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**Dec. 18-Dec.
25**
**"Blue
Christmas"**

Sunday
Alternate Gift-giving ends
Special visitor at Fellowship
3:00 pm
Christmas Caroling
7:00 pm
Women's Reflection Group

Monday
12:00 Noon
Discussion Group

Wednesday
12 Noon
We Share holiday party

Sunday at Emmanuel

The Chapel is open for prayer and meditation before and after our Sunday service.

9:15 am Adult Sunday School
10:30 am Worship with Pastor Gill Preaching - "Christmas in Blue & Gold"
10:30 am Sunday School for Children and Youth

Emmanuel welcomes: Leah & Tom Hammer as our special guest musicians.

[Inspirational Thought: "Jesus came to show us what God was like and what we can be like."](#)

[Ken Gill](#)

This Sunday our morning service will feature a "Blue Christmas" emphasis. This is an opportunity for everyone to recognize a special person they have lost or a special Christmas memory from their family tradition. As an expression of our joy (and sorrow) we will have a Christmas "memory" table at

Thursday
4:00 pm - 7 pm
*"Open House at
the Parsonage"*
7:30 pm
ESL

Saturday
7:00 pm
Christmas Eve
Service
Punch & Cookie
Reception to
follow

Sunday
Merry Christmas
10:00 am
Coffee &
Fellowship
10:30 am
Service



Monthly Calendar

the front of the church where people can place a picture or memento of Christmas past or a symbol of hope for Christmas future. Please feel free to invite friends and neighbors who may be alone at Christmas.

Holiday Schedule

Christmas Eve service 7:00 pm

We will have our traditional punch and cookie reception after our Christmas Eve service. Please sign up with Carol and Wally Krzeminski to bring some cookies to make this a festive time for all.

Christmas Day, Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 am,
Service to follow at 10:30 am

December 21st 4-7 pm Pastor Ken & Connie invite you to the Parsonage for a "Holiday Open House"

IN THANKS

On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the entire Emmanuel congregation, Pastor Ken Gill, Pastor Judy Wheeler, Jo Marie Quinn, Don Wheeler, Bob McPhee, Janet Poinsette, Marilyn Clark, Jessica Massler, Joan Massler, Carol and Wally Krzeminski and family, Marie and Art Krieger, Brent Sjaardema and the Deacons Ministry, the Communications Ministry, and everyone else for their support, prayers, and thoughtfulness during this sorrowful, difficult time. The outpouring of love was very comforting. Whether you attended the wake, sent a card, phoned, or prayed for us, I am thankful for you. Thank you for your blessings. I'd also like to extend blessings to you and your families.

Sincerely,

Jessica Fagnoli and Family

Emmanuel Vision Statement

A growing community, celebrating the rich diversity of God's people and treasuring our common humanity, sharing and learning about Christ's love

in the contemporary world through worship, spiritual disciplines, intellectual study, mission work, social and environmental justice advocacy and artistic, interfaith and multicultural experiences. We welcome everyone's company at our table, as Jesus did.

(Revised December 7, 2014 with input from the Congregation)

Follow the Emmanuel Facebook

Page: <https://m.facebook.com/EBCRidgewood/>

Upcoming events are on North Jersey event listing here: <http://www.northjersey.com/events> If you happen upon any news articles pertaining to Emmanuel, could you please cut out and bring to Jessica attention in the office for our media archives.

Emmanuel's Social Media Corner Statistics:

Facebook Friends: 150

Facebook Page Likes: 122

Twitter Followers: 11

YouTube Subscribers: 8

Please encourage your family and friends to follow and friend us on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

Village of Ridgewood Holds Blood Drive on December 21st

The Village of Ridgewood is holding a Blood Drive on Wednesday, December 21st from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm at Ridgewood Village Hall located at 131 N. Maple Ave., Ridgewood, NJ. To make an appointment please email Dawn at dcetrulo@ridgewoodnj.net. Walk-Ins are Welcome!

