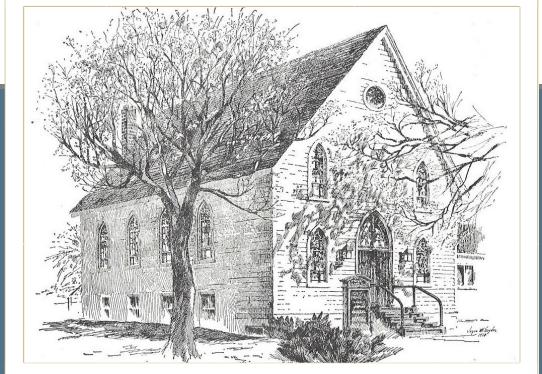


Emanuel's Word

monthly newsletter of
Emanuel Lutheran Church
January 2026



**Annual Meeting
January 25, 2026**

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Connect with us.....

- 📞 607-936-4268
- ✉️ office@emanuelcorning.org
- 🌐 www.emanuelcorning.org
- FACEBOOK.com/ELCCorning
- 𝕏 @EmanuelCorning

WORSHIP: Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Organist: Eugene 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, December 17, 2025

November Budget Income: \$10,258.65 YTD Budget Income: \$78,782.18

November Budget Expense: \$ 4,759.19 YTD Budget Expense: \$62,797.57

November Gain: \$ 5,318.46 YTD Gain: \$14,447.30

- Dean Jason is working on filling the gaps on the supply list. It was fun to see so many people together on Zoom attending the Advent study. He is working with Bishop Miller and Rachel Sosebee to find an Assigned SAM for Emanuel, for increased pastoral presence, maybe $\frac{1}{4}$ time.
- Two changes to the Investment Policy Statement were approved.
- Budget update: Sharon explained that 4.3% of investments may need to be taken to balance the budget, due to increases in expenses beyond our control. Employees will receive a raise. Line item 'Hospitality' has been eliminated.
- Annual report needs to be sent to the congregation by 1/11/26, 2 weeks prior to the meeting.
- Property: We may need to obtain paid help to shovel the walk ways, as we don't have enough volunteers. The handles of the FH doors are difficult to manage, and could pose a safety hazard.
- Education: Caren will lead First Communion classes on Thursdays 1/28, 2/5 and 2/12 at 4:30pm in the basement of the church.

Calendar Planning

- 12/24 - 5:00 pm. Caren presides
- 1/2/26 - Team reports for the Annual Report are due
- 1/14/26 - Council Meeting via Zoom
- 1/25/26 - Annual Meeting. Dean Jason presides and attends.
- 2/8/26 - Council installation

Attendance and Facebook Views:

Average Attendance of November: 26

Average Facebook Views: 71

Caren Listopadzki, Council Secretary

From the Council Vice President:

Self-Care! Christmas day is past. New Years has come and gone. Do you practice self-care or know what it means? Google artificial intelligence says self-care involves intentional actions to support your overall well-being (physical, mental, emotional, social, spiritual), helping manage stress, prevent burnout, and improve health through activities like exercise, healthy eating, sufficient sleep, setting boundaries, hobbies, connection with loved ones, practicing mindfulness. It's a personalized process of listening to your needs and taking proactive steps, from simple hygiene to deeper practices like therapy, ensuring your needs are met to live well.

That's all nice, but what does that mean for most of us? For those of us still employed or volunteer regularly, it can mean taking a day off for a personal wellness day when you need a break. It means taking vacation at regular intervals so you can recuperate in body and soul.

For our aging congregation self-care can mean going to Bone Builders regularly, attending bible study or book clubs, participating in WELCA meetings, and attending worship services. Self-care also can include a daily phone call check in with a loved one or a midday time of rest or nap. Our time of daily devotions is also another form of self-care.

What we often don't practice are the "nos". Self-care by saying no is often harder to do. I often struggle when I practice self-care by not doing something. I often call Ashley when I have missed church due to my condition. She has a unique way of getting me to see that it is ok to stay home if I need to.

Ashley: Why do you go to church?

