



SPECIAL EDITION

The Emmanuel Envoy

Summer of 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Emmanuel Lutheran Church,

While we have been separated from the events and activities of all that happens at the church building here in Norwood mission and ministry has continued despite the Coronavirus pandemic. Those of us behind the scenes are taking a moment to look back at what's been going on by Emmanuel these past several months.

During this time of shut down and pandemic, through the blessing of technology, we have continued to provide opportunities for WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, FAITH FORMATION and SERVICE – the hallmarks of what we do “normally”.

The following newsletter, will give you a glimpse of what has been going on “at” Emmanuel since we had to close our doors in March. In addition to remembering what has been done through this congregation in the past months, be sure to look for ways that you can be involved in worship, prayer, faith formation, and service. Even during this time when we cannot be together in person in the ways that we are used to, the Holy Spirit still binds us together with love.

Until we meet again,

Pastor Amanda, Diane, Alice

We are Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Worshiping God with joy, loving one another, serving all.

We welcome you!

Prayer Concerns List

Pat Sheek	Susan Tomasello
Kathleen Fabio	Patrick Donovan
Gordon Sheek	Ann-Marie Litcof
Terri Loomis	Jovanni Sanchez-Colon
Aeschliman Family	Bill Rapp
John Olson	Richard Makert
Paul & Heather	Lyndsay Boysen
Crisafulli	John A. Grant
Bo Ruda	Caroline Kiley
Jack Gradijan	Tony Nikolassy
Christine Howard	Rebecca Sol
Emma White	Pat Goodman
Sara Williams	Liz Easton
Josh Andrews	George Haras
Rich Wuschke	

Remembering Our Shut-ins

Eleanor Bjornson and Richard Spencer

Losses

*In
loving
memory*

We have lost two beloved members of our church community during this time, Don Carow and Larry Sundberg. Once it is safe to do so, we hope to have opportunities to gather

together to celebrate their lives, mourn their deaths, and comfort each other with God's promises.

We also grieve with Elivra Aipperspach, whose son, Ronnie, died suddenly in early May.

Thank You Notes

Hi Emmanuel,



Thank you so much for your support during what is likely the hardest year we will all experience. Being unable to return to campus in the fall, I can't rely on the libraries and other resources that were always on campus for me, so I'm really grateful for this help.

Thank you,
Katarina Ruda

Dear Church,

My family and I are very grateful for the grant money. It will be used for my upcoming fall classes! We feel very blessed to know that the members of the church are always there for us. I look forward to seeing my fellow worshippers (in person hopefully) when I come home.

Thank you again,
Cassie Navalta

To the congregation of Emmanuel Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for the celebration of graduates, the scholarship, and the wonderful prayer shawls. Through all of this, it is clear that the community of Emmanuel Lutheran Church that I grew up in cares about supporting my future and education in general.

Thank you,
Annika Ruda

Greetings,

On behalf of Norwood English as a Second Language Adult Learning Center, we would like to thank you for your contribution of \$1,400. Your generosity helps purchase books and supplies, transport students to classes, and modest honorariums to volunteer teachers. Your financial support helps us continue in our mission and to assist those in our program and community.

Warm Regards,
Rev. Michele Allan & Mrs. Amy Kuiken

Dear Pastor Amanda Warner,

On behalf of the youth and families we serve, thank you for Emmanuel Lutheran Church's gift of \$1,000. to Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB). For nearly 130 years, BGCB has been able to adapt to challenges in creative and sustainable ways to meet the needs of our members and their families. Our dedicated

staff is connecting with their communities by providing educational virtual Club programming to our members, meeting with YouthConnect clients remotely, and distributing meals, grocery gift cards, and other essentials to our most vulnerable families. We are witnessing our community unite by sharing compassion, time, and resources to invest in young people and families who need us most.

With Gratitude,
Josh Kraft Nicholas, Pres., and CEO

Worship



Sunday Worship via computer began shortly after discontinuation of in-person worship in mid-March.

At Emmanuel, we use a computer video conferencing tool called Zoom. It allows people to gather using a computer, tablet, smart phone or telephone. In addition to the worship liturgy in a presentation format, we can add music and hymns, and extras like short video clips to enhance the basic service.

