



The VISITOR

Monthly Newsletter of Immanuel Lutheran Church

Volume 9 Issue 1

January 2018

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission, as disciples of Jesus, is to commit ourselves to making Christ known through worship, service, outreach, learning and loving one another.

From The Pastor's Desk....

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Two nights ago, I had a dream – one that has stuck with me. In my dream I was speaking to a group of people about why we serve others, care for the sick, give to the poor. I said, “We do what we do not to make Jesus happy, but to make Jesus happen.” There was more to the dream than that, but that is all I remember. And it’s enough!

This means to me that Jesus is not sitting up in heaven, looking down on us in approval or in disapproval of what we do. Jesus is the Living One who meets us in every human encounter. Every time we respond to a neighbor in need with a simple act of love, Jesus happens! Jesus is God’s eternal love embodied in human flesh and blood from the day he was conceived in Mary’s womb to the day he emerged victorious from the tomb – and beyond. The process of love’s embodiment, what the Church calls Incarnation, continues to this day. We are the Body of Christ: the place where Jesus happens as we reach out to the world with the good news of his love.

Every time we gather to praise and worship God and share the Lord’s Supper, Jesus happens.

Every time we teach children the story of God’s Love, whether in Sunday School or around the kitchen table at home, Jesus happens.

Every time we welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, befriend the lonely, provide a listening ear or a shoulder to cry on, Jesus happens.

Every time we speak out for justice and peace, standing with the poor and powerless, Jesus happens.

And every time Jesus happens, the eternal, world-creating Word comes to dwell in our flesh, full of grace and truth.

Looking back over the past year, I celebrate the many times and places where Jesus happened among us. Looking ahead to the coming year, I dream of new ways Jesus will happen among us as we grow together in Love.

~Pastor Charlie

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OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AND GROW AT IMMANUEL

No previous knowledge of the Bible is required for any Bible study

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Meets weekly throughout the year in the Martin Luther Room following the worship service, approximately 10:15–11:15am. On coffee hour Sundays, we meet 10:45–11:30am. Each week we will explore the Gospel reading for the following Sunday.

Jan 7: Mark 1:4-11

Jan 14: Mark 1:14-20

Jan 21: Mark 1:21-28

Jan 28: Mark 1:29-39



MIDWEEK PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Morning Group meets in the Oak Tree Room (resumes Jan. 9) every Tuesday morning at 11am for **“See Through the Scripture”** which provides a bird’s eye view of the entire Bible that helps us see how it all fits together.

Evening Group meets at the Pastor’s home, 840 Hughes Shop Rd, Westminster MD 21158 at 7pm on **Wednesday Jan 10, Tuesday Jan 16 & 23, and Wednesday Jan 31. Topic: Message of the Prophets.**

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Sessions are every **Sunday** in the **Oak Tree Room at 7pm.** Jan 7: Exile and Return; Jan 14: Message of the Prophets; Jan 21: Jesus is Born; Jan 28: Temptation.

PASTOR CHARLIE’S

JANUARY BIBLE CHALLENGE: MARK 1-9

This year in worship we will read mostly from the Gospel according to Mark. We begin the new year by reading through Mark, the first of the Gospels to be written and the most action-packed! In January we will read chapters 1-9, and finish up in February with chapters 10-16.

The online Bible Study will continue with daily comments from Pastor Charlie on Facebook. Email him at pastorc@ielcmd.org if you would like to join this private group, or if you would like to receive copies via email of the comments he posts there for each day.

| | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1/1/2018 | Mark 1:1-13 | 1/12/2018 | Mark 4:21-34 | 1/23/2018 | Mark 7:24-30 |
| 1/2/2018 | Mark 1:14-28 | 1/13/2018 | Mark 4:35-41 | 1/24/2018 | Mark 7:31-37 |
| 1/3/2018 | Mark 1:29-39 | 1/14/2018 | Mark 5:1-20 | 1/25/2018 | Mark 8:1-13 |
| 1/4/2018 | Mark 1:40-45 | 1/15/2018 | Mark 5:21-34 | 1/26/2018 | Mark 8:14-26 |
| 1/5/2018 | Mark 2:1-12 | 1/16/2018 | Mark 5:35-43 | 1/27/2018 | Mark 8:27-38 |
| 1/6/2018 | Mark 2:13-17 | 1/17/2018 | Mark 6:1-13 | 1/28/2018 | Mark 9:1-13 |
| 1/7/2018 | Mark 2:18-28 | 1/18/2018 | Mark 6:14-29 | 1/29/2018 | Mark 9:14-29 |
| 1/8/2018 | Mark 3:1-12 | 1/19/2018 | Mark 6:30-44 | 1/30/2018 | Mark 9:30-37 |
| 1/9/2018 | Mark 3:13-30 | 1/20/2018 | Mark 6:45-56 | 1/31/2018 | Mark 9:38-50 |
| 1/10/2018 | Mark 3:31-35 | 1/21/2018 | Mark 7:1-13 | | |
| 1/11/2018 | Mark 4:1-20 | 1/22/2018 | Mark 7:14-23 | | |

ARE YOU RECEIVING PASTOR CHARLIE'S WEEKLY EMAIL?

