

Emanuel

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Good News!

September 2024

**Welcoming. Witnessing.
Worshiping... through Christ.**

Emanuel United Church of Christ

Office Phone: 573-243-3323 ~ **Email:** office@euccjackson.org

Website: www.euccjackson.org

Pastor ~ Joshua W. Rau

Cell: 715-294-0157 ~ **Email:** pastorjoshuarau@gmail.com

Emanuel United Church of Christ—304 E. Adams, Jackson, Missouri 63755
Founded in 1867—Incorporated as German Evangelical Emanuel Church in 1891

Church Leadership

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Sam Roethemeyer

Organist: Christy Shinn

Choir Director: Kelly Crawford

Office Staff: Debra Hoffmann, Cathy Sievers

Council President: Jimmy McCormack

Head Usher: Layton Beggs



Visitor Info



Ways to Give



Follow us on Facebook for updates and exciting news!
[Facebook.com/euccjackson](https://www.facebook.com/euccjackson)

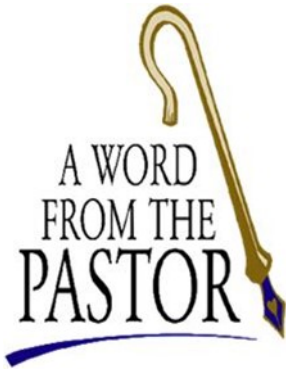


Follow us on Instagram for updates and exciting news!
[Instagram.com/euccjackson](https://www.instagram.com/euccjackson)

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Office Hours
Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.



Dear Friends in Christ,

“As for me and my house we will serve the Lord” ~ Joshua 24:15

We heard those words just this last Sunday in worship. But there is so much more to the promise that Joshua spoke. It is by God’s grace and mercy that we found each other and have started this new shared ministry. As I reflect on those words, I am reminded that we are called by God to many different things. But in that calling we must remember that we make the choice to live out that call, the choice to serve. And so, I hope those words of Joshua will be on your heart as you feel his presence in your life.

We have great ministry within our church, our education, our music ministry, online ministry, all these help us to proclaim Jesus Christ and spread the gospel. **WE ARE THE CHURCH**, no doubt in my mind that together we will continue to be a beacon of light to this community.

We have come to the end of summer, a time when vacations and summer activities have come to a close and we look to changing of seasons. We have excitement in our church; we will be starting a new Bible Study, we have enhanced our online presence, we are having great worship, and there is joy filling our church. I hope you have a chance to be a part of the ministries we have, education, women’s fellowship, music, prayer shawls, and clothing closet.

I am so excited to be here and get to know all of you. I still want to connect through Coffee with Pastor so please reach out and set up a time. Also, join me each week for our Meditations from Emanuel on Wednesday mornings.

See you in Church!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Josh



Upcoming Events

Sun.	Sept. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith and Fellowship 9am Worship 10:10am
Wed.	Sept. 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meditations from Emanuel Choir Practice 6:00pm
Thurs.	Sept. 5	Bethany Circle 6pm at LaDonia Beggs home
Fri.	Sept. 6	CWU Awareness Luncheon—Registration 9:30am, Program 10am, Lunch— <i>bring a salad to share</i>
Sat.	Sept. 7	<p style="text-align: center;">St. John's UCC Sausage Supper Serving 3:30-6:30 p.m. Dine In or Carry Out</p>
Sun.	Sept. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Church Council Meeting 8am Faith and Fellowship 9am Worship 10:10am Sundae Fun Day (<i>see graphic on p. 13</i>)
Tues..	Sept. 10	Bible Study 6pm
Wed.	Sept. 11	Meditations from Emanuel
Thurs.	Sept. 12	Stewardship Committee Meeting 6pm
Sat.	Sept. 14	Clothing Closet open 9-11am
Sun.	Sept. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith and Fellowship 9am Worship 10:10am
Mon.	Sept. 16	Fellowship Hall reserved for private event.
Tues.	Sept. 17	Bible Study 6pm
Wed.	Sept. 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meditations from Emanuel Choir Practice 6:00pm Confirmation Class 7pm
Thurs.	Sept. 19	Christian Board of Education Meeting 6pm
Sun.	Sept. 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith and Fellowship 9am Worship 10:10am Prepare Band Bags after worship
Tues.	Sept. 24	Bible Study 6pm
Wed.	Sept. 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meditations from Emanuel Confirmation Class 7pm
Thurs.	Sept. 26	Sausage Supper Planning Meeting 5:30pm
Sun.	Sept. 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faith and Fellowship 9am Worship 10:10am