For those who have been accessing our Zoom worship services, they are a real blessing; an opportunity to gather together while still being physically apart. We even have visitors from across the country worshipping with us in addition to our regular members.

Members and friends of Emmanuel serve as worship assistants during our Zoom worship services, as designated responders, Psalm leaders, lectors, and petitioners (leading the prayers). If you would like help to lead worship in one of these ways you can sign up via [signup genius: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4baaa82fa2fe3-zoom](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4baaa82fa2fe3-zoom) or you can contact Pastor Amanda.

People are also contributing to our Zoom worship services by contributing artwork that can be featured in worship, sending in

pictures that we can use in slide shows, recording music that can be shared, and participating in videos that we're creating, like the Easter video of people sharing the Easter Acclamation "Alleluia, Christ is risen!" and the Pentecost video of people reading scripture in a number of languages.

After a lot of careful research, Pastor Amanda developed a way to offer brief, in person communion services where communion is distributed in a safe and distanced way. Since June, we have been offering two outdoor "Communion in the Courtyard" services every Sunday for those who would like to participate. If you would like to come receive communion (masked and socially distanced), you can sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4BAAA82FA2FE3-communion> or you can contact us at the church by phone or email.



If you would prefer to have communion delivered to your home (along with prayers and scriptures that you can read), you can contact Pastor Amanda or the church office. Communion is delivered in a contactless way.

Music News

We always try to keep things musically interesting at ELC, but the pandemic has forced us to be even more creative than usual to keep things vibrant in our worship services. I realized early on that pre-recording the music would work best for us in a Zoom setting, as audio can be a challenge in real-time. An extra benefit of recording in advance is that I can spend a lot of time adding layers of instruments and harmonies to make a fuller sound! I use the hymnal, my keyboard, a microphone, a multitrack recorder, and a computer program to layer piano, sometimes organ, additional instruments, the vocal melody, and usually a couple of harmony parts. I edit and mix everything together and you hear the resulting hymn accompaniments every Sunday.

Things have felt even more meaningful when church members and friends have sent recordings of themselves singing and/or playing special music for the services. So far (please forgive any omissions!), we've been very fortunate and happy to hear musical offerings from Bryon Sol, Kevin Fay, Allison Silletti, the Warner Family, Dan Davis, Tammie Ruda, Caroline Gebhardt, violinists Diane Peterson and Lisa Jair, Stephanie Sol, and even a recording of our bell choir from a past service! These contributions have added a wonderful variety to our services, and people have really enjoyed hearing them. I highly encourage anyone who would like to share some music during one of our upcoming Zoom services, to send a recording or video to me at gab.heath@yahoo.com. It doesn't have to be fancy or a huge production; a simple recording of a hymn or other church-appropriate piece that you'd like to offer would be great. Your time and musical talents are much appreciated! ♪
~Gabby

Gathering for Prayer



When we locked down during Lent, our Wednesday evening Lenten prayer services on Zoom.

Given the unusual situation this year, we decided to continue a Wednesday prayer and fellowship gathering that has met weekly since Easter. A group gathers together to check in with each other, share prayer requests, read and reflect on scripture using a process called *Lectio Divina*, and pray together.

The link to the Wednesday prayer gathering is emailed out every Wednesday. It is also on our website under events. You are welcome to join in any time that you are able, whether you can come for one Wednesday or for all of them.

Faith Formation

Growing in faith has also been continuing in new and different ways.

First Communion: The First Communion class began in person in early March, with plans to celebrate First Communion on April 26th. When we had to close our doors to indoor and in person worship, it became clear that that timeline wasn't one that we would be able to follow. Once we began our "Communion in the Courtyard" celebrations, Pastor Amanda and the First Communion parents figured out a way for us to finish First Communion preparation outdoors. We met in the courtyard and wore masks for two socially distanced First Communion classes. First Communion itself was held on July 12th. We included part of the First Communion liturgy during our Zoom worship service and then First Communion was distributed at our 1:00 p.m. "Communion in the Courtyard." Welcome to the Lord's Table Genevieve Davis, Madelyn Hertel, and Emma Kate Worner.