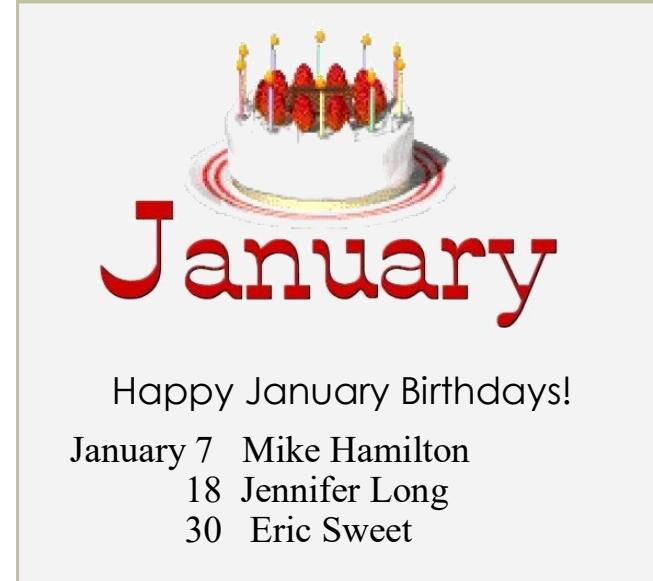
Me: To worship God *Ashley:* Can you do that at home? *Me:* Yes. *Ashley:* Why else? *Me:* To enjoy other people's company. *Ashley:* Do you enjoy being around other people when you hurt a lot? *Me:* No *Ashley:* Why then do you feel guilty about not going if you won't enjoy being there?

Me: I don't know, that is why I call you.

It is ok to say no to something if it is for the right reason.

We can worship from home if we don't feel well or the weather is hazardous. We should spend time together when it's practical. Humans are social creatures and self-care includes spending time in the company of others. We should worship God in the communion of other Christians and share in the fellowship of our family and friends whenever it's possible to do so.

In Peace, Annette, VP



January

Happy January Birthdays!

January 7	Mike Hamilton
18	Jennifer Long
30	Eric Sweet

*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	

Hospitality Report

Happy New Year! As we begin the new year, I would like to share that I have volunteered to be the lead for the hospitality committee. I do enjoy our good food and hosting, but I will say being responsible for organizing and planning gatherings for our church family feels a little daunting. I know I have many helpers and friends at church to help me.

Our first event in 2026 is the annual meeting on January 25th.

I will have a sign-up sheet to sign up for a dish-to-pass, which will be in the narthex. We always appreciate our variety of good food and desserts. We also cannot overlook the set-up and clean-up. The old phrase “many hands make light work” rings true and allows for a productive, efficient meeting in our busy lives.

I look forward to working with everyone and am always open to your ideas. Thank you for your guidance and prayers as I begin my new role in this ministry. God’s blessings for you in the new year,
Sue Doyle

From the Church Office:

The Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 25th.



Ministry Team Leaders -
please have your reports emailed to office@emanuelcorning.org by **January 2nd.**

Happy New Year! Brenda Passmore

Is your contact information current?
We'd like to stay in touch with you.
Please notify the office if your email, phone number or address have changed.



Altar Flowers 2026

Please sign up to give Sunday altar flowers. The chart is posted in the church narthex.

The cost of the flowers is \$40, but you can provide your own if you wish. The flowers can be given to honor or in memory of a special person, to celebrate a special event, or any other occasion you wish.



Please let me know the wording you'd like for your dedication in the worship bulletin. Many thanks to everyone who has signed up in the past and for signing up in 2026.

Theresa Welfling, Flower Chair

Property Team

Snow-shoveling Sign-up Sheet

Dec. 29 -Jan.4	Jim
Jan. 5-11	John
Jan. 12-18	Mike T.
Jan. 19-25	



If a big storm hits, feel free to drop by with a shovel anytime!

Thanks for all the help.



ANNUAL UN-HANGING OF THE GREENS!

Sunday, January 4th,
after worship

Never as much fun as hanging them, but please stay after worship to help if you're able. Thanks!

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.

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.



Corning Community
Food Pantry
January Collection:

Thank you for supporting the Corning Community Food Pantry.

This month we'll focus on proteins—peanut butter and canned meats, tuna, etc. And as always, food in pop-top cans is welcome! Thanks!!



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

We've discovered this time of year, because of the temperature fluctuations, boxed food items are better than canned, so please bring these if you're able. Thanks!

Emanuel Lutheran Church Council announces the
Annual Congregational Meeting
Jan. 25, 2026 immediately following service.
A Dish-to-Pass will follow the meeting,
so please bring a dish and your own place setting.
There will be a sign-up-sheet in the narthex for the dish-to-pass.



We will elect new council members and officers as well as the Call Committee. The congregation will also vote to approve (or not approve) the revised church constitution, which was emailed in November. There is also a hard copy of the constitution in a notebook in the narthex.

Again this year, we'll try to offer a hybrid approach, holding the meeting in the Fellowship Hall in person along with Zoom meeting capability for those wishing to attend but unable to do so in person.

Ballots will be emailed along with the Annual Report 7-10 days prior to the meeting. To vote remotely you must attend the meeting, then you may drop off your completed ballot or scan and email it to office@emanuelcorning.org.

