



EMANUEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
16 EASTERN RD. DOYLESTOWN, OH 44230  
WWW.EMANUELHIGHCHURCH.ORG  
330-658-2301 - EMANUELUCC@OHIO.NET  
REV. GAYE SANTORO, DESIGNATED PASTOR

## March 2014

Greetings  
from **PASTOR GAYE**

Dear Friends,

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, and concludes 40 days later on Holy Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The six Sundays in Lent are not counted among the forty days of Lent because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter", a celebration of Jesus' victory over sin and death.

During Lent, we remember that God gave the world Jesus, and Jesus gave us his life. While many people may think of Lent as a somber time to "give up" things, we might better see it as a time to give back... our hearts, our lives, and our gifts in response to God's own gracious generosity in our lives.

Lent is a time when we are called to self-reflection and to intentional acts that draw us closer to God. The theme we have chosen for Lent this year is **"Don't Give Up, Give Back!"**

**There are several ways you are invited to participate in this holy season.**

### **Wednesday Nights:**

**Ash Wednesday** service will be held at 7:00pm on March 5<sup>th</sup>. Along with the traditional celebration of imposing ashes, we will be adding a "Burning Bowl" ceremony where we will release those things that are barring our way to a close relationship with God.

**Give Back Wednesdays** will meet at 6:30 in fellowship hall. These events are geared for the entire family to do together, and are a great way to teach your children or grandchildren the lessons of giving of oneself through hands-on service to the community. We will begin with a short simple meal and then work together on a project that serves our neighbors. (See the mission article for details on each Wednesday's project)

### **Sunday Mornings:**

Join us at 9:15am on four Sundays for based on the movie *Son of God*. Each week, we will view a short video clip from the movie and then discuss an aspect of who Christ was and is to the world. You don't need to have seen the movie to attend the class. Topics will be...

March 9: The Savior of the World  
March 16: The Son of God  
March 23: The Man of Sorrows  
March 30: The Lamb of God

### **Maundy Thursday:**

**A Living Last Supper** service will be held on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. It will be a combination of traditional music, video, and dramatic reading along with communion. This is a service you will truly not want to miss as we close out the season of Lent and prepare our hearts for the resurrection of Christ on Easter morning!

### **On Your Own:**

Pick up an **"Upper Room" Devotional** outside the office door and use Lent to start a habit of daily devotional reading. Another resource is the weekly "Taking Faith Home" bulletin insert.

May we grow closer to Christ and one another during this Holy season.

Blessings,

*Pastor Gaye*

# JANUARY 2014 WEEKLY OFFERINGS & ATTENDANCE

DATE	WEEKLY OFFERING (budget) / (church)	ATTENDANCE TOTALS
Jan. 5, 2014	\$ 2,640.00 / \$ 2,149.00	77
Jan. 12, 2014	\$ 2,640.00 / \$ 1,945.00	66
Jan. 19, 2014	\$ 2,640.00 / \$ 2,676.00	90
Jan. 26, 2014	\$ 2,640.00 / \$ 1,316.00	54
Total Attendance - January		287
Total Offerings - January	\$10,560.00 / \$ 8,086.00	
Weekly Averages - January	Weekly avg. \$ 2,021.50 \$ - 618.50 per week \$ - 2,474.00 for the month	Average weekly attendance for January - 72
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	Weekly offerings \$ - 2,474.00 for the year	Average attendance per week for the year - 72

	<b>2013</b>			<b>2014</b>		
	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>		<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	
<b>January</b>	\$ 12,046.53	\$ 11,389.82	+ 656.71	\$ 9,161.00	\$ 14,546.84	- 5,385.84
<b>February</b>	\$ 14,588.28	\$ 12,219.07	+ 2,369.21	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>March</b>	\$ 19,416.84	\$ 11,762.60	+ 7,654.24	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>April</b>	\$ 10,591.43	\$ 10,366.39	+ 225.04	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>May</b>	\$ 13,684.08	\$ 10,409.81	+ 3,274.27	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>June</b>	\$ 16,061.13	\$ 6,055.31	+10,005.82	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>July</b>	\$ 10,033.83	\$ 10,734.65	- 700.82	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>August</b>	\$ 11,148.31	\$ 7,156.79	+ 3,991.52	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>September</b>	\$ 14,838.55	\$ 14,171.26	+ 667.29	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>October</b>	\$ 21,335.83	\$ 15,160.48	+ 6,175.35	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>November</b>	\$ 12,772.40	\$ 7,828.63	+ 4,943.77	\$ 0.00	0.00	
<b>December</b>	\$ 13,916.80	\$ 15,521.74	- 1,604.94	\$ 0.00	0.00	