If you would like to receive a weekly message from Pastor Charlie with reminders about what's happening at Immanuel, please submit your email address to pastorc@ielcmd.org.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER AND HEALING

Pastor offers individual prayer at the communion rail, with anointing and laying of hands for healing for those who desire it before each service.

MARYLAND FAITH HEALTH NETWORK

This new partnership between Immanuel and LifeBridge Health will enable us to be better informed and provide more consistent care and support for our members during and following hospitalization at Carroll, Northwest or Sinai Hospitals.

Registration forms are available in the back of the sanctuary and in the church office. If you have not already done so, please register soon. You will receive an ID card you can use when you are hospitalized, which will enable the hospital to be in touch with us to let us know you are there.

We are looking for volunteers! Please see Judy Bixler or Pastor Charlie, or contact the church office, if you are willing to ...

- * visit someone at home or the hospital
- * give a ride to a medical appointment
- * prepare and/or deliver a simple meal
- * make a phone call
- * write a note or send a card
- * pray for someone in the hospital



DEATHS

Dorothy Black, wife of the late Clayton Black

Ken Gundling, brother-in-law of Carolyn Hamlet

Jennifer Bortner, daughter of Ron and Linda Schmidt

Lily Counts, grandmother of Donna Patterson

Greg Losiewski, nephew of Ken and Rhonda Kiler

THANKS

We would like to thank everyone who attended our daughter Jennifer's viewing and church service. All the many flower, cards and phone calls were deeply appreciated.

A special thank you to Pastor Charlie for his many calls and visits to Jennifer and us. ~Ron & Linda, and Michael & Hunter

+ + + + +

Donation received in memory of Dorothy Black by Virginia Barron

+ + + + +

Donation received in memory of Millie Leedy
designated to the Building Fund by her loving family

+ + + + +

2017 will mark the first full year of our Children's Chorus. We ended on a very positive note with the children's performance on 12/17. I'd like to thank everyone who had a part in this year's success:

- Amanda Yingling, our highly skilled vocal coach, and Sandy Voight, who has accompanied every one of our rehearsals and performances,
- Pastor Charlie for his flexibility in scheduling us in church services,
- All of the parents - **you** are the ones who fit our rehearsals and performances into your busy schedules. Without you, there would be no choir,
- Tyler Ewing for adding beautiful cello accompaniment - you really kicked our performance up a notch! I really hope we can collaborate in the future.,
- Rachel Murphy for trying her best to keep up with my puzzling, mutating scheduling efforts., AND...
- Each and every one of our choir members, of every age and experience. I am so proud of all of you....let's do this again next year

~Mr. Pete

+ + + + +

Donation received in memory of our loved ones:

Our parents June & John Brown, Earl & Doris Yingling and Aunt Margaret Zepp and to the Glory of God on this Christmas Eve for the hope we have in Jesus by Bobby & Susan Yingling

+ + + + +

Christmas donation received by Esther Miller

+ + + + +

Thank you to everyone who remembered me and my family this Christmas with cards, gifts (including lots of delicious goodies!), and personal greetings. It is a joy and an honor to be your pastor.

~Pastor Charlie

COMMUNICATION DEADLINES

Information to print in the weekly service bulletin must be received by noon on the Wednesday prior to worship. Information to print in the monthly newsletter must be received by the 15th of the month prior.

TIS THE SEASON...

At Immanuel, we hold that every member of the congregation is a gift and blessing from God. Keeping this in mind, it is our responsibility to care for the safety of each and every member of the congregation. Therefore, weather conditions or circumstances may establish the need to cancel worship services and/or activities.

The policy is to evaluate the situation (weather or other conditions) and when possible make the decision to cancel services or activities **two hours prior** to the service or activity through the following official sites:

WBAL Ch. 11 television closure site

Immanuel's Facebook page

Immanuel's Web site (www.immanuel.lutheranccmd.org)

Immanuel's Office Phone Recorded Message (410-374-4463)



In the event of a cancellation, the message will be conveyed in the above media forms and the pastor will try to offer an alternative time.

The decision to cancel activities will be made by a review of the NOAA.gov website, in consultation with the Council President and Pastor. The policy may be amended at any time with the consent of the council.

