

Emmanuel Community United Methodist Church Monthly Newsletter

N84 W16707 Menomonee Avenue, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 💠 262-251-3830 🛠 EC-UMC.COM

These are the activities planned for December, 2021. CDC guidelines may impact these plans. Stay tuned to email and social media, or call the church office.

Upcoming Worship Schedule December 5

Celebration Service 8:30 AM Community Quest (all ages) 9:30 AM Sanctuary Worship 10:45 AM

December 12 – Christmas Pageant

Sanctuary Worship 8:30 AM and 10:45 AM Sunday School (children/youth) 9:30 AM Adult Fellowship with the pastor 9:30 AM

December 19 – All-Choir Sunday

Sanctuary Worship 8:30 AM and 10:45 AM Fellowship 9:30 AM

December 24 – Christmas Eve

Sanctuary Worship 1:00 PM Celebration Service 4:00 PM Sanctuary Worship 7:00 PM December 26 – one service Sanctuary Worship 9:00 AM January 2 – one service Sanctuary Worship 9:00 AM



Walk-Thru Christmas An Open House Event Saturday, December 4, 5:30–7:30 PM

You won't want to miss this night of fun. Stop in anytime between 5:30 and 7:30 to enjoy a variety of opportunities...

Holiday Sing-Along – Celebration Hall:

Grab some hot chocolate or coffee and sing along to favorite secular and religious carols.

Cookie Walk – Fellowship Hall: Browse through trays of Christmas goodies created by the fabulous bakers of ECUMC and take home a box (or two).

Live Nativity & Reflection – Sanctuary: Bring (new) coats, boots, blankets, or other warm gear to place by the live nativity. Let's carpet the sanctuary with donations for Afghan refugees. There will be prompts on the screen as you meditate in this space.

Santa – Drama Room: Santa will be here for visits with all of the kids! Each child receives a gift.

Gift Making Kits – Chapel Lounge: Kids can stop in and pick up gift-making kits to take home and create gifts for friends and family.

Crafts – Confirmation & Art Rooms: Creation stations will be set up for you to make a nativity craft to take home.

Missions – Youth Room: The Missions Team will be collecting Northcott presents and items for the mitten tree, as we support those who need our help this holiday season.

We are excited to host you on December 4!

Bring warm clothing donations, your best singing voice, and a friend or two. Contact Angie Sardina with any questions. Plan to enter through the Sanctuary doors.



All-Choir Sunday, December 19

Join us for a joyous celebration of the Christmas season on Sunday, December 19. The musicians of Emmanuel are back from the pandemic and will safely be celebrating the birth of our Savior through music at both the 8:30 and 10:45 services.

There will be a time of Fellowship between the two services.

Please invite your friends, neighbors, and family

to join you in worship with a service full of the music of Christmas. Want to try out singing in the choir? This is a great time to sing!! BillF@ec-umc.com



Advent Study of the Grinch Thursdays on Zoom 7:30 or 10:00 AM

Zoom on Thursday mornings during Advent as we prepare our own hearts for Jesus' coming! Janet Ray will lead Matt Rawle's study *The Heart that Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story*



of the Grinch. What can that bad banana/ seasick crocodile possibly teach us about faith? Come find out!

This study is part of Rev. Rawle's "The Pop in Culture" series, speaking to such topics as the disappointment of unfulfilled expectations, the danger of blind spots, and the importance of treasures in heaven.

Sessions include "When Everything is Wrong" and "When Christmas Isn't Christmas." It's a study for our time.

Each stand-alone session will include discussion and a short video. No materials are needed, although a study book is available should you want to explore more on your own. Choose the time that's most convenient for you and join any or all sessions (December 2, 9, 16, and 23.)

> 7:30-8:00 AM

(30 minutes to start your day) > 10:00-11:00 AM

(For those who have a little more time) Watch for the Zoom link in each Monday's eNews or email <u>JanetR@ec-umc.com</u>.