*Andrea S. Sammons, Church Treasurer*

## A POWERFUL TRANSFORMATIVE RITUAL FOR LENT: THE BURNING BOWL CEREMONY

The late great American minister and author Dr. Norman Vincent Peale once wrote, 'There is a spiritual giant within you, which is always struggling to burst its way out of the prison you have made for it.' That spiritual giant is a power—a potentiality—of which perhaps you are not even aware. This power can, however, remake you in every way. Call it God or the spirit of life, or Being itself, there is an almighty power and presence that is capable of making *all* things new. That power and presence can indeed recreate each one of us in mind and body, and fill us with new life. It can even transform our whole world!



Life is, or at least ought to be, a continual process of 'letting go and letting be'. There is a certain 'rhythm' to life and Nature, and that rhythm is one of ... letting go ... and letting be. Yes, letting go in Lent so that 'new life' may resurrect at Easter. As we approach Lent, I ask you this—'How willing are you—and I—to let go of all that is holding us back?' I am thinking especially of bad habits, addictions, negative thoughts and emotions, and unhealthy relationships. You see, most of us resist change, largely because we fear it, but also because change—real, meaningful change in our lives—is never easy. We make so many excuses for letting go of what is bad for us. We even say, 'I can't change. That's just the way I am' Rubbish! That is nonsense. The way you are now may well be the way you have been for quite some time but in truth it is not the real person that you are. Actually, each of us is changing all the time. The problem is that as soon as we see we *have* changed (shock, horror!) we tend to revert quickly to our old selves, because that feels safer and more secure. But is it *really* good for us? You know the answer to that.

Now, there is a transformative ritual known as the 'Burning Bowl Ceremony.' The performance of this ritual helps us to let go of old hurts, grudges, resentments, regrets and suffering, indeed, to relinquish anything that is separating us from God, ourselves and one another and which we wish to relinquish.

In most religions, fire is a symbol of purification and transformation—and power! In the Burning Bowl Ceremony you write down on a small piece of paper whatever it is—it may be more than one thing—that you want to be free of. The act of writing down what you want gone from your life is a *very* important part of the letting go process—indeed, there is great power in so doing. Then spend a moment or two in quiet prayer by way of personal commitment and surrender. If there is anything else holding you back—there almost always will be, you know—become aware of what it is, and let that go as well. Now set alight your piece of paper, and quickly drop the paper into the burning bowl.

Saint Paul wrote, 'be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind' (Rom 12: 2). That is what the Burning Bowl Ceremony is all about—transformation and new life. It all begins in the mind. May this Lenten season be a time of real, meaningful spiritual growth for you.

## CONSISTORY MINUTES– January 14, 2014

**Present:** Carl Hummel, Andrea Sammons, Amy Wagner, Pastor Gaye, Ralph Lengacher, Cara Beth Richardson, Helen Tritt, David Cial, Rachael Weigand, Jean Holden, Tom Blanar, Cheri Nemes

**Absent:** Karen Foster, Chris Formet

**Correspondence:** none

**Secretary's Report:** was reviewed and accepted. Special consistory meeting minutes from Jan.5<sup>th</sup> were reviewed and accepted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer's report was reviewed and accepted.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- Pastor Gaye was pleased with the retreat over the weekend.
- She is focusing on visiting shut-ins from the church. She is visiting the Deans next week.
- She is also planning to meet with the Doylestown Ministerial Association and other Area UCC churches.

### **Old Business:**

- The Consistory reviewed the by-law changes to the Pastoral Relations committee (amendment F) and the addition of the Ad-Hoc calling committee (amendment G). These changes will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting on Jan.26<sup>th</sup>.
- The nominating committee has presented the names Cheri Nemes and Forrest Swain to fill the consistory positions from Cara Beth Richardson and Tom Blanar.
- Computer update- There has been discussion about getting a new computer for the worship service. Tom Blanar and Pastor Gaye will be researching a new computer.

