



# Bell Ringer



Emmanuel Reformed Church

November/December 2011

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Dear Members & Friends,

Listening to the weather report the other day, the weather man uttered that four-letter "S" word in the upcoming forecast! It doesn't seem possible that the snow and cold of winter are already on their way, yet in just about four weeks, it will be Thanksgiving and we'll soon begin preparing for Christmas as well. Time goes so quickly and the New Year will be here before we know it and there's so much to celebrate and do in the days ahead.

All Saints' Day – November 1<sup>st</sup>; Election Day – November 8<sup>th</sup>; Veterans' Day – November 11<sup>th</sup>; Consecration Sunday and Brunch – November 13<sup>th</sup>; Thanksgiving – November 24<sup>th</sup>; the annual Congregational Meeting – December 4<sup>th</sup>! So many important days to celebrate in the months ahead!

While Election Day and the Congregational Meeting mark the opportunity for us to do our part in selecting those who will lead us in the months and years ahead, Consecration Sunday marks the opportunity to dedicate ourselves and our gifts to serving Christ and his Church.

Since the month of November is typically celebrated as a time of thanksgiving, as you prepare for your celebration later this month, take the time to "count your many blessings" and give thanks to God and our Lord Jesus Christ for all that you've received. I invite all of you to join the other members of our local Christian community for our Cooperative Christian Ministries of Schodack Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service to be held at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church. As a community of believers, we share an important ministry through the Anchor!

I also want to remind you of the upcoming Congregational Meeting for the presentation of the 2012 budget and the election of elders and deacons which will be held following morning worship on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. As the Stewardship and Finance, Benevolence and Investment Committees remind us, increasing expenses make preparing a balanced budget extremely challenging. We each have an important role to play in making it possible to balance the budget and make it possible to continue spreading the good news of God's love and Christ's salvation.

Finally, a reminder that, with Thanksgiving less than a month away, Christmas is also on it's way. Our preparations for Christmas begin on the first Sunday of Advent which is November 27<sup>th</sup> this year. We hope to celebrate the beginning of Advent with a time to gather as a church family to make Advent wreaths for each family to use in their homes as they prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birth. We are looking for someone willing to serve as a coordinator to work with me on making this event happen! We're also looking for someone to coordinate the Living Nativity which is scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup>. If you'd be willing to help, please let Linda or me know.

We'll celebrate the coming of Christ with various Advent activities listed below and conclude with our Christmas Eve services at 7:30 and 11:00 p.m. and a Christmas morning service at 10:30 a.m.! Finally, we'll begin the New Year with a special service at 10:30 a.m.! Remember that, through it all, ***"Jesus is the reason for the season!"***

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
**Consistory will meet Tuesday**  
**November 8th and December 13th**  
**at 7:00 p.m.**

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Roger A. Krutz  
Pastor

**Emmanuel Reformed Church**

1150 Maple Hill Road  
 Castleton, NY 12033  
 Phone: (518) 732-7766  
 e-mail: [erc@nycap.rr.com](mailto:erc@nycap.rr.com)  
 website: [www.ercrca.org](http://www.ercrca.org)  
 Rev. Roger A. Krutz

**2011 ERC CONTACT LIST**

(call the office or refer to the directory for phone numbers.)

**Consistory**

Rev. Roger Krutz	Pastor, President
Roland Ferris	Elder, Treas., Finance, Property, CCMS
Mary Weijola	Sr. Deacon, Clerk, Nurture, Outreach
Judy Auger	Deacon, Outreach, Missions
Rhonda Van De Wal	Deacon, Nurture, Finance, Outreach
Linda Adams	Deacon, Nurture, Outreach
Bill Fink	Deacon, Property
Joan Harris	Deacon,
Wesley Van Ort	Elder, Asst. Treas., Finance
Terry Valentine	Elder, Day Care, Nurture
David Spink	Elder, Missions, Property
Abbe' Renslow	Elder, Nurture, Past VP
Paul Erkinen	Elder, VP, Finance, Classis Rep

**Additional Contacts**

Linda Baker	Financial Administrator/Secretary
Rose Ann Ferris	Christian Education Coordinator
Ruth MacKenzie	Organist
Rick Fairchild	Choir Director
Eleanor Young	Custodian
Amy Bielinski	Director, Happy Kids Day Care
Fran Schouten	Memorial Fund
Arline Taylor	Golden Memory Book
Jane Fairchild	Altar Flowers

