

Memorial Day and Goodbye to Our Friend Roland



*Inside: Roland Loeffler Memorial
Synod Assembly
Will Kroeze Installation
Servant of the Month: Linda Nelson*

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Our Mission: To share Christ's unconditional love with everyone.

Greetings from Pastor Lyn

Brothers & Sisters,

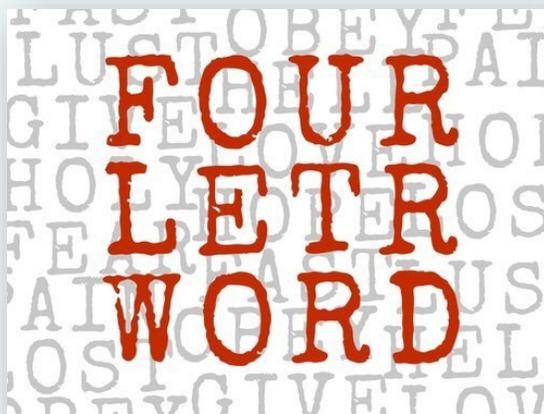
Here it is – June - another summer officially underway! What does summer hold for you this year? Of course, I hope your plans include regular worship and participation in congregational events and programs that continue through the summer. Whether you travel or stay at home, please keep tuned to the webpage, announcement page and Facebook for special events this summer at Emanuel.



Worship-wise this is shaping up to be the summer of 4-letter words! Don't worry – no slang or worse, only a time to look at things we either take for granted or have become routine. Time to consider what new thing God is stirring up – what God is asking us to do or asking us to be. Some of the words that have found their way to my list so far include: plan, move, stay, plod, seed, stir, gave, keep, etc. Frequently, words like these will pop up in the assigned lectionary readings and when they do, we'll pay attention to them in worship. Other times, the lessons suggest a 4-letter word that might help us understand the bigger theological picture. This summer will be, I hope, time to freshen our imaginations and nurture our souls. That might sound like too much work for summer when things are supposed to be less intense. I've found however, that summer holds just as much intensity as the school year and we end up every bit as stressed and anxious as the other 9 months of the year. Maybe a few well-placed 4-letter words will help lessen the stress or anxiety.

Have any 4-letter words entered your mind yet? I invite you to think of some and share them with me (that can be used in worship/sermons). Try to come up with unusual thought-provoking words and maybe even some creative ways of expressing your favorite word(s).

In Christ,
Pastor Lyn



Emanuel is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Sunday Worship: 9:30 am

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pastor@emanuellutheran.org

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Church Office:
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Church Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday:
8 am – 3 pm
Friday 8 am – 2 pm

Paula Braxton, Administrative Asst.
209-523-4531
secretary@emanuellutheran.org

Laura Marquez, Day Care Director
209-549-0672
daycare@emanuellutheran.org

OUR VISION

Emanuel's vision is to be loving, supportive, and welcoming, as we reach out in service and in witness to our neighborhood and the city beyond.

We share a passion to nurture people in all stages and circumstances of life.

We, as disciples of Christ, minister to our changing community in challenging cultural times.

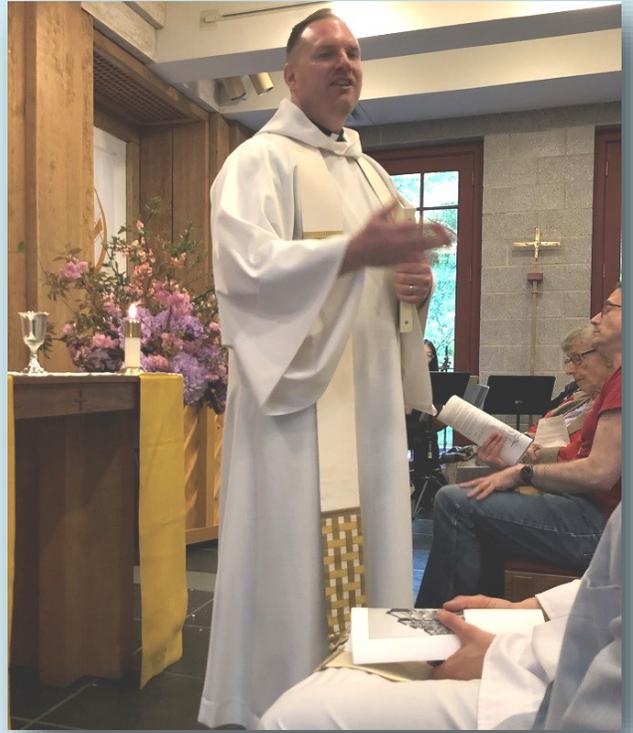
God is calling us to joyfully follow the Holy Spirit in ministry to others.

