



**IMMANUEL  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

500 Immanuel Road  
Pflugerville, Texas 78660

December 2017 Newsletter for  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Church Office 251-4494

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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Katie Wegner, Director of Youth & Family Ministry  
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Our food for thought:

Christmas is the tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace

Wishing you and your family every blessing as we celebrate the birth of Jesus - our Lord, our Savior, our all.



***Upcoming Holiday Events!!***

- Friday, December 1st** - Progressive Dinner - 6:30pm (All Adult Event)
- Sunday, December 3rd** — Christmas Caroling at Care Centers - meet at the church at 1:00pm. Singers of all ages are invited!
- Saturday/Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>** - Luminary - 6:30-8:30pm
- Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>** - Sunday School Christmas Program  
Parish Hall - 8:45am
- Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>** - All Committee Night Christmas Dinner - 6:00pm
- Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** - Day School Christmas Program—Parish Hall - 10:00am
- Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Cantata - 8:45 & 11:00am - Sanctuary/Chapel  
No 7:45 or Contemporary Service
- Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Caroling to our homebound - meet at the church at 1:00pm. All ages are welcome!
- Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**—4th Sunday in Advent Service—10:00am—Chapel/Sanctuary
- Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Eve Candlelight Services - 4:30 & 7:00pm
- Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>** - Christmas Day Worship Service - 10:00am
- Sunday, December 31st** — Only 1 Worship Service—10:00am

**Christmas Progressive Dinner** will take place Friday, December 1st beginning at 6:30 pm. We will go to a two stop this year with heavy apps at the Kuempel's (3001 Misty Shore Lane) and deserts at the Mueller's (5100 Gate Dancer Ln). Please be on the lookout for the signup sheets in the Narthex now till November 26th for folks to indicate what they would like to bring. Some drinks will be provided but any "spirits" are BYOB. A White Elephant gift exchange will follow desserts. This event is for adults only and is always a lot of fun, so we encourage you to try and make it out. Please contact Steven Dubes at 512-659-6552 with any questions.

**Tired and Retired** enjoyed potluck in November with twenty-five present. The Day School songs included "Albuquerque Turkey", "I Love Mr. Turkey, How Are You", "Ten Little Indians", "Every Good Gift", and "Thank You Jesus" done in sign language. We played Vanity Plate Guessing Game. Ended with patriotic songs. The door prizes went to Joy Pfluger, Otto Werchan and Waldine Stafford.

The next potluck will be on Wednesday, December 13th, at 11:30am. Do not forget to bring your nativities which will decorate the tables. It will be fun to see the varieties that people bring. See you in December when we will be honoring the following December birthdays: Edgar Bailey, Kevin Biddulph, Barbara Bohls, Leah Bohls, Baldemar Cano, Cat Casbeer, Rachel Cauley, Jane Dunnigan, Jerry Eschberger, Donald Fry, Vernetta Fuchs, Terri Gebbia, Gene Gorham, Marta Gregory, Shirley Hamm, Cynthia Harlow, James Harlow, David Hustedler, James Hall, Norman Johnson, Robert Johnston, Dana Leary, Lois Luedtke, Barbara Marzean, Charles Mott, Ross Petermann, Judy Pfeil, Joy Pfluger, Johnny Pokorney, Sissy Pokorney, Harley Saathoff, Lola Sakewitz, Martha Sansom, Jan Selman, Trudy Simon, Sharion Tanner, Judy Tawater, JoAnn VanBurkleo, Keith Weiss, Danny Whittington, Don Wolf, Gloria Wuthrich, Otto Wuthrich, Yvonne Zimmer.

### **Women Of The ELCA**

**LWR:** Imagine being in a hurricane, earthquake, or fire/smoky area. Now imagine being able to wash your face and hands. For December, WELCA is emphasizing collecting bath-size (4 oz) soap, which is a part of each personal care kit and each baby care kit. Soap donations must be in their original wrappings. Please place donations in the WELCA room or in the basket in the lower narthex. Financial donations are appreciated. (Smaller-sized soap may be used in care kits for the food pantry.)

**Christmas Carolers**, we will sing for area nursing home residents on Sunday, December 3rd. On Sunday, December 17th, we will sing for several homebound ILC members. Meet at Church both days at 1:00 p.m. to travel in the church vans. Singers and joyful noise makers of all ages are invited!

**Lower Narthex Project** - As we approach the New Year "2018", please consider including in your giving plan to ILC, a donation to this rejuvenation project. Included in the first phase is the much-needed replacement of the flooring. We hope to be able to move forward with this work early in the new year.

