

1765-2020

Emmanuel Life

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

An Open and Affirming Congregation

124 Broadway, Hanover, PA 17331

717-632-8281

office@eucchanover.org

www.emmanuelucc.org



Rev. Peter A. Seiler Jr., Interim Pastor

December 2020

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From the desk of Reverend Seiler. . .

What Does Jesus Want This Christmas?

Allow me a few minutes to set aside the wonderfully beautiful and scriptural side of this advent and Christmas time of year. Let's take a look at what bombards us about Christmas. **SHOPPING FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR OUR LOVED ONES!!** We are starting to ask our spouses in subtle and not-so-subtle ways what they would like for Christmas. Our children are very quick to tell us what they want and grandchildren go without saying.

Let's get back to the Scriptures and our Lord as we put Christmas into the proper perspective.

What does Jesus want this Christmas? Besides, it is his birthday we're celebrating. What would Jesus want? Notice I did not ask, "What does Jesus want FOR Christmas," but what does Jesus want THIS Christmas?" Because what Jesus wants from you and me this Christmas is exactly what Jesus wants 365 days a year. It doesn't change!

I believe that in [John 12:1-8](#) we have the answer to this question. We see it through the gift Mary gave Jesus when he was in Bethany. We see what Jesus does want in the sacrifice that Mary gave Jesus. Every detail we read is an expression of her love for Jesus. Verse 3 says she took a pound of "very costly" perfume. Just how costly was it? We read that Judas thought he could sell it for a year's wage, about 300 denarii. Remember, a denarius was one day's wage in Jesus' day. If a person works five days a week every week of the year, no holidays or vacations, it equals only 260 days a year. In other words, this perfume was worth more than an entire year's salary for the average person! Let's give a conservative estimate for how much it would cost today. If you took even a low salary at 300 day wages,

See Reverend Seiler, Page 9

Calendar

Thursdays, December 3, 10, and 17
6 pm—Hand Bell Rehearsals

Sundays, December 6, 13, 20 and 27
*10:30 am—Worship in person and
Livestreamed on YouTube*

Sundays, December 6, 13, 20
9 pm—Adult Sunday School by Zoom

Sunday, December 13
11:30 am—Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 20
7 pm—110th Annual Carol Sing

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve
*9 pm—Candlelight Service
with Lessons & Carols*

Office Closed

The church office will be closed November 26-27, December 24-25, and January 1.



110th Annual Community Carol Sing

7 pm — Sunday, December 20 — Livestreamed



Enjoy live music featuring a string ensemble and Don Horneff performing on organ, piano and Clavinova, plus recorded vocalists and instrumentalists.

Steve McKonly & Landy Grimm will retell the stories of the carols.

The annual tradition takes an altered format this year — there will be NO SINGING to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Viewing of the livestream is encouraged and viewers can sing along at home with the words on the screen. The event will be recorded so you can replay the concert when you trim the tree, bake cookies, wrap gifts, and throughout the season! Find the link at emmanuelucc.org.

► **RSVP** to the church office to attend in person, as capacity is limited to 50 people. Call 717-632-8281 or email office@eucchanover.org.

Congregational Meeting set for December 13

A Congregational Meeting will be held in the sanctuary immediately after worship on Sunday, December 13, to approve the budget for 2021 and to approve the nominees to serve on Consistory for next year.



The proposed budget will be mailed to members in advance of the meeting.

Cheryl Fritz, Laura Kemp and Lisa Moore have agreed to serve an additional term. Charlotte Pinette is nominated for an initial term.

A quorum of 10 percent of membership is required to hold a Congregational Meeting, so 27 people are needed to meet in person. Your attendance is encouraged and appreciated.

► **RSVP** to the church office if you will attend. The meeting will not be livestreamed.

Join us for worship at Christmas

Advent: 10:30 am each Sunday

November 29 • December 6 • December 13 • December 20

Each week will feature the lighting of the Advent Candle as well as seasonal music. Worship in person, by livestream, or view recording.

