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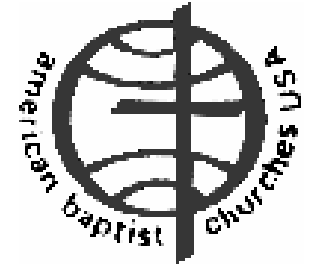
Sunday Schedule:
Sunday School-9:45 am
Worship-11:00 am

The doors of this Church are open wide.

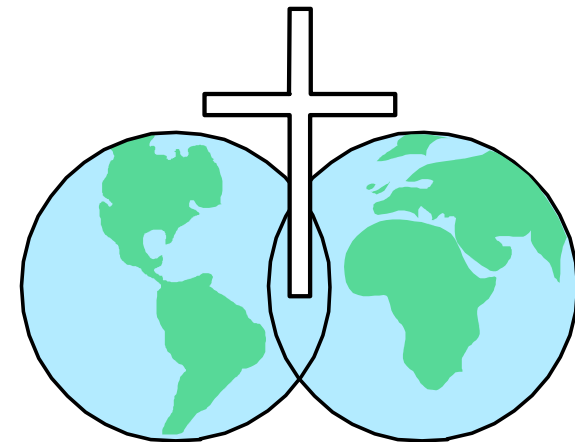
We welcome every man, woman, youth and child who is disturbed by a sense of need, who hungers for a nobler life, who seeks a better world and who aspires to faithfully follow Jesus.

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.



The Dream Has No End



EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH
JANUARY 18, 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 18, 2009

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Ringling of the Bell

Prelude, *Ben McCormack*

Gathering Song, *Agnus Dei, (Smith/Moen)*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

*Hymn 51, "*God of the Ages*"

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, bless us and guide us. Empower us with gifts and desire to minister to your people. We often boast that we are "one people under God," yet we are divided by strife and factions, the sin of disunity spreading among us like a disease. We are unable to measure up to our standards, much less to yours. Forgive us, Lord. Cleanse us and make us whole. The tensions and differences of race, traditions, culture, creed, and language consume us. Come among us, O God, and free us to live creatively, worship openly, and love unconditionally. Help us to remember that to bear the good news to others means to first live the good news among ourselves. Renew our minds and motives so that we might be your people, acceptable in your sight. Remind us that we are dependent on one another. Show us we are to be concerned for all people. Teach us to love one another. As a community of faith, may we be faithful to the call to spread godly love, care, and concern to all people. Give us a loving heart and willing spirit, in the name of Christ, your Son. Amen

SHARING OUR GIFTS AND TALENTS

Offering and Offertory Music

*Doxology (No. 623) and Prayer of Dedication

Anthem, "*East to West*", (*Mark Hall*)

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 "*Come, Let us Dream*", (*insert*)

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Reading from the Word: Isaiah 43:19-21,

Jeremiah 29:11-13

Message, "*The Dream Has No End*"

Prayer of Commitment

*Hymn 17, "*Great is Thy Faithfulness*"

*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:

"I won't have any money to leave behind. I won't have the fine and luxurious things of life to leave behind. But I just want to leave a committed life behind.....I just want to do God's will."

Martin Luther King Jr.



What's Happening at Emmanuel United Church

- Today:**
 - 9:45- Sunday School
 - 11:00- Worship
 - 12:30- Youth and Adult Movie and Discussion
 - 4:00- Cottage meeting at the House
 - 7:00- Cottage meeting at the House
- Wednesday:** 7:00- Choir Rehearsal
- Thursday:** 7:00- Bible Study at church
- Next Sunday:**
 - 9:45- Sunday School
 - 11:00- Worship

Pastor Jerrie will be in the office Wednesday-Friday mornings this week. Abby Bee will be here Tuesday, from 1-3 pm and Thursday and Friday from 10am-1 pm.

Cottage meetings - There are still 2 opportunities to participate in Cottage meetings! Pastor Jerrie has meeting times **today at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.** Please let her know if you would like to come today.

