



IMMANUEL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

500 Immanuel Road
Pflugerville, Texas 78660

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Tom Kesselring, Senior Pastor
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It's 2017! I remember when I was a child and contemplated that I might live to celebrate the year 2017. I remember thinking that I would be very, very old, but if I lived to be as old as my grandparents, I would be alive for the celebration. What is so special about the year 2017, you ask? 2017 marks the 500th

anniversary of the Protestant Reformation initiated by Dr. Martin Luther! I attended Lutheran elementary school, and understanding the significance of the Reformation was very important. As a school child, celebrating the Reformation was especially exciting because every year the entire school would pause to watch the vintage 1950's black and white *Martin Luther* movie. By the time the school principal got the two reels threaded onto the movie projector (one or both of which would inevitably jam and/or need to be spliced), the one hour and forty-five minute movie pretty much guaranteed an entire afternoon out of class.

Today more than ever I believe understanding the significance of the Reformation is important. Throughout the coming year at ILC we will commemorate the Reformation in a variety of ways. This month during the Sunday School hour Pastor Rosy will lead a study of the book of Romans with an emphasis on how the Apostle Paul's writing inspired Luther's understanding of justification by grace alone through faith alone on account of Christ alone. In February, I will lead a study of Martin Luther's life. In March begins the Lenten season, and our Wednesday evening meditations will focus on Luther's Small Catechism. Other special themes are being planned for the remainder of the year, culminating with a special celebration on Reformation Sunday in October.

When I was a new pastor at ILC, I purchased a VHS copy of the old *Martin Luther* movie and showed it to the Confirmation students. What a snoozer! Fortunately, a newer version (in color!) came out a few years later. I'm sure we will watch it again at ILC sometime this year. If you come, I'll make popcorn. 😊 It's 2017! Happy Reformation New Year to you and yours!

Pastor Tom

Congregational Annual Meeting with Baked Potato Lunch is scheduled for Sunday, January 29th, immediately following the 11:00 am service in the Parish Hall. There are several items on the agenda to be considered. A complete agenda will be in the Annual Report, which will be available Thursday, January 19th. We are looking for at least six candidates who are interested in serving on our Church Council. No experience necessary! Any individual who has been a voting member of the congregation for one year and has attained the age of 25 prior to the election is eligible. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Brett Coleman or any other member of the council.

The 2nd Annual "Question and Answer" Session regarding the budget for 2017 will be held during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, January 22nd, in the Parish Hall. This is open to all members. The council treasurer will be on hand to answer any questions regarding the budget during this time.

Tired and Retired had a fun morning with 42 people visiting, eating and seeing a Christmas skit-"The Friendly Beasts". Thanks so much to Annyce Bohls for directing the skit. Hope you enjoyed the sheep (Shirley Werchan), the donkey (Janelle Hebbe), Mary (Dorothy Warren), Joseph (Don Wiederhold), the famous bell ringers and the Day School kids who shared with us songs from their Christmas program as well as presenting their hearts to Jesus. The sheep and donkey want to thank Santa for the beautiful roses. So unexpected, special thanks to the little girl from the Day School who presented them to us. The birthday door prize was won by Barbara Bohls and at each table there was a ribbon tied to a chair, the person sitting in that chair took home a poinsettia.

Please all come back on Wednesday, January 11th, at 11:30 am for another great potluck. We will be recognizing the following January birthdays: Brenda Bubert, Clifford Damstrom, Bonnie Epperson, Lana Forgy, Deborah Fry, Jennave Fuchs, Guy Gebbia, Donna Getz, Rosie Gilbert, Karolyn Graf, Janelle Hebbe, Pam Hebbe, Albertine Hendrickson, Dodie Hickman, Rita Hodde, Mildred Huebel, C.J. King, Earl Klattenhoff, Jan Klattenhoff, Marilyn Kleen, Carlton Lorfing, Bob Lovett, Steve Nastri, Sandra Noton, Annabelle Paladino, Jean Pfluger, Sharon Rundberg, Phyllis Schaefer, Carolyn Sladek, Lou Smith, Elizabeth Springs, Dwayne Stockton, Noble Talley, Gail Weiss, Norman Weiss, Virginia Weiss, Dorothy Williams.