Will Kroeze Installation

Submitted by Arie and Paula Kroeze

Installation of our son, Pastor Will Kroeze, as pastor of Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish, NY, NY, took place on May 5. It was a beautiful and festive service filled with beautiful music, liturgy and the word, inspiring homily, and celebration. The sanctuary was so filled with music and singing that it felt like it was vibrating! It was followed by a reception of lots of great food, drink, and a wonderful jazz group. The members of Trinity Lower East Side are one of the most wonderful and welcoming group of people we have ever met. They are young, vibrant, caring and are proud of their diversity.

The church is 176 years old and, except for a few years after the original building was condemned, (the congregation moved to a temporary location in the neighborhood), has been at the same location for all of that time. It is located in what was originally the tenement area of New York City. The neighborhood filled with German immigrants and became



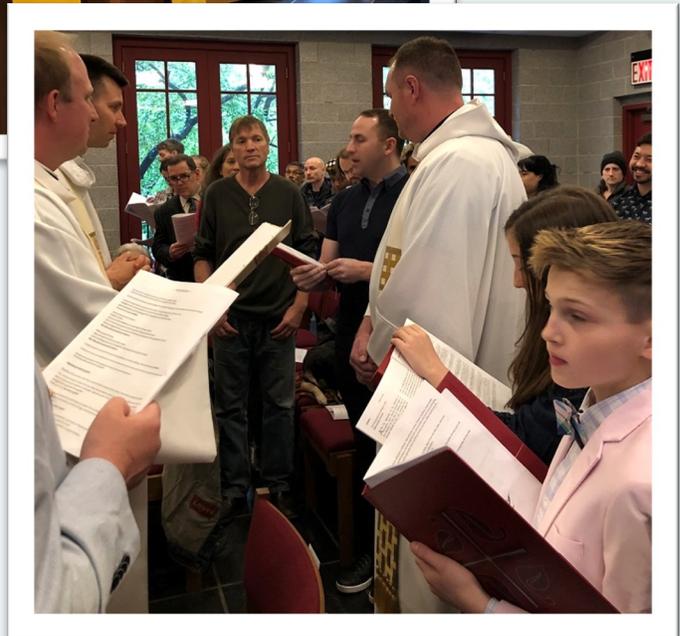
known as German Town. Trinity was established at this time. Over its 176 year history it has seen, witnessed to and ministered to enormous changes, tragedy, and historical events in its neighborhood. It has fed approximately 200 people daily for many years. It also operates a very large food pantry. The neighborhood is currently filled with young families and people from all walks of life. Lots of great small restaurants and art galleries fill the neighborhood that surrounds a large tree covered park called Tompkins Square.

Will and his husband, Steven, are looking forward to a long fruitful ministry there in this vibrant congregation.

Arie and Paula Kroeze

More Installation Photos

Submitted by Arie and Paula Kroeze



2019 Synod Assembly

Submitted by Marilyn Rowland

CONFERENCE 8 SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD - May 11, 2019

Lodi Grape Festival Grounds - 10 am to 4:40 pm

We assembled in the huge Lodi Winery Conference building. Pastor Lynn, Chuck and I arrived early, and needed to find a table with room for the 3 of us. Fortunately that placed us near the platform where all speakers were sitting. We were among the 442 voting delegates. Paula and Jim Barton were also there with about 60 other non-voting "visitors". Following the opening prayer and procedural motions, we read, and repeated several times throughout the day, a statement of our ELCA Mission:

"WE ARE CHURCH TOGETHER: WORKING IN GOD'S VINEYARD".



We began the business of the day. The submitted budgets were passed and then we heard several speakers. The most important, and interesting to me, was ELCA Church-wide Representative Victoria Flood. She urged us to "connect the dots" in the statement GOD LOVES EVERYONE. We do this through Mission Support. We learned that our Synod had raised 1.6 million dollars for disaster relief and in one year gave 897,000 dollars to Lutheran World Relief.

We sang Dona Nobis Pacem as a round, which was beautifully done by everyone there. Yes, Lutherans know how to sing well!