AUTOMATIC DONATIONS

Immanuel offers a convenient and secure way to make donations! You can make a one-time donation. Or you can set up a recurring offering directly from your bank account or credit card.

If you have any questions, please contact the office for assistance. Our church website has a link to get started: www.ielcmd.org



If you do not want to go online to set up, complete the Automatic Donations form on the next page and return to the Church Office.

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Set Up of Automatic Donations

Complete the below information to authorize
Immanuel Church/SK Giving to set up automatic donations.



Member Information

Full Name (First, Last) _____

Complete Address (Street, City, State, Zip) _____

Email Address (N/A if none) _____

Donation Details

Select One Fund (use a separate form for each Fund)

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Offering | <input type="checkbox"/> Land and Building Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly Mission Special Offering |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday School / Youth Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen Fund | |

Select One Frequency

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly (1 st of month) | <input type="checkbox"/> Twice per Month (1 st and 16 th) | <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly (Every Sunday) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly (16 th of month) | <input type="checkbox"/> Twice per Month (5 th and 20 th) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bi-Weekly (Every Other Sunday) |

Amount (Include Dollar and Cents) \$ _____

How Many Installments? (Circle One)

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| 2 | 5 | 8 | 11 | 36 | 60 | 156 |
| 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 48 | 104 | 180 |
| 4 | 7 | 10 | 24 | 52 | 120 | 360 |

Start Date (Always on first of the next month and goes out 6 months. Example, if signing this form in January, the possible start dates are: Feb 1, March 1, April 1, May 1, June 1 and July 1) _____ 1, 2018
(Month)

Account Information Credit Card or Checking/Savings Account

Credit Card (Circle One)

Check Card Visa MasterCard Discover
Card Number _____

Expiration Date (Month/Year) ____ / ____

Card Code (on back) _____

Bank (Circle One)

Checking Savings
Routing Number (9 Digits) _____

Bank Account Number _____

Name of Bank _____

Signature

Authorized Signature _____ Date: _____

Print Name _____ Date: _____



NORTH CARROLL MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry is open every Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30pm, unless schools are closed. Food is free to anyone in need. The pantry is in a room by the parent pick up entrance in front of building next to gym. (2401 Hanover Pike Hampstead 21074) Any questions or concerns, please contact: School Principal, Ralph Billings or School Counselor, Mary Dee Oxen at 410-751-3440 or mdoxen@carrollk12.org.

PASTOR SUZANNE'S FAREWELL SERVICE

Sunday, Jan 7 at 10:45am

Pastor Suzanne Schmidt, our neighbor at Trinity UCC, will be retiring next month. The people of Trinity are inviting us to attend her farewell service on Sunday, January 7 following Immanuel's 9am Epiphany worship service. We wish Pastor Suzanne all the best as she moves into the next chapter of her life!



SAVE SOMEONE FROM HEROIN, FENTANYL OR PRESCRIPTION DRUG OVERDOSE

Naloxone training provided by Carroll County Health Department in Immanuel's Social Hall on January 24th. An overdose death may happen in minutes or hours after opiate use. Opiates can slow or stop a person's breathing, which causes death. Naloxone can help reverse an opiate overdose and save a life.

6pm: Registration, refreshments & displays

6:30 – 8:00pm: Training session

MISSIONS

Joe Fleck, jpflecksr@gmail.com, 410-848-5919



In January, we will collect an offering for Trinity's restoration project. Members of Trinity UCC will present information and pictures showing the damage and repairs at the Saturday evening service on Jan 6 and the Sunday morning service on Jan 7.

The church building is architecturally significant and listed on the Maryland Historical Trust's Inventory of State Historic Sites. The ornate church nave and the decorative tin ceiling are seldom seen in churches today. Unfortunately, the ceiling above the sanctuary was sagging. Closer inspection reveals that many of the original rough-sawn trusses were sheared, split or cracked.

The cost of the repairs is significant. The ceiling and truss repairs cost over \$300,000 to restore and took almost six months to complete. Without restoration work, the church would have closed, extinguishing the light of an important center piece of Manchester's history.

IMMANUEL'S WORK DAY

Work Day is held on the 3rd Monday of every month. Join us for any time you can, between 9am and 2pm in the Social Hall. You will have a great time of fellowship (and lunch is provided!) while helping make blankets for charity organizations.

Most of the time, quilts and blankets are made for the Linus Project. But starting in December, work begins on patriotic blankets. The Red, White and Blue items are made for TAPS (Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors). On Memorial weekend, TAPS hold '*Camp Good Grief*' in Washington DC for children who have lost a loved one in the military. The camp provides a safe place for military children to explore grief and embrace healing. Each child attending receives a handmade patriotic quilt.