Women Of The ELCA



The Women of the ELCA are asking for your help in collecting items for Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits. The items included in a Baby Care Kit provide the basic items a mother needs to keep her baby warm and clean. Baby Care Kits include the following in **sizes 6 - 24 months**. (Gently used, clean items (no stains or tears) can be substituted for new items - Note: Salvation Army Stores have half price sales every Wednesday!!!).

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts (*onesies can be cut and hemmed/serged to make a t-shirt*)
- Two long or short sleeved gowns/sleepers without feet (*top and pant sets/P.Js may be substituted for gowns/sleepers; sleepers with feet can be donated and WELCA members will cut off the feet and hem the legs*)
- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- Four cloth diapers (*Walmart sales Gerber 10 pack cloth diapers for approximately \$12.00*)
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, *or include a baby cap*
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- Two or three bath-size bars of gentle soap, in original wrapping (8 to 9 oz. total weight)
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins

More information on Baby Care Kits is provided on posters around the church and visit <https://lwr.org/get-involved/build-kits-of-care/baby-care-kits>. Please place your donations in baskets located in the Lower Narthex or in the WELCA room. **Thank you for SERVING OTHERS.**

Beginning on January 14th, the **ILC Prayer Shawl Ministry** will meet the second Saturday of every month at 9:00am in the lower narthex. Everyone is invited to join us as we knit and crochet on projects of service. Please contact Bonnie Sassman at 512-680-8094 or Elizabeth Arndt at 512-619-5572 for more information.

Lutheran Legislative Event February 12-14, 2017: The third Lutheran event will be at Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Austin from Sunday at 2pm to Tuesday at 1pm. The program presentations give a full picture of how the Texas Legislature works, the issues that will be coming up in this 85th session, and our faith-guided role in advocacy. Texas Impact plans most of the program but two ELCA advocacy representatives will also present. Tuesday is at the Capitol. Registration is on our Synod website at swtsynod.org. For any questions call Dorothy Kraemer, 512-251-6929.

Thank you to Pastor Tom and Pastor Rosy for their visit and communion. Want to wish everyone a Happy New Year!
Bertha L. Hill

Immanuel Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your support this year for Drive A Senior! There is no way we could do this alone. Your donations and your congregation members are a huge part of our success!

Sincerely,
Karah Ricketts

Thank you to all who participated in, drove through, brought food, worked in the kitchen, set/up and took/down for the Luminary. We counted nearly 400 vehicles over the weekend.

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
Garden of Prayer/Labyrinth Fund
Cemetery Endowment Fund
Pre-Theological Fund
Technology Fund
Cemetery Fund
Food Pantry

Official Acts:

Marriage: 11/16—Lisa Marie Shuvalov
Kenneth James Breaux

Food Pantry News for November

Number of clients assisted—147
Number of Family Members—512
New clients included—16
Pastors Fund assists—33

The next Austin and Central Texas Senior Fest will be held on Saturday, February 4th at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1500 West Anderson Lane, Austin, TX 78757. In recognition of the 500 Anniversary of the Reformation, the theme will be "Our Heritage, Our Hope." The guest speaker will be the Rev. Dr. David J. Lose, president of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. He will speak on "Why Don't My Kids (and Grandkids) Go to Church? And What Can I Do About It?" Registration brochures are available on the ELCA Southwest TX Synod and LCMS Texas District websites. The cost of the event will be \$25-\$30 after January 31, 2017

Mini-Treasurer's Report:

General Fund

Balance 11/16/2016	\$ 5,154.82
Income 11/16-12/16	56,273.23
Expenses 11/16-12/16	- 56,360.38
Balance 12/16/2016	\$ 5,067.67
Loan Balance - Comerica	\$ 168,348.52
Loan Balance - First Texas	200,000.00
Balance Loan Checking Account	\$ 75,827.42

Day School:

Balance 11/16/2016	\$ 42,402.79
Income 11/16-12/16	115,556.84
Expenses 11/16-12/16	- 121,138.02
Balance 12/16/2016	\$ 36,821.61

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

Day School Ministry News

At ILDS, Christmas is our MOST FAVORITE time of year! The excitement, the anticipation, the wonder—it's so special to see Christmas through the eyes of children! Although, for kids, it can be very confusing — so much coming at them about Christmas! What is Christmas? Is it when we get presents, see Santa, have an Elf visitor, drink hot chocolate, see Christmas lights, listen to carols, eat candy, go on trips, etc?!? It gets very busy and crazy! SO much to do! And, it's ok to enjoy these things, to have fun and to make memories. But, MOST IMPORTANTLY, we want them to know and remember the REAL meaning of Christmas — that Christmas is the day that we received the greatest gift of all, JESUS. To know that He is the Reason for the Season! So, this Christmas, we encourage you to be nice to others, to help people and to teach others about God's love. Love each other, help one another, give to others less fortunate than you and remember that GOD LOVES YOU SO MUCH!

GLORY TO God & Happy Birthday Jesus!



We are SO EXCITED about our new classroom management and communication tool—CLASS DOJO!!! Having the iPads in the classrooms paired with this app will give you glimpse into your child's day and will help streamline the communication and daily updates. If you have questions, let us know.

SAY WHAT!? FUNNY ILDS KIDS

- Ms. Gwen was playing the "If you're a Starfish and you know it (touch your nose, etc)" game with her class. In the middle of the song, Mason coughed and Ms. Gwen said "Cover your cough." so all the Starfish thought it was part of the game and they put their arms up to cover their coughs! (Starfish)
- The Pandas were singing "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" and they got to the part where it says "Let's all have some Figgy Pudding" except Evelyn M. said "Let's all have a PITY PARTY!" HA! (Pandas)
- Mercer came up to Ms. Starr and said, "Hey, that guy took my blue car." Ms. Starr asked, "Which guy?". He pointed to Rece and said, "That guy in the Minion shirt." (Tree Frogs/Geckos)
- Ms. Brittany B. and LeytonAnn were playing Go Fish. LeytonAnn was down to her last card and she told Ms. Brittany, "Don't even think about taking my last card." (Rock Hopper Penguins)
- Ryan P. showed Ms. Jan that he thought the refrigerator was broken and he followed up by saying, "And, I'm not paying for another one!" (Rock Hopper Penguins)
- Ms. Jan was telling the kids about the story of the Pilgrims coming to America. She said, "When they came to America, who lived here?" Blake said, "The Minions!!!" (Rock Hopper Penguins)
- The Koalas were headed to use the bathroom and Ms. Mariah said, "Alright, Emilia, it's your turn." She replied, "No, thanks, I already pottied yesterday!" (Koalas)
- Ms. Sandra asked the kids if they knew what a cheater was? Madison S. raised her hand and said, "YES! I have a CHEETAH at home!" (Pandas)
- Ms. Maria was asking a student to follow instructions and she said, "Morgen Christian, come here." Olivia S. said, "Yeah, MoMo"

DON'T FORGET!

- Friday, December 23 & Monday, December 26—ILDS CLOSED for Christmas
- Friday, December 30 & Monday, January 2—ILDS CLOSED for New Year's Celebrations

**ILDS
IS NOW ACCEPTING
NEW STUDENTS!**



From the Youth & Family Ministry Office...

Happy New Year!!

Grace and peace to each of you as we begin again a new year.

Tis' the season for resolutions. We might resolve to be a better parent, lose weight, spend more time with parents, or maybe even come to church more. When I think of New Year's resolutions, most things that come to mind are self-focused. What am I going to do to make myself better? These are not bad things. All of them would certainly add value to one's life and well-being.

I wonder though, what would the world look like and what change could be had if we focused our New Year's resolutions on others. What if we focused on being more kind and generous to others? What if we focused on serving "the least of these among us"? Certainly we all know of people and situations that could use a larger measure of kindness, joy or generosity.

And, yes, I know, we need to be healthy ourselves to serve others better and more effectively. It is indeed a healthy balance.