Women's Advent Service Friday, December 3, 7:00 PM

The Women's Ministry team is hosting an Advent Service on December 3 at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

All women are invited to attend this special event, which is focused on quietly centering ourselves to prepare for the Advent Season and the coming of God's greatest gift. As is our custom, we will ask attendees to find a private space in the Sanctuary to facilitate times of reflection during the service. *Why not invite a friend?* We hope to see you there!



You're Invited! ECUMC Annual Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 12, 8:30 & 10:45 in the Sanctuary

Excitement is building for our Annual Christmas Pageant. Did you notice that "Children's" is not in the title? Our children will be front and center bringing you the Christmas Story, and so will a large number of youth and adults. Truly an intergenerational program!



This year we are moving the program to the **Sanctuary** to take advantage of the resources available there to easily live-stream the service and record it for YouTube.

Between services, adults should plan to enjoy fellowship with Pastor Jerome in Celebration Hall.

Children and youth will have Sunday School.



SEW & SEWS

Ginny Patterson, 262-255-0312 GinPatterson3@yahoo.com The Sew & Sews are in need of batting and stuffing for their fabric projects. If you have any that you no longer need, please bring it to the church or contact Ginny for pick up.

Advent Pastoral Message

Another year has come and gone, and we are still in the COVID-19 pandemic. Even so, Advent is coming all the same. The season of Advent—which comes from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming" or "visit" begins our observance of the four Sundays as preparation for Christmas. Through Advent, we celebrate God's visit to his people, wherein he became our neighbor in our neighborhood. In other words—in the person of Jesus Christ, God came, lived, and served us in ancient Galilee and Palestine. Friends, this is the mystery of Advent!

In Advent, we anticipate and prepare for

the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of the Israelites for the Messiah and our own longing for and need for forgiveness, salvation, healing, restoration, and a new beginning as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in that humble stable in Bethlehem (*meaning House of Bread*). The Incarnation is the celebration of the mystery of God becoming a human person. During Advent we also look forward, anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming. That's why the early church prayed, "*Maranatha*—come Lord."

We have just celebrated our 175th Jubilee, and now God has called us to partake in this year's Advent as preparation for Emmanuel Community to enter the 2022 New Year. Even though we are still struggling with the COVID-19 pandemic, ecological crisis, economic crisis, and helping people find peace and refuge, safe spaces to live their lives and share their stories, it is right that we are experiencing the incarnate Christ as our Savior, Emmanuel, Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor.

Recalling the message of John the Baptist, the forerunner of the gospel will help us take the right turn and change. "The voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. And all humankind will see God's salvation.'" (Luke 3:4-6) From Matthew we are called to "Repent, for the Reign of God is near." (Matthew 3:2) The power and the demand of the message is clear—we are to receive the coming Lord into our hearts, into our habits, into our church, and into our nations. Therefore, throughout Advent we are called to repent—as individuals, families, church communities, and as a society.

Let us also, by God's grace, recapture the mystery of Incarnation in the midst of our busy world of commercialization, capitalism, and greed for power and mammon. **Only the** Lord can bring JOY to the broken and wounded world.

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." (John 1:14) The WORD/ LOGOS is Jesus. Saint John sees this mystery as the Light. "The Light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. The true light that gives light to every person was coming into the world." (John 1:5 & 9) Our call is also clear here—those who receive Jesus and believe in his name will become the children of God, and we become Children of LIGHT. Let the stables of our hearts and communities be opened during this Advent season, to shine and scatter that Light—the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, recall the mystery of our faith that we proclaim in the Eucharist (Great Thanksgiving)

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

That Jesus who came to Bethlehem will make all NEW! "*I will make everything NEW*." (Revelation 21:5, emphasis mine) Advent is the season of reorientation toward the New Heaven and New Earth. Let's prayerfully engage in this journey through Advent to meet the Lord Jesus Christ, who is our ultimate Healer and Reconciler in these challenging times, who will empower us for an incarnated mission in God's world.