Weekly Use of Church Facilities	
Every Monday	TOPS 11am
Every Tuesday	Guitar Lessons 1:30-6:30 pm

Altar Flowers—September

Sept. 1	Brenda Pender
Sept. 8 & 15	Earlene Sokolowski
Sept. 22	Judy Peetz
Sept. 29	Roxie Davis

If you would like to serve as a greeter, please contact Louise St. John to get on the schedule.

Greeters—September

Sept. 1	Catheryn Hartle Dorothy Rowley
Sept. 8	Barb Chaney Roxie Davis
Sept. 15	Brenda Pender Mark Statler
Sept. 22	Mark and Christy Bock
Sept. 29	Paul & Debra Hoffmann

If you would like to serve as a greeter, please contact Louise St. John to get on the schedule.

Congregational Meeting

October 20, 2024


The due date for submissions for the October newsletter is September 23, 2024. Please send submissions to: office@euccjackson.org or call 573.243.3323.

**MEDITATIONS
FROM
EMANUEL**
with Pastor Josh



Posted online Wednesday mornings on our Facebook and YouTube

**Emanuel UCC
Bible Study**



**Tuesday Evenings 6:00 pm
Starting September 10th**

Join us either in person or via zoom
Please email Pastor Josh for the zoom link

We are a community of faith that welcomes all to join us as we look at a study called:

Faith ~ Depending on God



**COFFEE WITH
PASTOR JOSH**

PASTOR JOSH WOULD LIKE TO CONNECT WITH ALL OF YOU. PLEASE EMAIL, TEXT OR CALL PASTOR JOSH TO SET UP A TIME TO GET TOGETHER.



Email: pastorjoshuarau@gmail.com
Cell: 715-294-0157

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/83115821238?pwd=if8TX9ibzai8a3LEe7GQqbmMSTl07r.1>

Meeting ID: 831 1582 1238
Passcode: 580276

St. Johns UCC

Sausage Supper

Saturday, September 7
3:30-6:30 p.m.
Dine In or Carry Out

Adults—\$15; Children Age 6-12—\$7

A Signup sheet is available on the table in the vestibule.

Confirmation Class
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Beginning September 18



3	Jerry Bailey
6	Mark Bock
6	Jacob Cantoni
6	Judy Myers
6	Christine Sievers
6	Jerry Wolfenkoehler
7	Patti Beussink
7	Witten Bock
10	Sam Koppenaal
11	Anniston Maxwell
11	Hannah Rinehart
11	Debbie Trankler
12	Weston Holcomb
16	Justin Bromley
16	Andrew Scholl
19	Debra Hoffmann
19	Lonnie Peetz
20	Cheryl Seabaugh
22	Mary Lou Abernathy
22	Matthew Biri
23	Chris Crawford
24	Sara Drew
27	Kelly Crawford
28	Craig Floyd
29	Connie Brothers

Church Record Updates

Deaths:

Marilyn Whitmore

October 23, 1936—August 2, 2024

Please pray for the following and their families:

Mary Lou Abernathy, Pat Abernathy, June Borgfield, Alice Koeppel, Robert Loos, Marvin Peetz, Helen Poston, Alice Quigley, Emilie Wendel,

September



Anniversaries

2	Josh & Paige Kester, 7th
3	Bill & Jane Koppenaal, 36th
6	Frank & Debbie Trankler, 44th
7	John & Katie Beardslee, 5th
11	Josh & Alyssa Rau, 3rd
14	James & Cindy Bromley, 44rd
20	David & Heather Cantoni, 27th
20	Randy & Cheryl Seabaugh, 50th
24	Mary Ann & Greg Heinsman, 36th
25	Doug & Susan Wessell, 53rd
26	Rick & Pam Brown, 42nd
29	Ronnie & Jessica Maxwell, 17th

Recommended Scripture for September

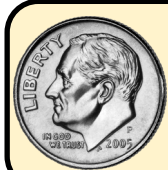
Sept. 1	Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Sept. 8	Psalm 125 James 2:1-17 Mark 7:24-37
Sept. 15	Psalm 19 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38
Sept. 22	Psalm 1 James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37
Sept. 29	Esther 7:1-6; 9:20-22 Psalm 124 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50

Stewardship Corner

As a steward of the resources God gives you, you will need to manage them in such a way that you can provide for the needs of others. Providing for others can be monetary gifts, food, clothing, or just being hospitable. A simple smile may be just what someone needs. A phone call, a text, or a card just to let someone know you care. Bringing in a donation for the food pantry or used clothing for the Clothing Closet is providing for the needs of others.