Story Time with Pastor Amanda began on June 3rd and our final Story Time (for now) will be held on July 29th. Story Time is geared toward the children in the congregation (and beyond). Like so much of what we have done during these days of separation, it's held on Zoom. During Story Time, I read a children's book to the kids and then discuss a spiritual message that can be found in the story. We also spend some time catching up with the kids and end our time together with a prayer. Many thanks to the Sunday School teachers who have helped to "host" Story Time and to Sue Navalta and Cindy Zafft who were guest readers for Story Time. Also, thanks to the kids and parents who made Story Time a part of their week for these two months!

"Grown Up" Book Discussions:

During March, we moved our discussion (begun in person during coffee hour before

the Coronavirus Lock Down) of New England Synod Bishop James Hazelwood's book, Everyday Spirituality, to Zoom.

Currently, Pastor Amanda is facilitating discussion on author and ELCA Pastor Lenny Duncan's book *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.* We decided to tackle this challenging and at times uncomfortable book after the recent civil unrest due to the tragic death of George Floyd and others. To learn more about what it means to "love our neighbors" we are tackling this difficult topic and hearing from a voice very different from our own about racial injustice in the world and in the church.

Confirmation Class Check Ins: When we locked down, Pastor Amanda, made the decision not to add online "Confirmation Classes" to the work load of middle schoolers who were already trying to figure out how to navigate online school. Instead we shifted to having bi-weekly Confirmation class check ins, opportunities to get the kids together, to share their stories from lock down, to share prayer requests and pray together, and to share highs and lows. According to our "regular" Confirmation schedule, the Confirmation Check Ins would have ended at the end of May, but the Confirmation class decided to keep meeting during the summer so that they could stay in touch.

Fellowship

Friday Night Live, our youth group started meeting by Zoom in March and met online weekly, playing many newly discovered online games, and also joining together in fellowship and prayer. A couple of favorite online games were Quiplash and Pictionary. In recent weeks the Friday Night Live group met outside in the courtyard for masked and socially distanced fellowship. During those outdoor meetings they painted "kindness rocks" (rocks painted with cheerful and encouraging messages) and distributed them

around the neighborhood, shared prayers and highs and lows, and played charades! Friday Night Live will be on a break for a while but will be back again, in person and/or online (depending on the activities we choose and the weather) in September!

Recording our experience for history

We are living through historic times and we are in the process of creating a record of our experiences of the Coronavirus pandemic to share with future generations of people at Emmanuel and beyond. We are calling this project *Voices of Emmanuel*. All members and friends of Emmanuel are invited and encouraged to fill in the survey can be reached by following this link to a fillable form on our website.

<https://www.emmanuelnorwood.org/2020/06/08/visions-of-emmanuel/>.

We have received many responses already, but we would love to have many more responses, from the people who make up this community. What has this time been like for you? Please consider sharing your thoughts and experiences.

Service

The work of the Piecemakers, making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, stopped abruptly in mid-March, but a number of sewers shifted gears and began to make face masks for people and groups in need of them.

Many thanks to everyone, who helped to wrap up the quilting project for this year, by completing the quilts that were ready to be hemmed.

Thanks to Susan and Michael Lawson, Arlene Cegelis, and Lorraine Lynch, who finished off the quilting project and the Health Care Kits project, by making sure that everything made it back to church was boxed up. All of these tasks were completed in socially distanced ways.

83 quilts were finished and 113 health care kits were completed. The boxes are ready to go to Lutheran World Relief as soon as an ingathering is scheduled.

Ecumenical Community Food Pantry of Norwood: COVID-19 certainly has changed the way we all live. The Norwood Food Pantry now provides food and hygiene items through an outside drive-up/walk-up system. Bags of nonperishable items are prepared during the week. On Saturday morning, during our usual hours, we distribute the bags. In addition, each household “orders” a variety of fresh and frozen produce, dairy products, meat/fish, and bakery items that are packaged on the spot. Volunteers wear gloves and face masks at all times and work to maintain social distancing. One of our volunteers, Pastor Amanda, can give you a first-person description.

To find out more, visit our newly updated website: <https://www.norwoodpantry.org/>

In addition, the pantry has a strong network of support. First on the list would be individuals, congregations, and businesses that have generously supported our work. See our Facebook page for details: <https://www.facebook.com/NorwoodFoodPantry/>).