I wish you a blessed Advent, Happy Christmas, and a hopefilled New Year 2022!

Maranatha! Come, Lord! Come!!

Jerome Sahabandhu



Question & Answer Sermon Sunday, January 2, 9:00 AM

Pastor Sean will host a second Q&A sermon on January 2. (There is only one service.)

Come with any question you may

have about the Bible, the Christian faith, or any other Church-related topic (the only offlimits subjects are politicians, political parties, and party platforms—for obvious reasons). Come with questions or e-mail them to him during the sermon at SeanC@ec-umc.com.

MISSIONS

Harvest Brunch News

Many thanks to those who attended and participated in this year's take-out Harvest Brunch—especially the Kitchen Klub and our Intergenerational Community Quest leaders! Over \$1000 was raised for scholarships for ECUMC children/youth attending Pine Lake or Lake Lucerne Camps.

The Sew & Sews contributed an additional \$407 from the sale of their handmade items. If you'd still like to contribute, please include "Church Camps" in the memo line of your check.

Opportunities for Christmas Giving > Angel Tree online

Our virtual Angel Tree is an easy way to give. Click on the link https://vat.angeltreetool.org/0910e7c5 -9af2-4cb2-8c6f-9af7a3fbbe93 and enter the Access Code: 3K0GC. You will see virtual tags with names of children assigned to our church. Browse the tags and select the child(ren) you would like to sponsor this Christmas, then click checkout! With just a few clicks of your mouse, you can show a prisoner's child the love of Jesus-the greatest Gift of all.

> Northcott Neighborhood House Gifts

Again this year we will be giving gifts to 29 children who participate in the Northcott Neighborhood House, a UMC outreach program in Milwaukee. The following *Signup* Genius link «<u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/904044AA4A923A1F85-northcott» is for you to purchase a gift for one of those children. The gift should be wrapped and labeled to be dropped off at ECUMC no later than December 15. The gifts will be delivered in time for their Christmas celebration.

> Mitten Tree

The Mitten Tree will be in Fellowship Hall.

For more information about any of these missions, contact Pam Laurion 262-253-9838.

YOUTH MINISTRIES

Contact: Bill Follmann, BillF@ec-umc.com **Crossroads** = Middle school youth (grades 6-8) **Confirmation** = youth (grades 8-12) Tribe = High school youth (grades 9-12)

We have a number of activities for the month of December and January to be involved in. Saturday Dec 4 – 5:30 to 7:30 PM **Live nativity** during the all-church Christmas Walk-Thru event. We will be collecting warm clothing for the Afghan refugees in Wisconsin. It is our goal to get a "carpet" of clothing donated and placed in the sanctuary as the live nativity is in the front of the sanctuary. Sunday December 12 – 8:30 and 10:45 AM **Christmas pageant** at the morning's two services in the sanctuary

Saturday, December 18 – TBD Christmas **Caroling** at area nursing homes Sunday December 19 – 8:30 and 10:45 AM All-Choir Sunday at the morning's two services in the Sanctuary.

Month of December – Christmas "baskets" assembled by families and delivered to our

elderly church population. Jan 21-23 – Winter Camp Friday (3:30 PM) – Sunday (return by 1 PM) All-Conference youth winter camp at camp Lake Lucerne Jan – TBD – Chili cook-off 🕅



and game night

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Contact: Peg Heinen, 414-419-3270 pegheinen@yahoo.com There will be no December crafting Saturday. See you on January 15 at 9:00 AM!

DICIPLESHIP MINISTRY

Janet Ray, JanetR@ec-umc.com ADULT DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES Drop in whenever you can for whatever interests you!

Sun. Community Quest, 9:30-10:30 AM > Wired Word: Current Events and the Bible > Looking at the Bible: Topical Series *Community Quest groups meet on December 5 but then are in recess until*

January 9.

Weekday Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10 AM – Fellowship Hall Fridays, 10 AM via Zoom Contact Janet or Church office for link. Weekdav Bible Studies will be in recess from December 25–January 12.