The Congregational Annual meeting will be held in two weeks, on Sunday, Feb. 1. This will be for the purpose of electing officers/ board members, receiving reports, approving the 2009 budget, and any other business to come before the church. If you have an item for the agenda, please let Bill Bobear know by Jan. 29.

February Newsletter deadline is **Jan 23rd**. Please submit articles, reports or news about EUC family members to the office. You can send them by e mail to: eucmech@yahoo.com . **Thank you from the home office!**

Weekly Bible study has begun once more. We are meeting on Thursday evenings at the church, at 7:00. We are studying the book, "Who is Holy Spirit," and having good discussion, as well as a time of prayer. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Baptism/Discipleship classes may be starting soon. If any young people would like to be baptized and join the church in the spring, please let Pastor Jerrie know as soon as possible so we can schedule classes. She can also answer any questions you might have about this.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our church will again participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. The Souper Bowl is a youth-led grassroots movement to join people together on Super Bowl Sunday to fight against hunger and poverty in their communities. After the worship service on February 1st, our high school class will be at the doors of the sanctuary to collect money donations to be delivered to Mechanicville's Food Pantry.



A Litany at the Beginning of an Inaugural Year

UM Bishop Ernest S. Lyght

The Advent of Jesus gives us an opportunity to prepare room for Jesus by making a clean sweep in our hearts.

Lord, we thank for you for your forgiveness, and an opportunity for a second chance.

The birth of Jesus at Christmas has enabled us to renew the Light that is within us. We know that Jesus is the Light of the world that cannot be extinguished.

Lord, we thank you for giving us the Light of the world, full of grace and truth.

The beginning of a new year is laden with expectations, desires and hopes. We want to erase the past and look to the future, a future with hope.

Lord, we thank you for granting us fresh beginnings at the start of a new year.

In this inaugural year, the United States will inaugurate a new President who will strive to lead the nation in new directions.

Lord, we thank you for our President-elect Barack Obama. Please grant him the spiritual capacity to lead with integrity, honesty, humility, and a sense of servanthood.

The global village is faced with senseless repetition of war and conflict. There is a lack of lasting peace in so many places and constant rumors of war.

Lord, we thank you for peacemakers, and we pray that our nation and our churches can be instruments of your peace.

Your servant, Martin Luther King, Jr. was a champion for justice. He was willing to give his life so that all of God's children might be free.

Lord, we thank you for women and men who are willing to stand up for justice in the world's neighborhoods, and we remember those who gave their lives as a sacrifice for our freedom.

All: Gracious God, we ask that you would be a shield and surround our leaders, civic and religious, with your protective arm, and guide them with your prophetic wisdom. We pray that you will grant our President-elect Barack Obama the wisdom and courage to be a peacemaker, a champion for justice, and a servant among leaders. May we continue to work for a nation marked by justice, love, and fellowship as only you can create. Help us in our continuing efforts to do good in the face of wrong and evil, to work for justice and eliminate poverty. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

YOUTH MINISTRY

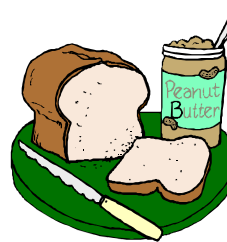
The combined Adult and Youth Group movie and discussion will be today after worship. We will meet in the Round Room. Please bring \$3 for pizza See Vera for more information.

ONGOING MINISTRIES

Greeters are needed for Sunday mornings. A sign up sheet is 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 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.

Please remember the EUC goal of **donating 100 food items** per month to the Mechanicville Community Center. Especially needed are canned soups, juice, cereal, tuna, powdered milk, pasta and rice mixes and baby foods in non-glass containers. Resources are stretched tight, but we have been able to reach out quietly to many who are in need.



For the “**four-legged friends**” in our community, and in partnership with local girl scouts, we are also taking donations of all varieties of pet foods; Please leave items under the back table in the sanctuary. Questions, see Liz Fraser.