**SCRIPTURE VERSE - 2 Corinthians 3:18**

We, who with unveiled faces reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

**HOMEBOUND ADDRESSES**

**Ella Parmelee** Barnwell Nursing Home, 3230 Church St.,  
 Valatie, NY 12184, 758-6222

**Earl Ennis, Howard Grogan & Ray Hempstead**  
 Evergreen Commons, 1070 Luther Rd. E. Greenbush, NY  
 12061

**Raymond Gietz**, Sunnyside Care Ctr., 7000 Collamer Rd.,  
 E. Syracuse, NY 13057

**Gladys Mutterer** Van Rensselaer Manor,  
 85 Bloominggrove Dr, Troy, NY 12180

**Mary Bol** Resurrection Nursing Home, 90 N. Main St.,  
 Castleton, NY 12033

**NEWSLETTER MAILING**

In an effort to save on mailing costs we are compiling an e-mail list for those who wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail and forgo the paper copy. Please contact the office at [erc@nycap.rr.com](mailto:erc@nycap.rr.com) to make sure we have an updated e-mail address for you. Paper copies will be put out in the narthex for pick-up and the remaining mailed first class to those who wish to receive them.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY****November Birthdays**

Ed Gharzouzi	2	Sue Hepfer	3
Debbie Phibbs	6	Ian Walling	13
John Tashjian	17	Jane Fairchild	18
Barbara Calabrese	18	Bonnie Sue Gwynn	18
Julie McPhilomy	20	Benjamin Tacy	21
Shirley Crandall	22	Kylie Salerno	22
Adam MacIntosh	30	Joan Crowe	30

**December Birthdays**

Robert Bolt	2	Sandy Burns	3
Marge Hotaling	7	Debbie Walling	8
Trevin Peterson	8	Nicole Cassidy	11
Susie Van De Wal	12	Lisa Beerle	14
Lori Shortsleeve	16	Scott McKnight	18
Emily MacIntosh	21	Jan Ammerman	26
Al Deresienski	26	Lucas Ayer	26
David Harris Jr.	27	Sue Erkinen	29
Clifford Southworth Jr.	30		

**THANK YOU!!**

- ▶ to those who have taken care of the outside grounds - both the lawn and the gardens.
- ▶ to all who have provided special fix-its throughout the building.
- ▶ to Eleanor Young for obtaining the room dividers for us.
- ▶ Roland Ferris for building the stands for the newly acquired dividers.

**Healing Service**

Sunday, November 20th, will be the date of our next special service of prayer and anointing for healing. The service is held at 9:50 a.m. between the two regular services. Anyone wishing special prayer or anointing is invited to attend.

**HOMESPUN TREASURES SALE  
(BAKE SALE AND LIGHT LUNCH, too!)**

On Saturday, Nov. 5 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., Emmanuel will be hosting a used treasures sale, bake sale and light lunch. This is an opportunity to clean out all those unwanted treasures that have been taking up space and bring some new treasures home, get some home baked goods for dessert and enjoy a light lunch before or after you shop.

Help will be needed to set up, clean up, provide baked items, make chili/soup, help serve lunch, et cetera. Someone is also needed to head up the ERC items table. Please speak with Linda Adams or Tracy Leahon for details.

The Girl Scouts will be providing child care for those who are interested in being a vendor or shopping without the kids tagging along.

## CONSECRATION SUNDAY

November 13, 2011

A brunch will be served between services on Sunday, November 13 to celebrate the giving of our talents and gifts to God for the coming year. Please plan on worshipping with us either before or after the brunch and bringing your commitment cards with you to offer to God. A sign up for the brunch is be posted or you can call the church office to let us know how many will attend and what dish you can bring to share.

## ROAST PORK DINNER

Saturday, November 19, 2011

4:30 and 6:00 p.m.

Our Roast Pork Dinner is not to be missed! The dinner will include vegetables, mashed potatoes, applesauce, rolls and pie for dessert, all for only \$10. Reservations to eat in or take out can be made by calling 732-7766.

Please sign up to help at the dinner or to make pies. Sign up charts are posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Homemade apple and pumpkin pies are needed.

**THANKSGIVING BASKETS** for The Anchor will be packed on **Tuesday, Nov.15. at 10:00 a.m.** Standard Thanksgiving items are needed by Nov. 15 (boxed stuffing, canned gravy, cranberry sauce, and \$10 gift cards so that people can purchase a turkey). Volunteers to help pack the baskets at The Anchor are also needed. The Anchor is located in the basement of Trinity Lutheran Church located on Green Ave. in Castleton.