Trilba and I want to graciously thank all of our friends, family, and especially Pastor Tom for the hospital visits and their thoughts and prayers during our son Dan's recent hospital stay. He is currently doing very well considering his condition when he first entered the hospital. We trust that with the grace of God his physical condition will continue to improve. Once again thanks to everyone for their thoughts, concerns and prayers.

**Jerry & Trilba Eschberger**

A great big 'thank you' to my ILC family for all the cards, calls, visits and, most of all, the prayers this year. Your care and concern helped to see me through two spinal surgeries, a broken ankle and six months of hospitalization and in-patient rehabilitation followed by six weeks of in-home physical therapy. I still have intense pain in my back and will have for the foreseeable future. Please continue your prayers as they are needed and most appreciated. A special 'thank you' to my fellow Elders, the Elizabeth Circle and Altar Guild for all the times that they filled in for me while I was unable to handle my assigned duties. Thanks again to y'all and may you all have a very Merry Christmas and Blessings for the New Year.

**In God's Love,  
Marie Davis**

**Mini-Treasurer's Report:**

Balance 10/20/2017	\$ 20,928.73
Income 10/21-11/19	50,007.75
Expenses 10/21-11/19	- 54,527.68
Balance 11/19/2017	\$ 16,408.80

Loan Balance - Comerica Bank	\$ 13,988.28
Loan Balance - First Texas Bank	200,000.00
Balance Building Loan Account	\$ 53,637.27

**Day School:**

Balance	\$ 62,198.62
Income 10/21-11/19	\$ 105,749.84
Expenses 10/21-11/19	- 112,487.73
Balance 11/19/2017	\$ 55,460.73

Anyone who wishes to make a contribution to the church in memory or honor of a loved one, may choose from the following funds:

- New Building Loan Debt
- Lower Narthex Rejuvenation Fund
- Garden of Prayer/Labyrinth Fund
- Cemetery Endowment Fund
- Pre-Theological Fund
- Technology Fund
- Cemetery Fund
- Food Pantry

**Food Pantry News for October**

Number of clients assisted—90  
 Number of Family Members—310  
 New clients included—10  
 Pastors Fund assists—N/A

**Annual Reports** are due as soon as possible in December, BUT no later than Thursday, January 4th. Email your information to [sherri@ilcpville.org](mailto:sherri@ilcpville.org).

**Official Acts:**

Deaths: 11/16—John Marsh

**2018 Offering Envelopes** will be available in early December. Please help yourself to a set and remember the envelopes **are not numbered**. Therefore, if you give cash, you will need to write your name on the outside of the envelope.

**The Stewardship Committee** is pleased to report that the Pledge Card Drive resulted in 31 families returning cards and pledging a total of \$118,139.37 for the 2018 General Fund. Thank you to all who turned in pledge cards! We were very pleased with the response for this first annual Pledge Card Drive. We look forward to greater responses in future years so that we can reach our goal of using the pledges received to inform the budget-making process each year.

**Luminary: A Christmas Journey:** Immanuel's annual Christmas Luminary is quickly approaching. This year's event will be December 9 & 10 from 6:30-8:30PM. We will need 2 groups of volunteers each night to fill the 10 scenes depicting the Christmas story. It takes many, many participants to make it a success. There's a place for everyone: scene characters, set-up/take-down scenes, collect cedar branches, babysitters, food preparation... Sign-up sheets are in Narthex.

**"Blue Star Prayers"**

Our United States is defending Freedom in many parts of our world today. Please keep these individuals and their families in your prayers.

Daylon Hethcock US Navy Cyndi Motloch's Grandson	Justin Steffek, Msgt. US Air Force Marie Randig's Grandson	Chase Bowden Serving in Iraq Paula Bowden's Son
Dan Dye Tx. National Guard Pat & Jan Dye's Son	SSG Larry Jameson US Army Bradley Jameson's Father	Cole Elliott US Navy Yvonne Zimmer's Grandson
Elliott Bo Burns, Maj. US Army Willie Mae Burns' Grandson	Justin Hoffman, Col. US Air Force Bob & Patti Hoffman's Son	Patrick Roberts, St/Sgt US Air Force Peggy Roberts' Grandson
Michael Wayne Green, Capt. US Marine Corp. Wayne & Aileene Saegert's Grandson	Michael Bradshaw US Air Force Glenn & Britta Herzog's Grandson	Matthew R. Tiemann, Capt. US Marine Corps Rob & Carrie Tiemann's Son
Johnathan Edwards US Army Beverly Wolff's Grandson	Kelsey Westman, 2nd Lt. US Army Reserves Betty Wicklund's Granddaughter	Austin W. Fox, 1st Lt. US Army Jennave Fuchs' Grandson

*From the Youth & Family Ministry Office...*

December. Can anybody else not quite believe we are in the last month of 2017? Wow! This year has absolutely zoomed by!