The link for the Zoom meeting will be emailed along with the Annual Report and Ballot prior to the meeting. Thank you - your attendance is very much appreciated. If you need a ride to attend church and the meeting, please contact someone on Church Council.

WELCA

At our December meeting we packed 12 trays of goodies! Very festive and delicious looking. They were then delivered by several of the ladies. Thank you all who contributed to this annual event. These special treats always put a smile on the faces of those who receive!



We wish you all a Blessed Christmas.

WELCA

All are welcome to attend our next meeting in our Fellowship Hall
Thursday, January 8, 2026 at 1:00 pm.

Steward Schedule



It would be great to have some new names on the monthly worship volunteer schedule. Would you like to try being an Assisting Minister, Reader, Usher, Greeter, Tech. Person, or on Altar Guild?!

We are in desperate need of volunteers to help with the Altar Guild. Currently we have only four "teams" of one or two people each to cover the entire year. This requires about 15 minutes prior to worship and about 30 minutes after worship to take care of the altar. Please consider volunteering to help. You can be any age or gender and will be trained by one of the current teams.

We always try to make sure family members serve on the same Sunday, so their names aren't scattered all over the schedule. Please prayerfully consider adding your name to the list. Just email the office@emanuelcorning.org to be added to the schedule, and let Brenda know which Sundays you're unavailable throughout the year.

Questions or concerns? Feel free to talk to Sharon, Lugene, or anyone on Church Council. Thanks.

From the Mailbag....

December 29, 2025

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for the staff appreciation gift presented at our Christmas Eve Service. It's deeply appreciated, especially this time of year.

The delicious cookie tray with a wide variety of special treats from WELCA was enjoyed too, perhaps too much! My pants are feeling a bit snug.

Wishing you Hope, Peace, Joy and Love as we finish out the Christmas Season and many blessings in the coming year,

Brenda Passmore, Administrative Assistant





January Steward Schedule

	Jan. 4	Jan. 11	Jan. 18	Jan. 25
Worship Leader	Annette Gardner	David Banner (SAM)	Caren Listopadzki (CALM)	Rev. Jason Churchill
Assisting Minister	Caren Listopadzki	Brenda Passmore	Sue Doyle	Brenda Passmore
Reader	Caren Listopadzki	Brenda Passmore	Jessica Church	Phyllis Brandes
Tech Acolyte	Ben Hufnagel	Brenda Passmore	Ben Hufnagel	Gage Machuga
Usher	Augie Andrukat	Jim Passmore	John Rector	Lew Brandes
Greeter	Tom Kleckner	Laura Link	Charlotte Estep	Jodi Machuga
Altar Guild	Sharon Trova	Sharon Trova	Sharon Trova	Sharon Trova

* *SAM is a Synod Authorized Lay Minister,
CALM is Congregation Authorized Lay Minister*

*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
28 Christmas 1 10am - Worship @	29 9am - Bone Builders 6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting	30 8am - Cleaning 1pm - WELCA Meeting	31 9am - Bone Builders 1pm - WELCA Meeting	1 9am - Bone Builders 1pm - WELCA Meeting	2 9am - Bone Builders 1pm - WELCA Meeting	3 9am - Bone Builders 1pm - WELCA Meeting
4 10am - Worship @ 11am - UnHang the	5 9am - Bone Builders 6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting	6 12pm - Office Hours @	7 9am - Bone Builders	8 9am - Bone Builders	9 9am - Bone Builders	10 9am - Bone Builders
11 10am - Worship @	12 9am - Bone Builders 6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting	13 8am - Cleaning 10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Office Hours @ 6pm - Church Council	14 9am - Bone Builders 6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting	15 9am - Bone Builders 10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Office Hours @ 6pm - Church Council	16 9am - Bone Builders 10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Office Hours @ 6pm - Church Council	17 Private Event Shower
18 10am - Worship @	19 9am - American Red	20 9am - Bone Builders 6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting	21 12pm - Office Hours @	22 9am - Bone Builders 12pm - Office Hours @ 6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting	23 Annual Meeting & Dish2Pass Set-up	24 9am - Bone Builders
25 Annual Meeting 10am - Worship @	26 9am - Bone Builders 6:30pm - Al-Anon Meeting	27 9am - Bone Builders 10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Office Hours @	28 9am - Cleaning 10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Office Hours @	29 9am - Bone Builders 10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Office Hours @	30 9am - Bone Builders 10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Office Hours @	31 9am - Bone Builders 10am - Sewing Group 12pm - Office Hours @

Emanuel Lutheran Church

149 West William Street
Corning, NY 14830

Especially prepared for:



EMANUEL'S WORD

Emanuel Lutheran Church
Corning, NY