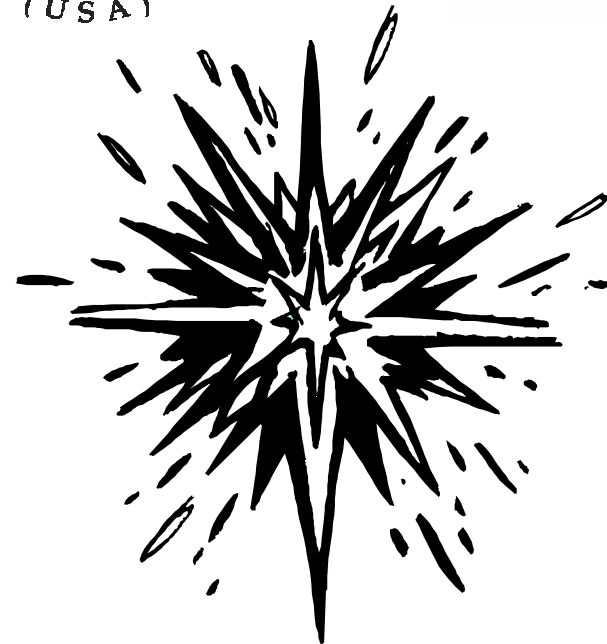
Sunday Schedule:
Sunday School-9:45 am
Worship-11:00 am

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
JANUARY 4, 2009

OUR 35TH YEAR AS A UNITED CHURCH

Emmanuel United Church

Rev. Jerrie Shepard Matney, Interim Pastor

Ben McCormack, Organist

Mary Beth Fusco, Choir Director

January 4,, 2009

Epiphany Sunday

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Ringling of the Bell

Gathering Song #7, "Great is the Lord"

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (From a Scottish "first-footing" prayer)

This day is a new day
That has never been before.
This year is a new year,
The opening door.

Enter, Lord Christ -

We have joy in your coming.

You have given us life,

And we welcome your coming.

I turn now to face you,
I lift up my eyes.
Be blessing my face, Lord,
Be blessing my eyes.
May all my eye looks on
Be blessed and be bright,
My neighbors, my loved ones
Be blessed in your sight.

You have given us life

And we welcome your coming.

Be with us, Lord,

We have joy, we have joy.

This year is a new year,

The opening door.

Be with us, Lord,

We have joy, we have joy.

*Hymn 79, "To God Be The Glory"

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

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Reading from the Word: Matthew 2:1-12

*Hymn 220, "We Three Kings"

Message: "Losing the Star"

MEETING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

*Communion Hymn , 205, "The First Noel" v.1-5

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*Hymn 138 "Blest Be the Tie that Binds", vs. 1

*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. We especially welcome visitors, as we celebrate the Lord’s Supper this morning. All who are believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are welcome to the table. 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:

“The real star was in the manger - not in the sky!”
Unknown



What’s Happening at Emmanuel United Church

Today: 11:00–Worship, Communion, No Sunday School
Wednesday: 7:00– Choir Rehearsal
Thursday 7:15–Search Committee
Next Sunday: 9:45–Sunday School
11:00–Worship, Youth Group Movie



Birthdays in early January

- 1-Doris Aldrich
- 2-Bill Wheelock
- 2-Marion McGowan
- 3-Mary Beth Fusco

Happy Birthday to all!

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

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

There is no Sunday School this week. See You on January 11th!

YOUTH MINISTRY

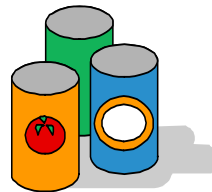
The combined Adult and Youth Group movie and discussion is set for January 11. Bring \$3 for pizza. We will meet in the Round Room. See Vera for more information.

ONGOING MINISTRIES

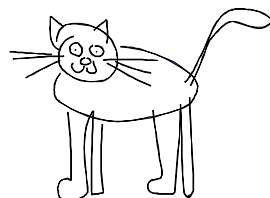
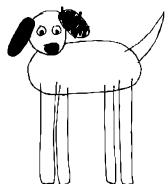
Greeters are needed for Sunday mornings. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Thank You! This is a very important expression of hospitality from the church.

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 receives the food items collected each month by the members of Emmanuel United Church. After the holiday rush, the shelves are depleted, but the need is still there. **Our monthly goal of 100 items per month** has helped countless people who come looking for needed help. Thank you!



As an added support for the **“four-legged friends”** in our community, We are also accepting donations of all varieties of pet foods; Please leave items under the back table in the sanctuary. Questions, see Liz Fraser.



Thank-you for your contributions to the **Retired Ministers/Christmas Joy Offering.** The total collected is **\$215!** There is still time to donate if you haven't had a chance – please use the envelopes in the back of the church or mark your check accordingly. Thank-you!

Thank-you to everyone who assisted with the Christmas pageant, 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.

Letters... We Get Letters...

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

From Linda Rowland and Family:

Pastor Jerrie and the Church community, Thank You so much for thinking of us at this time of year with your special cards, good wishes, and beautiful Christmas plant. Best wishes to you all for a very happy new year!