## CCMS THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

November 20 at 4:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart

Plan to worship as a community of believers as we come together to give thanks for our many blessings. Please bring non-perishable food items for The Anchor.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our annual meeting to approve the 2012 budget and elect elders and deacons for the coming year will be held on Sunday, December 4 at 10:00 a.m. Please plan to attend either after the 8:45 a.m. or before the 10:30 a.m. worship. A special visit from St. Nicholas will take place for the children.

## ADVENT WREATH MAKING

Please let the church office know if you are interested in making an advent wreath during our first advent activity on November 27. The activity will begin at 4:00 p.m. and include a light supper.



## ADVENT ACTIVITIES

Sunday, November 27th, marks the beginning of Advent – the four Sundays leading up to our celebration of Jesus' birth on Christmas! In the Church Calendar, Advent marks the beginning of a new liturgical year, as we consider again God's promise to send a Savior and how the Child born on Christmas grew and offered himself as a sacrifice for the sins of all people.

What better way than to come together as a church family of all ages during our inter-generational activities. Below is a list of what we are doing on the four Sunday's

of Advent. Please plan to attend these special times with your family.

**This year, our Advent activities will include:**

- 11/27 4:00 p.m. Advent Wreath Making with Light Supper
- 12/4 10:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting/visit from St. Nicholas for the kids.
- 12/11 11:30 a.m. Cookie Baking, Decorating, and Potluck Lunch
- 12/17 7:00 & 7:45 p.m. - Living Nativity.
- 12/18 10:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Program, Pizza and Caroling to the homebound

**COOKIE DOUGH** is needed for baking cookies on Dec. 11. Dough and baking instructions can be left in the refrigerator.

**CHILDREN'S PROGRAM** December 18 marks the date of the Children's Program at Emmanuel. We will come together at 10:30 a.m. to be led in worship by our Sunday School classes. Rehearsal will be at 8:45 a.m. that morning. Please wear a red top and black or navy blue bottom. Then stay for pizza and caroling to our homebound members.

## Christmas Caroling

December 18 at 12:30 p.m.

Each year, as part of our Christmas celebration, we go caroling to those who are shut-in at home or residents of Nursing/Adult Care facilities. If you, or someone you know, would welcome a visit from our carolers, please call the Church Office at 732-7766.



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Worship for **Christmas Eve** will be held at:

**7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service of Candlelight and Carols**

A reception hosted by consistory will be held after the 7:30 worship. Please plan to stay and enjoy refreshments and fellowship with family and friends.

**11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Communion**  
**Christmas Day 10:30 a.m. Worship**

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER ORDERS ARE DUE 12/12**  
See insert to order your Christmas poinsettias.



## Christmas Eve Offering

Consistory has approved the following funds for the Christmas Eve Offering. You may give to these or any other fund that we support.

- ▶ CCM/S - The Anchor
- ▶ Interfaith Partnership For the Homeless
- ▶ Minister's Discretionary Fund
- ▶ RCA Retired Clergy & Spouses/Widows & Orphans Fund (Board of Benefit Services)
- ▶ 2011 Budget Deficit - At this time our year to date budget deficit is \$26,605.

Please mark your contributions accordingly.

### NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP

A special service is being planned by Consistory on Sunday, January 1 at 10:30 a.m.

### CHRISTMAS COOKIE SWAP

If you are interested in a Christmas Cookie Swap please let Jane Konisky know and she will give you the details. If we get enough people interested we will set a date to bring our cookies in to swap for other varieties.

### ERC Quilting Group

Anyone interested in helping to make quilts for those in need are invited to attend on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month at 6:30 p.m. If you have a sewing machine and quilting supplies you may bring them. Otherwise, just come and we will put you to work! For more information speak with Amy Fink or Linda Baker.



### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Knitters and crocheters, both experienced and beginners, meet at the church after 10:30 a.m. worship on the third Sunday of the month. Amy Fink will lead a group at 10:00 a.m. after the 8:45 worship. We begin with social interaction and instruction, if needed, followed by a period of quietness and reflection while we stitch. It is truly a blessed experience. We hope that both young and old will join us in this ministry.