We passed all 4 resolutions in quick succession:

- 2019-1 Regarding Sierra Pacific Compensation Guidelines
- 2019-2 Implementing Actions Regarding Faith, Sexism and Justice
- 2019-3 Resources For Implementing Faith, Sexism and Justice
- 2019-4 Regarding a Social Statement on Gender Identity and Gender Expression

A stand-and- stretch break felt good, after which we went right back to work on our full agenda. We watched a video from a Chicago church (which began at the "Bean" in downtown Grant Park ... this hometown stuff felt good to me) focused on a Mosque that lives in a church. Together they operate a guest house.

We passed the Synod budget and then broke into Conference groups to do a little business. Our Conference needed to elect a new President, which took 2 votes, as the candidates were so well qualified it was difficult to choose one. The winner was Louis Magana-Acevedo, from Hope Lutheran, Fresno.



WE ARE CHURCH TOGETHER:
WORKING IN GOD'S

Vineyard

2019 Synod Assembly, continued

After our lunch break, we are back to business again, but first:

WE ARE CHURCH TOGETHER: WORKING IN GOD'S VINEYARD

Bishop Holmerud addressed the whole gathering with compliments about the over-all fine work we are doing in most areas of ministry, but then he broke the news that we have not met the goal of having more diversity in our congregations. Many of us agreed, though, that congregations like ours, located in a totally Caucasian community, might never be able to reach the very worthy goals of increased diversity. Among ourselves, we know that with Emanuel's out-reach to MJC students with our Katie's Kitchen and our Care Cupboard, we are doing what we can to meet the needs of the diversity in our ministry for MJC student population in our Modesto community.



Bishop Holmerud then announced the election results of each Conference when we chose a Member-at-Large and our Conference 8 Dean. All the candidates seemed so well qualified and eager to serve, so it was difficult and we needed to vote a 2nd time, as it was too close. We chose Pr. Nelson Rabell-Gonzales as our Conference 8 Dean and Joseph Paxton, Hope Lutheran, Fresno as Member-at-Large.

While we waited for the vote counts, we were treated to a dance performance by 4 young women and one young man; also, a little 7 year old girl did a very short dance, and then we watched a beautiful solo "butterfly" dance. We learned about a bandana ministry at the very end, with no time to work on them during the Conference, so I took home 3 and the colored markers to use. I have enjoyed working on them at home, but I have a feeling they aren't what was expected.

The final worship service began, including Communion. The accompanying music was piano, guitar and singers. There was a feeling of togetherness, wholeness and completion reflected in the statement:

WE ARE CHURCH TOGETHER: WORKING IN GOD'S VINEYARD

Submitted by Marilyn Rowland
for Chuck Roland and Pastor Lyn



Roland T.C. Loeffler

October 29, 1919 - May 12, 2019

Roland Loeffler was born at home to homesteaders Christian and Maria (Quast) Loeffler during a heavy blizzard on October 28, 1919. He was predeceased by a brother Oscar, a sister, Laura Grube Cawthorne, and his wife, Kathryn (after 55 wonderful years). He is survived by a son, David, a daughter, Kaete, two grandsons, three great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandson.

Roland was valedictorian of his class at Elgin North Dakota high school in 1936. In 1938 he received an elementary teaching credential from Dickinson State Teacher's College. He completed his Bachelor of Arts at the University of Grand Forks in 1940 with a major in chemistry and a minor in biology. The Private Pilot's license he received through Civilian Pilot Training was never used. Roland served one year of

explosives at the Kankakee Ordnance Works, Joliet, IL. In 1943 he was commissioned Ensign in the U. S. Navy at Columbia University Midshipman School. During his 19 months in the Pacific on the USS Maryland, he saw five amphibious invasions. He was then on the commissioning crew of the USS Macon.

Roland began his teaching career at Modesto High School in 1946. He received his Masters of Arts degree at UC Berkley in 1951 and taught chemistry at Modesto Junior College from 1954 to 1985.

He served seven summers as an instructor in gunnery in Navy Reserve Officer Candidate School and retired from the Active Naval Reserve with the



Roland T.C. Loeffler, continued

rank of Commander in 1960.