~No sewing experience necessary~

There is something for everyone to do! So bring a friend with you!

Everyone can help. And all help is appreciated.



Ruth Calp is a 3rd generation member of Immanuel. Before moving to Homewood at Plum Creek, Ruth worshipped regularly, was active in the LCW, and was in charge of the Funeral Luncheons.

She keeps herself busy now crocheting lap robes and Linus blankets for Immanuel's Workday.



Ladies at December Work Day holding blankets made by Ruth this past month.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Deb Hebrank, 410-952-3320; Rhonda Kiler, 410-239-7028;
Brenda Wulforst, 443-507-6753, Amanda Yingling, 717-880-5215

Rhonda, Amanda and I would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and happy 2018. We would also like to thank the congregation for all their help and support this year with the Table Of Grace, Monthly NESAP/TOFF's contributions and our Holiday Families.

We delivered 130 gifts and food to our 12 families for Christmas. Once again, you have risen to the challenge to extend help and support to the community.



In January, NESAP is in need of bars of soap and toilet paper. Labeled baskets are in the Narthex. Please consider picking some up (sold at the dollar store!). Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Immanuel serves lunch at Table of Grace on January 30th. If you have not helped us in the past, please consider helping us this year. I think you will find it a very rewarding experience.

If you are not able to help during the day, then consider donating a baked good (homemade or store bought). The clients love pies and desserts with icing. Bring items to church by Monday, January 29th (leave in office or on kitchen counter).

For more information please contact anyone from the Social Ministry Committee. Thank you to everyone that has helped us in the past and we look forward to working with you in the new year.

We could not have accomplished last year without you!
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!!

CHURCH COUNCIL

President: Brenda Wulforst, 443-507-6753

Vice President: John Gregg, 410-599-3091

Recording Secretary: Jamie Rooney

NEW BUSINESS

*Incentives for Sunday school attendance. Immanuel's Mar-Lu-Ridge sponsor wants to work with Christian education to encourage consistent attendance on Sunday mornings. Sunday school students who attend 70% of classes during the Sunday school year would be eligible for free summer camp enrollment. Other students can still enroll in summer camp at their parent's expense. The criteria will be in a newsletter to parents. Further discussion at the January Christian education meeting.

*A local weight loss and exercise establishment, which is no longer in business has donated 8 pieces of resistance equipment to Immanuel. We are currently exploring how best to use this free gift.

*Approximately 12 members attended a Church safety seminar held recently at Grace Bible Church on Charmil Drive. This seminar was very informative and church council is exploring the opportunity to offer this to our congregation.

*Pros and cons of security cameras were discussed. Additional information is necessary.

OLD BUSINESS

The current and future security lighting at Immanuel was discussed.

FELLOWSHIP

Chair: Rhonda Kiler, 410-239-7028

Members: Deb Hebrank, 410-952-3320; Brenda Wulforst, 443-507-6753;

Linda Gregg; Matthew Rooney; Jamie Rooney

The Fellowship Committee hopes you had
a peaceful and joyous Christmas with family and friends.

Our Black Friday event with vendors selling food and crafts of all kind was a great way to get the Christmas season and some shopping started! Money from the event went to the kitchen fund and social ministry. Jamie Rooney did a great job once again. Thank you for your support.

Our first coffee hour is on January 7th. We always have many delicious baked goods and fellowship. There is a signup sheet at the back of the church if you wish to make a baked item.

Looking forward, we will begin to prepare for Lent in February. We start with Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and our Wednesday soup meals.

Once again we are so thankful for the support
you give the Fellowship Committee with all of our events.

You are always willing to give and help out with whatever is asked.

MISSIONARY SPONSORSHIP

Rev. Wal Reat is our ELCA Global Missionary sponsor. He serves in South Sudan among the refugees in several camps along the border between South Sudan and Ethiopia. Keep Rev. Wal in your prayers. Here is a message we recently received from him:

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MISSIONARY IN SOUTH SUDAN

I thank our Lord Jesus Christ for the good works that you are doing to God's people. I thank God for you for the commitment that you made to the churches in Upper Nile South Sudan, the churches in refugee camps and the churches in Gambela areas. We are very glad for your wonderful support for the works of Jesus Christ. May your hearts be blessed by God the Father of this world.



We are still in need of many things for the work of our churches, as you know that South Sudan has been in war for four years. In the area where I work, its people depend on UNHCR. They have nothing in their hands to support the church as contribution. We are looking for you, the churches in the U.S., to think about us and of ways to bring development and the building of church structures. Without your support we are nothing. With your support we will be more and more a better church and better people, and the Holy Spirit will bring His people to know the Father.

