

THE JUNCTURE

"A JOINING"

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH-664-5204

October 2009



516 Park Ave., Mechanicville, NY 12110

Website: www.eucmech.org

Worship in October

October 4 – Vote on New Pastor

**October 11– Communion Sunday
“Remember”**

**October 18- Pastor Jerrie’s last Sunday
“ Praying Our Hellos”
(How to Welcome a New Pastor)**

October 25 – Guest Preacher TBA

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Parish Staff

Rev. Jerrie Shepard Matney,
Interim Pastor, Phone 664-3946

Ben McCormack, Organist

Mary Beth Fusco, Choir Director

Abby Bee, Secretary

John Fusco, III, Custodian

Church e-mail: eucmech@yahoo.com

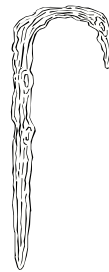
Pastor’s e-mail: jsmat1@juno.com

Boards and Committees

Bd. of Trustees, John Fusco, Jr. Chair

Bd. of Elders, Kevin McCormack, Chair

Bd. of Christian Ed., Laurie Bobear, Chair



*From your Temporary
Shepherd.....*

“COMFORT FOOD”

Wow, my last column for the EUC newsletter. What to write? What to write? Hmm, let’s see: “*Once upon a time....*” Nope. How about “*It was a dark and stormy night....*” No, not quite. Maybe, “*Listen my children, and you shall hear....*” or..... perhaps, “*It was the best of times, it was the worst of times....*”

Well, none of these quite do it, but I wanted to write something classic and powerful as we begin to say good-bye to one another. I did write on my facebook page that I was eating comfort food these days. I always find transitions stressful, even good ones. A new job, a new home, new pet, new pastor, etc. are all examples of good stress, but even in the best of circumstances they can raise our anxiety and lead to many questions.

You may be asking such questions as: What will this relationship be like? What will the church’s ministry be like? What will we have to change? What kinds of decisions will

we face in the next few years? How long will our pastor stay with us?

Cont.

I also have questions of my own, about my future, my place of ministry, and all the adventures of being a new home owner. The two years we have been together have been joyful and challenging, exciting and tense, fun-filled and grief-filled.

This is my 9th interim position, the 13th church in which I have had pastoral leadership – and leaving doesn't get any easier. You'd think it would, the more you do it, but it doesn't. It always conjures up feelings of regret, images of unfinished business, and a surprising variety of emotions.

And the comfort food for both of us, more nourishing than what we find in the cupboard and frig, is found in God's Word. It is in the stories of God's wandering people as they make their way to the Promised Land, it is in the cadence of the Psalms of David, it is in the Good News of Jesus, God's Son.

We are reminded that God's people are always in transition, for we are a pilgrim people. We are blessed to meet up with each other along the way, to walk along together for a little while, and then to take our own paths and go our separate ways. It is God's plan.

Having struggled with how to begin this column, the ending comes much more easily. It is in the form of an Aztec Prayer, found in Joyce Rupp's book Praying our Good-byes. (You knew I would go out recommending another book, didn't you?) You may also hear it on my last Sunday here, Oct. 18. I usually have four Sundays after the vote, so am still figuring out the messages with only two left.

This prayer reflects the Aztecs' belief that everyone and everything belongs to God. To us the two years we had together seem like a long time, but in the heart of God it was a fleeting moment in eternity:

“Oh, only for so short a while
you have loaned us to each other,
because we take form in your act
of drawing us,
And we take life in your painting us,
and we breathe in your singing us.
But only for so short a while
have you loaned us to each other.”

Wishing you joy and peace for your new journey.....

and a wonderfully long and Spirit-filled future with the Rev. Richard McSherry.

Pastor Jerrie

Church Ministries

Education Ministries

There will be a Christina Ed. Meeting on October 25th, immediately following worship.

Our Sunday school and congregation have been invited by the Methodist church to join them on November 1st at 10:00 am for a presentation by the Kings Clown Troupe. This is a fun, religious based performance which anyone would enjoy. Hopefully, this will be the first in a series of ecumenical Sunday school activities with the Methodist church

Youth News

Saturdays in October: Fundraising Work Days. This will be an ongoing fundraising opportunity for us. Members of the church may contact me with "jobs" for Youth Group members to do, such as raking leaves, cleaning, painting, etc. As requests are made, I will try to fill those requests and to give as many of you as I can a chance to earn a fundraising point by helping out. Please note that after-school times can always be utilized if that's easier for people. The minimum of teens on any given job will be two people - there is no maximum, but there will probably not be any tasks assigned that require the entire Youth Group all at once.

Sat., Oct. 24: Oneonta. We will be joining other church members for a daytime trip to Oneonta to help with yard work, etc. at the group home there. Plan on spending the whole day. We will make a stop at the world famous "Brooks Barbeque" on our way back!