### FRIDAY BIBLE STUDY

We will be finishing A Woman God Can Use by December 16. A new study, The Key to Everything by Jack Hayford will begin January 13, 2012. This book "unlocks the door to living in the spirit of God's releasing grace. You will be released to give as you have received, forgive as you have been forgiven, and serve as you have been gifted."

We meet from 10:30 - noon on Friday mornings in the Phase III meeting room. There are enough books for 8 participants, so let Linda Baker know as soon as possible if you are interested in attending. The cost of the book is \$8.

### CHOIR REHEARSALS

All are invited to join the choir on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. as we prepare to sing God's praises on Sunday mornings. The Christmas music is out, so come just for the holiday rehearsals if you don't want to commit to all year!

### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Our One Great Hour of Sharing campaign will be held through November 20. Through Reformed Church World Service we partner together to show God's love to the world by rebuilding communities ravaged by natural disasters, giving children the opportunity to attend school, supporting food pantries and more!

### CCMS CHRISTMAS GIFTS

The Anchor will be collecting food items, such as hams, sweet potatoes, stuffing, canned vegetables, \$10 gift cards, et cetera, for Christmas gift baskets. Toys for children up to age 10 are also needed. Your donations can be brought directly to The Anchor or here to ERC

### GIFTS FOR PERSONS WITH HIV/AIDS

The Albany synod is again collecting items for person with HIV/AIDS. Please bring your donations in by Sunday, December 4. The following is the gift list:

- Shampoo / conditioner
- toilet paper
- laundry and dish detergent
- disposable razors
- toothpaste / brush
- non-perfumed soap
- deodorant
- cleaning supplies - multipurpose spray
- feminine products
- lotion
- facial tissues
- shaving cream
- baby wipes and shampoo

Donations serve Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Essex, Franklin, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren and Washington Counties.

### Opportunities for Service

There are always many opportunities for our members and friends to put their gifts and talents into service. Some of those opportunities include:

- leading worship
- teaching a four to six week rotation of Sunday School
- updating our website
- helping with our Power Points, etc.
- hosting a Coffee Hour
- serving as a greeter
- organizing a fund-raiser
- visiting shut-ins
- doing "odd jobs" around the building
- helping with a meal at the Interfaith shelter
- leading a small group or study group
- inviting a neighbor to worship with you!



Jesus charged us: "Go into all the world and make disciples!" That's the job of every Christian! Use your gifts today!

**PEOPLE ARE NEEDED TO CLEAN UP COFFEE HOUR ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AFTER 10:30 a.m. WORSHIP. Please lend a hand or two!**

**Contributions through October 23, 2011**

Regular Envelopes (total needed \$150,000) \$105,433  
 RCA Dues (\$82 per member / total \$11,678) \$3,020

**YEAR TO DATE DEFICIT of \$9,683\***

(\*This number includes the \$16,975 insurance money received from the pavilion. **Deficit is actually \$26,605.**)

**ERC's benevolences received to date - Total = \$12,571**

CCM/S	1,831	Interfaith Shelter	1,610
American Indian	10	Niger Africa	783
Mission of the Month	210	Fowler Scholarships	2,150
CWS CROP Walk	2,259	CWS Blankets	285
Natural Disasters	2,585	One Great Hour	0
Clove Run	100	MINC	150
Niger Playground	597		

**CONTRIBUTION REPORTS FOR 2011**

Year-end Contribution Reports will be distributed in January. Please look for yours either at the back of the church, by e-mail or in your home mailbox.

**2012 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES  
WILL BE OUT SOON****LECTIONARY READINGS****October 31–November 6**

Monday Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25  
 Tuesday All Saints' Day; Matthew 5:1-12  
 Wednesday Amos 5:18-24  
 Thursday Psalm 78:1-7  
 Friday 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
 Saturday Matthew 25:1-13  
 Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**November 7-13**

Monday Judges 4:1-7  
 Tuesday Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18  
 Wednesday Psalm 123  
 Thursday Psalm 90:1-12  
 Friday 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
 Saturday Matthew 25:14-30  
 Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**November 14-20**

Monday Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  
 Tuesday Psalm 100  
 Wednesday Psalm 95:1-7  
 Thursday Ephesians 1:15-23  
 Friday Matthew 25:31-40  
 Saturday Matthew 25:41-46  
 Sunday Christ the King Sunday

**November 21-27**

Monday Isaiah 64:1-9  
 Tuesday Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19  
 Wednesday 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
 Thursday Luke 17:11-19  
 Friday Mark 13:24-31  
 Saturday Mark 13:32-37  
 Sunday First Sunday of Advent