Each December, here at ILC, we participate in Adopt-A-Family. This was started a number of years back and has since evolved and changed a little bit, but, the premise still remains. Serving our neighbor.

When you hear the word "neighbor" what comes to mind?

It seems it is harder and harder to actually know our literal neighbors. The folks who occupy the dwellings on the adjacent lots of our dwellings so easily remain unknown and the generic "neighbor". In the comings and goings of life, it is difficult to catch each other at a good time or it is difficult to find ways to get to know our neighbors.

Jesus calls us to think of neighbor more broadly than just those who live next to us. As Christ followers we are called to think of all people as our neighbor and...LOVE them. In the story of the Good Samaritan Jesus lays out a challenge for us to think of our neighbors in these broad terms; this especially includes those who are different from us.

*We are well on our way to making sure that all of our "adopted" families are taken care of. There are a few gift tags left and we do still need some monetary assistance to finish up this annual endeavor of serving our neighbor. If you are willing or able to help, please contact me or the church office.*

As I write this days before Thanksgiving, I am so thankful to serve in a faith community like Immanuel that takes service to God by serving other people seriously and centrally to our life together. The outpouring of love and generosity by you all at this time of year is not only inspirational but is indicative of the outpouring of God's love through you.

God has loved us, so we love others. This month that is looking like gift tags attached to toys and clothing, bikes and shoes. You are making a difference because of your love for Jesus and humanity. Thank you.

Please remember these families in your prayers. Please include our congregation in your prayers as we continue to faithfully discover ways that we can be a light to our community because of the LIGHT we rest our faith in.

God's richest blessings to you and your family this holiday season as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

**<>< Live, serve and love boldly!**

*Katie Wegner,*  
Director of Youth and Family Ministry

**December - 2017**  
Youth and Family Ministry Calendar:

**December 9/10** - ILC Luminary - sign up NOW to participate...great way to get some fun service hours.

**December 10** - All Adopt-A-Family Gifts are DUE! Please bring your gifts, unwrapped with the gift tags attached, to the drop off boxes.

**December 12** - All Committee Christmas Dinner, 6:00pm - come join in with all the ILC committees to celebrate Christmas! All you need to bring is you and your family!

**December 20** - Youth Christmas Party, 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades - 5:30-7:30pm at Katie's house...828 Niobrara River Dr., Pflugerville. \$5 Christmas gift exchange.

## EDUCATION MINISTRY

December 2017

Reach, Teach, Equip as we Gather, Grow, Serve

### New Prince, New Pomp a Christmas poem by Robert Southwell

Behold a silly tender Babe, in freezing winter night;  
In homely manger trembling lies, alas a piteous sight:  
The inns are full, no man will yield this little Pilgrim bed,  
But forced He is with silly beasts, in crib to shroud His head.  
Despise Him not for lying there, first what He is enquire:  
An orient pearl is often found, in depth of dirty mire;  
Weigh not His crib, His wooden dish, nor beasts that by Him feed:  
Weigh not His mother's poor attire, nor Joseph's simple weed.  
This stable is a Prince's court, the crib His chair of state:  
The beasts are parcel of His pomp, the wooden dish His plate.  
The persons in that poor attire, His royal liveries wear,  
The Prince Himself is come from heaven, this pomp is prized there.  
With joy approach, O Christian night, do homage to thy King,  
And highly prize this humble pomp, which He from heaven doth bring.

**New Years Prayer/Resolution:** Lord thank you for blessing me with talents. Please show me where to best serve my church. Help me to pull down my "talents" from the shelf and put them to work for the good of Your kingdom. Amen.

**SAVE THE DATE** for our annual Christmas Program. Sunday, December 10th during the middle service (8:45a). Please bring a plate of "goodies" to share after the program. This year's presentation is "From Heaven Above" (Martin Luther wrote the hymn) and we've put it all together as a come to life carol.



Thank you SO much to all of our hostesses, servers, sound booth men, guests and to Pink Avocado for catering and American Dreamer for the entertainment. It is my hope that all of you who attended left feeling special and loved. Until we meet again...