Next would be the Greater Boston Food Bank. We receive 3,000 pounds of food and other supplies from them each month. Most items are free and the remainder is purchased at greatly reduced cost. In addition, they have hosted a weekly COVID-focused Zoom event so that pantries can share concerns and solve problems. The Town of Norwood provided greatly needed additional support through their “Mustang Pantry” that was open to the entire community. And, most recently, the Norfolk County Agricultural High School has developed a voucher program for our clients to receive fresh produce from their weekly Farmers Market.

The Norwood Food Pantry list of foods requested for clients has been modified a bit as well. Items being accepted now are a bit more specific to allow for “Grab & Go” bags.

- Hash
- Beef Stew
- Chili
- Canned Fruit
- Spaghetti Sauce (24 – 26 ounce jars or cans)
- Boxed Rice (Rice Pilaf, Near East, Rice a Roni, Zatarins, etc.)
- Tea Bags (black or green, regular or decaf)
Coffee (instant regular or decaf)
- Powdered Drink Mix (lemonade – Country Time, any store brand)
- Canned Tuna (6-7 ounce, white albacore chunk or solid)
- Cold (Boxed) Cereal

You can also make monetary donations to the food pantry by donating through their website or sending a check to:

Ecumenical Community Food Pantry of Norwood, Inc.
150 Chapel Street
Norwood, MA 02062

Emmanuel’s Mission Fund: Over the past few months we have made several disbursements from the Mission fund to help communities in need locally and around the world. Here are the organizations that have received support from the Mission Fund:

Cathedral in the Night is an outdoor Christian Community in downtown Northampton, MA. They gather for worship and a meal on Sunday evenings. Their community consists of the homeless, the housed, the church-less, the churched, the student and the resident and provides space for people to explore, question, and live out their spiritual beliefs through worship, Bible Study, fellowship, and social justice work.

During “normal” times, restaurants and congregations prepare, donate, and serve the Sunday meals. Our hope is that Emmanuel’s Mission Fund donation will help “Cathedral” continue to provide meals for those who need them in their community during this pandemic.

You can learn more about Cathedral in the Night here: <http://cathedralinthenight.org/>

Lutheran Disaster Response: We have donated to LDR many times over the years in response to specific disasters. This year, the church council decided to be proactive and seek a Mission Fund donation to LDR at the beginning of the year, to help equip them to respond to disasters as they arise in the United States and around the world. Find out more about Lutheran Disaster Response here: <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Relief-and-Development/Lutheran-Disaster-Response>

Norwood ESL [English as a Second Language] Adult Learning Center: Norwood ESL is a ministry that was started by the Norwood Church of God. Its goal is to teach those who are who are completely new to the English language to help them improve their lives and their connection to the wider community.

Heritage Baptist Church: This congregation in downtown Norwood experienced a devastating flood in their building during the June 28th “storm of the century”. It will cost them hundreds of thousands of dollars to replace/repair what was lost and damaged and their insurance (because it was an outside flood event) will hardly cover any of it. In an expression of Christian fellowship, we donated to help them with the work of rebuilding. Follow this link to see a video about the flood that HBC experienced:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aqATAcH1b4&t=14s>

Boys and Girls Club of Boston: During this challenging time the Boys and Girls Club has not been able to access some of its usual revenue streams. Our donation will help them reach out to the 14,000 youth that they serve in Boston and Chelsea, with food distribution and other kinds of in person and virtual programming.

Church “Business” Continues

Emmanuel’s Council is continuing to meet during this time of separation to take care of the business side of our church.

Using Zoom, the council and Executive Committee have continued with their regular schedule to review, discuss and handle the business of the church.

Of course, much of that business lately has revolved around dealing with our response to the Coronavirus pandemic. We are coordinating our response to the pandemic by creating seven task groups that are being called together to look at various aspects of our ministry during this challenging time.

The Task Groups are:

- Communion in the Courtyard
- Zoom Worship
- Online Worship for the Future (once we are worshiping in person again)
- In Person Worship (looking at how we alter our worship practices once we are worshiping indoor and in person again)
- Building Use
- Congregation Care
- Community Care

Some of these task groups have already started working and some have yet to be called together.

The semi-annual Congregation meeting also was held at the end of June via Zoom. We elected five people to the congregation council.