NEW OPPORTUNITY

Call for Congregational Care Volunteers

Pastor Jerome is seeking help from the congregation to form a Congregational Care Team (separate from, but parallel to, the current Community Care Team) to support the pastoral care ministry. The main role of this team would be to help connect individuals and families (not including our homebound folks) with pastors when they have an immediate need for pastoral care (healing, prayers, sacraments, private counseling, visits, and any other relevant needs). Normally this would fall under pastoral ministry, but the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that many people unintentionally fall through the cracks,

especially when our normal ways of communicating and interacting with each other are unavailable.

We need at least 10 volunteers to begin. We hope that those of you who are called to ministries of service, care, and connections will come forward to start this ministry. Please email Pastor Jerome Sahabandhu JeromeS@ec-umc.com or give him a call if you are interested. This will be a great way to support the pastors' ministry by reaching out where pastors are most needed in the community.

Thank you, Pastor Jerome Sahabandhu

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Contact: Karen Burzinski, Karenb@ec-umc.com **Christmas Program Dates to Remember:**

Sunday, November 28 – Music Rehearsal 9:30 AM in the Music Room

Sunday, December 5 – Rehearsal on stage 9:30 AM in the Music Room

Saturday, December 11 - Dress Rehearsal 9:00-11:00 AM

Sunday, December 12 – Christmas Program 8:30 & 10:45 in the Sanctuary. Please make every effort to allow your children to participate in both services. Children will have a quiet Sunday school period with a healthy snack and time to unwind before the second service.

Upcoming Sunday School Schedule:

Following Christmas Program Music Rehearsals

November 28 through December 12 – Preschool through 5th grade children will "Find Faith in the Story of the Grinch" during Sunday school in Jesus' Place and Fellowship Hall. Adults are welcome to attend and build on the curriculum offered in their own Grinchy CQ study on Thursday mornings during Advent.

December 19 - Sing at both services for All-Choir Sunday and enjoy fabulous fellowship and Christmas goodies in Celebration Hall between services.

December 26 and January 2 – One service at 9:00 AM. The Nursery will be open for preschool children. Sunday school will not be offered.

..... All *Pathways* announcements are due to the office by the 15th of the month prior. If you **do not** wish to receive *Pathways* via postal service, please inform the office (262-251-3830 or Church@ec-umc.com)

262-251-3830 Church@ec-umc.com Hours: Monday-Thursday 9 AM - 1 PM

CHURCH OFFICE





Jubilee Scholarship Update: Wonderful News!

We met and exceeded our goal of \$4,500 to be matched by the ECUMC Endowment fund. As of Monday, November 15, \$5,485 had been donated to the Jubilee Scholarship Fund. In addition, the Finance Committee has approved a withdrawal of \$4,275 from the Colgate Zion Scholarship Fund Account (the capital gains accrued in that fund created by former Zion UMC members) to be added to the Jubilee Scholarship Fund.

This means we will have a total of thirteen (13) \$1,000 scholarships to be

awarded to local students who might otherwise be unable to move forward with their education after high school. These scholarships will be awarded to seniors next spring. Thank you to all for this blessing to our community youth!

YAHAS (Young at Heart & Spirit)

ECUMC member Judy Newman will share the **Origins of the Christmas Tree** at noon on Thursday, December 16. We'll also craft an ornament to take home. Dues: \$2

Books Between Bites-NEW TIME

The women's book group will meet on Friday, December 17 at 1 PM in the back room of Ally's Bistro on Good Hope Ave. Our December book is *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. Join us!