- Can you sing? Join the choir.
- Do you like to organize? There are always things at the church that can use organization.
- Do you find cleaning relaxing and gives you instantaneous gratification? Go to the kitchen and clean one of the classrooms.
- There are many small ways to be a good steward. Giving of your money to keep our church solvent is always an act of stewardship. Stewardship is our faith revealing itself in our daily living.

Thanks for all you do!
The Stewardship Committee



Dime-a Day Donations
as of July 31, 2024
\$3,504.30



To Pastor Joshua, Marilee, and members of Emanuel UCC.

A huge appreciation and mahalo for the gift of love and support represented in the cards and notes sent from your congregation.

We will be sure to pass them along to Maui. No doubt they will bring smiles and even tears of joy to those living in the fatigue of fire recovery.

Please find attached a picture attached that we are sharing across our Conference so your blessings may be felt by all.

David Popham,
Conference Minister, HCUCC

Emanuel United Church of Christ - Stewardship Committee

FOOD PANTRY DRIVE

September food item is

Peanut Butter

Each month we will be collecting for the Jackson Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry

Operation Christmas Child



Emanuel will again be participating in the Operation Christmas Child project this year. Heather Beggs, Clara Beggs and Morgan Hoffman will be our leaders.

As you begin your Christmas shopping, include this important project on your list.

More information will be coming in the near future.

Church Council Minutes

Below are the unapproved minutes from the August 11 Church Council Meeting. Minutes will be approved at the next council meeting.

EUCC Council Meeting—8/11/2024: Meeting before church 8:05

Members Present: Stephania Doggett, Geoff Shinn, Katie Beardslee, Matt Zschille, Pat Holley, Christy Bock, Matt Roethemeyer, Jimmy McCormack, Pastor Josh

Members absent: Layton Beggs

Previous minutes were available for review. Motion for approval of previous minutes made by Matt R. and seconded by Matt Z. Council approved.

Treasurer and Financial reports given by Pat Holley. Will file for audit.

Report of Committees

Buildings and grounds report: - Thermostat in the parsonage was replaced.

- Lights in the pastor's office need to be replaced. The ballasts are going out. Matt Z. volunteered to replace them with LED's that don't require a ballast.
- Mike Cooper still needs to install the mesh system
- Blinds in the parsonage broke. Pastor is ok with replacing with a curtain rod
- Spectrum phone system is dropping calls. Matt R. will look into getting a new phone system that works with the elevator.
- The parsonage is still leaking in the corner of the sunroom

Audit committee report: Met 7/22. Completed audit of all accounts. Filed report in the office

Rental property: The one year lease ends in Aug. Renter intends on staying for another year. Need to get a renewal signed.

Clothing Closet: Was open 8/10. Needs promotion within the community.

Adopt a Hwy: On hold during construction

Stewardship Committee: Spearheading food pantry items. Sending notes to our sister church in Hawaii.

CBE report: Met and trying to get on a regular schedule. Next meeting 9/19.

- Sept 8- Sundae Funday Picnic with burgers, hotdogs, ice cream
- Nov 24 -Decorate sanctuary for Advent/Christmas
- Dec 5 - Live Nativity
- Dec 8 - Christmas program during worship service
- Dec 15 - Christmas Open house at the parsonage

Lay Service/ Member Care report: None

Worship report: All is well

Head Usher report: All is well

Pastor Report with notes from Pastor Josh Rau:

1. Committee Meetings/Church Relations
 - a. Stewardship
 - b. Christian Board of Education
 - c. Conference Office
 - d. Chamber of Commerce
2. Pastoral Care - Done with Pastor Sam
 - a. Visits: 17
 - b. Home Communion: 14
3. Social Ministry
 - a. Canva - Used for all graphics \$120/yr. Pastor Rau asking for reimbursement. Motion made by Matt Z. to approve paying \$120/yr for Canva. Matt R. second. Motion passes.