Christmas Eve: 9 pm, Thursday, December 24
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

This year, Special Music from vocalists and instrumentalists will be incorporated throughout the service and The Masked Ringers of Emmanuel will perform live. Worship will be livestreamed and recorded. Attendance in the sanctuary will be limited to 50 people.

► **RSVP** to the church office at 717-632-8281 or office@eucchanover.org to attend in person. Viewing of the livestream will be encouraged. Find the link at emmanuelucc.org.

Christmas Fund offering supports retired clergy

For more than a century, the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross, has supported active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities and health premiums, and Christmas “Thank You” gift checks to lower-income retirees.

Since last March, because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the emergency financial needs of many who serve the church have increased dramatically. These difficult times make the need for the Christmas Fund more urgent than ever. The theme of the 2020 Christmas Fund Offering is **“For Such a Time as This.”** One of

the four Special Mission Offerings of the UCC, the Christmas Fund provides an opportunity to reach out to those who faithfully shepherded the Church and who now face unforeseen financial needs.

In 2019, Emmanuel gave \$1,686 to the fund. This year, Christmas Fund offerings will be accepted through Dec. 24. Donate at church, in person, by mail or through the slot in the front door. Make checks payable to Emmanuel UCC and indicate “Christmas Fund” in the memo.



12 Days of Christmas for CWS

Missions supports global giving

As Christmas approaches, we feel called to reach beyond our congregation and our community, and extend love and compassion to our neighbors who live in more distant places.

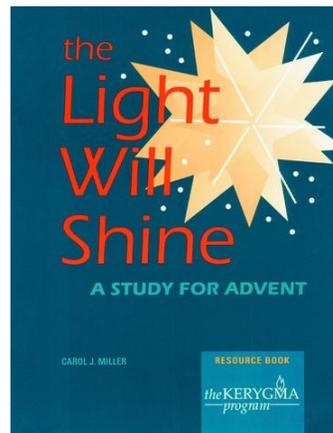


The Missions Committee members agreed to make a donation of \$2,056 to the global efforts of Church World Service. The familiar song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" provided a framework for making the following twelve donations. We hope that these gifts will bless the givers and the receivers, and give us one more reason to celebrate the spirit of Christmas.

12 Schools of baby fish to Honduras (\$22 each)	\$264
11 CWS School Kits (\$15 each)	\$165
10 Flocks of chickens for families in Tanzania (\$15 each)	\$150
9 Doctor visits for a child in Tanzania (\$11 each)	\$99
8 Enrollments of girls in school in Kenya (\$5 each)	\$40
7 Literacy classes for women in Serbia (\$19 each)	\$133
6 Hygiene Kits (\$15 each)	\$90
5 Bio-sand water filters in Vietnam (\$30 each)	\$150
4 Bundles of joy for babies in Egypt (\$65 each)	\$260
3 Pairs of piglets in Myanmar (\$85 each)	\$255
2 groves of mango trees in Haiti	\$100
1 Fuel-efficient stove in Georgia (\$350 each)	\$350
Total	\$2,056

Learn more at cwsglobal.org and click on Best Gift Catalogue.

~Carol Giesey, Missions Co-Chair



Adult Sunday School plans Advent study

The Adult Sunday School class will begin new material on November 29: **"The Light Will Shine: A Study for Advent"** by Carol J. Miller.

The five-week class will run through January 3, with no session on December 27.

Discover new light in traditional Bible texts and seasonal themes, including the music of Handel's "Messiah" and traditional Advent hymns. Find fresh perspectives on the journey through Advent to Christmas and beyond and see beyond the hustle and bustle of commercial Christmas to the "good news of great joy" that forms the very foundation of our faith.

Sessions include: Watchful Expectancy; John the Baptizer; the Fulfillment of All Promises; The Dawning of Day; and Shine, Jesus, Shine: Epiphany Day.

Meetings are Sundays at 9 am by Zoom so participants can make it to church on time. Books will be provided.

► To sign up, email Brian at brianfrederick44@gmail.com.

ICYMI: Organist presents silent film comedy

Need a little laughter in your life? "I think you'll do a lot of laughing this evening," Michael Britt said as he introduced the film at the Community Concert Series event November 15.