As the New Year dawns and all of us are given sort of a fresh start, what are the resolutions that we can make for others? Our heavenly Creator put us on this Earth for a reason. This may look different for all of us, but essentially we all share in a common purpose. We are called to serve others in love and joy; kindness and mercy.

May we be reminded that God walks with us in this challenge and God strengthens us in this resolve to serve others. All my love and peace to each of you for 2017!

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

Katie Wegner,

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

January - 2017

Youth and Family Ministry Calendar:

Each Sunday at 9:45am - Sunday School for 6th - 12th grades in the Youth Room

****No Sunday School begins back up on Jan 8!!****

January 1: New Years Day - No Sunday School

January 8: Sunday School starts back up - 9:45am

January 15: Calendar open

January 22: Monthly Service Project and Out to Lunch

January 29: Annual Congregational Meeting - Youth serve baked potato lunch

Save these dates:

****Mark your calendars now****

High School Synod Youth Gathering: February 10-12, 2017

Spring Fundraiser: February 18, 2017

Giving Statements for 2016 will be available and/or mailed out sometime before the end of January. Your contributions have been recorded on our church computer throughout the year so that you can have a record for IRS and your income taxes. Please look your statement over carefully. If there are corrections to be made, they can be done easily. However, after April 15th, we delete the 2016 records. **Check you statement carefully before income tax time.**

2017 Offering Envelopes are available in the lower Narthex. 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.

Annual Reports: All committees should submit their annual reports to the church office as soon as possible, but no later than January 4th. Please email your information to sherri@ilcpville.org.

EDUCATION MINISTRY



JANUARY 2017

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

New Year Resolution: Attend Sunday School and/or Bible Study on a regular basis

2016 was a good year for Sunday School. We continued to offer 4 adult classes, our Pre-K through 5th graders enjoyed an AMAZING new look in the basement with all the changes we've made with the help of so many volunteers, our middle school students (which in September 2016 included the 6th graders) and high schoolers had many opportunities through great teachers and discussions to continue to learn about His desires for their life. We enjoyed an average of 85ish on a Sunday morning which with our current numbers in church attendance was 35%+ of those who attended church were in Sunday School.

What would it look like if more of our members would attend Sunday School and/or Bible Study weekly? That's something I can pray for and do regularly. It is my prayer that if you and your family are/is not involved in one of our Sunday morning classes or a Bible Study during the week that you get to one, start this week. Our programs are here to serve you.

I hope that your resolutions in 2017 will include more time studying His word.

THANKS



Many, many thanks to our Sunday School students, band members, choir, praise band singers, Pastors, Sunday School teachers, puppeteers, stage crew, behind the scenes volunteers and staff for helping pull together our annual Sunday School Christmas Program "A Shepherd's Christmas". We are thankful for all who attended, brought goodies, helped set up, helped clean up, donated food to the Back Pack ministry and enjoyed the morning. Praise be to God for giving us Jesus!

Upcoming Dates:

January 28th—Secret Prayer Sister Brunch (for those involved now or wish to be)
April—Annual Women's retreat TBA
June 19th through 22nd Family Style VBS and Tougher than Nails
September 10th—Rally Day
October 25th—Trunk or Treat (and Spooktacular)

Sunday School: Classes for Pre-School through adult. Join us at 9:45am every Sunday. Our bulletin has the latest class topic and locations.

REACH, TEACH, EQUIP while we GATHER, GROW, & SERVE
For more information about this ministry please email susan@ilcpville.org

Financial Peace University: Please join us for Financial Peace University which will be led by Courtney Emken. First class is Sunday, January 8th at 6:30pm in the Chapel. Register online at: <https://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/classes/1031879>.

Beginning January 8th Pastor Rosy will lead a bible study for 4 weeks on the study of the book of Romans in the conference room. Beginning in February, she, Pastor Tom and the Sassmans will be team teaching on various topics about the Reformation beginning with a 4-6 week study about the life of Martin Luther. Each month will have a different Reformation theme. Come join us!

