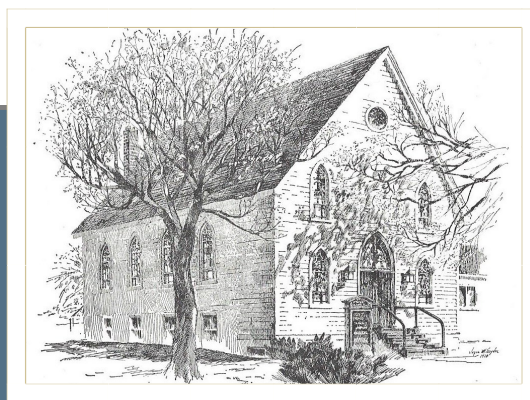


Emanuel's Word

monthly newsletter of
Emanuel Lutheran Church
December 2025



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Connect with us.....

- ☎ 607-936-4268
- @ office@emanuelcorning.org
- 🌐 www.emanuelcorning.org
- f Facebook.com/ELCCorning
- ✕ @EmanuelCorning

WORSHIP: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Organist: Lugene Mitchell Hamilton

Secretary: Brenda Passmore

Transition Pastor: Rev. Jason Churchill

Secretary's Office Hours:

Wednesday - 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Emanuel Lutheran Church

149 West William Street

Corning, NY 14830

We live to know Christ and make

Christ known in our church,

our community, and the world.



Emanuel Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ
congregation in the Upstate NY Synod of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).



Church Council Update

Emanuel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Update, November 19 , 2025

October Budget Income: \$6,649.78	YTD Budget Income: \$68,704.53
October Budget Expense: \$6,795.61	YTD Budget Expense: \$58,038.38
October Loss: \$ 145.83 YTD Gain: \$10,666.15	

- Dean Jason reports that the pulpit supply schedule for the next 3 months has only 1 opening per month.
- At the Southern Tier Fall Conference on 10/26 the redistricting of the Southern Tier was approved. The 3 congregations in our area will join the Genesee Finger Lakes Conference. This will come into effect if approved by the Synod Assembly June 2026. We can continue to use the current SAMs for pulpit supply.
- Dean Jason spoke to Gisela, the leader of our current Call committee. She will receive more paperwork from Rachel Sosebee, the Synod Mobility Specialist.
- Bethany Lutheran will listen to and meet a candidate approved by their call committee on 12/7. This candidate had indicated willingness to engage with the 2 nearby congregations.
- Budget update: Due to increased costs the estimated budget expenses for 2026 are \$91,006, but currently only \$76,040 have been pledged, resulting in a deficit of \$14,966, which may need to be taken from Investments.
- Council supports that the congregation will contribute to the SAM education for Annette.
- 2025 model constitution: changes to our current constitution were discussed. Our amended constitution will be emailed to Pastor L Chilton for approval before submitting it to the congregation.
- Brenda reports that she has moved her hours working as Administrative Assistant from Thursday afternoon to Wednesday afternoon.
- Prior to the meeting Jim emailed an updated task list for the Property Team.

Calendar Planning

- 12/7 - Hanging of the greens - decorate after church
- 12/15 - Council meeting via Zoom
- 12/24 - 5:00 pm. Caren presides
- 1/2/26 - Annual Reports due for the Annual Congregational Report
- 1/18/26 - Justice Theme for MLK Jr Day
- 1/25/26 - Annual meeting. Dean Jason attends and presides.

Attendance and Facebook Views:

Average Attendance for October: 30

Average Facebook Views: 100

Caren Listopadzki, Council Secretary

From the Council Vice President:

Family! Who is your family?

I think we all consider our family to be those genetically related to us: our spouse, children, parents, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins. Some of us also have step families.

People in the military often talk of their brothers and sisters in arms. Some of these relationships develop into stronger bonds than are found in genetically related people. It makes sense that when you live with and depend on each other for your very lives that these bonds become strong, lasting a lifetime. Their spouses and children also form these lifelong relationships.