There were a handful people in person for the Organ and Silent Film and lots of people who joined the livestream as Britt accompanied the family-friendly comedy "Steamboat Bill, Jr." starring Buster Keaton.

The picture was made in 1928, near the end of the silent film era, Britt tells us, and was a box office flop at the time. Critics in retrospect have since heralded it as an "absolute comedic masterpiece."

The event was recorded and is available to view on YouTube. Contact the office at office@eucchanover.org for the link.



Music

A Message from the Music Department

The most wonderful time of the year!

Hi, Folks!

What an exciting time! The weather has turned and Thanksgiving is past, but the most wonderful time of the year is upon us! It is Advent/Christmas time and we have been given tremendous opportunities to try new and exciting ways for worship and music.

For a musician it is tremendously rewarding to put your time in rehearsing and recording, and then to see the final outcome. Our special music and hymn soloists have been using their talent hard to prepare for our live-streamed services. If you see or are in contact with any of them, please thank them for their efforts. They are greatly appreciated!

As you know, our live singing in church has been restricted. Unfortunately there will be no cantata this year, BUT we will be having the Carol Sing and a Christmas Eve service. Yes, even with candlelight for the playing of "Silent Night" by The Masked Ringers of Emmanuel. I had Maria order small battery powered votive candles which will be distributed in a similar fashion as our communion cups. Christmas Eve presents another grand opportunity for our soloists to present their versions of well-known carols. The Carol Sing will be live-streamed with our readers and a small string group with organ/piano/Clavinova will be playing all our favorites in the Carol Sing tradition. If you are watching the live-stream at home, we hope you will all sing along.

As we approach Christmas, The Masked Bells of Emmanuel, Emmanuel Jam, Voce a cappella, the Masked Men of Emmanuel, the vocalists and instrumentalists who will be singing and playing hymns and carols of the season, as well as Jamie and myself, are all creatively preparing music now for this most joyous season. Please listen, reflect, remember and smile, for we are celebrating the anticipation and birth of Jesus.

One more thing to always remember: God gave us music to play without words!

My best,
~Don Horneff

Emmanuel's Music Program

Emmanuel has a diversified music program with opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and musical interests. If interested, see Don Horneff or Jamie Brown at church, or contact Don at donaldhorneff@gmail.com or 717-634-5122.



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!

Chancel Choir

Open to high school students through adults
Rehearsals: Thursdays, 7-8:30 pm
Provides a variety of music for worship on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays and special services

Women's Choir

Open to women of all ages
Rehearsals: 1st & 3rd Sundays, 12-1 pm
Sings at worship on the 2nd Sunday

Voce a cappella Choir

Open to high school students through adults
Rehearsals: 2nd & 4th Sundays, 12-1 pm
Sings at worship on the 3rd Sunday

Emmanuel Ringers—Handbell Choir

Open to high school students through adults
Rehearsals: Thursdays, 6-6:50 pm
Rings at worship on 4th Sundays and holidays

Emmanuel Jam—Praise Band

Open to anyone who enjoys playing and/or singing contemporary music
Rehearsals: 1st & 2nd Sundays,
9:15-9:45 am
Provides music for worship on 2nd Sundays

Children's Ring & Sing

Open to all children ages 4 to 12
Rehearsals: During Sunday School with ringing handbells and singing
Rings and Sings on 5th Sundays

Thank You

Thanks for kickin' back and giving back!

Dear Emmanuel UCC members—
Hope you all enjoy your night in on Friday,
November 6. Thank you for your unwavering
commitment to the children in care!

Sincerely,

Alicia Stanley

VP of Marketing & Development,
Hoffman Homes for Youth

*The Missions Committee gave \$200 to the Hoffman
Homes' No Show Black Tie & Blue Jeans Gala.*

► **From God's Meal Barrel**

Thank you for supporting God's Meal Barrel.
God Bless!! ~Tom Miller, Managing Director

*In October, the Missions Committee gave \$500
to the food pantry, which aids 824 local families.*

► **2020 Stewardship**

Thank you to the dozens of
members and friends for
answering the church's call for
faithful financial stewardship.
Pledges were consecrated
during worship on Nov. 16.