**December readings are not available as of this date.**

**Consistory Notes  
OCTOBER 11, 2011 MEETING****OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Consecration Sunday** - Nov. 13th - Paul and Rhonda will help Roger prepare the service; Judy will organize a brunch to be held between services  
 B. **Worship Service Suggestions/Feedback** - Rev. Krutz advised he had received a question from Emma Noeth wanting to know if in keeping with groom's traditions, wine could be served at rehearsal dinner. A motion was duly made, seconded and carried that we uphold the traditions of the groom and allow wine to be used.  
 C. **Healing Services** - 3rd Sunday of January, March, May, September and November  
 D. **Fall Fair** - Nov. 5th - Homespun Treasures Sale & Bake Sale - Preparations are underway.  
 E. **Every Member Visit** Wrap-up  
 F. **Sound System** - units and mics have been purchased; Report from Hippos, Parkway Music will be coming  
 G. **2012 Budget Preparation** - Oct 19 @ 6:30 p.m.  
 H. **Annual Meeting** for Election of Elders and Deacons and Approval of Budget - 12/4 @ 10 a.m.  
 I. **Thanksgiving Service** - Trinity Lutheran Church  
 J. **Advent Activities:** 11/27 - Advent Wreaths; 12/4 - Annual Meeting and visit from St. Nicholas; 12/11 - Decorating with Potluck; 12/18 - Christmas Program followed by lunch and caroling

**ALBANY CLASSIS REPORT****Consistory Workshops:**

- Tuesday, Oct. 18 - 7-9 p.m. at Blooming Grove - James Brumm on Worship Leadership  
 Tuesday, Nov. 15 - 7-9 p.m. at Greenbush - Stacey Midge on Polity  
 Saturday, Feb 25 - 8-11:30 a.m. at Wynantskill - "What we do with all this training" - by Phyllis Palsma

**ELDERS MEETING**

The Elders will meet Nov. 1 @ 6:30 p.m. to review the membership lists and answer the Constitutional Question

**Christian Nurture, Worship & Music**

Amy Fink will lead Prayer Shawl Ministry after 8:45 a.m. service.

**Finance, Benevolence & Investment**

A motion was duly made, seconded and carried to receive the financial reports as submitted.

**Property Repair & Sexton**

- A. Phase I door replacement - possibility of having member of church family do work was discussed, will try to get 3 bids; Grease Trap replacement - Bill Fink will secure estimates; septic problems; Narthex ceiling & roof leaks; painting trim, etc. Sanctuary Chairs; Fall Clean-Up - 10/29 (Rain date - 11/12)  
 B. Barb Hacker to chair the community garden.

**Missions**

Interfaith Partnership Dinner will be served on 10/30  
 One Great Hour of Sharing Oct. 30 - Nov. 20

**Day Care**

The Financial Report was reviewed and a motion made, seconded and carried to receive the report as submitted

**Personnel**

Pastor's Vacation Schedule - 12/26-1/1 - Consistory will organize a "Main Street Church Remembrance" service on that day.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>November 2011</h1>						
		1	2	3 Scouts 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m.	4 Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	5 <b>Homespun Treasures &amp; BakeSale 10:00a.m.</b>  Turn Your Clocks Back 1 Hour Tonight
<b>6 Communion</b> 8:45 a.m. Worship/SS 10:30 a.m. Worship	7 Quilting 6:30 p.m.	8 Election Day Consistory 7:00 p.m.  Darts 7:00 p.m.	9 Scouts 6:30 p.m.	10 Scouts 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m.	11 Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	12
<b>13 Consecration Sunday</b> 8:45 a.m. Worship/SS 9:45 a.m. Brunch 10:30 a.m. Worship	14 Quilting 6:30 p.m.	15	16	17 Scouts 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m.	18 Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	19 <b>ROAST PORK DINNER                      4:30 &amp; 6:00 p.m.</b>
20 8:45 a.m. Worship/SS 9:50 a.m. Healing Service 10:30 a.m. Worship	21	22 Darts 7:00 p.m.	23 Scouts 6:30 p.m.	24 Thanksgiving Day Blessings  	25	26
<b>27 1st Sunday of Advent</b> 8:45 a.m. Worship/SS 10:30 a.m. Worship 4:00 p.m. Advent Wreaths and light supper	28 Quilting 6:30 p.m.	29	30			