Many of us have have work families, a group of people who spend their days together during their employment hours, and these bonds can be strong.

If you are reading this, you have a church family at Emanuel Lutheran Church. We also have extended church families such as the ecumenical partner churches, other ELCA churches nearby and for some throughout the synod. Our church families also include the ELCA around the country and other Christians around the world.

The people who might not be on our list of family are those we don't know. They include the people living near our homes and our church that we haven't met. Our family can include people who live in the apartment buildings and homes nearby. Are the homeless people living throughout Corning our family? I think they are; but do you go out of your way to avoid that person talking to themselves while walking up the sidewalk? Have you ever taken the opportunity to ask the person visiting our "Blessing Box" if there is anything special they need? Have you invited that person walking their dog to join us for Sunday Church services?

There are many family members we need to get to know.

In Peace,
Annette, VP



Happy December Birthdays!

December 2	Phyllis Groeger
16	Michael Kalinich
16	Tom Kleckner
17	Maclaine Zink



*The deadline to submit newsletter articles is the **25th** of **each** month.

Please email your articles to
office@emanuelconring.org.



2025 Church Council

President:	Sharon Trova
Vice President:	Annette Gardner
Secretary:	Caren Listopadzki
Financial Secretary:	Mike Hamilton
Treasurer:	Marcia Ashworth
Council:	
Greg Heffner	Brenda Passmore
Theresa Welfling	



Help prepare the church
for Advent and Christmas!

**Sunday, December 7th,
after worship**

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Communion Service

December 24th at 5:00 p.m.



Emanuel Lutheran Church

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Corning, NY 14830



Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettias will again brighten the Christmas Eve altar this year. If you would like to place a poinsettia on the altar as an honorarium or a memorial for Christmas Eve, please forward the information below and your payment of \$10 to the church, either in person in the offering plate or by mail by **Sunday, December 14th** or you can contact Theresa Welfling to place your order.

In honor of

In memory of

Donated by:

- ☐ I would like to take my poinsettia.
☐ My poinsettia can be given to someone.

**ANNUAL
MEETING**

Mark your calendars:

Our Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 25th after worship.
 If you're responsible for a team report, please submit it to
 the office by Friday, January 2nd. Thanks.

Property Team

The 2025/2026 snow shoveling season has begun. We are looking for able bodied people to sign up for a week from December to February. We don't have to shovel the parking lot, only the church sidewalks and steps. Anyone can sign up, (friends, neighbors, grandkids, etc..) A key to the shed can be provided along with snow blower training.

Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex to sign up before all the slots are taken (joke)! :) Or you can contact the church office to schedule your week.

Thanks, and have a wonderful Advent season and Christmas.
Jim Passmore, Property Team



News Update:

We've heard from our friends, Mike & Mary Ellen Brennan, they became grandparents to a baby girl. Marina Rosanna Brennan, 8.6 lbs., 21.5 inches long was born on November 22nd.



Congratulations to the Brennan family and to Marina, who made her official arrival into the fabulous Brennan family.

In the hospital?

Due to HIPAA privacy rules, the church doesn't usually receive notification from the hospitals when someone is admitted.

Please call the church office, or have a family member call, if you're in the hospital, or at home recuperating, and would like a visit or prayers, just give the office a call (936-4268).
Thanks.

OFFICE HOURS

Office Hour
Change:

Beginning in
December,
my office hours

will change from Thursday, noon-3pm to Wednesdays, at the same time.

Our supply pastors will appreciate getting their bulletins emailed sooner, but we'll all have to get bulletin information, insert and flower dedication requests into the office a day sooner. Please make sure you email bulletin and newsletter information to the office email and not my personal one.

Thanks,
Brenda Passmore, Administrative Assistant
** *P.S. I won't be there Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve days.*

BOOK CLUB



The next meeting is Thur., Jan. 22nd, 12:30 on Zoom. All are welcome.

We'll review "God Pretty in the Tobacco Field" by Kim Michele Richardson & "The Noticer Returns" by Andy Andrews. Please contact the office for the Zoom link.