Changes to the ELCA Model Constitution were made at the Church-wide Assembly in August. The primary changes relate to the merging of lay rosters for various Diaconal Ministers and Associates in Ministry into a single roster titled Ministers of Word and Service. Ordained pastors are designated as Ministers of Word and Sacrament. The ILC Council has reviewed these and other minor changes and recommends the amendments for approval at the January 29 annual meeting. A town hall meeting will be held Sunday, January 22, to explain the changes and answer questions. No other local amendments will be considered. The changes to the model constitution may be viewed at www.elca.org. The ILC Constitution with the proposed changes may be viewed at www.ilcpville.org or a printed copy may be requested from the church office.

Serving in January 2017

Acolytes

Jan 1: Bryce Van Houten & Allison Thompson (10:00)
Jan 8: T.J. Odegaard & MaKayla Leatherman (7:45) Tayrn Bittick & Dominic Weber (11:00)
Jan 15: Haidyn Damstrom & Cody Dubes (7:45) Marah Kluge & Julie Hodges (11:00)
Jan 22: Addison Loerwald & Katie Krause (7:45) Allison Morris & Landon Self (11:00)
Jan 29: Rex Kuempel & Hudson Mueller (7:45) Madison & Sam Puryear (11:00)

Elders for January: Kelly Knobloch (Early) Beverly Wolff (Middle) Steven Dubes (Late). (Please contact them if you would like to assist with worship in January or go to <http://bit.ly/ILCsignup> to sign up yourself.)

Readers

Jan 1: **1 needed** (10:00)
Jan 8: **1 needed** (7:45) **1 needed** (8:30) **1 needed** (11:00)
Jan 15: Annyce Bohls (7:45) **1 needed** (8:30) **1 needed** (11:00)
Jan 22: **1 needed** (7:45) **1 needed** (8:30) **1 needed** (11:00)
Jan 29: **1 needed** (7:45) **1 needed** (8:30) **1 needed** (11:00)

Communion Assistants

Jan 1: Grace Lin, **1 needed** (10:00)
Jan 8: **1 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **2 needed** (11:00)
Jan 15: **1 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) Grace Lin, **1 needed** (11:00)
Jan 22: **1 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **2 needed** (11:00)
Jan 29: **1 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **2 needed** (11:00)

January Chapel Assistants

Early Service: Carlton & Marilyn Lorfing, Ralph Kirkley
Late Service: Lon Duke (1), Bruce Freudenberg (8), J.B. Marshall (15), **1 needed** (22 & 29)

Altar Guild

Jan 1 & 8
Beverly Wolff, Elizabeth Arndt, Megan Freudenberg

Jan 15, 22 & 29
Candy & Lori Hansen, Grace Lin

Ushers

Jan 1: **4 needed** (10:00)
Jan 8: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **4 needed** (11:00)
Jan 15: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **4 needed** (11:00)
Jan 22: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **4 needed** (11:00)
Jan 29: **4 needed** (7:45) **4 needed** (8:30) **4 needed** (11:00)

Children's Message:

Jan 8: Pastor Rosy (8:30 & 11:00)
Jan 15: Melissa Malinowski (8:30) Debbie Wiederhold (11:00)
Jan 22: Mike Maluschka (8:30) Megan Freudenberg (11:00)
Jan 29: Jennifer Hoffman (8:30) Debbie Wiederhold (11:00)

Console Operators/Parish Hall Projectionist

Jan 1: Charles Mott (10:00)
Jan 8: Brent Reeder (7:45) Rick Cox (8:30) Charles Kleen (11:00)
Jan 15: Matthew Krieg (7:45) Rick Cox (8:30) David Gifford (11:00)
Jan 22: Brent Reeder (7:45) Rick Cox (8:30) Willard Hebbe (11:00)
Jan 29: Matthew Krieg (7:45) Rick Cox (8:30) David Gifford (11:00)

Flower Calendar

Jan 1:
Jan 8:
Jan 15:
Jan 22:
Jan 29:

Coffee Makers

Jan 8: Hal Kuempel
Jan 15: Mark Mueller
Jan 22: Kristin Adix
Jan 29: Lon Duke