### **New Business:**

- The consistory is looking to divide the jobs for the Feb.22<sup>nd</sup> Swiss steak dinner. Several consistory members have volunteered to chair different jobs for the Swiss Steak Dinner. Helen Tritt is looking for someone to run the bake sale to benefit the building fund.
- The Weekly Lenten services will be reinstated this year. The meal will begin at 6:30 and the format for the program is under discussion.
- The consistory Farewell dinner will be in March and it is being planned by Cara Beth Richardson.

### **Standing Committees:**

- **Stewardship & Missions, Evangelism, Music:** Did not meet
- **Christian Education:** Checking date with the Doylestown park for summer dates for the church picnic. The committee did not meet.
- **Property**
  - The wheelchair ramp for the front doors has been placed by the umbrella stand each Sunday.
  - Check into installing a spot in the back door of the basement.
- **Pastoral Relations:** Carl Hummel is new on this Committee. Kenny Sutton is going off the Pastoral relations committee. March will be the first quarterly meeting
- **Elders:** Have to replace 6 people on the Elder committee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Tritt, Secretary

## Sunday School Weekly Averages

	<b>Attendance *</b>	<b>Offering *</b>
Winter Quarter Average	9	\$ 8.15
Spring Quarter Average	14	\$ 14.00
Summer Quarter Average	12	\$ 11.80
Fall Quarter Average	12	\$ 11.00
<b>2013 Weekly Average</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$ 11.25</b>

\* Adult class attendance/offering only

### Another successful Swiss Steak Supper

We served:

315 adults  
3 children  
50 carry-outs

for a total of 368 dinners.

Our Bake sale made \$220 &  
the supper \$1513.

Thanks to all who volunteered  
to make this dinner a success!

## What does stewardship mean to you?

By: Grace Duddy and Chick Lane

Before I began working at the Ohio Presbyterian Retirement Foundation about a dozen years ago, I really had no idea what the word “stewardship” really meant, even though I have been in the church all of my life. There I learned that this word has a deep faith-filled meaning. I love the quote, “**Stewardship is everything you do after you say ‘I believe.’**”



Stewardship is an act of gracious discipleship founded upon the premise that all that we have and all that we are, belongs to God. We are to be good managers of all that God has entrusted to our care. When stewardship is looked at in a healthy way, taking into account all of what God has entrusted to our care, we feel much more excited to participate. This sort of stewardship invites us to look at all that they have—**time, talents and treasure**—be grateful to God... and learn how we might share these gifts with our neighbors.

I'm amazed at the number of people for whom stewardship is a code word that means, “What the church does to try to get some of my money from my pocket into the offering plate.” That is amazing, because it is exactly the opposite of how the Bible defines stewardship. Stewardship begins with an understanding that everything belongs to God, and God has entrusted some of what is God's into our care. That caring is stewardship.

One encouraging sign in the changing church is that people are starting to get this new/old way of thinking about stewardship. It isn't about the church getting enough money to pay the bills. **It is about how I, as a follower of Jesus, integrate all of life with my faith.**

### MISSIONS

On February 16th, we had a Blanket Sunday fashion show. The kids did a great job; thanks a lot! A special Thank You to all who gave; \$462.30 was collected to aid Church World Services.

Change for Change on March 16th - Money collected will be used to purchase food & items needed for our “Don't Give Up; Give Back” Lenten community service projects.



Over 50 Fellowship is still on winter break.

**AWE (After Worship Eaters)** will be gathering Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at Fa-Ray's. Please have your reservation to Jean G. by Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP** for 2014 is now available in the narthex. Honor or remember your loved ones' special day. Arrangements are now \$20. Details can be found next to the poster.

**THANK YOU** to Forrest Swain for the high faucets in the kitchen.

### Don't Give Up; Give back!

Starting Lent, we will have our Ash Wednesday service on March 5th. Usually we give something up for Lent. This year, we will be giving back. We are organizing Wednesday night community service projects for the whole family to participate in. We'll be meeting at Emanuel at 6:30PM for a simple meal and then go to the following “Give Back” opportunities:

**March 12:** Doylestown United Methodist to pack boxes at the Food Pantry.

**March 19:** We'll be putting together crockpot freezer meals for our shut-ins.

**March 26:** Singing, ringing, & visiting our shut-ins.

**April 2:** Trinity North Hill - painting their youth room

**April 9:** Spring cleaning at Emanuel

**Join us for a great time of fellowship.  
Hope to see you!**



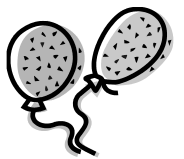
**Church Office Hours**  
 Rev. Gaye Santoro, Pastor Tues. thru Thursday: 9 am - noon  
 May Sweet, Secretary Tuesday thru Thursday: 9 am - noon  
*In case of an emergency, you may contact  
 Rev. Santoro at home (330) 807-9201.*