The Blessing Box: Please bring non-perishable donations to the Church Narthex or the bin in the Fellowship Hall.

This time of year, gloves and hats will be especially appreciated. Paper products like toilet paper, breakfast bars, holiday side dishes will all be needed. Thanks!.

WELCA



WELCA Christmas Cookie Packing
Thursday, December 4th, 1pm
in the Fellowship Hall

Time is quickly approaching for WELCA'S annual Christmas Cookies for the homebound and others. We bake or purchase the treats at home then bring them to our meeting. We would love to have others from the congregation join us as well.

We do ask that 2-4 treats get placed into a small baggie. Since we are putting together 12 trays, you'll need just 12 baggies of cookies or more if you'd like. Place your baggies in the Fellowship Hall refrigerator if you drop them off before December 4. Once completed we'll have 12 delicious and beautiful trays to deliver.

Hope to see many of you December 4 with your cookies!

Corning Trees

We received some trees (maple & oak) from Corning Trees, the Community Foundation. Their group is working to restore the tree population in Corning.



If you'd like to make a donation from our church to support their work, you can write a check to Emanuel Lutheran Church with Corning Street Tree Project in the memo line or you can donate at their Community Foundation link (<https://communityfund.org/give/>).

We'll collect during December, and then mail a check with Corning Tree Project on the memo line to:

Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes, Inc.
301 S. Main St., Horseheads, NY 14845.

Thanks,
Brenda Passmore

Call Committee

To the congregation: Please include us in your daily prayers as we go through the slow Call Process with our Synod to help us identify a suitable pastoral candidate for our open, part-time Pastor position. We ask your prayers for 'patience and strength' to lead us through the call process journey.

Warmest Regards,
Gisela



"Christ in Our Home" Devotionals
The January- March daily devotionals arrived in the office and will be available in the narthex for you to take home. Reading each day's devotion is a great way to start your day! Help yourself.



Thank you for your support of our neighbors through the Corning Community Food Pantry.

WE WON THE CHALLENGE! In October, we participated in a Thrivent challenge arranged by the Groegers. The challenge was to donate 500 items to our local food pantry. Once we did that (which we met by using funds from Thrivent themselves and the efforts of the Groegers), the Groegers submitted paperwork to Thrivent.

As a result, Thrivent donated \$500 directly to the Corning Community Food Pantry. Thank you to all who donated, but especially the Groegers for facilitating it!

Please continue to bring monthly donations to the church so that we can continue the support, both at the Food Pantry, and through our Blessing Box. The need is great, and we are so blessed.

From the Mailbag....



November 10, 2025

Dear Congregation,

On behalf of the VA Finger Lakes Healthcare System in Bath, we would like to extend our appreciation for the donation of 5 over-filled baskets of goodies: coffee, snacks, hats and game books. Your thoughtful contribution will enhance the morale and well being of the veterans we serve. It is the kindness of community members like you that allow us to continue the quality care and service we seek to provide.

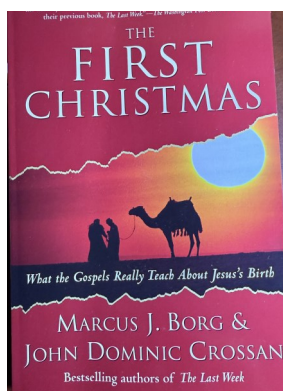
We thank you for your partnership and continued support.

Sincerely, Regina Deck, Program Manager
VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement
VA Finger Lakes Healthcare System

Please...let the church office know if you've had a change of address, email, or phone number. If you're not on our contact list and would like to receive our newsletters and other church information, please email the office and ask to be added to the list. Thank you.

Photo Gallery

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Fall Clean-Up on Saturday, November 1st. Many hands did make the work go quickly.



We are invited by Dean Jason Churchill, our Transition Pastor, to join an Advent Book Group. If you'd like to join them, and you can't find the Zoom link emailed on November 6th, please contact our office.