Julie Ackley, Dan Busler, Rebecca Sol, and Nina Tobin were elected to three-year terms. Erich Alberg was elected to serve for one year as a youth member of council.

We also thanked Lisa Silletti and Bryon Sol for their years of service on council.

We also were introduced to a new Emmanuel "Tag Line" that was developed by the Forward Leadership Team with the council's input and approval. The tag line came out of the "Why Emmanuel" process and is a distillation of the thoughts of those who gathered in small groups sessions and in a large group session to describe what Emmanuel means to them.

The tag line is:

We are Emmanuel Lutheran Church. Worship God with joy, loving one another, serving all. We welcome you!

This tag line will be used on all of Emmanuel's publications, website, and social media as a way of "introducing us" to the wider community. It will also help to guide our work as we keep these identified priorities in mind: joyful worship, love for one another, and service and authentic welcome to all.

Keeping up Emmanuel Property

The building has been "closed", but there have been some property things going on!

In early April, Pastor Amanda and family, James, our sexton, and Joy battled a serious leak in the sanctuary roof after a big rain. We had suspected something was going on as there were a couple drips from time to time, but this was a waterfall! The Warners used every towel they had to soak up the water, then we constructed a system to route water into buckets and called Paul Kavanaugh, the Westwood contractor who replaced the Kask Hall roof last year. He came out right away discovered that the leak was caused by a couple of shingles that had blown off. The roof was repaired on Palm Sunday and we should have about 7 or 8 more years on the Sanctuary roof.

On April 30, we began the big job of painting Kask Hall and the kitchen. It worked out great that the building was closed! Joy Peter, Glenn and Caryl Ott, and Pastor Amanda picked colors and determined to paint the large beams that run across the ceiling of Kask Hall as well. The first step was to clear out the kitchen. Pastor and Joy did most of that, and it was quite the job! Because it was so expensive to have the contractor do it, Glenn and Joy sanded and painted the interiors of all the kitchen cabinets, while contractor Tom Lambert and two of his men painted Kask Hall (every part of it - walls, ceiling, beams, fireplace) and kitchen walls and cabinet doors & drawers. While this was going on Caryl Ott was modifying curtains Joy had searched for throughout at least 12 Ocean State Job Lots across 3 states! John Gear used the painters' scaffolding to install new LED lighting in the Kask Hall ceiling.

The result of all of that work is that Kask Hall looks great! Arlene Cegelis, Beth Donovan, and Joy are in the process of replacing shelf and drawer contact paper. After a doing some floor repair work aided by John, James will be polishing the floors soon, so that we can move back in. Thanks to everyone who assisted in this big job. It was truly a group effort!

The next project began during Norwood's "Storm of the Century". In addition to water in many spots throughout the basement and Parsonage basement, it appears the steeple may have been struck by lightning. The fire alarm went into problem mode, and the internet phone went dead. Luckily, Pastor and Britton walked the building and then called our Fire monitoring company, who didn't know about the problem because of the phone being dead. Next call was to John Gear to check the Parsonage electric panel which had gotten wet in the flood-thanks John! Next call was to James, who mopped up lots of water and dried out rugs over the next few days - thanks James!

This event pointed out shortcomings in both the internet phone setup (no power=no phone=no fire alarm monitoring) and the old fire alarm. After lots of research, speaking with the Fire Department, vendors, and monitoring companies, we entertained two bids to replace our fire alarm system, which, as far as we can tell, was installed in 1991. After a lot of research, we stayed with our current company, for a couple reasons, and the new alarm was installed last week. It is a redundant system, that uses internet phone, with cellular service as a backup. The system is on and was officially inspected by the Norwood Fire Department on July 30. We should also get our phone modem backed up by a battery.

John Gear and Joy have been swapping out old florescent lighting on the NCNS side of the basement, and will update fixtures upstairs as well. Half of the cost of the materials will be paid by a grant from Norwood Light. In addition, the LED fixtures are newer, safer, and use less energy than the old fixtures.

The exterior of the Sanctuary windows on Gardner road were painted by contractor Tom Lambert. He says we have many more years on the windows now. They were in bad shape, and there's many more windows in the Church that need to be done!