Again, thank you so much for your support. We are very happy for what you do, and your contribution is highly welcome. Our 26 churches still need your support. May God bless you now and for many years to come. Pastor Wal Reat.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Jen Edwards, 443-883-6138, jen@iostreaminfo.com, Jeanne Swain, Angie Eckhardt,
Pete Wulforst, Jen Robinson, Sandy Voight, Brenda Wulforst



SUMMER CAMP AT MAR LU RIDGE

Summer Camp is a great place for youth and families to make friends, challenge themselves with new experiences and activities, and deepen their faith by living and working in a Christ-centered community.

Mar-Lu-Ridge offers a wide variety of programming for young people from ages 6-17 and families. Their tiered pricing option allows you to choose the price that best fits your budget, and Camperships are always available for those in need of assistance.

For more information, visit their web site, www.mar-lu-ridge.org, to download the 2018 camp schedule and learn more about the camping experience. Contact the camp office with questions at 800-238-9974. Registration opens January 1 and Early Bird savings of \$35 off each camp are in effect until February 18 (does not apply to Day Camp).

During the month of January,
Sunday School is collecting
new and used Barbie dolls for Peace, Love, Dolls.

Barbies can be in ANY condition!



Peace, Love, Dolls was started by Makenna Steel of Westminster. The middle schooler cleans the dolls, restyles their hair, and puts them in a new outfit. The dolls are then donated to local shelters and relief organizations. According to Makenna, no Barbie is beyond repair!

Makenna will be visiting our youth immediately following coffee hour in February. She will be sharing her story of how she started Peace, Love, Dolls and our youth will help her make tags for dolls that are ready to be donated. If you have any questions, please contact Jamie Rooney. Jamielr126@gmail.com or 443-536-3541.

January 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| | 1 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA | 2 7pm Scouts | 3 7:15pm AA | 4 Pastor Retreat (Day) 6pm Chime Practice 7pm Choir Practice | 5 Pastor Day Off 8pm AA 8pm AI-Anon | 6 Missions Special Offering 5pm Worship / Communion 6:30pm AA |
| 7 Missions Special Offering 9am Worship / Communion 10:15am Coffee Hour 10:15am Sunday School 10:45am Adult Bible Study 7pm Confirmation Class | 8 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA | 9 11am Bible Study-OTR 7pm Scouts 7pm Church Council Mtg | 10 7pm Bible Study-Pr Home 7:15pm AA | 11 6pm Chime Practice 7pm Choir Practice | 12 Pastor Day Off 8pm AA 8pm AI-Anon | 13 5pm Worship / Communion 6:30pm AA |
| 14 9am Worship / Communion 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Adult Bible Study 7pm Confirmation Class | 15 9am Work Day 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA | 16 11am Bible Study-OTR 7pm Scouts 7pm Bible Study-Pr Home | 17 11am Stephen Ministry 7:15pm AA | 18 6pm Chime Practice 7pm Choir Practice | 19 Pastor Day Off 8pm AA 8pm AI-Anon | 20 5pm Worship / Communion 6:30pm AA |
| 21 9am Worship / Communion 10:15am Adult Bible Study 7pm Confirmation Class | 22 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA | 23 11am Bible Study-OTR 7pm Scouts 7pm Bible Study-Pr Home | 24 6pm Naloxone Training 7:15pm AA | 25 6pm Chime Practice 7pm Choir Practice | 26 Pastor Day Off 8pm AA 8pm AI-Anon | 27 5pm Worship / Communion 6:30pm AA |
| 28 9am Worship / Communion 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Adult Bible Study 7pm Confirmation Class | 29 8pm AI-Anon 8pm AA | 30 Table of Grace' 11am Bible Study-OTR 7pm Scouts | 31 7pm Bible Study-Pr Home 7:15pm AA | | | |

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Leaders: Bob Nicoll, Connie Dattilio

Members: Evonne Brillhart, Christine Crouch, Carol Nicoll, Audrey Shaffer

At our Ministry Fair a prospective candidate asked the following;
“Am I eligible for, and how would you prepare me for an assignment as a Stephen Minister?”.... very good questions!

First, there are some basic qualifications:

- *Are you willing, and Spirit moved, to serve those in our congregation or community who are hurting, or going through a difficult life issue?
- *Do you possess the temperament and relational skills needed? Not everyone will have the aptitude or “gift” to serve in this outreach.
- *Are you willing to commit to a regular visitation relationship with an assigned care receiver?
- *Are you able to participate, with your schedule and other commitments, in the prerequisite 50 hours of basic training, followed by a monthly meeting for continuing education and supervision?
- *We will expect you to serve with the church SM team for a minimum of two years.
- *Our group Stephen Leaders will assess your fit and readiness, along with the Pastor’s input.

