

Let Us Know You're Here

New or regular, we'd love to know you're here today. You can also share a prayer request so our team can pray for you this week.



emmanuelcommunity.org/ecard

New to Emmanuel?



E:Connect is a short class designed to help you learn who we are, what we believe, and how to get connected.

emmanuelcommunity.org/welcome

Baptism

Baptism is a public declaration of faith for those who have placed their faith in Jesus. Learn more or take your next step at



emmanuelcommunity.org/baptism

Stay Connected



Our **E:Note** email helps you stay connected beyond the weekend with updates, stories, and next steps from around Emmanuel.

emmanuelcommunity.org/newsletter



September 12 & 13, 2026 | Paul's Prayer | Ephesians 3:14-21 | Joshua Wilhite, pastor

THE PRESSURE

Ephesians 2:19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit

John 13:34 ... just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. 35 By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

The Church is God's PLAN A, and there is no PLAN B.

THE PRAYER

Ephesians 3:14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, 16 that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,

1. Paul's prayer for power (δύναμις // DU-na-mis) invites us to a POSTURE of dependence.

"Father, please HELP me."

*Ephesians 3:17 so that Christ may **dwell** in your hearts **through faith** —...*

- a. Dependence looks like making DECISIONS to trust Jesus with more of our lives.

“This AREA of my life belongs to you, and I’m choosing to trust you with it no matter what happens.”

*Ephesians 3:17 ...that you, being rooted and grounded in **love** , 18 may have strength to comprehend **with all the saints** what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the **love** of Christ that surpasses knowledge,...*

- b. Dependence looks like striving in Christian community to GRASP (καταλαμβάνω // kata-lahm-BAH-no) the truth of Christ’s love for us.

“As I demonstrate your love to _____, help me to EXPERIENCE your love more deeply.”

*Ephesians 3:19 ...that you may be **filled** with all the **fullness** of God.*

- c. Dependence looks like living from FULLNESS (πλήρωμα // PLAY-ro-ma) even when we feel “empty.”

“Even when I feel empty, in Christ I’m FULL.”

*Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is **able** to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the **power** at work within us, 21 to him be glory **in the church and in Christ Jesus** throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.*

2. Paul’s praise reminds us that believers are full of the POWER (δύναμις // DU-na-mis) we need to LOVE like Jesus.

“Thank you for the POWER you’ve given me to love like Jesus right now.”

THE POINT

Ephesians 4:1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

If your church is going to work, it’ll be because you keep choosing to LOVE like someone who is FULL.

THE PRACTICE

1. Spend some time FASTING and praying.
2. Do something CHRISTLIKE that your “hunger” has been holding you back from.