

# **Art@Emmanuel**

*Promoting the Creative Spirit through the visual arts*

**OUR PURPOSE** is to educate and inspire our congregation and our community through the creation and contemplation of visual art. Creativity is an integral part of the Emmanuel community, and art is just one of the many ways we think about and express *Community \* Creativity \* Spirituality*. We believe that art can help heal the soul.

**WE INVITE EVERYONE**, children, youth and adults, regardless of artistic experience, to participate in the Creative Spirit.

**ART OPENINGS** often include music, poetry readings, and other performances, as well as good food! Please check the Art & Entertainment Calendar at [EmmanuelLutheranRockford.org](http://EmmanuelLutheranRockford.org) for information on upcoming exhibits, workshops and open studio times.

- **The Celebration Room Gallery** provides a unique venue for group and individual art displays. Art@Emmanuel coordinates exhibits with various themes exploring issues, metaphors, symbols, and meaning. While most shows are open to submissions from the public, some have highlighted individual artists, children's art, various groups at Emmanuel, or Emmanuel's history and archives.
- **Recent shows** have included:
  - *Street Lights* – (Youth Show) Graffiti-based paintings and other art about the metaphor of light in the everyday world.
  - *Sacred Seeds: Harvest* – Exploring the metaphor of the harvest as a recurring theme in spiritual traditions across cultures.
  - *Rhythms of the Earth* – Cycles and rhythms of nature and the Earth.
  - *All My Relations: A Peaceable Kingdom* – (Curated by *Four Winds*) Art about the interconnectedness of all life.
  - *Transition* – Unframed photographs about times and transformations.
  - *ShadowBoxing* – Shadow boxes and other art about wrestling with one's inner shadows.
- **Workshops** – Members of Art@Emmanuel, as well as other professional artists from the community, lead workshops designed to encourage individuals of all ages and artistic abilities to explore their creative Spirit. Recent workshops have focused on creating personal altars, constructing environmental art, and

making art journals. Some materials are provided. There is a nominal workshop fee.

- **Open Studio** – Art@Emmanuel occasionally offers open studio time at the church. Artists work on their individual projects in a group setting, and share ideas and techniques. There is no fee, and materials are the responsibility of the individual artist.
- **Art As Meditation** – Each winter Art@Emmanuel sponsors a 24-hour Prayer Vigil which is hosted by Emmanuel Lutheran church. The Prayer Vigil includes an art space where participants experience visual art as a form of meditation. Everyone is invited to engage in a variety of projects to stir the Creative Spirit. There is no charge for the Prayer Vigil or Art-As-Meditation space. Everyone is welcome to come and pray. Check the Worship Calendar at [EmmanuelLutheranRockford.org](http://EmmanuelLutheranRockford.org) for the date and time.

Art@Emmanuel meets monthly to explore ideas and plan exhibits and workshops. ALL are welcome! To learn more, call the church office, 815-963-4815, or send an e-mail to Art@Emmanuel from the [EmmanuelLutheranRockford.org](http://EmmanuelLutheranRockford.org) website.

*... Be Inspired to Create ...*

*Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just,  
whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,  
if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise,  
think about these things.*

**Philippians 4:8**