That 50 hours of basic training may be offered through any of our area churches with an active Stephen Ministry group. Class sizes are small and will become close-knit. The course curriculum is seasoned and was developed by the Stephen Ministry Home Organization.

It consists of:

Basic Ministry protocols:

The Art of Listening, Confidentiality, Setting Boundaries, Distinctively Christian Caring, etc.

Situational Guidance:

Addressing death of a loved one, illness, divorce, job loss, depression and loneliness, etc.



This opportunity to serve is not a casual commitment, but it is one of the most rewarding outreach ministries in our congregation.

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Susan Burnette, 410-357-9466, sb31220@gmail.com

Jerry Hoffman, 410-374-2565, Organist/Choir Director;

Audrey Moose, 410-429-4047, Chime Choir Director

Judy Bixler, 717-632-1805, Saturday Evening Service; Jennifer Holbrook, 410-374-6401, Acolytes;

Sandy Voight, 410-239-9428, Altar Guild; Wayne Thomas, 410-374-9538, Adult /Luther Men Choirs

Amanda Yingling, 717-880-5215, Children's Choir Coordinator

POINSETTIA THANK YOU!

Each year, poinsettias adorn our chancel area for our Christmas Eve Services. They are a breath-taking 'Kodak' moment! We thank everyone who sponsored a poinsettia. Thank you to Auchey's Plant Farm in Hanover for supplying and delivering them; to Gail Miller for arranging the plants and to Rachel Murphy for printing the Poinsettia bulletin insert.

Looking Ahead ...

Jan 6-7

Epiphany Services

Special Missions Weekend Offering

Sunday Coffee Hour

Jan 13-14

Baptism of Our Lord Services

Jan 20-21

Epiphany 2

Sunday, W&M Annual Planning Meeting 10:30am

Jan 27-28

Epiphany 3

Youth Sunday

JANUARY ALTAR GUILD

Frank Burnette

Susan Burnette

JANUARY HEAD USHERS

Saturdays at 5pm: Jeanne Swain

Sundays at 9am: Rhonda Kiler

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Epiphany Services will be held the **weekend of January 6th and 7th**. The word '*Epiphany*' means the manifestation or the showing of the Christ Child. In the book of Matthew, it is written that when the wise men saw the brilliant star shining in the eastern sky, the star seemed to stop overhead, pointing the way. These three magi traveled quite a long distance in order to visit the baby, Jesus. They were welcomed by Mary and Joseph into the small humble stable – their temporary home. "*On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary, his mother.*" (Matthew 2: 10-11) Following an eastern European tradition, there was a visual blessing that was used and inscribed in chalk over the main door of a family dwelling. Example: 20 + CMB + 18 -> translated this means: taking the numbers (20,18) to represent the current year, 2018; the three letters (CMB) refer to the names of the three wise men: Casper ~ Melchior ~ and Balthasar. Join Immanuel on **January 6th and 7th for our Epiphany Services** and retrace the magis' journey to follow the star and visit God's Beloved Son, Jesus.

THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

During the weekend services of **January 13th and 14th**, we will celebrate the **Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord**. It is said, that in the River Jordan, Jesus was baptized and revealed as the Son of God. In this great epiphany, Jesus fulfilled all promises and became the servant of God, who would bring justice and the light to all nations. During our baptisms, we were washed clean by the Word, anointed by the Spirit and name one of God's beloved children and members of His body, the church. All those baptized at Immanuel during 2017 will be remembered and blessed during these weekend services.

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

Music and Worship's Annual Planning Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 21st following the morning worship service in the Oak Tree room. All committee members are encouraged to attend.

MUSIC MINISTRY @ IMMANUEL

Please consider becoming a part of the Music Ministry of Immanuel!

We currently support four various groups:

The Sunday Adult Choir The Chime Choir

The Luther Men

The Children's Choir - 'All God's Children'

Even if you are not able to commit to regular practices at this time, but could participate occasionally during the year, please contact:

Jerry Hoffman (*Organist/Choir Director*)

Audrey Moose (*Chime Choir Director*)

Wayne Thomas (*Luther Men Choir*)

Amanda Yingling (*Children's Choir Coordinator*)

No experience is needed,

just a willingness to help and '*make a joyful noise*'!

Sunday Adult Choir hold weekly practices on Thursdays from 7-8pm

Chime Choir practice on Thursdays at 6pm (in the auditorium)

The Luther Men sing quarterly, will sing on Palm Sunday, March 25

Children's Choir sing quarterly, and practice before scheduled dates

More information on Music Ministry Bulletin Board in the office hallway.