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>December 2011</h1>						
				1 Scouts 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m.	2 Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	3
4 <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> <b>Communion</b> 8:45 a.m. Worship/SS 10:00 a.m. Cong. Mtg. <b>St. Nicholas Visits</b> 10:30 a.m. Worship	5	6 Darts 7:00 p.m.	7	8 Scouts 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m.	9 Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	10
11 <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 8:45 a.m. Worship/SS Cookie Baking 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Potluck Decorating	12 Quilting 6:30 p.m.	13 Consistory 7:00 p.m.	14 Scouts 6:30 p.m.	15 Scouts 6:00 p.m. Choir 7:00 p.m.	16 Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	17
18 <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 10:30 a.m. Children's Program 11:30 a.m. Pizza and Caroling to Homebound	19	20 Darts 7:00 p.m.	21	22 Choir 7:00 p.m.	23 Bible Study 10:30 a.m.	24 <b>Christmas Eve</b> 7:30 p.m. Worship 11:00 p.m. Worship
25 <b>Merry Christmas!</b> 10:30 a.m. Worship <b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS</b>	26	27	28	29	30	31 

2011 CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL FLOWERS ORDER FORM

PLEASE PRINT MEMORIALS EXACTLY AS YOU WANT THEM TO APPEAR IN PRINT OR CIRCLE "SAME AS LAST YEAR."

Don't forget to print your name (given by).

SAME AS LAST YEAR

GIVEN BY \_\_\_\_\_ (Your name)

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# OF POTS ORDERED @ \$8.00 (6.5 inch-1 plant/pot) \_\_\_\_\_

# OF POTS ORDERED @ \$16.00 (7.5 inch- 3 plants/pot) \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Emmanuel Reformed Church and write "FLOWERS" on YOUR CONTRIBUTION CHECK & ENVELOPE

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX BELOW:

\_\_\_\_ I/We will pick our flower(s) up December 24th      \_\_\_\_ Use my/our flower(s) to cheer an ERC friend

Please make certain that your request form or phone call is in the church office by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup>!!

ROAST PORK DINNER

EMMANUEL REFORMED CHURCH 1150 MAPLE HILL RD CASTLETON, NY 732-7766

November 19, 2011

SERVINGS AT 4:30 AND 6:00 p.m.

MENU

- Roast Pork Potatoes Squash Green beans Rolls/Butter Fresh Pie Tea/Coffee

Call for reservations 732-7766

Take-Outs available

Table with 2 columns: Category (Adults, 6-12, Children Under 6) and Price (\$10.00, \$5.00, Free)

Pork Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

# of Adults \_\_\_\_\_ # of Children 6-12 \_\_\_\_\_ # of Children Under 6 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 4:30 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ 6:00 p.m.

## Communion at ERC

During the Every Member Visits questions arose concerning how communion is practiced by our congregation and whether our practice is consistent with others in our denomination. As part of the Consistory workshops held with our sister churches in Southern Rensselaer County we discussed with leaders of the Albany Classis what the standards of the Reformed Church of America are for the celebration of communion. We were reminded that communion is much more than eating a piece of bread and drinking a thimble of grape juice. It is a sharing of the Holy Spirit and a part of the entire worship service. We learned that at least three people (including the pastor and an elder or two elders) need to participate; prayers need to be said; and the bread and “wine” represent the sharing that communion is intended to provide. We also learned that a communion service may be conducted by any two ordained elders authorized by the Consistory to serve communion. Also, that anyone who has been baptized as a Christian is eligible to participate in communion.

At Emmanuel, our practice is to offer communion at our worship services that are held at the beginning of each month and at other services authorized by the Consistory such as, Maundy Thursday, and Christmas Eve, as well as times that are appropriate to congregational needs. We also offer communion in the home of those who are not able to participate in our worship services at the church. As a congregation we encourage the participation of all baptized Christians who understand the significance of communion, and we rely on the parents of children who have not formally joined the church to determine if the experience of communion is meaningful to their child.

At one time we offered bread and wine to everyone who was in the building during a communion service, but this has not been done for some time. We instead, offer to those individuals who may be teaching or tending others during our regular services, the opportunity to participate in communion as part of a small group at a convenient time that morning or during one of our regular worship services. We want to provide everyone an opportunity to truly share the Holy Spirit and their faith through personal contact and interaction.

Paul G. Erkinen



Vice President of Consistory