'This December, dive deep into the wonder and meaning of Christ's birth with "*The First Christmas*" by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Together we'll uncover the historical and spiritual depth of the nativity stories - what they really meant then, and what they mean for us today. We'll gather on Thursday evenings, 6:30 pm, December 4, 11 & 18 - on Zoom for lively discussion and reflection.'

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86595971435>

A couple photos from Emanuel's Christmas Past



Our Constitution and Bylaws:

Our synod updated their model constitution this summer to the 2025 model constitution. This required that we update our Emanuel Lutheran Constitution. You should have received the combined 2025 model AND the new bylaws in an email from the office. The bylaws are embedded in the model constitution. You can recognize the bylaws by the additional set of numbers, and that they are in a different font. There is a printed copy available in the green binder in the Narthex if you don't receive email or would like to look at a printed copy. You may borrow it, but please return it promptly so others may read it.

The constitution requires a vote for two successive years. The first vote will be in January 2026. The bylaws require just one vote, which will be in January 2026.

Thank you. Sharon Trova



December Steward Schedule

	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	Dec. 21	Dec. 24	Dec. 28
Worship Leader	Todd Eames (SAM)	Judy Mica Guerin (SAM)	Todd Eames	Caren Listopadzki (CALM)	Judy Mica Guerin (SAM)
Assisting Minister	Caren Listopadzki	Brenda Passmore	Annette Gardner	<i>Please contact the office or talk to Caren if you're available and would like to serve on Christmas Eve.</i>	Sue Doyle
Reader	Caren Listopadzki	Brenda Passmore	Phyllis Brandes		Sue Doyle
Tech Acolyte	Gage Machuga	Brenda Passmore	Ben Hufnagel		Oskar Sauer
Usher	Augie Andrukat	Jim Passmore	Lew Brandes		John Rector
Greeter	Jodi Machuga	Jim Passmore	Charlotte Estep		Laura Link
Altar Guild	Sharon Trova	Linda L'Amoreaux/ Eileen Sands	Miller Team	Phyllis Brandes & Julie Miller	Phyllis Groeger

If you are scheduled to serve and find you're unable to attend, please call someone to substitute for you. Thank you!

Would you like to see your name on this schedule? Contact the church office.

Emanuel's Event Calendar changes often. Please check our website under the calendar tab for the most up-to-date schedule of events.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>30</div> <div>Advent 1</div> <div>10am - Worship @</div>	<div>1</div>	<div>2</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting</div> <div>6:30pm - Call Team Zoom</div>	<div>3</div> <div>8am - Cleaning</div> <div>12pm - Office Hours @</div>	<div>4</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>1pm - WELCA Meeting</div> <div>6:30pm - Advent Zoom</div>	<div>5</div>	<div>6</div> <div>2pm - Private Event</div>
<div>7</div> <div>10am - Worship @</div> <div>11am - Hang the Greens</div>	<div>8</div>	<div>9</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting</div>	<div>10</div> <div>10am - Sewing Group</div> <div>12pm - Office Hours @</div>	<div>11</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>6:30pm - Advent Zoom</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div>
<div>14</div> <div>10am - Worship @</div>	<div>15</div> <div>9am - American Red</div>	<div>16</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting</div>	<div>17</div> <div>8am - Cleaning</div> <div>12pm - Office Hours @</div> <div>6pm - Church Council</div>	<div>18</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>6:30pm - Advent Zoom</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div>
<div>21</div> <div>10am - Worship @</div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting</div>	<div>24</div> <div>Christmas Eve Worship</div> <div>10am - Sewing Group</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>
<div>28</div> <div>Christmas 1</div> <div>10am - Worship @</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting</div>	<div>31</div> <div>8am - Cleaning</div>	<div>1</div> <div>9am - Bone Builders</div> <div>1pm - WELCA Meeting</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div>

Emanuel Lutheran Church

149 West William Street
Corning, NY 14830

Epecially prepared for:



EMANUEL'S WORD

Emanuel Lutheran Church
Corning, NY