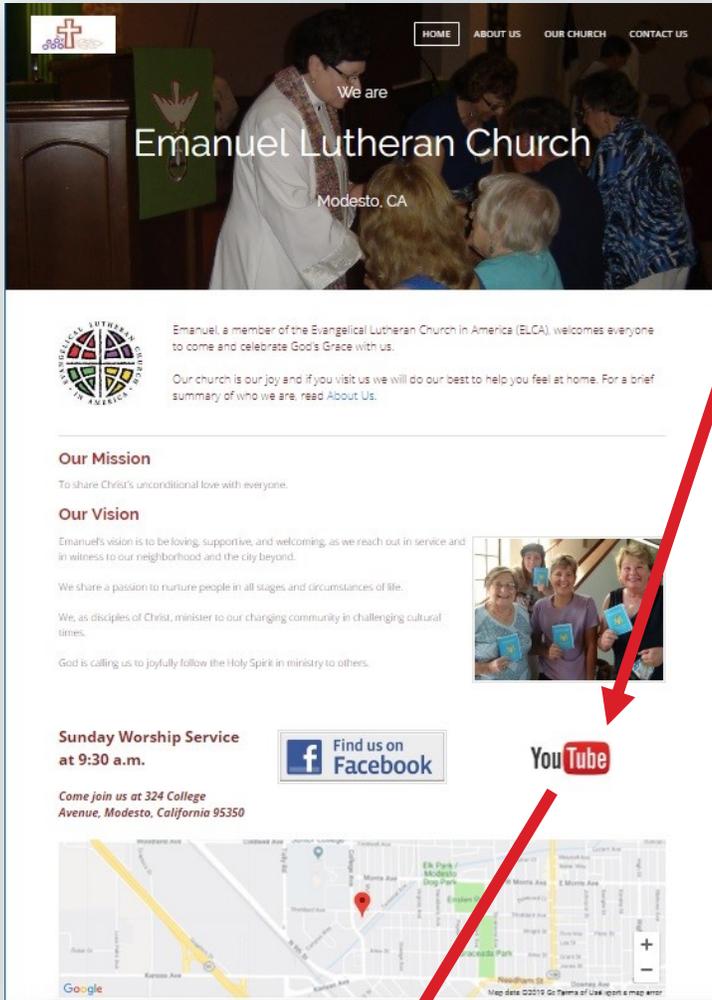
He was a member of Emanuel Lutheran Church, Phi Sigma Pi, Phi Delta Kappa, California Retired Teachers, Sigma Xi, Navy Reserve Association and held offices in the Kiwanis Club of Greater Modesto and the California Association of Chemistry Teachers. Bridge, square dancing (50+ years) and cuddling newborns at Doctor's Medical Center (13 years) filled his golden years. Besides travel, he enjoyed growing things in his yard at home and on his 5 acres near Twain Harte.

Roland's sunset years were brightened by his companion, Dorothy Wagner.