We are currently working on replacing the 5 basement windows in the "fireplace room" used by NCNS. Shauna, the director of the program, needed operational windows to be able to vent the room, if they are able to reopen during Covid-19. NCNS will split the cost of the windows with us. We had planned to do the entire NCNS basement side, but both the church and NCNS are only doing what's absolutely necessary at this time. These will be Harvey vinyl replacement windows that slide open from either direction and have a full screen. Hopefully, we will never have to paint those windows again!

That's it for now - looking forward to completing the Women's Room...this year?
~Joy Peter

Stewardship Report

	Target Income	Received actual	Received actual
July	\$17,846.15	\$15,105.52	85%
YTD	\$133,846.13	\$138,268.51	103%

Ministry Highlights for July

- Online Sunday morning worship services continued.
- Online Mid-week prayer group continued.
- Friday Night Live youth ministry was held online and in the courtyard.
- First Communion service was held for three young people.
- The Confirmation class had two check ins.
- Communion in the Courtyard took place every Sunday.
- Pastor held "Courtyard Hours".
- A "Dear Church" book discussion has started.
- On-line "Storytime with Pastor Amanda" continued.
- A new fire alarm system was installed.
- Ministry Team and Task Group Meetings: Executive, Zoom Worship, Forward Leadership, Mutual Ministry.

We are so grateful to the members and friends of Emmanuel for keeping us going during this time when our building is closed, but our ministries are continuing. Thank you to everyone who is mailing in pledges, making special gifts, or using the online giving option on our website. In this time of crisis, we are holding our own financially, because of this generosity and thoughtfulness.

Thank you for your generous giving.

From Pastor Amanda

Dear Friends,

This has been a challenging time. For all of us, this has been a challenging time. For those who have been stuck at home, with little or no contact with the outside world beyond phone calls or screens or letters. For those of us who have been going to work every day in hospitals or stores or police departments or nursing homes or some other essential work. For those of us who are raising children with all external supports wiped away, learning to be parent in a completely new ways, as we also teach and play. For those of us who have had to learn new rhythms of working from home. For all of us, who have had to find ways to maintain relationships with friends and far

away family members. For those of us who live alone, for those of us for whom the walls of our homes are too small to contain a family that is always welcome to visit. Perhaps most of all, for those of us who have been sick or cared for a sick loved one. Certainly, for those who have faced the grief of losing someone beloved and been unable to gather for the comforting community rituals of death. For them, but also, for all of us, this has been a challenging time.

My friends in Christ, I am grateful for the ways that you have risen to the challenge. For the ways that you have spent time in your homes praying. For the ways that you have learned to use Zoom, and have kept on “coming to church”, watching and listening to worship through your computer screens, on your tiny smartphone screens, even listening through your landlines. For the ways that you have waited for the Sunday afternoon email, “The sermon is available,” or have checked the website, looking for the video of the Zoom worship service. For the ways that you have come to prayer group faithfully and lifted up your concerns and the needs of the world in prayer, and sought the presence of God through scripture in those gatherings. For the ways that you have helped Emmanuel continue to thrive during an unprecedented time, for the ways that you have centered your faith community and your faith life during this time of crisis, I am grateful. I am moved by your witness, by your perseverance, by your faithfulness.

For me, perhaps one of the most challenging things is the fact that I simply don't know when all of this is going to end. Being a person who thrives on schedules and plans, not knowing is particularly painful. I wish I could tell you in this article when we will be holding worship services in our building again, but I simply don't know. We are, of course, exploring what reopening our building will entail, but we don't have a set schedule yet. One thing that I do know is that whenever we reopen the building for worship our worship services will not be the same as they were when we last gathered together for in person worship on March 8th. We will have to do things differently in order to keep each other safe. We will have to continue having an online worship opportunity for people who will remain unable to gather together in groups until there is a vaccine for Covid-19. In fact, this experience seems to be leading us down the road of having on online worship expression, even after we are able to be back together in our sanctuary without the threat of a novel Coronavirus stalking us. God is working through this time of crisis to teach us new ways of being church and certainly, we are learning the value of things that we might once have taken for granted, singing together, communing together, being together.

There are many things I don't know about what's to come, but I do know that in all of it, in all of the challenges of this time and of the time to come, I know that God is with us, leading us into the unknown future. So, until we meet again, we can trust that the God of peace is with us.

In Christ,
Pastor Amanda