**Our last Sunday School for December is Sunday, December 17th. We will resume on Sunday, January 7th.**

**Parish Ed Committee** meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 6:30p in the Parlor. If you have any interest in what we are planning please join us at one of our meetings. Next meeting is Monday, January 8th.

**Upcoming Dates:**

December 10th	Sunday School Christmas Program
December 17th	Last Sunday School classes for the year

**Sunday School:** 9:45am for Pre-K through adult. Church bulletin has details for all adult classes. Pre-K through 5th meets in the basement, Middle & High School meets in the Bistro by the gym.

Contact: [susan@ilcpville.org](mailto:susan@ilcpville.org) for more information

## Serving in December 2017

### Acolytes

Dec 3: Madison & Sam Puryear (7:45) Landon Self & Kyle Ward (11:00)  
Dec 10: Ethan Visness & Shelby Weaver (7:45) Taryn Bittick & Connor Herring (11:00)  
Dec 17: Dominic Weber & Elliott Weiss (8:45) Bryce & Kadie Van Houten (11:00)  
Dec. 24: Haidyn Damstrom & Reese Krause (10:00)  
Dec 24: Marah Kluge & Alyssa Motloch (4:30) Catherine & Jacqueline Kruse (7:00)  
Dec 25: Rex Kuempel & Ava Owen (10:00)  
Dec 31: Allison Morris & Emerson Perisho (10:00)

**Elders for December:** Marie Davis (Early) Mark Sassman (Middle) Beverly Wolff (Late). (Please contact them if you would like to assist with worship in December or go to <http://bit.ly/ILCsignup> to sign up yourself.)

### Readers

Dec 3: 1 needed (7:45) 1 needed (8:45) 1 needed (11:00)  
Dec 10: 1 needed (7:45) 1 needed (8:45) 1 needed (11:00)  
Dec 24: 1 needed (10:00)  
Dec 24: 1 needed (4:30) 1 needed (7:00)  
Dec 31: 1 needed (10:00)

### Communion Assistants

Dec 3: 1 needed (7:45) 4 needed (8:45) 2 needed (11:00)  
Dec 10: 1 needed (7:45) 4 needed (8:45) 2 needed (11:00)  
Dec 17: 2 needed (8:45) 2 needed (11:00)  
Dec 24: 2 needed (10:00)  
Dec 24: 2 needed (4:30) 2 needed (11:00)  
Dec 31: 2 needed (10:00)

### December Chapel Assistants

Early Service: Carlton & Marilyn Lorfing, Ralph Kirkley  
Late Service: 1 needed (3) Bruce Freudenberg (10) J.B. Marshall (17) 1 needed (24, 25 & 31)

### Altar Guild

Dec 3 & 10	Dec 17, 24 (10:00) & 31	Dec 24 (4:30 & 7:00)
Diane Moellenberg, Marta Gregory	Janelle Hebbe & Martha Sansom	Grace Lin

### Ushers

Dec 3: 4 needed (7:45) 4 needed (8:45) 4 needed (11:00)  
Dec 10: 4 needed (7:45) 4 needed (8:45) 4 needed (11:00)  
Dec 17: 4 needed (8:45) 4 needed (11:00)  
Dec 24: 4 needed (10:00)  
Dec 24: 4 needed (4:30) 4 needed (7:00)  
Dec 25: 4 needed (10:00)  
Dec 31: 4 needed (10:00)

### Children's Message:

Dec 3: Advent Candle Lighting (8:45 & 11:00)  
Dec 10: Advent Candle Lighting (8:45 & 11:00)  
Dec 24: Advent Candle Lighting (8:45 & 11:00)  
Dec 31: Katie Wegner (10:00)

### Console Operators/Parish Hall Projectionist

Dec 3: Matthew Krieg (7:45) Rick Cox (8:45) Willard Hebbe (11:00)  
Dec 10: Brent Reeder (7:45) Rick Cox (8:45) Charles Kleen (11:00)  
Dec 17: Matthew Krieg (8:45) David Gifford (11:00)  
Dec 24: Vera Gebert (10:00)  
Dec 24: Brent Reeder (4:30) Charles Kleen (7:00)  
Dec 25: David Gifford (10:00)  
Dec 31: Matthew Krieg (10:00)

### Flower Calendar

Dec 3:  
Dec 10:  
Dec 17: Pedestal—P. Roberts  
Dec 24:  
Dec 31:

### Coffee Makers

Dec 3: Hal Kuempel  
Dec 10: Mark Mueller  
Dec 17: Kristin Adix