**SUN                      MON                      TUE                      WED                      THU                      FRI                      SAT**

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Sunday Schedule</u></p> <p>9:15 am <u>Son of God</u> Pastor-led Bible Study</p> <p>10:30 am Worship (Kids Sunday School during worship)</p>			<p>Doylestown Pantry Item of the Month: Canned tuna, chicken, other meats</p>	<p><b>Upcoming Events:</b> Palm Sunday April 13</p> <p>Maundy Thursday April 17 7PM</p> <p>Easter April 20</p>		<p>1</p>
<p>2 <b>Worship 10:30am</b> Communion  Transfiguration Sunday</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4  Pastoral Relations 7PM</p>	<p>5   <b>ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7PM</b></p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 <u>Son of God</u> Bible Study 9:15am <b>Worship 10:30am</b>  </p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11  Consistory 7PM</p>	<p>12 <b>Don't Give Up- Give Back!</b> <b>6:30PM</b> <b>@ Emanuel</b>  Food pantry packing</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 <u>Son of God</u> Bible Study 9:15am <b>Worship 10:30am</b> Change for Change AWE - Fa-Rays</p>	<p>17  </p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 <b>Don't Give Up- Give Back!</b> <b>6:30PM</b> <b>@ Emanuel</b>  Crockpot meals</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 Bible Study 9:15am <b>Worship 10:30am</b>  Pastor - Out of town →</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25  Elders 7PM  <b>* Newsletter Deadline</b></p>	<p>26 <b>Don't Give Up- Give Back!</b> <b>6:30PM</b> <b>@ Emanuel</b>  Visit shut-ins (Sing &amp; ring)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 Bible Study 9:15am <b>Worship 10:30am</b></p>						



# Birthdays & Anniversaries



16 Wesley & Barbara Randolph  
 21 Robert & Lynda Rutherford  
 30 Jon & Sara Skuza

- |                    |                   |                       |                      |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Greg Foster      | 7 Jill Sutton     | 19 Tom Henderson, Jr. | 28 Corrinne Foster   |
| 2 Randy Richardson | 8 Matthew Perry   | 21 Melody King        | 29 Virginia McCallum |
| 4 Paul Cordray     | 11 Nathan Miller  | 22 Callie Weyand      | 31 Micah Sutton      |
| 5 Nancy Perry      | 16 Claire Hageman | Claire Weyand         |                      |
| 6 Marge LaRoche    | 18 Izzac Dean     | 25 Bertha Himelrigh   |                      |
| 7 Donald Baker     | Randy Huckriede   | 27 Lisa Blythe        |                      |
| 8 Lois Nedrow      | Geraldine Wagner  | Nancy Breitenstine    |                      |
| 9 Kenny Sutton     |                   | Suranjan Shome        |                      |

### UPDATES NEEDED!

Please inform the office of your change of address, phone number, & email. We'd like to know your birthday &/or anniversary to share with our church family. Current info is needed for the annual address directory.

Thanks!

**LITURGISTS NEEDED:** Please inform the office if you would be willing to be liturgist on June 29 and/or Dec. 28th. Thank you!

#### Liturgist

March 2: Marge La Roche

March 9: Julie Huckriede

March 16: Josie Robison

March 23: Val Cordray

March 30: Cara Beth Richardson

#### Acolyte

March 2: Ava Sammons

March 9: Cory Kather

March 16: Hope Hageman

March 23: Jaime Sammons

March 30: Josie Robison

EMANUEL U.C.C.  
16 Eastern Road  
Doylestown, OH 44230



Evelyn Burroway

Claude Casey

Nancy Dean

Greg Foster

Janet Holvey

Dave Jacobs

Ginny McCallum

Sherrill Minor

Paul & Shirley Poetter

Jim Reinhold

Family of Evelyn Fry

Beckett Family

Renee Bracken Wiggins

Lois Cardinal

Doug Casey

Johnny Crowell

Susan Cullman

Frank Donor

Randy Lyons

Helen Marshall

Kevin Mienke

Karen Minor

Hannah & Brandi Mooney

Madge Regallis

Sam

Hanna Scott

Kristen Voiles

Kathi & Carl Weaver

Betty Zehe