► **Many thanks...**

- To Mike and Cheryl Fritz for their contribution
in memory of Dot Fritz of a pre-lit tree to
decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. The tree
will be dedicated at worship on November 29.

- To donors of food for the **Harvest Home**
collection to benefit the PAL Lunch program
and New Hope Ministries' food pantry, and to
Missions co-chairs Estelle King and Carol
Giesey for decorating the altar.

- To those who claimed a Christmas Gift Tag for
the children of **Hoffman Homes**. Please bring
in unwrapped gifts by December 1.

- To the volunteers who turned out November
23 to help the Fellowship Committee **decorate
the sanctuary** for Christmas.

Give Back This Christmas

Christmas Blessings Express

New Hope is accepting donations for its
Christmas Blessings Express "shoppers
room," where clients can get for gifts for their
entire family. For a complete list of requested
toys, games, clothing and household items,
visit the church office or nhm-pa.org. Drop off
unwrapped gifts by Dec. 7 at 135 Baltimore
St., Hanover, 9am to 4pm Monday through
Friday.

Feed a Friend Marathon

WHVR 1280 AM and Happy 95.3 FM will host
the 35th annual radio giving marathon to
benefit New Hope Ministries food programs.
The 16-hour on-air event will run 12-8 pm
Thursday, December 10 and 8 am-4 pm
Friday, December 11. Pledge by calling 717-
637-0052 or visit nhm-pa.org.

Hoffman Homes Gift Wrapping

Help wrap presents for the Hoffman Homes
for Youth Holiday Gift Program December 7-
11. Contact Alicia Stanley at 717-359-7148,
ext. 4500, to sign up.

Homewood Auxiliary

Christmas Card Program: Volunteers are
needed to add greetings to Christmas cards
for skilled care and personal care residents.
Donations are also requested for unscented
hand lotion and cube-style tissue boxes with
holiday themes. Deadline is Dec. 7.

Membership: Don't forget the
Auxiliary's annual Membership
Drive is going
on now. Renew with the
materials you received in the
mail by sending directly to the
Auxiliary or returning to Peg
Moulton or the church office.

Info: For details, contact Peg at 717-633-
6580 or peggym2@comcast.net.

PAL Lunch

Volunteers are needed for two-hour shifts
from 9 am-1 pm, Tuesday, December 29,
to prepare, serve and clean up at HACC. To
sign up, contact Estelle King at 717-487-1906.



CONSISTORY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Consistory Minutes – October 19, 2020

- Treasurer's Report: Draft Budget discussed and should be completed by next meeting for vote.
- The Investment Committee has 3 recommendations and all were approved:
 1. For the Unrestricted Combined Mutual Fund, moving \$50,000 from the T. Rowe Price Blue Chip Growth Fund to the T. Rowe Price Capital Appreciation Fund, and move all the money in the Oakmark International Investor Fund (\$26,257.05 as of Oct. 13) to the WCW Focused International Growth Institutional Fund.
 2. For the Myers Student Loan Restricted Fund, moving \$5,000 from the American Funds Growth Fund to the American Funds Balanced Funds.
 3. For both the Myers Restricted Fund and the Pfaff Organ Restricted Fund, the committee recommends changing from an unmanaged account structure to a managed account structure. Managed accounts are subject to a 0.5% annual administration fees.
- Pastor's Report: Rev. Seiler detailed activities over the past month including worship, meetings, visits, calls and contacts.

Items of Interest:

- Laptop for meetings: To ask Don and Jamie to look over Chromebook to see if audio could be better for Zoom meetings.
- We discussed the upcoming Congregational meetings, in December and in January, the need for absentee ballots, the need for a quorum present. In the meeting will be the budget approval, by-laws changes and approval of new Consistory members.
- Nametags: Strongly recommended to be worn during worship. Discussion on best practice for cleanliness.
- New position: Technical Support: Because of the technology needed to now stream a livestream service a job description is being prepared by Don to be able to have audio/technical help during the service.
- Gettysburg Fall Meeting: November 15 by Zoom. One clergy and 2 delegates can participate. Charlotte Pinette, Lisa and Rev. Seiler will attend.
- Salvation Army has not set an opening date.