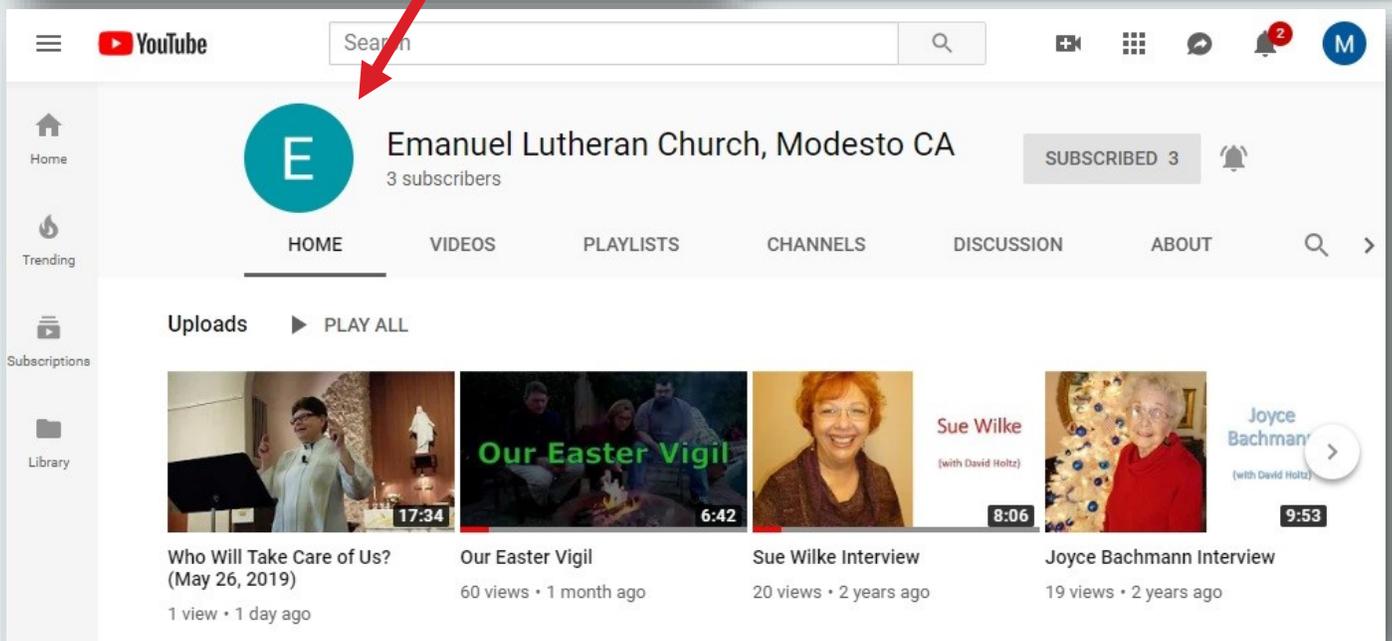


Social Media Update

Submitted by Mike Epting



That's our homepage on the left. See the new YouTube icon just above the map? Click that and you will go to our YouTube Channel, shown below. What's new there is an enhanced version of the sermon video that has been posted to Facebook. The YouTube version has better audio and more interesting video, not just a static scene. As time goes on, you will be able to find a larger collection of Pastor Lyn's sermons here. If you subscribe to our channel you can more easily watch all our videos on your internet-connected TV, phone, tablet, or computer.



Servant of the Month

Linda Nelson has been an enthusiastic volunteer at Katie's Kitchen since its inception. Increasingly, we see Linda at all our fellowship activities, bringing energy and enthusiasm to these events.

If you come early or stay late, you will often see Linda attending to Altar Care duties, setting up before services and putting away afterwards.

The photo below, provided by Sue Wilke, is a delight, showing Linda with a great servant attitude.

Thank you, Linda!



THANK YOU!

Thank you, Sanctuary Arts and Property Team for presenting potential plans and engaging in dialog at two after-church forums in May. Your openness and willingness to discuss possibilities has been a blessing.



May Council Notes

With Pastor Lyn and others on vacation, Council did not meet in May. We will resume normal activities in June. We did, however, receive a financial update from Maria, our bookkeeper.



	April Income	April Expenses	April Gain/Loss
General Fund	19,131	(19,842)	(711)
Building Fund	4,360	(6,929)	(2,569)
Day Care	31,002	(29,475)	1,527
TOTALS	54,493	(56,246)	(1,753)

June Birthdays

Birthday Blessing Sunday is June 16

All those celebrating their births during the month of June will receive a Birthday Blessing Prayer from their Emanuel Family. Don't miss out!

- | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 6/2 Andrew Shank | 6/8 Joanne Sample | 6/20 Jeri Johnson | |
| 6/3 Stephanie McCreedy | 6/11 Robert Shank II | 6/20 Nancy Jones | |
| 6/3 Patricia Norquist | 6/14 Hank Retford | 6/20 Kaete Loeffler | |
| 6/3 Lisa Poston | 6/15 Greg Schroeder | 6/23 Nirul Wheeler-Castleberry | |
| 6/6 Alicia Martinez | 6/16 Kailyn Knoll | 6/26 Thomas Norquist | 6/29 Zachary Crawford |
| 6/8 Skip Hoover | 6/16 Gabie Layne | 6/26 Rebeca Owen | 6/30 Emma Hoover |



Epilogue

(You may safely skip this...)

by Mike Epting, Echoes Editor

This month I have some really good news. Maybe you should read this?

The Study of Adult Development at Harvard Medical School has been running for 80 years now and has come to some conclusions about how to live a long and happy life. These conclusions include a number of factors, but the current head of the study says:

"The clearest message that we get from this study is this: Good relationships keep us happier and healthier. Period."

The bad news is that there seems to be an "epidemic of loneliness" in the USA and the world. From a pure physical health perspective, researchers say loneliness is as bad for you as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

The good news is that there is a simple solution. People can break the cycle of loneliness and begin to develop good relationships by volunteering. A recent study in the United Kingdom reported that volunteering "helped them feel less isolated."

In an article about the Harvard study in Inc. magazine, Bill Murphy Jr. says: "Most obviously, volunteering is simply an opportunity to meet other people, which is sort of a prerequisite to developing good relationships. You're also meeting people under altruistic circumstances, where by definition you're there for

something other than your own benefit.

Volunteering also combats the "loss of meaning" that often accompanies loneliness ... By volunteering for social causes that are important to us, we can gain a sense of purpose, which in turn may shield us from negative health outcomes."