All participants will receive the following Health Screenings: hemoglobin, blood pressure, temperature, pulse, and blood type. All donors will receive a Dunkin Donuts gift card as a thank you. All donors must weigh at least 100 pounds and should eat before donating and bring ID.

Worship & Music

If you are interested in being a part of the church choir and can make a commitment to attending practice on Wednesday nights please contact John Giresi at 201 906-3717 or email: giresijo@yahoo.com

Adult Sunday School

Advent, 2016: "How is the Incarnation Revolutionizing Our Understanding of God?"
Join us each Sunday at 9:15 as we reflect on Bible passages and on chapters in our resource book, The Great Spiritual Migration by Brian D. McLaren.
Dec. 18 and 25: Passages from The Gospels and Philippians 2

Peace & Justice forum:

There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be Jan. 17th after the Pasta Dinner.

Women of Emmanuel

SHARE luncheon will be Tuesday, December 20th. You are invited to join us for this luncheon held for the residents of the Seniors of SHARE. Please rsvp to Marilyn or to Florence. Following the luncheon, we'll have entertainment from the Holmstead School Students and also a Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long. Home baked cookies are welcomed!

Missions

Thanks to everyone who contributed gifts and gift cards for the young people who live at Covenant House. They will be much appreciated.

The Alternate gifts catalogs will be available again on Dec. 18th so think about them for someone you want to honor with a gift.

In January, the Missions Ministry will again participate in a project for Habitat for Humanity in Paterson. Boards will be brought in for people to sign and make a contribution for building a house in Paterson. The boards will be placed in one of the homes being built.

Remember to bring in groceries to be given to The Board of Social Services of Ridgewood and Vicinity for needy families in our area. A list of needed items is posted by the collection box outside the sanctuary.

Wider Circle of Prayer & Prayer Group

*** A Brand New Book: Brian McLaren, *The Great Spiritual Migration: How the World's Largest Religion is Seeking a Better Way to be Christian*. Convergent, 2016.

PART II: The Theological Migration from a Violent God of Domination to a Non-Violent God of Liberation

12/11 GOD 5.0 Ch 5

12/18 The Bible Labor Ch. 6

For a copy of either *Walking... or Migration* please ask Jo Marie in the Church Office, Pastor Judy or Don Wheeler

Prayer Resources:

**A wonderful on-line Mindfulness Presentation by Jon Kabat-Zinn Let go of stress and bask in being alive in the moment. Email or call Don if you have trouble cutting and pasting the link. 201-445-9272 or drdwheeler@optonline.net

<http://kabat-zinn.kajabi.com/fe/85469-free-ce-seminar?r=y>

"Learning How to Love," Chapter 3 in Brian McLaren's, *The Great Spiritual Migration*.

*Nicholas Kristof, "A Twelve Step Program for Responding to President Elect Trump," *New York Times*, November 17, 2016.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/17/opinion/a-12-step-program-for-responding-to-president-elect-trump.html?action=click&pgtype=Homepage&clickSource=story-heading&module=opinion-c-col-left-region®ion=opinion-c-col-left-region&WT.nav=opinion-c-col-left-region>

Bible in the Contemporary World with the

Pastor

The Tuesday night Bible study will take place on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Pastor's lounge. Refreshments will be served.

The Community Pasta Dinner

The next dinner is January 17th at 6 p.m. Please note there will be no pasta dinner in December but will resume in the new year. Please come and bring friends. It is nice to know attendance ahead of time in order to plan accordingly, so please call either the church office 201-444-7300, or Marilyn, 201-391-4720.

Newsletter Due Dates

E-Happenings submissions are due to the Church office on Wednesdays by noon. Submissions received after this time will be included in the following week's newsletter. Expectations are due on Dec. 19th.

Event Planning and Room Use

If you are planning any meetings or activities at the Church in the next several months, please pick up and fill out a 2016 Event Planner form. Please note that events cannot be placed on the Church calendar until a Planner Form has been received. Please contact our Communication Director, Jessica at jessicaf@ebcridgewood.org to plan publicity for events. Please plan your submissions 3 weeks prior to the event to ensure proper publicity.

Emmanuel

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