JANUARY LECTIONARY SERIES

Available for your home Bible Study.

Join us as we read through the month of January.

| Week of: | First Reading | Psalms | Second Reading | Gospel |
|--|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| January 6 ~ 7 Epiphany | Isaiah 60:1-6 | Psalms 72:1-7,10-14 | Ephesians 3:1-12 | Matthew 2:1-12 |
| January 13 ~ 14 Baptism of Our Lord | Genesis 1:1-5 | Psalms 29 | Acts 19:1-7 | Mark 1:4-11 |
| January 20 ~ 21 | Jonah 3:1-5, 10 | Psalms 62:5-12 | 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 | Mark 1:14-20 |
| January 27 ~ 28 | Deuteronomy 18:15-20 | Psalms 111 | 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 | Mark 1:21-28 |

WOMENS' HARMONY CHOIR

Not to be left out, Music and Worship is looking for ladies in the congregation who would be interested in joining a women's choir. Similar to the Luther Men, these voices would harmonize various music several times during the year. Remember, you do not need to be a 'singer', but rather interested in becoming a member of a new outreach group of Immanuel's Music Ministry. Interested ~ see Susan Burnette.



If you are celebrating a birthday in January, we wish you a wonderful day! If you still are not listed, notify Susan Burnette to be included!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Ps. Charlie and Caroline
January 3, 1976

Joe and Jo Fleck
January 20, 1990

Tom and Jane Taylor
January 21, 1984

Sandy Voight
Bryce Chaney
Doris Miller
Jennifer Yingling
Jean Arbaugh
Debbie Mace
Beverly Klinedinst
Jordan Bosnick

Jeremy Edwards
Justin Patterson
Nancy Herman
Carol Nicoll
Jamie Rooney
Caroline Marshall
Kyle McCarty
Christina Miller

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER 2017 WORSHIP ATTENDANCES

| November Worship Service Dates | Sat + Sun Attendance | Remarks |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 4,5 | 23 + 80 = 103 | All Saints Remembrance |
| 11,12 | 23 + 84 = 107 | Veteran's Thank You |
| 18,19 | 18 + 84 = 102 | |
| 22 | 49 | Thanksgiving Eve @ 7pm |
| 25,26 | 17 + 76 = 93 | Christ the King |
| TOTAL | 454 | All Services |
| Weekend Total | 405 | 4 weekends |
| Weekend Average | 101 | |

PAST THANKSGIVING EVE ATTENDANCES

| Date | Attendance |
|-------------------|------------------|
| November 21, 2012 | 60 |
| November 27, 2013 | 55 |
| November 26, 2014 | Cancelled - snow |
| November 25, 2015 | 39 |
| November 23, 2016 | 42 |
| November 22, 2017 | 49 |

2018 CALENDAR FLOWER and LESSONS & PRAYERS

The 2018 Sponsorship Calendar is posted outside the church office for your sign-ups. Please make your choices by completing the information needed on the forms. Include your payment option and seal in the supplied envelopes. Place your sponsorship in the Music & Worship basket on the lamp table of the office.

Your written information must be received by the Wednesday prior to your reserved date to be included in the weekly bulletin. Sponsor early and often to reserve the date(s) of your choice. **Sponsorship Prices:**



Both Altar Vases \$50
One Altar Vase \$25
Center Arrangement \$30
Lessons & Prayers \$20

January 2018 Worship Assistants

~ 5pm Saturday Services ~

| | Saturday January 6 Epiphany | Saturday January 13 | Saturday January 20 | Saturday January 27 |
|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Head Usher | Jeanne Swain | Jeanne Swain | Jeanne Swain | Jeanne Swain |
| Greeter | Judy Bixler | Charlotte Hann | Barb Davidson | Linda Black |
| Lector | Linda Black | Luther Myers | Judy Bixler | Jeanne Swain |
| Offering Ushers | Judy Bixler Rodgers Hagert | Charlotte Hann Walter Hann | Barb Davidson Ron Davidson | Judy Bixler Rodgers Hagert |
| Communion | Linda Black | Jeanne Swain | Judy Bixler | Jeanne Swain |