- b. The website has a new look to it.
 - i. Several pages with new information
 - ii. Bulletins and newsletter are online
 - iii. History of the church
 - iv. Will be adding more content and trying to have different ministry within the church pages
 - v. Will be adding a monthly calendar to the website so people know what is happening and when the building is in use. A Google calendar has now been added.
 - vi. Visits for June: 66
 - vii. Visits for July: 518
 - viii. Traffic for August so far (9 days): 245
 - c. You Tube
 - i. New Graphic for both meditations and worship
 - ii. New info for worship with QR codes
 - iii. Average views are 15-20 for all videos
 - d. Facebook
 - i. Multiple post weekly
 - ii. Meditations from Emanuel posted weekly
 - iii. Event posted weekly for worship
 - iv. Data since July 12: 1.8k visits, 20 new followers
 - 1. Meditations: Week 1 - 1,022, Week 2 - 467
 - 2. Worship 7/28 - 211, 8/4 - 177
 - v. Instagram
 - 1. Page created and has 16 followers
 - 2. Welcome to Worship post each Sunday
4. Upcoming dates/meetings/additional information
- a. Out of town: Aug 12-14 Pastor Sam on call
 - b. Committee on Ministry 8/15 to get license
 - c. UCC Cluster Meeting 8/15
 - d. Confirmation Meeting 8/27. Currently 4 potential confirmands.
 - e. Bible study will begin in September. It will be on Tuesdays at 6 PM.
 - f. Confirmation will begin in September
 - i. Confirmands will assist in worship
 - g. Faith and Fellowship
 - i. Sunday morning time of fellowship and education at 9:00
 - h. Change in bulletin
 - i. Creating our own bulletin gives us the ability to use more space, add our own graphics and designs
 - ii. Potential cost savings because of the subscription.
 - iii. Katie moved to discontinue the current subscription. Matt R. second. Motion passed
 - i. Change lock on the pastor's office
 - i. For pastoral confidentiality
 - ii. Matt R. moved to rekey the pastor's office doors. Matt Z. second. Motion passed.
 - j. Communication
 - i. Newsletter - include the full minutes of the council meeting
 - ii. Website
 - iii. Email
 - k. Goals
 - i. Visits/Connecting with the congregation
 - ii. Social Ministry/ Community Involvement
 - iii. Communication and Transparency
 - iv. Education - Youth and Adult

Old Business

Form the nominating committee. The nominating committee will be all members of the Church Council. Nominees will be announced at the next meeting.

October 20, 2024 set as the Congregational meeting date

The Budget Committee will remain the same members as last year.

Pat Holley
Christy Bock
Matt Roethemeyer
Cathy Sievers

The organization's proposed budgets need to be sent to the Budget Committee for review.

CBE - Marcie Brown - President, Erica Cooper

August 11: Back to School Children's message by Catherine Hartle. Possibly a special breakfast coordinated by Heather Beggs.

New Business

September: Budget Committee present budget to council 2 weeks prior to meeting

Pastor Josh asked for approval of reimbursement for additional moving expenses not covered by the initial approved amount of \$3500. The additional amount was \$611.93 Matt R. motioned to approve. Matt Z. second. Motion passed.

Pat Holley updated the list of people who are approved to charge at Ace Hardware. They are: Matt Roethemeyer, Debra Hoffman, Layton Beggs, Josh Rau, Jimmy McCormack.

Church office is in need of a new desktop computer. Council recommended to have Debra shop for a new computer and bring it to Council for approval.

Chris Soer gave [bids for cleaning and servicing/fixing of the organ](#).

Entry keypad on the Ohio Street door needs to be replaced so you can read the numbers. Checking into options with Steve Zschille.

Christy Bock is checking into getting new tablecloths with Heather Beggs.

Sausage Supper is set as Nov 9 to work around Bailey Beggs wedding. Sausage Supper planning committee is scheduled to meet on Aug 20, 5:30 PM

Three goals as a Council for Pastor Josh: still needed

Next meeting: Sep 8, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 9:42 with motion by Christy, seconded by Matt Z. with the Lord's prayer led by Jimmy. Submitted by: Geoff Shinn, Church Council Secretary

Women's Ministries



Bethany Circle

Nine members and our guests, Josh and Alyssa Rau, were present for the August 1 meeting held in the church parlor at 7:00 p.m.