Luke 2:6-7 While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the hostel. (The Message)

Virgin and Child Roberto Ferruzzi 1897

CHURCH LEADERS-Email addresses

Church Office church@ec.com Pastor Rev. Jerome Sahabandhu..... JeromeS@ec-umc.com **AV-Tech Ministries** David Rohr.....tech@ec-umc.com **Children's Ministries** Karen Burzinski KarenB@ec-umc.com Jeannie Berrall.....Jeannieberrall@gmail.com **Church Council Chair** Anne Weiland AWeiland5@gmail.com **Director of Senior Community Care** and Visitation Rev. Sean CornellSeanC@ec-umc.com **Discipleship Ministries** Janet Ray.......JanetR@ec-umc.com Finance Don Morell morell.don@sbcglobal.net Al Karnath.....akarnath@wi.rr.com **Financial Stewardship** Matt Kons kons22@yahoo.com **Green Team Ministry Intergenerational Ministries** Angie SardinaAngieS@ec-umc.com Annette Neinas annetteneinas@gmail.com **Kitchen Klub** Marketing Ministry and Foundation President Rob Tack...... Tack.Robert@gmail.com **Memorial Committee** Karen Kronschnabl.....kronygike@aol.com **Missions Ministries** Tom Petersontlpeterson@milwpc.com **Music Ministries** Ellen Follmann EFollmann@ameritech.net Nominations and Lay Development Anne Weiland AWeiland5@gmail.com Prayer Ministry Team Pastor Jerome JeromeS@ec-umc.com Pat Brandt.....bbrandt5@wi.rr.com **Reconciling Group** Kelly Kons...... kons22@yahoo.com Staff Parish Relations Committee Chair (SPRC) Deb Prickett debprickett@gmail.com **Trustee Chair** Gary Morganmorgan23@charter.net Women's Ministries Peg Heinen.....pegheinen@yahoo.com **Worship Ministries** Judy Newman.....newman9641@aol.com Rosie Jashinskyjashinskyjar@aol.com Youth Ministries Bill FollmannBillF@ec-umc.com Patty Buchholtz.....pbuchhol@hotmail.com



An advent prayer dedicated to the Rohingya refugees of Myanmar

Prayer of a Refugee Mother by Jerome Sahabandhu

God of compassion, How can we forget? Our home, our rice fields, our chili stocks, Our wells and our Palmyra, Our coconuts. They are our friends. How can we forget our neighbors, butterflies and birds? Our creeks and our sun and our moon.

O God of compassion, Why did we have to flee brutally, leaving all behind? Why, compassionate God, Did we become forsaken?

God of compassion, Tell my daughter to cry, I am worried that she may die. I do not have milk, black tea or coriander To offer her tonight. What worth do I have if she leaves me? Only hope of mine.

O God of compassion, Come like a light. Come to my mess, come to my Galilea. Come to my tent, come to my life, come to my daughters, come to my sons. O compassionate Word, come into my flesh. Come in our misery, lighten my night. Amen.

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CONTACT THE PASTORS

Pastor Jerome Sahabandhu Lead Pastor

JeromeS@ec-umc.com

262-251-3830

Pastor Sean Cornell **Community Care Director** 262-853-9895 SeanC@ec-umc.com Please reach out if you need pastoral care (in person or remotely). We want to help.

Mother Carrying Child on her Back (Mujer cargando un niño en la espalda), Jean Charlot, 1934.



CHRIST our HOPE

Advent - Christmas - New Year's at ECUMC

Advent Small Group Study - Thursdays, Dec. 2, 9, 16, and 23

The Heart that Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch

Thursday mornings at 7:30–8:00 AM or 10–11:00 AM via Zoom - Come to any or all! Join us and prepare YOUR heart for the Incarnation. Watch weekly eNews for zoom link.

Women's Christmas Service - Friday, Dec. 3, Sanctuary at 7:00 PM

Pausing for Advent: An Evening of Reflection for Women, presented by Women's Ministries Team

Walk-Thru Christmas - Saturday, Dec. 4, 5:30-7:30 PM

Open House with Cookie Walk, keepsake craft, sing-along, Santa visit, gift-making kits, and more. Adults, children, family & friends are welcome!

Christmas Pageant - Sunday, Dec. 12, Sanctuary at 8:30 and 10:45 AM

Costumed children and youth lead our worship time. A favorite service for members and guests!