New Business:

- Email vote went to Consistory members after meeting win regards to up to \$12,000 for painting to be taken out of the General Maintenance fund. Approved unanimously.
- Bylaws change: Discussion on terms, Lisa Moore to have proposal of change to include statement for the Treasurer to become "ex-officio member as long as approved annually by Consistory" to be brought to congregational meeting.
- Consistory Members for 2021: Laura Kemp and Cheryl Fritz agreed to another three-year term and Brian Frederick's term is ending. He has agreed to

Continued on next page

2020 CONSISTORY OFFICERS

President	Lisa Moore 717-515-1033 lisamoore1956@gmail.com
Vice President	Alec Sivel 717-451-3450 alecsivel@hotmail.com
Secretary	Ann Kress 717-637-5141 annkress31@aol.com
Treasurer	Brian Frederick 717-451-3977 brianfrederick44@gmail.com

CONSISTORY MEMBERS

Jess Beavers, Andy Crone, Tom Daryman,
Cheryl Fritz, Susan Hoke, Laura Kemp,
Judy Morris, Chuck Siegel

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Altar Guild	Chris Moore 717-451-3860
Caring	TBD
Christian Education	Cheryl Fritz 717-698-1153
Church Growth	Alec Sivel 717-451-3450
Fellowship	Mary Bair 717-870-5597 Elaine Weaver 717-637-9015
Investment	Brian Frederick 717-451-3977
Missions	Carol Giesey 717-632-2665 Estelle King 717-487-1906 Consistory Rep: Laura Kemp
Pastor/Parish Relations	Sandy Rebert 717-586-2136 Consistory Rep: Ann Kress
Personnel	Lisa Moore 717-515-1033
Property and Safety	Linda McKonly 717-632-6379 Consistory Representatives: Andy Crone and Laura Kemp
Stewardship/Finance	Judy Morris 717-968-6998
Worship and Music	Brian Frederick 717-451-3977

Consistory Highlights, continued from Page 6

stay on as Treasurer, Investment Committee Chair and Stewardship Committee.

- Judy Morris has agreed to be on Caring Committee. We still need a Consistory rep (and/or chair) of the Worship & Music Committee.
- Any suggestions for new Consistory member(s) welcomed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Church Growth — November 10

- Downtown Christmas Tree Wars: Main Street Hanover will once again hold its 'Tree Wars.' They will officially launch the program after Thanksgiving. Charlotte and Jean offered to decorate the tree this year with the theme of Hope and/or Peace.
- Emmanuel Logo Update: Alec asked the committee to put some thought into how we might rethink the text within the '250' EUCC logo which the church is currently using. In addition, does 'Faith, Family, Fellowship' accurately describe EUCC's tenets today and for the future. Alec will take to Consistory for consideration.
- Tom Daryman Card Shower: Charlotte briefed the committee on Tom's slow but hopeful progress. Committee chairs are asked to invite their members to send a card. Address is: 4 Elm Lane, New Oxford PA 17350.
- Community 'Healing' Hour: Committee reintroduced the idea of holding a Healing Hour or Service to provide a healing time/place within our community for those with heavy burdens. Rev. Pete was in support of further discussion around this idea. Laura will take to Property Committee.
- Brainstorm Outreach in the age of Covid: Charlotte and Jean are developing a flyer that can be placed on community bulletin boards informing that our church is offering in-person and livestream services.

Missions Committee — November 2020

- The Homewood Auxiliary Member Drive, which supports Homewood residents, will continue to Dec. 18. Donations of unscented hand lotion and holiday-themed boxes of cube-sized tissues are requested for residents. Donations due Dec. 6. We have enough cards, but need volunteers to write messages on them. Contact Peg.
- We received Thank-Yous for our donations to God's Meal Barrel, and the Hoffman Homes November Fundraising Gala. The Gala has raised close to \$40,000.
- All 15 gift tags have been claimed for the Hoffman Homes for Youth Gift Tag Program. Gifts are due to Estelle by December. 6. Contact

Help wanted: Consistory

Your participation is needed

Dear Emmanuel Family,

I pray that everyone is staying safe and happy. We are slowly getting things back to some type of "normal" as we have opened the church for more people on Sundays with some beautiful music from our ringers, organ and piano.