Finally, people who volunteer and thus combat loneliness and develop relationships are less likely to develop cognitive decline. Volunteering leads to increased engagement and stimulation, which in turn can help with relationships."

The original director of the Harvard study, George Vaillant put it even more simply. He said the study shows that "Happiness is love. Full stop."

It's probably pretty obvious where I'm going with this. Being a fully plugged-in member of Emanuel gives us an opportunity to maximize our health and happiness. As I suggested last month, there are limitless ways to get involved in our broad and deep community. There certainly are plenty of volunteer needs here, but there are also many ways to experience love (which is the most obvious of Pastor Lyn's four-letter words).

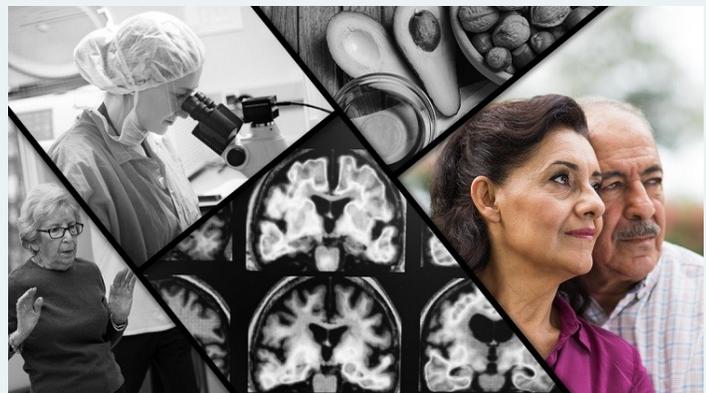
For example, stay for coffee hour, find somebody that looks



isolated and start a conversation. Jerry Lutterman and I had a wonderful conversation at Roland's Memorial. Without Emanuel that wouldn't have happened and it would have been my loss (I won't speak for Jerry).

We have wonderful people here and the concept of volunteerism is deeply in-grained. Just look at the number and quality of "Servants of the Month" in the last three years of Echoes. We have had too many Memorials lately, but nearly all of our departed have, in fact, had long and happy lives. That's not very scientific, but it does underscore that Harvard's scientists are onto something.

So, let's you and I keep being happy and healthy, with Emanuel's help.



Harvard study, almost 80 years old, has proved that embracing community helps us live longer, and be happier

Emanuel Calendar of Events

June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 CARE CUPBOARD SUNDAY 2019 Graduates Recognition 9:30 am New Members 9:30 am Acknowledgement 9:30 am Volunteer 9:30 am Appreciation 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 am Ministry Mtg.	3 10:00 am Day Care Chapel 10:30 am Facility Use for filming 1:00 pm Care Cupboard 3:00 pm Women's Bible Study	4 7:00 am Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen 12:00 pm Text Study	5 7:00 am Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen 10:00 am Weekly Staff Meeting	6 9:30 am Adult Bible Study @ Emanuel - On Break	7	8 10:00 am Organ practice
9 HEALING PRAYER SUNDAY 9:30 am Worship Service 11:00 am COUNCIL Mtg.	10 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study	11 7:00 am Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen 12:00 pm Text Study	12 7:00 am Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen 10:00 am Weekly Staff Meeting 11:30 am Multi Faith Leadership Meeting	13 9:30 am Facility Use for filming Adult Bible Study @ Emanuel - On Break 5:00 pm Day Care Board Mtg. 7:00 pm LEAH CIRCLE	14 12:00 pm ELDC Father's Day Luncheon	15 10:00 am Organ practice
16 BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS SUNDAY Father's Day 9:30 am Worship Service	17 10:00 am Day Care Chapel 1:00 pm Care Cupboard 7:00 pm LYDIA CIRCLE	18 7:00 am Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen 12:00 pm Text Study	19 7:00 am Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen 10:00 am Weekly Staff Meeting	20 9:30 am Facility Use for filming Adult Bible Study @ Emanuel - On Break 1:30 pm REBECCA CIRCLE-Katie's Room	21	22 10:00 am Organ practice
23 INTER-FAITH SUNDAY 9:30 am Guest Speaker, Keili Ott - Shower Shuttle 9:30 am Worship Service	24 7:00 pm Echoes Deadline Women's Bible Study	25 7:00 am Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen 12:00 pm Text Study	26 7:00 am Breakfast in Katie's Kitchen	27 9:30 am Adult Bible Study @ Emanuel - On Break	28	29 9:00 am Quilting Bee 10:00 am Organ practice
30 9:30 am Worship Service						