Sun., Oct. 25: Discussion. We will be discussing our September movie, "I, Robot." Please join us in the Round Room at 1:00 p.m. (lunch on your own). Even if you haven't seen the movie, you are encouraged to attend, as the movie is merely a jumping off point for our Biblical discussion.

Youth Group News cont.

Sun., Nov. 1: Movie. Meet in the Round Room at 1:00 p.m. (lunch on your own) for a viewing of "Amadeus." Remember that we will also have a raffle drawing so bring a \$1.00 for a ticket. We will only be viewing the movie - the discussion will take place in December.

Fri.-Sun., Nov. 13-15: ABY Convention in Syracuse. Only those teens who are eligible to go from points earned last year and who have gotten their paperwork and \$135 registration fee to me will be going on this trip. I will post times for departure as we get closer to the date.

Elders News

Fall Mission Campaign:
"With Willing Hands"

The Fall mission Campaign will begin Sunday, October 18 and run through November 15. Our goal for this campaign is **\$1200.00.**

Mission money goes to support ministries that transforms lives, churches, and communities, both locally and in other locations.



**Coming In November:
Chamber Angels**
**More information on the Chamber Angels
program will be coming in late October
and early November. Watch your
bulletins!**

Church Growth and Care Ministries

Please send in articles for the November newsletter **by October 23rd**. You can leave them in the office or E-mail them to: eucmech@yahoo.com. Thank you!

October Milestones

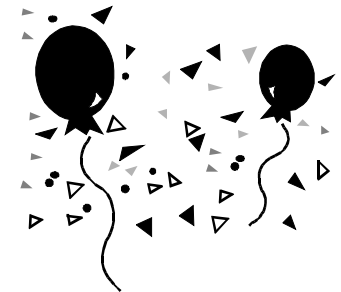


Birthdays

2-Emma Dixon
6- Blake Stangle
6- Collin Stangle
10-Stacy Conerty Mack
11-Austin Schlensker
14-Jean Butler
16-Wendy Maiello
20-Nina Fusco
22-Matthew Yeager
26-Kelsey Lynch
28-Allison Constantine

Anniversaries

10-Carol & Mike Wood
17-Marion & Harry Conerty
19-Michelle & James Simkulet



Search Committee News

October 4, 2009 will be another great date in Emmanuel United's History. We as a congregation unanimously voted the Rev. Richard McSherry as our new pastor. His first Sunday in the pulpit will be November 15, 2009. He will be moving in to the parsonage some time in early November. I would personally like to thank all the members of the committee who worked so hard to make this happen for the church.

Search Committee Co-chairs
Becky Dixon
Mike Wood

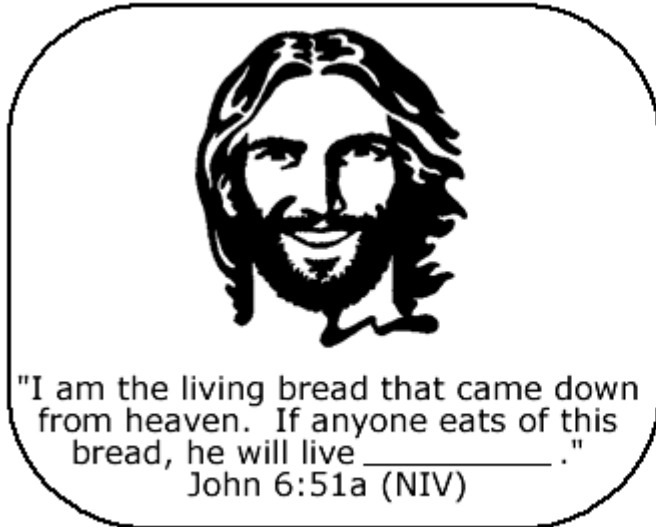
Emmanuel Family News

In family news, **Jack Gartner** received his second dan black belt.

Congratulations Jack. Good Work!

Kids Klips

Jesus, the Bread of Life
John 6:35, 41-51 (NIV)



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Bible Memory Verse

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven.
If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever."
John 6:51a (NIV)

ANSWERS

live
bread
heaven
flesh
down
forever

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 <i>Visit from Pastor Candidate, Rev. Richard McSherry</i> |
| 4 <i>9:45 S.S 11:00 Worship</i> <i>Vote/ Pastor Candidate</i> | 5 <i>7:00 Choir</i> | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 <i>9:45 S.S 11:00 Worship, Communion</i> <i>Trip to Corn Maze</i> | 12 <i>Columbus Day</i>  | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 <i>9:45 S.S 11:00 Worship</i> Pastor Jerrie's Last Sunday <i>Elders meeting</i> | 19 <i>7:00 Choir</i> | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 <i>Trip to Springbrook</i> |
| 25 <i>9:45 S.S 11:00 Worship</i> <i>Guest Preacher TBA</i> <i>Sunday School meeting</i> | 26 <i>7:00 Choir</i> | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31  <i>Halloween</i> |