Behind the scenes, many people continue to work on running the business of the church. We have some meetings in person or on Zoom and sometimes a hybrid of both. I am reaching out to you now as we have a need for more people to step up to participate in Consistory and various committees (particularly Worship & Music and Caring).

We cannot continue to carry on the work of the church without additional leaders. If anyone is willing to help out and would like more information, please reach out to me and we can discuss further. This is your church and we need your participation.

Thank you for your consideration,
Lisa

Contact Consistory President Lisa Moore at 717-515-1033 or lisamoore1956@gmail.com.

Estelle for information.

- Volunteers are needed for Emmanuel's next time for PAL Lunch, Dec. 29. Contact Estelle.
- New Hope Ministries offers a Shoppers Room for needy families to select gifts for their loved ones. Info on donating gifts is available in the church office and in the Nov. E-Life. The Feed-A-Friend Marathon, which benefits the New Hope Food Bank, is scheduled for Dec. 10 & 11 on local radio stations. More info should be available soon.
- Missions donated \$200 to the Cross Keys Foundation in honor of Merle and Margaret Forney for their involvement in our community and the life of Emmanuel and Merle's work on the Missions Committee.
- Harvest Home: Food collection continues through Nov. 22. Grocery items will be delivered to the HACC PAL Lunch and New Hope Food Bank.
- We agreed by consensus to donate \$2,056 to support CWS global efforts in providing food,

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Consistory Highlights, continued from Page 7

education and healthcare where it is more needed. As an additional way to help Emmanuel celebrate Christmas, we chose a format of "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Details are below and will appear in the Dec. E-Life.

- Regarding the Christmas Fund for retired pastors, the National UCC states that many retirees are more in need than ever. Collection is scheduled for Dec. 20. Envelopes are in the sanctuary.
- Sandy presented the idea of placing a "Share with Others Little Library" outside the church. This is part of a growing effort to share books and grocery items with neighbors in need. Pastor Seiler will present this to Consistory.

Worship & Music Committee — November 3

- Livestream continues and up to 60 people are allowed to come to service each Sunday. Don continuing to do the behind the scenes but will share the cloud with Maria to have her begin helping. Also, working on changing settings on Pastor Seiler's microphone.
- Special choirs currently consist of Men's Group, Emmanuel Jam and Bells.
- Reviewed 2021 budget and agreed with what is planned.
- Concert on Sunday, November 15: Michael Britt and virtual silent film concert with live streaming. Online viewers will see Michael playing organ in small box on lower corner of screen. We will allow 60 people in congregation, including people to be present that night to help in any way. Also, we will need 4-6 people after church on Sunday, November 15, to move organ for concert.
- Church Growth is putting ad in Merchandiser in November and December.
- November 8: Don is off, Stewardship Sunday, Veteran's Day slide show and Emmanuel Jam.
- November 22: Bells and church will celebrate Harvest Home, Brian will talk to Carol Giesey and Estelle King.
- Monday, November 23: At 9 am, we will decorate church. Mike Fritz spoke to Mary about him and Cheryl donating a Christmas tree for sanctuary in memory of his Mother.
- November 29: First Sunday in Advent and Brian will reach out to people to light candles and read for each Sunday. They will not use lectern microphone.
- December 6: Communion and I will do altar guild. There will not be a Cantata this year.
- December 13: Emmanuel Jam.
- December 20: Service will have bells. Jamie is possibly going to have children ring bells. That evening at 7 pm the Carol Sing will be livestreamed, there will be no singing, but will

Search & Call Committee

Pastoral Leadership Survey Results

Pastoral Search & Call Committee Chair Estelle King reported on the results of the recent questionnaire sent to members regarding leadership qualities we should expect from a new pastor.

More than 50 people responded, with 25 percent of surveys returned.