A memorial moment for our longtime member and friend, Val Tuschhoff was held. Debra Hoffmann read a poem "A Woman of Excellence" in her memory.

Those present answered roll call with their favorite type of bread.

During the business meeting, a report was given on the July 26 CWU board meeting and Bible study that was held at Emanuel. Other events of CWU were announced. They included the upcoming salad luncheon to be held at First General Baptist on September 6.

Bethany Circle will again sponsor the CWU Missouri Women's Prison Kits project. Monetary donations will be accepted during the month of September for that project.

A review of the projects Bethany Circle participates in was shared for Pastor Josh's information.

Meeting closed with the Mizpah. Refreshments were served by Joy Kessler and Cathy Sievers during the social hour.

Respectfully submitted

Cathy Sievers Secretary



Spice of Life

The Spice of Life met on August 4 following the morning worship.

Clothing Closet will be open from 9-11 a.m. on August 10. On August 11, Catheryn will do "Back to School" program during the Children's Message part of the worship service.

We discussed snacks to bring for the Women's Fellowship meeting following worship on August 11. We will also bring school supplies to donate to area schools.

Barb Chaney gave a devotion entitled "Faith is Confidence and Complete Trust".

Our next meeting will be on September 1 following the morning worship.

Respectfully submitted

Barb Chaney, Secretary



Women's Fellowship

Minutes from the August 11 Women's Fellowship meeting are on the next page.

Bethany Circle is asking for your support.

The Church Women United of Cape Girardeau, Missouri and Surrounding Area is collecting financial donations to prepare **Missouri Women's Prison Packs.**

Your financial donation will fund the purchase of personal care items for women inmates. We will be accepting donations each Sunday in September. Funds collected will be presented to CWU at the Festival of Sharing Sharefest in October.

If you would like to make a financial contribution, please make your check payable to Emanuel United Church of Christ and write MO Prison Packs on the Memo line. You may also make a cash donation if you prefer--Plain envelopes are available in the pew racks. Please put your name on the envelope if you want your donation to be recorded in your annual giving statement.



August 24 Women's Fellowship Meeting Minutes

The Women's Fellowship (WF) met following worship on Sunday, August 11 in the Fellowship Hall and enjoyed light snacks while discussing upcoming events, service projects, and organizational business.

Educational Partner in Faith: West Lane Elementary

To strengthen our partnership with JR2's Partner in Faith Program, the WF put together a committee to focus on supporting the staff at West Lane Elementary. This includes sending note cards, treats, and snacks throughout the year to show them we're thinking of them and lifting them up in prayer. Christy Bock and Erica Cooper are leading the charge, working with a budget approved by the WF to make this partnership as impactful as possible.

Treat Bags for the JHS Marching Chiefs

Catheryn Hartle will be leading this committee to provide treat bags for our local marching band students. Catheryn will call for monetary donations to purchase all the goodies that go inside these bags, and *we ask anyone available to help us pack them on **Sunday, September 22 following worship**. There are approximately 170 students in the Marching Chiefs this year, and bags will most likely be delivered to students on Friday, September 27. We're excited to continue this annual outreach.*

Noon Optimist Luncheon

The WF will be providing lunch for the Noon Optimist Organization on **Wednesday, October 30**. This will be a larger luncheon than normal, as the Optimist group will be hosting new and prospective members. Serving this local group on the fifth Wednesdays of the month is a great opportunity to bring in additional funds for our outreach and service projects.

Officers

At the November meeting, the WF will elect officers for 2025. Currently, Susan Brown is stepping down from Secretary and Erica Cooper is immediately filling that role. We thank Susan for her service. Catheryn Hartle will continue as President for the 2025 calendar year, but in the meantime, we are looking for someone to shadow and step into her wonderful shoes for 2026. The WF has at least 3 formal meetings each year, and all of the women of the church are invited to attend and participate. Any woman who is a member of the church may serve as an officer for the WF.