All-Choir Sunday - Sunday, Dec. 19, Sanctuary at 8:30 and 10:45 AM

Celebrate the birth of our Savior with ECUMC Choirs and Handbell ensembles. Invite others!

Christmas Eve Services – Friday, Dec. 24

- Traditional service in the Sanctuary at 1:00 PM and 7:00 PM
- Interactive service in Celebration Hall at 4:00 PM

All-Church Prayer Meeting - Wednesday, Jan. 5 at 6:30 PM

We gather to pray for New Year blessings. Watch weekly eNews for zoom link.

Pray, Participate, and Be Blessed !



2021	Friday Saturday	December 03 December 04 10 AM Bible Study	7 PM Women's Advent 5:30-7:30 PM Walk- Service Open House	10 AM Bible Study Pageant Dress Rehearsal	17 18 10 AM Bible Study 1 PM Books Between Bites – off-site	24 CHERISTMAS EVE 25 CHRISTMAS EVE 26 Church Office Closed 1 1 PM Worship- Sanctuary Blessed 4 PM Worship- Sanctuary Celebration Hall 7 PM Worship- Sanctuary Celebration Hall	31 January 1 NeW YEAR'S DAY No Bible Study
December	Thursday Fri	December 02 Dec 7:30 AM Advent study 10 A	6 PM Women's Choir 7 Ph 6:30 PM Men's Choir Serv 7 PM Chancel Choir	09 10 7:30 AM Advent study 10AM Advent study 10 / 6 PM Men's Choir 7:30 PM Chancel Choir 6:30 PM Charge Conference via Zoom	16 17 7:30 AM Advent study 10 / 10 AM Advent study 10 / 12 PM YAHAS 10 / 6 PM Women's Choir 1 Ph 6:30 PM Men's Choir Bii 7 PM Chancel Choir Bii	23 24 7:30 AM Advent study 24 7:30 AM Advent study CHR 10 AM Advent study Chur 6 PM Men's Choir 1 PN 6:30 Women's Choir 4 PN 7 PM Chancel Choir 7 PN	30 31 No No 7 PM Chancel Choir
	Wednesday	December 01 10 AM Bible Study	6:30 PM Prayer group 7 PM Women's Book Study	08 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Prayer group	15 8 AM Pathways deadline 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Prayer group	22 10 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Prayer group	29 No Bible Study 6:30 PM Prayer group
	Tuesday	Nov. 30	1:30 PM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Spirit Ringers	07 1:30 PM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Spirit Ringers 6:30 PM Trustees	14 1:30 PM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Spirit Ringers	21 1:30 PM Staff meeting 6:30 PM Spirit Ringers	28
	Monday	Nov. 29		06 9 AM Sew & Sews 6:15 PM Ministry Teams via Zoom	13 7 PM Finance Mtg	20	27
2021	Sunday	Nov. 28 <i>HOPE</i> 8:30 Worship - Celebration Hall 9:30 Sunday School/Community Quest	10:45 Worship - Sanctuary 5:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Crossroads/Tribe youth groups	05 FAUTH 8:30 Worship-Celebration Hall 9:30 Sunday School/Community Quest 9:30 Sunday School/Community Quest 10:45 Worship-Sanctuary 5:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Crossroads/Tribe youth groups	12 JOY 8:30 Christmas Pageant - Sanctuary 9:30 Sunday School (children/youth) 9:30 Adult Fellowship w/pastor 10:45 Christmas Pageant – Sanctuary 5:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Crossroads/Tribe youth groups	19 PEACE 8:30 All-Choir Service - Sanctuary 9:30 Fellowship time 9:30 Fellowship time 10:45 All-Choir Service - Sanctuary 10:45 All-Choir Service - Sanctuary 5:30 PM Confirmation 5:30 PM Crossroads/Tribe youth groups 6:30 PM Crossroads/Tribe youth groups	26 9:00 Worship-Sanctuary