The top ranked leadership qualities follow:

- 1—is a compassionate and caring person (39 votes)
- 2—is an effective preacher/speaker (37 votes)
- 3—makes pastoral calls on people in hospitals and nursing homes and those confined to their homes (36 votes)
- 4—maintains confidentiality (28 votes)
- 5—is effective in planning and leading worship (27 votes)
—is a person of faith (27 votes)
- 6—works regularly at bringing new members into the church (26 votes)
- 7—is accepting of people with divergent views (25 votes)
- 8—is effective in working with children (22 votes)
—is mature and emotionally secure (22 votes)
- 9—builds a sense of fellowship among the people with whom he/she works (20 votes)
- 10—is a good leader (19 votes)

have traditional readings by Landy Grimm and will be contacting Steve McKonly. There will be a string quartet and we will take RSVP for about 50 people to be in sanctuary. We will need greeters.

- December 24: Christmas Eve service will be Bells, Lessons and Carols at 9 pm, Regular service with music throughout.

Search & Call Committee — October-November

October 28:

- Continued work on the Local Church Profile including Demographics, Participation, Staffing, Finances, Historical Info, Community Vision, References, Closing Thoughts, and more.

November 11:

- The committee was joined by the Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola, PCC Associate Conference Minister for Congregational Transitions, to discuss a Pastor-Parish Relations Committee.
- Local Church Profile: Financial data completed.
- Pastoral Leadership member survey was completed, and results were reviewed by the committee.

Reverend Seiler, continued from Page 1

it today would cost at least \$30,000. In Mary's day, this was the most expensive perfume you could buy. It would easily have been as costly as Marilyn Miglin's or Clive Christian's or Arthur Burnham's which we mentioned earlier!

But I tell you that Jesus was not impressed by the value of the perfume. This is the same Jesus who saw the two mites given by the widow and said she gave more than all of the big contributors in the temple. **Jesus saw her heart! The size of the gift didn't matter. It was the fact that her gift was an expression of love from the heart.**

In [Luke 7:38, 44-48](#) we read of another gift made by another woman, a prostitute. Jesus was eating dinner in the home of a Pharisee. In came this woman, and she poured ointment on Jesus' feet and her tears rinsed them and she wiped them with her hair while she wept. Do you remember what Jesus said? "[He who is forgiven little loves little. But he who is forgiven much LOVES MUCH!](#)" I believe that this is where Mary got her idea. Mary said to herself, I want to show Jesus how much I love him! So she took what was the most valuable possession she had, and she literally placed it at the feet of Jesus!

In another gospel it says that she broke the box, meaning she gave it all! Every drop she poured on those feet where the nails would soon be driven. Half would not do. She gave it all, because she wanted Jesus to know how much she loved him. Jesus is not interested in half of your life. He's not interested in half of

your ambition, or half your plans, or half your relationships, or half your material possessions, or half your bank account, or half your heart, or half your love.

What is your most favored possession? **What is in your box? If you could pinpoint what it is, would you give it to Jesus? Your most valued possession may not be the same as Mary's or as mine. But when we take what is most valuable to us in all of life and place it at the feet of Jesus that we truly give him a "sacrifice of love."** And when we do that, we learn first hand what the Psalmist said in Psalm 37:4, "[Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.](#)" **If we can give to Jesus What is in our box, He will give us the desires of our hearts. Our Lord gets what He wants and so do we. THAT is what Jesus wants this Christmas and every day of the year! Our whole heart. All of our Love.**

~Reverend Seiler

Grocery Cards and Gift Cards for the holidays



Consider making your Christmas and gift card purchases through EUCC, which receives a percentage of all gift cards sold. Grocery gift cards for Giant and Weis Markets are available in the church office.

An updated order form with two dozen popular retailers and restaurants is included on the next page and can also be obtained online or in the church office. Orders are typically delivered in a week.

The order deadline for Christmas delivery is Sunday, December 15.

For information, contact the office at office@eucchanover.org, 717-632-8281, or contact Mary Bair after services or at mary.bair12@gmail.com.

Inclement Weather Policy

For the safety of everyone and to facilitate the clearing of our sidewalks and parking lot...