~ 9am Sunday Services ~

| | Sunday January 7 Epiphany Sunday | Sunday January 14 Baptism of our Lord | Sunday January 21 | Sunday January 28 Youth Sunday |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| Head Usher | Rhonda Kiler | Rhonda Kiler | Rhonda Kiler | Rhonda Kiler |
| Altar Guild | Frank Burnette Susan Burnette | Frank Burnette Susan Burnette | Frank Burnette Susan Burnette | Frank Burnette Susan Burnette |
| Greeters | Carolyn Kittelberger Betty Miller | John Popp Bart Walder | Jane Taylor Delores Whitehead | YOUTH |
| Lector | Russell Jensen | Barbara Guthrie | Jamie Rooney | YOUTH |
| Offering Ushers | Tim Rill Carolyn Phillips Carroll Phillips Bart Walder | Debbie Mace Steve Mace Alice Warehime Dale Warehime | Laurie Miller Steve Miller Brenda Murray Brenda Wulforst | YOUTH |
| Communion Stewards | Frank Burnette Susan Burnette Andy Kiler Audrey Shaffer | Susan Burnette Norman Downes Debbie Hebrank Wendy Maloney | Susan Burnette Jeremy Edwards Matthew Rooney Sandy Voight | Susan Burnette Christine Crouch Norman Downes John Gregg |
| Acolytes | Jayden Bosnick Willis Kiler | Dylan Andrews Tanner Eckhardt | Ryan Edwards Kyle Robinson | Ashton Eckhardt Austin Gregg |
| Crucifer | Jordan Bosnick | Ashton Eckhardt | ----- | ----- |
| Pray w/ Pastor | Christine Crouch | Christine Crouch | Bob Nicoll | Connie Dattilio |
| Bell Ringer | Frank Burnette | Bart Walder | Ernest Weiss | Frank Burnette |

February 2018 Worship Assistants

~ 5pm Saturday Services ~

| | Saturday February 3 | Saturday February 10 Transfiguration 258 th Anniversary | Saturday February 17 Lent 1 | Saturday February 24 Lent 2 Youth Saturday |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Head Usher | Susan Burnette | Susan Burnette | Susan Burnette | Susan Burnette |
| Greeter | Linda Black | Charlotte Hann | Barb Davidson | YOUTH |
| Lector | Luther Myers | Judy Bixler | Jeanne Swain | YOUTH |
| Offering Ushers | Judy Bixler Jeanne Swain | Charlotte Hann Walter Hann | Barb Davidson Ron Davidson | YOUTH |
| Communion | Linda Black | Judy Bixler | Jeanne Swain | Judy Bixler |

~ 9am Sunday Services ~

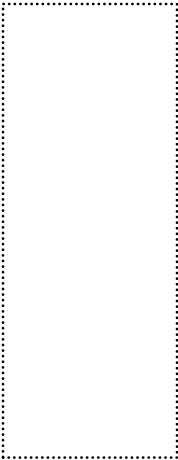
| | Sunday February 4 | Sunday February 11 Transfiguration 258 th Anniversary | Sunday February 18 Lent 1 | Sunday February 25 Lent 2 |
|-------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Head Usher | Tim Rill | Tim Rill | Tim Rill | Tim Rill |
| Altar Guild | Wendy Maloney Sandy Voight | Wendy Maloney Sandy Voight | Wendy Maloney Sandy Voight | Wendy Maloney Sandy Voight |
| Greeters | Carolyn Kittelberger Betty Miller | Kathryn Regester John Popp | Jane Taylor Delores Whitehead | Chris Miller Debbie Miller |
| Lector | Bob Nicoll | Matthew Rooney | Jennifer Edwards | John Gregg |
| Offering Ushers | Norman Downes Debbie Hebrank Linda Schmidt Ron Schmidt | Debbie Mace Steve Mace Alice Warehime Dale Warehime | Laurie Miller Steve Miller Brenda Murray Brenda Wulforst | Barbara Guthrie Andy Kiler Barb Skelley Bill Skelley |
| Communion Stewards | Frank Burnette Susan Burnette Audrey Shaffer Barb Yingling | Susan Burnette Rhonda Kiler Carolyn Phillips Carroll Phillips | Susan Burnette Jeremy Edwards Todd Robinson Sandy Voight | Susan Burnette Christine Crouch Wendy Maloney Bart Walder |
| Acolytes | Jordan Bosnick Joey Pomales | Dylan Andrews Tanner Eckhardt | Ryan Edwards Kyle Robinson | Austin Gregg Willis Kiler |
| Crucifer | ----- | Ashton Eckhardt | ----- | ----- |
| Pray w/ Pastor | Bob Nicoll | Connie Dattilio | Bob Nicoll | Christine Crouch |
| Bell Ringer | Bart Walder | Ernest Weiss | Brian Kremen | Frank Burnette |

NOTE: The Worship Assistant Schedules are subject to change during any weekend service. Reminder emails and/or phone calls are sent each week. Should you be unable to fulfill your responsibility, please contact Susan Burnette at sb31220@gmail.com or 410-357-9466. Thank you.

Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church
3184 Church Street
PO Box 739
Manchester, MD 21102

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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