Other Items:

- **Bethany Circle** will be supporting the **Church Women United's annual prison kit campaign**, and will be collecting money to donate so that care kits can be put together and delivered to those in need.
- **Spice of Life** will be selling **Butter Braids** in October - so be on the lookout!! Braids will arrive before Thanksgiving. The funds collected from these orders will go towards the purchase of a new organ cover. Any leftover funds will be put towards organ repair.
- **Operation Christmas Child** collections will take place in early November. Stay tuned for more details, but in the meantime, start collecting items to place in your boxes!
- The annual **Pop-Up Holiday Shop** hosted by WF will be held on Saturday, December 7. Vendors have been contacted, but if you know someone who may want to participate, please have them contact Erica Cooper at 573-270-2259 or ericacooper@me.com.

August 24 CBE Minutes

The Christian Board of Education (CBE) met on Sunday, August 4 to welcome Pastor Josh and plan events for the fall season.

With the upcoming Congregational Meeting in October, it was time to ensure **officers of CBE** were in place. Karrie Zschille (librarian) and Erica Cooper (secretary), whose terms end this year, will be running for re-election at the Congregational Meeting for another three year term.

After setting a budget for 2025, the board discussed Pastor Josh's new **Tuesday evening Bible Study**, and are excited that he'll be offering a hybrid option (in-person/Zoom). Pastor Josh also brought to the board's attention plans for meeting with **Confirmands** and their families on Tuesday, August 27 to make plans for this special journey of learning and faith. In addition, noting that there are funds available in the CBE budget for Bibles, Pastor Josh will be selecting and providing new **Bibles** to our confirmands to carry on a wonderful tradition with a new twist here at Emanuel.

The CBE also made plans for our upcoming **Sundae Fun-day** event to be held after worship on Sunday, September 8 in collaboration with the Stewardship Committee. This event will be just what it sounds like - a great time for food, fellowship, and FUN . . . and don't forget the ice cream sundaes!!

Further plans were discussed for the fall and into the holiday season, so be sure to **SAVE THE DATES BELOW**:

- * **Decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas**
Sunday, November 24 following worship
- * **Live Nativity**
Thursday, December 5 @ 6-8 pm
- * **Christmas Program + Birthday Party for Baby Jesus**
Sunday, December 8 during/after worship
- * **Christmas at the Parsonage**
Sunday, December 15 @ 1-5 pm

The next CBE meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 19 @ 6 pm**.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
FOLLOWING WORSHIP

Burgers, Hotdogs, & All the Fixings!
Homemade Ice Cream Sundaes Galore!

FOOD + FELLOWSHIP + FUN

Bring your appetite and your sweet tooth—because nothing brings people together like good food and sweet treats!



COME FOR THE WORSHIP, STAY FOR THE SUNDAES!



A Prayer for the Anniversary of 9/11

O God, our hope and refuge,
in our distress we come quickly to you.
Shock and horror of that tragic day have subsided,
replaced now with an emptiness,
a longing for an innocence lost.

We come remembering those who lost their lives
in New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania.

We are mindful of the sacrifice of public servants
who demonstrated the greatest love of all
by laying down their lives for friends.

We commit their souls to your eternal care
and celebrate their gifts to a fallen humanity.

We come remembering
and we come in hope,
not in ourselves, but in you.

As foundations we once thought secure have been shaken,
we are reminded of the illusion of security.

In commemorating this tragedy,
we give you thanks for your presence
in our time of need
and we seek to worship you in Spirit and in truth,
our guide and our guardian. **Amen.**

By Rev. Jeremy Pridgeon

We Shall Never Forget (9-11 Tribute)

Let the world always remember,
That fateful day in September,
And the ones who answered duty's call,
Should be remembered by us all.

Who left the comfort of their home,
To face perils as yet unknown,
An embodiment of goodness on a day,
When men's hearts had gone astray.

Sons and daughters like me and you,
Who never questioned what they had to do,
Who by example, were a source of hope,
And strength to others who could not cope.

Heroes that would not turn their back,
With determination that would not crack,
Who bound together in their ranks,
And asking not a word of thanks.

Men who bravely gave their lives,
Whose orphaned kids and widowed wives,
Can proudly look back on their dad,
Who gave this country all they had.

Actions taken without regret,
Heroisms we shall never forget,
The ones who paid the ultimate price,
Let's never forget their sacrifice.

And never forget the ones no longer here,
Who fought for the freedoms we all hold dear,
And may their memory never wane,
Lest their sacrifices be in vain.

By Alan W. Jankowski