If the Borough of Hanover declares a Snow Emergency, worship services, meetings and any other activities will be cancelled or rescheduled. Check for updates online at www.emmanuelucc.org.



★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

The following members and friends of Emmanuel celebrate birthdays in **December**. We extend to each of you best wishes and many happy returns. May God bless you!

- 1—Barb Horneff, John Frock II
- 2—Donald Bair
- 3—Ronald Giesey
- 4—John Connor Jr.
- 5—Carol Giesey
- 10—Mary Little
- 12—Greg Bair I
- 17—Gail Mattingly
- 22—Joyce O'Donnell
- 23—Andrea Saggau
- 24—Audrey Fuhrman
- 26—Chris Moore
- 28—Haley Frederick, Isaac Rinehart,
Patrick Caviness
- 29—Cheryl Fritz



Giving in 2021

Your offerings support Emmanuel's ministries and mission!

- **ELECTRONIC GIVING:** Through our safe and convenient electronic giving options you can give online, with your smartphone, or through direct debit from your checking account, savings account or with a credit card. Learn more at www.emmanuelucc.org under the "Giving" tab, or contact Maria in the office for assistance or details.
- **OFFERING ENVELOPES** for 2021 are now available. Pick up in the narthex or office. If you have not had envelopes in the past and would like a set for the coming year, or if you are an electronic giver and do not need envelopes, contact the church office.
- **GIVING STATEMENTS** will be generated in mid-January for anyone who gave during 2020. **NEW THIS YEAR:** Statements will be emailed by default and only mailed to those without an email address.

Contact the office with changes to your address, phone or email at 717-632-8281 or office@eucchanover.org.

Remembering ♦ Caring ♦ Reaching Out

Terri Alcott (Care South)
Pat Sheaffer (Creekside #1112)
Janet Starr (Care Central #201)
Ginny Stieglitz (Terrace)

Elinor Williams
Homewood, 425 Westminster Avenue,
Hanover, PA 17331

Merle & Margaret Forney (Apt 118)
610 Harmony Drive, New Oxford, PA 17350

Audrey Fuhrman
Fair Havens Assisted Living
3101 Grandview Road, Hanover PA 17331

Ross Sipe
600 W. Hanover Street, Hanover, PA 17331

Bonnie Stick
Brookside, 225 Village Drive, New Oxford PA 17350

► **Have some news?** New email?
Change of address? Let us know!
office@eucchanover.org
124 Broadway, Hanover PA 17331



Christmas Poinsettias & Pastor's Care Fund



**The flower order deadline is
Tuesday, December 1**

There are still plants available for dedication.
To purchase flowers, contact the church office
at 717-632-8281. Donations to the Pastor's
Care Fund are welcome at any time.

CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE

Please note these changes:
Melissa Brown and Family
40 Bud Avenue
New Oxford, PA 17350



Jill Rebert
191 Madara Drive, Hanover, PA 17331

• *Have you moved? Please inform the office!* •

Emmanuel United Church of Christ
124 Broadway
Hanover, PA 17331
(Return Service Requested)

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U.S. Postage PAID
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Permit #15**

Dated Material - Please Expedite
December 2020



Emmanuel United Church of Christ, 124 Broadway, Hanover, PA 17331



Worship Services
10:30 am Sunday

Church Office
130 Broadway, Hanover
Hours are 9 am-1 pm
Monday through Friday
717-632-8281
office@eucchanover.org

Visit Online
www.emmanuelucc.org

Christmas at Emmanuel

The Carol Sing tradition continues!

December 20, 7 pm: Enjoy your favorite Christmas carols and hear their stories retold, featuring a live string ensemble and organ, plus recorded vocalists and instrumentalists. The concert will be livestreamed and recorded on YouTube. Fifty people will be permitted in the sanctuary.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

The traditional service with lessons and carols will feature the Masked Ringers of Emmanuel live along with recorded Special Music from vocalists and instrumentalists incorporated throughout the service. Worship will be livestreamed and 50 will be permitted in the sanctuary.

► *RSVP required for either event ~ See details, page 2*

• Our church is an OPEN AND AFFIRMING congregation •